



SPRING 2018

— TENNESSEE —

WWW.NSCDATN.ORG

Finding the balance between past and present is one thing. Finding the balance between past and future is quite another thing.

An organization like the Dames has such deep historical roots and traditions that we find ourselves wrestling with how to keep the old ways, the current ways (which were once the new ways) and the demands of the future flowing seamlessly from one year to the next and one generation to the next.

Do we review everything we've done over the past 120-plus years? Not a bad project to undertake in order to best understand the forward thinking minds of those times.

Over the years we have seen projects, traditions and ideas gather and go – some go forward, some go away. Some are rediscovered and become good ideas all over again. Sometimes we have to edit, sometimes things edit themselves. Lack of attention or interest has a way of editing for us. Lack of information, lost information, more pressing needs and new ideas also add to the editing process. We can't really do everything there is to do. So we do what we can.

The Board took charge of the renewed HAPS Fund and the membership embraced it. We are proud to announce that the goal has been met and we have made our first award! We have all of you to thank for your enthusiasm and contributions. The HAPS Fund will always need to grow and your contributions will always be vitally important and encouraged. For that reason, and to celebrate those who benefit from the Fund, you'll hear about the HAPS Fund a lot.

NSCDA-TN has a new Website! Your Board is

very pleased to announce that www.nscdatn.org will be providing you and all Town Committees with a smooth and seamless flow of information, from paying for events, to paying dues; from posting Newsletters, invitations, announcements and pictures, to accessing the Yearbook (password protected, of course.) and links to other websites, including our National website and Travellers Rest. You'll be able to use the website as you choose. You'll certainly save a tree and mailing costs when you do! And we hope it will keep us connected better than ever, making less work to participate more. Technology speaks the language of Young Dames and Dames to come. We are talking about the future here, and the time to take action to speak the right language is now. But don't worry, for those of you who do not use technology, nothing will change. You'll still receive all mailed correspondence, newsletters, notices and invitations.

During the two years that I have had the honor and privilege of serving you, I want to thank you for thinking, discussing, acting and voting broadly, while considering both potential and possibilities, not just what is easiest. Let's continue to work together to do what is best for the Dames and for the future of the Dames.

With sincere appreciation,
Anne Guerra, President
NSCDA-TN





Cordially invites you to attend
THE ANNUAL DINNER
 Wednesday, May 2, 2018
 Social hour at six o'clock
 Seven o'clock Dinner
 Belle Meade Country Club
 815 Belle Meade Boulevard
 \$75.00 per person
 Cocktail attire
 Valet Parking Available



**THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 and
 AND LUNCHEON**

Thursday, May 3, 2018 at Travellers Rest
 House and grounds open for tours and displays
 at nine thirty o'clock in the morning
 Meeting begins at ten-thirty o'clock in the Barn
 Lunch to follow
 \$25.00 per person

Please send check payable to NSCDA-TN
 by April 26 to

Mrs. William Ayers Roberts
 510 Belgrave Park
 Nashville, Tennessee 37215

_____ I/We will attend the dinner on
 Wednesday, May 2 (\$75.00/person)

_____ I will attend the luncheon on
 Thursday, May 3 (\$25.00/person)

TOTAL \$ _____

May we suggest:

Hampton Inn Green Hills - Belle Meade*
 2324 Crestmoor Road
 (615) 777-0001

*Block of rooms held until April 18
 Mention: "Colonial Dames" for discount

**2018-2019 SLATE
 NSCDA-TN
 BOARD OF MANAGERS**

To be elected at the annual meeting, May 3, 2018 at
 Travellers Rest:

President	Caroline Rochford, NTC
Town Committee Vice Presidents	
Chattanooga	Elizabeth McCallie
Knoxville	Nancy Montgomery
Memphis	Julie Spear
Nashville	Cynthia Harris and Pam Shampain
Corresponding Secy	Mary Helms, CTC
Treasurer	Jean Bowden, NTC
Registrar	Clarke Harrison, KTC
Historian	Susan Brackney, KTC
Patriotic Service Chairman	Amy Wilbanks, KTC
Hospitality Committee Chairman	Laura Roberts, NTC
Newsletter Chairman	Melissa Faber, MTC

The remaining members of the Board of Managers are either in the middle of a two-year term and their positions are not up for election this year, or they are appointees to the Board. All members of the Board of Managers will be introduced at the Annual Meeting.

Thank you to the members of the Nominating Committee: Susan Walker, Chairman; Ann Kelly, Caroline Rochford and Anne Guerra.

INSIGNIA PRICES INCREASING
 SANDI ATKINSON, REGISTRAR

Wayne Jewelers' insignia pricing, as well as shipping cost, will go up on May 15. If anyone wishes to take advantage of current pricing, place orders before the end of April, and no later than May 1st! Dames may check prices and order from the current Wayne jewelers form that is on our nscda.org website. Click on Officers at left, then Registrar and see the order form in Forms Listed. Fill out with cc info and send to Sandi Atkinson, 6110 Hickory Valley Road, Nashville, TN 37205.

The price of most badges will increase to about \$370, plus the engraving cost and shipping. This is roughly a total average increase of \$90. Please contact me with any questions at atktn1107@gmail.com.

HAPS FUND

ANNE KEESEE

The HAPS Fund is off and running. We have had great response in the last year, and our fund is performing well. In the Wunderlich account, we now have \$158,145.41, which means that we now have almost \$9,000 that we can use to fund certain projects in any of the four town committees that pertain to Historical Activities or Patriotic Service. This is truly a great opportunity to think about some meaningful projects, so all of you, put on your thinking caps! Don't forget, this is a wonderful way to honor someone or to send a memorial for someone.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

This year, the Tennessee NSCDA will be launching a new statewide website at our May 3, 2018 meeting. We have the great privilege of working with Margaret Tolbert of Tolbert Marketing and Events whom we were fortunate to employ. Margaret has worked closely with the staff at Travellers Rest in redesigning their website and has an appreciation for NSCDA and our mission. We respect her experience and feel confident that she will do a wonderful job for us.

At the March 3 state board meeting, an amendment to the Bylaws was proposed to add a new board level position titled Communications and Technology Chair. This proposed change to the Bylaws will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in May. Francie Logan of the Nashville Town Committee will serve in this new position. Reach her at francie.young@gmail.com or 615-521-6935.

We have also designated a Communications and Technology position at each of our town committees to work as a liaison between our town committees and the NSCDA-TN leadership and the Communications and Technology board chair. Each town committee will have their own specific site that is accessible through the NSCDA-TN website. Thank you to these Dames for volunteering their time and efforts to keep our Tennessee Dames informed and connected!

Meet our Tech Dames:

Chattanooga—Mary Dunlap

Knoxville—Amy Wilbanks

Memphis—tbd

Nashville—Mary-Grace Robb and Francie Logan

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES AND PATRIOTIC SERVICE FUND (HAPS FUND)

We have selected the first HAPS Fund Recipient! Be sure to read the report from Patriotic Service Chairman Amy Wilbanks to learn about this recipient.

Your commitment and generosity is in the true spirit of the NSCDA-TN and your Board thanks you for understanding the renewed efforts of the HAPS Fund.

For those of you who have not yet taken the opportunity to make a contribution, please consider doing so now. You will be taking an active part in making a big, big difference for future recipients. Contribution information is below. On behalf of your State Board, all Tennessee Dames and future HAPS Fund recipients, thank you.

You will be able to make your HAPS Fund contribution right on the NSCDA-TN website, saving time, saving a check, and saving a stamp. Donate any amount, anytime, anywhere!
OR

You can make your check payable to:
NSCDA-TN

Please put "HAPS Fund" on the memo line.

And send it to:

NSCDA-TN

P.O. Box 50973

Nashville, TN 37205-0973

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

MATTE CAMPBELL, CHAIRMAN

At their most recent meetings, both the State Board of Managers and the Board of the Nashville Town Committee voted to endorse and continue to promote the *Why America Is Free* curriculum for Tennessee fourth and fifth graders. By “educating our fellow citizens...,” it clearly fits the Objects of the Society. But, so far only one school in Tennessee, Oak Hill School in Nashville, is using this wonderful program for the study of our Colonial history.

To make the dream of spreading this to many schools here a reality, each of our town committees needs a chairman for Historical Activities. I hope we will soon have an enthusiastic person in that role in each area of the state so that we may work on this project together. As time goes by, that chairman may take on other projects particular to her area, but for a statewide effort, we need to become a team.

Historical Activities is a vital area for our organization. It covers many types of projects in each town committee. Whether the projects involve oral/video histories, scrapbooks, cemetery documentation, cemetery restoration, portrait documentation, history lectures, trips to historic sites, re-enactments, judging for Tennessee History Day, or preserving an historic site in your community, it can be under the umbrella of Historical Activities.

As state chairman of Historical Activities, I attend regional and biennial meetings of NSCDA as your representative, and that is where I first heard about *Why America Is Free*. I was inspired by learning what Dames in other states, particularly Oklahoma and South Carolina, are doing to promote this program.

HISTORIAN

SALLIE SWOR

The Historian’s report is ongoing during the 2017-18 year. Data is collected from town committee reports and from other committees who have information for this year’s history. This will be posted on the NSCDA website in the summer of 2018.

If any of the town committees have activities that they would like to especially call to attention, I would be very honored to include that. Information can also be shared about Dumbarton House, Gunston Hall, Sulgrave Manor, and Travellers Rest.



SCENES FROM PATRIOTS DAY AT OAK HILL SCHOOL



DUMBARTON HOUSE

BETTY BARTON BLYTHE

LADY OF THE DUMBARTON HOUSE BOARD

At our National Headquarters, preservation and education efforts throughout the year brought our NSCDA mission of preservation, Patriotic Service, and education to life for thousands of visitors. This year has been dedicated to preserving and updating our beautiful Federal Period museum house and headquarters. The failing HVAC was replaced, the window sashes were removed and conserved, new interior storm windows carrying a filter to block UV light were installed, and the collection storage is being modified.

(Cont. on page 6)

PATRIOTIC SERVICE

AMY WILBANKS, PATRIOTIC SERVICE CHAIRMAN

It has been yet another exciting year of Patriotic Service activity. I sincerely appreciate the help of the Town Committee members and support of the Board of Managers in carrying out projects to date.

Caroline Smith, Knoxville Town Committee, organized and attended five naturalization ceremonies this year with other Knoxville Dames. They passed out over 170 Flag pins. Joan Campbell and Debbie Laidlaw have represented the Nashville Dames in welcoming our newest citizens at monthly Naturalization Ceremonies.

Elizabeth Earthman took personal items to the Veterans' Hospital from the Nashville Town Committee. These included 59 decks of cards, 110 pairs of socks, 45 T-shirts, and 80 undergarments to the Veterans' Hospital. They plan to collect phone chargers for Veterans and families to use while in the ER.

This year's American History Scholarship recipients are from Vanderbilt University and Middle Tennessee State University. Vanderbilt University's faculty chose Mr. Mario Rewers, an outstanding fourth year PhD student. We are waiting to hear back from MTSU. I would like to thank Meg Beasley, Chattanooga Town Committee, for assisting with this activity.

Melissa Harrison of the Knoxville Town Committee distributed Congressional Essay Contest information to school history departments across the state via electronic technology in an effort to increase student participation in the contest. She also coordinated the judging process of the applicants' essays locally, regionally, and nationally. This year we have three winners: Mich Rash, a junior from West High School of Knoxville, won a National Scholarship and Daniel Scrugham, a sophomore from Berean Christian School of Knoxville, won the NSCDA-TN Scholarship. Our third winner scored the highest grade regionally from our essays. The Board of Managers voted at the March Meeting to sponsor Rachel Bennett, a junior home-school student from Robbins, TN, with a first time scholarship from the HAPS fund. All three winners are very worthy recipients. They will attend the Washington Workshops Seminar in June.

It has been an active year in Patriotic Service and I hope to include additional activity from each of the Town Committees for the May Annual Report. Please send updates to ahwilbanks@yahoo.com.

TRAVELLERS REST

ANN KELLY

MUSEUM PROPERTIES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The holiday school programs drew daily groups of 100 or more! On Twelfth Night (January 6), Travellers Rest offered a special house tour based on the 1820's tradition of holding the festivities after Christmas Day, with dancing, wassail and gingerbread in the Barn. Many first time visitors attended, especially from the neighborhoods near the museum.

The site was closed for part of January for cleaning and planning. During that time, the State Board hosted a luncheon for the staff.

A collaboration with the Nashville Archives offered free presentations on researching African American genealogy and a specially designed tour of the house and grounds.

Registrations are coming in for summer camps, including a new camp on military history and one in which campers become apprentices to various historic craftsmen. Miss Mary's Academy, during which girls spend a week in costume learning to become a polished lady of 1812, continues to be very popular.

Travellers Rest received a grant to have Tennessee State Library and Archives scan our very fragile baptismal record listing Judge Overton's birth and to build a special archival storage box. A local high school student will be serving as a Collections intern once a week. New in the Collection is a photograph of Ida Thompson Dickinson, wife of Henry Dickinson (Judge Overton's great grandson and son of Martha Overton Dickinson).

Eagle Scouts built new brick paths in the Herb Garden and repaired the walkway in front of the Visitors' Center. Damage to a two-story column on the Historic House has been repaired and repairs to a second column are being investigated. The Discovery Room, a space used by both school groups and bridal parties, has recently undergone repairs and repainting. Later this year Travellers Rest will undergo assessments by museum standards organizations. Because of the collaboration between NSCDA and the American Alliance of Museums, Travellers Rest applied for a peer-reviewed operational assessment. Travellers Rest will also participate in Visitors Count, an in-depth analysis of site visitation. The information from these measures will assist with future strategic plans.

DUMBARTON HOUSE (CONT. FROM PAGE 4)

All of these efforts were made possible through the generosity of members and friends nationwide. The Dumbarton House solicitation letters were sent to our Tennessee membership in October 2017. I applaud the 7.49 percent who have made gifts to the Friends and Fund for the Future and encourage further gifts to bring Tennessee up to 100 percent. All gifts, large or small, are greatly needed and immensely appreciated.

SULGRAVE MANOR

ALLISON STEPHENS, ASSOCIATE TRUSTEE
FRIENDS OF SULGRAVE MANOR

Sulgrave Manor continues to improve its presence as an educational historical property. The opportunity this past October to attend the Annual Conference for The Friends of Sulgrave Manor held in Richmond, VA, was eye-opening and inspiring. The addition of a new Operations Manager on site, the refurbishment of the nearby Wool House, the development of activities and exhibits along with ongoing preservation reflect the active nature of the property.

The first response from the annual solicitation letter's "Flowers of Sulgrave" scarf fundraiser is from a Tennessee Dame! Thank you! Thanks to a generous bequest, Tennessee contributions to Friends of Sulgrave Manor from 9/12/17 to 12/31/2017 are \$55,237.60.

This June the Sulgrave Manor Tour, including Sulgrave Day, will help raise additional funds supporting the ancestral home of George Washington as well as allow those on the tour to enjoy the first-class guided visits to several UK sites.

I enjoyed the Nashville Dames' fundraiser Tea & Toddy, which was on February 25 at Travellers Rest.

GUNSTON HALL

PENN GROVE,
TENNESSEE REGENT OF GUNSTON HALL

2018 promises to be a busy year for Gunston Hall with exhibits, programs and tours; visitor center renovations/repairs and updated security and fire suppression for the mansion; and plans for George Mason's riverside garden.

The 2018 Washington Winter Show celebrated "The Charm of Chinoiserie". Two items from Gunston's collection were included in the Loan Exhibit. The Catalogue also referenced Gunston Hall's Chinese Room, the first of its kind in the colonies, and included a lovely photograph showing Buckland and Sears

amazing work. Harrison Giddens, Florida Regent, in collaboration with Mary Kristen Craver created a beautiful ad for the Catalogue, which received rave reviews and wonderful publicity for George Mason's home.

The Vision Statement of Gunston Hall is: "That both George Mason and Gunston Hall achieve broader national recognition, George Mason for the significance of his unique contributions to the universal cause of human rights and Gunston Hall as a premier historic site, for the purpose of increasing the knowledge and understanding of those we serve." Contributions from NSCDA-TN help Gunston Hall achieve this vision.

Dotsie McLeod, Regent at Large, and I will be attending the Board of Regents Meeting in April 2018. I look forward to updating you at our May meeting.

NSCDA-TN BYLAWS REPORT

The following changes to the Bylaws of the NSCDA-TN will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on May 3, 2018, upon recommendation of the Board of Managers. The proposed change will add a new position to the Board of Managers, "Communication and Technology Chair."

ARTICLE VII BOARD OF MANAGERS

SECTION 8. BOARD STRUCTURE

b. Voting members of the Board of Managers elected at the Annual Meeting by the NSCDA-TN membership.

Add: "Communication and Technology" to the listing of positions.

SECTION 13. STANDING COMMITTEES

Add: j. Communication and Technology. Shall be responsible for coordinating electronic communications for the NSCDA-TN, including, but not limited to email, website, and social media.

Corresponding changes to the Standing Rules will be contingent upon the vote at the Annual Meeting to add this position.



Jan Cobble, Knoxville Town Committee Chair, and her mother, Joanna Montgomery



Natalie Haslam and Molly Joy at the Knoxville Christmas party

KNOXVILLE TOWN COMMITTEE

JAN COBBLE, CHAIRMAN

The Knoxville Town Committee members are enjoying our four lunch meetings at Cherokee Country Club this year. We started in the fall with a program on the early history of the National Society of the Colonial Dames and the Tennessee Society. At our Christmas meeting, the Director of Blount Mansion spoke about William Blount's early years and an update on current activities at the Mansion. In March Paul James told us about the Knoxville History Project. Our May meeting will include Cardin Bradley speaking on the history and future of Lakeshore Park. We also pass out flag pins to new citizens at Naturalization Ceremonies.



Nancy Kelly White and Lucy Gump



Carol Ellis and Kirby Collins

NSCDA OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

The objects of this Society shall be to:

- collect and preserve manuscripts, traditions, relics and mementoes of bygone days;
- to preserve and restore buildings connected with the early history of our country;
- to educate our fellow citizens and ourselves in our country's history and thus diffuse healthful and intelligent information concerning the past;
- to create popular interest in our Colonial history;
- to stimulate a spirit of true patriotism and a genuine love of country,
- and to impress upon the young, The Sacred Obligation of honoring the memory of those heroic ancestors whose ability, valor, sufferings and achievements are beyond all praise.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL “LANDING OF THE MAYFLOWER” LUNCHEON

CAROLINE ROCHFORD, CHAIRMAN

The Nashville Town Committee’s Annual “Landing of the Mayflower” luncheon was held again this year at Belle Meade Country Club. On November 7, 2017, thirty-four Dames (seven of whom were new Dames) gathered on the club’s Loggia. We shared a beautiful meal and celebrated our friendships, new and old, while we welcomed our new Dames, who wore the now famous ribbons of yellow and blue. Janet Thomas and Nancy Grimes, our New Dames Chairmen, offered special recognition to our honorees. A special thanks to our benefactors Francie Logan and Caroline Rochford whose generosity provided for special touches to the day.

We were also able to display the logo drawn by Matte Campbell’s daughter (selected from hundreds of entries) celebrating the 400-year anniversary of the sailing of The Mayflower in 2020. As this luncheon has grown in both popularity and attendance, we look forward to our sixth year in November, 2018.

CHATTANOOGA TOWN COMMITTEE

MARY HELMS, CHAIRMAN

On March 2, forty-three Chattanooga Dames, husbands and friends gathered at the Heritage Landing clubhouse for a festive evening. We first enjoyed wine and hors d’oeuvres brought by our members and then a fascinating talk by Dr. Michael D. Thompson of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga History Department. Dr. Thompson talked on the origins of slavery in the Thirteen Colonies and showed many wonderful original graphics from historic sources.

Our March 8 meeting was at the McCoy Farm and Gardens. Board members Linda Collins and Mickey Robbins gave a talk on future plans for the property. We enjoyed lunch from Southern Star. Our May 10 meeting will be at the Chattanooga Golf and Country Club.



Caroline Rochford recognized retiring NTC treasurer Margaret Frazier for her dedication to the Dames over the past seven years.

MEMPHIS TOWN COMMITTEE

SARAH THORNTON, CHAIRMAN

The Memphis Town Committee held its fall outing with a luncheon at The Hunt and Polo Club on October 12. There were 25 members present. The Annual Christmas Party was held at the lovely home of Dr. Buddy and Donna Flinn. Our hosts met everyone wearing George and Martha Washington costumes. The catered affair was enjoyed by 70 members.

Due to inclement weather, the February luncheon at the Memphis Country Club was cancelled.

The Annual April meeting will be held at the Hunt and Polo Club. A celebrated local historian will be the featured speaker, the new members will be recognized with a ribbon, and a moment of silence for our departed members will be held. The proposed slate of officers will be presented, voted on and recognized.

THE YOUNGEST DAMES

SUSAN W. WALKER, PAST PRESIDENT

Have you heard of “Baby Dames”? Although young girls today do not want to be referred to as “Babies,” this is how the youngest members of the Dames have been referred to affectionately in the past. You probably are thinking of “Young Dames” as our youngest members. In fact, they are our youngest members in Tennessee. However, there are several Colonial State Societies that receive girls between the ages of birth to 18 into their membership. These State Societies include Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, and Maryland. If your Colonial membership comes through any of these states, your daughters and granddaughters can become members of those societies.

My granddaughters, ages 9 and 6, were received into the Maryland Society through my ancestor, Richard Harrison of Maryland on March 7, 2018. As Legacy applicants, the process was fairly simple, requiring documentation for them and

VISIT NSCDA.ORG!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

MEMPHIS TOWN COMMITTEE

Ms. Priscilla Thompson
Mrs. Edward Walthal, III (Jennifer)
Mrs. Frederick Wardwell, Jr. (Jennifer)

NASHVILLE TOWN COMMITTEE

New: Mrs. Michael Barton (Barbara)

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF:

KNOXVILLE TOWN COMMITTEE

Mrs. Samuel Beall, Jr. (Mary)
Mrs. Donald Dempster (Alix)
Mrs. John Howe (Frances)

MEMPHIS TOWN COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lawson Maury (Sara)

NASHVILLE TOWN COMMITTEE

Mrs. Rogers Morrison (Peggy)
Mrs. Harold Jackson, Jr. (Frances)
Mrs. George Luscombe, II (Jo Ellen)
Mrs. Hunter McDonald, Jr. (Emmie)

their parents, and for all of the other generations, I referenced my NSCDA-MD number. They will be members of the Maryland Society until they are 18 and can transfer to the Tennessee Society (unless Tennessee lowers our minimum age for membership). I will pay reduced dues for them to the Maryland Society each year that they are “Youth Members.” If you are interested in submitting applications for your daughters and granddaughters who are younger than 18 to become Dames, I would be happy to talk with you about the process. To learn more about Youth Members, contact me at sgww1@bellsouth.net or 615-594-7308.

OUR VISION

In this, the 21st Century, the NSCDA is responsible for educating its membership and the American people about the values and principles set forth by our Founding Fathers that shaped our culture, and for demonstrating the relevance of America’s history of liberty and freedom to a responsible citizenship. Implementation of national, regional, and local projects incorporated with the assets and information available through the resource center of our national headquarters at Dumbarton House will unify our members and inspire all Dames and the American Community.

OUR MISSION

The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America actively promotes our national heritage through historic preservation, patriotic service and educational programs.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

APRIL

18 MEMPHIS TOWN COMMITTEE MEETING,
HUNT AND POLO CLUB

MAY

1 KNOXVILLE TOWN COMMITTEE MEETING
2 NSCDA-TN BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING,
2 NSCDA-TN ANNUAL DINNER
3 NSCDA-TN ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING/LUNCH, TRAVELLERS REST
10 CHATTANOOGA TOWN COMMITTEE
MEETING



The National Society of
The Colonial Dames
of America in Tennessee
P.O. Box 50973
Nashville, TN 37205

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
MEMPHIS, TN
PERMIT #225