



**February 2018**

**Chapter Officers:  
2017-2018**

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***Falls of the Rappahannock  
Chapter NSDAR***



**February**

**February 8, 2018**

**“Battle of Groton Heights”**

**Alicia Hillmer**

Austin Ridge Clubhouse, 31 Boulder Dr,  
Stafford, VA 22554

Take I-95 to Courthouse Road, head west. 1st traffic light is Austin Ridge Dr., take a right (HOV parking lot is on the left) go approx. 2 miles and turn left on Scotland Circle, 2 blocks and left on Gunston, Pool and Clubhouse are straight ahead.

**Dates to remember:**

**February 4 – USO Founded (1941)**

**February 12 – Abraham Lincoln’s Birthday**

**February 22 – George Washington’s Birthday**

# CHAPTER CHAT

## FOTR March meeting

March 1, 2018.

Location TBD.

American's Creed

Speaker: Norma Polley



Old Dominion Humane Society provides well-matched permanent homes for animals in need through rescue, rehabilitation, and education. Their goal is to decrease the number of animals needlessly euthanized by pulling dogs from high-kill shelters and educating our community on animal rescue! Following are some items they are in need of:

### Cleaning Supplies:

Paper towels  
Large garbage bags  
Plastic grocery/shopping bags

### Puppy Supplies:

Puppy pads  
Small collars  
Chew toys  
New or used sheets/blankets/towels

You can bring to any meeting and the items will be dropped off at their location on Lafayette.

**Please bring empty, used toner cartridges to the conference in March. If not going, bring to our March Meeting.**

## SERVICE to AMERICA!

Our Chapter hours donated total as of January 31

**106**

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!

For Earth Day we will be needing donations of:

Biodegradable seed cups, bagged soil and non GMO seeds. Please bring to April meeting or make arrangements for pick up.

Please remember to bring the following to our meetings:

- Box tops
- Ink Cartridges
- Coupons

## New Year; New Service to America! Hours

Continue to keep track of your hours of meaningful volunteer service. The Dillon administration wants to continue to track the impact we are having on our communities.

### Ideas for meaningful service:

Read to your Grandchildren  
Donate blood  
Volunteer at an historic site  
Collect books and donate them to the local library or schools  
Volunteer at a 5K race that supports worthy cause  
Welcome home active duty personnel  
Volunteer at a church, school or hospital

## Upcoming Events



The Regent and Members of the Nelly Custis Chapter request the honor of your attendance at

Nelly Custis Chapter's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon

Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

Mount Vernon Country Club, Alexandria, VA

Guest of Honor: Virginia State Regent Mrs. Judith Joy Surber

Kindly RSVP with your entree selection and \$45 check by February 17, 2018.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Meal includes water/ice tea/coffee, tomato bisque with rolls and butter, and birthday cake. A cash bar will be available.

Entree Choice:

\_\_\_ Cobb Salad with grilled chicken (iceberg lettuce, tomatoes, avocado, bacon, hard boiled eggs, blue cheese crumbles, blue cheese dressing on the side)

\_\_\_ Cobb Salad with sliced beef (iceberg lettuce, tomatoes, avocado, bacon, hard boiled eggs, blue cheese crumbles, blue cheese dressing on the side)

\_\_\_ Grilled Atlantic Salmon (citrus beurre blanc sauce, whipped potatoes, and asparagus)

\_\_\_ Garden Pasta (whole wheat pasta, wild mushrooms, spinach, artichokes, sun dried tomatoes, basil infused marinara sauce)

Please make your check for \$45 out to NELLY CUSTIS CHAPTER, NSDAR and send along with this form to Nancy Foor, 1105 Arcturus Lane, Alexandria VA 22308; it must be received by February 17.

Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Rd, Alexandria, VA 22309

If you have questions, please contact Natalie Ardoline, [raynatalie@cox.net](mailto:raynatalie@cox.net), 703-780-3755

## President General's Message

Dear Daughters,

It always seems that the second month of the year is one of my favorites. Valentine Day, American Heart Month, Black History Month, President's Day and so many other commemorations happen this month, plus a meeting of the National Board of Management. Days are getting longer and there is a feeling that spring is coming. I will visit many of the State Societies' conferences to hear about your many accomplishments through the year. Plans are underway for The 127th Continental Congress with exciting award winners and fabulous speakers. Check the [Congress section](#)\* of the Members' Website for updates and important announcements. The Tentative Congress Schedule will be available in March and the Congress App can help you plan your activities.



Last October, the Connecticut Daughters had a unique opportunity to reach a new audience for DAR at the [Gilmore Girls Fan Festival](#)\* with their presentation titled, "What the DAR is really like – Could you be a Daughter?" They had an amazing experience speaking to many women about the DAR as they were about chatting about their favorite television show! By using the program's fictional portrayal of the DAR as a starting point, they had some great discussions about what the DAR is really like. Watch for opportunities to tell the DAR story in your community.

The Patriot Records Project began in the fall of 2014 and their work has made Revolutionary Patriots, from obscure collections, easier to find and identify. Member volunteers index the names of men, women and businesses whose service helped the War for Independence. The records span over 75 years, starting at the very beginning of the war through the last petitions for remuneration. [The Patriot Records Project is currently looking for volunteers](#)\* to be a part of this worthwhile project. All you need is a computer, an internet connection and the ability to read cursive!

A great teacher resource, produced by the DAR Museum can be downloaded, thanks to an internship sponsored by North Carolina State Society. Inspiring Change: Women's Education in 19th Century America is now available online through the [Museum's Education page](#)\* and through the Educational Resources Committee lesson plans page as well.

Stay connected with the National Society by subscribing to the [Today's DAR Blog](#), sent via email. It is a great way to stay up to date on news from Headquarters. Another way to find out what's happening is to subscribe to the award winning American Spirit magazine and Daughters newsletter. The Members' Section of the DAR website will give you the most current information, a wealth of committee news, department information and little known nuggets of facts along with [members' announcements](#). It should be your "go to" source!

Moving Forward in Service to America,

Ann Turner Dillon  
President General

## Falls of the Rappahannock Chapter History

FALLS OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK (Falmouth, VA). It has been more than 245 years since Augustine Washington discovered that his young son George had chopped down his favorite pie cherry tree.

To prove that history is a living, tangible event, Lt. Col. Cheryl Alexander Brown, Regent of the Falls Of The Rappahannock Chapter, planted a new cherry tree at Ferry Farm during Veteran's Day ceremonies. The spot where the new tree will grow is close to the marker placed by Parson Weems designating where the tree originally grew on the bank overlooking the Rappahannock River. It was here that the young Washington spent his boyhood years from age six until he was twenty.

Thirty-five of the original 580 acres of the Washington plantation remain today as part of Ferry Farm. An original ice house and surveyor's building have survived the years. The foundation of the house Washington lived in as a boy is underneath a 1914 farmhouse and is currently part of an archaeological dig.

Members of the Falls Of The Rappahannock Chapter have undertaken to assist in the restoration process as a chapter historic preservation project. The tree planting ceremony attracted nearly 1000 visitors and was marked by choral groups, county dignitaries and a Marine Corps Band concert by the men stationed at Quantico, VA.

Mr. Robert R. Siegrist, Director of the Ferry Farm Project, held the shovel for Lt. Col. Brown to position the tree while Vice Regent, Mrs. Dick T. Polley, Miss Sally Lou Fitzhugh, Chaplain, Mrs. Leo J. Perlot, District V Director, and Mrs. Agnes Wallace Harrison looked on.

The tree planting ceremonies followed activities where chapter members served as site guides and presented the Ferry Farm Project with a check for \$800 toward the restoration effort.

**RETRIEVED FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MAGAZINE ACHIEVES, APRIL 1991**



### Washington's Birthday at Ferry Farm

Monday, February 19, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m

Celebrate George Washington's 286th birthday at his boyhood home with fun activities for the whole family, including games, crafts, exhibits, archaeology lab tours, living history demonstrations, the Stone Throw Challenge (weather permitting), history theater, and birthday cake. "General Washington" will attend the birthday celebration to talk about his youth on the farm!

Learn about the Washington house at Ferry Farm from construction interpreters!

\$5 adults; 17 and under free.

## Upcoming Events Around Fredericksburg

### "Mary Washington."

6:30 P.M.,  
Wednesday, February 21st.  
Michelle Hamilton, historian and Manager of the Mary Washington House, will address the American Revolution Round Table of Fredericksburg by discussing her new book on the mother of our first President. Central Rappahannock Regional Library headquarters theater, 1201 Caroline Street. Free. Light Refreshments. Book Signing.

Contact :

Jim Davis. JamesDavisW@aol.com or  
(540) 899-3836.

Friday, February 16, 6:00-8:00 PM

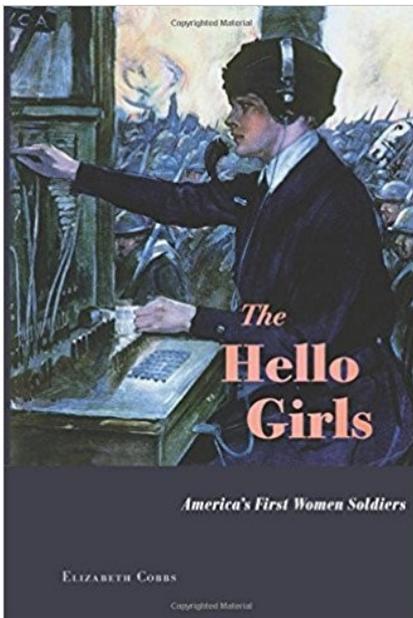
*First Friday – Threads of History: Elizabeth Monroe's Wedding Dress*

Location: James Monroe Museum

Elizabeth Kortright married James Monroe on February 16, 1786. Textile historian Colleen Callahan discusses what we know of the dress Elizabeth Kortright wore on the day she married a future president.



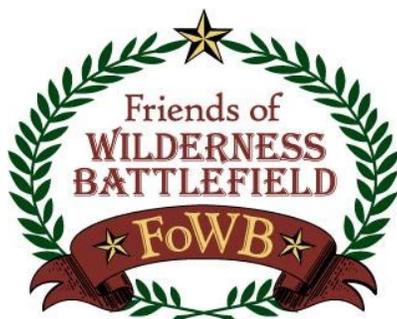
Friday, February 16, is the Monroe's 232nd wedding anniversary !



In 1918, the U.S. Army Signal Corps sent 223 young women to France. They were masters of the latest technology: the telephone switchboard. Gen. John Pershing demanded female “wire experts” when he discovered that inexperienced doughboys were unable to keep him connected with troops under fire. So, while suffragettes protested for the right to vote, these courageous soldiers enlisted in the Army.

Speaker Elizabeth Cobbs, author of *The Hello Girls*, reveals the challenges they faced in a war zone where men welcomed, resented, wooed, mocked, saluted and ultimately celebrated them. When the last operators sailed home, the Army unexpectedly dismissed them without veterans’ benefits, beginning a 60-year battle. With the help of the National Organization for Women and Sen. Barry Goldwater, America’s first women soldiers finally received belated recognition in 1979.

The lecture will be held in UMW’s Dodd Auditorium on Feb. 6 at 7:30 p.m. It is sponsored in part by Hirschler Fleisher Law Firm, and is open to the public free of charge.



### Untold Stories of a Search for Freedom

"Secret Codes, A Chatham Slave, and the Reverend Turner - Moments in Black History"

Friday, February 9, 2018, 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Downtown Historic Fredericksburg, VA

“Witness” three untold stories of African Americans during and after the Civil War as they searched for freedom and civil rights. Join in commemorating Black History Month by participating in a living history event presenting three different vignettes at three historic churches in downtown Fredericksburg. These scenes from the lives of enslaved persons as well as new freedmen during the Civil War era will take place on Friday, February 9, from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

For more information, contact Kim Harmon, at [kimrharmon@excite.com](mailto:kimrharmon@excite.com) or 217-299-1102.

# DAR Museum Events

## Museum Event: Victorian Valentine

Saturday, February 10, 2018

11:00-2:00

Free, drop-in

Make an old-fashioned valentine for your sweetheart, and take a look at some of the valentines in the DAR Museum's collection.



## Museum Tuesday Talk: Indian Textiles in American Collections

February 13th

12:00 to 1:00pm

Free, drop-in

This talk explores the significance of South Asian textiles in American collections by tracing the presence of *phulkaris* as they move in and out of a variety of local and national contexts. *Phulkari*, which translate from several South Asian languages as “flower work” or “floral work,” is a style of embroidery historically made by women throughout the Punjab regions of present-day India and Pakistan. Looking closely at the circulation of *phulkaris* through American collections raises questions about the role of individuals and institutions framing understanding of textiles and national identity, and provides insight into the ways in which the collection and display of these objects can affect - and ultimately enrich - definitions of what it means to be “American.”



Speaker: Cristin McKnight Sethi, Assistant Professor of Art History and Director of Graduate Studies in Art History, The George Washington University



### ***AMERICAN SPIRIT MAGAZINE***

At just \$18 for six issues per year, *American Spirit and Daughters newsletter* are affordable, enjoyable resources that help you celebrate our heritage and keep up with the latest news from executive Officers, National chairmen, states and chapters.

Anyone can subscribe to the magazine (It also makes a wonderful gift). Subscribing to our wonderful magazine and newsletter is easier than ever before: To subscribe online visit [www.dar.org/americanspirit](http://www.dar.org/americanspirit), or call 1-866-327-6242.



These elegant Classical urns were made in England in the late 18th century. Though unmarked, they are attributed to the potter Ralph Edwards II (1748—1795). Pottery with a marbled surface is known as agate ware.



## Committee Spotlight

### Americanism Committee, Venise Lewis, Chapter Chairman

This committee oversees the approval process for the DAR Medal of Honor and the DAR Americanism Medal and encourages DAR members to become involved in their local naturalization process and assist new immigrants with citizenship. The committee has developed an informational flyer to share with chapters.

#### **DAR Manual for Citizenship**

The naturalization process is one way to be involved in this committee. Your chapter can participate in naturalization ceremonies, volunteer at your local Immigration and Naturalization Office, or volunteer to help with local citizenship classes and the American History and U.S. Government exams.

As early as 1910, the DAR has assisted immigrants becoming naturalized citizens. For close to 85 years, the DAR compiled and published the DAR Manual for Citizenship. Over 12 million copies of this free book were given to immigrants seeking American citizenship. The manual is now provided online.

In 2004, the US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services used the DAR Manual for Citizenship as a guide when they created their new study materials for citizenship. The manual continues to be useful for those studying to become citizens as well as for students learning about US citizenship and immigration. It shows the many aspects new citizens are required to know before they can complete their naturalization process.

The manual covers topics such as: the American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Bill of Rights, Democracy, US Government, Roles of Citizens, The US Flag, Statute of Liberty and Becoming a Citizen.

Today, DAR members across the country continue to help immigrants become naturalized citizens as well as celebrate their achievements by participating in naturalization ceremonies in their local communities.

DAR Manual can be found on the NSDAR Website

INFO RETRIEVED FROM NSDAR WEBSITE

# January Meeting Highlights

**Gold Star Mother Anita Faye**



**Donna Courtney told us stories about the animals her family has had from a book she made for her family .**



**Delicious snacks were served.**

*I hear the taco dip was excellent!*

## Chapter Conservation

At the January meeting we voted to apply to have a “Friending” table at the April 21 Earth Day Festival at Old Mill Park. Attending community events is a wonderful way to spread the DAR message and encourage interested women to consider Falls of the Rappahannock as their chapter of choice .

In order to participate we need to have an interactive display. The event organizers have accepted our application, our display and our take home planted seed cup. I hope that everyone will support our chapter in this endeavor and help to make this venture successful by donating of bags of potting soil and the small degradable Jiffy seed starter pots.

We are not allowed to have any paper or plastic items. We will also need some volunteers to help man the table to help the children plant their seeds. If you are able to volunteer on April 21 please e-mail [srharvin@msn.com](mailto:srharvin@msn.com)

A different option is to make our own starter cups.

On the following page of this newsletter there are instructions on how to make them from newspaper. If you have time and would like to do so, it would be fun for the kids to be able to use these to take their potted seeds home in. If not, please consider purchasing the pots noted above.



# Easy Newspaper Pots

Easy Newspaper Pots from MotherEarthNews.com



First, gather your supplies. You will need newspaper, preferably black and white, with few pictures. Soy-based ink is the best for the planet and your garden, and you should try to avoid colored ink completely. You can call your newspaper to find out what kind of ink they use. You will also need a can. Any can will do! Truly, any kind. That's it! Now for the good stuff.



Double up your newspaper if you have a single sheet. If you have an attached middle section, you won't need to do that. Fold your newspaper section in half, lengthwise. Place your can on one end of the newspaper, so that about half the can is above the paper.



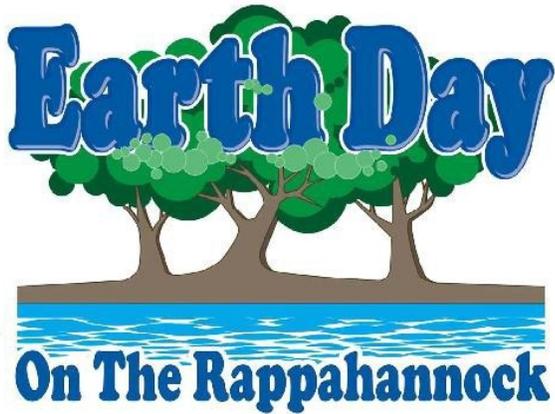
Next, tightly roll the newspaper around the can. Don't worry too much about keeping it lined up, it should work out naturally. Keep rolling the newspaper until you reach the end. Now, this part is important. While holding on to the seam, push the open end of the newspaper down, using the bottom of the can as a guide. This helps to "lock" in your seed pot so that it stays together.



Next, make two other folds to close the bottom of your pot. Again, fold against the bottom of your can as a guide. Now, flip the whole thing over and smash the newspaper down a bit with the can inside, to help make sure the folds will stay. Gently wiggle the can out of the paper. It may seem a little fragile or unstable, but when you add the soil in, it will hold! You can fold down the top a little if you think it needs it. Also, because the bottom overlaps, there is no room for the soil to leak out. This newspaper pot is filled with soil to the halfway point.

This project is very easy and inexpensive. When it comes time to plant, you can open up the bottom of the pot, so that the roots can grow down, and place directly in your garden. The newspaper will decompose naturally.





# April 21st, 2018

## 11am-4pm

# Vendors & Sponsors Needed!

We need YOU to make the 2018 Earth Day Festival great! For our **15th anniversary** we'll enjoy live music, great ideas on going green, hands-on exhibits, kids' activities like pony and barrel train rides, live animals including birds of prey, beekeepers, great food, and so much more. With over 80 vendors (exhibitors) there will be something for everyone! Help us keep Earth Day FREE for the public. We need funds for:

- Marketing
- Stage and set-up costs
- Pony and Barrel Train support
- Port-a-john rental
- Volunteer food
- Kayak and paddle raffle
- General Administration and much more!



## SPONSORSHIPS

Won't you consider a cash or in-kind gift of:

**\$500 – GOLD Earth Steward** **\$250 – SILVER Forest Friend** We'll put your logo and website link on [www.earthdayfred.com](http://www.earthdayfred.com) GOLD SPONSORS listed on **both** Sponsor AND Home Pages!

## VENDORS

Exhibitors - YOU are what make the Earth Day Festival come alive!

We ask all vendors to have a pop-up canopy (or other similar booth tent) and engaging, hands-on activities for the public. (no styrofoam, please) **Vendor Fees:** (NO additional fee charged for Sponsors)

**Commercial:** \$40 (Application deadline March 21, 2018) Add'l fee to sell w/o City of Fred. business permit: \$10

**Non-profit, non-commercial, gov't:** \$20 (deadline 3/21/18)

### Exhibit Contest:

We'll give prizes for Most Creative, Most Hands-On, & Best Earth Day Idea!





## STATE REGENT'S PROJECT LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2018

12:00 P.M.

All Virginia Daughters and guests are cordially invited to a luncheon to benefit the State Regent's Project (SRP) to be held on Friday, March 16, at 12:00 P.M. Our renowned guest speaker, Andrew Och, is the author of several books regarding our First Ladies with the newest one, *Unusual For Their Time, Vol II*, just now available for preorder. He will provide an in-depth peek into the lives of four of this small but gracious group of women! Plan now to attend this extraordinary event at State Conference while enjoying lunch with friends. The cost of the luncheon is \$40, which includes a **\$5 donation for the SRP**.

Seating will also be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Members who wish to sit together should mail their reservation forms and checks in the same envelope. NO meal tickets will be provided at the door but a list of attendees and table reservations will be available beginning at 11:30 a.m. The doors open at 11:45 a.m., and we must be seated to begin the luncheon at 12:00 p.m.

This event promises to be memorable and fun for all. Want to be a part of the Surber administration project? Send your registration form and check to show your support.

Hope to see you there!

*Following the luncheon, our guest speaker, Mr. Och will be signing and selling his books for us!*





Andrew Och is the author of “Unusual for Their Time: On the Road with America’s First Ladies” (Volume One & Volume Two). He is an award-winning television and multimedia producer who has traveled the world with his pen, paper and camera. A Radio/Television and Film graduate from the University of Maryland, Andrew started his production career in music - recording and touring with his band in the 80s & 90s. Soon after that he added his camera to the mix, and all the pieces fell into place. A storyteller from a young age, Andrew enjoys the art of communication, and will go anywhere in the world for more knowledge, greater understanding and amazing stories. He is a true documentarian of life.

Andrew spent over a year traveling to nearly every location that helped tell the stories of every First Lady of the United States of America for the C-SPAN series – **“First Ladies: Influence and Image.”** He covered Martha Washington through Michelle Obama, and visited with people and places all across the country. From Colonial Williamsburg to Stanford University, he was given an ALL ACCESS – BACKSTAGE PASS to some of the nation’s most treasured collections and historical landmarks. He spent time in libraries and museums - homes and schools - birthplaces and cemeteries - train stations and churches. No stone was left unturned, nor door left unlocked, in his unique and historical journey to learn everything he could about these women before, during and after their time in the White House. His research and travels continue with current First Lady Melania Trump.

Historians, archivists, educators and enthusiasts agree – Och’s books, First Ladies Man project and travels put him in a small and rare group of people. He is responsible for one of the most vast and complete collections of material and information about this unique sorority of women ever assembled. He IS the First Ladies Man, and he is excited to share the stories of his adventures. To learn more about Mr. Och, please refer to his website: [www.firstladiesman.com](http://www.firstladiesman.com). There you will be able to find literary information as well as video clips from different speaking engagements.



## Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution

Judith Joy Surber, State Regent

### **CALL TO THE 122<sup>ND</sup> STATE CONFERENCE**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 16 – SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018**

Persons attending any portion of the state conference must officially register. Fees for pre-registration are \$25 for Virginia Daughters. Onsite registration fees must be paid by check and are \$30 for Virginia Daughters. C.A.R. members and guests are not required to pay a registration/facility fee but must be registered to attend any events.

Virginia Daughters must inform their chapter regent of their desire to be pre-registered. All delegates, alternates, members and guests planning to attend the conference should pre-register. It is the responsibility of each chapter to pre-register their delegates, members and guests. A chapter check or money order must accompany the Pre-registration Form. The Pre-registration Form is provided as a separate attachment.

Pre-registration forms must be postmarked by

February 23, 2018.

Please note that only registered members of the Virginia DAR and official guests of the State Regent may attend the business sessions.