



Virgin Valley Chapter E-Newsletter

Regent's Message:

[Our New Website!](#) VirginValleyDAR.org

One of the goals I've had as Regent of our Chapter was to have a website built so we could share our activities with our community and other Chapters. We were blessed to have Brenda Yocum volunteer her time and talents to build us a site. Brenda worked in IT at a Colorado school district as Project Coordinator for 25 years then retired to Mesquite a few years back. Since then, she has volunteered to build other nonprofit websites here in Mesquite and is also a regular volunteer for other organizations in Mesquite for golf events and Catholic charities. Three of us were involved in the creation of this site. Brenda served as the master architect, I provided much of the initial site content, and Amy Bradshaw has been handling the cosmetic tweaks and general maintenance. We are so thankful to Brenda and her generous spirit for making this all possible and we all hope you enjoy our site. We look forward to expanding the site in the near future so be sure to visit often.



In DAR Service and Friendship,

Leigh Roessner

Regent – VVDAR

Chapter Officers - July 2024

Regent - Leigh Roessner - leighdc98@hotmail.com

Vice Regent - Pending

Treasurer - Amy Bradshaw - amyebadshaw@gmail.com

Recording Secretary - Nancy Blanco -
nancy.e.blanco@att.net

Librarian - Candy Kammerman - candykamslc@gmail.com

Parliamentarian - Carol Livingston -
livingston.carol@yahoo.com

Registrar – Vicki Clift – vickijclift@gmail.com



President General's Message – Pamela Rouse Wright – 2024

Dear Daughters,

We hope that you had a memorable experience at the 133rd Continental Congress. The pomp and circumstance never grow old, and our National Executive Board left feeling recharged and excited for the upcoming DAR year as we *Celebrate Stars and Stripes Forever!*

On July 3, 1776, John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, that the date of American independence “ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade ... Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more.” Freedom is something to be celebrated and not forgotten! As we mark the 248th anniversary of our nation’s founding this year, let us pause to think about how much this moment meant to our Patriot Ancestors so long ago. Whether on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., or in your local community, we hope that you will come together to share your patriotism.

Many chapter leaders will transition this month. Please encourage and assist your new leaders as they grow into their roles! For those planning chapter meetings for the upcoming year, one extremely useful resource is the “Chapter Programs” webpage in the “Resources” section of the DAR Members’ Website. Hundreds of downloadable programs are available across many DAR committees and are accessible to all members. The “Committee Corner” and “With the Chapters” sections of the *Daughters* Newsletter are also a great place to look for inspiration.

Finally, this August marks the bicentennial of the kickoff of Marquis de Lafayette’s Farewell Tour. In 1824, Lafayette, who was the last surviving Major General of the Revolutionary War, arrived in New York City upon the invitation of President James Monroe and the United States Congress. He then began what was planned as a 4-month journey to visit the United States. The public outpouring was so immense that Lafayette’s stay in America became a 13-month journey to all 24 states! The DAR Franco-American Memorial Committee has compiled a dashboard of resources on the committee’s webpage to learn about the Farewell Tour as well as upcoming opportunities to participate in commemorations.

We hope that your summer months are filled with relaxation, family and friends. Thank you so much for all you do for the National Society. Let us *Rejoice in Our DAR Ties of Service and Friendship!*

Pamela Rouse Wright
President General

To read more from the President General go to: <https://www.dar.org/> and sign in with your member ID - There you will see a box on the right hand side with a link to the President’s General’s Message.



From the Regent – *What does historic preservation mean?*

I am often asked what is DAR? The short answer is DAR is a non-political, service organization comprised of women that can trace their lineage to a Patriot of the American Revolutionary War.

A more complete answer would be to add a service organization that focuses on Patriotism, Education and Historic Preservation. The Virgin Valley Chapter participates in several activities and events year-round that fall into one or more of the above categories. Some examples are Constitution Week with “Bells Across America”, our annual Veteran’s Fundraising Event and DAR day of Service. (Please see attached flyers for all 3 events) Traditionally in DAR, historic preservation has been associated with cemetery/headstone cleaning and maintenance as well as museum outreach programs. The DAR Museum in Washington DC houses an extensive collection of decorative and fine arts from the country prior to the Industrial Revolution. Virtual tours allow the public to view its 30,000 objects of historical significance. www.dar.org/museum



Another historic DAR building, Memorial Continental Hall, was built in 1905 to serve as the organization’s national headquarters and to hold our annual conventions. Today, it is the epicenter of DAR activities, and is home to one of the world’s most important genealogical libraries. Memorial Continental Hall offers space available to rent to the public for an array of different occasions and is the theme of this year’s American Heritage Contest.

An important aspect of historic preservation is remembering our American Heritage. As a DAR member, you are eligible to enter this year’s American Heritage Contest – “*Memorial Continental Hall: Our Monument to the Patriots of the American Revolution*”. With triple digits upon us, now is the time to appreciate inside activities. Contest categories include the following: Art & Sculpture, Crafts, Fiber Arts, Jewelry, Literature, Music and Photography. Also, each category has several sub-categories within them so there are plenty of mediums to choose from. This is a way we can help preserve our American Heritage. Any DAR member is welcome to enter her artwork or craft, for contest rules and entry forms please go to:

<https://www.dar.org/members/committees/service-committees/american-heritage/contest-forms>

The Great War: Paw Pals

By Sarah Towne-di Cicco, National Constitution Week Committee Member;
CA State Chair National Defense Committee; Regent, Martin Severance Chapter, Pasadena, CA

By 1916, the trench warfare along the Western Front, had created an impenetrable thicket of barbed wire and landmines. Communication and supply lines to the West were tenuous at best. Rescuing the wounded and delivering needed food and armaments to the troops along the western-most lines was a perilous undertaking. The solution to some of these challenges was the creation of a canine corps, or “War Dogs.” These dogs became prized for their abilities to maneuver through the treacherous terrain, ensuring rapid communications, essential provisioning, and arming, and providing search and rescue services.



Struck by stray bullet searching for wounded, with Army doctor

In France, breeder associations proudly sent their best dogs to the central canine recruiting station outside Paris.

Each new recruit was issued a service number, training notebook, service and medical records, and equipment. After a medical exam and a thorough washing, the dog would acclimate to life away from home with other new arrivals, sorted by breed and size. Each was evaluated by ability and aptitude. Then, they were enrolled in specialized training clusters to master their tasks through repetition, affection, and treats: specially baked dog biscuits. After about 2 months, they graduated as certified War Dogs.

Large supply dogs wore saddle bags filled with food, like hot soup and bread, from field kitchens. They also could carry up to 440 pounds of armaments. Smaller “cigarette dogs” were trained to bring morale boosters, such as cigarettes, tobacco, and chocolate. Their arrival was always cause for celebration.

The finest messenger dogs were the small Pyrenean sheep dogs. Nicknamed “little bears,” they had large paws, stout chests, coats reminiscent of a cross between a sheep and a goat, and were remarkably intelligence and cunning. They could cover 30 miles with ease and maneuver their way through barbed wire and shell holes, avoiding machine gun fire and snipers by weaving and zooming close to the ground. Because dog handlers could be injured or killed in a war zone, the dogs were trained to recognize a handkerchief-sized “flag” rather than a specific handler. They would report to whichever French soldier held the flag. Fierce fighters, they would tear apart any enemy in their way. One general remarked, “Never has one breed paid such a heavy ransom. The lives saved by this little mountain dog number in the tens of thousands.”

Comfort dogs searched for the wounded near the front, carrying brandy, water, and medical supplies. If the wounded soldier was able, he could access some brandy to ease his pain, water to quench his thirst, and tend his wounds as best he could. The dog would carry a piece of his clothing back to the rescuers and then lead them to the wounded soldier. These dogs would also nestle beside the mortally injured to provide warm sympathy Many owed their lives to these dogs.

Britain established its own War Dog training center, with the U.S. taking note of the benefit these dogs were to the troops. WWII would bring renewed interest, with many dogs trained and deployed overseas. Inspired by the War Dogs, dogs continue to be trained to hunt for survivors after natural disasters, discover contraband and explosives hidden from view, and be the eyes for the blind and feet for the disabled. Their intelligence, devotion, and faithfulness are unparalleled.

Select Bibliography: -Herreros, Joel. Le berger des Pyrénées, Paris: Editions de Vecchi, S.A., 1998. -Duconté, Charles and Sabouraud, J.-A. Les chiens Pyrénéens. Paris: Crepin-Leblond et Cie Editeurs, 1967. -Patricia Hodeisne, Les animaux dans la Grande Guerre Partie I, Les “animaux de guerre” vus par leurs contemporains français, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, 2022.

To read more from the National Defender go to: <https://www.dar.org/> and sign in with your member ID. There you will see a box on the right hand side with the link to the National Defender.

Chapter Spotlight

VVDAR Chapter Registrar



Vicki Clift is the Virgin Valley DAR Chapter Registrar. The chapter registrar is someone assigned to assist prospective members and to help prepare and submit applications for verification. Ultimately, you are responsible for obtaining the documents needed for your application; however, the registrar can assist you with locating exactly what is required. If additional help is needed, the registrar can tap into DAR's very large volunteer network for assistance. You are not by any means alone in this process. Once your application is approved, the chapter registrar can provide you with either a printed copy of the verified application or an electronic version.

Vicki's experience and dedication to the DAR will no doubt prove invaluable in helping prospective members prove their lineage to an American Revolutionary War Patriot. With the population of Mesquite growing, there are plenty of DAR members from cities and states around the country that are welcome to transfer their membership to their new residence of Mesquite.

August Dates of Note

August 14, 1935 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act, establishing a permanent national senior pension system through employer and employee contributions.

August 18, 1920 – The United States Congress approved a women's suffrage amendment to the U.S. Constitution and three-fourths of the states ratified it.

August 26, 1776 – British troops attacked American forces stationed on the western end of Long Island, in present day Brooklyn, by that evening many Americans had been captured, killed, or driven further west.

August 28, 1963 - some 200,000 people marched on Washington, D.C., an event that became a high point of the civil rights movement, especially remembered for the famous "I Have a Dream" speech of Martin Luther King, Jr.



July Vets Chat

Mesa Valley Estates Assisted Living Residents

Ruth Dickie & Mesa Valley Resident



For July's Vets Chat, DAR members brought and served lunch to resident Veteran's at Mesa Valley Estates assisted living facility. Veterans enjoyed homemade meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans and pie! Our chapter always enjoys spending time with and honoring our veterans here in Mesquite. *There is no Vets Chat scheduled for August.

Nancy Blanco, Leigh Roessner, Sandy Ball

Leigh Roessner, Sandy Ball, Nancy Blanco, Ruth Dickie



Fall Calendar

- September 17th – Bells Across America (*see flyer*)
- September 18th – Mr. Jeff McKenna presentation at City Hall 5pm
- September 20th – Liberty Bus Tour @ Beaver Dam Elementary School
students starting at 9am, DAR members 12 noon
- September 21st – Flag Retirement Ceremony 9-10:30 at the Mesquite Veterans Ctr
Followed by DAR Regular Meeting at 10:30 am
- October 10th – DAR day of Service (*see flyer below*)
- October 12th – **DAR Regular Meeting 10 am**
- October 16th – Vets Chat at Mesa Valley Estates 10:30am
- October 26th – Sun City Garage Sale (*see attached instructions*)
- November 2nd – **DAR Regular Meeting 10 am**
- November 6th – 10 am Wreath Laying at Veteran’s Memorial Park (*Hillside Dr*)
10:30 am Wreath Laying at Mesquite City Cemetery (*Hardy Way*)
- November 9th – 5th Annual Veterans Fundraising Party “A Country Western Jamboree” (*see flyer*)
- November – Vets Chat (*TBD*)
- December 14th – **DAR Regular Meeting 10 am**

Attention - Virgin Valley Chapter Members

Our annual Service to America program will be a bit different this year.

Save the Date! ~ Please Come! ~ Service to America program! ~ Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024 1PM

We will be honoring/saluting/thanking the Mesquite Police Department. The plan is for as many of us as can, to be there wearing our DAR shirts. We will have a large 'Thank You' card, which will be signed at the September meeting. We will have some treats for the police people. We will be inviting the press to come and take photos for the local paper and for DAR. This idea is from the “DAR Salute to Service” initiative. The idea is to submit our 'salute' to the police service to the National organization.

Thank you, in advance for supporting this opportunity to thank those who serve, protect, and defend our home.

Most sincerely,

Sandy Ball

Service to America/State Co-Chair/Chapter Chair

Sun City Community Garage Sale

Saturday, October 26th - 7am - 2 pm

Virgin Valley Chapter members, Ruth is graciously volunteering to participate in the Sun City garage sale to raise money for our chapter. If you have items that you would like to donate, please have them to Ruth’s house on Friday October 25th by noon. Please include “suggested” prices on your donated items. We are also looking for volunteers to help set up, work the sale and clean up! To coordinate or volunteer please email: rmdickie.rd@gmail.com or text 702-803-4321

Don't Forget To:

Enter your *Service to America* online Tally, you can do this on the NSDAR website or scan this *QR code*



Be sure to subscribe to *American Spirit Magazine* now so you will be signed up in time to receive the Sept/Oct issue of *Daughter's Newsletter*. In which VVDAR will have their first submission in "With the Chapters"!





**COME JOIN THE VIRGIN VALLEY
CHAPTER
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
*BELLS ACROSS AMERICA***

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
501 HILLSIDE DR, MESQUITE, NV

SHORT PROGRAM BEGINNING AT 12:15 P.M.

GUEST SPEAKER: JEFFREY J MCKENNA, HISTORIAN
AUTHOR OF SAVING DR. WARREN... "A TRUE PATRIOT"

BELL RINGING AT 1:00 P.M.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE SIGNING OF THE US
CONSTITUTION, BELLS WILL RING OUT ALL ACROSS
AMERICA AT 4:00 P.M. (EDT). IT WAS AT THIS TIME THAT
THE SIGNERS OF THE CONSTITUTION USED A QUILL PEN
AND INK TO SIGN THIS FAMOUS DOCUMENT.

BELLS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A DONATION OR BRING
YOUR OWN. BRING A LAWN CHAIR IN WHICH TO SIT.



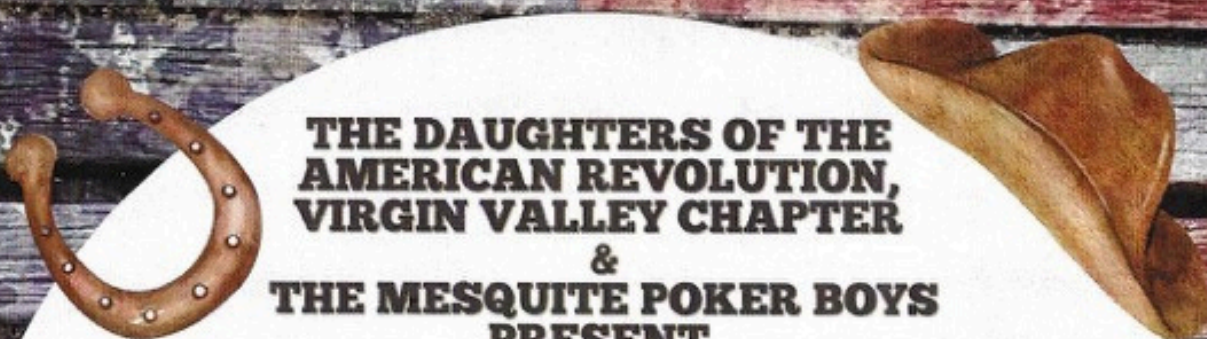
2024–2025 American Heritage Committee Theme:



**Memorial Continental Hall:
Our Monument to the Patriots
of the American Revolution**

Historic Dress: 1905

What would you wear to the first Continental Congress in our building?



**THE DAUGHTERS OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION,
VIRGIN VALLEY CHAPTER
&
THE MESQUITE POKER BOYS
PRESENT**

★ *5th Annual Veterans Party* ★
“A COUNTRY WESTERN JAMBOREE”



**A tribute to the Veterans of Mesquite to raise
funds for the Mesquite Veterans Center.**

**Featuring live country music, buffet,
cash bar, silent auction & more!**

Tickets \$25.00 per person

Saturday, November 9, 2024

2:00pm - 5:30pm

Virgin River Event Tent

100. E Pioneer Blvd

**Tickets available at the
Mesquite Fine Arts Center**

Western Attire Encouraged



MESQUITE GAMING

