

S.C. Daughters of the American Revolution hold state conference

The South Carolina Society Daughters of the American Revolution held their State Conference in Columbia, at the DoubleTree by Hilton, March 15-17. The theme was Patriotism and Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of SCDAR. The Motto of DAR is "God, Home, and Country" and the objectives are Historic Preservation, Education, and Patriotism. SCDAR has 4,800 members statewide in 69 chapters.

The conference began with a tea at the Governor's Mansion. The members were welcomed by Governor and Mrs. McMaster and were greeted by South Carolina State Regent Dianne Culbertson of Gray Court, Pamela Wright, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Chaplain General, Massachusetts State Regent Holly Blair, New Jersey State Regent Karen Stroever, and Tennessee State Regent Charlotte Reynolds. The lovely event was arranged by Penny Renwick, State Archivist; Nancy Bunch, Governor's Mansion Curator and Ann Pamela Cunningham Chapter Regent; Bettise Davidson, SCDAR State Historian, and others. Gov. and Mrs. McMaster were given their framed certificates signifying membership in SAR and DAR by Edd Richbourg, State SAR President and Dianne Culbertson, SCDAR State Regent. Their application papers were prepared by Katie Hyman of SCDAR.

At the Thursday evening Patriotism Dinner the National SAR Color Guard presented the colors and DAR members who are Veterans led the ritual with the Invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, the American's Creed, the National Anthem, and the Salute to the Flag of South Carolina. Dianne Culbertson, State Regent, presided. Major General James E. Livingston, U.S. Marine Corp., Retired, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, was awarded the NSDAR Medal of Honor for his leadership, trustworthiness, service, and patriotism. He has made unusual and lasting contributions to our American Heritage by giving of himself to his community, state, country, and fellow citizens. He was nominated by

the Fort Sullivan Chapter, Nancy Herritage Regent, Charleston. Charles Baxley, noted historian, author, speaker, and leader of the publishing of the history of the American Revolution, particularly of the Southern Campaign, and the preservation of Revolutionary War Battlefields was the evening speaker. He was awarded the Bobby Gilmer Moss Award for his voluminous contributions to publishing and preserving the history of the American Revolution. A very important part of his work is the posting of over 20,000 American Revolutionary War Pension Applications online which can be searched by name, a tremendous help to genealogists.

Business meetings were held on Friday morning and Saturday morning. Reports were given by the chairs of most of the 69 committees. These committees work for education, Veterans, patriotism, historic preservation, conservation, and many other areas, endeavoring to make the world a better place.

Katherine Borges, a California DAR member with Laurens County Bolt roots, did a wonderful program on DNA, representing FTDNA. She also presented Mrs. Culbertson a wonderful two-inch thick scrapbook of her grandfather Joseph E. Bolt documenting his important work of many years encouraging the fundraising for the erection of the monument at Rosemont in Laurens County to recognize Ann Pamela Cunningham and her amazing work in saving Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington.

The Tamasee DAR School Luncheon was held on

Friday, recognizing the nearly 100 years of our school at the Place of the Sunlight of God. Tamasee was started by SCDAR in 1919, with NSDAR beginning their help in 1921.

A memorial service was held to remember members who passed away in the last year. Among these were Betty Irwin, Betty Clifton, and Paddy Vaughn of the Henry Laurens Chapter of Clinton.

Friday evening's State Regent's Banquet celebrated the SCDAR 125th Anniversary with a most interesting program on the history down through the years by Penny Renwick. Special guests were introduced including Mrs. Culbertson's sons Chad and Tucker, and her nieces who are DAR pages, Nicole, Jessica, and Ryleigh. A wonderful museum of SCDAR history was set up by Miss Renwick. A lovely State Regent's Reception was presented by Sarah Jane Armstrong of Gray Court and Margaret Ann Peden Swygert, a native of Gray Court.

The Saturday Awards Luncheon recognized graduates of the DAR leadership classes and gave state awards to American History Essay Contest winners, the Christopher Columbus Essay winner, the Outstanding American History Teacher, the DAR Good Citizen, CAR, Commemorative Events, Public Relations Award, Historic Preservation Award, Service to Veterans winners, Membership and Junior Membership Awards, Outstanding Chapter Regent Award, Page Award, and others. Malinda Chalmers of the



LIVINGSTON HONORED — Major General James E. Livingston, U.S. Marine Corp., Retired, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, was awarded the NSDAR Medal of Honor for his leadership, trustworthiness, service, and patriotism. Gen. Livingston received the honor at the SCDAR State Conference held in Columbia. Pictured are, from left, Nancy Herritage, Dianne Culbertson, Mrs. Livingston, Gen. Livingston and Alice Caskey.

Sullivan Dunklin Chapter in Laurens is the State DAR Good Citizen Chair and did an outstanding job of promoting this award in high schools recognizing students who exemplify the qualities of a good citizen: dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. She received this award when she was in high school.

A highlight of this administration was the publication of "SCDAR History, Volume VI", bringing the history of SCDAR up to date from 2000-2018.

New State Officers were elected and installed and will assume their duties June 30,

2018. Mrs. Culbertson was endorsed by the State Society elected Honorary State to run for NSDAR Vice Regent and has been President General.

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