

Virgin Valley Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution

June 2025
Newsletter

REGENT'S MESSAGE



It is coming up on a year since I have been installed as the Regent of the Virgin Valley Chapter of the Nevada State Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Every event, meeting, fundraiser and social gathering I attend as a representative of the Virgin Valley DAR, I am honored to be the Regent of such an amazing and dedicated chapter.

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a non-profit, non-political women's organization in which members can trace their lineage to a Patriot of the American Revolutionary War. The three pillars of the DAR are patriotism, education and historic preservation.

In the last year our chapter has supported our local veterans, school children and our Virgin Valley Heritage Museum in various ways. In addition to our many upcoming events this year, we are so privileged to be partnering with the Mesquite Exchange Club in hosting the 1,000 Flags over Mesquite this November.

We as a country are just over a year away from the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In the months leading up to July 4, 2026, we look forward to celebrating commemorative events leading up to the birth of this great nation.

Thanks for Reading,
Leigh Roessner
Chapter Regent
Virgin Valley Chapter NSSDAR

The American Revolution Experience



**Coming to Mesquite
Sept 2025
Stay Tuned**



From an award-winning website to an in-demand pop-up exhibition, the *American Revolution Experience*, a collaborative project of the American Battlefield Trust and the Daughters of the American Revolution is beginning a new phase in its quest to connect modern audiences with the fascinating story of our nation's origin. The *American Revolution Experience* will travel to scores of libraries, historical societies and museums through 2025, introducing visitors to a cast of historical characters with diverse experiences throughout the conflict and the places they visited on their journey.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Regent
Leigh Roessner
vvalleydar@gmail.com

Vice Regent
Laura Johnson
lztcorp@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Amy Bradshaw
Amyebadshaw@gmail.com

Recording Secretary
Susan Cox Lyon
slyoness@gmail.com

Registrar
Victoria Clift
Vickiclift@gmail.com

Historian
Nancy Blanco
Nancy.e.blanco@att.net

Librarian
Ruth Dickie
rmdickie.rd@gmail.com

Parliamentarian
Carol Livingston
Livingston.carol@yahoo.com



Grant Wood

Grant Wood was an American artist, best known for his paintings depicting the rural American Midwest. He is particularly well known for American Gothic,



American Gothic

The Midnight ride of Paul Revere



Daughters of the Revolution

I love this painting and I love the story behind it. This painting is almost 100 years old, and it resonates with me how much things can change, but yet, so many views do not. Below is an excerpt from Wikipedia that explains the inspiration behind this painting and how Wood came to create it.

In 1927, Wood was commissioned to create a stained glass window in the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Unhappy with the quality of domestic glass sources, he used glass made in Germany. The local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) complained about the use of a German source for a World War I memorial, as Germany had been an enemy of the US in that war. They expressed a lingering anti-German sentiment in society, and other people in Cedar Rapids also protested the German source. As a result, the window was not dedicated until 1955.

Wood was said to have described the DAR as "those Tory gals" and "people who are trying to set up an aristocracy of birth in a Republic." Five years later Wood painted Daughters of Revolution, which he described as his only satire. He emphasized the contrast of three aged women in faded dresses framed against the heroic 1851 painting of Washington Crossing the Delaware, which, ironically, was painted in Germany by the German-American artist Emanuel Leutze. Wood depicted his mother's clothing on the models, including a lace collar and amber pin he bought for her in Germany.

There are some antiquated notions about DAR. Since my involvement, I have encountered a few people who said their perception of the DAR is that "we are a group of women that wear hats and drink tea". Which is a perfect opening for me to talk about our community involvement and what we do to support our veterans, promote literacy and preserve our history. Over the last 130 years since the National Society of the DAR was founded, our dedication to patriotism, education and historic preservation remain the same. We are just continuing our service efforts with a new and fun sentiment.

Go to our website to see what we have been doing!



www.virginvalleydar.org



5th Grade students
graduating from the
Give Me Liberty Program

VIRGIN VALLEY DAR



Installation of our new
recording secretary Susan Cox Lyon



Induction of our newest
member Sharon Wakefield



Ruth Dickie with Kelly and Peter
from Forgotten Not Gone



Members helping the honor guard
place flags by veterans headstones

President General's Message

Dear Daughters,

As the Wright Administration draws to a close, we have taken particular care in this month's Daughter's Newsletter to capture the accomplishments of the National Society and its committees during the past three years. The task was extremely difficult due to the breadth of projects—a tribute to all that you have accomplished! Your executive officers sincerely appreciate the many ways each of you have brought meaning and contour to our administration theme, "Celebrate Stars & Stripes Forever!"

[To read more
click here](#)



NATIONAL DEFENDER

Log your SERVICE TO America hours

WWI Ambulance Driver Ernest Hemingway: Wartime Novels Influence Next Generations

By Sarah Towne Di-Cicco NSDAR Constitution Week Committee Member/Content, Hon. Regent, Martin Severance Chapter, Pasadena, CA National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Vol 67 No. 3 Washington, D.C. MAY - JUNE 2025

Ernest Hemingway, an 18-year-old ambulance driver for the American Red Cross, was struck by a mortar shell on 8 July 1918 while serving on the Italian front along the Piave Delta, in World War I. A native of Oak Park, Illinois, Hemingway was working as a reporter for the Kansas City Star when war broke out in Europe in Milan, Italy, 1918-1914. He volunteered for the Red Cross in France before the American entrance into the war in April 1917 and was later transferred to the Italian front, where he was on hand for a string of Italian successes in the first days of July 1918, during which 3,000 Austrians were taken prisoner.

**[to continue reading the
National Defender
click here](#)**



Committee Updates Service to Veterans - Ruth Dickie

The Virgin Valley Chapter facilitates a “Vets Chat” group on the third Wednesday of each month at the local assisted living, Mesa Valley Estates. A group of veterans meet and share their experiences with each other on a different topic each month. In March they pointed out the places on a large Vietnam map where they served and told many interesting stories of their time. Some of them signed their permission to be interviewed as part of the “Adopt-A-Vet” project. It is our goal to compile their stories in a book for the DAR Library. In addition to the March “Vets Chat”, the VVDAR coordinated with the Quilts of Valor to present a quilt to 100 year old Veteran, James Brennan.

April’s chat brought two special speakers. Rabbi Zuckerman, a resident of Mesquite, shared facts about the Jewish Passover Feast. He showed different foods and their meanings and gave the history of each. Ricky Guertin, a cousin of a chapter member from MN, shared of his Navy experiences while serving from 1986 to 1994. VVDAR also displayed our “Battles of Lexington & Concord” banner to remind the group that April 19th was the 250th Anniversary of the ‘Shot Heard Around the World’.

May’s meeting brought May flowers as chapter member Ruth Dickie handed out poppies to the group and shared the poem, “In Flanders Fields”, by Lt. Col. John McCrea. In addition, the poem, “The Answer”, by Lt. J.A. Armstrong Beleit, was read and shared on a card for the attendees.

The Mesquite Vietnam Veterans Association will be joining us for future meetings. Plan to attend a meeting. The blessing will be yours.

Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

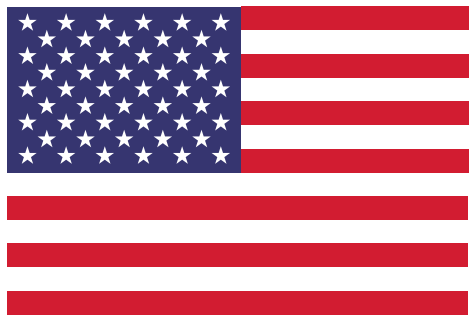
The Answer

In Flanders Field the cannon boom
And fitful flashes light the gloom;
While up above, like Eagles, fly
The fierce destroyers of the sky;
With stains the earth wherein you lie
Is redder than the poppy bloom
In Flanders Field.

Sleep on ye brave! The shrieking shell,
The quaking trench, the startling yell,
The fury of the battle hell
Shall wake you not; for all is well.

Sleep peacefully, for all is well.
Your flaming torch aloft we bear,
With burning heart an oath we swear
To keep the faith to fight it through
To crush the foe, or sleep with you
In Flanders Field





Flag Day
June 14th



June
Dates of Note

June 3: President Woodrow Wilson signs the National Defense Act, which expands the size and scope of the National Guard, the network of state militias that were founded in colonial times (1916).

June 6: The D-Day invasion of Normandy, the largest amphibious military operation in history, begins (1944).

June 13: The Marquis de Lafayette, age 19, arrives in SC, intending to serve as General Washington's second-in-command (1777).

June 15: George Washington becomes the supreme commander of the Continental Army as well as the entire army as no other appointments or enlistments have been made (1775).

June 17: The Battle of Bunker Hill (Breed's Hill) is fought in Charlestown, MA. Though a tactical victory for the British, the rebels inflict heavy British losses, especially in the officer corps. The British are more cautious fighting the militia troops in future battles (1775).

Constitution Minute

- The United States Constitution comprises seven Articles. The first three set up the three branches of the Federal Government: the Legislative, the Executive, and the Judicial. The next three detail the workings of the Constitution itself, including Federal debt, its supremacy over State governments, and the process for amendments. The last Article details how the Constitution would be ratified.

The Constitution is a marvel of clarity and brevity. The Bill of Rights constitutes the first ten amendments. In all, there have been twenty-seven amendments to the Constitution.





**We are looking for Children's
Books for our
Little Free Library
Please call 702-287-1614
to donate**

Summer Calendar

*JUNE 12 @ 12 NOON - MILITARY WOMEN'S REMEMBERANCE DAY LUNCHEON
AT THE MESQUITE VETERANS CENTER*

JUNE 18 @ 10:45 - VETS CHAT

JUNE 25 - 29 - CONTINENTAL CONGRESS WASHINGTON DC

JULY - REGULAR MEETING - TBD

JULY 16 @ 10:45 - VETS CHAT

*AUGUST 1-3 - NEVADA STATE SOCIETY DAR SUMMER FORUM
ONLINE REGISTRATION BEGINS JUNE 2ND*

SEPTEMBER 13 @ 10AM - REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17 - BELLS ACROSS AMERICA



**MILITARY
WOMEN'S
MEMORIAL**

