



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

Minutes

Meeting: March 11, 2017

Place: Indian Valley Library, Telford

Attendance: (33)

Jennifer Bindas-McMonagle, Carole Bishop, Carla Blumenfeld, Jennifer Cherry, Eleanor Cobb, Joan Cossman, Linda Donaldson, Martha Foote, Margie Gehlhaus, Janet Gross, Linda Hatcher, Holly Hayick, Marian Helinsky, Samantha Freise, Dale Hoppe, Jessica Hoppe, Molly Jager, Susanne Johnston, Wendy Kelly, Mary Kern, Bonnie Marino, Sandy McCarthy, Carol Morrell, Sara Natali, Winnie Peterson, Shirley Sargent, Helen Schwartz, Margaret Sellers, Joanne Shupe, Margaret Updike, Sandy Valenti.

Guests: (7)

SaraJane McCurdy (PSSDAR Southeastern District Director), Marsha Althouse (Gwynedd Chapter, Towamencin Associate Member), Rosemary Forsythe, Karen Reed, Carol Reen, Ann Rorer, Heather Wassel.

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 Spangled Banner

President General's Message was read by Carol Morrell, depicting March weather, 2033 Treaty of Paris Anniversary, New Members and Horizon Classes, Women's History Month and features in the American Spirit, the DAR Museum Dazzling Daughters, and save the date for Continental Congress June 28th – July 2nd, 2017.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes from the last meeting were posted to the Towamencin Chapter Members Website.

Minutes were approved as posted.

National Defense

The National Defender was referenced by Carla Blumenfeld, the topic included the 2nd Korean War.

Carla made special mention to the backpacks to collect for the USO to distribute at the State Conference. Thank you to all that contributed donations at the meeting, close to two backpacks of contents.

Reports of Officers

➤ **Vice Regent** – Samantha Freise

Samantha Hennenfent shared upcoming programs.

Towamencin Annual Luncheon – Saturday, April 8th – please send reservation to Samantha Freise by March 30th.

PSSDAR State Conference – April 27th – 29th – please register by April 1st.

Museum of the American Revolution Trip – Saturday, May 13th – please send reservation to Diane Husted by April 24th. (Self-transportation, \$12 for adults, \$10 for children)

➤ **Chaplain** – Carla Blumenfeld

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

➤ **Corresponding Secretary** – Winnie Peterson

Winnie Peterson read correspondence received.

Sandi Valenti sent gratitude for the contributions to Manna on Main.

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

A balance of \$ 3,928.75 was reported, as of February 28, 2017.

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

Sue Johnston reported the following statistics, report filed.

Total Members: 94

New members Install Pending: 1

Applications Pending: 2

Prospective members: 5

Prospective members in Database: 33

Supplementals pending: 13

➤ **Librarian** – Linda Donaldson

Linda Donaldson reported the lending library has 28 books. 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>

Linda reported two book donations, one from Carla Blumenfeld for “A Split History of Women Suffrage”, and a book written by Carol Morrell, the report of Carol's book follows.

“We were blessed to receive a donated book of poetry by Sara Natali's mother, Carol Morell. Published in 2005 by Mastof Press, this softcover bound collection entitled “A Time to Observe: A Poetry Collection” is 298 pages long.”

Carol herself describes her book on the title page as:

“A very simple view of many different topics. For all ages – from Preteen to Adult. Finding God's love in everyday situations. A culmination of 9 years' work. Carol, a Christian grandmother in her early 50's then, brings insight from her volunteer training, her Christian background, and her life experiences, also from her daughters, her marriage of 34 years, and from her childhood, even from her animals. Also from just observing life and living life. Bringing people together to laugh, to cry, to just learn a few things. From one heart to another.”

Reports of Committees

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

Flag Minute was read by Carole Bishop, titled *Oldest National Flags*.

Carole reported that Beth Semon purchased 10 Braille flags from the donations for the last meeting. Thank you all for the contributions.

➤ **American Indians** – Sue Johnston

Indian Minute was read by Sue Johnston, with a topic of *Indians Today & Cultures around the world*.

PSSDAR American Indian Committee has collected 180 of the 400 bed sets – the chapter contributed 5 bed sets.

➤ **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, June 11, TBD

Topics: TBD

4 Paws for Ability: \$350 was collected – thank you all for participating at the February meeting.

Stay tuned for reports and contests results from the C.A.R. State conference towards the end of March and the National conference in April.

Towamencin C.A.R. grew from 16 to 38 members, 5 transfers, and 5 life members. They collected 300+ socks for veterans and contributed 1,400 hours in Community Service.

➤ **DAR Magazine** – Joan Cossman

Joan Cossman reported 35 members have subscribed to the American Spirit. Members subscribing will be entered in a drawing in June. The members supplemental last month included schedules and highlights for the Continental Congress.

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

Jennifer Bindas reported examples of how individuals may volunteer for veterans. See the Towamencin Members site, <http://members.towamencinpadar.org>, for the ideas to volunteer at the Southeastern Veterans Center - <http://www.dmva.pa.gov/stateveteranshomes/southeastern-veterans-center/Pages/default.aspx>

➤ **Historic Preservation** – Samantha Freise

Samantha Freise shared efforts to help the PSSDAR Historic Preservation Committee and the Cameo Society breakfast, coming up at the PSSDAR State Conference in April. Samantha and Sara Natali are Vice Chairmen / members of the PSSDAR HP Committee and volunteered 12 hours to scrapbook and document 100's of pages of DAR markers from photos submitted from chapters across the state to spread knowledge of the PA property database. The scrapbook will be presented at the annual Cameo Society breakfast and will be shared at events in the future to advocate the efforts of the Historic Preservation Committee.

Towamencin Chapter, NSDAR, will have two more entries for the properties database with efforts of the special grants towards Christ Church in the future.

The second special grant for Christ Church has been approved to help restore the remainder of the gates.

➤ **Junior American Citizens** – Martha Foote

Martha Foote reported three awards were won at stamp and poster contests at the State Level for Junior American Citizens, that will then also go onto National. The awards will be presented at the Towamencin April Luncheon.

➤ **Literacy Promotion** – Linda Donaldson

Linda Donaldson filed the following report.

When I learned about the Dr. Seuss Read Across America Day on March 2nd this year, I was disappointed because, due to an out of town trip, I couldn't take part.

Thankfully, Pam Martino kindly took on the leadership of this chapter's efforts and was more than up to the challenge. Pam approached E. M. Crouthamel school, lined up readers, obtained books to donate, put bookplates with our DAR logo and "Compliments of" in each of the books, and was on hand along with five other volunteers to participate. Pam, who herself had to be out of town at our March meeting, wrote to me: "The students and volunteers had a wonderful time on Thursday. We read to two fifth grade classes, three fourth grade classes, and one second grade class."

Below is a picture our chapter's six daughters who took time to read to the children to promote literacy in our local schools.



Pictured (left to right): Margaret Sellers, Wendy Weirman, Pam Martino, Samantha Freise, Sara-Beth Natali, and Diane Husted.

Linda also sold raffle tickets for the DAR Library basket for the State Conference, \$1 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.

➤ **Volunteer Genealogists** – Joan Cossman

Joan Cossman reported efforts in process to assist the Lieutenant Matthew Smith Chapter to increase membership. Currently, 10 members attend their chapter meetings.

20th Anniversary of Membership – Joan Cossman

Regent, Holly Hayick presented Joan Cossman with a certificate for her 20th Anniversary in DAR.

New Business

- **Continental Congress** – *No delegates volunteered.*

- **Memorial Day Parade, Lansdale** – *Please join in walking with Towamencin Daughters on Monday, May 29th, meeting at 8:30 am. A white van will be available for 6 people to ride, and then the rest able will walk. Please wear red, white, and blue or period attire. BBQ at Carla Blumenfeld's will follow at noon, please see sign-up for side dishes / desserts.*

- **April Luncheon Tombola** – *Vice Regent, Samantha Freise, proposed the funds of the tombola to go towards the Guardian Fund. Margie Gehlhaus provided the motion, and Sue Johnston seconded. All members approved the motion. Regent, Holly Hayick, declared the motion passed.*

- **SAR Ribbon** – *Past Regent, Sandy McCarthy, presented the chapter with a SAR ribbon for our chapter flag that commemorates the Battle of Cowan's Ford.*

Announcements

Thank you to hostess: Jennifer Binda, Samantha Freise

Today's Program: First Ladies, Joan Cossman

Next Meeting: Saturday, April 8, 2017 10:30 AM, Rising Sun

Program: Living History: Tobacconist of the Federal Period Speaker: Rick Gehlhaus

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 AM

Recording Secretary, Sara Natali

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