

STAMP DEFIANCE MESSENGER

Serving our community through Patriotism, Education, and Historic Preservation

SAVE THE DATE

- Feb. 10 – Executive Board Meeting
- Feb. 14 – Stamp Defiance Chapter Meeting and Teacup Auction
- Feb. 15 CDRC Workshop
- Feb. 15 – SAR Annual Washington Dinner
- Feb. 18 – Book Club
- Feb. 20 – Jr/Evening Meeting
- Feb. 22 – Anniversary of Moores Creek Bridge

ARTICLES

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Teacup Auction – February 14, 2025

This is our chapter's biggest fundraiser. Find out how you can help [here](#). Bring your donated items and sign up for the luncheon. If you can't come please donate an item. Find out how [here](#).



The fundraising committee will have single red roses for sale for \$3. Take a beautiful rose home to your sweetheart.

Lunch is available after the meeting.

Reservations close on Feb. 5. Order your lunch by mailing \$20 to our Asst. Treasurer Patty Miljenovic at 523 Sea Castle Ct, Wilmington 28412 or send via Venmo to @Linda-McAninch. Note your name on the check memo line or the message box in Venmo.



FROM THE REGENT

Dear Chapter Members,

Growing up in California, I loved exploring the western national parks. When I moved to Wilmington, I was thrilled to discover Moores Creek National Battlefield—a site of immense historic significance—just up the road.

Join us on Saturday, February 22, 2025, to commemorate the pivotal Battle of Moores Creek, fought on February 27, 1776. This crucial patriot victory set the stage for North Carolina's independence.

Event Details:

- *Date: Saturday, February 22, 2025*
- *Time: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM*
- *Location: Moores Creek National Battlefield, 40 Patriots Hall Drive, Currie, NC*
- *Attire: Dress for the weather; period attire encouraged*

Highlights:

- *Wreath-laying ceremony honoring fallen patriots*
- *Living history demonstrations bringing the 18th century to life*
- *Opportunities to connect with others passionate about preserving history*

Bring family and friends for this inspiring celebration. Children and grandchildren will especially enjoy the parade, where we'll march behind our chapter banner and place a wreath at the Grady monument.

Join in to honor the past and celebrate the enduring spirit of freedom!

Warm regards,

Lynne Ashcraft

Stamp Defiance Regent

FROM THE OFFICERS

ANN MILANCHUS, 3RD VICE REGENT

Come join the fun at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church at 16th N. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC on February 14th, 2025, for our AUCTION & LUNCHEON! Don't miss the fun of bidding on Silent auction items and the thrill of buying Raffle tickets to win unbelievable prizes for twenty-five cents a ticket! You will find the Raffle tickets in the hallway before the Grand Hall. The Grand Hall is where all the excitement takes place. Committee members will meet at 8 a.m., members and guests at 9 a.m. and the program begins 10 a.m. The Luncheon and raffle ends at 1 p.m

Be sure to join us for lunch at noon. The luncheon includes fruit, chicken, shrimp, pasta, Mediterranean bean salad, small croissants, assorted pastries, and sweet or unsweet iced tea. Gluten free salads are available and all items will be marked. Send your check for \$20 per person to Patty Miljenovic at 523 Sea Castle Ct, Wilmington, 28412-3280 or via Venmo to our Treasurer Linda McAninch "@Linda-McAninch". Write your name on the memo line of the check or in the message box on Venmo. **Reservations close on February 5, 2025.** If you have questions about the lunch call Ann Milanchus at 910-742-7943 and questions about the auction call Judy Cradler at 508-320-2260.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER - CAROLYN WELLS, CHAPLAIN

Love Sees No Color

There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female,
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28

REBECCA CHIPMAN, REGISTRAR

Guilford Battle Chapter is thrilled to Sponsor a "Genealogy Workshop with Vice President General Debbie Duay" on March 14, 2025. Registration will begin at 8:00 am until 9:00 am with Opening Program- Pledge, Prayer and National Anthem from 9:00-9:15.

This workshop is for ALL Daughters. All chapter members and prospective members are invited. This workshop will benefit all levels of genealogy experience from beginner to expert. At some point in the workshop VP General Debbie Duay will ask us to participate in a fun short activity called "relatives around me". Please see the attached form for instructions.

The link will take you to more details about the event. Vice President [Debbie Duay Workshop](#) .The form attached is what you need to [register](#) plus "[relatives around me](#)" instructions.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

DAR SERVICE TO VETERANS - PATTY MILJENOVIC, CHAIR

Honor Flight Cape Fear Area Guardian Seat

It is with great excitement that Pam Drake has won and accepted the lottery for the HFCFA Guardian seat. She is a great candidate to represent Stamp Defiance on this flight that will be carrying 85 Veterans and 85 Guardians to Washington DC for a day of honor and remembrance. Pam is a Veteran herself and will be a wonderful "battle buddy" to her Veteran she will accompany on April 26, 2025. Please congratulate her when you see her!

HFCFA Mail Call

One of the most meaningful aspects of the Honor Flight experience is Mail Call. For most Veterans, especially those who spent time overseas, mail call was their connection to home and was a highlight of their time in the service. In that spirit, Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area invites you to participate in Operation Mail Call 2025. On our April 26, 2025 Mission, each of our 85 Veterans will be given an envelope STUFFED with letters and cards from family, friends, and community members. This is where you come in – will you please participate and help spread the word? We are currently collecting mail (letters, cards, drawings, etc.) from individuals and groups across the region, including schools, scout troops, churches, Veteran organizations, and others. Submissions can be letters, cards, or drawings, but should be no larger than 8.5x11" and should not include any extra materials, such as trinkets, beads, flags, candy, etc. so it can all fit into a large envelope.

- The mail can be addressed to "Dear Veteran" or "Dear Hero" but should not be specific to a conflict, branch, or gender. Individual participants may sign their mail with a first name only, though you may include your group name (i.e. Boy Scout Troop 210, or 3rd grade class at Anderson Elementary).
- If you know a Veteran selected for the flight and want to include a personalized letter, please submit that separately and clearly mark that letter with the Veteran's first and last name so we can assure it gets to the correct person. Please contact Patty Miljenovic 908-910-6055 for pick up or please bring to any Stamp Defiance meeting before March 28, 2025.

STUFFING PARTY - Bring your needle and thread, your wooden spoon and a large leaf bag or kitchen bag to the Evening Meeting on Feb 20, at 6:15 PM. Come early to eat before the stuffing party. We will stuff the neck pillows for the Honor Flight. We meet at McAlister's Deli, 740 College Rd.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

FUNDRAISING - JUDY CRADLER, CHAIR

Mark your calendar for February 14—it's our biggest fundraiser of the year! Join us for the Teacup Auction and Silent Auction Fundraiser, featuring fun, fellowship, and a delightful lunch. This elegant event fuels our mission and activities for the year.

Here's how you can pitch in:

- **Donate Items:** We're looking for home decor, jewelry, gift baskets, handmade crafts, gift cards, themed experiences, and unique treasures (no books, please!). Drop off items at the members' homes below.
- **Bring Friends:** Share the fun and invite guests to join the cause.
- **Volunteer:** Help us organize and run the event. Reach out to Judy Cradler to lend a hand.

RSVP soon and get ready to make a difference. Questions or donations? Contact the members listed below. Let's make this event unforgettable—we can't wait to see you there!

Drop off your donation at the church hall on Thursday, February 13, in the afternoon or at these member's houses:

Susan DeGroote in Wilmington

Bettie Lettieri in Leland

Judy Cradler in Leland

- **Date:** Friday, February 14, 2025
- **Place:** St Paul's Episcopal Church, 16 N 16th St., Wilmington
- **Time:** Networking and registration - 9:30 AM, Meeting begins - 10 AM
- **Program:** Teacup Auction and Silent Auction

RADA Fundraiser

We are excited to announce our latest fundraising initiative: selling high-quality Rada products to support our chapter! Known for their exceptional cutlery, kitchen utensils, and gourmet food mixes, Rada products make fantastic additions to your home or thoughtful gifts for friends and family.

By purchasing Rada items, you get top-notch products and contribute to our chapter's historic preservation, education, and patriotism activities. Forty percent of every sale goes directly to the Stamp Defiance Chapter.

Ready to shop and support? Visit <https://bit.ly/SD-RADA>. Thank you for helping us make a difference!

For questions or more information, contact Paula DeSilva of our fundraising committee.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE - MEG SMITH, CHAIR

Another reminder to all members and especially Committee Chairs to think about any money that you might need for projects in 2025-26. The Finance Committee will be meeting soon to create a proposal for a budget for next year and we want YOUR input as to what is needed. Our typical process is to look at the current budget and what has been earned and spent this year to gauge what we need for the following year. What this means is – if you have new projects coming up, we need to fund them in the budget to make sure that the Chapter can cover them. I look forward to hearing from you thru an email to mts051047@gmail.com.

As you saw at the January meeting, the Chapter was graciously donated (from the husband of past member Jan DuBois) a large number of pins. The decision was made to sell them to Chapter Members at the March Meeting after displaying them again at the February Meeting and having bid sheets available for your use. If you are interested in seeing the full list of what is available and pictures of these pins, please email me, Meg Smith, at mts051047@gmail.com and I can forward the pictures to you – and I can blow up any one you might be really interested in seeing. Two that might be of particular interest is an insignia (in case you don't have one) and the blue NC Teacup Pin.

MOORES CREEK BATTLEFIELD - JO STROUD - CHAIR

Join us as we celebrate the Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, the 1st Patriot victory in North Carolina during the War for Independence.

Our Chapter will march with the combined North Carolina SAR Color Guard, DAR, C.A.R., and SR chapters on Saturday, February 22, starting at the visitor's center at 10:00 AM. Wreaths will be displayed at the Women's Monument, the Moore Monument, the Loyalist Monument, and finally, the Patriot John Grady Monument. Our chapter will present a wreath at the Grady Monument.

- This is a family-friendly event, and we invite all children and grandchildren to take their place in the front of the line march. Learn more here: <https://www.nps.gov/mocr/index.htm>

FROM THE COMMITTEES

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE - KATHERINE BRANDI & KAY SUNDERLIN, CO-CHAIRS

Happy Valentine's Day this month. We wish you wonderful memories and time to make new ones with loved ones and friends. We have a large chapter and members who are in recovery mode, grieving loss of family members, coping with long term illness, caring for loved ones, and dealing with changes in life that come about as we age. If you know of a member who needs prayer and support for any type of situation, please share their information with us, with their permission. Together, we will continue to build a supportive community of sisters. If you received greeting cards in seasonal solicitation requests that you do not plan on using our committee would welcome more birthday cards to send to members. Bring them with you to a chapter meeting.

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

A Girl Called Samson by Amy Harmon

In 1760, Deborah Samson is born to Puritan parents in Plympton, Massachusetts. When her father abandons the family and her mother is unable to support them, Deborah is bound out as an indentured servant. From that moment on, she yearns for a life of liberation and adventure. Twenty years later, as the American colonies begin to buckle in their battle for independence, Deborah, impassioned by the cause, disguises herself as a soldier and enlists in the Continental army. Her impressive height and lanky build make her transformation a convincing one. It isn't long before she finds herself confronting the horrors of war head-on.

Join us at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at McAlister's Deli on South College Road.

JUNIOR/EVENING MEETINGS - LINDSEY SCHROEDER, CHAIR

We will be meeting at 6:15 pm, Thursday, February 20th to make neck pillows for the upcoming Honor Flight. The meeting will be held at McAlister's Deli, 740 College Rd. If you you like have dinner beforehand, please arrive at 6:00 pm. We will hear from Meg Smith, Director and Honorary Chapter Regent and Patty Miljenovic, Service to Veterans Chair.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

DAR-SAR LIAISON COMMITTEE - ROSEMARY UTVICH, CHAIR

The Lower Cape Fear SAR Chapter invites Stamp Defiance members to join them on Feb 15 for their Annual Washington Dinner, a celebration of our shared commitment to preserving the legacy of our nation's founding. The time is 6 PM and the location is Cape Fear Seafood in Monkey Junction. Please see the details on the [attached flyer](#).

NCSDAR CDRC Workshop

Register now to attend the our wonderful Chapter Development and Revitalization Commission (CDRC) Annual Zoom Webinar Workshop on February 15, 2025, from 9 am to 3pm. This year we have exceptional genealogy speakers to help you expand your skillset and possess better tools for better applications.

Use of DNA in Proving Patriots:

Shannon Dea Combs-Bennett, QG, MSc, PLCGS

National Vice Chair, DAR DNA Network DNA Special Projects

Virginia Society DAR

Use of Timelines and Tables to Analyze Genealogy Research:

Cari A. Taplin, CG

Colorado Society DAR

Patriot or Not? Using the Genealogical Proof

Standard on a Closed DAR Line:

Elissa Scalise Powell, CG®, CGLSM

Pennsylvania Society DAR

In addition, we have a session to help with planning and success in 2025. Our own state leaders will speak about the most important skills and resources to have in your toolbox for 2025. Charlotte Walsh, Master Reports State Chair and Chapter Achievement Awards State Chair, will present on what's new with the CMR/CAA in 2025 which will provide you with a road map for chapter planning and events. Donna Rhyne, State Registrar, will be identifying resources and processes to improve your applications and how to get support in completing them. Candace Roth, State Membership Chair, will share tools to attract membership and retain members among other skills and information.

2025 NCSDAR CDRC Workshop – February 15, 2025, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Registration is required. **Registration closes on February 11.** [Click Here to Register](#)

Happy Birthday

Margaret Russo Feb 2

Chris Altavilla Feb 16

Anne Schleining Feb 2

Mary Farmer Feb 16

Kristin Czufin Feb 3

Emily Mallick Feb 17

Irene Hathaway Feb 3

Carol Bollenback Feb 18

Laura Lennon Feb 3

Gloria Pagnan Feb 19

Beverly McGuire Feb 3

Linda Witmore Feb 19

Kimberly Widmark Feb 3

Frances Lewis Feb 20

Donna Zeznock Feb 3

Louise Ezzell Feb 21

Chelsea Long Feb 6

Carolyn Corbett Feb 24

Shirley Blair Feb 13

Marie Preston Feb 28

Virginia Teachey Feb 14

Susan Snider Feb 28

Tamara Bryan Feb 15





Friendship



January Meeting

Service



Membership



American History Essay Winners



STAMP DEFIANCE OUTSTANDING TEACHER OF AMERICAN HISTORY



JEFFREY "SEAN" STANEK