



Texas Society Colonial Dames 17th Century
Summer 2025 Edition
Vol. XX, No. 1

Colonial Crier

State President's Message

We have a busy rest of the year ahead, so I appreciate this opportunity to highlight some of our upcoming activities...

In July, we have the Organizing Meeting for the Colonial Rose Chapter in Tyler, Texas. Marsha Young has been working diligently to put this chapter together for a while now, so please reach out and congratulate her.

In August, we'll be holding our Fall Board of Management Meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Temple, along with several other lineage societies. We appreciate the opportunity to meet with these other groups, as it helps keep our costs low. Our meeting is scheduled for Friday evening, August 15th and Saturday afternoon, August 16th. Only state board members are eligible to vote, but all members are welcome to join us for this meeting, fellowship, and informative workshops. The hotel reservation link is:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=TPLGI&arrivalDate=2025-08-12&departureDate=2025-08-16&groupCode=LINEAG&room1NumAdults=1&displayCurrency=USD&aarpRate=>

Be sure to review the dates at the top of the page when you make your reservation and update them to the dates you wish to stay.

You will need to click on "Edit Stay" (located at the far right) to edit your dates as required. Look for the call to BOM to go out with a full schedule and meals in the next few days. We have a short turnaround on registration deadlines, so please keep an eye on those dates.

September is usually a quiet month for us, but I wanted to share that the Texas Branch of the National Society, Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, is celebrating its 100th anniversary on September 16th. Congratulations to the Branch Governor and members!

If you're planning on going to the National Society Colonial Dames XVIIIC Fall Board of Management in October, please be aware that the deadline for hotel reservations will be



September 4th, and the deadline for food reservations is September 12th. You can find the call on the National website. Once you log in, click on the "Dashboard" dropdown, then look at the second column, labeled "Resources," and click on "News." The call should be the first box available.

In November and December, we will be celebrating at our holiday parties with our chapters and our families. Please note that some of our reports are due by the end of the calendar year and that you will want to make your chapter and personal donations to receive recognition at our State Conference in February.

Speaking of the state conference, we will be meeting at the San Antonio Marriott Northwest Medical Center at the end of February. We have some exciting plans coming together, so stay tuned for further developments! Make sure to wait for your room reservations link so that we get "credit" for your reservation; this keeps our prices low and prevents us from having fees for not making our minimum room rentals.

We will be sending out more information on The State Directory and the State Presidents Sales Project soon.

(cont'd next page)

We have included information on our new State President's Project, **Day 1 Bags**, in this *Crier*. I hope you become as excited about this Project as I have, and I greatly look forward to working with them during this term.

Before I close, I must share that the Governor Samuel Mathews Chapter has chosen to disband. We are very sorry to lose the chapter but are thrilled that many of the members have chosen to remain in the Society. If you are one of these members or know someone who is, please reach out to them about transferring to another chapter. We want everyone to have a home where they feel welcome. That's it from me, Ladies! I look forward to seeing y'all next month in Temple!

State President's Project:

Day 1 Bags

A few years ago, Hunter Beaton was working on his Eagle Scout Project and decided to focus on helping foster children in his community. He was horrified to see that these children were carrying all their possessions in trash bags and grocery bags as they moved from shelter to shelter or in and out of homes. He began collecting duffel bags, backpacks, and vital document bags for these foster youth and distributing them throughout the community.

In the years since then, he has expanded the project to form Day1Bags. He began to reach out to all of Texas, then to communities across the United States. The projects have also expanded to include campaigns to Adopt a senior from foster care, and a cool project called A Serenity Activity Pack (ASAP – more below).

But first, let's start with some statistics¹: there are around 30,000 children in foster care in the state of Texas alone. Most spend 3-4 years in the foster care system, moving from shelter to shelter or home to home as their needs develop. Day 1 Bags has managed to provide 48,000 bags across 23 states thus far – and we hope to help them grow!

You can find several campaigns on the Day1Bags website, but Hunter is currently most interested in working on the ASAP campaign. This project is to provide first responders (especially law enforcement) with a bag filled with items like small toys, stuffed animals, coloring and activity books, and various comfort supplies for when they encounter children in trauma situations. The hope is that these supplies will allow the traumatized children to have a positive encounter with the first responders, but also to be able to remove themselves mentally from the trauma so that they can help themselves and the first responders. Day1Bags aims to equip every law enforcement vehicle across the state with these bags – a lofty goal!

Another project for our crafty-minded Ladies – As part of their Adopt a Senior Campaign, Day1Bags has been gathering handmade quilts, bags, and utility totes to give to seniors who are graduating from high school and the foster care program. What better way to start your new life than with something that is uniquely yours?

Don't think the crafting possibilities end there! All of these kids need hats, scarves, gloves, and sweaters when it gets cold. Perhaps you have extra elastic and fabric and would like to make hair scrunchies. Your imagination is the limit here!

Do you have an idea for the project? Talk to your chapter and your fellow Dames. Contact us, and we'll work with the team at Day1 Bags to make it a reality. Remember that foster children often have very little to call their own, so let's help them feel loved by their Texas Dames!

You can check out the project at www.day1bags.org, and you can see the ASAP and Do You Sew?" campaigns on the site under "Campaigns." The site has wonderful links and resources, including Amazon wish lists and project ideas.

¹ Statistics taken from the undated media kit on the www.day1bags.org



First Vice President
Janet Hicks



Chaplain
Martha Ginn

Save the Date for the 2025-2026 State Meetings

Each year TSCDXVIIC holds two state meetings: the Fall Workshop/Board of Management and the State Conference. This year the Fall Workshop/Board of Management will be held on August 15-16 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Temple. There will be informative workshops and meetings on Friday with the Board of Management meeting being held on Saturday morning. All members are welcome. Information about the agenda, the registration and hotel registration will be emailed to members later in the summer and is found in this state newsletter issue.

We are busy planning the 88th State Conference that will be held February 26-28, 2026. The Conference Committee is finalizing the Hotel and Conference arrangements with plans to hold the Conference in the San Antonio area. Area I chapters will be our hosts for the 2026 State Conference and include: Embassy, John Person, Kerenhappuch Norman, Comal Springs, Capt. Thomas Jefferson, Ark & Dove, Robert Speer, and John Brewer. I am sure the TSCDXVIIC conference committee and Area I hostess chapters will be working diligently to bring you an exciting conference so you can enjoy the celebration and friendship at the 88th State Conference. Be sure and add both events to your calendar and plan to attend!



State Directory

The 2025-27 State Directory, including Bylaws and Standing Rules, is a valuable resource for all Texas Dames. The Directory includes contact information for all State Officers, State Chairmen, Chapter Presidents & Officers and every member of the Texas Society. Do you want to know if another member shares your ancestor or might have proved your Heraldry/COA ancestor? You can find that information in the State Directory! Fill out your order form and RESERVE YOUR COPY at Fall Workshop/BOM in August.

I really like the motto for our state organization that our Texas Society President Charleen Mullenweg has chosen: "Stand Together as a Family." This motto so embodies the responsibilities of my state office as well as the responsibilities of chapter presidents and chapter chaplains. As these officers review their membership rosters, please check for members who are ninety years old and above so that we may send birthday greetings and well wishes. I need member's name, birthday, and address if possible.

These lovely ladies may not attend meetings so we must find ways to keep in contact with them. In previous years, we often have lost contact with members who are ninety-five-year-old (or older) since state and national dues were waived because of their age. We do not want those members of our "family" to be forgotten by our chapters and state organization.

Chapter chaplains shall encourage chapter treasurers to report member deaths promptly to the national website. If chapter chaplains will send me an obituary and photograph for each deceased member, these items will be placed in the state Memorial Book. If you will send member's name, death date, and place of death, I may be able to find obituary and picture.

Let us rejoice as a family with birthday cards and grieve as a family with reverence and observance in a memorial service. In addition, if you know of anyone who needs a sympathy card, a "thinking of you" card, or word of encouragement, please notify me.



Recording Secretary
Barbara Glodt

Chapter Recording Secretaries, as you and your officers begin this new year, be prepared to record your Chapter Executive Board Minutes and send them to your Executive Board members ASAP to refresh their memories. Be diligent in recording the business of your chapter at each meeting, as well.

The State Directives for State Officers, State Chairmen, and Chapter Presidents will be posted on the Texas website outlining your reporting responsibilities for the Fall Board of Management meeting in Temple August 15-16 and the State Conference February 26-28, 2026. The directives will also address the reporting format.

If you need assistance or further instructions, please contact me.

2026 STATE CONFERENCE BENEFACTOR FUND

Our State Conference is a vital means of support for our Society by offering us a place to foster friendships, exchange ideas, learn new things, and be a part of the projects that benefit our communities and our country. Your contributions to the Conference Benefactor Fund help the Texas Society provide everyone with a higher quality conference experience. The names of our contributors are published in the Conference Program. Fill out the Conference Benefactor order form and mail it to State Treasurer, Janet Kres.

Corresponding Secretary
Lori King



This officer is very excited about her responsibilities during the Mullenweg Administration! It is such a true pleasure to serve with and communicate with our fellow Texas Dames! She shall conduct the correspondence of the State Society and shall prepare and email notices as required by the State President or the Board of Management.

The Corresponding Secretary also serves as Editor of the state *Colonial Crier* newsletter. In addition, she creates the Summer Packet, which shall also be going out to the Board of Management and the chapter presidents this summer to be distributed to their chapter officers and chapter chairmen.

Not all chapters will have a separate Chapter Corresponding Secretary. If they do, the duties of this position will be stated in the chapter bylaws. Usually, these duties will center around communication with the chapter members. The Chapter Corresponding Secretary may maintain a membership roster of the chapter with all forms of contact information, and this might include an email distribution list so that she can disseminate pertinent information to the members at the request of the Chapter President. There are no year-end reports that she must file with her state counterpart.

EDITOR NOTE: Deadline for articles for the Winter 2025 Newsletter is **Nov. 15**. Looking forward to receiving articles and photos of what chapters have been involved in since the prior newsletter! Also, the State President and Editor reserve the right to edit for fit, accuracy & redundancy.





Organizing Secretary
Anna Weil



Treasurer
Janet Kres

INVITE, INVITE, INVITE!

Hello, Texas Chapters! It is always time to think about how to grow our beautiful chapters larger so that we can spread the news about the wonders of Colonial Dames XVII Century and our local chapters. Where can we find potential new members?

First, look at your own circle of friends. Do they love history and historical places? Would they like to join a group of friendly women who believe in serving their community? Invite them to a meeting and continue to invite them. Introduce them to other chapter members and make them feel welcome and comfortable attending your meetings.

Consider inviting ladies from the senior center, your book club and the school PTA. Talk enthusiastically about your projects in the community. Discuss how your chapter has continued to serve the interests of your town in the past and inform them of chapter project plans for the future.

Always take pictures and share them in your local media. This may include neighborhood newsletters, school system social media accounts and your local newspaper. Write about your service projects and interesting programs at your meetings. Invite ladies to contact your chapter and join the fun!

Hopefully you are inspired to go out and tell your chapter's story. Please feel free to share your ideas and successes with this officer. I can't wait to hear what you accomplish.

It is not too early to begin collecting dues, which must be received by me **before November 1, 2025**. Notice that the National Society dues are remaining the same and no increase (like other societies).

Chapter Treasurers, please collect all donations to State or National projects made by chapters or individual members in your chapter. Please **do not** send donations directly to the National.

Forms that will need to be sent in at year's end will be in the 2025-27 Summer Packet coming out in August. They can also be found on the Treasurer General's page on the National website at:
<https://colonialdames17c.org/national/treasurer-general/>

This officer looks forward to working with our state chapters these next two years!

STATE CONFERENCE 2026

February 26-28, 2026

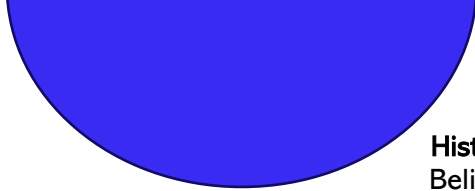
San Antonio Marriott Northwest Medical Center
3233 Northwest Loop 410
San Antonio

REGISTRATION FORMS, MENUS AND AGENDA WILL BE
AVAILABLE IN THE CALL TO STATE CONFERENCE
ISSUED JANUARY 1, 2026



State President's Motto:

★Shine Together As a Family★



Registrar
Kimberley Calaway



Historian
Belinda Brouette



This is an exciting time to be a genealogical researcher. With online databases gathering, storing, and sharing vital records, court records, land deeds and primary reference books, we can do so much more research from our home computers. So, proving the important child-to-parent link has become easier.

A membership or supplemental application is simply a series of child-to-parent links, and vital records are the primary documents for the birth event. Vital records are your friend, and you must have them if either the birth, death or marriage event occurred in a state that was recording vital records during these events.

Take for instance, if your generation 3 or 4 were born in Iowa in 1888, you must have the vital record because Iowa started recording vital records in 1880. If they cannot locate the birth record or birth certificate, they will send you a state issued Record Not Found for the birth event. You would place this in your proof line as "RNF/birth." Now you may use another document for this event. If it is a male, his WWI or WWII Draft Registration Card could be used because he gave the information, and it is fairly close to the birth event. For either ancestor, you could use a marriage record stating the bride and groom's date of birth. Again, this is fairly close to the birth event, and they gave the information. The least desirable document is the death certificate or tombstone inscription. The death certificate is a secondary document for the birth event, and the primary document for the death event. It is also the furthest from the birth event and the ancestor did not give the information. A very good list of when vital records started being recorded by individual states is on the last page of the current Guidelines for Preparing Membership and Supplemental Applications, found on our national website.

Please remember we are a team! All members may reach out to me for registrar questions and application status questions. We also have ladies on the fabulous Lineage Research Committee who are also ready and able to answer questions on lineage and application issues.

What an absolute joy it is to serve our Society as your State Historian! If you're new to the role of Chapter Historian—welcome aboard! You are stepping into a meaningful position that preserves our collective memory, and I'm thrilled to support you. To get started, take a little time to review the National Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Handbook, along with your own State and Chapter Bylaws. You'll find everything you need on the National website.

Now for something truly exciting—did you know our Society has an incredible collection of original historical documents and signatures? It is a treasure trove of our nation's past! The National Society is always thrilled to accept donations of original documents, books from the Colonial era, or signatures from Colonial Governors.

If you have something special to share, please reach out first via email for approval. If you're looking for a meaningful way to contribute, donations to the Historic Documents Fund go a long way. These help us preserve what we have and acquire more historical gems. Contributions should go through your Chapter Treasurer using the Annual Donation or Special Gift forms.

Let's talk programs! Every meeting is a perfect opportunity to spotlight our rich history. Whether it's a member presentation or a guest speaker, historical programs help keep our legacy alive. There are over **150** programs and manuscripts available on the National website—yes, really! Topics range from colonial cooking and court systems to gardens, medicine, music, crafts, famous people, and even ghosts and witchcraft! Just log into the site, "Dashboard">"Resources">"Programs".

Consider hosting your own essay contest for school age children—it's such a fun and meaningful way to get your community involved and inspire young minds.

Keeping a history of your Chapter is SO important! Some still love scrapbooks (and they're charming!), but digital records are now the way to go. Save photos, articles, and documents to a flash drive—it is durable, portable, and easy to pass along to the next Historian. Be sure to keep items like award records and marking details.

(cont'd next page)



One more gem for you: check out the *Services to Commemorate Historical Patriotic Days 2016* booklet on the Historian General's page. It is full of meaningful rituals you can use at your meetings to honor national holidays—perfect for adding a special touch to your gatherings.

If the President General or State President visits your Chapter, please send along photos, newspaper articles, or any keepsakes. I'm putting together a digital scrapbook to present to her at the end of her term, and I would *love* to include your Chapter's contributions!

Don't forget those annual reports! Chapter Historians, please send your report to your State Historian by **January 15**. If your Chapter didn't have activity this year, that's okay—just let us know so we can keep accurate records. Reports can be emailed or sent by mail.

If you ever have a question, an idea, or just want to chat, don't hesitate to reach out! I'm so excited for the year ahead and can't wait to see all the incredible work you'll do.

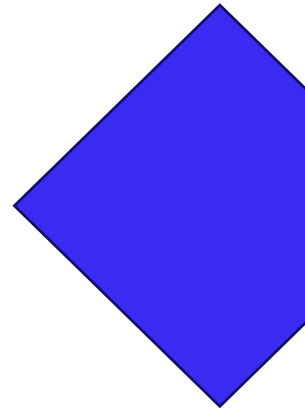
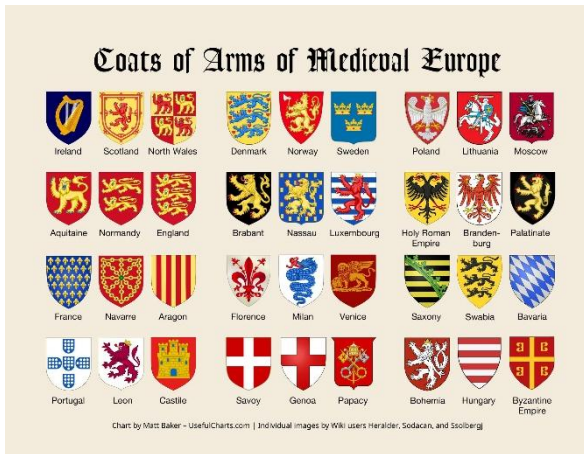
Financial Examiner
Kay Bakken



This officer is looking forward to receiving the annual Internal Financial Review Report from the Chapter Presidents by November 30th.

This Officer sent out the new Report of Internal Financial Review Committee form to all the chapter presidents and treasurers as they were listed on the National website. If you have not received the new form, please email me, and I will email you one.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Workshop!



FALL WORKSHOP/BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING

August 15-16, 2025

Hilton Garden Inn Temple Medical Center
1749 Scott Boulevard, Temple

BOOK YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS BY JULY 30, 2025

\$125.00 PER NIGHT

To reserve your room, copy/paste the link below into your internet browser or call the hotel at 254-773-0200. When calling you must ask for the Colonial Dames block to get included in the discounted group block. **Free cancellation before 11:59 PM local hotel time on 11 Aug 2025.**

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=TPLGIGI&arrivalDate=2025-08-12&departureDate=2025-08-16&groupCode=LINEAG&room1NumAdults=1&displayCurrency=USD&aarpRate=>

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND! They are attached to the email sent with the Colonial Crier.

Credentials Committee Marsha Richards, Chair

Each chapter should send a State Conference Credentials form to the State Credentials Chair to be received by February 3, 2026. The directives and form can be found in the State Committee Directives packet and will also be emailed to all chapter presidents by this chairman. Please note: the revised form no longer requires the signature of the chapter treasurer, and it can be emailed or snail mailed to this chairman!! An email verifying receipt of the form will be sent; if you don't receive a verification email, reach out to this chairman ASAP.

Delegates must be elected at a chapter meeting prior to submission of the form. Chapter membership numbers will be provided near the end of the year and may be adjusted if there have been new members, resignations, deaths, etc.

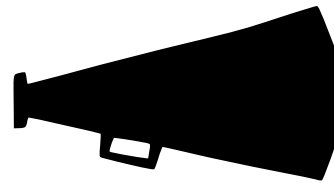
Please remember that Delegates by Virtue of Office are "extra" votes; use your total membership number when calculating the number of chapter delegates you need to elect, regardless of the number of Delegates by Virtue of Office you have. And these Delegates by Virtue of Office cannot be one of your elected delegates.

Marking & Preservation of Historic Sites Committee Marsha Richards & Laura Dahlberg, Co-Chairs

The first phase of our society's Object is "to aid in the preservation of the records and the historic sites of our country". Goals of this committee are to maintain a record of Historic Sites marked by Texas Chapters and to provide a well-documented resource for future genealogists and historians. Members, please keep this committee informed of your plans and efforts in marking and/or preserving an historic site.

Preservation of historic sites includes repairs, painting, or relocation of a marker or monument, enhancement of the surrounding landscape, gardening activities to promote visibility of the marker, and volunteer hours spent in restoration. The site may or may not have been marked by NSCDXVIIC.

Lineage Support Committee Mary Johnson, Chair



Calling all Chapter Registrars!

Do you have Prospective Members needing help on applications?

Do you have applications that need help resolving issues?

Do you need someone to review an application before it goes to the Registrar General?

I would like to challenge every chapter to have a growth in membership during the Mullenweg term. I know that many have struggled over the past years to get applications completed and then verified. The Lineage Support Committee is ready to help you get those applications completed. We will review applications for you before you send them in for verification.

Organizing Chapters, let us help you get the applications done. Chapters that are struggling with low membership, let us help you. Our team members are all over Texas and are ready to help.

I would like to introduce myself as the Chair:

My name is Mary Johnson, and I live in Houston, which means I have access to a great genealogy library: HPL's Clayton Library- Family History Research Center. I have taken several genealogy research courses through other lineage societies and attended several genealogical research institutes. Watch for more information on the Texas Colonial Dames Facebook page as well as the *Colonial Crier*. I will introduce my team and present tips.

Send any inquiries/requests for help to: lineagesuppCD17c@gmail.com. We are here to work for you!

Insignia Committee
Rene Piotrowski, Chair

Ladies, are you looking forward to adding a new pin to your Colonial Dames insignia? You will need to contact City Pride Ltd. (our new supplier) by email or telephone Tuesday through Friday (8:00am-5:30pm EST). The City Pride phone number is 888-679-8888, and their email is sales@cityprideltd.com They will obtain any authorizations for these pins for you.

After you receive your order, please send a copy of your City Pride receipt to your Chapter Insignia Chair. This information will go into the yearly Insignia Report to State and National. Chapter Insignia Chairs, please remind your chapter members to send you these receipts on an ongoing basis. Receipts tend to get lost if not reported right after an order is received. Any questions can be directed to Rene Piotrowski, TSCDXVIIC Insignia Chair at renep1797@gmail.com.

Pages Committee
Sue Barry, Chair

Call for Pages for the Fall Workshop/BOM
meeting Aug 15-16 in Temple

Are you going to the fall meeting in Temple?

Do you enjoy meeting everyone and helping out? Do you like insignia pins?

There is no age limit! You can sit if monitoring one door position, and do not need to serve for the entire two days! If many pages sign up, you can serve only part of the time!

All you need is a white outfit (dress or skirt and blouse, sorry no pants), white shoes, white gloves and a smile! We provide the sash.... A State Page insignia pin is available if you serve, a very easy pin to earn!

If interested, please contact Sue Barry: sjfbarry@gmail.com



Reports Committee
Vene Gregg, Chair

Coming soon!!!

Chapter presidents, the 2025 Summer Packet is being compiled and will be on its way to you, via email, in early Fall. Please watch for the packet to arrive in your in-box and distribute the reporting pages to the appropriate chapter chairs. Getting these reporting pages to your chapter chairs quickly will enable them to consider all the information requested for their committee and to then get the reporting pages returned to you in a timely manner.

Please use the Texas forms contained in the Summer Packet, not the committee forms on the national website. Encourage your ladies to turn in their reports to you in late November or early December so that you can quickly compile all committee reports from your chapter chairs. Send the reports to me, the State Reports Chair, before the holiday season draws our attention. The deadline for me to receive the reports from the chapter presidents is **January 2**.

I look forward to seeing all chapters complete and return the forms reporting on all the events that have taken place in the chapters.



Technology Support Committee
Betsy Ruffin, Chair

The new Colonial Dames 17th Century national website is still a work in progress (technology items seem to always be a work in progress). Texas Dames do have one slight advantage: "Yours truly", the Texas Technology Support Chair is also the National Technology Support Chair. If you have particular technology related questions as Texas officers and State committee chairs, you may send items directly to me at computa.cat55@gmail.com.

Public Relations Committee Lori King, Chair

This committee is dedicated to helping chapters and state societies educate members and communities about objectives and accomplishments within Colonial Dames 17th Century.

Positive communication is important to the success of our organization. Many who are qualified to join have never heard of our group or understand why they would want to join. Proactive communications are essential to success in promoting public awareness and increasing membership. Start with your own chapter. Members who are informed feel more connected and become more active. Active members are more likely to bring in new members. Take the time to evaluate the tools you are using to make all members feel important. Do you have chapter newsletters, yearbooks, emailed meeting reminders, phone trees and Facebook pages? Are you using the National pamphlets, Junior Membership pamphlets, or pamphlets created by your state or chapter? Are you meeting at times convenient to working women? Today's members and prospective members are busy, and club work does not play the role that it did for their mothers and grandmothers. Are we making our organization meaningful to them? These communication tools are also vital at the state level. When the members leave their chapter and state meetings, do they feel that they have learned something and have had fun?

Promoting CDXVIIC to the public by reaching out to local news outlets can be difficult. Make sure that you are professional and persistent with well-written press releases. Are your articles and photographs showing your work in the community? Print and broadcast media are not your only avenues. Social media is also an important tool to consider with websites and Facebook. Strive to make an impression on everyone in your community. Distribute brochures at historical societies, libraries, historic homes, and museums. Be visible in parades, community festivals, genealogical conferences, and in schools. Remember that all that we do is a form of public relations.

Please submit your reports to the Reports Chair no later than **Jan. 2, 2026**. I look forward to hearing how you are telling the story of the Texas Society Colonial Dames 17th Century!

ATTENTION!

State President, Charleen Mullenweg, is looking for members who want to serve as state committee chairs and also committee team members. Please contact President Mullenweg at cmullenweg@gmail.com if you are interested in serving!

State Committees still available:

- Colonial Heritage, Research & Records
- Heraldry & Coats of Arms
- Music (this is the Music Committee, **not** the Awesome Texas Chorus)
- National Defense
- Scholarships Chair
- Scholarships Vice Chair - Dale Etter Cook Music Scholarship
- Community Outreach (coordinates the state contests like Dames Who Make a Difference)
- Courtesy Resolutions (reads these resolutions at the state conference 2026 and 2027)
- Product Sales & Support (members to assist the committee chair in selling products before and after the state meeting business sessions)
- Silent Auction/Raffle (chair and members are needed to run the silent auction/raffle during state meetings)
- Tellers (members of this committee are needed to count ballots at state conference 2026 and 2027)

Texas Society History Award

The Texas Society History Award may be given to a person who has performed outstanding work in historical preservation in the area of literature, art, or music. Although this is a Texas Society Colonial Dames XVII Century award, the recipient does not have to be a member of The Society but shall be someone who deserves our recognition for their part in preserving our United States, Texas, or Colonial history. The State Historian and State President select the award recipient and may form a committee of members to assist in the selection. This does not have to be an annual award.



From the Chapters

Ark & Dove Chapter Grows by Leaps & Bounds

Ark & Dove Chapter keeps exceeding expectations as we grow continuously. Last year we gained ten new members, and this year we have already gained five and are on track to gain another five by the end of the year, with 17 more PMs that we are working to process.

With energetic members and an enthusiastic group, we are stepping up our community outreach. We donated over a dozen bags of pet products to the county animal shelter, donated supplies to a maternity home, donated cans of food to a children's home, donated over 50 pairs of glasses to the Lion's Club eye project, donated craft supplies to an organization that works with dementia patients, and put together multiple chemo kits for the State President's Sunshine Kids Project. Currently, we are working on putting together hygiene kits for military women, and we're growing pollinator plants so that each chapter member can start a pollinator garden to help the bees, Monarchs, and other pollinators to have more nectar plants available as resources become more scarce.

This past year we have also worked on Society goals, including researching a historic church in Georgetown and presenting them with a plaque honoring them as one of the oldest churches in the county. We also supported the mission of heraldry by sponsoring the heraldry library at our society's national headquarters. Additionally, we are stepping up our mission of helping members learn more about colonial life, by including articles about colonial people and customs in each newsletter, in addition to regular chapter news.

Our May chapter meeting was fun and memorable, with incoming State President Charleen Mullenweg installing the new board, and state Financial Examiner Kay Bakken presenting a program on opportunities in Colonial Dames. With a new board just installed, we are looking forward to another exceptional year of learning about history, solving more genealogical puzzles, doing more community outreach, and enjoying the camaraderie of our group, which always has room for one more.

Colonel Cole Digges Chapter

At the May meeting of the Colonel Cole Digges Chapter TSCDXVIC, Chaplain Mary Kate McRaney conducted a Memorial Service for our member Frances Jaunita (Shipley) Prestridge. She had been in Colonial Dames for 40 years serving as the Texas State Registrar and Chaplain as well as many state chairmanships. Her other lineage societies included 65 years in Daughters of the American Revolution, Dames of the Court of Honor, Colonial Daughters, Daughters of Colonial Wars and Daughters of the Founders and Patriots of America. Mrs. Prestridge, or Nana, as she was known, was a friend to many of our chapter members. Her granddaughter Sarah Sumner is a former Chapter President and has served as chairman of several State Committees. Many members shared memories of Nana after the service. Colonel Cole Digges lost a dear friend with her passing.



Cross Trails Chapter

Kleenex Boxes and Children's History Books were the focus of several projects earlier this year:

- (155) Kleenex boxes adorned with printed flag facts, colonial fort facts and a 4x6 flag taped to them accompanied school supplies, cards of thanks and home-baked goodies to (6) local schools;
- (30) Kleenex boxes with notes of Thanks and 4x6 flags were given to first responders along with home-baked goodies commemorating National Police Week and International Firefighter's Day;
- (40) Kleenex boxes decorated with Thank You notes to veterans commemorating Vietnam War Veterans Day were handed out at a lunch co-hosted with a local veteran support group;
- (100) Kleenex boxes decorated with flag facts and Happy Flag Day notes along with 4x6 flags taped to the side were given to veterans with appointments at the Tomball VA Clinic for Flag Day.



Pat Williams, Rebecca Kinder, Sylvia Foster, Kay Miller-Campbell, Mary Betty James, Jaime Pierce and Cheryl Downing made an afternoon out of taping fun Flag Day facts and flags to Kleenex boxes.



Vietnam War Veterans Day & Flag Day-themed Kleenex boxes



Jennifer McStravick delivering books to Tomball ISD with school administrators. A total of (148) of Mr. Barrington's Mysterious Trunk Series about Texas history were given to (6) different school districts & (4) public libraries. In addition, (15) copies of Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales: Alamo & One Dead Spy were donated



Author and Prospective Member Suzanne Swiderski (2nd from left) with Cross Trails members Kristie Campbell, Kathy Cotton-Windham, Jennifer McStravick, Kay Miller-Campbell delivering books to Klein ISD. "Stamp of Courage" and "Shadows of Liberty" of the new Road to Revolution series written by Mrs. Swiderski focuses on events leading up to and during the American Revolution. With an author's discount we were able to donate (65) copies to libraries at (6) school districts, (4) public libraries and (12) Little Free Libraries.

Embassy Chapter

Embassy Chapter, Austin TX, had a wonderful year. Embassy had presentations on the Scots Irish and The Winthrop Fleet. In April the chapter hosted a virtual tea party featuring a tea etiquette coach from San Diego. This program raised over \$300. The chapter's 2024/2025 service focus was on children. Embassy collected books for BookSpring, a local non-profit that focuses on childhood literacy, attained a Proclamation from the City of Austin in celebration of Military Children, and is currently reaching out to organizations supporting children going through domestic crises.

Governor Thomas Hinckley Chapter

The Governor Thomas Hinckley Chapter of Fort Worth, Texas had their final meeting for the 2023-2025 term. We are so proud of the leadership of our chapter president, Mrs. Joye Evetts, and her executive board. During our May 10, 2025, meeting, we were so pleased to welcome Honorary President General Dorothy Thompson. Mrs. Thompson gave a lovely program on "My Favorite Handkerchief" and installed our 2025-2027 executive board. We are looking forward to the leadership of our new chapter president, Diana Lussier.

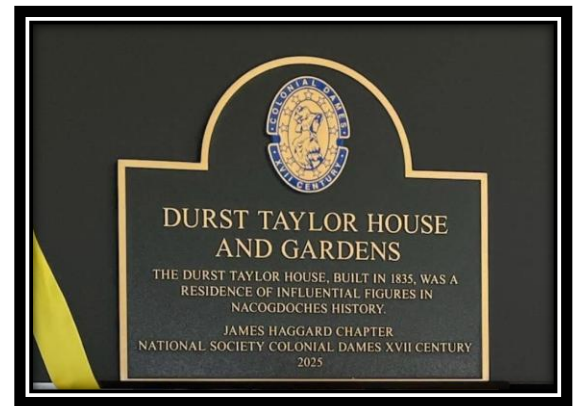


James Haggard Chapter

On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, the James Haggard Chapter joined the Nacogdoches community in the marking of their historic 1835 homestead, the Durst-Taylor House and Garden, which was the residence of many influential figures in Nacogdoches history, including Charles Taylor, ancestor to Senator Kay Bailey-Hutchison.

Tuesday's unveiling included proclamations read by representatives from District 17, Representative Pete Sessions, State Senator Robert Nichols, Senator John Cornyn, and State Representative Joanne Shofner. Also, Nacogdoches Mayor Randy Johnson presented a proclamation from the City.

After the dedication a luncheon and meeting were held at the Hotel Fredonia. In attendance were HPG Dorothy Thompson, HSP Laura Dahlberg, State President Charleen Mullenweg, State First Vice President Janet Hicks, and State Registrar Kimberley Calaway.



James River Chapter

The James River Chapter of Irving, TX held their end-of-year meeting on Friday, May 16th at the Woman's Club of Grand Prairie. Following a fascinating program of "Things You May Not Have Known about Everyday Colonial Items" given by Melalee Camak, member Diane Dyess proceeded with our official installation of officers for the 2025-2027 term. Our new officers are President Robin Carter, Vice-President Gina Smith, Recording Secretary Connie Mize, Treasurer Dorothy Norred, Registrar Doris Kettelhut, and Chaplain Rita Smith.

This past year has seen our members volunteering their time and effort to our community and to our veterans at the local, state, and national levels. We are proud of our members for embodying the virtues of compassion and kindness. On this Memorial Day, we remember and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as demonstrating compassion towards our veterans and active-duty military members. As the phrase goes, "We are the home of the free, *because* of the brave."



Robert Woodson Chapter

The Robert Woodson Chapter was honored to have Texas State President Charleen "Charlie" Mullenweg attend our May 2025 meeting at the Carriage Inn in Conroe. President Mullenweg told about her theme, "Shine Together as a Family" and ideas for her 2025-2027 administration. She also installed the Robert Woodson Chapter 2025-2027 Chapter officers.



Isaac Conroe and Laura Dahlberg getting prepared to greet the reception attendees.



Members attending Conference: Coyla Holmes, Registrar Jennifer White, Maureen Chegin, RW President Laura Dahlberg, Secretary Sue Hereford and Treasurer Judy Weidner.



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