



The BAR Tab

New Castle, Delaware

November/December 2023

Organized October 15, 2022



CALENDAR

January 17, 2023, 6 p.m.
DAR after Dark: Project Linus
201 Harmony St., New Castle

January 20, 2024; 10:30 a.m.: Museum of the American Revolution Visit

January 21, 2024:
Genealogy Workshop;
Kirkwood Highway Library –
6000 Kirkwood Hwy,
Wilmington DE 19808

February 17, 2024; 10:30 a.m.: Regular Chapter Meeting

March 16, 2024, 10:30 a.m.:
Regular Chapter Meeting -
DNA Presentation by Terri
Stern

March 25, 2024, 6 p.m.
Scotch and Bourbon Tasting;
Jessops Tavern

April 20, 2024, 10:30 a.m.:
Regular Chapter Meeting

Monday, April 22, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – Genealogy Workshop

April 27, 2024: Delaware State Society Spring Conference

Dear Daughters,

I promise you I have not been “dawdling around” as my mother would say. November and December were extraordinarily busy months in all aspects: work, DAR, Mayor, and personal. For that reason, I have combined the November and December newsletters to get it finished up and out to you.

On **January 17**, we will have a DAR after Dark gathering at my house to work on Project Linus blankets. Details are available later in this newsletter on page 13 and an email will go out in a few days. Also, a REMINDER that if you have not paid for your ticket to the Museum of the American Revolution visit on Saturday, **January 20, 2024**, please do so as soon as possible. Payment is due to the museum on January 6.

For those interested in Genealogy, the GED courses are currently buy one get one 50% off. The lowest priced course will be discounted. The sale will run from December 1st to January 3rd. This sale only runs once a year. These are great courses and I learned so much from them.

At the chapter’s preliminary meetings, it was expressed that people wanted to make use of technology as much as possible. The Battell and Read Chapter has opted to do so for ease of communication and “organization.”

- Email, Facebook and the chapter newsletter are your primary sources of communication. Please read your emails, this newsletter and Facebook (if you have it) to keep up to date.
- Our bylaws were written so that we can use electronic means to vote which means the use of Survey Monkey to facilitate voting.

- Sign up Genius is used to track signups when needed.*
- Wave is our accounting software used by the Treasurer.
- The chapter has a non-profit PayPal account (1.99% + .49 per transaction). We do ask that you please consider checking the box to cover the fees when using PayPal. You do not need to have a PayPal account to use PayPal.
- We still have Springly, a no fee processor, but many found Springly a bit more confusing. We will still use it on occasion.
- A Chapter Directory was sent to you by Deb Shetzler and will be updated quarterly. Please print and/or download this directory to reference addresses, phone numbers, emails, etc. of members, associates and prospective members.
- HundredX (the fundraiser discussed at the November meeting) is not yet confirmed.

We do realize that some of our members do not have Facebook so be sure to read your emails and respond if requested. An email will be sent out with more information once confirmed.

*It is requested that members utilize these links when received. It does really help with keeping track.

The November chapter meeting was held at The Read House and Gardens on November 18, 2023. It is a great place to have a meeting and I hope we get to do it again. When the weather is warmer, I would like the opportunity to induct new members in the parterre gardens next to the house. Those gardens are where the house of George and Gertrude Read stood (the latter

being one of our namesakes) before it burned down in the "Great Fire of 1830."

Denise and Deb were installed as Historian and Registrar. Both of them have already been serving in these offices during the chapter's charter year. Many thanks to them for continuing in these offices for this term.



Three new members were inducted... Mary Ellen Craig, Sandra Clay and Antoinette Maccari-Klingsberg. Deb Shetzler, Registrar and Sherrye Eaton, Assistant Registrar were certainly challenged by these applications, but learned so many lessons that will help with other applications in the future. I asked Deb to induct these three ladies to honor both her and Sherrye's hard work in making membership in the DAR a reality for these women.



NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

Card Signing for Active-Duty Personnel November 4, 2023



The Chapter Regent's pin belongs to the chapter, not to the individual Regent. In

this photo, Rebecca DeVore, Vice Regent is pinning on the Regent Pin. It is my honor to wear it to represent our chapter.



Welcome back to Deb Shetzer, Chapter Registrar, who had surgery and is doing well! Also, many thanks to Deb who gave a very interesting presentation on the challenges that encountered on Mary Ellen, Sandra and Antoinette's applications, and how they were resolved.

A brief 3-minute video was presented on "HundredX" which is a fundraising campaign we will initiate in January. If you were not in attendance, please view the video [here](#).

Onward to GREAT THINGS in 2024!

Valarie Leary
Regent



We had a fantastic turnout for card signing for Stockings for Soldiers! 493+ cards signed today with 100 more cards given to Sheila for her Boy Scout Troop to complete! Also, many thanks to the "Lions Club" ladies who joined us to help out.



STOCKINGS FOR SOLDIERS November 6, 2023



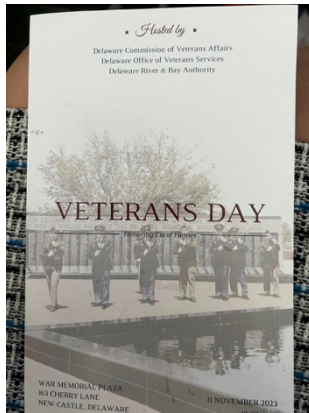
"Checker Girls" at Stockings for Soldiers this past Monday. Checking the stockings before

packing to make sure all is there and packed correctly is an important job! Thank you, ladies!!

VETERANS DAY SERVICE

November 11, 2023

Battell and Read chapter members represented the chapter and the Delaware State Society DAR at the Veterans Day Service sponsored by the Delaware Community Commission of Veteran Affairs and hosted by the Delaware River and Bay Authority held at the Veterans Memorial Park located off Cherry Lane in New Castle, Delaware.



It was an honor for us to meet Mr. Ray Firmani who is 102 years old and one of the dwindling numbers of survivors from WW II. He has a book written about his life which you can find on Amazon or check out from your local library.



Our **December meeting** was our Holiday Tea on December 2. Our chapter welcomed our State Regent, installed our Chaplain, recognized a 20 year member, learned more about the Boston Tea Party and honored local

Revolutionary War Patriots, as well as Patriots George and Gertrude Read.

DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

The Battell and Read Holiday Tea

December 2, 2023

Thank you to everyone who helped set up, clean up, prepared food, and more! It was a great event that welcomed members, prospective members and our State Regent Barbara Seningen (who loved the tea!).

There were many lovely fascinators and hats; Boston Tea Party Bingo tested our history knowledge; and we took the time to honor those Revolutionary War Patriots in the Immanuel on the Green Cemetery.



Congratulations to Tracy Walsh on her 20-year DAR Anniversary and to Laurie Lorenz on being (re)installed as Chaplain.





DAR OPEN HOUSE December 6, 2023

The DAR Open House is a wonderful time to come see your house beautiful! Several Delaware DAR daughters carpoled there.



This is something we need to consider for next year. (Hint: it is relatively inexpensive to travel there via Amtrak if you buy your ticket well in advance).



President General Pamela Edwards Rouse Wright and Ginnie Sebastian Storage, First Vice President General



Property Beautification and Hospitality Committee

Spirit of Christmas December 9, 2023

Thank you to all who volunteered as docents in Laurie's home. We were all so busy we forgot to take photos!

This one is of Laurie's egg tree in the music room/front parlor.



December 16, 2024 Wreaths Across America

Thank you to those who were able to participate. Janet Rossiter sent photos including one with a gentleman who is a WWII Vet and 100 years old!



This photo is of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. While I was not able to attend WAA on December 16, I was in D.C. for Christmas and visited the wall. The wreaths were placed here as well as at the other memorials on the National Mall.



law, Jenn Leary to be my "+1." I share these photos with you.



**REGENT AT THE WHITE HOUSE
December 16, 2023**

And finally, while not a chapter event, color me surprised when I received an invitation to a Holiday Reception at the White House! My husband did not want to attend so I asked my sister-in-



SERVICE TO AMERICA

274%

As of December 24, 2023, we have 1,482.25 Service to America Hours logged for 2023, with the goal of 540 hours for the year.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

DID YOU KNOW that the below activities ALL count as Service to America hours:

- Volunteering at local historical societies or associations
- Volunteering in schools, hospitals, and churches
- Volunteering with other lineage societies outside of DAR
- Transporting or sitting with those facing medical issues (non-family members)
- Service as a DAR chapter / C.A.R. senior society, state or national officer; committee chairman, vice chairman, co-chairman, committee member, etc. This includes all planning, communication, board meetings, and committee meetings.

If you need help logging hours, or are unsure if your hours count, please contact Valarie.

**That is 30 hours per member for the year and is also based on the # of members on January 1, 2023 which was 18. In 2024, with 25 members (so far), the hours will be 750.*

Log your **Service to America** hours [here!](#)

APPLICATION / TRANSFER STATUS

Currently, we have 8 prospective members on the list with 6 being “in process” and 2 “on hold.”

- “In-Process” means the applications are actively being researched and the Registrar is waiting for specific documents to be provided.
- “On-Hold” means they have asked to pause in the application process.

What’s a QUORUM? And why should you care

Our by-laws state that a quorum is 50% + 1 of our membership. *We have 25 members as of November 5, 2023 and our quorum will change to 13.*

A quorum is the **minimum number** of members that must be present at any of its meetings to make the proceedings of that meeting valid. A meeting quorum is required at our chapter meetings for the purpose of conducting and voting on new chapter business. Without it we can’t make motions, change bylaws, initiate group projects, purchase items, donate money, and so forth. **Please plan to attend as many meetings as possible so we can meet the quorum needed to achieve our chapter goals.**

GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS 2024

The Battell & Read Chapter – Genealogy Workshop Schedule of 2024

All dates are approximate unless otherwise noted. Dates may need to be revised based on availability of meeting places, speakers, and/or

member attendance. Advance notice will be given on dates needing to be changed.

Weekday Workshops will start at 6:30PM and Weekend Workshops will start at 1:30PM, unless otherwise noted.

Sunday January 21, 2024, 1:30 p.m.,
Kirkwood Highway Library – 6000 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington DE

Monday February 19, 2024 To Be Determined (TBD)

Saturday, March 16, 2024, 10:30 a.m. - DNA
Presentation by Terri Stern, Location TBD

Monday, April 22, 2024, 6:30 p.m. - TBD

Monday, May 20, 2024, 6:30 p.m. - TBD

Monday, June 17, 2024, 6:30 p.m. - TBD

**JULY & AUGUST = see note below

Monday, September 23 ,2024, 6:30 p.m. - TBD

Monday, October 21, 2024, 6:30 p.m. - TBD

Monday, November 18, 2024, 6:30 p.m. - TBD

December 2024 – NO WORKSHOP – MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

I'm hoping to plan a Field Trip Workshop and if things work out it will take place in either July or August 2024. Otherwise, you'll get a break during the summer.

GENIE TIP OF THE MONTH

Sherrye Eaton, Assistant Registrar

LAND RECORDS, Part 1

Land records can hold a major source of genealogical information. They often include an ancestor's county of residence, names of relatives, when he arrived and left the area. Using land and property records effectively requires knowledge of the land development and those records produced to document land ownership. Some of those records would include:

Land Abstract – is a summary of all documents recorded against the property. They may be deeds, mortgages, liens, satisfactions, easements, or contracts. These documents are recorded against each piece of land in the official records for the county in the Country Records Office.

Land Patent – is a form of letters patent assigning official ownership of a particular tract of land that has gone through various legally-prescribed processes like surveying and documentation, followed by the letter's signing, sealing, and publishing in public records, made by a sovereign entity.

Land Deed – is a legal document that affirms or confirms an interest, right, or property and that is signed, attested, delivered and in some jurisdictions, sealed. It is associated with transferring title to property.

"40 Acres and a Mule (slaves)" – is a common phrase used to describe General William T. Sherman's Special Field Orders #15, which in January 1865 laid out redistribution of Confederate land in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida to former slaves under certain conditions. That land was quickly returned to white Southerners by President Andrew Johnson in the fall of 1865. Lesser-known is the Union's seizure and redistribution of land on

South Carolina's Sea Islands under the US Revenue Act of 1862. Under that law, the US seized lands from Southern landowners who did not pay taxes to the Union. When the Emancipation Proclamation took effect in 1863, freed slaves were able to buy land sold at auction. Though many black farmers kept the land they bought from the tax auction, the original owners were later compensated for it.

Land Indenture – is a legal contract that reflects or covers a debt or purchase obligation. It is typically used for indentured labor or a term of apprenticeship but also for certain land transactions. An example would be an indentured servant that has been transported from another country to this one and works off a period-of-time to the person who transported them here. An Indentured servant usually served a period of 5-7 years of service and that was given land as trade-off.

Bounty Land Warrant – is a grant of free land issued to veterans in return for military service from the time of the Revolutionary War through 1855 in the United States. A land warrant application is a request to purchase a certain amount of land in a particular locality from the State government.

Land Lease – is a when you own the house while leasing the land it sits on. An example would be a mobile home in a mobile home park. You may own the mobile home but you pay rent on the lot it sits upon.

Homestead Application – is a legal process that allows homeowners to reduce the amount of property taxes they owe on their legal residence. It is also a mandate that shields a homeowner from the loss of his or her home.

Land Contract – is a legal agreement where the owner finances the buyers purchase on a piece of real estate. Its often a contract to buy a house plus the land under and around it.

Quitrent Rolls – are when Colonial officials and landholders conspired to undermine the compilation of an accurate rent roll. The quitrents that were collected were used to pay the salaries of important officials, such as the chief justice, the attorney general, and the provost marshal. The Revolutionary War ended the quitrent system.

Land Grants – are a gift of real estate made by a government. It can be given as an incentive or reward for services to an individual, especially in return for military service.

Tax Lists – is a listing of taxable person or property or both within a taxing district and often the tax assessed on each. They can help establish ages, residences, relationships, and the year an individual died or left the area. They can be used in the place of missing or destroyed land and census records.

Plat Books – are group of maps that show how a particular area is divided into streets, parks, etc. They can be used to understand the layout of a home-owners property and the surrounding area. They can also be used to identify the location of easement, rights-of-way, and other restrictions on the use of their property.

Entry Books – contain claims recorded with a surveyor or county clerk by a person who has filled the requirements for claiming the property. They are important for family historians to located property of ancestors and neighbors, and for clue to find associated land records.

Land Survey – is a technique to determine a property's points and distances between them. It is used to define the boundaries and features of a parcel of land.

Land Claims – is the pursuit of recognized territorial ownership by an individual. They are usually made to address wrongs made against

people, their rights, and lands, by the federal and provincial or territorial governments. Claim ownership gives the claimant property rights to otherwise public land.

Most land and property records are filed on the town and county level. Many land and property records are microfilmed at the LDS Church in Salt Lake City and can also be viewed on Family Search. Indexes to grantors (sellers) and grantees (buyers) exist for most counties.

Land records that are of the most interest to genealogists are the land entry case files. These records document the transfer of public lands from the US Government to private ownership. The National Archives houses over ten million records of individual land transactions. These records were filed either as military bound land warrants, pre-1908 general land entry files, or as post-1908 land entry files.

Land records can be useful for historical, legal, and genealogical research. They form the foundation of the title chain of land ownership. Additional research is needed to identify subsequent title owners and be conducted in the city, county, and state repositories. Depending upon the type and time-period of the land entry, the case file may yield only a few facts already known to the researcher or it may present new insights about ancestors, family history, title, and land use issues. A good source to read on land records that may be worth checking into is "The Homestead Act of 1862."

HISTORY CORNER

(and in line with this "Christmas Edition")

On the evening of 25 Dec. 1776, Washington ordered his troops to gather near McKonkey's Ferry on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River. From here a contingent of

boats successfully transported troops and artillery equipment over the ice-filled river to New Jersey. By 4 a.m. on 26 December, the troops were ready to advance on Trenton, where Hessian troops were stationed.



Washington Crossing the Delaware by Emanuel Leutze, 1851 (The Metropolitan Museum of Art)

WONDERING WHAT TO DO?

Help make records more accessible by indexing [Patriot Records](#) or [Genealogical Records](#) [Support active duty military](#) and [veterans](#) [Serve your community](#) and [record your hours](#) Improve your genealogical skills by [taking a course](#) or [viewing a lecture](#) Deepen your understanding of DAR by [taking a free course](#) or [view a webinar](#)

AND please see the DAR from Home at the back of the newsletter.

No-Sew Fleece Blanket

Project Linus fleece blankets should be created with one layer of fleece, not two.

Materials Needed

- ♥ 1½ to 2 yards fleece
- ♥ Pen or marker
- ♥ Very sharp fabric scissors
- ♥ Masking tape

Instructions

Step 1

Using sharp scissors and a long ruler, remove the selvage from each edge along the length of the fleece. *The selvage sometimes has words printed on it or can be a different texture and/or color.* The trimmed edge must be a straight, smooth line.



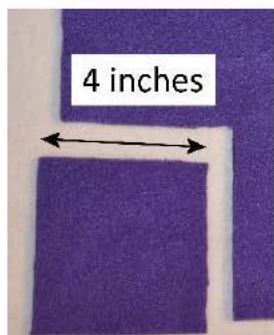
Example of selvage with words



Example of un-even selvage that should be trimmed straight

Step 2

Cut a four-inch square out of each corner of the fleece.



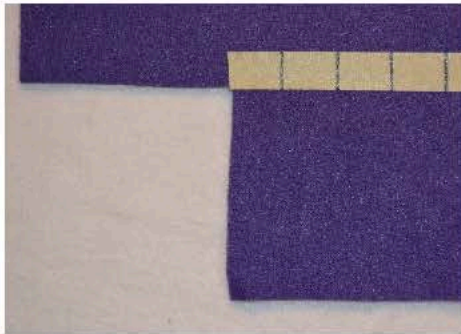
Step 3

With the fabric lying flat on a table, place masking tape from one side to the other four inches from the bottom edge of the fabric. Use the 4" cut-out corners as a guide.



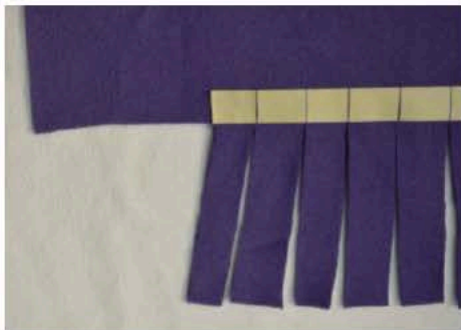
Step 4

Using a ruler as a guide, mark lines every inch along the masking tape with a pen or marker. **DO NOT** mark directly on the fleece.



Step 5

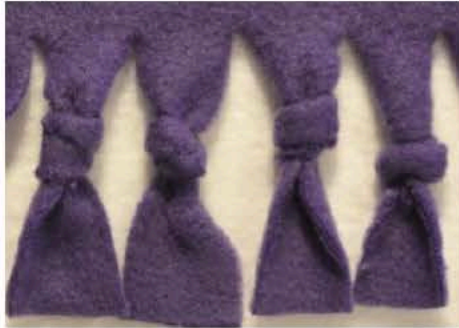
Starting from one side, cut a straight line up to the tape at each mark. The fringe will measure 1" x 4." After finishing the fringe on the first side, pick up the tape and place it on the next side. Cut fringe as before. Repeat moving the tape and cutting the fringe on the remaining sides of the fleece.



Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

Step 6



Tie a knot in the middle of each fringe.



Do not tie the fringe too tightly or at the base of the fringe.



The blanket must lay flat when finished.

Extra Notes

- ♥ **SMOKING:** Project Linus cannot accept any blankets that have been made or stored in a smoking environment.
- ♥ **PETS:** If you have a pet, please wash & dry the blanket and place it in a plastic bag. Check for pet hair before donating.
- ♥ **FABRIC:** Use only fleece. Do not create a tied blanket using flannel, cotton, wool or corduroy.

Before donating, spread the fleece blanket out on a table. If it does not lay flat, the fringe has been knotted too tightly. Please loosen the knots.



HOW TO BE AN ACTIVE DAUGHTER WHEN YOU CAN'T ATTEND THE MEETINGS (OR HOW TO PARTICIPATE FROM YOUR HOME)

- Be on the phone committee.
- Enter your handiwork or literary work in the American Heritage contests
- Recycle paper, plastics, glass and aluminum cans
- Plant trees and shrubs, conserve water and electricity
- Subscribe to our DAR magazine: give a gift subscription to a library, school, professional office or person
- Collect household items and clothes for the local thrift stores
- Save Campbell Soup Company label UPCs and Box Tops for Education for the DAR schools
- Cut coupons for military personnel and send to your chapter
- Donate to or purchase items to fund the President General's Project and/or State Regent's project
- Purchase the NSDAR calendar, address labels or cards
- Send cards or notes to ill or grieving members
- Notify your Chapter Chaplain of illnesses or deaths in families of members you know
- Make a memorial donation or Honor someone with a donation to Tamassee or another DAR school, or to your Chapter, State or National Scholarship funds or our DAR library
- Tutor reading or Teach English as a second language and let your Chapter Regent know
- Notify Chapter Regent of a possible scholarship or Outstanding American History Teacher candidates
- Notify Chapter Regent of possible Historic Preservation or Community Service Award recipients
- Send paperback books or personal items for Veteran patients through your chapter
- Volunteer at a local historic site or enter your historic home in a charitable tour
- Share your research with relatives and refer them to your Membership Chairman or Registrar
- Index books for our DAR library and earn your Bookworm pin
- Join in the fun of Genealogy Preservation from home in your pajamas! (enter information from apps and supporting documentation into our searchable database)
- Read to your children or grandchildren to promote literacy
- Teach your children and grandchildren about our history through celebrations and visits to museums and historical sites.
- Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper or your Congressman
- Wear your DAR pin
- Fly the American Flag
- Vote!

A call out will be sent at the end of the year to find out who might have done any of these suggested items.

Can you think of additional activities?