

**Mine Run Chapter
DAR Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2013**

On September 26, 2013, the Mine Run Chapter, NSDAR met at the Scafa's Restaurant located on Route 208 in Spotsylvania County. Twelve members, and one associate member attended this evening meeting. Two members, Pat Johnson and Cindy Kohl, agreed to read and approve today's minutes, via e-mail. Rochelle Grey, Regent, presided over the meeting.

The meeting began with guest speaker, John Howe, an Extension Agent with Spotsylvania County. Mr. Howe spoke about the importance of pollinators for our food system, specifically bees. He discussed the various diseases which have impacted the bee population in recent times and offered the group suggestions for pest control that will not damage the bees. Mr. Howe was presented with a hand painted drinking glass as a means of thanking him for his presentation.

Opening Exercises were conducted after the Mr. Howe completed his presentation. This included the DAR Ritual, The American's Creed and the preamble to the Constitution of the United States. The Pledge of Allegiance was not completed due to the absence of the American flag.

A National Defense Minute was offered by Ginnie DeHart. She talked about the chemical weapons and tension in the country of Syria.

A Flag Minute was given by Mary Stanley. She discussed the recent disposal of tattered American flags which were burned at the Quantico National Cemetery. It was also mentioned that there is a new book on the history of Ferry Farm.

Under Report of Officers, Regent Grey reported that the Master Questionnaire is due by January 15, 2014. She encouraged members to read the President General's Blog. Regent Grey reported that she attended the Fall Forum earlier this month and recommended that \$300.00 be given to the new Virginia State Regent's Project at Ferry Farm and \$100.00 be used for scholarships. She wants the membership to begin collecting change at meetings to assist individuals who are having difficulty paying annual dues. There will be more discussion on this issue at the October meeting.

The treasurer, Sue Shackelford, stated that the checkbook balance is \$3,726.23. The recent yard sale brought in \$265.00 and the raffle of the Adirondack chair netted \$890.00. The chair is currently at the State Fair of Virginia, where it is featured in one of the competitions. Brenda Groves from Maryland won the chair in the raffle. The yard sale proved to be a worthwhile endeavor and there is interest in making this an annual event. Proceeds from the fund raisers are being donated to the Wounded Warriors and State Regent's Projects.

The registrar, Debbie DeHart, indicated that the membership total is 74. There are still many members that have not paid their dues. Ginnie DeHart is planning to contact these women by telephone to determine if they are interesting in continuing their membership in the Mine Run Chapter, DAR. Dues

are not tax deductible. Cindy Kohl wondered if an installment plan for dues would be an incentive for members who are having difficulty paying dues. Members who are interested in becoming life members of the DAR can contact Debbie DeHart. There are still a large of number of prospective members who are missing documents to complete the DAR application.

The chaplain, Cindy Kohl, had no new activity in her role for the chapter. She is still collecting manufacturer's coupons for military service members and sending them to Japan.

The recording secretary, Leah Samuels, mentioned that 250 soup and other labels were sent to DAR supported schools in August. She also read portions of the minutes from the August 29, 2013, Board Meeting that needed to be voted upon by the group. This could not be completed due to lack of quorum; therefore, voting will take place at the October meeting. The items that were recommended for voting upon by the group included a motion to pay \$25.00 for duck food for the senior center that is collecting coupons, donating a raffle ticket for the new Virginia State Regent and requesting that Carole Berry be asked to resign for not paying dues for the past two years. Debbie DeHart stated that if a member is sent a certified letter regarding non-payment of dues, they can be dropped after 30 days. Debbie DeHart suggested that the number of members needed for a quorum be reduced to 15%. She distributed a list of the Bylaws of the Mine Run Chapter. She encouraged the group to review the bylaws and discuss at the October meeting.

Liz Couture is working on the chapter yearbook. She hopes to have it in time for the October meeting. Betsy Berry is collecting pull tabs from cans for the Ronald McDonald House in Richmond, and urged the group to bring them to meetings for her.

An announcement made by Regent Grey was to donate a Christmas tree to benefit Hope House. The tree will be part of the Festival of the Trees held at the Jepson Center on November 17. It is recommended that each member bring one or two red, white and blue ornaments or combination thereof, to the October and November meetings for decorating the tree.

Upcoming meetings are as follows: October 19, Debbie DeHart will be giving a talk on "New advances for using DNA for genealogy." This is a breakfast meeting (8:30 a.m.) to be held at the Country Cookin' Restaurant in front of the Spotsylvania Mall. See the Mine Run Calendar at www.dardebbie.com for further updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by,

Leah L. Samuels
Recording Secretary
September 28, 2013.