



Falls of the Rappahannock

Chapter NSDAR



December 2024

Chapter Officers: 2024 -2025

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Chapter Website:
www.fotrDAR.org

State website:
VirginiaDAR.org/members
(requires password)

National Website:
Members.dar.org
(requires password)



December 12, 2024

7pm

Program:

Virginia's C.A.R Presidents State Project
Purple Onion Gift Exchange and Potluck

A– L = appetizers

M-Z = desserts

8 Twinleaf Drive

Stafford, VA

Regent's Corner

Happy December.

Hopefully you have finally digested all the goodies from Thanksgiving and your refrigerator is free from leftovers. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or only New Years, December can be a super busy month. Hopefully you can find some time for yourself and appreciate the season in a way that makes you happy and relaxed.

For our December DAR activities, there are several.

Wednesday, December 11 is the DAR Holiday Open House. It is a great way to see the building decorated for the holidays, enjoy some refreshments, and even meet Santa. The event is open to the public so friends and family are welcome to attend as well. While you are in DC, you can also visit the National Christmas tree on the Ellipse.

Thursday, December 12 is our annual Chapter Potluck and Purple Onion gift exchange. Search those dark recesses of your closets for that gift someone gave you that you didn't know what to do with. Last names A-L please bring an appetizer and M-Z a dessert.

Saturday, December 14 is Wreaths Across America at Oak Hill Cemetery in Fredericksburg.

Registration and hotel reservations are open for State Conference (see email that was sent on Nov 22). It is once again in Williamsburg, March 21-23 and President General Pamela Edwards Rouse Wright will be attending. Workshops fill up quickly, so if you are interested in any, submit your reservations form asap.

The board will soon be working on the CMR, so if you have any special projects or volunteer efforts of note you would like us to include, please email a board member. Remember to enter your volunteer hours on the Service to America page. The hours are set based on our membership numbers and I know we have many active members who are very busy, so make sure to enter them.

Wishing you a happy, stress free holiday season,

Tracy



Dear Daughters,
Happy holidays!

As winter weather sweeps across much of the country to welcome the month of December, we hope that you are staying safe and warm.

President General's Message

Our National Headquarters is beautifully decorated and ready for you to join us at our Holiday Open House on December 11th beginning at 5:30 pm in Washington, DC. Your executive officers and National Board of Management are looking forward to celebrating the season with you and your families soon!

One of the things I love best about December is seeing all the photos of DAR members in action in their communities. Your generous service, despite the cold weather and busy calendar, brings smiles to many faces and fulfills the mission of the National Society. Let it continue to be our holiday tradition to honor our veterans through Wreaths Across America—this year on December 14th, to celebrate our active duty military and first responders through the DAR Project Patriot Committee, and to support local children and classrooms. Many organizations have specific wish lists they are seeking to fulfill, so please also investigate in your local area!

This season, we also hope that you will take time to Rejoice in Our DAR Ties of Service and Friendship! through chapter celebrations or by meeting up together for fellowship. Please look out for one another and check in on those members who you may not have seen in a long time. There are many seasons in life and we are committed to one another through our shared bonds as Daughters.

We are grateful this holiday season for the efforts our Patriot ancestors undertook to secure our freedom. The first December issue of the American Monthly Magazine (predecessor to the American Spirit Magazine) in 1892, provided a detailed account of the 1776 Battle of Trenton during the American Revolution. Most associate 1776 with the patriotic elation that surrounds the Declaration of Independence, but December 1776 arrived after several months of disastrous military defeats that had pushed Washington's army back. General Washington seized an opportunity to catch the opposition off-guard the day after Christmas and after crossing the Delaware River in a treacherous storm, his army defeated a garrison of Hessian mercenaries at Trenton. This led to another victory at Princeton a week later, and some would argue it was a pivotal point in the Revolution.

As you come together this holiday season, we wish you love, joy, peace, and friendship. We are so grateful to each of you as we Celebrate Stars and Stripes Forever! and carry out historic preservation, education, and patriotism on behalf of the National Society.

Pamela Rouse Wright
President General

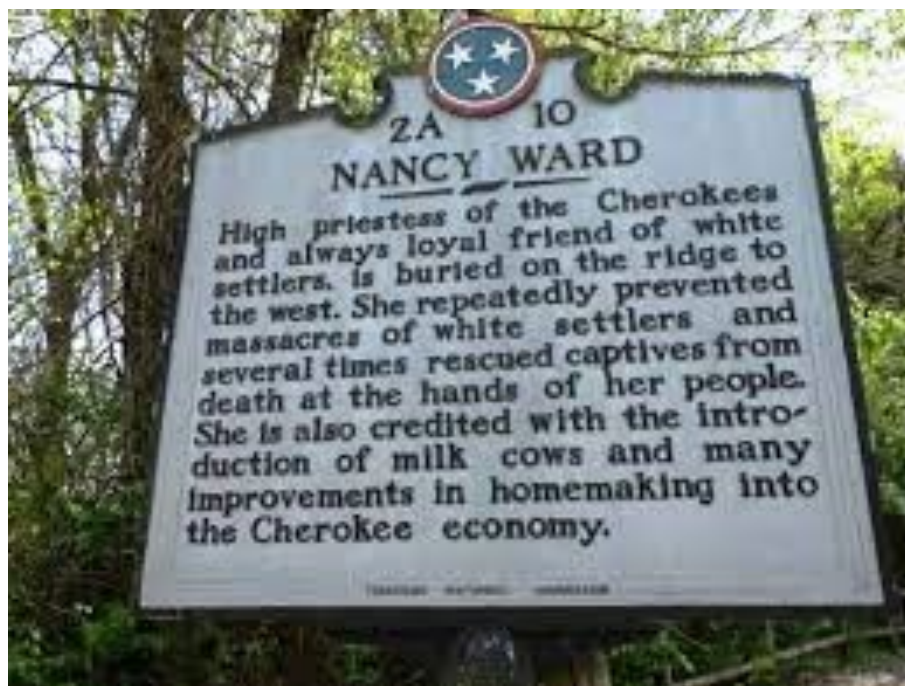
American Indians Minute

Nancy “Nanye’hi” Ward Hughes (Nanyehi) (Cherokee), was a Beloved Woman and political leader of the Cherokee. She advocated for peaceful coexistence with European Americans and, late in life, spoke out for Cherokee retention of tribal hunting lands. She is credited with the introduction of dairy products to the Cherokee economy.

The Cherokee had to face multiple issues during the Revolutionary War. The tribes wanted to expel the European-American settlers from their lands. Ward’s cousin, the war chief, Dragging Canoe, wanted to ally with the British against the settlers, but Nanyehi wanted to keep peace with the rebels. In early July 1776, Ward, warned a group of white settlers living near the Holston River and on the Virginia border about an imminent attack by her people.

In late July 1776, Dragging Canoe, Oconostota and The Raven led a surprise attack on the Overmountain settlements of Heaton’s station, Fort Watauga, and Carter’s Valley, respectively. After being beaten back by the frontiersmen, Cherokee raiding parties continued attacks against the isolated settlements in the region. State militias retaliated, destroying Native villages and crops. T

he Carolina Light Horse Rangers and Virginia Royal Scots formed a punitive expedition against Cherokee settlements in Fall of that year, that burned most of the Overhill Cherokee towns, crops, and winter supplies. Devastated, the Cherokee sought peace in January 1777, and gave up hunting grounds in east Tennessee to the American frontiersmen.

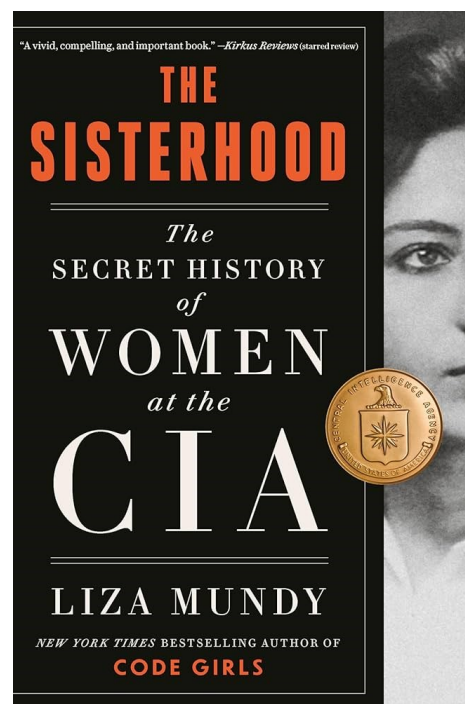


Great Lives Series at UMW

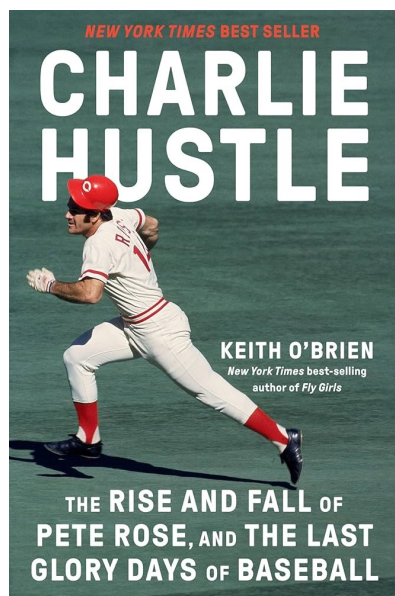
January 21, 2025

The Sisterhood: The Secret Story of Women at the CIA recounts the true story of the women espionage officers—tough, brilliant, resilient—who helped build the world’s foremost spy agency. It received starred reviews from Booklist and Kirkus, which named it one of the most anticipated non-fiction titles of fall 2023, calling it “a story that deserves to be told about women who deserve to be remembered.” Pulitzer-Prize winning author Steve Coll called it a “rip-roaring read about spycraft” that rewrites our understanding of the events before and after the 9-11 attacks .

Liza Mundy is an award-winning journalist and the *New York Times*-bestselling author of five books. Her previous book, *Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers of World War II* (2017), made the best-seller lists of the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Wall Street Journal*. It won awards including “Best General Audience Intelligence Book” of 2018 from the Association of Former Intelligence Officers, which said that “*Code Girls* does for women of that era what *Hidden Figures* did for African American women of the 1960s and *Windtalkers* did for the Native American code communicators of World War II.” Mundy spoke on *Code Girls* during the 2017 season of Great Lives.



**Lectures are always held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, January through March,
in George Washington Hall’s Dodd Auditorium.**



January 23, 2025

Charlie Hustle tells the full story of one of America’s most epic tragedies—the rise and fall of Pete Rose. Drawing on firsthand interviews with Rose himself and with his associates, as well as on investigators’ reports, FBI and court records, archives, and a mountain of press coverage, Keith O’Brien chronicles how Rose fell so far from being America’s “great white hope.” It is Pete Rose as we’ve never seen him before.

Keith O’Brien is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Paradise Falls*, *Fly Girls*, and *Outside Shot*, a finalist for the PEN/ESPN Award for Literary Sportswriting, and an award-winning journalist. O’Brien has written for *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Politico*, and his stories have also appeared on National Public Radio and *This American Life*. He lives in New Hampshire.

Children of the American Revolution



The Children's Room

When Memorial Continental Hall was built in 1910, the DAR invited the Children of the American Revolution to purchase a room to be used by the children. The Children's Room is located on the third floor of DAR Memorial Continental Hall. Take a **virtual tour** at www.nscar.org!

Between 1910 and 1950, The Children's Room was used for numerous purposes including an office, museum, library, meetings of the Senior National Board of Management, and even National Conventions. During World War I use of the room for sewing meetings was approved. Other organizations were given permission to use The Children's Room including the American Red Cross during World War II and the National Mary Washington Memorial Association. From 1950–1999, The Children's Room was used as a Board Room and committee meeting room.

The Children's Room was renovated to accommodate many of the C.A.R. items previously on display at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. The items chosen for the room would likely have been in a child's bedroom of a middle-class family in colonial times.

These items include toys for play, examples of items used for chores, and furniture, dishes and utensils used daily.

How can you **SPARKLE** to support C.A.R.?

Mentor – volunteer as a senior leader – there is no greater joy than mentoring young people

Engage – invite C.A.R. members to participate with your chapter – members are ready to serve

Recruit – include C.A.R. as part of your DAR membership drives – this is a family affair

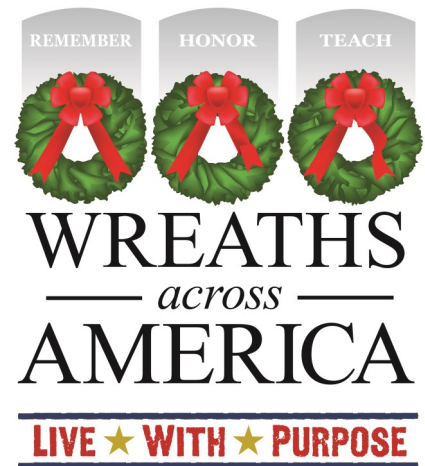
Donate – consider donating to your local, state or national C.A.R. societies

Wreaths Across America

REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom.

Welcome to the VA0836P - Falls of the Rappahannock National Society of the Daughters of the American's Wreaths Across America Page.

On December 14, 2024 at 12:00 pm, VA0836P - Falls of the Rappahannock National Society of the Daughters of the American will be helping Oak Hill Cemetery to Remember and Honor our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.



Please help us honor and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you.

Please use the link below to purchase your wreaths:. Cut off date is December 3rd.

<https://www.wreathsassamerica.org/pages/167052/Overview/?relatedId=17250>

SERVICE to AMERICA!

Our Chapter hours donated total as of December 6 , 2024

Chapter goal is 2,100

1,663.75

Please remember to log your hours!

<http://services.dar.org/members/committees/ServiceToAmerica/>

The Service to America! Committee encourages community service by **all** members on **all** levels as a means of honoring our heritage. You may now count your DAR hours!

If you don't want to (or can't) enter your service hours, please send them to one of the officers and we will do it for you! Emails for officers are on the front page of the newsletter.

DAR on the Move



Service to America

Masonic Lodge 4 opens its doors on the 5th Tuesday of each month to feed the homeless.

In December we have the privilege of feeding those in need on New Years Eve. Join us in helping say goodbye to 2024 and bringing in 2025 by coming together as a community and sharing a meal. The meal we are planning is a turkey dinner with all the fixings with sparkling cider.

When you come to the lodge to help or bring your items, please come to the side entrance of the lodge on Hanover Street.

If you want to donate but can't make it to the lodge to drop off, please contact Carrie to make arrangements to get your donation to the lodge. Also, If you have something else that you would like to bring, please reach out to Carrie and I so we can add it. Carrie: 404-260-5330

Sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/QzRemjH>



DAR Museum Happenings

December 10, 2024 Noon Free

Tuesday Talk— Pins, Ribbons, and Emulsion, Oh My! Taking a look at the history of photography through the lens of DAR's historic photographs

A picture is always worth a thousand words. Changes and advancements in photography have allowed us to document and leave behind evidence of events, people, places, or things. These images will live on in history, as an extension of human memory. They give an onlooker a visual perception that is accurate and exceeds good description. Using photographs in the NSDAR Archives and using early DAR history as a guide, we can see the way photography has changed, and maybe help historians better understand and examine the past.

Speaker: Amanda Fulcher Vasquez, DAR Archivist and Digital Asset Specialist

The event is free, but pre-registration is requested. This event is taking place in-person but will also be streaming online.

Register virtually here: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/9417020520749/WN_USZQdVaFTGOu77s8eBqx2g

Register in-person here: <https://TuesdayTalkDec2024.eventbrite.com>



This strange-looking device is a siphon coffeemaker made in England between 1865 and 1875. Scottish marine engineer Robert Napier (1791—1876) is credited with inventing this type of coffeemaker in 1840.

To use the device, one added ground coffee and boiling water to the glass vessel, then poured a small amount of boiling water into the porcelain vessel. Lighting the burner below the porcelain vessel created a vacuum that siphoned the water into the glass vessel containing the steeped coffee.

Once the porcelain vessel emptied, a counterweight raised it above the reach of the flame, which was then extinguished. Another vacuum siphoned the coffee back into the porcelain vessel, almost as if it were riding a see-saw. The spigot dispensed coffee.

These coffeemakers are still made today; watch a video of one in action by searching on YouTube.

Dates to Remember

Dec 11 DAR Open House

Dec 12 FOTR Chapter Meeting—Purple Onion Gift Exchange

Dec 14 Wreaths Across America

Reminder:

For several years our chapter has volunteered to host the Spring graduation reception for the area GED and Alternative School students. We need to decide by December/January if we want to volunteer for Spring 2025.

What to bring to the December Meeting

Your Self!	Purple Onion Gift
Coupons	Coke Caps
Stamps for our Chaplain	Get Well/Birthday Cards
Aluminum Tabs	Donations for the Piggy Banks

Members Courses

The DAR Leadership Training Committee is proud to be the home for the Member Training Courses. The courses provide an opportunity for members to learn more about DAR and how to become active and engaged participants in DAR at all levels — chapter, state, and national. The courses have been designed to fit into anyone's busy schedule of work, family, and play, through mostly online self-directed learning. Currently, the following courses are available:

- **Members Course** – Explore the many aspects of DAR and what it means to be a Daughter.
- **Committee Leaders Course** – Learn what it takes to be a more effective committee leader, from the chapter level all the way up to national chair.
- **New Horizons Course** – Build confidence and leadership skills as an aspiring or current DAR leader.

2024-2025 Programs

FALLS OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK 2024-2025 PROGRAM CALENDAR



Thursday, September 12, 7 pm
Mary Washington House, tentative
1200 Charles St. Fredericksburg
Program: Historic Dress

Thursday, October 10, 7 pm
7820 General Wright Dr.
Program: Lafayette in Fredericksburg
Please arrive no later than 6:45 pm. Gates are locked at 7 pm.

Thursday, November 14, 7 pm
Place TBD
Program: Women Veteran's: We Are Not Invisible

Thursday, December 12, 7 pm
8 Twinleaf Drive, Stafford
Virginia C.A.R. State President's Project

Thursday, January 9, 7 pm
12 Kinross Drive, Stafford
Units Overseas

Thursday, February 13, 7 pm
ZOOM
DAR Leadership Training

Thursday, March 13, 7 pm
Wild Birds Unlimited
1937 Carl D. Silver Pkwy., Fredericksburg
Wildlife Conservation with
Pollinator Gardens

Thursday, April 10, 7 pm
Ebenezer United Methodist Church
161 Embrey Mill Road, Stafford
Awards Recognition and Election of
Officers

Thursday, May 8, 7 pm
Ebenezer United Methodist Church
161 Embrey Mill Road, Stafford
The Nuts & Bolts of Writing a Family History

Thursday, June 12, 7 pm
Place TBD
Installation of 2024-2025 Chapter Officers

Constitution Minute

Bill of Rights Day is December 15th—

A Day to Celebrate!

By Sarah Towne-di Cicco

National Constitution Week Committee

Member CA State

Chair Commemorative Events Committee

Today, when mention is made of the Constitution what often springs to mind isn't the tripartite structure or the "checks and balances" of the Federal government created under this document. Rather, it is the proclamation of our birthright: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It is the Bill of Rights. National debate had made clear these amendments were the tangible expression of the Declaration of Independence and were vital to unity. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness hinged on protecting these rights. It is one thing to declare independence, and quite another to achieve it. Though our Constitution is the governmental expression of our independence, the Bill of Rights is the ultimate bulwark against tyranny. The Bill of Rights makes plain the rights inherent to a free people, thus what can never be taken away. It's the declaration of our individual liberty as "We the People." Let's celebrate, and cherish, the Bill of Rights



Virginia DAR State Regent's Project

State Theme is "Be Kind, Be Positive, Be Courageous!"

The 2022-2025 state project will encourage Virginia Daughters to support two Virginia organizations:



Semper K9 Assistance Dogs

Combat veteran-founded and operated, Semper K9's mission is to enhance the quality of life for wounded members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families by providing them custom-trained service dogs free of charge to disabled veterans.



The group's mission is to find the right pup, train the right pup properly, and connect the right pup with the right veteran who has returned from service in need of some canine assistance. They have a 100% success rate with their services.

The dogs are trained to help with immobility issues and actions most people take for granted, like picking up the laundry or opening a refrigerator. They are also trained to spot anxiety in veterans suffering with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and then act in a way that can alleviate those symptoms, such as waking a veteran as he or she begins experiencing night terrors.

Semper K9 typically evaluates more than 100 canine candidates annually, and accepts 10-15 new dogs into their program each year. While their mission is to use rescue dogs, occasionally the group is provided pure-bred dogs that are donated by members of the community who want to give back to our veterans. Most of the dogs in the program are Labrador Retrievers, German Shepherds, or crossbreeds of those.

Boulder Crest Foundation

Boulder Crest Foundation believes that there is no greater mission than helping combat veterans, first responders, and their families rediscover hope, purpose, and a future that is truly worth living.

The Boulder Crest mission is to train people to thrive in the aftermath of their trauma, to transform times of deep struggle into profound strength and lifelong growth. Their signature Progressive and Alternative Training for Helping Heroes (PATHH) programs teach their participants how to make peace with their past, live in the present, and begin planning for their future.



Boulder Crest understands the sacrifices and stresses of military and veteran families and believes that each family member plays a crucial role in the health and wellbeing of the entire family. Through PATHH programs and Rest and Reconnection (R&R) Stays at their lodge-and-cabin facilities, families have an opportunity to learn more about themselves and each other and rediscover the love and connections that brought them together.