How does a busy gal participate in Junior Membership?

All of us Juniors are busy, whether with school, work, families or other pressing needs. I’m often asked how a busy or an out of state Junior can make a difference and participate in Junior membership activities. The following is a quick list of things that you can do:

- Collect Campbell’s Soup Labels, Boxtops for Education and printer cartridges for the DAR Schools. Contributions can be sent directly to the Iowa Junior membership chairman, or to your local chapter. Items are collected, sorted, counted and sent to Tamassee, KDS, Hillside and other DAR approved schools.

- Participate in a number of online projects with the Genealogical Records Committee. One particular project is the ongoing indexing of every name in the nearly 20,000 GRC volumes currently in the DAR Library collection. The indexing is done entirely online, from digitized images of pages in the GRC volumes, using the GRC Indexing website and the new Phase II Indexing Program. This can be done anywhere where an internet connection is present.

- Become a committee chair for your local chapter. You can be a committee chair without being close to your chapter by forwarding information about your committee and its work to your Chapter Regent.

- Like to knit or crochet? Consider making lap robes or stocking caps for those who have served our country and currently reside in Veterans Homes.

- Clip and collect coupons for military families living on bases worldwide. Both local and expired (typically up to 90 days past expiration) coupons can be used for food and other goods at the base’s PX. The only coupons not accepted are those for alcohol, tobacco products, restaurant coupons and coupons specific to one store (i.e. Walgreens, Target, Hy-Vee, etc.)

- Consider monetary or wish-list donations to any of the DAR approved schools. Each school has a specific wish list on their website. See members.dar.org/committees/school/index.htm for a list of the approved schools.

- Become a page! All Juniors and members who have not yet reached their 41st birthday are eligible to page at the ISDAR State Conference and at Continental Congress. It’s a great way to provide service to our state society… and meet some pretty dynamic women in the process! The pages of today become the chapter and state chairman and officers of tomorrow. Just ask former Junior member and now current NSDAR Vice President General Susan Harris or another former Junior who currently serves as Iowa State Corresponding Secretary, Mindy Beekman!
Who is Helen Pouch & what is the Helen Pouch Fund?

All Funds raised through the Junior Membership Committee are designated for the Helen Pouch Memorial Fund which provides medical aid, general financial assistance, and scholarships at our DAR Schools. The fund was established in memory of Helen Pouch, 1901-1919. Helen was the daughter of Mrs. William H. Pouch, the first National Chairman of the Junior Membership Committee, 1937, and President General, NSDAR, 1941-1944.

In honor of Mrs. William Pouch, or “Aunt Helen”, as she was fondly called by the Juniors, we use the Kangaroo to represent the Helen Pouch Memorial Fund.

3rd Annual Juniors Tuck-In Service FRIDAY evening at State Conference...

Be sure to join us for the 3rd Annual Juniors Tuck in Service on Friday, April 26th at the ISDAR State Conference. While the majority of the details of the tuck in are being kept secret, rest assured that we will provide the conference attendees with the best tuck-in yet!

As in the past, ladies will be encouraged to sign up for the Tuck-in Service before the Friday evening banquet activities and teams (or maybe just one big group of Juniors and Juniors at Heart) will visit rooms for an amazing bedtime story and treat!!! The cost of this experience is simply a free-will donation to the ISDAR Juniors. We’ve yet to find a disappointed participant in the tuck-in service. It’s a wonderful time enjoyed by all!

After much consideration, ISDAR Junior Membership Chair Jodi Freet has decided to give a few hints into the very secret tuck-in preparations: it will involve cupcakes and tiaras and the cooperation of friends!

See you at State Conference everyone!

What is a Page and how do I become one?

No doubt you’ve already heard that Paging is an important part of the ISDAR experience. If you haven’t already Paged at an Iowa State DAR Event, we encourage you to do so!

Pages are members of the C.A.R. or DAR members who haven’t yet reached the age of 41 who are present at ISDAR meetings to ensure the meeting flows successfully for all. There are no particular qualifications needed, just a willingness to wear white clothing while performing the duties of a page and presenting a positive attitude while helping others members of the DAR! Pages are individuals that help ensure a successful conference. This is done by possibly carrying a flag during a processional, passing out literature to the seated conference attendees, helping at the JR Sales table, delivering messages, and helping with decoration of tables for luncheons and dinners, or passing out programs during the Memorial Service. The effort is not particularly strenuous and you get to meet many wonderful new friends!

Paging does require an outfit that falls within the following color range: white/off-white/winter white/cream/mother of pearl/light ivory. A page also needs a pair of white gloves, white shoes (White keds type oxfords are OK during the day—no Crocs or flip flops!) and appropriate undergarments. A formal gown is required for the evening banquet. You might ask why white clothing is required — its purpose is to allow the pages to blend into the surroundings, but yet still be easy to locate and be easily accessible to all members. As a Page, you will be issued a sash to be worn during state meetings. You may wear your DAR pins and insignia, but avoid any clunky or brightly colored jewelry. Your jewelry should complement your outfit and not be a distraction.

There are two opportunities to page every year—at the Iowa State Conference (typically 2 1/2 days at the end of April) or at ISDAR Board of Management (typically a 1 day commitment at the beginning of August). Whether you can volunteer just one day or for a whole conference, the ISDAR would enjoy your participation and return Pages would be thrilled to show you the ropes!
What do Juniors and Dolls have in common?

If you said that both Juniors and Dolls are sweet... you might be right. But what is the National Junior Doll? Let's begin with the history of the connection between dolls and Junior members.....

The first mention of dolls within the Junior Membership Committee was in 1937 when the Ursula Wolcott Chapter in Toledo, Ohio, had a junior project of dressing dolls and distributing toys for boys and girls at a mission. In the early 1940s, dolls were dressed for community Christmas trees. By the late 1940s, many of the dolls were donated to the DAR approved schools. It was not until 1953 that the John Young Chapter in Charleston, West Virginia, donated the first Junior Doll for fundraising purposes. The doll was named "Merrie Annie" in honor of Mary Anne McClaugherty. Voices were $100 each and the proceeds went toward the retiring of the debt on the Administration Building. Mrs. McClaugherty won the doll and took it home to West Virginia. She then gave it to the West Virginia Juniors, who added more clothes and a wardrobe. The doll returned to Continental Congress the following year as a donation by the West Virginia State Society. The West Virginia Juniors then sponsored the Junior Doll for the next two years until 1956.

In 1957, the District of Columbia Juniors' project was a dessert bridge at which a doll, complete with wardrobe, was featured. In 1958, the state organizations of the District of Columbia, Florida, and Michigan featured dolls within their states and in 1959 Florida presented a doll in their state. The funds raised were sent to the Helen Pouch fund. In 1960, Alabama donated Miss Junior Member I to the National Junior Bazaar. It was so successful that they donated Miss Junior Member II the following year. Florida raised money with their state doll, "Cecile Pemberton" in 1962, and West Virginia sponsored twin centennial dolls in 1963. It appeared at this time that state organizations were catching on to the trend by donating state-sponsored dolls to raise funds for the Helen Pouch Memorial Fund.

State organizations now volunteer for the honor of sponsoring the National Junior Doll two to three years in advance and appoint a member to serve as the chairman. Juniors sell voices for one year and the proceeds directly benefit the Helen Pouch Memorial Fund.

The doll is usually modeled after someone influential from that state or from the DAR in general. Clothes, accessories, and furniture are made or bought by Daughters in the sponsoring state. Voices are available to the public and DAR members throughout the entire year. The drawing for the National Doll is held during Continental Congress.

In honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Junior Membership Committee, the New York State Organization Daughters of the American Revolution have presented Miss Merry Ann, honoring President General Merry Ann T. Wright. The doll’s extensive wardrobe was created with love by the New York daughters and her 75 (yes, you read that right, 75!!) outfits were created to represent 75 influential women who were inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame, in Seneca Falls, New York.

Voices for this beautiful doll are available from Jodi Freet, IA JR Membership Chairman. Individual voices are $5, or five voices for $20.

Miss Merrie Ann as Rosa Parks
Miss Merrie Ann as Alice Paul
Miss Merrie Ann as Sally Ride
Dear Iowa Juniors,

Iowa has 163 JR members. 37 of these members live out-of-state in twenty-seven other states. Our JR’s are young mothers raising families, working, going to school and are active in their community.

Our out-of-state members can also be active in DAR by becoming an Associate Member of a chapter in the state they live in. JR members unable to attend chapter meetings can still help their Iowa Chapters by doing computer work at home for their Chapter.

JR Members are the future of NSDAR and you are encouraged to become involved in the work of NSDAR. Try becoming a Page and learn the working of the Iowa Society. We need your ideas, working hands, and leadership.

Hands of Friendship Working Together to Build Membership

Barbara Halpin, Iowa State Regent