



The Silver Arrow Newsletter

Vol 1

August 2016

Invite, Inquire, Inspire - Team DAR!

Welcome...

to our first newsletter of the Dillon Administration!

We are excited about ***moving forward in service to America*** through DAR chapters across the country and around the world. We **INVITE** you to tell us about your chapter successes and to **INQUIRE** about concerns you have, and hope that we can **INSPIRE** you with great ideas from other chapters and states.

We hope to have many great ideas to share with you over the next three years. We want to hear about how your chapter is involving and welcoming prospective and new members, how you are providing encouragement and opportunities for your members to become informed and educated about DAR, and how you are enlisting your core members in building your chapter into a successful team.

Please send us your questions, ideas and success stories, along with photos of your members involved in activities and events where your chapter is showing its vitality

and fulfilling the mission of DAR in service to your communities!
Go TEAM DAR!!!



*Susan Thomas
Membership Chair*

The Prospective Member Database (PMD)...

A tool every chapter NEEDS to use!!

The PMD is a tool available to chapters to help manage the INtroduction and application process of prospective members. Every chapter has a PMD listing and it can be found on e-membership. Chapter Regents should share the PMD PIN code with appointed chapter members who help with the chapter's PMD list. Using the following link and the PIN code, those with no e-membership access can assist the chapter: http://emembership.DAR.ORG/DAR/PMD_chapter/ Prospective members are assigned to states through the national website relay system. The appointed state chairman or vice chairman then assigns these members to chapters closest to them. It is the chapter's responsibility to contact these prospective members promptly (within a week) and INVite them to a meeting or event and give them information about the application process. Check out the PMD webinar at <http://www.dar.org/members/committees/standing-committees/dar-leadership-training/webinar-new-deadlines-reports-and-1>

Your chapter can also add prospective members to this list who have come to the chapter through means other than the PMD relay system. This way, all of your chapter's prospective members can be in one list and managed and viewed as one report. It is important that your PMD list is maintained so we spend our efforts on those who are enthusiastic about membership.

Instructions for PMD users can be found here: <https://emembership.dar.org/DAR/forms/pmdchapter.pdf>



*Lori Cook
Member Recruitment Vice Chair*

Expand your Horizons through New Learning Opportunities!

Ever wonder, who was our first President General and what inspired and sparked previous Presidents General to join and to eventually lead our society? Ever wonder how you can get involve in learning more about DAR and serving America through DAR? Then, do we have an opportunity for you!

The Dillon Administration is excited to introduce two new programs, which offer training opportunities for new members and budding DAR leaders, called the New Members Course and the New Horizons Course respectively. Each course has its own NSDAR Core Curriculum and is to be led and administered by a State Coordinator. Each state may modify their courses to include state-centric material, but at the heart of each course is the Core Curriculum provided by NSDAR.

If you are a new member or a new member at heart and are interested in the New Members Course, reach out and get involved! Are you a budding DAR leader and interested in learning more about our society and gaining the knowledge, confidence, and expertise to lead and guide others? Then the New Horizons course is for you!

For either of these two courses, ask your chapter regent or your state Membership Chair for the name and contact information of your state's course coordinator. If they cannot assist you, please do not hesitate to contact the National Vice Chair of Member Training. She would be happy to assist you in getting involved.



*Janet McFarland
Member Training Vice Chair*

Prosperity...

and you will find rest for your souls...

Fall means back to DAR!

As we approach the new DAR year that includes a new national administration, it's the perfect time to **involve**, **support** and **energize** your members.

Involve members by touching base with a few members you don't know well or haven't seen in a while. Give them a call. Chat for a bit. Ask them to become involved in some small way. They could review the chapter website for suggestions for improvement. Ask them about their Service to America activities for inclusion in the report.

Support committee chairs by making sure they have the latest NIP as well as state information. Answer their questions and let them know how much you value their service. Ask them what you can do to help them. Remind them that assistance is only a phone call or email away.

Energize your members by featuring the new programs and initiatives of the Dillon Administration at your chapter's next meeting or in your newsletter. The new Community Classroom Committee promotes ways to encourage local teachers and students. The Dillon Spirit of Service



*Pamela Marshall
Member Involvement & Retention Vice Chair*

Arrow points away from ourselves in a westward direction in recognition of our many ancestors who expanded this nation from sea to shining sea!

Encourage your members to check out the Members' Website for all the latest happenings!

Members at Large (MAL) ...

Opportunities to be INVOLVED!

What a perfect Continental Congress we had! I hope many of you were able to attend!

On *Celebrate America!* Night, one of our Members At Large and I had a fruitful discussion! This young woman is a Navy wife, and said her husband is never assigned anywhere long enough for her to become active in a chapter, so she and I discussed ways to be involved in DAR activities while she maintains her Member At Large status.

Obviously, she knew she could attend Continental Congress, Page, and be part of a Congress committee, but some other opportunities for DAR service that we discussed included contacting a nearby chapter to request to participate in one of their outreach activities, and volunteering online to help with the Patriot Records Project, the Genealogy Preservation Project, or the Genealogy Records Project.

Check out the web pages designed with you in mind: <http://www.dar.org/members/committees/national-committees/membership/members-large-marion-%E2%80%9Cmur%E2%80%9D-gardiner-hiltbrand>.

There are many reasons a woman may hold Member at Large membership, but never let that keep you from becoming involved and active in this organization we all love!



Mur Hiltenbrand
Members at Large Vice Chair



What a Great Idea!

Our California chapter has been busy increasing chapter membership. The chapter has formed a membership committee and this team met in July for the third time for a pot luck lunch and training at a member's home. We **INVITE** interested prospectives to be members of the committee and found that this gets the prospectives engaged very quickly. ***The chapter's goal is to become more visible in the community, thereby generating more prospectives.***

To that end, chapter members have spoken at the local *Roots and Gold Dust Genealogical Society* which generated a new prospective member, and we now have an active publicity chair who recently placed a news release in the local paper describing our chapter meetings with state guests, and that produced another prospective member! We plan to have several programs that could interest the public and will invite all the community to attend in the hopes of, again, generating more prospectives.

Cynthia Larson, Regent
El Dorado Chapter

November *Silver Arrow* Newsletter deadline

October 10, 2016

Please send your article with photos to:

silverarroweditor@nsdar.org

- All newsletter article submissions should be Word or RTF documents; no more than 300 words, please.
- Photos are encouraged, and articles with photos will be given preference.
- Photos should be at least 300 dpi in .jpg format and submitted separately from the text.

From Estero Island Chapter, Florida ...

We have two new Army Units; one is in Iraq. They have nothing there, no PX, no working chow hall. The second one is in Afghanistan and they get very little mail or anything sent to them at all. They are both needing 'survival food' such as protein items like jerky, meat sticks, protein bars, etc., and baby wipes and hygiene items....

When this urgent request was posted June 26 on the site where we obtain names for care boxes, our chapter Project Patriot Chair immediately went into action, posting it on our chapter's Facebook page. Members also were notified in an e-blast, soliciting items requested.



Within days, our regent's office was filling up with donations from members, friends of members and other organizations. The top of the table flowed onto the floor! A member of the LMHS Military Support group, and a prospective chapter member, shared items from the "closet." Together with the help of an Honorary Regent and our registrar, eight boxes were filled and shipped on June 29.

Following the chapter board meeting, officers and one HODAR completed the "challenge" by packaging 22 additional boxes, all collected in just four days.

This was a wonderful way for some of our members who can't participate in the normal monthly meetings or other activities to become involved. Several members sent in monetary

donations to help defray postage or to purchase supplemental items needed, and others dropped off purchased



items. Many expressed gratitude that they could participate in the work of the chapter this way.

In keeping with the motto, Service to America, our Daughters stepped up to the plate. In the words of Gary Sinise, NSDAR 2016 Medal of Honor Award recipient, "Freedom and security are precious gifts that we, as Americans, should never take for granted. We must do all we can to extend our hand in times of need to those who willingly sacrifice each day to provide that freedom and security. While we can never do enough to show gratitude to our nation's defenders, we can always do a little more."

*Arlene Pulner, Chapter Project Patriot Chair
Connie Lizak, Florida Membership Chair*

A new program called "**Membership Mondays!**" was just started. As California daughters start their treks to reach the goal of being on the membership summit, these fun tips will be placed on the California state webpage on Mondays and shared on the California members-only closed Facebook page. **Our first tip was to do something fun with your members and those new prospective members over the summer.** An idea is Movies and Monarch (wearing monarch butterfly pins). On Facebook, the post asked for chapters to share ideas, and chapters are responding with all types of ideas, including dinners, ice-cream socials, trips to the beach, and more! What a fun way to grow membership by sharing of ideas. California daughters are #teamawesome!

Patty Schned, California Membership Chair

A TRUE Success Story from Anywhere, DAR

A small chapter. No regent. Chapter treasurer acting as regent. Bylaws not updated in sixteen years. Never had a budget. Chapter dues not current with state average and not covering chapter expenses. No chapter brochure or website. Neglected PMD.

Per advice from the State Parliamentarian, the state CDRC team asked the chapter to vote to allow them to attend a meeting. Following that meeting, the team worked with members to rewrite the bylaws and update the dues, both of which were adopted at the meeting after they were presented. As it turned out, the chapter treasurer had been funding the chapter's operation out of her own pocket! With the dues increase, and encouragement to attract associate members, the chapter then bought a chapter regent's pin and chapter banner, among other needed items.



A new member was elected regent and the state team worked closely with her to build consensus in the chapter and to script agendas. The state team provided a year's worth of American Indian, Conservation, and Flag of the United States of America minutes. The team also provided educational presentations on DAR, its mission, and programs. An experienced genealogist reviewed the chapter's PMD, brought it up to date, and worked with other team members to research the necessary documents to move the remaining PMs along in the membership application process. One state team member even drove to another state to try to find a document to prove a PM. A chapter brochure is being developed with chapter members and state team members collaborating, and, with the state's VIS Chairman's help, a chapter website is being designed.

Lessons learned: Sometimes you learn that the personalities and conflicts are **not** what you expected. Try to defuse any threatening situations and/or resentments. Resolve the easy issues first. It's extremely important that key members of the state team live fairly close to the chapter: that allows them to attend meetings, meet with chapter members to help rewrite bylaws, assist in budget preparation, design a brochure, work on applications, and help with things like the Chapter Master Report and crediting volunteer hours. Team members should be available by phone or email. It's also important that the team members have thick skins and some experience with

conflict resolution because struggling chapters have all kinds of issues and emotions that knowledgeable and calm team members can help resolve. Remember that change is hard... but needed change can result in new life, energy and INSPIRATION for chapter success!

Go TEAM DAR!!!!!!!!!!!!



Real Estate and Equine Pedigree Sheets

Transferring my Real Estate Management background and Horse pedigree research was a "no brainer" for using publicity and research to grow a chapter. As a new Registrar I asked "Why, with 69 members, do we have only 12 ladies showing up?" The answer was simple, you need new members to keep the work and ideas flowing! The older members were just plain tired.

Submitting publicity soon had our town taking notice. The phone began to ring and I had each caller at my table within days, which meant the DAR in-take. I explain how we came to be, what we do, and ask new applicants to give back just a little to the chapter and community if I work with them. I give them links to our state and national websites. I explain that our *Daughters Newsletter* and *American Spirit Magazine* contain the President General's news to us, which includes "With the Chapters" and all our new Ancestors, plus a great variety of information. Then I give her the number to call the magazine. provide the link to Hamilton, and I explain the insignia, noting that they aren't required, but describe what they represent. They see what a page is, and view our museum — all of this because I use "American Treasure, The Enduring Spirit of the DAR" as a resource. I am a visual person, and believe it is helpful if they can see with the use of this aid.

They are taught how to join generations from a lateral horse pedigree sheet to the descendant charts of the GRS. Twelve of our members have been trained to carry on as a registrar, the life blood of membership, and to help others. I learned from the school of "Have Writtens," now called AIRS.... I have since taken all GEP classes and I am teaching and inspiring others to, hopefully, do the same.

Going after reinstatements seems to have paid off, as I count from 2013 through 2015, that we have added 97 members, with new applicants, reinstatements and transfers. Speaking with our State Membership Chair, our chapter had the greatest increase in new members over the past three years. This also equated to an 83% three year average increase, which meant a .009% of the market of women in our city, which has a population of 16,339 women.

We remain in the upper numbers for subscriptions to the *American Spirit Magazine* and many of our ladies are volunteering in Indexing, Bibles, the new Patriot Records Project, and so much more. When December comes we have a big party and all new members take the New Member Oath and receive a DAR pin from the chapter. But even as Membership Chair and Registrar, it is only with the support of two different regents, both equally motivated to growing our chapter and creating fun programs, that has kept this chapter strong. It takes many

people working together with pride to achieve these results, and even though we may have different opinions, we are still a chapter family based on God, Home and Country!



Carolyn Miller
Southeastern Division Vice Chair

Membership: A Journey From Caterpillar to Butterfly



Building upon our State Regent's project to save the habitats of Monarch butterflies, a presentation about growing a chapter membership entitled "Membership: A Journey From Caterpillar to Butterfly" was given to state district directors recently. The presentation starts with the journey of Clara the caterpillar who is wandering aimlessly wondering about her heritage. Because she is a very computer-savvy caterpillar, she decides to Google. Hint: Make sure your chapter public websites are up to date so if a prospective member is Googling, your website will attract and retain her attention. Clara is also a Facebook fanatic and she searches Facebook as well, so, again, make sure your public Facebook page has current activity.

The presentation goes on to offer tips to welcome Clara as she first comes to your chapter meeting. Some tips include assigning a membership buddy to greet her and introduce her to other members. Another tip is to learn her interests and ask her to be part of a committee which interests her. As the presentation was an overview, Clara goes into the cocoon phase (i.e., where her membership papers are being processed) and this phase lasts 1 minute (I knooooowww!, we are really fast with those new online e-apps) and she emerges as Clarabella (Beautiful Clara) the butterfly. The presentation touches on our goals to not trek around aimlessly, but to strive to reach the membership summit! In keeping with our state regent's theme, our butterfly does not flutter, but soars to new heights in service to God, Home, and Country.



Patty Schned, California Membership Chair



Members of the Annis Avery Hill DAR Chapter and the John Woodson of Carter's Ferry C.A.R. Society in Wisconsin celebrated the Fourth of July by walking in the Wauwatosa Independence Day Parade. Candy was passed out to children along the route and a bookmark with DAR-related information and a flag quote was given to adults.

Vicky Ostry, Regent

Purple Hearts Reunited

On 05 April 2007, Charles Wayne “C.W.” O’Brien was wounded in combat when his vehicle was hit by an IED in Ninevah Province, Iraq, just south of Mosul. His injuries have resulted in pain and memories of those who didn’t come home. Awarded a Purple Heart, it served as a constant reminder of memories he’d rather forget. However, his life started to change — finding the love of his life, Megin, whom he married in 2012. For their honeymoon, instead of traveling to a traditional destination, they decided to visit New York City. Both of their lives had been affected by September 11th and they wanted to pay tribute to those who lost their lives in this tragedy.

C.W. also had another plan: he would find his Purple Heart a new home. They toured the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, and Ground Zero, but nothing stood out in his heart. On their last night in Manhattan, as they walked through Times Square, they came across Engine 54/Ladder 4/Battalion 9, the house known as the “Pride of Midtown”. This particular house lost 15 fire fighters on September 11th. C.W. didn’t make a scene; he simply walked up to their memorial monument, placed his Purple Heart medal onto the steel below, and walked away.



After returning home to Kansas, he would often wonder if they had seen his medal or if, perhaps, a passerby had taken it.

What he didn’t know was that the firefighters of Engine 54/Ladder 4/Battalion 9 did indeed find it, and it affected them deeply. They had the medal permanently encased into their memorial for everyone to see and often wondered who it belonged to. As time moved on, they thought

they would never meet the Veteran who had shed his blood for his country. Luckily, C.W. took to writing as a form of therapy and would later write about his Purple Heart on Tumblr. One of the firefighters, a Navy Veteran, had discovered the posting by doing a Google search; however, C.W. didn’t identify himself by name or leave any contact information. Another firefighter then turned to *Purple Hearts Reunited* for help. Within hours, they had located C.W. and put everyone in contact.



In June 2016, *Purple Hearts Reunited* flew C.W. and his wife Megin to New York City to meet the firefighters of Engine 54/Ladder 4/Battalion 9. It was a moving day, witnessing the coming together of these wonderful firefighters in giving thanks to C.W. for his service, heroism, and grace. For Megin, she and all the ladies in her family have begun the process of joining the DAR in Kansas!

Purple Hearts Reunited is a nonprofit foundation that returns medals of valor to veterans or their families in order to honor their sacrifice to the nation. Founded by Combat Wounded Veteran, Captain Zachariah Fike, the organization has returned medals and artifacts to over 200 families and museums.

*Mary Washington Colonial Chapter, New York
Sherry Laue, Regent*