

STAMP DEFIANCE MESSENGER

Serving our community through Patriotism, Education, and Historic Preservation

SAVE THE DATE

- May 4 – Executive Board Meeting
- May 16 – Annual Luncheon at Surf Club in Wrightsville Beach
- June 5 – DAR Day at Crossnore
- June 14 – Flag Retirement at Oakdale Cemetery, 9 AM
- July 4th Parade at Southport, join the Brunswick Town Chapter
- June 22 – 28 – Continental Congress
- July 22 – District 7 Meeting in Jacksonville

MAY LUNCHEON LOCATION

Surf Club

1 Mallard St, Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480

ARTICLES

- Regents Message
- Officers Reports
- Committee Reports
- President General's Msg



Congratulations to the America 250 Committee, Betsy Knowles Chair, for winning an America 250 Blue Ribbon at the America 250 Fair at the 2026 State Conference. And thank you to VIS Chair Susan Pence for compiling the submission. Great work everyone!

FROM THE REGENT

Dear Daughters,

As we get ready for our May 16 luncheon, I want to thank you all for everything we've achieved together. This year has been full of meaningful service, special memories, and a strong commitment to our Society's mission.

We were especially honored to dedicate our America 250 Patriot Marker, a lasting tribute to the courage and sacrifice of those who secured our nation's independence. This milestone, along with our Constitution Week observance, reminded us how important our country's founding principles remain.

Our chapter's dedication to historic preservation, education, and patriotism has shown in many ways. Through programs like the DAR Good Citizens and the American History Essay Contest, we've encouraged young people to learn about and value our nation's story. These efforts help keep the ideals of patriotism and civic responsibility alive for future generations. At our recent State Conference, we were proud to support and congratulate our chapter's Outstanding Teacher of American History, Sean Stanek, as he received the state-level award.

We have also continued to support those who serve our country today. Whether walking in the Veterans Parade or donating to the USO and Fisher House, our outreach to veterans and active-duty military shows how grateful we are for their service and sacrifice.

The friendships and fellowship we share are just as important. The camaraderie in our chapter is one of our greatest strengths and continues to inspire everything we do.

Looking ahead, our work to commemorate America 250 continues, giving each of us opportunities to educate, engage, and serve. Thank you for your dedication, your enthusiasm, and all the ways you make a difference.

It's truly an honor to serve as your Regent. I look forward to celebrating with you at our May gathering.

Warm regards,
Lynne Ashcraft, Regent
Stamp Defiance Chapter

FROM THE OFFICERS

Highlights of the 2026 North Carolina State Conference Lynne Ashcraft, Regent

Thursday night kicked off with a delightful dinner for our chapter members at the conference, setting a warm and welcoming tone for the weekend. Our spirited team—Cathy Cronin, Katherine Brandi, Ann Milanchus, and Lynne Ashcraft—took on the spelling bee and proudly earned second place! The competition was fierce, with “mitochondrial” as the tie-breaker word.

Friday morning was filled with engaging workshops, followed by our first business session, where we heard inspiring reports from officers, districts, and committees. Friday night’s dinner was a fantastic chance to socialize and connect with the eight visiting Regents. Afterward, we enjoyed a fascinating program about the Rose Bowl Parade float honoring America 250, adding excitement and pride to our evening.

Saturday’s business session wrapped up with the exciting election of our nominating committee, who will soon propose an outstanding slate for the upcoming state officer elections. These dedicated members—Anna Choi, Betty Corbin, Fran Goins, Catherine Bracy, and Candace Roth—will help shape our leadership for the three-year term beginning in fall 2027.

Please consider joining the chapter next year at the 2027 State Conference.

America 250 and a Panda Bear Lynne Ashcraft, Regent

It was a joy to celebrate America 250 with chapter members Betsy Knowles, Cindy Henry, Rebecca Chipman, and Pam Proctor in Washington DC. We enjoyed a members-only reception on Friday night, where we met the President General and other National Board members. On Saturday, Memorial Continental Hall was open to the public with lots of interactive activities. Betsy and I took an afternoon opportunity to visit the National Zoo to see the Panda Bear, and that did not disappoint. The Panda woke up, walked around, and made a dramatic exit to another room. Saturday night concluded our visit with a concert by Patti LaBelle at Constitution Hall.



FROM THE OFFICERS

3rd Vice Regent Ann Milanchus May Luncheon

Be sure to join the chapter for our annual May luncheon at the Surf Club in Wrightsville Beach on Saturday, May 16. The Gathering is at 10 AM, and the Procession and Program begin at 11 AM. Please RSVP by May 4. Send in your check or Venmo today. **[Download the invoice here.](#)**

One of the highlights of the day will be celebrating some truly outstanding individuals. You'll have the chance to meet our Community Service Award recipient, our America 250! Award winners, and this year's UNCW Scholarship recipient. It's going to be an inspiring gathering filled with so much talent and accomplishments!

Lisa Baker
Chaplain's Corner – May 2026

National Day of Prayer – May 7, 2026

"Almighty God, we come together to glorify You in our nation. We ask for Your wisdom to guide our leaders and Your healing over our land. Strengthen our families and unify our communities across all generations. May Your glory be known in our homes, schools, and government. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Mother's Day – May 10, 2026

"Dear God, we thank You for mothers, grandmothers, and mother figures. Bless them with strength when they are weary, joy when they are sad, and peace in their hearts. May they feel honored today and loved every day. Amen."

Memorial Day – May 25, 2026

"Dear God, on this Memorial Day 2026, we pause to honor the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. We thank you for their selfless service, bravery, and love. Comfort the grieving, protect our nation, and help us to live in a way that honors their legacy. Amen."

FROM THE COMMITTEES

Service for Veterans - Allyson Moore, Chair

Daughters, congratulations on another successful year. We've overcome challenges, advocated strongly for our patriots, extended support and service for our military, taken action with historical preservation, and still feel festive for America250! celebrations to come. This was my first year as Chair of this committee, and I've learned so much along the way, thanks to each of you. We've welcomed our veterans home through parades, Christmas festivities, Honor Flight, donations, and so much more. Not to mention, we got to learn more about our military's history throughout the year. I love our veterans, active-duty service members, and families, and the legacy we're building with them, including the families of fallen soldiers.

As a First-Generation DAR at 23 years old, I couldn't be any prouder of you, Stamp Defiance. The work we've done on this committee isn't just hands-on; it's beautiful, emotionally heavy, legacy work. As we conclude the 2025-2026 year, we will continue to support our veterans through advocacy, donations, and service, wherever we are. Daughters, even as we celebrate our accomplishments this year, don't lose the heart to serve, because we're serving every day, whether we realize it or not.

Speaking of donations, please bring your donations for the Fayetteville VA Hospital to our May Luncheon on May 16 at Wrightsville Beach Surf Club. Here are items that we'll collect at the event. Their wish list items include:

Toothbrushes, denture cleaner, denture adhesive 20, razors, mini and full-size lotion, mini and full-size body wash, 20 to 30 piece puzzles, composition books, work search & puzzle books, adult coloring books, playing cards, books such as: spiritual/self-care, westerns, military history, magazines such as: cars, National Geographic, sports and lastly, male and female (all sizes): sweatpants, t-shirts, socks, underwear, sports bras.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

Join Us for the Southport July 4th Parade!

The Independence Day celebration in Southport will be especially meaningful this year as we commemorate America's 250th anniversary, and the Brunswick Town Chapter invites members of the Stamp Defiance Chapter to take part in this festive tradition.

Since 2017, Brunswick Town Chapter has proudly participated in the Southport parade, and this year they hope to "step it up a notch" with a colonial-themed float. Participants are encouraged to dress in period attire and help bring the scene to life with hands-on demonstrations such as spinning, gathering eggs, or displaying baskets of produce. Creativity is welcome!

Members may choose to ride on the float or walk alongside it. The group will meet at the Southport Walmart at 7:30 a.m. to decorate, then travel together to the parade lineup at 9:30 a.m. The parade typically concludes by late morning, with transportation returning participants to the parking area.

Family members, including spouses and children, are warmly invited to join in the fun. The Brunswick Town Chapter is also extending invitations to local SAR members. If you would like to participate, please consider signing up to receive updates and event details. For questions or more information, contact Carol Jutte, Parade Chair, at 419-529-9433 or ctidewater@hotmail.com.

Come be part of this special celebration as we honor our nation's past and bring history to life!

FROM THE COMMITTEES

VIS Committee - Susan Pence, *Chair*

As a reminder, the Stamp Defiance Chapter website is:

<https://stampdefiance.org/>

Sign in using: **wilmington.dar@gmail.com**

Password: **Freedom2025!**

Please contact me at stampdefiancemessenger@gmail.com if you have any issues or concerns with the website.

Units Overseas – Pamela Proctor, Chair

The Thomas Paine Chapter, located in Chapala, Jalisco, Mexico, was organized in April 1999 to serve members in Ajijic, Chapala, and surrounding communities. The chapter honors Thomas Paine, whose powerful writings helped inspire and sustain the spirit of the common people during the most challenging days of the Revolutionary War.

While many members reside in Mexico year-round, the chapter also includes seasonal residents who contribute to its vibrant and diverse membership.

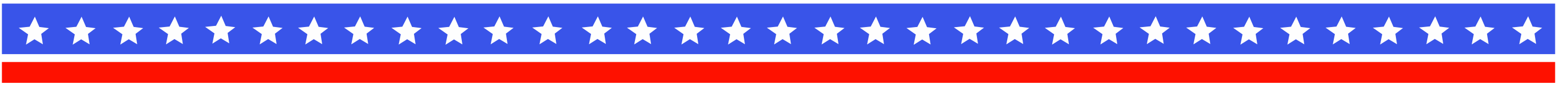
The chapter proudly supports its community by offering two scholarships to students in need of financial assistance. In addition, a dedicated group of talented "Needle Pushers" create clothing for children in need, relying entirely on donated funds and fabric to carry out their meaningful work.

The chapter is seeking associate members and is grateful for the support provided by them. If you are interested in joining the Thomas Paine Chapter as an associate member, additional information can be found here: <http://thomaspainedar.org/>

FROM THE COMMITTEES

Project Patriot Committee – Pamela Proctor, Chair
Project Patriot Activity – Wounded Warrior Symposium

Project Patriot Chair, Pam Proctor, and Treasurer Linda McAninch recently attended a Symposium hosted by the Wounded Warrior Battalion – East at Camp Lejeune. Over 40 Community and Charitable Organizations met together to see firsthand how their contributions assist recovering service members, while Marines learned how to access those resources. Because Camp Lejeune is home to many deploying and recovering units, these partnerships can be especially valuable for Marines dealing with long recoveries and transition to civilian life.



Happy Birthday ✨

Deborah	Sheehan	May	2
Debby	Marsh	May	4
Peggy	Erickson	May	5
Sognia	Weiss	May	6
Jeanette	Greiner	May	7
Ann	Milanchus	May	7
Cynthia	Dixon	May	8
Lani	Beuerman	May	9
Meg	Smith	May	10
Mary	Corcoran	May	12
Beth	Connaughton	May	14
Peggy	Clark	May	16
Bonnie Fae	Culbreth	May	16
Heather	Zeznock	May	16
Anna	Eubanks	May	17
Mary	Roche	May	21
Amanda	Hodges	May	22
Nancy	Foulks	May	23
Harriet	Kimbrow	May	23
Betsy	Thomas	May	23
Carter	Hamerski	May	27
Beth	Wright	May	27
Polly	Sheats	May	28
Vickie	Lide	May	29
Melanie	Trainer	May	31
Caroline	Withers	May	31





April Meeting





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 **NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY**
DAUGHTERS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION  **DAR**
126th CONFERENCE - DURHAM, 2026 Daughters of the American Revolution





Evening Meeting Highlights