



Towamencin Chapter, NSDAR
Daughters of the American Revolution
Lansdale, Pennsylvania

Minutes

Meeting: February 10, 2018

Place: Indian Valley Library, Telford

Attendance: (33)

Jennifer Bindas-McMonagle, Carole Bishop, Jacqueline Carter, Jennifer Cherry, Eleanor Cobb, Mary DiDomizio, Linda Donaldson, Martha Foote, Rosemary Forsythe, Margie Gehlhaus, Janet Gross, Holly Hayick, Marian Helinsky, Samantha Hennenfent Freise, Dale Hoppe, Diane Husted, Molly Jager, Susanne Johnston, Wendy Kelly, Victoria Josko, Joan LaMonica, Bonnie Marino, Carol Morrell, Sara Natali, Winifred Peterson, Diana Rehborn, Shirley Sargent, Helen Schwartz, Jennifer Smith, Charlene Souders, Melissa Stavey-Louy, Heather Wassel, Joan Williams.

Guests: (9)

South Eastern District Director Sara Jane McCurdy, Chuck Forsythe, Tom Sargent, Brandon Hiriak, Mike Hiriak, Emily Hiriak, Paula Foiw Woshesky, Jeanne Wolff

Opening Rituals

The meeting of the Towamencin Chapter, NSDAR, was called to order by Regent, Holly Hayick, at 10:40 A.M.

Opening Ritual with prayers lead by Jennifer Cherry followed.

DAR Ritual

Pledge of Allegiance

American's Creed

God Bless America

President General's Message was read by Bonnie Marino. The topics included: the Gilmore Girls & DAR, Patriot Records, the DAR Blog, the American Spirit Magazine, and the Daughters' Newsletter.

The National Defender was read by Wendy Kelly. The topic advocated qualifications for the military, sharing a message to stay informed, educate, and take action.

Minutes from the November 2017 meeting were posted to the Towamencin Chapter Members Website. Minutes were approved as posted.

Reports of Officers

➤ **Vice Regent** – Samantha Freise

Vice Regent, Samantha Freise, shared the upcoming programs.

The December 9th program was held at Samantha's house and included a presentation of the 100th Anniversary of WWI and the influence from DAR.

On December 2nd, Samantha and Sara Natali attended a WWI Tea at the DAR Headquarters in Washington, D.C.. Samantha wore a lovely period dress in green created by Towamencin Member, Helen Schwartz.

The April 14th Chapter Luncheon and USO program, with C.A.R., will be at The William Penn Inn, Route 202 & Sumneytown Pike, Gwynedd – please stay tuned for invites.

➤ **Chaplain** – Jennifer Cherry

Chaplain, Jennifer Cherry, shared the sympathy card for the passing of Sara Vonderheid was mailed. Get well wishes were sent to Marian Helinsky and Carole Bishop. May we continue to keep Kathryn Landis and her sister in our prayers.

➤ **Treasurer** – Diane Husted

Treasurer, Diane Husted, reported A balance of \$ 5,783.35, as of January 31, 2018.

Donations were received for Manna on Main, totaling \$450.

The goal for the Patriot Recognition Project (to recognize 32 patriots at Wentz Church in the future) has been reached, totaling \$260.27 to-date.

The board will meet to discuss the allocation of extra funds, including donations towards Rucksacks to Backpacks.

➤ **Registrar** – Sue Johnston

Registrar, Sue Johnston, reported the following statistics and extended a welcome to the guests in attendance.

Total members: 103

Pending members: 3 pending in Washington

Pending Supplementals: 6 – Marion Helinsky, 2 – Sandi Valenti, 1 – Jennifer Cherry

➤ **Historian** – Erna Fenchel

Holly Hayick shared updates for the Patriot Recognition Project – for the recognition of 32 patriots interred at Wentz Church, Lansdale. The NSDAR has completed approving 30 of the 32 patriots so far. A ceremony is tentatively planned for Saturday, October 13, 2018. Erna Fenchel coordinated the following efforts for the ceremony – please stay tuned for further updates at future meetings. Samantha Hennenfent Freise will help coordinate the protocol, Sara Natali will assist with the photography, and the SAR will perform the color guard.

➤ **Librarian** – Linda Donaldson, reports filed

Librarian, Linda Donaldson, shared the upcoming updates for the Towamencin Book Club.

Book: *The Last Castle: The Epic Story of Love, Loss, and American Royalty in the Nation's Largest Home* by Denise Kiernan

Location: *Wendy Kelly's House*

Date & Time: *March 19th, 7:00 PM*

The Lending Library is now at 38 books, including 3 new donations from Margie Gehlhaus.

➤ **Corresponding Secretary** – Winnie Peterson

Corresponding Secretary, Winnie Peterson, reported the following upcoming events.

Saturday, February 17th – Philadelphia SAR Washington Birthday Celebration and City Tavern Luncheon – RSVP by February 10th

Saturday, March 17th – Valley Forge Chapter Spring Luncheon, to benefit DAR Schools, Copperfield Inn at Lakeside – RSVP by March 9th

Reports of Committees

➤ **American History** – Heather Wassel

Heather Wassel expressed gratitude to the volunteers that helped score the American History essays. The topic covered the WWI 100th Anniversary. Heather notified the State Chair of the proposed winners for 5th and 8th grades on December 18, 2017.

➤ **Americanism & the Flag of the United States** – Carole Bishop

Flag Minute – Carole Bishop read the Applegate Flag, which was about the flags that draped President Lincoln's coffin.

➤ **American Indians** – Sue Johnston

Indian Minute – Sue Johnston read about the American Indians role in WWI.

Sue Johnston reported the following for the PSSDAR AIC committee.

Chemawa Bed Sets: 350 of 400 bed sets were sent to Chemawa.

➤ **C.A.R.** – Sue Johnston

Sue Johnston reported the following C.A.R. events.

02/11/2018 – Next meeting

28 members were gained YTD.

C.A.R. State conference is in March.

➤ **DAR Schools** – Eleanor Cobb

Eleanor Cobb extended gratitude to all that donated the filled shoe boxes for Crossnore and for the 5 boxes filled of games. Stay tuned for future collections – perhaps socks?

➤ **DAR Service for Veterans** – Jennifer Bindas McMonagle

Jennifer Bindas McMonagle and Holly Hayick will be hosting an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, March 18th at the Spring City Veterans' Center. This includes the \$100 donation from the State Regent. Additional attendees will include Beth Lentz and Joan LaMonica. Please see Holly, Jen or Beth to carpool / coordinate.

➤ **Historic Preservation** – Samantha Hennenfent Freise

The work from the Special Project Grant for the 2nd gate at Christ Church in Philadelphia (5th and Arch, old city) will be completed around April 15th. The burial ground was founded in 1790, with iron gates from the 1820's originally. Please stay tuned for details to attend a ceremony tentatively in May 2018. Anyone is welcome to attend. The burial grounds include the interment of 5 signers of the Declaration of Independence and relatives to at least 2+ Towamencin members. Plaques from the Towamencin Chapter also appear on some of the pews.

➤ **Junior American Citizenship**

11 submissions from C.A.R. were entered and won at the state level. Their entries are now at the regional level.

➤ **Literacy** – Linda Donaldson, report filed

Linda Donaldson reported the Read Across America initiative will look for volunteering in late May, incorporating patriotic themes. Pam Martino has contacts through the Souderton school district, and Linda is working with Wendy Kelly to get our foot in the door of A.M. Kulp Elementary in Hatfield, part of North Penn School District. More on this as plans evolve.

Linda continues to participate as an individual with the Montgomery County Literacy Network. The group held a meeting on Monday, February 5th in Norristown which I attended via Zoom on my computer at home. Work is being finalized on the MCLN membership directory of providers. The phone canvassing of the referring [non-providers] members will soon begin. Following that the MCLN website will be updated with correct information. The printing of brochures was tabled until the membership list is completed, but a decision to begin designing cards about literacy services available that could be handed out to library and social service patrons as well as parents at IEP meetings facilitated by the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit [MCIU] was assigned to Linda Donaldson. Discussion followed as the copy was agreed upon by the participants. A group of proposed designs will be forwarded by Linda via email attachment to the group in the coming month.

➤ **Patriot Records** – Samantha Hennenfent Freise

If anyone is interested to help index historic documents, please see Samantha. After indexing 10,000 names, one is eligible to purchase the Patriots Records Pin. Example documents may include those signed by John Hancock and familiar Patriots. Indexing time will vary per document and individual, some documents might offer ease to index 100 names in about 30 minutes.

➤ **Project Patriot** – Joan LaMonica

See the handout for “Rucksacks to Backpacks” for items to collect and bring to the March meeting to help build backpacks for children of military families, sponsored by the USO.

Our chapter will be purchasing backpack(s) and filling each with the items listed below. We will deliver the backpacks to our State Conference on April 5.

Supplies Needed:

- *Highlighters*
- *Rulers*
- *3 ring binders with paper*
- *black pens*
- *blue pens*
- *pencils*
- *erasers*
- *folders*
- *glue sticks*
- *markers*
- *crayons*
- *filler paper*
- *notebooks*
- *zipper pencil case with binder holes*
- *Copy books (like the black and white speckled composition books)*

Donations of the above are being accepted at our March meeting. In lieu of supply donations, a monetary donation is also appreciated; the money will be used to purchase the supplies.

New Members Installation:

Rosemary Forsythe
Victoria Josko
Jennifer Smith
Charlene Souders

Anniversary Certificate: Jennifer Bindas McMonagle – 10 Years

Old Business

- **Chapter Collections** – *As a reminder, please bring the following to meetings to help with collecting items for DAR Schools and Veterans.*

DAR Schools – *Box Tops* – see Eleanor Cobb and www.boxtops4education.com
and the Towamencin Members' website,

<http://members.towamencinpadar.org/BoxtopsForEducation.pdf> (lansdale, lansdale)

Veterans – *Cancelled stamps to be used in tactile and sensory crafts* – see Jennifer Bindas McMonagle

New Business

- **PSSDAR State Conference** – *Margie Gehlhaus moved a motion to accept the following as delegates to attend the PSSDAR State Conference from April 5 – 7, 2018. Joan Williams seconded the motion. None opposed. Regent, Holly Hayick, recognized the motion as passed. Delegates: Samantha Hennenfent Freise, Margie Gehlhaus, Joan Cossman, Sue Johnston Shaughnessy, Carole Bishop, Jennifer Cherry, Sara Natali, Sandi Valenti, Diana Rehborn, Marion Helinsky, Heather Wassel, Diane Hustead, Bonnie Marino, Eleanor Cobb, and Jennifer Bindas McMonagle.*
- **New Horizons Capstone** – **Jennifer Cherry** – *Jennifer is collecting donations towards the \$250 purchase of a theater seat at the Crossnore School and collecting “G” rated movies. If interested, please bring collections to the March meeting.*

- **Outstanding Regent Nomination** – Carole Bishop, Sue Johnston, and Samantha Hennenfent Freise coordinated to complete the nomination form for Holly Hayick to run for Outstanding Regent. Winners will be announced at the District and State Levels.

Announcements

Thank you to hostesses: Diana Hustead & Samantha Hennenfent Freise

Today's Program: Essential Oils and Your Health

Speaker: Diana Rehborn

Next Meeting: Saturday, March 10, 2018, Indian Valley Library

Program: Community Service / New Members & New Horizons Courses

Speaker: Jennifer Cherry & Sara Natali

Hostesses: Jennifer Cherry & Sara Natali

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM

Recording Secretary, Sara Natali

Cc: Regent, Holly Hayick; Vice Regent, Samantha Hennenfent Freise