



Susannah Smith Elliott Chapter, NSDAR

Summer 2023 Newsletter



*A Message from
SSE Regent Beth Pantone*

Happy summer, Daughters of SSE!

As a new regent, it's been a time of organizing and learning what needs done to continue the wonderful work our chapter does. It's also been a time of learning about our members and areas within DAR that you would like to most participate.

As a physical therapist for almost 40 years, I enjoy meeting people and hearing their stories and what motivates them. People have made my career fascinating, humbling and inspiring. Sometimes it's the smallest thing they say or do that makes the biggest impact. While I'm in their lives for a short time, my patients have blessed my life in ways they could never imagine.

In many ways, I feel the same about DAR. The women of this organization are fascinating, humbling and inspiring!

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Upcoming Observances & Events

June 28-July 2 — 132nd Continental Congress, Washington, DC

June 28 — Carolina Day

July 4 — Independence Day

July 27 — National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

August 7—Purple Heart Day

August 25-26 — SCDAR Fall Forum, Columbia, SC

September 4 — Labor Day

September 16, 1pm — SSE Chapter Meeting

Wreaths Across America, New Member Induction, Officer Installation Highlight May Meeting

We welcomed several visitors along with new and prospective members at the May chapter meeting: Vivian Pantone (Beth Pantone's mother); Margaret Bailey (prospective member); Betty Smith (new member), her son Mike McClure and her daughter Melody McClure; Sarah Ziaja (new member); Lisa Rahman (new member); Kathryn Paige Zbin (new member); Juli Garland (prospective member); and CAR member Phoebe Henderson (Holly Henderson's daughter).

Bruce Richburg, representing Wreaths Across America, spoke about his efforts promoting the program in the Charleston area and presented the chapter with a plaque expressing appreciation for our chapter's support.

Lisa Rahman, Betty Smith, Yarboro Winkle, Kathryn Paige Zbin and Sarah Ziaja were inducted as new members. Membership Chair Joan Naugle handed out new member information packets; Judy Burn and Beth Pantone presented each with a DAR pin.

Marsha Humphreys, SCDAR District IV Director, conducted the Installation of new chapter officers for 2023-2026. (See page 2 for more information.)

Canned goods brought in by members were donated to the Bethany United Methodist Church Blessing Box in appreciation for use of their facilities for chapter meetings.

REGENT'S MESSAGE

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I love not only connecting with our chapter members, but also making friends within our state organization and even nationally. We can learn so much from each other and together do the important work of the DAR mission. There is so much energy and creativity when we get together. It's often that little idea someone puts forward that leads to wonderful programs or events.

I look forward to working with and getting to know all of you. Please feel free to contact me, introduce yourself, suggest an idea, volunteer for a committee, or just go out to lunch together!

Warmly,

Beth Pantone

P.S. I would be remiss without thanking one of our amazing women, Judy Burn, for the assistance she has given me in the transition to Regent. She has gone out of her way to make sure I had the knowledge and tools I needed to get started. Thank you, Judy!

Get to Know Your Chapter's New Officers



(l to r) Barbara Dobbs, Tiffany Baker, Beth Pantone, Sandra Branan, Janice Sharp, Cathy Caldwell and Cathy Akers

Beth Pantone, Regent — A six-year DAR member, Beth has served as NSDAR National Vice Chair DAR Magazine and Chair of the SCDAR State Awards. Genealogy is one of her primary interests, and she has devoted countless hours to researching Susannah Smith Elliott's life. When she's not competing on her senior women's basketball team, Beth enjoys traveling (especially to our country's National Parks).

Holly Fontanetta, Vice Regent — Holly has been a member of DAR for seven years and has spent the past three years as our chapter's Registrar. In addition to her genealogy pursuits, she enjoys home decorating and antiques.

Sandra Branan, Treasurer — Sandie has been a part of DAR for 20 years and this year filled in as our chapter's Historian to finish out Bev Long's term. Her hobbies include photography, sewing, embroidery and wine tasting.

Tiffany Baker, Registrar — Tiffany joined DAR three years ago. She enjoys Knitting, crocheting, travel, reading and history. She is currently serving on the HR Committee for the South Carolina Association of Legal Administrators.

Barbara Dobbs, Recording Secretary — A three-year DAR member, Barbara's hobbies include cooking, knitting, health and well being, singing, and especially traveling to Texas to visit her grandchildren.

Cathy Caldwell, Corresponding Secretary — Cathy joined DAR four years ago. When she's not volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, Cathy enjoys vacation time for hiking and bicycling.

Cathy Akers, Librarian — A 20-year DAR member, Cathy served the Washington Lewis Chapter in Virginia as Chaplain and DAR School Chair before transferring to our chapter. She enjoys growing and showing African Violets, traveling, reading mysteries and following West Virginia University sports.

Margaret deVries, Historian — Maggie has been a member of DAR for nine years. She served as First Vice Regent in the Amelia Island, FL chapter.

Janice Sharp, Chaplain — A DAR member since 1991, Janice just finished a term as SSE Treasurer. She was Treasurer and Chair of the Conservation Committee at her former chapter in Florida. Janice and her husband moved to Summerville in 2019. She enjoys reading, learning about gardening in the Lowcountry and spending time with her grandson Arthur.

Welcome to SSE's Newest Members

Lisa Rahman joins under her ancestor, Capt. Soverinus Koch of Stone Arabia, New York.

Betty Smith joins under her ancestor, Lt. George Tucker of Wilkes County, Georgia.

Total Chapter Members: 104

National Defense Committee Recognizes Outstanding Military Cadets

The National Defense Committee was founded in 1926 to promote an enlightened public opinion by bringing DAR members information pertinent to preserving our American heritage of freedom through protecting the U.S. Constitution, ensuring the survival of our national sovereignty, and maintaining a strong military defense.

The National Defense Committee's work is based on education, awareness, and appreciation with these three primary roles:

- 1) Providing information and awareness for our members on vital current issues pertaining to the committee's aims through the *National Defender* and the committee's private Facebook group
- 2) Encouraging and rewarding outstanding military cadets in ROTC, Junior ROTC, and non-ROTC military-affiliated programs
- 3) Reaching out into our schools and communities to recognize youth and adults who exemplify the qualities of good citizenship

As ROTC and JROTC are recognized as important programs that prepare trained officers for service in the Armed Forces, our chapter recently awarded these three local Cadets with a medal and certificate for their outstanding achievements:

- ◆ **Cadet Colonel Jason Gilbert, Gold Medal, Charleston Southern University**
- ◆ **Cadet Addison Mooney, Bronze Medal, Summerville High School**
- ◆ **Captain Jolie Hutchinson, Bronze Medal, Ashley Ridge High School**

— Cathy Handzo, National Defense Committee Chair
(with information from dar.org)

Is Your Yearbook Info Correct?

Anytime you move, get a new phone number or email address, it comes with a seemingly endless list of businesses and organizations that you need to inform.

Please remember to include DAR in that list. The information on file with NSDAR is what will be used when the new Yearbook is printed in the fall.

Please check to see if your listing in the current Yearbook is correct. If not, contact Membership Chair [Joan Naugle](#) (843) 810-5358 with your corrections.

132nd Continental Congress Convenes June 28th



DAR Headquarters

Libby Billham (National Vice President General) along with chapter members Beth Pantone, Judy Burn and Renee Schneck will represent SSE at Continental Congress in Washington, DC June 28 to July 2.

Continental Congress is much more than the annual business meeting of the National Society. It is an opportunity to be inspired about the ideals, spirit and work of the DAR. Join more than 3,500 Daughters from across the country and overseas in traveling to our nation's capital each June.

Help Us Reach Our Chapter Goal by Tallying Your Service Hours

A goal of the Wright Administration is to encourage and support projects and service opportunities for every DAR chapter to highlight historic preservation, education and patriotism in unique, local and impactful ways. The national goal is to log 15 million Service to America Hours.

Please help us meet **our chapter's goal of 3,240 hours** by logging your hours into the Service to America online tally on the DAR members website. In addition to DAR activities, Service to America Hours can include volunteering at your church, your children's school, a hospital or senior center and many other types of community service. Every hour counts, and your impact does make a difference!

3,240 HOURS



Chapter Members Roll Up Their Sleeves in the Fisher House Kitchen

Susannah Smith Elliott members provided groceries and prepared a delicious meal for guests of Fisher House on June 3rd.

Fisher House Charleston welcomed its first guests in January 2018 into a massive 15,000 square feet, 16-bedroom home-away-from-home in downtown. Family of veterans who are patients at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center may stay at Fisher House free of charge.

Our chapter has been preparing or providing meals for guests at Fisher House twice a year for the past several years in service to our nation's veterans.



Top photo (l to r): Cathy Caldwell, Judy Burn, Beth Pantone, Barbara Dobbs, Yarboro Winkle, Peggy Turpin, Susan Lee, Sarah Ziaja, Miley Taylor.

Happy Birthday to SSE Members Celebrating This Summer!

June	July	August
2 Renee Meier	9 Patricia Hunt	1 Harriet Hughston
12 Maggie Gatch	10 Judy Burn	8 Jamie Banks
15 Sally Weise, Lisa Rahman	14 Barbara Habegger	12 Amy Roger
16 Alice Gillespie	23 Mary Byers	14 Emilie Goldsberry
27 Joan MacDonald		19 Gail Masocco
		23 Josephine Gowdy
		25 Brenda Sutton
		29 Anna Hamrick, Annette Mole
		31 Mary Seyle

Kudos, Congratulations, Well Done!

- ◇ Susan Lee's grandson, **Aiden Lee**, a sophomore and member of the golf team at St. Mary's College in Moraga, CA won the 26th Memorial Amateur on Memorial Day. The tournament was founded in 1998 by John Rochelle, a Vietnam veteran.
- ◇ This year **Stacy Pearsall** will be inducted into the Defense Information School (DINFOS) Hall of Fame, which honors distinguished alumni who have made extraordinary and lasting contributions at the highest levels in public service, industry, the military or academia for at least 20 years.
- ◇ **Catherine Fontanetta**, daughter of Holly Fontanetta, made the Dean's List at Clemson University.



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[Susannah Smith Elliott Chapter](#)

Susannah Smith Elliott Chapter, NSDAR
(closed group)

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Send questions, comments and suggestions for future newsletters to summervillescdar@gmail.com and please include "NEWSLETTER" in the subject line.