



Towamencin Chapter
Daughters of the American Revolution
Lansdale, Pennsylvania

Minutes

Meeting: November 12, 2016

Place: Indian Valley Library, Telford

Attendance: (34)

Jennifer Bindas-McMonagle, Carole Bishop, Carla Blumenfeld, Jacqueline Carter, Jennifer Cherry, Mary DiDomizio, Linda Donaldson, Erna Fenchel, Martha Foote, Julia Forbes, Margie Gehlhaus, Janet Gross, Linda Hatcher, Holly Hayick, Marian Helinsky, Samantha Hennenfent, Dale Hoppe, Molly Jager, Susanne Johnston, Mary Kern, Kathryn Landis, Beth Lentz, Bonnie Marino, Pamela Martino, Carol Morrell, Sara Natali, Winnie Peterson, Janet Robinson, Shirley Sargent, Helen Schwartz, Margaret Sellers, Elizabeth Semon, Sandy Valenti, Wendy Weirman, Rebekah Wieland.

Guests: (1)

Joanne Shupe.

Opening Rituals

The meeting of the Towamencin Chapter NSDAR was called to order by Regent Holly Hayick at 10:35 A.M.

Opening Ritual with prayers lead by Chaplain, Carla Blumenfeld, followed.

DAR Ritual

Pledge of Allegiance

American's Creed

Star Bangled Banner

President General's Message was read by Sandy Valenti. Topics included National Day of Service, Kate Duncan Smith school visits, DAR Museum October new exhibit - "An Agreeable Tyrant: Fashion After the Revolution", Veterans Day November 11, Armistice Day 100th Anniversary in 2018, and the Annual DAR Christmas Open House on December 7.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes from the October 8, 2016 meeting were posted to the Towamencin Chapter Members Website. Minutes were approved as posted.

Reports of Officers

➤ **Vice Regent** – Samantha Hennenfent

Samantha Hennenfent shared upcoming programs. The next meeting will be at Carla Blumenfeld's house with a program honoring the 225th anniversary of the Bill of Rights. Please see the potluck signup in circulation. Save the date for the Annual DAR Christmas Open House at the DAR Headquarters in Washington, D.C. on December 7, 2016. Stay tuned for the trip to the Museum of American Revolution scheduled for May 13, 2017, a joint trip with C.A.R.

➤ **Chaplain** – Carla Blumenfeld

Carla Blumenfeld sent Birthday e-cards [from Jackie Lawson] for 5 members.

➤ **Corresponding Secretary** – Winnie Peterson

Winnie Peterson read correspondence received. The American Indian Committee sent a thank you note regarding the Chapter donation towards the Sheets for Chemawa. In addition, Linda Brad sent correspondence expressing gratitude for keeping her in our thoughts and prayers.

Winnie thanked everyone for ongoing updates sent for the chapter yearbook. A PDF of the yearbook will be forwarded periodically.

To share news with the Chapter, please forward the information to Winnie and she will distribute via e-blasts.

➤ **Treasurer** – Diane Hustead, read by Sandy Valenti / Finance Committee, report filed

A balance of \$ 7,586.46 was reported, as of October 31, 2016.

➤ **Registrar** – Sue Johnston, report filed

Sue Johnston reported the following statistics.

Total Members: 96

New members: 1, install pending

Transferred out: 1

Prospective members: 26 in database, 3 new

Supplementals pending: 4, for members Diane Hustead, Sara Natali, Marion Helinsky, Bonnie Marino

➤ **Historian** – Erna Fenchel

Erna Fenchel continues to keep the Chapter's history book updated.

➤ **Librarian** – Linda Donaldson

Linda Donaldson reported the lending library has 27 books, 3 new – 2 donated by Carla Blumenfeld and 1 donated by Linda Donaldson. The library list and a listing of 5 books from Linda for future donations, were filed and posted to the Towamencin Chapter Members' Website, <http://members.towamencinpadar.org>

Reports of Committees

➤ **American History** – Sandy Valenti

Sandy Valenti shared that 47 history essays were received for the contest coordination. A sign-up sheet was circulated for volunteers to help judge the essays. Sandy will forward the essays and tracking sheet via e-mail. Please return tracking sheets to Sandy by December 15, 2016.

Participants included:

5th grade from Mary, Mother of the Redeemer

7th grade from Mary, Mother of the Redeemer

8th grade from Mary, Mother of the Redeemer

5th grade from Germantown Academy

Volunteers included: Sandy Valenti, Carole Bishop, Jackie Carter, Julia Forbes, Holly Hayick, Samantha Hennenfent, Molly Jager, Sue Johnston, and Sara Natali.

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

Flag Minute was read by Carole Bishop, titled Old Glory.

➤ **American Indians** – Sue Johnston

Indian Minute was read by Sue Johnston.

Sue reviewed the PSSDAR initiatives regarding Chemewa needing bedding sets. The luncheon is scheduled Sunday, November 20, 2016, 12:30 PM, at Jessica's Tea Room at the Historic Weaversville Inn, Northampton, PA, to raise proceeds to purchase bedding sets. Donation sales also continue, including Hand Sanitizers for \$2, and raffle tickets \$3 for 1 or \$10 for 4 (drawing at year-end or state conference).

➤ **C.A.R.** – Sue Johnston

Sue Johnston reviewed the Towamencin C.A.R. initiatives.

Please consider attending a C.A.R. meeting – bring a neighbor, a friend's child, a nephew or niece or just come yourself – all members are always welcome.

***Next Meeting:** Sunday, November 13, 2016, 2:00 PM, Indian Valley Library, Telford.*

Topics: Allies, treaties, broadsides, and first Lady contest.

***Socks to Chemawa:** Towamencin C.A.R. sent 221 pairs of socks to the Chemawa School during the November 8th week – 100 were supplied by the S.A.R. Jennifer Cherry and her daughter, Holly, attended a recent S.A.R. meeting to tell them about C.A.R. Then the S.A.R. members volunteered to help collect the socks.*

***Box tops:** Over 400 box tops were collected for Tamassee, with \$100 donated to their new playground and walkway.*

***4 Paws for Ability:** Please see brochures describing an agency that trains dogs to help veterans. C.A.R. is selling Christmas ornaments for \$10. On February 11, 2017, they will also host a bake sale during the DAR meeting and baskets to raffle. Please see Carla Blumenfeld or Jen Cherry to purchase the Christmas ornaments and to help support “4 Paws for Ability”.*

➤ **Conservation** – Jackie Carter

***Conservation Minute** was read by Jackie Carter, topics included the Penn Parks contest and America Recycles Day on November 15th. As of October 31, 2016, the following have been collected: 99 cell phones and 21,157 bottle caps.*

➤ **DAR Schools** – Eleanor Cobb, Jackie Carter

Regent, Holly Hayick, will collect the toy donations from today's meeting and coordinate delivery with Eleanor Cobb. Thank you all for helping to support the Crossnore school.

➤ **DAR Service for Veterans** – Jennifer Bindas-McMonagle, Beth Lentz

Jennifer Bindas-McMonagle reported efforts continue with the Southeastern Veterans Center in Spring City seeking volunteer opportunities. Please see Jen Bindas-McMonagle or Beth Lentz to express veteran volunteer interests. Stay tuned for activities slated for 2017 for a Lansdale Heroes Walk, May 13th, and the Memorial Day Parade, May 21st.

➤ **Historic Preservation / Patriot Records** – Samantha Hennenfent

Samantha Hennenfent reviewed initiatives for Historic Preservation and Patriot Records.

Historic DAR Markers: *If any Towamencin DAR markers are noticed in the community, please notify Samantha Hennenfent and she will coordinate National recognition (similar to the marker at the Peter Wentz home, publicized on the NSDAR Website:*

[http://www.dar.org/national-society/historic-sites-and-properties/peter-wentz-homestead.](http://www.dar.org/national-society/historic-sites-and-properties/peter-wentz-homestead))

“Discover Lansdale” Grant Application: *The historic grant in discussions for “Discover Lansdale” will need paper work approved by December for consideration for 2016.*

Samantha Hennenfent and Jackie Carter will have further discussions offline.

Patriot Records: *Please see the flyer distributed, if interested. Only 10% of records are indexed traditionally, volunteers will help enhance the availability of records in the search databases. As a bonus, volunteer hours count towards Service to America. One may also earn a pin after 10,000 hours. Special assistance is requested for those fluent in reading names in foreign languages, such as Spanish, French, etc.*

➤ **Insignia** – Beth Semon

Beth Semon continues progress coordinating the Insignia book and references.

Veteran “Thank You” Business cards also remain @ 100 – please see Beth for distribution.

➤ **Junior Membership / VIS** – Sara Natali

Sara Natali encouraged support for the Junior Shop, where proceeds help the DAR schools, and reviewed the following events.

PSSDAR Eastern Junior Luncheon: *Regent, Holly Hayick, and, Sara Natali attended the PSSDAR Eastern Junior Luncheon, at the Corinthian Yacht Club of Philadelphia, Essington, PA, on November 5, 2016. PSSDAR raised over \$4,000 towards the Tamassee school, birthday and clothing funds.*

Salford Township 275th Celebration / Operation Gratitude Booth – *Corresponding Secretary, Winnie Peterson, and Sara Natali, hosted a booth on Saturday, October 15th, 2016, and collected 14 thank you notes from the community for Operation Gratitude and active members in service. Thank you to Beth Semon and the Salford Historical Society for coordinating the historic event.*

Skippack Fellowship Hike – Winnie Peterson, Pam Martino, and Sara Natali enjoyed a beautiful, fall hike at Evansburg State Park and the Skippack Creek Loop, on Sunday, October 23, 2016, 1:15 PM. The land was purchased by William Penn previously in 1684 from the Unami of the Lenni Lenape Nation (excerpt courtesy from the trail map). Please see the Towamencin DAR Facebook page for further details and photos. Stay tuned for future spring and fall walking adventures.

Anchor Award: The Junior Membership committee is looking to highlight those DAR members (ages 18+) who have been Outstanding Supporters of Junior Membership. Juniors (ages 18-35), please consider nominating an outstanding DAR member who should be recognized for their Outstanding support.

Junior Supporters Social – November: Please join Sara Natali at Montella's in Lansdale on Thursday, November 17th, @ 5 PM.

Junior Supporters Social – December: Save the date for December 15, further details to follow.

➤ **Literacy Promotion** – Linda Donaldson

Linda Donaldson, Winnie Peterson, Pam Martino, and Pat Hallman attended a Montgomery County Literacy Network Quarterly meeting in Blue Bell, on October 17, 2016. Topics included volunteer tutors and GED test support. Next meeting is scheduled for December 5, 2016, at 1:30 PM, with topics slated for helping to address the 10% literacy rate in Montgomery County. The following represent additional ideas to advocate literacy initiatives, summarized from the report filed.

1. Help MCLN create printed handouts with tips for reading and speaking English.
2. Gather books for donations for shelters, hospitals, waiting rooms, while affixing a bookplate with information on literacy resources.
3. Plan events to celebrate National Family Literacy Day on November 1, 2017.
4. Sponsor programs in communities to support the importance to read...even perhaps a spelling bee!

➤ **Membership** – Margie Gehlhaus

Please stay tuned for future activities to encourage fellowship for new members (in DAR less than 2 years).

➤ **National Defense** – Carla Blumenfeld

National Defense Minute was read by Carla Blumenfeld, the topic included the USO of Indiantown Gap, Central PA.

➤ **Public Relations / Media** – Jackie Carter

Jackie Carter reviewed Crossnore will be honoring the Towamencin Chapter in Crossnore's Newsletter – please sign the photo release form for those interested to participate in photos to send to Crossnore. Sara Natali volunteered to help with the photos. 4-5 additional photos will be submitted of the donations from today's meeting.

Old Business

➤ **Manna on Main**

Sandy Valenti reported a minimum donation of \$130 received, to sponsor two children. Thank you all that donated.

New Business

➤ **10 Years of Service Certificate**

Regent, Holly Hayick, recognized Carole Bishop for achieving 10 years in DAR.

➤ **Towamencin DAR Facebook**

Please join the Towamencin DAR private group page on Facebook to receive news and events updates. Thank you to Jennifer Cherry for coordinating.

Announcements

Thank you to hostess: Sue Johnston

Today's Program: Chicken Soup for the Native American Soul, Sue Johnston

Next Meeting: Saturday, December 10, 2016 10:30 AM, Carla Blumenfeld's House

Program: 225th Anniversary of the Bill of Rights, Julia Forbes

Hostesses: Towamencin Membership (light covered dish luncheon)

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM

Recording Secretary, Sara Natali

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