



February 2020

Chapter Officers: 2019-2020

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



February Meeting

Thursday, February 13, 7pm

Would you like to be a Volunteer Genie?

Speaker: Myra Wiggins

Hostesses: Jan Gardner and Alicia Hillmer

Location:

Austin Ridge Clubhouse

31 Boulder Dr, Stafford, VA 22554

Message from our Chapter Regent

Chapter Members,

State Conference is just 6 weeks away (March 12-15)! It is a fun event of celebration and learning. I would encourage everyone to attend at least once. Also, begin making plans to attend Continental Congress in June (24-28). If you can only go for certain events, that is totally fine! Do whatever you have time for and an interest in. You won't regret attending these fun and inspiring events. Please let me know if you are interested in attending either event or even if you have questions before deciding. I would be happy to help.

Our 2019 Service to America Hours for 2019 were an amazing 2,642, but down from 4,584 in 2018. I think we can reach 5,000 in 2020! If you need help submitting your hours or have questions, please call or email me. Thank you all so much for your dedication to our community, to our chapter and to DAR. You are appreciated. See you all at our next meeting!

Service Hours

2019 - 2642

2020 - 136

Alicia Hillmer, Chapter Regent



Stratford Hall

Join us Saturday, March 14 for a special event in honor of Women's History Month, Leading Ladies Tour: The Material Culture of the Lee Women of Stratford Hall!

Experience the Leading Ladies Tour during an in-depth private tour experience given by Dr. Kelley Fanto Deetz, Director of Programming, Education & Visitor Engagement. Event will begin with a welcome lecture, followed by a behind-the-scenes artifact exhibit, concluding with a walking tour through the lens of several generations of Lee women who lived at Stratford Hall.

We will be offering two private tours. Registration opening soon!

10am Tour

1pm Tour

LEADING

LADIES

THE LEE WOMEN OF STRATFORD HALL



Founding Daughters

E

llen Walworth was born on October 20, 1832, in Jacksonville, Illinois. When she was about 12 years old her father, John Hardin, became a United States Congressman. In 1846 Mr. Hardin entered the army to fight against Mexico and was killed while leading his regiment at the battle of Buena Vista. The family continued to live in Jacksonville until 1851, when Mrs. Walworth's mother married the Honorable Reuben Hyde Walworth and moved the family to Saratoga Springs, New York.



Mrs. Walworth earned her law degree at New York University and was entitled to practice before the Court of New York and the District of Columbia. In 1852 she married Mansfield Tracy Walworth, her stepfather's youngest son. Mrs. Walworth opened her home as a boarding and day school after her husband's death in 1873. The school's success required her eventually to remodel and enlarge the facilities. Mrs. Walworth continued to live on the property year round until finally the cold New York winters affected her health and she began to make her home in Washington, DC, in winter.

One of Mrs. Walworth's earliest public efforts was her moving plea to the members of her local community to contribute to the fund to renovate George Washington's home, Mount Vernon, in Alexandria, Virginia. Mrs. Walworth wrote constantly on patriotic and historic subjects. She was an authority on the battlefields of Saratoga and also published an account of the Burgoyne campaign. She served as director-general of the Woman's National War Relief Association of 1898. Mrs. Walworth was the first editor of the official publication of the NSDAR, the American Monthly Magazine, serving from the spring of 1892 until July 1894. Ellen Walworth died on June 23, 1915, and was laid to rest in the family lot at Green Ridge, near Saratoga, New York.

Upcoming Events at the DAR Museum

March 10, 2020

Dress in the Age of Jane Austen

12:00-1:00

Explore the lives and dress of the middle-class British gentry during the 'long' Regency (1795-1823) through the lens of Jane Austen's life and writing. During the author's short life, unprecedented change saw Britain's turbulent entry into the modern age. Clothing reflected these transitions on local and global scales, and exploring the dress experiences of people who lived through Austen's age goes a long way to understanding her work, her time, and its histories.

Speaker: Hilary Davidson, Honorary Associate, University of Sydney. Author of *Dress in the Age of Jane Austen*, 2019



March 14, 2020

Women's History Celebration

10:00am – 3:00pm

Free!

Celebrate Women's History Month at the DAR Museum!

Join us to recognize powerful American women who left their mark on history. Come learn about your favorite heroines and discover new faces as well.

Activities, crafts, games, music and more with FREE admission!



Chapter Chat

Wanted:

Stories, Photos, News and High Sea Adventures

This is YOUR Chapter Newsletter , please send stories, photos, news about your family/ancestors, and historical trips to the editor so that she can make this newsletter more about YOU!

Send all information to sonja.k.johnson@gmail.com

Please bring the following to every meeting:

Box tops

Ink Cartridges

Coupons

Coke bottle caps

Stamps

Greeting Cards



Come take a tour of The Center and learn about volunteer opportunities! If you love history and are interested in helping preserve it, we need you! Please share and bring anyone you think would be interested in volunteering!

SERVICE to AMERICA!

Our Chapter hours donated total :

2019 - 2642

2020 - 136

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!



March Meeting

Tour of the Masonic Lodge

Speaker: Jan Gardner

Hostesses: Peggy Neal and Linda Tague

Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge #4

803 Princess Anne Street

DAR Tour 2020 – Netherlands



On behalf of the President General, the DAR Tours Committee is proud to announce NSDAR's inaugural trip to the Netherlands, October 10-17, 2020.

VanBuren Administration 2020 Tour

"Four Centuries of Friendship and Diplomacy"

The Special Relationship between the United States and the Netherlands

For many years the National Society has made a special effort to recognize foreign Patriots and governments who supported the American Revolution. On our eight-day journey through the Netherlands, immerse yourself in the history and beauty of this country, and the spirit of friendship which has endured since the earliest days of our nation. [Please click here to review the tour brochure and booking information.](#)

President General's Message

Dear Daughters,

We are likely well familiar with the tradition of Groundhog's Day – that fun February rite centered upon a furry fellow who will predict either another six weeks of winter or an early spring. Some of you may also be familiar with the movie of the same title, in which the main character (a Pennsylvania television reporter) is trapped in a time loop and repeats his town's most famous day over and over and over again.



Why on earth do I begin with this topic? Because I fear that our chapter meetings sometimes feel as though we are trapped in that same sort of loop – with the same hard-working volunteers playing the same roles that they have played for decades, and the same predictable format of a speaker followed by tea and cookies. Don't get me wrong: Tradition and familiarity are fine for many meetings, but we frankly won't attract and retain vibrant, engaged women unless we demonstrate that involvement in Today's DAR is enjoyable, educational and fulfilling. Today's busy women won't make time for DAR unless we give them something valuable in return.

So, ladies let's shake it up -- and let's have some fun doing it! Let's challenge ourselves to bring new energy and excitement to chapter meetings and to our mission. When was the last time that you or your chapter tried something new? Perhaps a new DAR Project Patriot service project? Or a visit to vets at your local VA medical center? A conservation project to clean a local park? How about an historic tour of interest? Or a program on your Patriot ancestors? Review our list of committees and identify ways to bring new enthusiasm to our important mission by selecting several that offer fresh opportunities to both serve and get to know one another better. Invite more women to get involved and joyfully extend the type of leadership opportunities that may lead to a chapter office someday. This type of succession planning is critically important for the future vitality of your chapter.

Please also remember that we celebrate Valentine's Day this month and that there is no better time to thank the big-hearted women who have sustained your chapter by long-time membership and devotion to our Society. Take a few moments to write them a note, thanking them for their years of support. Many of them may no longer be able to make it to meetings, and yet they faithfully remit their dues and evidence their support from afar in many ways. A short note of thanks, perhaps one signed at a chapter meeting, will surely brighten their day.

Being thoughtful and kind to one another is so fundamentally important to the DAR experience. I have met and been inspired by the most amazing women through my more than three decades of involvement in our Society. The friendships that I have made are among my most valued treasures, and I know that you, too, enjoy such relationships in this sisterhood that we call DAR. Please: enjoy each other – knowing that we share a purpose and a passion for America that is a powerful foundation indeed.

Rise and Shine for America,

Denise Doring VanBuren
President General

January Meeting Highlights

Investing new member



Speaker discussing the proposed Stafford Courthouse Village

Members making fleece lap-
robes for VA
Hospital

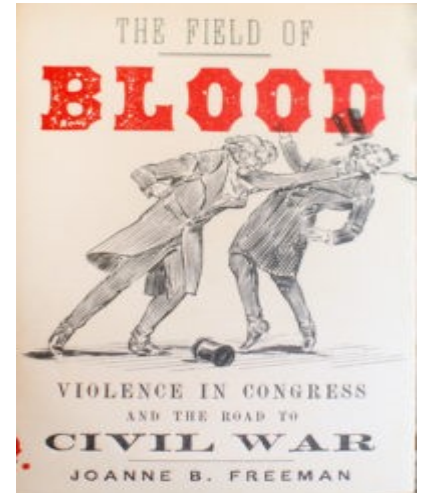


Great Lives Series at UMW

American Duelists

Lecture Date: February 20, 2020 Dodd Auditorium Mary Washington University

Professor Freeman's lecture is based on her acclaimed 2018 work, *Field of Blood*, which recovers the long-lost story of physical violence on the floor of the U.S. Congress. Drawing on an extraordinary range of sources, she shows that the Capitol was rife with conflict in the decades before the Civil War. Legislative sessions were often punctuated by mortal threats, canings, flipped desks, and all-out slugfests. When debate broke down, congressmen drew pistols and waved Bowie knives. One representative even killed another in a duel. Many were beaten and bullied in an attempt to intimidate them into compliance, particularly on the issue of slavery.



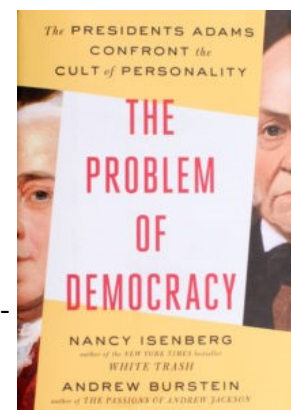
These fights didn't happen in a vacuum. Freeman's dramatic accounts of brawls and thrashings tell a larger story of how fisticuffs and journalism, and the powerful emotions they elicited, raised tensions between North and South and led toward war. In the process, she brings the antebellum Congress to life, revealing its rough realities—the feel, sense, and sound of it—as well as its nation-shaping import. Funny, tragic, and rivetingly told, *The Field of Blood* offers a front-row view of congressional mayhem and sheds new light on the careers of John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, and other luminaries, as well as introducing a host of lesser-known but no less fascinating men. The result is a fresh understanding of the workings of American democracy and the bonds of Union on the eve of their greatest peril.

John and John Quincy Adams

Lecture Date: February 25, 2020

The Parrish Snead Franklin Simpson, PLC Lecture

The two presidents Adams have never been examined together, either as mutually supportive father-and-son historical actors, or as experienced men of the world with interconnected philosophies. History conveniently paints them as out-of-touch, each turned out of office by popularly cast southerners, Jefferson and Jackson; their rejection at the polls is explained in terms of their supposed resistance to a rising democratic spirit. *The Problem of Democracy*, our first major collaboration since Madison and Jefferson (2010), elaborates on the Adams's' constitutional thought in favor of strong institutional checks in government (as a counter to the myth of an all-knowing popular will); their critique of democracy's tendency to "dress up" select political men as popular celebrities: in their time, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Andrew Jackson. Their concern about a moneyed oligarchy and their unwillingness to surrender personal political independence to the conforming character of the two-party system make them unique in the nation's political life. The themes they embraced have clear implications for our times.



Congratulations and Thank Yous



Congratulations to Stephanie Bradner on being selected to receive a Superstar Award in the Spotsylvania school system. Stephanie is a school nurse. The Superstar Award is in recognition of excellence in service among staff members across the division. Principle's and Site Administrators select an outstanding member of their staff that demonstrates "Superstar" qualities.

Elizabeth Ernst's DAR Employee anniversary was celebrated along with 19 others who have a combined total of 300 Years!!!!

Congratulations to you, Elizabeth.



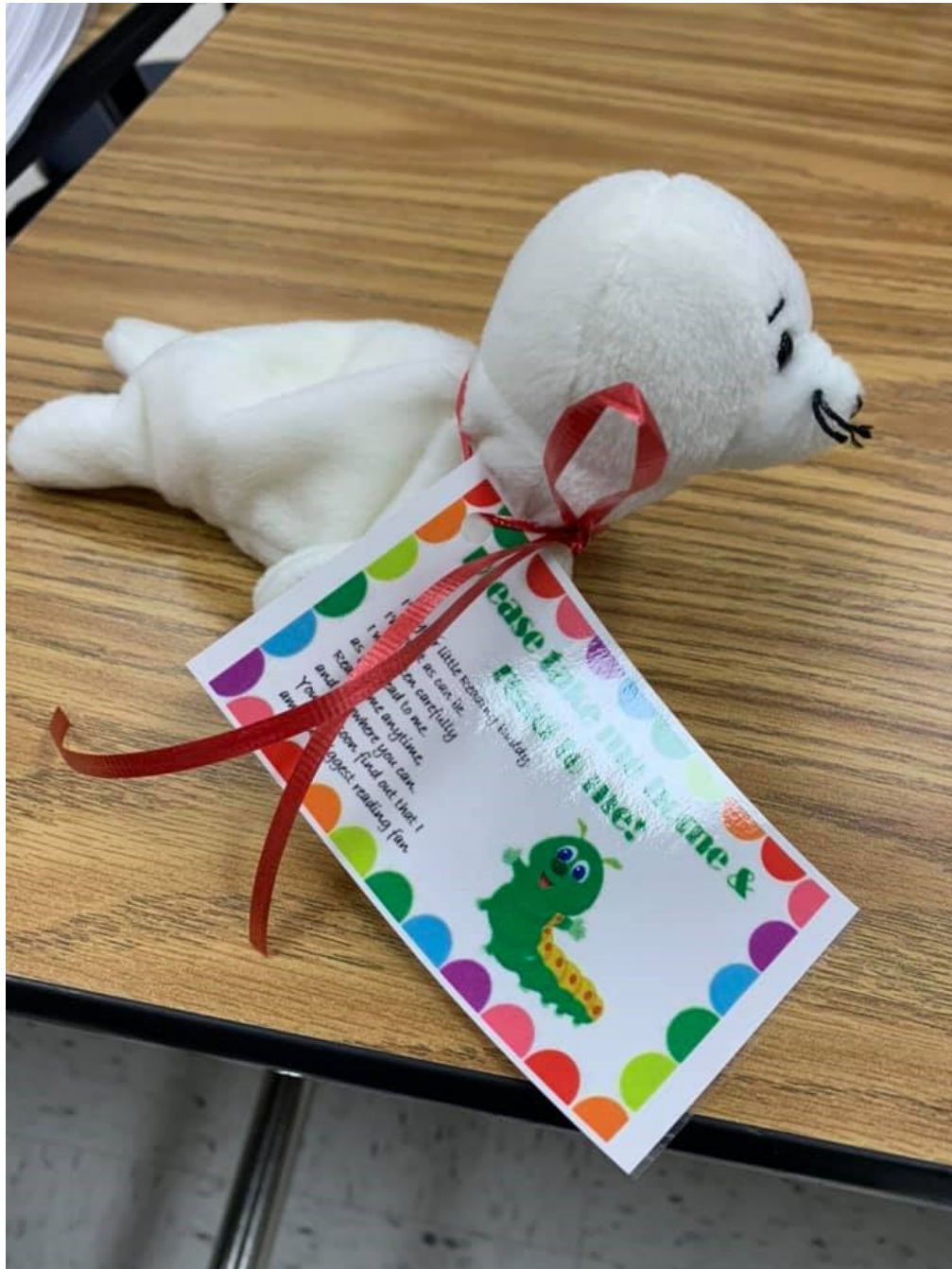
Dear FOTR Members,

Thank you for being so incredibly supportive while I completed the DAR Members and New Horizons courses. We made an impact on KDS and the VA with all of the donated supplies and lap robes. A special thanks to Sonja and Alicia for being so accommodating with bulletin space and meeting time.

I encourage everyone to enroll in a course and discover the many New Horizons in DAR.

Literacy Projects in our Community

The Robert E Lee Elementary School PTA needs your help! They have collected over 300 beanie babies for their reading buddy program. With one school one book starting this Friday the race is on to finish before it's over. IF you can't find these stuffed friends , books and more books are always welcome. They pass these out at nearly every event. Let's work together to make reading even more fun for our students.



Conservation

Butterflies and Their Host Plant

PLANT NATIVE!

1. Spicebush swallowtail

Host Plant: Sassafras Trees
AND SPICEBUSH

Caterpillar



Host Plant



Adult



2. Zebra Swallowtail

Host Plant: Pawpaw Tree



3. Gulf fritillary

Host Plant: Passion Vine



4. Monarch

Host Plant: Milkweed



5. Painted ladies

Host Plant: Thistles



6. Viceroy

Host Plant: Willow Tree



7. Tiger swallowtail

Host Plant: Ash Tree
Also Wild Cherry Tree
Yellow Poplar Tree



8. Red admiral

Host Plant: Nettles



9. Question Mark

Host Plant: Hackberry Tree



10. Sulphur

Host Plant: Maryland senna



Consider Becoming an Insignia Volunteer

Are you passionate about DAR Insignia? Would you like to promote sales of DAR Insignia and further the mission of the National Society?

Then I hope that you will consider becoming an Insignia Volunteer! A team of Insignia Volunteers is being formed to assist the permanent NSDAR staff with sales at pop-up DAR Insignia Stores at state meetings and at Continental Congress. Insignia Volunteers will help sell DAR Insignia by working at least one state meeting annually and at Continental Congress.

IVs are not required to work their own state meetings and are highly encouraged to assist The DAR Insignia Store at pop-up shops in neighboring states. If you are interested in joining this team of enthusiastic ambassadors for DAR Insignia, please check out the Members Section on the DAR Website.

The Insignia Volunteers will be a vital part of the sales team for DAR Insignia and their efforts will allow NSDAR to sell DAR Insignia to more members nationwide. All net proceeds from the sale of DAR Insignia will support the DAR mission! Consider applying today!

Applications must be submitted before February 15, 2020.

DAR Insignia

Clara Treadway Weir authored the poem "Our Emblem" that was printed in the April 1907 issue of the American Monthly Magazine. The first stanza is printed here:

Our emblem is a gold wheel,
Banded with deepest blue;
Each shining spoke tipped with a star,—
The distaff shining through.
The only jewel in the world
That money cannot buy,
Without such proof of ancestry,
As no one can deny.

The official Insignia was unanimously adopted by the National Board of Management on May 26, 1891, and patented September 22, 1891. The golden wheel of the Insignia represents a spinning wheel; the platinum or white gold distaff represents flax; the blue rim and the distaff carry the colors of the Society; and the stars represent the original thirteen colonies.