

The Starfish

*A Publication of the Delaware State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
- Spring 2021 Post Conference Edition*

STATE REGENTS MESSAGE



Gloria Lester
Delaware State Regent 2019 – 2022



STATE THEME

*Renew, rise up, reach out and help. You
can make a difference in the lives of
others by serving America.*

STATE BIBLE VERSE

*The King will reply, "Truly I tell you,
whatever you did for one of the least of
these brothers and sisters of mine, you
did for me."*

Matthew 25:40

NATIONAL THEME



NATIONAL BIBLE VERSE

*Let your light shine before others
that they may see your good deeds
and glorify your father in heaven.*

Matthew 5:16

Welcome to the "Post Conference" edition of the Starfish. I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful spring days we are having. My Azaleas and Rhododendrons are just blossoming this morning.

It is difficult for me to believe two years of my administration have already passed. Although, the state Regent position is very demanding I continue to enjoy every minute I am able to work with all of you to fulfill the mission of our great organization. I have been blessed with a great Executive Board, Chapter Regents, and Committee Chairs. I thank them and all of the members for your continued support

I especially want to thank all those members who helped make the 112th State Conference such a success. Our Conference Chair, Claudia Onken, worked for two months registering people for the conference and creating a spreadsheet for me to work with. Barb Seningen spent hours creating and assembling the slides and Lunchtime DAR Vintage Slide Show as well as designing the written Conference Program. Janet Maher, our Zoom Master worked for weeks to imbed the music and videos into the slides and orchestrate the Zoom Meeting. Beth Beachell recruited 13 Pages from across the Country to give technical assistance with Zoom. I also want to thank Kristen Jones our Protocol Chair and acting Parliamentarian and Michell West, our time keeper who helped enforce the two min time limit for reports.

I would especially like to thank the two hosting Chapters and their Regents for the beautiful centerpieces, favors and Zoom Backgrounds. What a hit these details made with our guests and members. So, thank you Sarah O'Donnell and Cooch's Bridge and Kathy Lindemer and Col. David Hall Chapters for the hours your committees spent creating these special touches.

We had 101 individuals register for the conference and 30 register for the Heritage Breakfast. The President General,

three Honorary State Regents, three State Regents, four SAR members, 13 pages, 2 guests and 75 members attended the conference

Normally, I would include a brief synopsis of the conference for those who could not attend, but



Chloe Meyer, one of our Pages from California did it so eloquently in a Facebook post that instead, with her permission, I have included her journaling in this newsletter as “**A Page’s Perspective**

of the 112th Delaware State Conference”. I know you will enjoy reading her summation of our Conference, including the Winterthur tour, High Tea and DAR Trivia, Business Meeting, DAR Memory Lane Slides, The President General’s Keynote Speech and Gift Opening, Graduation,

Good Citizen Awards, Memorial Service, Workshop and Social.

I have been truly humbled by all the e-mails, notes and flowers I received after the Conference, congratulating us on a successful State Conference. Sandra Pollack, from the Office of Development at DAR headquarters, who presented a terrific workshop Saturday evening said this was by far the best Virtual State Conference she has had the pleasure of participating in. Thank you all for your contribution to the Conference, notes of appreciation and for your continued support.



Dr. Gloria Conte Lester
Delaware State Regent

NATIONAL SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION

DELAWARE STATE SOCIETY
Organized January 7, 1908

Dr. Gloria Ann Lester, State Regent
2019 – 2022

Friday, April 16, 2021
2:00 p.m.

TOUR OF WINTERTHUR
Lady of the House Exhibit



HIGH TEA
4:00 p.m.
(Hats, Gloves & Tea)
DAR TRIVIA & PRIZES



A Pages Perspective of the 112th Delaware State Conference



This weekend I had the true pleasure of volunteering as a virtual page for the Delaware State Society DAR 112th annual state conference with Delaware State Regent, [Gloria Conte Lester](#) presiding. Everything about this conference was on point, from front to back, side to side, any way I think about it! They truly thought of every little detail and I'm so sincerely impressed by their attention to detail, thoughtfulness, and hospitality! I've never been to Delaware, but now it's definitely on my wish list of places I'd like to visit in person!

On Friday, April 16, 2021, we were given a virtual tour of Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library. First, we were shown slides of the property and house narrated live by one of their



expert docents. Then, the docent gave us a live tour of the house and one of their current exhibits! This was thrilling. It's been so long since I've been to a museum! Anyone who has gone to a museum with me knows I always time my visits so I arrive in time for the docent tour. I love the passion and extra history docents provide and I love being able to ask questions. Having a docent give a live tour was so special and engaging and I appreciate the time and expense the Delaware Daughters took to make it happen.

Winterthur is the former home of Henry Francis du Pont and his wife Ruth. What I found interesting was that du Pont intended his mansion to one day become a museum open to the public.



So, he built the house and collected the antiques inside it with that in mind. I can't think of another

estate museum I've been to where the owners intended for it to become a museum. This really tells you a lot about the responsibility du Pont felt towards collecting important early American furniture. Per Wikipedia, "The museum is generally recognized as the premier collection of American Decorative Arts in the world... with over 89,000 objects." The docent explained that when du Pont began collecting early American furniture in the 1920's, the fashionable thing to do was to collect European antiques. Seeing the value in early American furniture as helping to tell the story of our independence was unique to du Pont. It helped he had a vast fortune and wasn't really impacted by the great depression. When other



families were selling off their furniture and homes for cash, du Pont would buy them to save them for his museum. He would buy entire rooms and have the paneling carefully taken down, packed and shipped, and then installed in his house museum. Winterthur has rooms from Pennsylvania and Maryland. They showed us a floating staircase

A Pages Perspective of the 112th Delaware State Conference

that he bought from an antebellum home in the South. Not to mention, the additions he made to his house kept local tradesmen in work during the depression. The docent said Winterthur is the 5th largest historic house in America, and while by most definitions it still looks like a huge mansion from the outside, actually 1/3 of it is built underground so it would not look so imposing on the landscape.

One of my favorite design styles is Art Deco. I was thinking about how while Art Deco was sweeping a certain sect of the wealthy in the 30's, here was du Pont, spending vast amounts of money collecting early American furniture and objects. The complete opposite of what design magazines and movies at the time were pushing. He sounds like a fascinating man who marched to the beat of his own drum, knew exactly what he wanted, and did whatever it took to get it.



Another unique thing the docent drove home was this was a modern house, albeit with antique furnishings. What she meant was, the bedrooms were 1930's style bedrooms. They had a bed, nightstands, a sitting area, and a writing desk. All the furniture were antiques, but they were not relegated to their original function within the type of room for which they were originally built. For example, a particular style of chair would originally not have been in a bedroom during the 1760's, but it looked good in the 1930's bedroom, so that's where it went. Another way the docent phrased it, "... this is all original period furniture, but these are not period rooms; these are 1930's rooms."

Henry du Pont became so recognized during his lifetime as a leading expert on early American decorative arts that when Jacqueline Kennedy sought to renovate the White House, she asked du Pont to oversee the project. He had the knowledge and contacts to help acquire the antique furniture for the White House.



During his lifetime, his friends would come visit and stay at his estate for long weekends. The docent said guests would enter the home and sign his guestbook, and while servants unloaded luggage into the guest bedrooms, the guests would be given a tour. Apparently, one of the most asked questions by visitors is, "Did the du Ponts 'use' all the rooms in the mansion?" Well, it depends on your definition of 'use.' The docent explained that guests would be brought into the various rooms to show off the collections, like a



museum, but they would not actually sit on the antique furniture. Again, du Pont truly believed he was saving these important pieces of early American decorative arts from ending up as kindling and by showing them off to his wealthy friends, and telling them of their importance, and basically saying, "Look at this craftsmanship! Help spread the word that we, as Americans, should be

A Pages Perspective of the 112th Delaware State Conference

proud and appreciate this stuff as much as we appreciate European antiques,” he was helping to develop and cultivate appreciation for early Americana. The docent also said that if one was lucky enough to be invited to stay at Winterthur,



one would certainly want to write home about it. In each of the guest bedrooms was a writing desk

with custom Winterthur stationary for guests to use. Guests would want to write people to show they had stayed there!

After the tour, the fellowship with Delaware Daughters really began. This year was Delaware's scheduled President General visit. Prior to the state conference, Delaware mailed to attendees a sunshine crown/necklace so we could 'show sunshine' to our President General! Isn't that the cutest idea? I was delighted to learn my friends Susan Broderick, state regent of California, and Morgan Elliott, state regent of Arizona, were in attendance!

I pieced together a collage of us all together, wearing our sunshine. I absolutely loved this thoughtful detail. We weren't together in person, but by all of us having the sunshine necklace/crown, we were all actively participating in something together.



Another way Delaware creatively thought to make everyone feel more 'together' was by creating a custom zoom background. Their reasoning



was that if we were in a large room together, we would be looking at centerpieces. So, they created a virtual centerpiece! Beyond just being a beautiful background, it's actually incorporating symbols of Delaware! The peach blossom is their state flower and the Blue Hen is their state bird! Look closely and they've included a Continental Congress program and a Delaware voter ribbon. This was so creative and I loved how cohesive it made the zoom look.

Throughout the conference, Dr. Lester would intersperse trivia questions (with prizes!) about Delaware and DAR. I love trivia and this was such a fun way to keep everyone engaged and those of us not from Delaware learned about the state. I learned Delaware has a state marine animal, the



horseshoe crab; their state tree is the American Holly, and they were the 'first state' to ratify the Constitution and are thus known as The First State. I also learned a DAR chapter was formed in Delaware prior to the Delaware State Society DAR being formed. Also, Betty Newkirk Seimes, the 27th President General, is so far, the only

A Pages Perspective of the 112th Delaware State Conference

President General to be a Delaware Daughter. The next time I'm at headquarters in D.C. doing research in the Seimes technology center, I'll think of Delaware! Another bit of Delaware trivia I learned was they have a steeplechase called 'Point to Point.' When that question came up later in the day, all I could think of was 'Hot to trot' which I knew wasn't the right answer! I said it anyway and everyone laughed!

DAR Museum Outreach
Virginia Trader

Delaware Room



Day two of the virtual conference brought state committee reports and reports from the six Delaware chapters. Dr. Lester's state regent project has been to raise money for the renovation of the Delaware state box and seal at Constitution Hall and to support Casa San Francisco in Milton, Delaware which provides shelter and meals for people experiencing homelessness. Delaware Daughters were active in 2020 and didn't slow down during the pandemic. They still celebrated constitution week and celebrated the 100th anniversary of the passing of the 19th amendment. Members completed the Members course and the New Horizon's course. They worked with local schools and awarded Good Citizen awards to high school students. And of course, they sewed masks and other pieces of PPE for their community.

Our President General gave her keynote program, and this was my third or fourth time hearing it, but she delivers it each time as though it's the first time! She's so passionate about DAR and the volunteer work we do for our country it's contagious. To celebrate this being her official 'visit' to Delaware, they sent her a corsage to wear. Isn't that incredibly thoughtful? After her

program, was the gift opening ceremony. Wow! Can I hire Delaware to be personal shoppers? This was a masterclass on how to give thoughtful gifts. I don't want to go in to too much detail because they weren't my gifts and it's not my story to tell. I will say that she was moved to tears when opening each gift and I could feel with every fiber in my being the immense



pride the Delaware Daughters felt in watching her open each gift. All the gifts had something to do with Delaware, and history, and each one included a notecard explaining the meaning and significance of the gift. Delaware Daughters were so generous and thoughtful, they could truly give a masterclass on hospitality.

Saturday evening, Sandra Pollack gave a workshop on conflict resolution. We learned a lot, but I think Sandra learned she shouldn't ask a page to prove a point involving holding a water glass because pages are willing to do anything and won't say 'no', right Katlyn? At the close of her workshop, Sandra showed a new-to-me quotation that I really liked. "The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right place but to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment." – Dorothy Nevill.

Appropriate Assertiveness

"The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right place but to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."

—Dorothy Nevill

A Pages Perspective of the 112th Delaware State Conference

Finally, after the conference was officially adjourned, they hosted a virtual cocktail party. It was so wonderful to have another opportunity to get to interact with my friends, and Delaware Daughters who I now feel are new friends. If these ladies thanked us (the virtual pages) once, they thanked us twenty times. I felt so welcomed and so appreciated! In fact, Delaware invited all of us pages to their annual happy hour before Continental Congress

I signed up to volunteer as a virtual page for Delaware's state conference without knowing who the other virtual pages would be. How wonderful for me that out of thirteen pages, I already knew half of them? And also, so wonderful that I left having made new friends.

Dr. Gloria Lester, your state conference was a class act. I am in awe of how you and your state conference team thought of every last detail. It was perfect from start to finish! Thank you so much for allowing me to participate! I had the best time!



STATE REGENT'S PROJECT SUPPORTERS

GOLD \$100

Brian Dougherty
Morgan Elliot
Carol Halsey
Bernadette Kucharczuk
Deanna Lyons
Sarah O'Donnell
Claudia Onken
Beverly Robbin
Ginger Trader

SILVER \$50

Denise Clemons
Jan Ekoniak
Donna Josefowski
Valarie Leary
Janet Leishman
Dr. Gloria Lester
Beth Manchester
Amy Peoples
Melanie Rapp
Harry Roberts
Kendra Roberts
Kathleen Schrader
Julie Saville
Barbara Seningsen

BRONZE \$25

Dr. Matthew Barlow	Robin Hughes
Nancy Barlow	Mary Alice Kelly
Susan Broderick	Taryn Edwards Kennedy
Lana Browne	Madalin O'Brien
Sherri Clark	Barbara Scchaut
Catherine Connor	Cindy Vander Laan
Joe-Anne Corwin	Grace Vattilano
Patricia Haas	Clare Vosteen
	Jill White

News from the Chapters

Caesar Rodney

Wilmington, Delaware
Cindy Vander Laan, Regent

Caesar Rodney Chapter Milestone!

A wonderful celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Caesar Rodney Chapter's founding (December 7, 1895) will be held at the Columbus Inn, Wilmington on June 5th. This rescheduled event will be a lovely party including Historical Remembrances, Prizes, a Mystery Guest and excellent three course lunch.

Col. David Hall

Lewes, Delaware
Kathy Lindemer, Regent



We had 2 days scheduled for Spring Cleaning at the Maul House. On Day 1, Friday April 30, 2021 we were forced to work indoors due to heavy winds. It was just as well. There was plenty to do. Lana Browne dusted and Kathy Lindemer and Valarie Leary went through the closets and cleaned them out. Leslie Donaldson

We had 2 days scheduled for Spring Cleaning at the Maul House. On Day 1, Friday April 30, 2021 we were forced to work indoors due to heavy winds. It was just as



picked up the cleaning the next day on May 1. The winds co-operated so we were able to tackle the backyard. The

goal was to clear the underbrush and it is at long last. Dottie Blakely (missing from photo), Mike Mayer, Janet Maher, Kathy Lindemer, Jennifer Horsley and Patti Haas contributed to getting the underbrush cleared out. The landscape at the Maul House is especially pretty this Spring after the cleanup.



Col. John Haslet

Georgetown, Delaware
Donna Wilkinson Josefowski, Regent

The Colonel John Haslet Chapter continues to meet on Zoom for meetings, but also encourages involvement with in-person activities. The past few months, our chapter has participated in:

- **The Spring State Meeting:** Chapter members joined in the fun for the online tour, tea and trivia game, as well as the State Meeting. We had a fantastic time and several members won some of the trivia questions.
- **Earth Day Tree Potting Event:** In celebration of Earth Day, our chapter with DNREC staff and other volunteers volunteered at a tree potting event at the St. Jones Reserve,



News from the Chapters

coordinated by Vice Chapter Regent, Kim Bates. Other participants were Sharon Burge, Elizabeth O'Shea, Claudia Onken, and Lorna McElhone.

- **JROTC Medals Awarded:** We were glad that we were able to present the Bronze JROTC Medals to the First State



Military Academy cadets in person. A special thank you to Claudia Onken for attending. We also awarded cadets from Caesar Rodney and Smyrna High Schools.



- **DAR Library:** The Colonel Haslet Chapter continues with our support of the DAR Library by donating the book - ***The Life of Peregrine White: The First Englishman born in New England.***
- **Book Studies:** Debbie St. Jean coordinated two popular online book studies this year (open to all Delaware Daughters), choosing books about Peggy Shippen and Dr. Benjamin Rush. Both were well attended. Our next book study will be held via Zoom on **July 10th at 10 am**, when we will discuss ***The British Are Coming: The War for America: Lexington to Princeton, 1775-1777*** by Rick Atkinson. All are welcome. Please

contact Debbie St. Jean at debbie@tnias.org for more information.

Chapter News: Although we have been having online meetings and plan to do so in May, we have also recorded several of our meetings which was sent by email to our members. This gave them the opportunity to see and hear our members and the presentations. Although we plan on meeting in person again in September, having Zoom may still be useful to those who are not able to attend in person. Our next speaker in May will be David Price, author of the new book on Haslet's World. We continue to attract new members even during this time, and have three applications in process.

Summer Months – In May, the Colonel Haslet Chapter is looking forward to participation at the Memorial Day event in downtown Dover, recognizing those who lost their lives in various wars. On July 3rd, we will join the Sons of the American Revolution at a grave marking in Smyrna. We also look to meet for an outside picnic this summer.

Cooch's Bridge

Newark, Delaware
Sarah O'Donnell, Regent

Before the pandemic, we could all socialize anywhere, a Daughter's home or a favorite restaurant. As we work toward herd immunity through vaccinations, many of our members do not feel safe to socialize in traditional modes.

The Cooch's Bridge Chapter tried a new experience on April 23rd, 2021. Our fledgling group gathered at Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge to form a caravan of four cars ready to explore its tidal salt marsh habitats. We chose a weekday morning to avoid weekend crowds common in April. It was a sunny, cool day. Low tide exposed mud flats and water channels where migrating shore birds waded and poked for crustaceans and fish. No matter if you are a

News from the Chapters

neophyte or experienced Birder, April is a wonderful time to enjoy the beauty offered by a Wildlife Refuge, dedicated to preservation of a disappearing environment.



What is that? Maggie Erickson-Menton, Sarah O'Donnell, Robin Hughes (back), Linda Coates, Clare Vosteen

We slowly progressed through the salt marshes by car, stopping to better view the birds and use our bird guides and Merlin, the free Bird ID app from Cornell Labs. We finished the trip by eating our lunches at

picnic tables by the Visitor Center. I want to thank our Daughters (Robin Hughes, Linda Coates, Clare Vosteen, and Maggie Erickson-Menton) and our HODARs (Bruce O'Donnell, Charlie Coates and Dennis Menton) for their adventurous spirits!

What did we see? First, we saw iridescent blue and white tree swallows and purple martins, the largest of the swallows, nesting in bird



Great Blue Heron in the reeds

houses supplied by the Refuge.

Throughout, we saw Great Egrets and Snowy Egrets in their splendid white plumage, wading on tall legs searching for fish and crustaceans. In the same water channels, we sometimes saw Great Blue Herons seeking the same feast. Black Ducks, and even a Trumpeter Swan swam in open tidal pools. A family of Canada Geese claimed the shore of a freshwater pond, ready to defend the shoran grass they covet as food. Canada Geese generally avoid long grass. Another freshwater pond exhibited sunny Snapping Turtles and Northern Red-Bellied Turtles among the water lilies.



Swallows nesting

the latter resplendent with their black and white stripped plumage swinging their orange necks to capture crustacea and insects. Also, among these birds were gulls and tiny plovers, all focused on feeding.

But the stars of the day were the Bald Eagles, adults and juveniles soaring or resting. I am so proud to be an American when I see that our country and the DAR are dedicated to preserving its natural resources. Already I am receiving requests for more outings!!



Adult Bald Eagle in the salt marsh

Major Nathaniel Mitchell

Georgetown, Delaware
Carol Evans, Regent

We are having a Grave Marking Ceremony for Catherine Hudson, **May 16, 2021 at the Union Cemetery, 100 E. Adams St., Georgetown, DE, at 2:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited to the Service.

Coming from the east or west, take Route 9 to the Circle, exit onto S. Bedford St., turn left onto E. Adams St. just past the Georgetown Fire Hall. Coming from the north, come in on N. Bedford St. to the Circle, exit onto S. Bedford St. Coming from the south, turn right at DMV onto S. Bedford St. The right turn onto E. Adams St. is right after the sharp curve that is in town, not the one shortly after turning onto S. Bedford.

News, Upcoming Events & More!

The Major Nathaniel Mitchell Chapter will be cleaning grave stones at the Asbury United Methodist Cemetery, Route 9 west of Georgetown. If you are interested in joining us, be there May 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

American Heritage

Lana Browne, State Chair

Congratulations to Kristin Jones for her 2nd place entry in the National American Heritage 2020 contest for Fiber Arts/ Quilt Top –wall hanging celebrating her many patriots. It is a beautiful and well thought out entry and deserves the honor that it has been given.



Congratulations to Cooch's Bridge for winning the Second Place National American Heritage Award for the Art and Sculpture/ Multi Media Category. Sarah O'Donnell has given detailed description of the background of this project and a list of the participants.

“Rise and Shine Your Light on William Gibbs”



Background:

Our group project was inspired by a historic painting that depicts the Battle of Kedges Strait, which took place on November 30, 1782—the very day that the Articles of Peace were signed in Europe. The land war between Great Britain and the colonies had ended over a year earlier at Yorktown; however, intermittent conflicts at sea persisted.

Having endured unceasing harassment by the British Royal Navy's war barges, the State of Maryland ordered Commodore Zedeckiah Whaley of the Maryland State Navy to clear the Chesapeake Bay of the threat. Commodore Whaley's flotilla of four sail-and-oar-driven barges was woefully undermanned. The fearless Commodore sought aid from the nearby town of Onancock, Virginia, appealing to Lt. Colonel John Cropper, who rounded up 25 volunteers. Officers with Colonel Cropper were Captain Thomas Parker, Major Smith Snead, and Naval Officer

News, Upcoming Events & More!

William Gibbs, a Virginia militiaman and patriot ancestor (A044710) of our chapter's American Heritage Committee Chair, Carol Halsey.

The Maryland fleet including Whaley's flagship, *Protector*, reinforced with the Virginia volunteers, pursued the British barges to the head of Kedges Strait. Whaley ordered his fleet to attack, but encountering heavy cannon and musket fire, three of the four Maryland barges retreated, leaving the *Protector* vastly outnumbered by six enemy ships. A musket ball killed Commodore Whaley, and gunpowder in an ammunition chest aboard the *Protector* exploded, killing four men and catapulting others overboard, their clothing ablaze. Defeated soundly, the *Protector* surrendered.

Officer Gibbs, a young Scot fighting for the colonies, ended up in the frigid water but was unable to swim. Fortunately, he was grasped by his hair and kept afloat by Captain Parker until their foes pulled them out of the bay to be imprisoned for several days in the bottom of a British barge. Gibbs feigned unconsciousness under threat of hanging by his captor, a loyalist Scotsman, Commodore Kidd. Parker, who had the wherewithal to negotiate friendly relations with their conquerors, recognized what Gibbs was doing to save himself. Kidd relented when Parker put in a good word for Gibbs. The American prisoners were then released and returned to Onancock, thus ending the last naval action of the Revolutionary War.

Description of Art:

Our project was built on a 4' x 5' canvas with an acrylic paint undercoating. The foreboding sky and churning Chesapeake waters were painted in oils. In the foreground is the *Protector*. Her deck is composed of decreasing coarseness grades of sandpaper, trimmed in wood and detailed in acrylic paint. The *Protector* deck scene features:

- a. Railings fashioned from miniature wood trim and finished with stain;
- b. a painted, balsa-covered polystyrene foam ship box;

- c. miniature ship-making rope;
- d. a turned-cedar cannon, coated with black lacquer and lashed to a balsa wood carriage;
- e. a balsa mast, cross tees, and shrouds with distressed broadcloth sails and natural jute fiber "ratline" rigging tied with period knotting techniques and attached to brass eye pins, and lanyards. Wax was applied to the rigging to imitate the tar that ropes would have been dipped in to prevent them from rotting in the harsh nautical environment.
- f. a tattered "Navy Jack" flag flown above the *Protector* was sewn using red and cream canvas, adorned with an embroidered gold felt snake.

The large clay figures represent Officer Gibbs, the Virginia militiaman, and Commodore Whaley to the right. They are dressed in period-correct shoes, hats, and clothing fashioned with hand-made buttons and sewn with imported linen, loose-weave wool, muslin, and other fabrics. The Commodore's tricorne hat is molded felt, and he is clad in a navy waistcoat and white britches typical for his position. Militiaman Gibbs' muted olive-green coat is trimmed with faux fur so as to resemble animal pelts, as the militiamen didn't have a formal uniform. The distant figure who is overlooking the railing was cut from thin beechwood and painted in oils. It is imagined that this scene took place just before the dramatic battle ensued, as Commodore Whaley is directing Officer Gibbs in his battle assignment.

The siding of the aggressor British ship was constructed of painted ice pop sticks and skewers. Miniature railroad tracking was used for the ship's gray deck. The masts are narrow wooden dowels with handsewn sails of stiffened cotton fabric. The crow's nest was fashioned from a cork. Cannon barrel portholes are made of plastic bag

News, Upcoming Events & More!

slide closures and the cannon smoke is loose cotton. The Union Jack flag is stiffened paper; the tiny masthead is a silver-plate mermaid charm. Magnetic "brass" necklace connectors were used to anchor the rigging.

A wood frame was constructed, stained, and added to the canvas.

Team Members

Carol Halsey - Carol made the railing and sandpaper ship decking of the American ship, the PROTECTOR.

Sarah O'Donnell – Sarah oil painted the sky, sea, and, with Carol, made the sandpaper decking of the PROTECTOR. She also constructed and painted the figure overlooking the railing and sewed and embroidered the Union Jack flag.

Jan Ekoniak – Jan made and painted/stained the cannon and deck rigging from wood.

Elizabeth Sorowice – Betty made the clay figures and fabric clothing of William Gibbs and Commodore Whaley.

Michelle West – Michelle made the mask, crow's nest and sails of the PROTECTOR.

Barbara Seningen – Barb made the attacking British ship, including wooden haul, sails and firing cannons.

Christine Lashbrook – Chris wrote the story about The Battle of the Kedges Strait (also known as the Battle of the Barges) and the Patriot honored by this project, William Gibbs.

All members contributed to the acrylic underpainting.



The Delaware State Society Children of the American Revolution will be meeting at Hagley Museum at **10 AM on Saturday, June 12**. We would love to have members of DAR and SAR join us. This will be a walking tour through the powder yards, including demonstrations at the steam engine, machine shop, and roll mill. The guides will discuss water power, the Industrial Revolution, and general DuPont Company and du Pont family history.

This will be a two-hour tour and the cost for children is \$6.00 and adults are \$14.00.

If any of your members are interested, please let Kitty Dickerson know by emailing her at kittydickerson@yahoo.com. We need to provide the museum with a number of attendees so they can schedule the appropriate number of guides.

Service to America

Patricia L. Haas

It is my immense pleasure to announce the "Diamond" Daughters amassed a whopping **7,773 SERVICE HOURS** in 2020 during a pandemic!! That is an amazing number with only 612 Daughters now in our small but mighty Delaware State! You make me so very proud of all the volunteer work done in our communities. **THANK YOU!**

News, Upcoming Events & More!

Members Training

Cindy Vander Laan, Members Course
Barbara Seningen, New Horizons



GRADUATION!!

MEMBERS COURSE:

Cindy Vander Laan	Caesar Rodney
Jennifer Horsley	Col. David Hall
Janet Maher	Col. David Hall
Leslie Donaldson	Col. David Hall
Deborah Cannon	Cooch's Bridge
Barb Seningen	Cooch's Bridge
Michelle West	Cooch's Bridge
Carol Halsey	Cooch's Bridge

NEW HORIZONS COURSE:

Jennifer Horsley	Col. David Hall
Deborah Cannon	Cooch's Bridge
Christine	Cooch's Bridge
Lashbrook	Cooch's Bridge
Barb Seningen	Cooch's Bridge
Michelle West	

GENEALOGY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Elizabeth Bak	Caesar Rodney	GEP 6
Mary Alice Kelly	Col. David Hall	GEP 3
Kristin Jones	Col. David Hall	GEP 3
Valarie Leary	Col. David Hall	GEP 1 & 2
Kim Bathes	Col. John Haslet	GEP 1 & 2
Sherri Clark	Cooch's Bridge	GEP 4 & 6
Julian Williams	Mary Vining	GEP 6

VIS Committee

Valarie Leary, State Chair
Deb Smith, Vice Chair

Many thanks to Deb Smith (Caesar Rodney) who is our website designer
EXTRAORDINAIRE!
The [Col. John Haslet website](#) has received NSDAR Recognized Site 2021 designation!



In process is Major Nathaniel Mitchell

Next up: Mary Vining and Caesar Rodney.

Colonel John Haslet Book Club

Deborah St. Jean (debbie@tnias.org)

The next book we will be discussing is *The British Are Coming: The War for America: Lexington to Princeton, 1775-1777* by Rick Atkinson. This is the first book in his three-part series on the American Revolution. It is available through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other book sellers, as well as through the Delaware library system. This exceptionally well-written book is just under 600 pages, but it is a fast and exciting read.

We will be discussing the ***British Are Coming*** sometime in July. The exact day will be determined once Chapter and Independence Day events are finalized.

This is the last book of our 2020-21 reading list. At the July meeting, we will identify the reading selections for our 2021-22 book group discussions. Currently, I am preparing a list of potential selections for us to consider reading. **If you would like to recommend a book for consideration, please send me the title and author by June 15.** As a reminder, the Col. John

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Haslet Book Group selections must be historical fiction, historical non-fiction, or other relevant period literature in keeping with the DAR mission. For your reference, I have attached a list of books we have already discussed.

Finally, for those of you on Facebook, I highly recommend the DAR Library Book Group. The Group has a wonderful reading list, provides opportunities to join other chapters' book discussions, and hosts discussions with the great authors.

I look forward to seeing everyone in July! On Tuesday evening, before Congress actually starts, the American Heritage Awards will be presented from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Kristen Jones from Col. David Hall and the Ladies from Cooch's Bridge are both recipients, so tune in.

130th CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

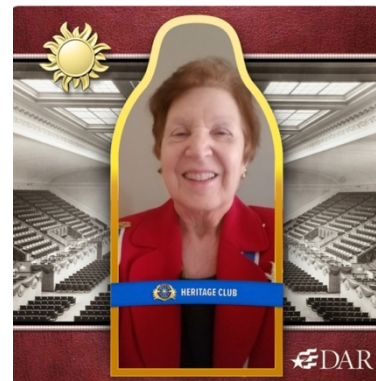
I encourage as many of you as possible to consider attending the Virtual 130th Continental Congress this summer. Conference begins Wednesday June 30th and concludes on Sunday July 4th 2021. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to enjoy congress from the comfort of your own living room. The larger sessions are live streamed so you don't have to dress for them. For the smaller zoom sessions, you will want to dress appropriately.

Last year's Virtual Congress was fantastic. Because we have learned so much this year about virtual platforms, The President General promises this year's Congress will be even more spectacular.

Delegates will be voting electronically, as we did last year. All delegates should have registered by April, 15th for credentialing, but it is not too late for other members to register. Remember to download your 139th Congress to your phone to

manage all the Congress activities you would like to attend.

Watch for 15 of our State Officers, Honorary Regents, and Chapter Regents who will have our "cutouts" in the refurbished Delaware Box. My Personal Conference Page, Margaret Onken, and Past President General, Elizabeth Seimes will be joining us. Pictures will be taken of the "cutout groups" like they do at live Congress.



On Tuesday evening, before Congress actually starts, the American Heritage Awards will be presented from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Kristen Jones from Col. David Hall and the Ladies from Cooch's Bridge are both recipients, so tune in.

On Wednesday, from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. are the opening Night Ceremonies. These events are a must see.



On Thursday June 25th, activities include the business meeting in the morning, the International Bazaar in the afternoon and the Educational Awards Night.

Friday morning is a Business Meeting and Friday Evening from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. is the Constitution Hall Celebration.

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Friday at 5:00 p.m. is the Delaware Cocktail Party sponsored by Cooches Bridge. This is a fun event for all our Delaware Daughters to socialize.

Saturday is voting in the morning and all Chapter Delegates will vote electronically. This is followed by a business meeting. Saturday night from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. is National Defense Night which is truly enjoyable.



Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. is the very moving Memorial Service for the Daughters we have lost during the year.

Also, Sunday is the installation of new Officers, State Regents and State Vice Regents.

Please check your Congress schedule and App for updates to the activities. Hope many of us will join us at Continental Congress.

Dr Gloria Lester
Delaware State Regent

The Delaware State Regent Pin



Funds raised from the sale of Starfish Pin go towards the refurbishing of the Delaware Box. This is part of the initiative to update Memorial Hall and it was suggested by

the office of Development that I take this on as my State Project, I think this is an excellent contribution to our National Society. The commitment for this project will be \$5000.00. As our President General says "We can do this".

My Second project is a donation to Casa San Francisco, a very worthy charitable social service organization in our own state. They supply emergency shelter, case management services, a food pantry and a senior food program. The case managers help clients develop and implement a plan that will focus on wellness and stabilizing their finances and living situation. In addition, Casa distributes gift cards for school supplies and Christmas gifts for children, Although, this is not specifically a service for veterans, many veterans do utilize their services and are linked to supportive services for veterans. I have put a lot of thought in choosing this organization and I believe this will be a very worthy local project.

You may order the Starfish pin by sending a check to me at Gloria Lester, 31685 Mill Creek Court, Lewes, De 19958, made out to the DSSNSDAR. We also have some of the Holly Pins left from the Beachell Administration. The pins are being sold for \$25 each pin and \$5 for shipping.

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Helpful Hints from the VIS, PR and Social Media, and VIS Committees:

Valarie Leary

The Delaware State Society DAR is on Facebook and Instagram!!



Open to Delaware State Society Members only.



The Delaware State Society Public Facebook



Delaware State Society Instagram

Click on the links above to like or follow! These are great tools for recognition and PR. As a State Society, we should support every chapter whenever possible so please post upcoming events and other happenings including outings and awards/recognition! If you have any questions, please contact Valarie Leary, State Corresponding Secretary and State VIS Chair at elzregina@gmail.com.

Our public social media is about:

- encouraging new membership and other volunteers,
- providing education about the NSDAR and its programs,
- creating public awareness of the chapter, the good that it does, and the needs that it meets in the community,
- as well as providing fun and social time for the members themselves.

Conservation Project

Karen Rink, NSDAR Palantine Chapter (UO)
(Birds and Blooms)

This is a fun project if you have children or grandchildren or if you simply enjoy watching the birds that visit your backyard.



These Bird Seed Cupcakes can be placed in a garlic or onion net bag and used to decorate a tree for feeding

wildlife. For our members, the time you spend making this recipe (or even buying a finished product at the grocery store) can be counted on the Service to America Tally on the DAR website, just log on with your member number. In the winter, birds benefit from a high-energy suet treat. You can feed the birds with this simple recipe for homemade Bird Seed Cupcakes, from Birds & Blooms. Ingredients: 1 cup shortening such as Crisco (or Pflanzenfett in Germany) 2 cups chunky peanut butter 5 cups cornmeal or similar flour Assorted nuts, birdseed or dried berries Directions: To make a bird seed cupcake, melt 1 cup shortening and 2 cups chunky peanut butter over low heat, then mix in 5 cups cornmeal. Fill cupcake tins and top with your choice of nuts, bird seed or dried berries. Cool in the refrigerator. To give as a gift, wrap with cellophane or environmentally friendly material.

For more information, consult the Wild Bird Feeding Guide from The Old Farmer's Almanac: [https:// www.almanac.com/feeding-wild-birdsguide-seed-types](https://www.almanac.com/feeding-wild-birdsguide-seed-types) Photo source: The Guardian Newspaper

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***Please remember to log your hours
online for Service to America!!!***



**National Service to America Project
from Home**

CALENDAR

- **May 30, 2021 ~ *Memorial Day Service***, 10:30 a.m., Delaware Memorial Bridge Veterans Park
- **June 5, 2021 ~ *Caesar Rodney's 125th Anniversary Party***, 11:30 a.m., Columbus Inn, (2216 Pennsylvania Ave, Wilmington, rescheduled from 2020!),
- **Oct 16, 2021 ~ State Fall Conference, *Caesar Rodney Chapter***
- **Nov. 11, 2021 ~** On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 2021, Americans will pause in silence to recognize those who have sacrificed and those who will sacrifice in the future in the defense of America's freedom and democracy.
- **April 23, 2022 ~ State Spring Conference, Open for bid**