



*Towamencin Chapter,
NSD AR Daughters of the American Revolution
Lansdale, Pennsylvania*

**Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Towamencin Chapter was held at Wentz United Church of Christ, 3246 West Skippack Pike, Lansdale, PA.

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 AM by Regent Susanne Johnston. Recording Secretary Judith P Taylor was present.

34 members, 11 prospective members and 1 associate member were present. Prospective members were recognized by Second Vice Regent, Carla Beckwith Chagaris.

Regent Johnston led the DAR ritual. Joanne Shupe led the Pledge of Allegiance, Carol Bishop led the American Creed and Chaplain Marian Helinsky led the prayer and National Anthem.

The President General's Message and the National Defense Report were linked to the monthly chapter newsletter and presented via power point stream during the meeting. The following minutes were also presented on the power point: American Indian Minute about Devils Tower National Monument; Flag Minute about the design of the original stars and stripes; Conservation Minute on Bird Walks; Literacy Minute addressing the percentage of students and inmates who cannot read proficiently; and the Women's Issues Minute on how the definition of family has evolved to nontraditional families and the family's role in shaping individual behavior.

Regent Susanne Johnston introduced Lisa Siegel who discussed the DAR Day of Service to be held at the Montgomery Township Historical Society in North Wales on October 11, 2022 from 10:00AM to 1:00 PM. All members are welcome to participate.

Vice Regent Holly Hayick discussed Constitution Day. Members may join her on the steps of the Norristown Court House on September 16, 2022 at 3:30 PM. Holly also addressed the America 250 project which will be coordinated with the Hatfield Historical Society. Each chapter will receive a \$500.00 grant from National for an America 250 project.

Chaplain Marian Helinsky announced the formation of a Sunshine Committee to improve communication with members. Sunshine will provide birthday wishes, get well, sympathy and thinking of you concerns. Co-chair is Charlene Souders and helpers are Dana Pfister and Bonnie Marino.

Samantha Freise, Historian and Historic Preservation Chair, described the objectives of this committee and the associated grants, medals, and awards available. She encouraged members to contact her if interested in a cemetery grave marker for a patriot or member.

Regent Johnston, in the absence of Sally Jones, American Indians chair, showed the new scarf representing the American Indian Committee. The scarf depicts the "Circle of Life" painting done by an American Indian student at Bacone College. Sue informed the chapter of the state wide challenge to see which Pennsylvania chapter sold the most by November 30. Sue challenged the members to purchase and aid Bacone College and the American Indian Fund. The funds earned will be divided equally between them.

Margie Gehlhaus updated the members on Wreaths Across America to be held on December 17th. The chapter goal is to have 150 wreaths purchased. Purchasing 200 would be a bonus for our chapter and allow us to lay wreaths at more veteran grave sites at Wentz United Church of Christ. Wreaths may be purchased through our chapter for \$15; buy two get one free. Checks are payable to Amy Kriebel with a WAA in the memo section.

As chair of Commemorative Events, Margie paid tribute to the 50th anniversary of the NASA Space Shuttle Program by reading an article on Jeannette Ridlon Piccard, Balloonist and NASA Consultant 1920s-1940s.

Regent Johnston announced that in order to shorten our meetings, committee reports are now available in the monthly chapter Newsletter.

Outstanding Junior Award is given to a junior who is a chapter member between the ages of 18-35. Regent Johnston opened the floor to nominations for this year's Towamencin Outstanding Junior. Holly Hayick nominated Amy Kriebel and Donna Alleborn seconded the motion. No other nominations were made from the floor. Regent Johnston called for a vote. The nomination passed with all in favor and no discussion.

OLD BUSINESS:

In the absence of Treasurer, Amy Kriebel, Regent Johnston presented the Treasurer report of June-August, 2022. The ending balance is \$3,254.34. The Treasurer Report will be filled for audit and attached to the minutes.

There was no discussion on the meeting minutes of June 11, 2022. A motion was made by Carol Bishop to approve the minutes as written. Valerie Williams seconded the motion. Regent Johnston called for a vote. The motion passed with all in favor.

On July 22, 2022, the Towamencin Chapter held a DAR Schools Social and raised \$1,045.00 for the Meredith Cottage at Crossnore School for foster children. A check for \$835.00 was

sent to help with clothes for school, bedding for two new children, and birthday gift cards. The remainder of the funds will be sent at Christmas.

Regent Johnston thanked Jeanne Wolf for printing 50 Towamencin Chapter brochures and Shirley Sargent for her donation to purchase the America 250 flag and flagpole.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ruth Baltozer was inducted into the Towamencin Chapter by Regent Johnston, Chaplain Marian Helinsky and Registrar Valerie Williams.

Regent Johnston recognized Towamencin Chapter for Chapter and Committee awards and individual chapter members as recipients of DAR awards presented at the Southeastern Pennsylvania luncheon on August 27, 2022.

Vice Regent, Holly Hayick presented the 2022-2023 budget in the absence of Treasurer, Amy Kriebel. Holly shared that there was no 2022-2023 increase in chapter dues, despite the dues increase for state and national. She explained that balancing the budget required forwarding \$1000 from prior years to the current budget. In order to replenish those funds additional donations from members would be appreciated. Holly invited discussion but there was none. Marion Helinsky made a motion to pass the 2022-2023 budget. The motion was seconded by Diane Husted. Regent Johnston called for a vote. Motion passed with all in favor.

Due to time constraints an electronic vote was requested by Regent Johnston on July 31, 2022 at 10:12 AM. She emailed the ten board members a motion for \$91.44 to be used to purchase car magnets. These are to be used to advertise the Towamencin Chapter in parades and events. A vote was requested by Wednesday, August 3, 2022, allowing time for discussion. The vote was closed at 9:25 AM on August 1, 2022. By a vote of 10 in favor and 0 opposed, the motion was approved. Diane Husted made a motion to ratify the purchase on September 10, 2022 and Helen Harlow Schwartz seconded the motion. The motion to ratify the purchase passed with all in favor.

Regent Johnston provided an update on the By Laws Committee. Diane Husted, Holly Hayick, Joan LaMonica and Sue Johnston have been reviewing and updating the Towamencin Chapter By Laws. They will be distributed to the membership by November for review.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regent Johnston thanked meeting attendees for filling 20 cosmetic bags of toiletries for the "7 Seconds of Service" Women's Issues project. They will be donated to Laurel House. She also thanked members for the 36 children's books donated for the National Defense Bob Hope Legacy Reading program.

PROGRAM

Regent Johnston presented a power point program on the new national, state and chapter level administrations.

Donna Alleborn, American Heritage Committee chair, presented the theme for the 2022-2023 American Heritage contest: “Educating the Next Generation on Our Historic American Trails.” Artistic members are encouraged to participate. All the details of this committee and contest are in DAR.org under Committees and American Heritage.

The next meeting will be October 8, 2022 at Washington’s Crossing National Park at 10:30 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by
Judith P. Taylor,
Recording Secretary

Date Approved: