



Iowa Society

Daughters of the American Revolution

Issue 6, Winter 2024

From the State Regent ***Edith Harris Brunia***

The fall and winter holidays are upon us which hopefully brings joy to you and your families. Our genealogy friends remind us that family gathering are always great times to share stories. Isn't it wonderful that we all have different stories and because of DAR friendships across America and the world, we love to share them? Today, it is rare that someone knows nothing about their family history because most of us do know some of the story. The fun part is you can always find more.

As we wrap this year of 2023 down, I hope you are happy with your personal and chapter participation in service and friendship to your community, state, and nation. Our wonderful society offers so many opportunities to spread joy and knowledge of the men and women who made our current lifestyle possible. It has been a pleasure to celebrate with chapters their markings, anniversaries, meetings, parades, and tours displaying your joy of service this past year. Well done ladies!

In the next two months, each chapter will now have the privilege of recording your activities to national on the Master Report and to the State on the State Chapter Achievement Award report. The Master Report is on emembership and the State Chapter Achievement Award report is on the Iowa DAR website. A word to chapter members, this is not just the responsibility of the Chapter Regent. Every member of a chapter may contribute information to fill out these reports. After these reports are finished, have a member make a copy of them for your chapter records so your members have a guide



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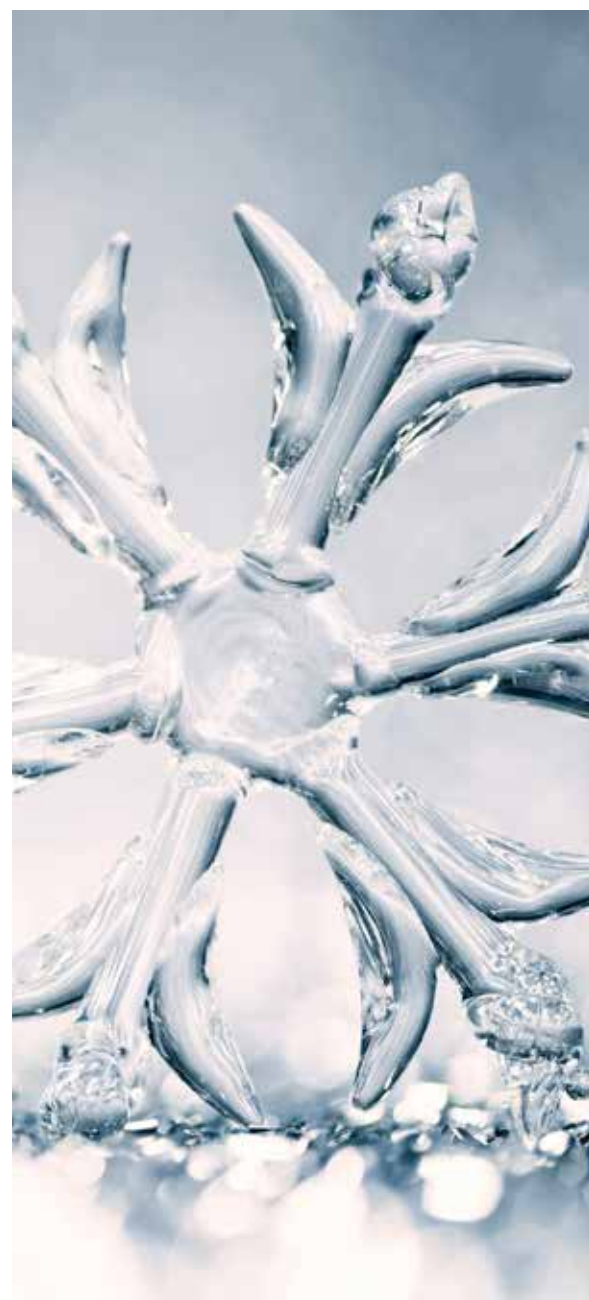
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what was done in the past and opportunities of activities that may be tried next year. Our national society does not expect all chapters to do everything listed on these reports, but they do expect chapters to pick some topics and areas and do them very well.

The Iowa Society Daughters of the American Revolution has a lot to be proud of that was accomplished this past year. Thank you to the chapters who participated in community events and parades. We now have a collection of colonial attire that is available for loan to help make any event special. Iowa DAR was represented at the State Capitol Veterans Day in January. A number of chapters had recognitions or teas for Good Citizen chapter winners. A nice group of Iowa DAR members attended the Vietnam Memorial service at the State Capitol in May. Thank you to the wonderful crowd that turned out in July for the dedication of the Iowa 250 Marker at the Gold Star Military Museum in Johnston. Thank you to the chapters who had ceremonies to mark Revolutionary Patriots both in Iowa and other states. Members sent money to aid in the relief efforts for Maui after their catastrophic wildfires. In September I am sure members had fun representing their families at the Woodland Cemetery 175th Anniversary in Des Moines, Iowa. In October, Iowa was honored to be part of the Presentation and Dedication of the monetary gift of \$2,975 to Kate Duncan Smith DAR School. Our service project at Fall Forum was to thank active-duty Military Families with stockings for children of deployed and Christmas greeting cards for the USS Gerald Ford ship. In November, 25 pounds of loose tea was shipped from the State DAR Society to Boston for the reenactment of the Boston Tea Party with more sent by individual chapters. November 11, our state society was present to mark and honor the Revolutionary Patriots buried in Iowa with a service at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery near Van Meter. Even if it is bitter cold in December, I am sure members will attend Wreaths Across America in several locations across Iowa. I am also quite sure there is much more that Iowa can proudly report that was accomplished in a year we will not forget.

Seasons Greetings to all and may you find your passion in DAR service.

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From the State Vice Regent ***Sarah Steinke***

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with family or friends. I need to begin with heartfelt thanks to everyone who worked hard to make Fall Forum successful. Everyone who gathered had a great time together.



- Registrar Ann Mack kicked off the event with a research party at the Iowa Genealogical Society and State Historical Society Research center.
- Coordinated by Shannon Woods, the workshop presenters provided a wealth of information about DAR Leadership Training, State Officer breakout sessions, Contests offered by the DAR, and ways we can incorporate Service From Home.
- Shelley Wells coordinated a great service project allowing us to send our appreciation to deployed military and gift stockings to family members at Camp Dodge.
- Amy Sunleaf pulled together incredible guest speakers, Ms. Denise Bullock, National Vice Chairman of Rural Concerns, Dr. Karen Kedrowski Director of Catt Center for Women and Politics at ISU and Victoria Smith, National President Children of the American Revolution.
- Lastly Karla Wright provided beautiful centerpieces and was the perfect hostess in the hospitality room.

Please make plans to join us for the 125th Annual ISDAR State Conference at the Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, Iowa, on April 4-6, 2024. Make your hotel reservations directly with the Airport Holiday Inn, under the DAR Block (Rate \$109+tax), until March 14, 2024. Be on the lookout for registration information via email before the next newsletter issue. This year will be extra special as we celebrate 125 years of ISDAR.

Don't forget, your chapter should be electing your State Conference delegates soon. Delegates must be elected before the end of January 2024. The Credentials Form is up and running on the ISDAR members website under the Forms of the State Vice Regent and included in this newsletter. Your chapter does not have to wait to send in the names of your delegates, you can send them in at any time. The deadline for submission of Credentials is March 1, 2024.

The President General's sales table at State Conference will be pre-order only. If you are interested in any President General's Merchandise, please complete the included order form and send a check made out to Iowa Society DAR. You can pick up these pre-paid orders at State Conference.

Enjoy the holidays with your loved ones!



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STATE CONFERENCE CREDENTIALS

DEADLINE: March 1, 2024

The 2024 ISDAR 125th State Conference is scheduled for April 4-6, 2024

The Spring 2024 ISDAR newsletter will include highlights, preliminary agenda and the call to the 125th State Conference. You may access the newsletter on the Iowa members only website at <http://isdar.org/members>.

ARTICLE VII-IOWA STATE CONFERENCE

Section 4. The call for the State Conference shall be issued forty-five (45) days before the convening of said conference. This notice, created by the State Vice Regent, shall be part of the official mailing list utilized by the Iowa Society newsletter. (See Article VI, Section 2(g)).

Section 7. Regents and delegates shall be entitled to an alternate and the Chapter Regent is authorized to fill vacancies in the Chapter delegation from the elected alternates. Delegates and alternates to the State Conference shall be elected each year no later than two months before the month in which State Conference is held. (Since State Conference is held in April then a chapter shall elect delegates no later than the January meeting.) A list of the delegates and alternates, with the date of their election by the Chapter, shall be sent to the State Conference Chairman by the deadline as specified on the State Credentials Form. So if you do not meet in the winter months please elect them at the last meeting held prior to the break in your calendar.

As stated above, a list of your chapter delegates and alternates, with the date of their election by the Chapter shall be sent to Sarah Steinke, State Conference Chairman by **March 1, 2024.**

If you have questions, please contact State Regent Edee Brunia or State Vice Regent, Sarah Steinke.

*People will forget what you said,
people will forget what you did,
but people will never forget how
you made them feel.*

Maya Angelou

**IOWA SOCIETY DAR
125th STATE CONFERENCE CREDENTIALS**

Deadline: March 1, 2024

2024 State Conference Date: April 4-6, 2024

**Mail to: Sarah Steinke, State Vice Regent
24331 Illini Ct. Manhattan, IL 60442**

Please Type or Print

Chapter Name _____ Location _____

Regent _____ Address _____

Vice Regent _____ Address _____

Chapter Membership January 1, 2024 _____

This is to Certify:

That the following named delegates to the 125th State Conference of the Iowa Society Daughters of the American Revolution were elected on the _____ day of _____, 2023 (24). These delegates or, in the case of absence or disability, an alternate, have the full power to act in all matters that may come before the conference.

May 9, 2020 Amended Bylaws, Page B-7

Article VII, Iowa State Conference

Section 7. Each Chapter is entitled to representation at the State Conference by its Regent, or in her absence, by the Vice Regent or alternate. The number of additional delegates to which a chapter is entitled shall be based upon the number of members on the Chapter Roll in good standing in the National Society on January 1, of each year.

Chapter Members	Representatives	Votes
12-49 (Inclusive)	Regent and 2 Delegates	3
50-99 (Inclusive)	Regent and 4 Delegates	5
100-199 (Inclusive)	Regent and 6 Delegates	7
200-299 (Inclusive)	Regent and 8 Delegates	9

Regents and delegates shall be entitled to an alternate and the Chapter Regent is authorized to fill vacancies in the Chapter delegation from the elected alternates. Delegates and alternates to the State Conference shall be elected each year no later than two months before the month in which State Conference is held. (If State Conference is held in April then a chapter shall elect delegates no later than the February meeting.) A list of the delegates and alternates, with the date of their election by the Chapter, shall be sent to the State Conference Chairman by the deadline as specified on the State Credential Form. Section 12. A member must have belonged at least one continuous year preceding the Continental Congress to be eligible to represent her chapter at the State Conference or Continental Congress.

Delegate Names

Alternate Names

Regent _____
 _____ Yes, Chapter Regent will attend **OR**

Vice Regent _____
 _____ In her absence, Vice Regent/Alternate will attend.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Regent _____
Signature Required

Treasurer _____
Signature Required

Wright Administration

President General's Project Merchandise

<p>Wright Rejoice Bow Pin - \$100</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Wright Celebrate Fireworks Pin - \$40</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Wright Star Crystal Lapel Pin - \$15</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>
<p>Vera Bradley Wristlet - \$48</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Vera Bradley Navy Blue Crossbody Bag - \$90</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Vera Bradley Triple Compartment Crossbody - \$90</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>
<p>Wright Tote Bag - \$65</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Vera Bradley Navy DAR Backpack - \$125</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Fireworks Beaded Clutch - \$45</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>
<p>Sparkle Christmas Wreath Pin - \$25</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Scarf Ring - \$30</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Faux Pearl Necklace - \$20</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>
<p>Pearl Earrings - \$40</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Silver Ornaments Single - \$25 Bundle - \$65</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>	<p>Wright Fireworks Notecards - \$15</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Qty: _____</p>

Name: _____ Chapter: _____ Total: _____

Make Checks out to Iowa Society DAR

Mail check and order form to Sarah Steinke, 24331 Illini Ct. Manhattan, IL 60442 by February 1, 2024

From the State Historian
Lucy Ann Zeimet



Preserving the history of Iowa DAR....
"So much of our future lies in preserving our past" *

Recently, members of Debra Avery Chapter NSDAR Nebraska came to Red Oak, IA to rededicate a bronze plaque DAR marker that had been placed on Sarah Fletcher Whitcomb's grave. Sarah was a member of Debra Avery, but passed and was buried in Red Oak, presumably because a family member was there and taking care of Sarah.

That brought up a question to me....**why rededicate a marker?** I asked that question in the DOC Historian community and received an answer from the Historian General Suzanne Heske. She said many DAR's have asked this very question.

Prior to 1990, there was not an official file of markers placed in the DAR Archives. Conducting a rededication ceremony is an opportunity to create an updated record for NSDAR. A rededication is a wonderful way for Chapter members to bond over a past marker history...a member from way back or even an historical marker that current Chapter members may not even realize their Chapter placed.

Sometimes markers are damaged or lost. When this happens a Chapter can reinstall, replace and then rededicate. In this case, the procedure would be to follow that of a "new" marker being placed as the Office of Historian General would probably not have a record of the original. Always, emphasize the term rededication on the application form.

Rededication ceremonies can be wonderful events to honor and remember Chapter members long past and historical places, events etc. Are there markers that have been placed by your Chapter that could be rededicated? Make the occasion special! Color Guards, a speech or two..yummies. Go all out. But make sure the occasion makes it to the Historian Generals Office! Surprise!...there are forms for that.

*Peter Westbrook

From the State Chaplain
Briana Johnson



Proverbs 31:21 "She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in scarlet."

Have you gotten through your DAR checklist and checked it twice to prepare for the winter season? You have sent in your dues, made your program books, and now it is time to update and send to this officer your list of members 89 and older if you haven't already! Then don't forget to report member deaths through e-membership as soon as you are notified. If your chapter is hosting a Wreaths Across America service, you can find a sample script on their website. I hope this season finds you restful and I wish you a Merry Christmastime!

In Memory of our Deceased Daughters

Nancy Lee Wellman Mitchell, Abigail Adams Chapter

Jane Elexena Faith Lytten, Council Bluffs Chapter

Marjorie Ann Waage Spranger, Hannah Caldwell Chapter

Louise Roberta Shipman Phillips, Henry Knox Chapter

Anne Sellers Reimann Bonestroo, Ladies of the Lake Chapter

Janet Ann Karr Essig, Lucy Standish-Newcastle Chapter

Linda O'Dette Warner Cahalan, Marion Linn Chapter

Judith Eleanor Mohler, Member at Large- IA

Ila Florene Hughs Walker, Nathaniel Fellows Chapter

Nyle Louise Killinger Jessen, Pilgrim Chapter

Carol Ann Cope, Pilot Rock Chapter

From the State Librarian
Carol Baxter

Greetings Iowa Daughters. I am excited to share how easy it was for me to form a book club in the Sundial / Solomon Dean chapter meeting in November. I shared the current suggested DAR reading list found on the website with everyone and asked if anyone would be interested in selecting a book, read it, and discuss in January. To my surprise, three members agreed and so our book club was born. I was so happy to see this come together so easily. So, I am encouraging chapters who do not have a book club to
"JUST DO IT!"



From the State Organizing Secretary
Tiffany Hauptman

How is your DAR health? Maybe it's time for My DAR Annual Checkup! This tool was released by the Organizing Secretary General to help individual members evaluate their current involvement and discern ways Daughters can get the most out of their membership. This is a complement to the Chapter Assessment, which is designed to help Chapter leaders gauge the health of their chapter. (This tool can be found in the CDRC section of the Daughters Online Community.) Please take a few moments to thoughtfully complete the Checkup (see next page), and think about ways you might be able to work with your chapter or state to further our mission of historic preservation, education, and patriotism.



Please contact me with any concerns regarding the vitality of your chapter!

MY DAR ANNUAL CHECKUP

By carefully considering these questions and honestly completing the answers, I will check the pulse of my DAR activity, measure my growth as a member and examine my vision of service. I then pledge to work on behaviors that will help make a difference for me, my chapter, the State and National Society DAR.

5=Always | 4=Most of the time | 3=Sometimes | 2=A Challenge for Me | 1=Never

	“As a DAR Member, I.....”	5	4	3	2	1
1	Enthusiastically ATTEND my chapter meetings.					
2	Seek out, welcome and encourage prospective members.					
3	Invite friends, relatives and acquaintances to chapter meetings/events.					
4	Sit with different members/guests at each meeting.					
5	Agree to participate in opening rituals, if asked.					
6	Have become familiar with chapter, state & national bylaws.					
7	Have volunteered/agreed to SERVE on a committee.					
8	Have volunteered/agreed to CHAIR a committee.					
9	Readily encourage and accept the new ideas of others.					
10	Utilize my skills and/or passions to promote the objectives of DAR.					
11	Offer support and encouragement to new members.					
12	Offer support and encouragement to those in leadership roles.					
13	Refrain from criticizing or gossiping about other Daughters.					
14	Participate in chapter projects with a spirit of cooperation.					
15	Would love to plan/organize a chapter project.					
16	Aspire to learn and look forward to serving in a leadership role.					
17	Utilize the resources available to be informed and productive (state newsletters, websites, blogs, social media, etc.)					
18	Attend events/meetings in my District.					
19	Attend and participate in state events/conferences.					
20	Aspire to be a role model for kindness, respect and cooperation in all my DAR activities/duties.					
	SUBTOTAL					

The TOTAL for my DAR Annual Checkup is: _____

- 100-81: My checkup score is high. I want to continue this path and bring others along with me.
- 80-61: I am a strong member, but can be stronger if I focus on areas with lower scores.
- 60-41: I will work on being in better DAR shape and ask my leaders/mentors for ideas.
- 40-21: I will rediscover my passions for DAR and revitalize my membership through service.
- < 20: Time to remember my Patriot's sacrifice and make him/her proud. I can do it!

Fall Forum Service Project

Shelley Wells

This District Director is delighted with the overwhelming support from Iowa Daughter's patriotic zeal at this year's fall forum for the service project, which was two fold.

The Iowa Daughters spent their time writing Christmas and Holiday Greetings for the US military aboard the USS Gerald Ford. A total of 3159 wonderful cards filled 6 boxes and were sent.

The Iowa Daughter's supplied & stuffed a total of 115 Christmas Stockings that will be used for the children of the USO at Camp Dodge. Approximately \$1100 was donated. Please read the letter of thanks from the USO.





October 30, 2023

Iowa Society DAR
Attn: Shelley Wells
306 480th St.
Armstrong, IA 50514

Dear Ms. Wells,

Thank you for your donation of the wonderful holiday stockings stuffed with cute toys for the military children. Your generosity is enabling the USO's ability to support and empower the military community.

Every day, the USO carries out our mission to strengthen the men and women of America's military by keeping them connected to family, home and country. We remain dedicated to expanding access to USO centers and programs around the world, increasing annual service connections and boosting transition services for our service members and their families throughout their time of duty.

We rely on the spirit and loyalty of individuals like you who care about this great mission. Thank you for making our work possible.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Heather Goodwin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather Goodwin
Center Operations and Programs Manager, USO Camp Dodge

The USO is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and acknowledges that no goods or services were provided to you in return for your contribution. Donations to the USO are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Please retain this receipt for your records.

America 250! Committee

Denise Baker Hamilton, Chair

America 250! Committee

Preparing for America's 250th Birthday Celebration



Celebration Grants

If you saw \$500 lying on the sidewalk, would you simply walk past without picking it up? Of course, you wouldn't!!! However, that is exactly what your chapter is doing if you do not have plans to use the **FREE** money available through the Celebration Grant program.

Each chapter and state are eligible to receive \$500 as a gift of the Wright Administration. All the chapter needs to do is to submit a grant application describing how it is going to use the funds to support the NSDAR America 250! vision of celebrating the 250th birthday of the United States of America and the Patriots who achieved American independence.

The ideas for use of the grant money are endless. Perhaps your chapter wants to sponsor a booth at a community-wide event; or, mark or rehabilitate a Patriot grave; or, provide copies of the *Our Patriots Coloring Book* to a classroom or school. If you don't have a particular project in mind, the ISDAR Iowa State Fair Parade committee would love if you shared your grant with ISDAR to continue to enhance our Iowa State Fair parade entry in which we participate every year. The templates are created for your application and even after-action report. Just let me know if you would like to use.

Don't wait until the last minute to apply for your grant. **Projects must be completed no later than February 28, 2025.** Please allow 30 days for the review and 75 days for the grant funds to be disbursed. If you want to support the ISDAR State Fair Parade, we need to get that application in no later than early 2024 in time to be able to use it for the 2024 parade in August.

Go to the **America250!** Committee page for more information.

[Preparing for America's 250th Birthday Celebrations | Daughters of the American Revolution \(dar.org\)](#)

America250! Commendation Medal and Certificate

Another America250! opportunity available to chapters is the **America250! Commendation Medal and Certificate**. This is a very reasonably priced set available through the DAR store (\$18) and requires **no approval** from NSDAR.

It was created to recognize individuals (non-DAR members) and groups that have demonstrated extraordinary efforts to not only honor the men and women who achieved American Independence, but also to educate others about their service and sacrifice.

Examples of meritorious service may include erecting, rediscovering, restoring, and/or rededicating Revolutionary War-related monuments, plaques, gravesites and other memorials in communities, towns, or cities through publicly celebrated projects or events, publishing books or articles about Revolutionary War Patriots or events, and organizing community projects or events to raise awareness of the Patriots who supported the cause of liberty during the American Revolutionary War.

The Jean Marie Cardinell Chapter recently recognized Mike Rowley of Clive, Iowa. To state that Mike is a very active SAR member is an understatement. He is a member of over 50 lineage organizations and lives and breathes preserving our history, honoring our veterans and educating the public. One DAR member indicated that there will be a special place in heaven for Mike Rowley in recognition of all of his service. The decision to honor him with the America250! Commendation Medal and Certificate was an easy one for the Jean Marie Cardinell Chapter.



Mike Rowley and America250 JMC Chapter Chair Nelo MacDonell

Any questions about either the **Celebration Grant** or the **America250! Commendation Medal and Certificate**, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Don't forget to send me information or report along with photos of any America 250 activity or event your chapter had done in 2023 as you work on your CMR!

Denise Baker Hamilton, ISDAR Chair

denisehamiltonamerica250@gmail.com

Junior American Citizens Committee

Tina McCleary, Chair

Hello, I am Tina McCleary, and I will be finishing out the term of Brittany Woodson as state chairman of the Junior American Citizens committee. Iowa DAR had nineteen (19) young people participate in JAC and fourteen (14) Division and National Winners for 2022. Chapters do not have to sponsor a JAC chapter for students to participate. C.A.R. members are encouraged to enter. Any child is eligible to participate in the contests offered from national Preschoolers through Grade 12.

The 2023-2024 Contest Theme is, "Sparkling in the Stars" and with the 50th Anniversary of the NASA Space Shuttle Program. The Art Contest includes five (5) categories. Poster, banner, stamp photographic essay, and digital art. A winner will be selected in each grade level and category.

Students compete as individuals only in poster, stamp, digital art, and photo essay. In the banner category only groups may enter. Groups being defined as three to five (3 – 5) students. Preschool and kindergarten students may compete in the banner category only. The artwork may be submitted using any form of drawing or painting. Please have all entries in my hands by January 1, 2024. I look forward to creative entries about the Space Program from the young people of Iowa.

Tina McCleary, State Chairman • Hurt.bertina@gmail.com
4510 132nd Street, Urbandale, Iowa 50323-2574 • 515-681-2875

Iowa State Fair Parade

Kathy Lynn, Coordinator



Iowa Daughters and "Fair Fever"

Save the Date! On August 7, 2024, the Iowa Daughters will once again make their way down Grand Avenue from the Capitol Complex in full America250! fashion.

Next year's theme, 'Fair Fever' is described as "a heightened state of joy, enthusiasm and anticipation ..." Let's build on our 2023 experience and determine to increase participation. There are many ways to contribute to this annual event. To learn more

and join the parade team for advance planning and patriotic display, email us soon!

Kathy Lynn • Department of Sparkle and Shine! • Celebrate Stars and Stripes Forever! • IowaParadeTeam@gmail.com

Commemorative Events Committee

Susan Klein, Chair

Commemorative Events Outstanding Chapter Reports Due February 10th

If your chapter made a special effort to celebrate a Commemorative Event in 2023, you will want to submit a report summarizing your efforts. In past years, states could only submit ONE Outstanding Chapter Commemorative Report. NOW, we may nominate one chapter for EACH commemorative event from the list of NSDAR commemorative events.

The Report can be no longer than ten pages (shorter is fine) and must include the specific Commemorative Report Form found on our state web page. Additionally, the national committee has created a Judging Rubric (helpful check sheet) to help chapters include all of the parts requested by the judges. It is quite a helpful document and is available on the ISDAR Commemorative Events page.

As you start to gather your Chapter Master (CMR) report information, consider selecting one of your commemorative events to nominate for the 2023 Outstanding Commemorative Event. Reports can only be sent to Susan Klein, state chair, electronically by February 10th. All details are included on the state web page. The committee chair is happy to help assist with the application.

Leadership Training Committee

Sylvia Blaesing, Chair

A reminder of the next graduation for DAR Leadership courses will be at the 125th ISDAR State Conference, April 4 -6, 2024, Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport. Saturday, April 6 is the planned date for the graduation ceremonies.

The 125th will be a special conference, you will want to be a special part of it by being one of the graduates. Participants and/or just starting the Members Course ---you can do it!

Sylvia Blaesing

Iowa State Coordinator

Calicoacres2@comcast.net

Mobile Ph: 563-299-6063

Members, Committee Leaders, and New Horizons Courses

"I would like to start the courses but I ..."

1. Do not have a printer.
2. Do not have good or consistent internet.
3. Really? With the years I have of my membership.
4. Know all the answers already.

Answers 1. & 2.:

If a DAR friend is not available to provide some printed copies, the State Coordinator will print and mail to you. Need a copy of the Graduation Checklist that was provided at enrollment.

Refer to Required Online Modules, print a copy of Worksheet and Script. This is your portable study material. Place it in your purse or whatever you always carry with you. Read during a lunch break; or while waiting at the doctor's office, or during sports event. DO NOT READ WHILE DRIVING. Complete the Worksheet in pencil if a computer and/or printer is not available and mail it to your State Coordinator.

Answer 3.: DAR websites, committees, plus other items have changed tremendously in the past ten years. More recent changes move even faster. Some change overnight. "It was right here on the screen yesterday and now it is gone -somewhere else!" There is always something to learn. How boring life would be if everything stood still.

Answer 4.: Lucky you, the State Coordinator can guide you to the starting place. You will complete the modules and courses very quickly. Maybe.

To complete quickly is not the goal for the modules and courses. The purpose or goal is to learn. These courses are at no cost to the member. Subscription to the American Spirit magazine (includes Daughters newsletter) is required.

The State Coordinator reads every word on all modules and information provided to her. Members have taken their time to study and complete the modules and owes it to the member to read and respond about each item completed and provided to her.

Sylvia Blaesing
DAR Leadership Training Committee
Iowa State Coordinator
23053 Westchester Blvd. Apr R-102
Port Charlotte, FL 33980-5428

Chapter Development & Revitalization Commission

Carolyn DeLay, Chair

Sharing some thoughts from Nancy Schirm Wright, National Chairman of the Chapter Development and Revitalization Commission:

Some characteristics of a vibrant and dazzling chapter:

- Chapter meetings begin on time every time!
- The chapter regent conducts every meeting from a scripted agenda and follows parliamentary procedure.
- Informs the program presenter of the time limit and enforces that time limit (20 minutes is enough time to allow for a program)
- The chapter executive board meets on a regular basis.
- Updates the chapter website on a regular basis.
- Has a hospitality chair to greet members and guests on arrival.
- Has new members and pending new member applications.
- Has a team to assist prospective members through the application process.
- Provides new members and junior members opportunities to serve as chairs and officers.
- Participates in community service projects and events (wear your DAR attire to promote membership).
- Has a “Genie Club” for members and prospective members to learn how to research a successful application (local libraries have internet access and private rooms).
- Has “paper parties” for members and prospective members who want to learn how to prepare a successful application and supplement.
- Provides new member orientation and training.
- Promotes subscriptions to the DAR American Spirit magazine.
- Has spark and energy!
- Is involved with naturalization ceremonies, veteran hospitals, community service, constitution week and other activities - Celebrate your accomplishments!!

Chapter Vibrancy Techniques

If you suspect your chapter could be more vibrant and involved, consider trying these ideas to spark interest:

- Do a chapter survey to see what your members like and what they might want to change-ask members what is important to them about DAR.
- Make one meeting a service project or community event-clean up a city park or cemetery, march in a parade, host a booth at an event, wear your DAR attire to promote the chapter.
- Include a 30-minute pre-meeting forum with a simple agenda-how to log-in and use the DAR website and e-membership; watch a webinar.
- Have an evening or week-end meeting or social event for working members-this could be a service opportunity-serve a meal at your community soup kitchen.
- Make it a habit to ask your members for referrals! Aunts, sisters, friends, neighbors.

Lineage Research Committee

Carolyn DeLay, Chair

Artificial Intelligence has been in the news a lot lately. Whether you think it is good or not, it is here to stay. But what has it got to do with lineage research? Marcy Heathman, NVC Genealogy Commission, discusses this in her article USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) FOR GENEALOGY in the October issue of Genealogy Gems for October. As Marcy puts it:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is machine technology that uses formulas and algorithms to simulate human behavior or thinking. AI can rapidly readthrough data, uncover connections, and provide links between the information that might have been overlooked.

Familiar uses of AI include Siri and Alexa, facial and image recognition in computers and security systems, self-driving vehicles, and even spam filters in email. They are all machines making decisions based on data. Have you been online and had a shop “suggest” items for you based on your history? That’s AI.

The most straightforward genealogical example comes from Ancestry, which has used AI for its Newspaper.com Obituary Index. There isn’t a team of people constantly reading old newspapers, figuring out obituaries, and writing them up. Ancestry’s AI looks for words like died, buried, cemetery, and survived by and recognizes those articles are probably obituaries.

She then goes on to describe the many uses that it can have for researching genealogy. I’m not going to go into it, as it is a long article and I think you will get more out of it if you read it yourself. I can be found under the Lineage Research Committee, as part of the DAR Genealogy Commission. <https://www.dar.org/members/committees/genealogy-committees/genealogical-commission/genealogy-gems>. Just log in with your account and start reading. I think you will find it very interesting and helpful.

Master Reports Committee

Debbie Crawford & Linda Van Niewaal, Co-Chairs

2023 is quickly coming to a close. We hope that Chapter Regents have been thinking about starting their Chapter Master Reports as well as the CAA reports. Please note the instructions for completing the Chapter Master Report and the national CAA for 2023 are on the ISDAR Master Reports Committee page. The Planning Guides will be helpful as you complete the forms.

Also note that there is a separate ISDAR CAA report that needs to be completed. The instructions for that are also on the ISDAR website. Both reports are due by February 1, 2024. If you start to work on the reports now, it won’t be so intimidating. It is allowed to complete and submit the reports early also!

The Master Reports are visual measures of established chapter goals and achievements through DAR’s Mission of historic preservation, education, and patriotism, along with membership for the calendar year January 1 – December 31. The reports reflect all that you have done as a chapter and will help for next year’s planning.

We know that Iowa Daughters have been busy this year. We hope that your chapter Shoots for the Stars!

Women's Issues Committee

Linda Harvan, Chair

If your chapter includes a Women's Issues Minute at each meeting, ideas around monthly themes are easy to download and share from the committee website. The monthly themes for the next three months are:

December	Financial Education
January	Connection Coach-National Mentoring Month
February	Physical Health-Heart/Stroke Month



December: In December, Women's Issues minutes or programs can be used to promote financial literacy. Financial education equips us with the knowledge and skills needed to manage money effectively and is the first step in gaining control. That education can then be put to use to eliminate debt, make sound financial decisions, and plan for the future.

January: Oprah said, "A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself." Today's DAR membership includes women with varied professional and personal backgrounds, from the newly hired to the long retired. Encourage members to share their different life experiences to strengthen your chapter. Members can also build their profile on the DOC to connect with a larger professional network within DAR.

February: Lower your chance of heart disease by finding ways to lower your stress level. Johns Hopkins cardiologist Michael Blaha, M.D., M.P.H., says stress can increase inflammation in your body which in turn is linked to other factors that can harm your heart like high blood pressure and lower HDL cholesterol. Chronic stress can also affect your heart in a more indirect way. When you are worried, you tend to sleep poorly and are less likely to exercise, make healthy food choices, or watch your weight. All of these changes can put your heart at risk. Is stress getting to you? Try some of these tips from the Mayo Clinic: Stress relievers: [Tips to tame stress - Mayo Clinic](#).

Please don't forget to enter the Women's Issues Celebration Essay Contest. All the information and forms can be found on the member's website on the Women's Issues Committee page. Contest packets are due to the Iowa State Chairman at linda.harvan@gmail.com by January 15, 2024.

Lastly, please share program and service project ideas and photos of your chapter's activities with the committee via email to Linda Harvan linda.harvan@gmail.com.



Iowa Room

Nancy Geiger, Chair



Be “In the Room...”

Think of the song “The Room Where It Happens” by Lin-Manuel Miranda. This portion of the musical Hamilton (2015) concerns one person’s speculation about what it was like to be in the room where it happened!

Whether in person or online, when a person explores the various DAR Museum’s Period Rooms, they can become a part of that household at that point in time.

The Iowa Room, a 1790’s parlor, allows a visitor to speculate about what it was like to have been in the room.

- What sewing was underway: a new shift, a fancier petticoat or brother’s first waistcoat?
 - What books were waiting for the adults?
- or
- Who would be stopping by for tea?

Use this link to start your Period Room tours: <https://www.dar.org/museum/dar-museum-period-rooms> and think of the song “The Room Where it Happens” as you speculate about what was happening in that room in that household at that time period!



2024-2026 State Chairs Wanted!

Are you interested in serving the ISDAR as a State Chairman in 2024-2026? Is there a particular committee that aligns with your DAR passions? Please complete [this chairman interest form](#). All reasonable attempts will be made to accommodate everyone's preferences.

Across the State

Camp Dodge

Submitted by Karla Wright

The Camp Dodge Chapter, NSDAR, rang the bell to recognize Constitution Day at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum. We asked the Johnston and Ankeny mayors for proclamations and we received proclamations from both. We were invited to attend the Johnston City Council Meeting when the mayor proclaimed Constitution Week, signed the proclamation and then invited us (Kathy Lynn and Karla Wright) to be with her in a photo.



Shortly thereafter we were fully engaged in participating in the historical Woodland Cemetery 175th Anniversary. It was a fantastic display of Polk County history. We portrayed the historic Ankeny family, founders of Ankeny, and major early influencers in Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa, and the nation! We made a large cardboard "standee" of John Fletcher Ankeny. Kathy Lynn portrayed J. F. Ankeny and told his family histories to dozens of attendees. Karla was J. F. Ankeny's youngest daughter. Sharleen was J. F. Ankeny's wife and Kennetha was his sister, Harriet Louise Ankeny. We visited with people constantly and told them the REAL story of the prominent Ankeny family. In two years our chapter will help Ankeny celebrate its 150th anniversary.

We had more learning to do! Ms. Megan Simpson, Director of Behavioral Health at Unity Point gave a very interesting and educational talk! Our members were impressed that she gave the talk with NO notes. Yap she knew her stuff and we know why because she is the granddaughter of our member Tina McCleary. Thank you Megan! (Shown here is Megan Simpson and Regent Karla Wright.)



At our September 21 meeting we all donated items to give to the Blue Star Mothers – who package and send boxes to active-duty military men and women during the holidays. Jen Fletcher, Iowa President of the Iowa Blue Star Mothers, thanked us very much for our generous donation.



The Camp Dodge Chapter, NSDAR, sparkled more than expected at the Fall Forum. One Regent and Nine Members attended – the most of any chapter! Kathy Lynn gave the State Fair Report and prepared a table display; Tina McCleary gave the State JAC (Junior American Citizens) Report; Susan Ohnysty sold items for the State Vice Regent; Marty Hansen managed the used dress and hat shop; and SW District Director, Karla Wright, prepared and displayed table decorations for three meals and hosted two evening hospitality receptions. (Shown here is Karla Wright, Edith Brunia and Linda Van Newaal at an evening reception.)



October 23, 2023 was a big day for the Camp Dodge Chapter, DAR. We chartered a bus and traveled to Council Bluffs, Iowa to tour the spectacular home of General Grenville M. Dodge, our chapter's namesake. The group was greeted by the Executive Director of the Dodge House. We were given a personal guided tour by an extremely knowledgeable tour guide. She knew all the history of General Grenville M. Dodge, the house he built and lived in, and his family members, including DAR members.

Shown here on the steps of the Dodge House are: Front row: Sharleen Newton, Edith Brunia, Kathy Lynn, Marla Suter; Second row: Jennifer Ewing, Ella Evans, Karla Kasper, Susan Ohnysty; Third row: Danielle Simmons, Susan Newhall, Tina McCleary, Jeanne McMillan

Luncheon was prepared and served by the "General's Ladies". The Council Bluffs Chapter, DAR, attended the luncheon and gave all members of the Camp Dodge Chapter, DAR, a gift. A special pumpkin dessert was enjoyed and the recipe was shared.

The group loaded the bus and then stopped at the site where President Lincoln and Grenville Dodge, then a Civil Engineer, plotted the transcontinental railroad.

A great deal of history was learned and absorbed about the namesake of our chapter – GENERAL GRENVILLE M. DODGE. We have a lot to live up to and we will.



The Camp Dodge Chapter, DAR, members were not ready to call in quits in November! An exquisite formal tea was prepared, presented, and served by the Bullington Sisters, Gerry Bauman and Janet Blaess. On November 13, we held a short meeting with a fantastic ending. The chapter received a beautiful, inscribed gavel, to be used from this day forward. Regent Wright tapped the gavel and closed the meeting and we held a fun filled tea. We all had our photo taken with the painting "Daughters of Revolution" by Grant Wood. We tried to do a re-enactment. Tried! Gerry and Janet gifted us all our tea cups and saucers. It was a glorious day to be a DAR member!



Gerry Bauman serves Susan Ohnysty while Janet Blaess serves Kennetha Klein. Gerry and Janet prepared and served an exquisite tea which we all thoroughly enjoyed.



Ella Evans, Karen Stinson, and Karen Knapp-Danielson re-enact the Grant Wood painting "Daughters of Revolution".



Across the State

Hannah Lee

Submitted by Joy Bahnemann

1. Hannah Lee Chapter Regent Peggy Harvey, and Treasurer Jill Amdahl, participated in the Constitution Parade in Decorah, IA. Our chapter organized and distributed 930 Constitution packets during the week of September 17-23, 2023, to 17 schools in 5 counties in Northeast Iowa. Member Becky McCabe received a thank you letter from a 5th grade class at the Turkey Valley School. Regent Harvey provided 532 flag stickers to K-4th grade students at John Cline and Carrie Lee schools in Decorah. Chapter members met to prepare Constitution packets, including L to R, Becky McCabe, Carol Hasvold, Reva Smock, and Jill Amdahl.



2. Hannah Lee Chapter presented a Flag Certificate to Daryl Tereagan for the proper use and display of the United States Flag. Mr. Tereagan is pictured holding the certificate, while son Cody on the left and daughter Shane on the right share the spotlight with their father.

3. The Fall Forum was held October 13-15, 2023, at the Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines, IA. Regent Peggy Harvey, and Valerie Pecinovsky attended the Forum and celebrated the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party with chapter donated bags of loose-leaf tea used during a reenactment of the event. Christmas cards were also donated and signed with a first name and the name of the Chapter to be sent to active-duty troops aboard the USS Gerald Ford.



4. Chapter Regent Peggy Harvey and member Valerie Pecinovsky took a road trip the day before the Fall Forum and drove 630 miles to Lexington, MO, and back to Des Moines to visit the Madonna of the Trail. Created by sculptor August Leimbach, the Madonna of the Trail is a series of 12 identical monuments dedicated to the spirit of pioneer women in the United States. The monuments were commissioned by the NSDAR and installed in each of the 12 states along the National Old Trails Road which extends from Cumberland, MD to Upland, CA. Dedicated in the late 1920s, the 12 statues became a source of local pride. Ms. Pecinovsky crafted a sunflower memorial wreath to lay at the base of the statue in Lexington, MO. Sylvia Blaesing, DAR Leadership Training Iowa State Coordinator, offered her congratulations to Ms. Harvey and Ms. Pecinovsky for

making the journey to see the Madonna of the Trail.

5. Regent Peggy Harvey attended the Fall Forum where the Hannah Lee Chapter was awarded the Blue Ribbon for Chapter Achievement. Iowa State Regent, Edith Brunia is pictured with Regent Harvey while presenting the certificate. The Chapter also received a 1st place award for the Most DAR Flags Distributed during Constitution Week. Members Becky McCabe, Sarah Nowack, and Chapter Secretary, Julie Vogel received certificates for Outstanding Use of Technology.



6. Regent Peggy Harvey announced that Hannah Lee was pleasantly surprised to receive a \$200 donation from Josh and Wendy Wedo who are associated with the Norplex-Micarta Company in Postville, IA. The couple's daughter earned an award from Hannah Lee several years ago and Mr. and Mrs. Wedo were so impressed by our organization that they wanted to gift the chapter money to use for patriotic initiatives. Special thanks to the Wedo family for their generous donation!



7. For our chapter 'Day of Service', Hannah Lee members met on October 28, 2023, at the West Union Cemetery to dedicate DAR insignia placed on the gravestones of deceased member Ruth Hidingen Brooks, and her daughter, current member Rebecca Brooks Taff. Another marker was dedicated for current member Mary Anne Iliff. Other insignia was placed on the graves of deceased members Lola Whittenbaugh Gell, and LaFonda Gell Meyer who are the grandmother and great grandmother of our current member, Deena Kay Blessing Evans and Karma Rae Blessing Knospe, and the mother and grandmother of current member Diane Merle Yarcho.

8. In October, the Hannah Lee Chapter sponsored the St. Lucas Historical Society's German American Museum, Library and Family History Center in their application for a NSDAR Historic Preservation Grant Program award. The museum building is in dire need of a new roof and the replacement cost the historic structure is more than \$150,000. If awarded, the NSDAR Grant of \$10,000 will complete the museum's capital fund campaign goal. Linda B. Jones, National Vice Chair, NSDAR Historic Preservation Grants, graciously acknowledged receipt of the successfully submitted application. Awards for the Historic Preservation Grants will be announced in May 2024.

9. The Hannah Lee Chapter welcomed a new member, Susanna Craft, at our November 4, 2023, meeting. Pictured L to R at the new member ceremony are Registrar Wendy Novak, Susanna Craft, Regent Peggy Harvey, and Chaplain Marilyn Holland. Congratulations, Susanna!



10. Hannah Lee has traditionally cut, sewn, and filled hand crafted Christmas stockings with treats and goodies to be shared with more than 50 active-duty troops. This year, the stockings were sent to Norfolk, VA for members aboard the USS Philippine Sea CG 58.

Across the State ***Pilot Rock***

Submitted by Peggy Corrington



Pilot Rock' October meeting was a tour of a wood carving studio near Storm Lake.

Across the State

Anna Maria Lane Submitted by Shelley Wells

On a hilly patch overlooking the Potomac River in Williamsport, Maryland, rests George Woltz. Members from the Anna Maria Lane Chapter, Swea City, Iowa, Antietam, Conococheague and the Christian Arding-er SAR chapters of Maryland dedicated a marker on September 16, 2023.

Woltz was born September 16, 1744 in York, Pennsylvania to Dr. Peter and Elizabeth Woltz.

The 31 year old, Woltz, was commissioned 2nd Major, Frederick County Militia, on Saturday, January 6, 1776. George took the Oath of Fidelity in 1778. Woltz was a well known cabinet and clockmaker. After the war, he became a charter member of the Hagerstown Fire Company and helped establish the Hagerstown Board of Health.

Unveiling the marker were Woltz descendant Shelley Wells, 5th great granddaughter, and Vickie Marschner, Regent Conococheague. A color guard musket salute was given by Wes Evans of the Christian Arding-er SAR. Special guests in attendance were Iowa State Regent Edee Brunia, Maryland Honorary State Regent Ruann George, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Susan Barnes, Mayor of Williamsport Bill Green and councilmen.

After the dedication, we had a wonderful picnic in the park and toured various locations in the area of his clocks.





Anna Maria Lane Chapter honored three members from the Christian Ardingler SAR chapter with the Hannah White Arnett bronze medal on September 16, 2023. Paul Banister, Wes Evans and John Turner have contributed unselfish devotion, tireless efforts, and assistance to the chapter; These three men have dedicated their time, energy, talents, and/or resources in support and furtherance of the DAR's mission of historic preservation, education and patriotism.

Grave Cleaning



Madam State Regent Edee Brunia and Shelley Wells traveled to Maryland for the George Woltz grave marking. Along the way, the two cleaned 26 graves from four states, five in Pennsylvania, nineteen in Maryland, one in West Virginia and one in Ohio.

Across the State

Mason City

Submitted by Diane Murphy

It was an exciting month for the Mason City Chapter.



Left to right - Patty Oelberg, State Regent Brunia, Dennis Wilson, Nancy Marsh

<https://www.friendsofthe457.org/>). The other award was to the volunteers from Central Gardens of North Iowa (<https://www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com/>), a tireless group that has created and maintains 20 themed gardens in Clear Lake. Several of the members were able to join us. We are so excited about these awards that we are already looking for volunteers and projects for next year.

The highlight of our month was welcoming State Regent Brunia to our November meeting. It was wonderful to have her with us and hear about her state projects and have her make a special presentation of 2 Community Service Awards. This is the first year our chapter has submitted applications for these awards, and we are so excited to present 2. The first was to Dennis Wilson of Mason City who has worked on the Cannonball 457 train project in Mason City (<https://www.friendsofthe457.org/>). The other award was to the volunteers from Central Gardens of North Iowa (<https://www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com/>), a tireless group that has created and maintains 20 themed gardens in Clear Lake. Several of the members were able to join us. We are so excited about these awards that we are already looking for volunteers and projects for next year.



Members of Central Gardens, (back row – Nancy Marsh, State Regent Brunia, right side Patty Oelberg

November is always busy with activities that support veterans and this year we continued our Veteran Personal Care Kit project. This is the 3rd year we have assembled personal care kits which contain 2:1 bodywash/shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. We also assemble towel kits that contain a bath towel and wash cloth. The area veteran's groups are always happy to receive these kits. This year we also collected hats, socks, scarves (handcrafted by Suzy Kisner, a longtime member), and gloves. All the items will be taken to a couple veteran support organizations. We had 61 personal care kits (increase from last year), 28 towel kits, 62 pairs of socks, a hat, 13 scarves and 3 pairs of gloves. Items were donated by our members, and we also received an action grant from Thrivent.



Left to right – Jan Lukes, Ann Cooper, Diane Murphy, Patty Oelberg, Nancy Marsh, and Kim Peters.



Lyn Johnson, DAR Service to Veterans Chairperson

Across the State

Cedar Falls

Submitted by Debbie Crawford & Sue LeQuatte



Heidi Warrington and Audrey Wallican-Green, Kittrell principal

Celebration Grant Complete!

The Cedar Falls Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution's Celebration Grant project has been completed! We extend a big shout out to Beth Iseminger and Joyce Stout for your inspiration for this project! We were awarded funds from the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution to help with the project.

The goal of the project was to purchase and distribute two copies of the Our Patriots Coloring Book to all elementary schools in Black Hawk County. The book is an important resource to teach students about a wide range of American Patriots including male and female, Native American and African American patriots of the American Revolution.

We purchased 52 copies of the Our Patriots Coloring Book. Fourteen members distributed them to all of the elementary schools in Black Hawk County as well as the elementary school in Independence, Iowa. This enabled the chapter to make face to face connections with our schools and their principals.

We are pleased to help educate current and future students learn about our American Patriots and the challenges they faced during the American Revolution.

Debbie Crawford and Jaymie Odell, North Cedar principal



Lynette Cline and Ralph Bryant, Lincoln school principal, Sept 2023

National Day of Service Project: October 2023

The Cedar Falls Chapter NSDAR completed our National Day of Service project this past October. We decided the project would be an Act of Kindness: Care Kits for Veterans. Members collected items such as personal care items, band aids, beef jerky, and treats. The items were placed in one sock of a pair of new socks. The other sock was rolled up and put in the end of the sock. At our October 21st meeting members brought completed socks as well as items to make up more kits.

We were able to complete 37 of the Care Kits and had 9 more pair of new socks. All were donated to the Marshalltown Veterans Home on October 23, 2023. The Volunteer coordinator was very appreciative of the project. They will be going to a group of veterans who has no family to visit them.

Thank you for a successful project!



Cedar Falls Chapter Community Service Awards

The Cedar Falls Chapter of Daughters of American Revolution recently awarded Community Service awards to two deserving community members. Jim Christensen of Cedar Falls was honored for his work in keeping his neighborhood clean. Jim does this by walking 600 miles per year and picking up trash and Jim is legally blind. Heidi Warrington of Waterloo was also honored for her contribution to her community by cleaning headstones in Waterloo Cemetery. Heidi is a retired Army Colonel and serves on the Black Hawk County Veterans Commission.



Regent Debbie Crawford, Jim Christensen, Heidi Warrington, Eleanor Vanous Community Service Award Committee.



Celebrating 130 Years of Service and Friendship

On the beautiful fall afternoon of October 7, 2023, over 50 attendees gathered at the Gold Star Museum in Johnston, Iowa, to celebrate the 130th anniversary of the Abigail Adams Chapter. Members of over 10 chapters from across the state joined to remember the very first Iowa chapter, No. 54, whose charter was granted by NSDAR on October 4, 1893. A current member is the great-great granddaughter of one charter member, and she shared her ancestor's beautiful silver antique tea service which certainly was used at meetings in the early days of the chapter. The original application papers of the 14 charter members along with their photographs were on display. Other items included historical scrapbooks sharing the progress of the chapter through the years which was also depicted in a slideshow. During a short program guests were "taken back" to 1893 via historical highlights of that year in Iowa and across the country. Guests were asked to imagine our founders from 130 years ago dressed in their fancy hats and gloves arriving at a chapter meeting by buggy, train, or on foot. State Vice Regent, Sarah Steinke, shared greetings on behalf of the State Society and acknowledged the continuing work of the Abigail Adams chapter to carry out the mission of NSDAR. Near the conclusion, Chapter Regent Luanne Baker acknowledged the members celebrating membership anniversaries in October, including 30, 40, and 65 year affiliations with NSDAR! The 65-year member was present, Mrs. Sara Jane Harwood, and her service to the chapter, State Society, and National Society were highlighted. Her term as Curator General, 1998-2001, is just one of many offices she has held over the years to bring DAR to life for so many people. The chapter gifted Sara Jane with her 65-year pin which she proudly made room for on her ribbon. From Mrs. Harwood to a prospective member to a brand newly approved member to all of those gathered for this special event, it was humbling to think about carrying on the work of our Society's and chapter's founders from 130 years ago. Current Abigail Adams members are determined to continue to sparkle in service and friendship long into the future.



Abigail Adams Chapter Members with State Vice Regent Sarah Steinke on the Occasion of the Chapter's 130th Anniversary

Across the State

Lawrence Van Hook

Submitted by Linda Harvan

On October 21, 2023 members of the Lawrence Van Hook Chapter welcomed Iowa State Society officers, members of the Sons of the American Revolution, area veterans' groups, and descendants of James Lawrence Van Hook to Andrew Cemetery in Andrew, IA to dedicate a plaque honoring his Revolutionary War service. Regent Amy Sunleaf and Chaplain Jill Jepson led the service, Chapter Historian Michelle Turner read a biography of Captain Van Hook, and America250! chair Michelle Johnson unveiled the new plaque. State Regent Edee Brunia offered brief remarks and placed a wreath on the gravesite which was followed by a 21-gun salute from members of three area veterans' groups who also served as the color guard. Registrar Becky Campbell invited chapter members for lunch and sightseeing the day before with James Lawrence Van Hook's 4th great granddaughter Chris Heaton, a member of the Puc Puggy Chapter in The Villages/Lady Lake, Florida who had provided needed documentation for the plaque approval. She spent years researching her ancestor and was thrilled to attend the dedication.



Chris Heaton, Regent Amy Sunleaf, State Regent Edee Brunia, Jill Jepson, Shari Jorgensen, Gloria Jorgensen, Margie Beiser-Lapanja, Denyse Hughes, Becky Campbell, Michelle Turner, State Historian Lucy Zeimet, Michelle Johnson, Pam Wetzstein, Honorary State Regent Linda Van Niewaal. Behind Amy is State Organizing Secretary Tiffany Hauptman (hidden.)



Jackson County Foundation grant photo (left to right): Lucy Zeimet, Regent Amy Sunleaf, America250! Chair Michelle Johnson, President of the Community Foundation of Jackson County Board Ann Burns.

The Community Foundation of Jackson County presented a \$600 grant to the Lawrence Van Hook Chapter to purchase Revolutionary War themed books for eleven Jackson County public and private elementary and middle school libraries. Most of the books feature women and people of color as the main characters. The grant award celebration was held November 14, 2023 at Innovate 120 in Maquoketa, IA. Accepting the award from Ann Burns, president of the Community Foundation of Jackson County Board, were Regent Amy Sunleaf, America250! chair Michelle Johnson, and committee member Lucy Zeimet.

In September, Linda Harvan presented a program about Anita Newcomb McGee who created and was the first Director of the DAR Hospital Corps. Dr. McGee earned her Doctor of Medicine degree in 1892. She was a member of the Martha Washington Chapter and held various national offices. The Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee Award is presented by the President General annually during Continental Congress to the Army Nurse of the year. Chapter members who served as nurses were recognized with a certificate of appreciation. One interesting tidbit was while Dr. Anita McGee is buried alongside her parents in Arlington National Cemetery, her husband, W. J. McGee is buried in McGee Cemetery in Farley, Iowa.



Linda Harvan presenting certificates of appreciation to nurses photo (left to right): Linda Harvan, Michelle Johnson, Shari Jorgensen, Denyse Hughes.



Karen Bradway gave our program in November about Mary Sears who was a Commander in the United States Naval Reserve and an oceanographer at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. She led a group of marine scientists that helped win WWII by their keen analysis of the oceans in the Pacific theater and providing vital information to the War Department.

Across the State

Priscilla Alden

Submitted by Mary Ealy



Members of the Priscilla Alden Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution packed Christmas bags for area nursing home veterans at their November meeting. Pictured is Elaine Deluhery, Janice Brandt, Cammy Brandt, Marjorie Jurgensen, and Corrinne Bancroft. Mary Ealy was in attendance but not pictured. The Chapter also delivered Thank you for your service cards to area veterans.

Across the State

Martha Washington

Submitted by Marta Nelson

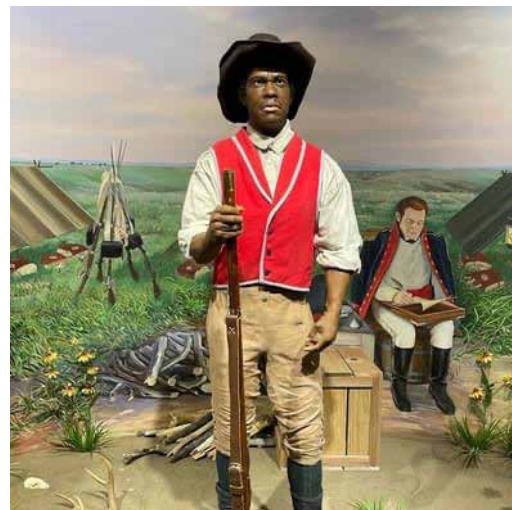
Lewis & Clark and the Loess Hills

Siouxland is fortunate to be the home of the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center and the adjoining Betty Strong Encounter Center. The staff opened early for our meeting on site. We recited the Pledge of Allegiance outdoors under their giant flag. Our program was given by one of their volunteer guides, who, after a career working for the state of Iowa studying and protecting Iowa's land resources, now gives interesting presentations on the Loess Hills that stretch from the northern border of Iowa to almost the Omaha/Council Bluffs area. We left with new knowledge and a great guidebook to the different parts of the Loess Hills and roads to drive to get the most out of a visit.



The larger-than-life bronze statue of Lewis & Clark outside the Interpretive Center

Sgt. York, one of the animatronic figures at the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center



Food and Fellowship

Once a year Martha Washington Chapter gathers at a local restaurant for a meeting short on business, but long on connecting with each other. This year members, prospectives and one of our HODAR met at Crave. We had a wonderful meal and enjoyed catching up on the details of our busy lives – and did just a little bit of business.



Members celebrating our service and friendship



Support Siouxland Soldiers contributions

Day of Service

Thanks to Covid, Woodbury County's Veterans Office no longer holds a traditional Stand Down, where Martha Washington Chapter had a prominent presence. We voted to find another way to help veterans and make it an annual Day of Service project. We now contribute to Support Siouxland Soldiers, a local organization that provides all types of support to active-duty soldiers, their families, as well as local veterans. We collected personal items that will find a home on the shelves of their food pantry and help stretch the dollars for soldiers and their families.

Revolutionary War Re-enactor

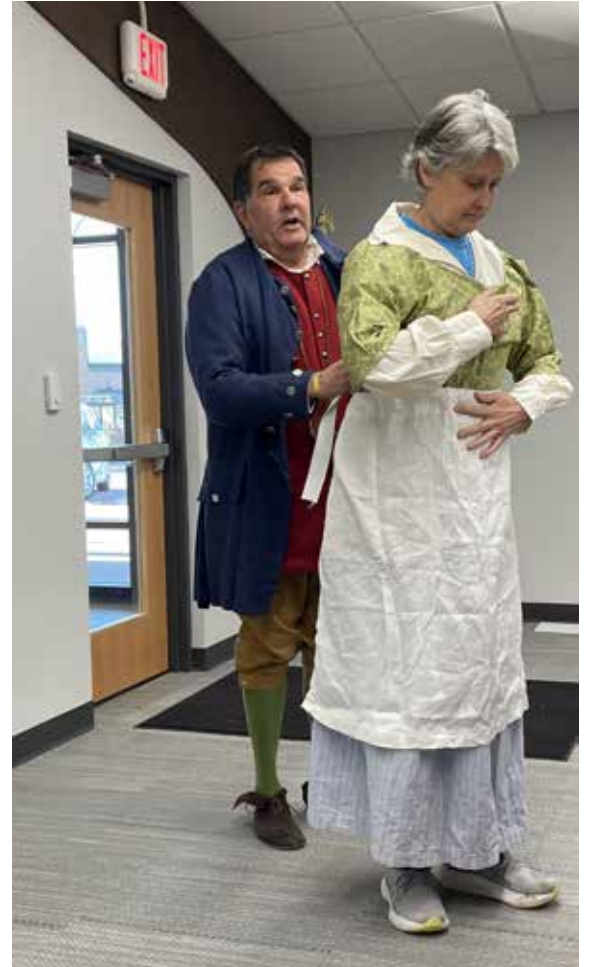
Martha Washington Chapter had a fascinating program in November given by Revolutionary War Re-enactor Augie Nicolai. He recently moved from Pennsylvania where he not only participated in battle re-enactments, but also served as a presenter for local historical programs. He spoke on the life of the everyday pioneers who settled western Pennsylvania at the end of the 1700s. He spoke about the pieces of his costume and how they were made and used, and also dressed a volunteer, member Marion Cain, in a woman's costume.



Revolutionary War Re-enactor Augie Nicolai



Revolutionary War Re-enactor Augie Nicolai



Marion Cain transforming into a pioneer woman



Across the State

Nancy McKay Harsh

Submitted by Jan Morgan



In September, Nancy McKay Harsh met in person at the Creston Library. Constitution week was discussed. Certificates of appreciation were presented to the nurses, Jan Morgan, Suzanne Adkisson, and Julie Wagner, members of our chapter. Bonnie Riepe shared the history of several patriot songs.

(L to R) Elaine Brown, Julie Wagner and Bonnie Riepe with the certificate presentation

In October, we met at Wallace Centers of Iowa in rural Orient Iowa. We saw many conservation activities the farm has implemented, including a geothermal greenhouse.

Pictured are Jan Morgan and Bonnie Riepe that hiked through the nature walk.



November 11, 2023, the Nancy McKay Harsh Chapter celebrated its 100th anniversary at the Historical Village in Creston Iowa. We were honored to have several attend our reception. Hayden Clarke, a Boy Scout from Greenfield was the flag bearer. Connie Kinkade shared the history of the Nancy McKay Harsh Chapter and Jane Briley spoke about Mount Pisgah.

front (L to R) Jan Morgan, Chapter Regent, Edith Brunia, State Regent, and Suzanne Frost. Back row members (L to R) Connie Kinkade, Suzanne Adkisson, Bonnie Riepe, Pam Marvin, Julie Briley, Charlotte Asell and Lynne Schlaht

Across the State

Nathaniel Fellows Submitted by Kaye Miller

In July we had an entry into the Massena 4th of July parade. We also had a booth at the Adair County Fair in Greenfield Iowa on July 12-16. We handed out note pads and water for the adults that stopped by and tattoos for the kids. A few women had some interest in joining DAR. We talked with some veterans and handed out cards with the Preamble, Pledge or Creed on them. We felt like it was a success.



Daughters from the Nathaniel Fellows Chapter in Iowa City, spent a day shopping to fill duffels for individual patients at the VA hospitals, for our Chapter's Day of Service project. We were able to fill 7 duffels with complete clothing sets and personal items for the VA to distribute. Our chapter will be packing up the items together at our October Chapter meeting. The shopping spree crew included Kathleen Jespersen, Denise Yoder, Joyce Mandel and Kaye Miller.



Scarecrows Tell Revolutionary Stories

For several years, DAR members Karen Meurer and Barbara Stevens have constructed scarecrows for the Algona Iowa Main Street display that depicted patriotic women in the American Revolution. Karen researched the backgrounds, they dressed the scarecrows, and wrote the stories attached to the scarecrows. Each year, the DAR scarecrow was uniquely inspired by the Revolutionary War and served as an educational piece for the visitors to this favorite display.



The 2023 scarecrow paid homage to Elizabeth Ellet, a writer, historian and poet who, in 1848, published a 3-volume collection of stories of bravery and strength of 160 patriotic women. Ellet was the first writer to record the lives of women who participated in impactful ways in the American War to Independence. Ellet searched out unpublished letters, diaries and interviews of relatives to become the first historian to expend this level of effort.

One story highlighted Elizabeth Zane, a brave girl who saved Fort Henry from renegade Simon Girty and his band of warriors. Zane left the safety of Fort Henry to travel by horseback to retrieve gunpowder from within the firing range of the warriors. Zane was credited with saving the future of Fort Henry.

From Ellet's book: "History is a messy endeavor. It is to our advantage to study it well, so that we can learn from the victories and avoid the failures of those who came before us. The future will one day judge how well we learned. We trust you will to be inspired by the stories of bravery and strength".

Educational and Historical have been two objectives of DAR for 133 years, even with use of a scarecrow.

Indigenous Peoples Native Art Exhibit

Indigenous Peoples Day was observed with an extensive art exhibit by artist Bruce J. Meurer of Eastern Woodland Native carvings, paintings, and collectibles. The exhibit was a collaboration of the Algona DAR chapter and the



Stinson Prairie Arts Council. Three classes of high school art students scheduled informative tours during the day. On the evening of October 12, 2023, a reception and talk by the artist was held in the Algona Publishing Gallery and was well attended by the community.

Karen Meurer, the wife of the artist, is an active member of the Algona Chapter since 2018. Northwest District leader Shelley Wells joined Vice Regent Teri Miller, Registrar Barbara Stevens, Recording Secretary, Historian and Librarian Karen Meurer and others for the reception.

Across the State

Council Bluffs

Submitted by Donna Knight & Pamela Oviatt



At 605 South 3rd Street in Council Bluffs, Iowa, you have a chance to experience a piece of history when you visit the home of General Grenville M. Dodge. Perhaps one of Council Bluffs' most famous residents, General Dodge has been called "the greatest railroad builder of all time." A Civil War veteran, Dodge's involvement in political, financial and military affairs made him an associate of many of the most influential Americans of his time and counsel to presidents, including Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant. More information can be found at: www.dodgehouse.org.

In 1898, his daughter, Lettie Dodge Montgomery, became our chapter's 21st member and later became our 8th chapter regent. Throughout the years, the ladies of our chapter have maintained this important connection to this historical home. In 1911, the state conference was held at this home. We are proud to share that the Dodge House has allowed us to have a dedicated display case where we are able to share some of our chapter's important historical items. Not only are we able to share Lettie Dodge Montgomery's original DAR pins, you can see our chapter's original charter is hanging in a prominent place next to "our" display case. Thanks to our chapter regent, Janice Ehrens, who is also a Dodge House Lady, each year we have been able to decorate not only a patriotic Christmas tree, but the surrounding area.



The Council Bluffs Chapter once again participated in the DAR Day of Service by honoring our active duty military. We were able to donate 100 homemade pillowcases to the Glenwood Chapter, which they in turn sent to Aaron's Gifts From Home, an organization formed to "simply improve the morale of American Troops serving abroad by sending care packages to deployed troops." We also donated about 80 homemade pillowcases to the Ladies of the Lakes chapter. Our ladies tied thank you cards to an additional 150+ cases that will be donated to our troops at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue, Nebraska.

Pictured is left to right Sarah Hoeing, Lisa Rex, Janice Ehrens and Myrna Mcgrath.

Across the State Ladies of the Lake

Submitted by Carolyn DeLay



Members of the Ladies of the Lake Chapter met at 5:30 pm at the Spirit Lake Library September 12 for a light supper consisting of various snacks followed by a business meeting. Then following the business meeting Lori Vickers gave a program on the Orphan Train and its founding. Everyone learned a lot and would have asked for more if time hadn't run out. Perhaps another program will be in the future. Constitution Week displays for our three local libraries...Spirit Lake & Arnolds Park.

At the October meeting when we did our service project of wrapping pillowcases and attached a note to Veterans at the Veterans Service Center in Spirit Lake. Then October the chapter placed 2 grave markers, one on a chapter members' mother and the other on her grandmother's grave at the Garfield-Clinton Cemetery in Rolfe.



The chapter does not meet in person again until the May meeting in the new year. The chapter will start off the winter season with a Zoom Christmas Coffee.



With a Little Help from DAR Friends...

There was a Beatles song, “gonna try with a little help from my friends.” This is what our chapter is doing at the Iowa Genealogical Society these days. We finished a third round of work sessions since July. IGS received a large grant to work on the family genealogy collections in their care and we are providing a little help to fulfill the task within the scope of the grant. We thank our Historic Preservation Chm. Donna Wenzl for leading this effort! And we are cranking up those Service to America volunteer hours too!



[back row] Bev Neuroth, Dorothy Fippinger, Deb Foshe, Dianne Chadwick, Karma Wanamaker, Donna Wenzl. [front row] Dianna Baker Hoye, Debbie Wessels, Marilyn Rittel (Not all who worked are in this photo)

Constitution Week Activities



Stella

Our chapter and Abigail Adams DAR joined together for “Bells Across America” on Constitution Day to mark the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. Twenty-six attendees that included DAR and family members, as well as Stella Bingaman, our 100+ year old member. A beautiful day and commemoration.

Patriot’s Day 2023

Candy Brown paid a visit to the Dallas County Sheriff on September 11 to deliver a box of goodies in remembrance of 9/11. We are grateful for the safe communities our police officers provide every day!



175 Years of Woodland Cemetery

Jean Marie Cardinell members were proud to be a part of the celebration surrounding the anniversary of Des Moines’ historic Woodland Cemetery in September. We were reenactors, bagpipers, and representatives of the DAR, along with other DAR chapters and organizations. A wonderful event!



Dianna and Donna



Dawn



Marilyn

Joyce



Denise



Donna & Dianna

Susan

Many thanks to Constitution Week Chairman Donna Reams for arranging a Constitution Week Proclamation from the City of West Des Moines. Regent Dianna Baker Hoye and Susan Klein from Abigail Adams were also on hand to receive the certificates.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD: GAUGE CAREY

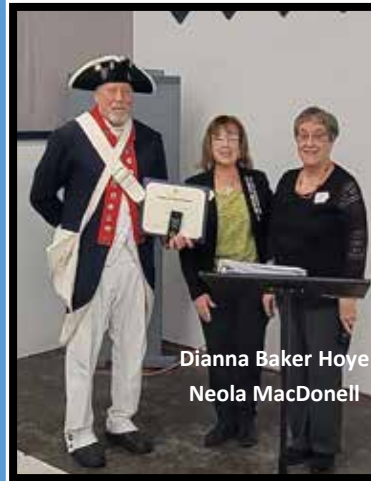


Dianna Baker Hoye
Donna Ragner

The chapter 2023 Community Service Award was awarded to Gauge Carey for his excellence in service to Vietnam Veterans since 2012 through the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War. Among many other things, Gauge has personally pinned over 1,900 Vietnam Veterans with the

pin from the Department of Defense.

AMERICA 250! COMMENDATION MEDAL PRESENTED TO MICHAEL J. ROWLEY



Dianna Baker Hoye
Neola MacDonell

It was our pleasure to present Mike Rowley with the prestigious DAR America 250! Commendation Medal and Certificate. Over the years, he has devoted himself to rediscovering, erecting, restoring and rededicating Revolutionary War-related monuments, plaques and gravesites. The scope of his work included memorials for veterans of all conflicts of our nation. Huzzah! to our very good SAR friend, Mike Rowley!

Carrie Chapman Catt Award: Jennifer Jacobs

We are so proud of Jennifer Jacobs, recipient of Iowa State University's 2023 Carrie Chapman Catt Public Engagement Award. This alumni distinction was awarded to Jennifer on November 3. Mom Charlotte Janeczko, is also a JMC member.



[Jennifer Jacobs with parents Charlotte and Bob Janeczko]

Book Club discussion on D-Day: Every Man a Hero

Led by Literacy Chm. Linda Wilson, members met at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum to discuss *Every Man a Hero* written by a veteran of the Allied invasion of D-Day



which took place on June 6, 1944. I-r Debbie, Dianne, Denise, Dianna, Linda, NancyG, Mary Lee

Decorating for the Holidays at the Jordan House

Jean Marie Cardinell members were honored to be part of a community service project for the West Des Moines Historical Society. We decorated the formal parlor of the historic mansion for their holiday open houses. It is one of the oldest structures in Polk County and the oldest in West Des Moines.

I-r Marilyn Rittel, Neola MacDonell, Adelyn, Dianne Chadwick, Donna Wenzl, Naomi Bowler, Abby Wenzl, Karma Wanamaker, Denise Hamilton, Dianna Baker Hoye



Veterans Day 2023 Activities

Our members were part of **Saluting our Veterans** at Prairie

Meadows on **November 10** during which time we had wonderful discussions with all veterans and pinned those who were Vietnam Veterans.

On **November 11**, members, led by State Regent Edee Brunia, honored Revolutionary War veterans at the DAR Monument at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery.

On **November 12**, members enjoyed **A Star Spangled Salute** concert at the Civic Center of Des Moines performed by the Iowa Military Veterans Band.



Across the State

Sun Dial-Solomon Dean Submitted by Susan Harris



Robert W. Franks (Robbie), son of John and Melissa Franks, Boone, was presented a DAR Certificate of Award and DAR Challenge Coin for his completion of the Eagle Scout rank in Boy Scouts from Sun Dial-Solomon Dean Chapter, Ames. Eagle Scout is the highest rank you can receive from the Boy Scouts of America. Only four percent of all scouts receive this rank.

The Candidate must earn a total of twenty-one merit badges, including the following that are required: Camping, Cooking, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Nature, Soil and Water Conservation, Personal Fitness, First Aid, Swimming, Lifesaving, and Safety; serve in a leadership position; plan and lead the troop in a service project for his school, church or community and secure required letters of recommendation and then go before a Board of Review to complete all requirements.

Congratulations Robbie!

DAR VAVS Representative

Iowa City VA Healthcare System Submitted by Joyce Mandel

SERVING OUR VETERAN HEROS – across Eastern Iowa



The Iowa City VA Health Care System (ICVAHCS) offers a wide range of services for Veterans across eastern Iowa and nearby States. There are many ways DAR members can honor Veterans by serving a local VA facility.

In Iowa, the DAR has 17 Iowa Chapters within an hour's drive of the Iowa City VA hospital and/or its many clinics within this System.

Some ways the DAR participated in the ICVAHCS programs this past quarter:

- Helped register the 400+ volunteers who supported the National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic in Riverside, Iowa in September.
- Greeted Veterans and passed out refreshments and gifts at the Iowa City VA Hospital's Veterans Day Social Event.
- Recognized several Veterans with Vietnam Veteran Commemorative Lapel Pins.
- Donated "Drawstring" bags full of clothes and toiletries for Veterans in need.

Ongoing volunteer and support opportunities include:

- "Patient Escorts" are needed at the Iowa City VA Hospital to help patients navigate the hospital.
- Drivers are needed to get patients to their VA medical appointments, especially in the Cedar Rapids, Quad Cities, Waterloo, Fort Madison, Benton and Dubuque communities.
- The Compassionate Contact Corps (CCC) Program needs volunteers to make short weekly phone calls with a Veteran who is experiencing loneliness or is socially isolated.
- The Red Coat Ambassador Program needs volunteers to provide a warm, welcoming, and helpful first impression at VA facility entrances.

To learn more about becoming a volunteer for the Iowa City VA System visit

<https://www.va.gov/iowa-city-health-care/work-with-us/volunteer-or-donate/>

DAR Deputy VAVS Representatives

An opportunity is now available for two DAR members to serve as Deputy VAVS Representatives to the ICVAHCS. If interested, please contact me! For more

information, visit <https://www.dar.org/members/committees/service-committees/dar-service-veterans/veteran-affairs-voluntary-services-vavs>

Joyce Mandel
DAR VAVS Representative
(for the Iowa City VA Health Care System)

darvavsic@gmail.com

Newsletter Committee

Melissa Eaton Burkart & Diane Murphy, Co-Chairs

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

August 25th

November 25th

February 25th

May 25th

**Email submissions to:
eaton.melissa@gmail.com**

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Submissions should be “ready to read”, only light edits will be made
- Word format or text in the body of an email are accepted
- Send photos .jpg or .png via email attachment---within the email, identify the subjects in the attached photos

The State Regent has final editorial approval of the ISDAR Newsletter and its contents before release.

The Iowa Society Newsletter is published four times a year. Each issue is made available digitally for all members at:

- Website: ISDAR Newsletters www.isdar.org/members/newsletters.html
- Facebook: Iowa Society Daughters of the American Revolution www.facebook.com/groups/176698439058792
- Email: Chapter Regents will distribute the newsletter to all their members

Members can read, download, and print the digital PDF file in any of the above locations. Limited paper copies are printed for required purposes and designated individuals. Please see the subscription form below for more information on mailed paper copies.

**Have questions? Email Melissa at eaton.melissa@gmail.com
or Diane at demurphy76@gmail.com**