

STAMP DEFIANCE MESSENGER

Serving our community through Patriotism, Education, and Historic Preservation

SAVE THE DATE

- April 7 – Executive Board Meeting
- April 11 – Chapter Meeting
- April 17 – Junior/Evening Meeting
- April 25 – Moores Creek Naturalization Ceremony
- Saturday, April 26 – Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area, Welcome Back Ceremony at ILM
- April 29 – Book Club

ARTICLES

- Regents Message
- Officers Reports
- Committee Reports
- [President General's Msg](#)
- National Defense Msg
- [School Sparkler](#)
- Activity Photos



Join Us for an unforgettable April 11 chapter meeting! Get ready to be inspired as Dr. Jay Martin, Executive Director of Battleship North Carolina, takes us on a journey through the future of our favorite battleship.

Dr. Martin will share insights into the "Living with Water" project, an innovative initiative designed to protect the Battleship from rising waters while creating a resilient, sustainable landscape for future generations. Learn how this groundbreaking effort is preserving history while embracing the challenges of coastal conservation.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity—see you there!

FROM THE REGENT

Dear Chapter Members,

Spring has arrived, and with it comes a bouquet of exciting news for our chapter!

April is the Month of the Military Child, a special time to recognize and celebrate the resilience and sacrifices of military families—especially their incredible children. Purple, a blend of all military uniform colors, represents this month, so let's wear purple to our April meeting to show our support! Be sure to check out the article by our 2nd Vice Regent, Pam Proctor—she and the Project Patriot Committee have something meaningful planned to honor these amazing young patriots.

Our April meeting is our last "regular" gathering before we wrap up the year with a special luncheon in May at Porters Neck Country Club. We'll begin gathering at 10 AM, with our processional and lunch starting at 11 AM. This year, we have four delicious entrée choices, all at \$40 each. You can download the invoice from the email, select your meal, and send payment to Patty Miljenovic—or use Venmo to pay Treasurer Linda McAninch. All payments are due by May 3, so don't wait!

If you've joined since last May, we especially want to celebrate you! We'll officially welcome you with the membership oath and a small token of appreciation. We can't wait to honor our new members!

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 25, when we'll have the incredible opportunity to participate in the Southeastern North Carolina Naturalization Ceremony at Moores Creek National Battlefield. We'll hand out flags and lead the new citizens in their very first Pledge of Allegiance—what a moving way to support them as they achieve their American dream. Join us at 11 AM for this unforgettable event!

Finally, big news! After at least seven wonderful years at Pine Valley Baptist Church, our chapter meetings will have a new home starting in September—St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 12 N. 6th St, Wilmington! If you've attended our Christmas Tea, you're already familiar with the location. Stay tuned for more details in upcoming newsletters and emails. We are incredibly grateful to Pine Valley Baptist Church for their generosity over the years and wish them all the best in the future.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

*Warmest regards,
Lynne Ashcraft
Stamp Defiance Regent*

FROM THE OFFICERS

PAMELA PROCTOR - SECOND VICE REGENT

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Jay Martin as the featured speaker of our April meeting, where he will present a program: "The Battleship North Carolina – Honor and Service". This presentation highlights a new long-term initiative being undertaken and led by Dr. Martin, who assumed the position as Executive Director of the Battleship last year. Don't miss this program about our own National Historic Landmark. Be sure and put our April 11 meeting on your calendar!!

ANN MILANCHUS - THIRD VICE REGENT

I'm so excited that May is just around the corner! Keep an eye out for registration details for our annual meeting and luncheon on May 17th at Porters Neck Country Club –just like last year. The menu alone is making me hungry!

This special gathering is a time to celebrate all that we've accomplished together over the past year. We'll recognize our wonderful members with awards and anniversary certificates, and we'll officially welcome our new members into the Stamp Defiance Chapter and the NSDAR.

To our newest members—welcome! We can't wait to get to know you. If you're feeling a little nervous, just remember my mother's advice: Put a smile on your face, and it will make you happy inside!

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER - LISA BAKER, CHAPLAIN

As Easter approaches, we reflect on the significance of the season and the hope it brings.

O God, who by the joy of Easter has brought new hope to a disordered world, teach us, Your children, to understand the purpose of the life You have given us. Help us to work for all that encourages peace and goodwill among men and grant that the spirit of the risen Christ may dwell in our hearts so that we may glorify Your Holy Name. Amen

Our Father, we thank Thee for the return of spring. All nature has put on a new appearance due to the warmth of sunshine and rain. The grass has become green, the buds have appeared on shrubs and trees, and the singing of birds is with us. May we take time to see and to appreciate the beauty around us and be so revived by Thy spirit that we are able to meet each responsibility with courage and accept with gratitude every opportunity for service. Amen.

We all share the earth. This Earth Day, let's remember to make wise decisions and treat all living creatures with kindness.

Lord, grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it. Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures. Help us to become instruments of a new creation, founded on the covenant of your love.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

DAR SERVICE TO VETERANS - PATTY MILJENOVIC, CHAIR

Fayetteville VA Hospital Collection

During our May luncheon, we will be collecting personal care items for the VA Hospital in Fayetteville. There will be a collection table near the door to place your donations. Every little bit can and will brighten a Veteran's day. Their wish list items are but not limited to:

- Toothbrushes
- Denture Cleaner
- Denture Adhesive 20
- Razors
- Lotion mini and full size
- Body wash mini and full size
- 20 -30 piece puzzles
- Composition Books
- Word Search Puzzle Books
- Adult Coloring Books
- Playing Cards
- Books such as: Spiritual/Self-care, Westerns, Military History
- Magazines such as: Cars, National Geographic, Sports
- Male and female (all sizes): Sweatpants, T-Shirts, Socks, Underwear, Sports Bras (small to 2x)

PATRIOT RECORDS PROJECT - BILLIE COYLE, CHAIR

This project was created to help individuals discover their ancestors' contributions to the American Revolution.

The current set of documents, dated 1849-1850, includes pension applications revealing the ongoing struggles of some veterans long after the war. Many, now in their 70s or 80s, suffer from war injuries or the effects of aging, leaving them unable to support themselves or their families.

Since official discharge papers were often unavailable, applicants had to recall the names of officers they served under or battles they fought in. However, due to age and memory issues, this was sometimes impossible. In such cases, credible witnesses, like neighbors, were called upon to verify their service. To demonstrate financial need, applicants were also required to list their possessions—usually modest items like a table, two chairs, a teakettle, or a few cups.

Some of these veterans were women who took their injured husbands' places in battle. As you add names to the database, you can't help but hope they received the pensions they deserved.

If you're interested in joining this committee, applications are available on the DAR website under Committee → Volunteering.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS - CINDY TALBERT, CHAIR

Each year, our chapter honors two organizations or individuals for outstanding community service in Wilmington. This year, we are proud to recognize NourishNC and Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area.

NourishNC combats childhood hunger in New Hanover County by providing supplemental food through programs like the Backpack Program, Market on Market, Mobile Market, and Food Farmacy—ensuring children and families have access to nutritious meals.

Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area honors WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam War-era veterans with an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, DC, to visit memorials in their honor. Their next flight on April 26, 2025, is fully booked with 85 veterans and their guardians.

Both organizations will receive the DAR Community Service Award, which consists of a certificate and pin, at our May luncheon and a \$100 donation to their organization.

FUNDRAISING - JUDY CRADLER, CHAIR

I would like to thank everyone for helping meet our fundraising goal!

DAR GOOD CITIZENS - DIANA CORBETT, CHAIR

Stamp Defiance Good Citizens Recognition Ceremony

The Good Citizen Recognition and Awards Ceremony took place at our March 14th Chapter meeting. Four seniors representing local high schools attended the Ceremony with their special guests and read their essays.

The 2024-2025 participating Good Citizens were:

OLIVER MATTHEW MARSHALL, Ashley High School
JOHN 'JACK' DAYRE SCHERER, III, Hoggard High School
TAHLIA SHANNON O'NEILL, Isaac Bear Early College
KILEY NICOLE CANTER, Laney High School

The 2024 Good Citizens essay focus question was "Service is an essential attribute of a good citizen. Discuss how service can foster a strong sense of community and strengthen our American Identity."

Regent Lynne Ashcraft presented each senior with the Good Citizens Certificate. Each student also received a gift bag containing the Good Citizens pin, a \$100 monetary award, a pocket-sized version of the US Constitution, and a sash to wear during their high school graduation ceremonies.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

STAMP DEFIANCE BOOK CLUB - MARGARET WHISENHUNT & KATHERINE BRANDI,
CO-CHAIRS

Join the Stamp Defiance Book Club for our next meeting on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. at McAlister's Deli on South College Road. If you plan to order lunch, arrive early so we can start our discussion on time. This month, we're diving into *Who's Your Founding Father?* by David Fleming—a thrilling exploration of a centuries-old secret document that could reshape America's origin story and uncover the intellectual crime of the millennium. Don't miss this fascinating conversation!

APRIL EVENING MEETING - PAMELA PROCTOR

Do you have more Patriots in your Family Tree? Want to add more Ancestor bars to your ribbon? Come to our April 17 evening meeting and learn about Supplemental Applications. Our registrar, Rebecca Chipman, will give us tips about finding a supplemental Ancestor, how to prepare a supplemental application, and what to expect when submitting a supplemental. We will meet at McAlister's Deli at 6:00; come a bit early if you want to eat before. This will be a very informative meeting so mark your calendar!

PROJECT PATRIOT - PAMELA PROCTOR, CHAIR

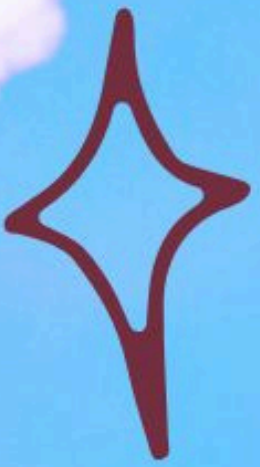
April is the Month of the Military Child and Stamp Defiance Chapter is supporting our Military families by collecting donations for the Baby Bundle Program at the Fort Bragg Armed Services YMCA. Each year, nearly 2000 babies are born while their parents are stationed at Ft. Bragg. Of those, at least half are born to enlisted members E-5 and below.

The ASYMCA Baby Bundle initiative supports families by providing all the "first needs" of a newborn baby. We will be collecting items at our April 11 meeting and our evening meeting on April 17. Help us welcome our newest military children into the world by bringing any of these items to our day or evening meetings. Look for our "Baby Shower"-themed table at both meetings.

All items must be new with tags. Handmade items are also welcome. Suggested items: baby blankets, hats, bibs, onesies and sleepers (newborn - 9 months), burp cloths, socks, baby toys, books, diapers, wipes.

Happy Birthday

Julie Stangler	Apr 1
Erin Kirk	Apr 5
Emily Hanano	Apr 7
Sarah Vick	Apr 7
Mary Walker	Apr 7
Frances Humphrey	Apr 8
Sandy Best	Apr 9
Deborah Boniface	Apr 11
Audrey Sutton-Surak	Apr 12
Bessie Moyers	Apr 14
Carole Weiss	Apr 19
Glenda Worley	Apr 20
Susan Biggs	Apr 21
Ashley Hearne	Apr 21
Sarah Burris	Apr 23
Lyle Sullivan	Apr 26
Ann Page	Apr 28
Lori Angel	Apr 30







Stamp Defiance members attended the America 250! Fair at the Burgwin-Wright House



At the Thalian Hall Capital Campaign, Ann Milanchus, Chair of the Historic Preservation Committee, Lynne Ashcraft, Regent, and Charkie Armstrong pose in front of vintage theater chairs, which were restored with funding from the Stamp Defiance Chapter.

Vietnam Veterans Commemoration Belville Riverwalk Park March 29, 2025





NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION

