



NEWS

Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution
Minnesota State Society
www.mnmsdar.org

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Minnesota State Society Daughters of American Revolution (MNSSDAR) Gathered at 123rd State Conference

MINNESOTA - The Harriet G. Walker Chapter, NSDAR hosted the 123rd State Conference of the Minnesota State Society Daughters of the American Revolution at the Hilton Hotel Airport/Mall of America in Bloomington on May 17-20, 2018. The conference offered members from around the state the opportunity to come together for inspiration and fellowship.

Rededications: Marker Restored 96 Years Late

The conference began with a rededication ceremony of the memorial to WWI soldiers at Shadow Falls Park in Saint Paul. The Nathan Hale Chapter, NSDAR led the effort to restore the bronze marker, attached to the 36 feet tall octagonal granite shaft erected in 1922. The inscription reads "In memory of the men and women of Saint Paul and Ramsey County who sacrificed their lives in the World War. Greater love hath no man than this." The members then traveled to the Sibley Historic Site in Mendota to rededicate eight other recently restored markers.

The Daughters were entertained by the Fort Snelling Fife and Drum Corps and enjoyed tours of the historic homes of Henry Hastings Sibley, our first governor, and Jean Baptiste Faribault, a fur trader. The dedication ceremonies concluded with a reception hosted by the Nathan Hale Chapter, NSDAR.

Evening Activities

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution President General Ann Turner Dillion was the featured speaker at the Friday evening banquet; her address focused on her administration's theme which is "Moving Forward in Service to America". She also presented chapters with 100% participation-certificates. State Regent Faye Leach presented Mrs. Dillion with a Minnesota charm as a small token of appreciation for her attendance. A string quartet from Roseville High school provided musical entertainment for the evening.

Saturday's Gala Banquet featured Major General James E. Livingston, (USMC Ret) Medal of Honor recipient. General Livingston spoke about the tremendous courage and bravery of Minnesota Medal of Honor Recipients from the Civil War to present day.

Business and Awards

Saturday started with a business meeting comprised of officer, committee and chapter reports and the review of the bylaws. In the afternoon a Youth Awards Luncheon was held when state essay contest recipients were recognized with certificates, pins and cash awards.

- DAR Good Citizen contest recipient, Grant Schlichting, sponsored by the Rochester Chapter.
- American History Essay contest recipients, James Roos, and Caleb Roos, sponsored by the Sarah Steele Sibley Chapter; Zach Vandermeuss, sponsored by the Maria Sanford Chapter, Chapter, and Beatrice Edwards, sponsored by the Captain Robert Orr Chapter.
- The Christopher Columbus Essay recipient, Bret Klein, sponsored by the Josiah Edson Chapter.

Other Conference Activities

Other events during the conference included a silent auction which began on Friday and concluded on Saturday with the majority of proceeds used to maintain and restore DAR historic markers. The state service project this year supported women in the military.

Memorial Service

A memorial service was held on Sunday morning when departed members were fondly remembered. Barbara Lang of Farmington played the piano and the DAR choir led by Rachel Sanisidro of Burnsville, sang "Crown him with Many Crowns." Workshops and presentations concluded with a luncheon ending the conference Sunday afternoon.

Minnesota Daughters had a wonderful 123rd state conference with 225 members register with 21 first time attendees.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. Its members are descended from the patriots who won America's independence during the Revolutionary War. With more than 185,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations.

Minnesota has 23 active DAR chapters that hold monthly chapter meetings, host events, and implement service projects that make a visible and meaningful impact in their respective communities throughout the state. MNSSDAR members come from a variety of backgrounds and interests, but all share a common bond of having an ancestor who helped contribute to securing the independence of the United States of America.

To learn about membership or the work of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution, visit www.minnesotadar.net

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Pictured here (from left): President General Ann Turner Dillion and State Regent Faye Leach at Shadow Park Monument located in Saint Paul.