



# June Newsletter

Historic Preservation

Education

Patriotism

JUNE 2026



## Regent's Message

You may recall several of the previous newsletter articles were about “under-known” Patriots of the American Revolution. The focus has mostly been on women patriots, and this month I would like to shine some light on a very under recognized patriot, Doctor Joseph Warren.

Doctor Warren was one of the most important figures in the patriot movement in Boston during the early days of the American Revolution. Warren drafted the 1774 Suffolk Resolves, a declaration that rejected the Massachusetts Government Act and resulted in the boycott of imported goods from Britain. He was active in the Sons of Liberty and was the one who enlisted Paul Revere and William Dawes for famous April 18th Midnight Ride to spread the word that the Regulars were coming to seize weapons and ammunition from Concord and to arrest rebel leaders John Hancock and Samuel Adams.

Dr. Warren had been commissioned as a Major General in the Colonies Army shortly before the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775. Even with his rank as a Major General, Warren chose to participate in the battle as a private soldier. General Israel Putnam and Colonel William Prescott requested that he serve as a commander instead. Doctor Warren wanted to fight alongside the troops where he thought the heaviest fighting would be. He knew his presence in the front lines would increase the morale of the other soldiers. Tragically, he was killed in combat when the British troops stormed Breed's Hill.

Even though the Patriots lost the Battle of Bunker Hill, it is still a significant battle in that the British casualties were about two and a half times that of the colonial casualties. British forces greatly underestimated the undisciplined Colonial Militia. This was the first but not the last time that the colonial army had been underestimated by the British. British General Henry Clinton remarked, “A few more such victories would have shortly put an end to the British dominion in America”.

The battle also boosted colonial morale and convinced many colonists who were wavering their support to join the patriot cause. The Battle of Bunker Hill ended any hopes of a



## DR. JOSEPH WARREN

compromise with King George III and solidified the fight for independence. This battle also prompted the Continental Congress to officially organize a new continental army under George Washington as he officially received his commission on June 19, 1775.

British General Gage is rumored to have said that Warren's death was equal to the death of 500 ordinary colonials, and he was viewed by many Americans as a martyr for the American cause.



# Mesquite Days Parade



SAR member Bob Haywood with Leigh Roessner and Nova Mastrogiovanni



Nova Mastrogiovanni, Susan Cox Lyon, Leigh Roessner, Kelly Intagliata, Gini Addamo and Ruth Dickie

# May 9th Meeting



Installation of new officers, Secretary - Ashley Centers and Vice Regent - Nova Mastrogiovanni. Pictured with acting Chaplain - Linda Gault



Induction of New Members Brenda Blevins-Centers, Ashley Centers and Mary Ann Cox. Pictured with Chapter Registrar - Susan Cox Lyons and acting Chaplain - Linda Gault

## Virgin Valley DAR

members had the opportunity to meet and have a photo with members of the Red Cliffs of Zion Chapter Sons of the American Revolution at the Mesquite Marines Memorial Day Golf Tournament.



VVDAR Members Gini Addamo, Leigh Roessner, Nova Mastrogiovanni and Sarah Brady with the Red Cliffs of Zion SAR members



# President General's Message

*Illuminate  
Our Legacy*

May 2026

Dear Daughters,

This spring is blooming with celebration. As we transition to our new digital publication, launching shortly after Continental Congress, I want to offer a special note of appreciation to our state regents, state treasurers, and especially our state magazine chairs as we navigate this transition to digital. As our staff and DAR Magazine Committee team iron out many details, we know you have had many questions, particularly about advertising. Thank you for your patience! We are excited about the possibilities our new digital platform affords us and can't wait to provide a sneak peek at what's to come during Continental Congress.

Speaking of Continental Congress, I am so excited to celebrate America 250! and our many accomplishments of the first year of the Storage Administration with you. Plans have been in the works since the administration began, and we have a spectacular lineup of events for you to enjoy and award winners to recognize. If you have not already preregistered, please visit [dar.org/Congress](http://dar.org/Congress) as soon as possible to preregister online and purchase tickets for select national events. Online preregistration and national event ticket sales close June 1, with many of the most popular events selling out much sooner!



This spring has been filled with meaningful events for the National Society. What a special honor it was for NSDAR to serve as a host sponsor for the National Cherry Blossom Festival and participate in the 2026 festival parade on April 11. The parade route was close to our headquarters, following Constitution Avenue NW between 7th and 17th streets. This event was a fitting accompaniment to the Our Legacy in Bloom Storage Administration President General's Project—a \$2 million gift to the nation as the foundational Legacy Leader of the Trust for the National Mall's Cherry Tree Endowment. Your generosity will support the National Park Service's work to ensure the iconic cherry blossoms of our nation's capital endure and bloom for generations to come.

The following Friday, April 17, we welcomed members to our National Headquarters for a special evening reception to kick off a phenomenal weekend of America 250! celebrations. The next day, our House Beautiful was filled with Daughters and members of the public alike at our "Birthday Party for America." Attendees explored our new DAR Museum exhibit, Revolution in Their Words, offering firsthand accounts of the American Revolution, and the first-ever DAR Americana Collection display of the signatures of all 56 Signers of the Declaration. (These exhibits will be on display until March 27, 2027, so be sure to make time to see them during your time at Continental Congress.)

*[To Continue Reading the President General's Message Click Here](#)*

**VIRGINVALLEYDAR.ORG**

*Log Your  
Service to  
America Hours*



*Chapter Officers*

REGENT - LEIGH ROESSNER  
VICE REGENT - NOVA MASTROGIOVANNI  
TREASURER - AMY BRADSHAW  
SECRETARY - ASHLEY CENTERS  
REGISTRAR - SUSAN COX LYON  
LIBRARIAN - RUTH DICKIE  
HISTORIAN - NANCY BLANCO  
CHAPLAIN - SALLY KERSHISNIK  
PARLIAMENTARIAN - CAROL LIVINGSTON



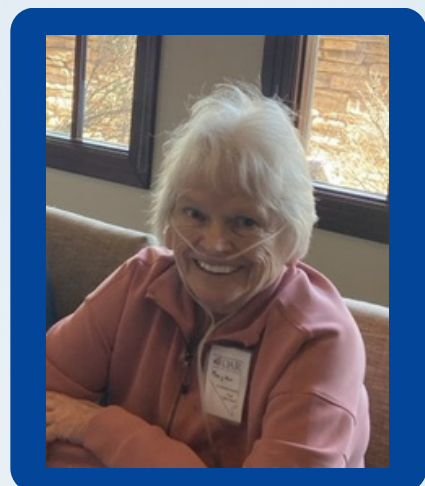
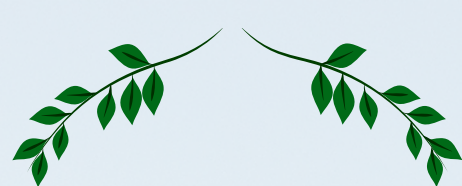


# With Sympathy

## Mary Ann Cox

Mary Ann Cox passed away on May 15, 2026. At 80 years old, she lived a full life as a mother of nine and grandmother of 30, leaving behind her husband Steve and a wonderful legacy. While we hoped for more time with Mary Ann, I am deeply grateful that she was inducted at our last chapter meeting as I know becoming a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution meant a great deal to her.

Mary Ann will be buried at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery. As is customary, she will be honored and remembered during the Memorial Service at the DAR State Conference next spring.



# Happy BIRTHDAY



- Doris Koch - June 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Mary Fruit - June 4<sup>th</sup>
- Nancy Blanco - June 12<sup>th</sup>
- Sharon Wakefield - June 16<sup>th</sup>
- Sherry Lesanto - June 17<sup>th</sup>
- Linda Gault - June 27<sup>th</sup>
- Nova Mastrogiovanni - June 27<sup>th</sup>
- Laura Johnson - June 29<sup>th</sup>



## Fun Flag Facts

## Flag Day June 14<sup>th</sup>



### **There have been 27 versions of the American Flag.**

From the 1777 original that had 13 stars and 13 stripes for the American colonies, there have been many changes and iterations of the flag. Each time a state was added to the union, a star was added. We, of course, now stand with 50 stars and 13 stripes.

### **The Flag can be displayed for all 24 hours.**

While it is Federal law that the flag should be displayed from sunrise to sunset (unless there's inclement weather), there are measures that can be taken to show the flag for all 24 hours. All that needs to be added is proper illumination of the flag so it can be seen in the dark.

### **The current Flag is the only one to have lasted more than 50 years.**

As stated above, there have been many changes to the design of the American Flag. But the one we currently observe is the longest running iteration of the symbol, likely because no states have been added to the union since 1959.

# June Dates of Note

- June 4, 1919: The U.S. Congress officially passed the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote.
- June 4, 1738 King George III was born. He ruled England for 60 years from 1760 to 1820 and was the British King against whom the American Revolution was directed.
- June 6, 1872 - Pioneering feminist Susan B. Anthony was fined for voting in a presidential election at Rochester, New York
- June 6, 1944: Also known as D-Day, this day saw the massive Allied invasion of Normandy, France, during World War II.
- June 14: Flag Day, commemorating the adoption of the American flag in 1777.
- June 19: Juneteenth, recognizing the emancipation of enslaved African Americans.
- June 21: (Third Sunday in June) Father's Day, a day to celebrate fatherhood and father figures.



## Civics question for Naturalization

1. Name one thing the U.S. Constitution does.
2. What is the form of government of the United States?
3. Name two important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.
4. Many documents influenced the U.S. Constitution. Name one.
5. What is the capital of your state?

(Answers on page 7)

# National Defender

## FROM DECORATION DAY TO MEMORIAL DAY: A HISTORY OF HONOR

In the years after the Civil War, Americans sought ways to honor an enormous toll of loss. Small memorial observances sprang up across the country during and immediately after the war. The man most often credited with creating a national observance was Gen. John A. Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, who on May 5, 1868, issued General Orders No. 11, naming May 30 as a day “for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land.” The first large-scale observance that year took place at Arlington National Cemetery twenty-five days later.

Originally called Decoration Day and intended to honor those who died in the Civil War (Logan’s order explicitly referenced Union comrades), the observance broadened over time. By World War I, the holiday was commonly called Memorial Day and was used to honor American military dead from all wars.

Legislative steps gradually cemented the day's national status: Congress made May 30 a holiday in the District of Columbia in 1888, and in 1950, a joint resolution urged the president to designate May 30 as a nationwide day of prayer for peace. In 1968, legislation signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson took effect in 1971, moving the federal observance to the last Monday in May to create a uniform long weekend.

To Continue Reading [click here](#)

National Defender



# Flag Minute

**The Flag Code:** The U.S. Flag Code, established in 1923, provides guidelines on how to handle, display, and care for the flag. This includes saluting the flag and the proper procedures during ceremonies, reflecting patriotic respect. **Protocol for Display:** The flag should be displayed from sunrise to sunset, if properly illuminated it can fly 24 hours. It should never be tokened or draped on objects, and in ceremonies, it should always be positioned of honor. This protocol reinforces the respect and dignity the flag represents.

# Native American Minute



Jessie Little Doe Baird, born in 1963, is a citizen of the Mashpee Wampanoag nation, which is the nation that met the Mayflower in 1620 when it landed on the shores of present day Massachusetts. When Jessie was born, the Wampanoag language had not been spoken for 150 years. Jessie, as a young woman, began having dreams of her ancestors speaking to her in a language she couldn't understand. In the 1990's, Jessie, a mother of five and a social worker living on Cape Cod had no linguistic training. However, she began to reconstruct spoken Wopanaak with the help of a renowned linguist Kenneth Hale at MIT. After graduating with a master's degree in linguistics in 2000, she launched the Wampanoag dictionary project and began teaching the language to members of her Mashpee Wampanoag community. In 2010 she was awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship for her work. Today children of the Mashpee Wampanoag nation speak the language of their ancestors all because of Jessie's dreams followed by her years of hard work.



# Constitution Minute

How did Constitution Week begin? In 1955, the President General of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Gertrude S. Carraway, adopted a project to promote the observance of the U.S. Constitution with a memorial week beginning on the anniversary of the signing of this document, September 17. She asked DAR chapters, committees, and members to study, teach, and discuss the U.S. Constitution. Caraway also encouraged members to invite their governors and mayors to issue proclamations celebrating the Constitution.

# Conservation Minute



**Beach Cleanups:** Keeping Our Shores Clean Summer heralds beach season, drawing crowds to enjoy sandy shores and ocean waves. However, litter-especially plastics-poses a serious threat, harming marine life like sea turtles and seabirds that ingest or become entangled in debris. This refuse also detracts from the natural beauty of coastlines, turning serene landscapes into eyesores. Joining or organizing beach cleanups is a proactive way to combat this issue, ensuring clean shores and safer habitats for wildlife. Beyond physical cleanup, educating others about reducing plastic waste and practicing proper disposal amplifies the effort. Share how single-use items like straws and bags end up in oceans, encouraging reusable alternatives. Local action has global ripple effects-clean beaches support biodiversity and preserve ecosystems vital to climate resilience. For greater impact, partner with schools or community groups to spread awareness and foster a culture of responsibility. Summer should celebrate nature, not degrade it.

# 2026 Summer Calendar

June 9 - Presentation of Constitution Week Proclamation  
Mesquite City Hall 5pm

June 12 - Women Veteran Luncheon  
12 noon at the Mesquite Veteran's Center

June 17 - Vets Chat @ Mesa Valley Estates 10:45am

June 18 - America 250! Reception at the  
Mesquite Fine Arts Center 4-6pm

June 25-28 - Continental Congress - Washington DC

July 4 - Fireworks at the Sports & Events Complex 7-9pm  
Firework Show begins at 9pm

July 8 - Public Reading of the Declaration of Independence  
City Hall 3pm

August 1-2 - Summer Forum - Gardnerville, Nevada



## Answers to Civics Questions

1. Forms the government, Defines powers of government, Defines the parts of government, Protects the rights of the people
2. Republic, Constitution-based federal republic, Representative democracy
3. Equality, Liberty, Social contract, Natural rights, Limited government, Self-government
4. Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, Federalist Papers, Anti-Federalist Papers, Virginia Declaration of Rights, Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, Mayflower Compact, Iroquois Great Law of Peace
5. Nevada - Carson City, Arizona - Phoenix. Answers will vary. (District of Columbia residents should answer that D.C. is not a state and does not have a capital. Residents of U.S. territories should name the capital of the territory.)