



*Towamencin Chapter
National Society Daughters of the
American Revolution
Lansdale, Pennsylvania*

Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2023

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

The meeting was called to order at 10:34 AM by Regent Susanne Johnston. Recording Secretary, Donna Alleborn was present.

37 Members, 1 associate member, 11 prospective members, 6 guest were present. A quorum was present.

The Opening Ritual was given by Regent Susanne Johnston and the Prayer by Marian Helinsky, Chaplain. The Pledge of Alliance was led by Valerie N. Williams, and the Creed by Samantha Freise. Marian Helinsky led the Star-Spangled Banner accompanied by Diane Husted on the piano.

Regent Johnston provided a slide show of the President General's Message and the National Defense Message. They were also sent to members in the Newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS

Regent Johnston asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the February Meeting. No corrections were noted. Regent Susanne Johnston asked for approval of the minutes. Joan LaMonica made a motion to approve the minutes. Margie Gehlhaus seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Regent Johnston called for a vote. The motion passed with all in favor.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Regent Johnston reported on Teacher Appreciation Day in May and April 27-29 is State Conference.

1st Vice Regent Holly Hayick reported on the April Luncheon at the William Penn Inn at 11:00 AM on April 15, 2023. She asked that members bring a tombola basket to the event. Russ Bellevance is the guest speaker and will present on, "Lafayette's Final Tour". She also requested volunteers to work the chapter's table during the Pennypacker Mills event on May 21st and 22nd.

Treasurer, Amy Kriebel, reported that the budget beginning January 31, 2023, was \$6,961.03. Total money collected from members' dues, WAA, prospective members and donations was \$509.50. Withdraws were \$317. 25. The Ending balance as of February 28, 2023, was \$7,153.28.

Marian Helinsky, Chaplain updated members on the Sunshine Committee's work during January and February. They sent Get Well; Happy Birthday and Thank You cards to chapter members. Eight cards were sent electronically. Helen Creed, a former Chaplain, who recently transferred to our Chapter has joined her committee to spread the "Sunshine".

Historian, Samantha Freise, reported on the Grave Marking event on June 3, 2023, at Wentz Cemetery for John Wentz. She also noted that members can speak with her if they are interested in getting a marker for themselves or a family member. Samantha encouraged members to think ahead. Markers have a range of prices dependent on type. For example, an Insignia marker requires paperwork which is sent to National.

Samantha reported on the Preservation Trust of \$ 30,000 needed to replace all the doors at Christ Church. If the grant is approved the project should be completed in the fall.

Joanne Shupe, Librarian, shared that noted presidential historian, Dr Lawrence Cook, will be attending the PSSDAR State Conference in Lancaster on April 27,2023. Members will be able to purchase his book, "**Symbols of Patriotism: First Ladies and Daughters of the American Revolution**", directly from Dr Cook.

The reports of the Standing and Special Committees were sent in the Chapter Newsletter. The American Indian minute, Constitution Minute, DAR Schools Minute, Flag Committee Minute, Literacy Minute, and Women's Issues were included in the slide show and the chapter Newsletter.

New Business

The Conservation Chair, Mary Margaret Briggs, announced the winner of the Conservation Award, **Wendy Weirman**. Wendy will receive her award at the Opening Night Banquet at State Conference on Friday April 27, 2023.

Margie Gehlhaus reported on the Conservation Minute. She presented the compost bucket for non-meat products. The bucket is odor-free and easily used. It cost \$24.00.

Margie Gehlhaus gave the Commemorative Events Report on the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. She presented two proclamations; one to Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War by President Joseph R Biden and one by Governor Josh Shapiro March 29,2023 has been proclaimed as Vietnam War Veterans Day.

Margie Gehlhaus presented NSDAR and Towamencin Chapter awards for Valor, Service and Sacrifice during the Vietnam War to Erwin Richert and Chapter members, Joan LaMonica and Carole Bishop. Post Commander of Red Hill, Thomas Sally, thanked the chapter for recognizing Erwin Richert. He noted the Red Hill Post will be having a Luncheon for Vietnam Veterans on March 26, 2023, at 1 PM.

Regent Johnston gave the Outstanding Junior Member award to Amy Kriebel.

Regent Johnston noted that Credentials are needed to vote during Continental Congress in Washington on June 28- July 2, 2023. Contact Regent Johnston about getting credentials for Continental Congress.

Joan La Monica made a motion to purchase materials for the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War for SE Veterans Center for \$100.00. A motion was made by Judy Taylor to purchase \$100.00 for supplies. Sally Jones seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Regent Johnston called for a vote. The motion was passed with all in favor.

Joan LaMonica reported that the Towamencin, Valley Forge and Mahanatawny Chapters will be co-hosting an event at the SE Veterans Center, on March 28,2023 at 10:00. Volunteers are needed, please contact Joan LaMonica if interested.

The Flagg committee reported that Oak Park Elementary, Spring-Ford Elementary and North Wales Elementary Schools have requested members to come to their schools on Flag Day to do a program and give the students bags with Flag Day goodies. A motion for \$120.00 to buy school supplies for Flag Day was made by Marie Conner. Judy Taylor seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Regent Johnston called for a vote. The motion was passed with all in favor.

The following New Members were inducted into the DAR by Regent Johnston, Chaplain Helinsky, and Registrar Williams, Jane O'Hara, Marie Marczuk, Kathleen Roberts, and Kimberly Reports.

Regent Johnston will be having New Member meetings via Zoom to explain what DAR is and what it is that we do as an organization. You will receive a personal invitation. Please note the following dates and let Sue Johnston know which one you would like to attend.

Tuesday April 11, 2023, from 7:30PM-8:30PM

Thursday April 20, 2023, from 7:00PM-8:00PM

Holly Hayick 1st Vice-Regent introduced today's speaker, Jennifer Bilger, who spoke about the **Wissahickon Trails**.

Next meeting will be on April 15, 2023, at the William Penn Inn. If you have not yet sent in your check you can send it to her by April 3, 2023. Guests are welcomed.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:48 AM.

Minutes recorded and submitted by,
Recording Secretary, Donna Alleborn

Minutes were approved.