



Texas Society Colonial Dames 17th Century
Winter 2025 Edition
Vol. XX, No. 2

Colonial Crier

State President's Message



Hello to my favorite Ladies! Winter is here in central Texas. Temperatures have dropped below 80 degrees at night, and the holidays have arrived. Let me catch you up on the news since this summer's edition before we get to future deadlines.

We had a lovely organizing meeting for our new Colonial Rose Chapter in Tyler in July. The Ladies there were so welcoming, and it was nice to see some familiar faces that I hadn't seen since before the pandemic. I was particularly excited to meet Cheryl Giordano there, who agreed to be our new State Parliamentarian. Their chartering meeting took place December 13! Colonial Rose Chapter is now official! Another chapter is also forming, and more information on that will be shared once it charters.

In August, we hosted our Fall Board of Management meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Temple alongside several of our sister groups. We had an absolute blast while getting some serious work done. We approved eight new standing rules, primarily for clarifying and streamlining our financial processes. I'm particularly proud that we will be waiving the registration fees and banquet costs for our pages serving at the State Conference. See the meeting minutes that the State Corresponding Secretary, Lori King, emailed out for our State Recording Secretary, Barbara Glodt. If you didn't receive a copy of this or any other communication, please let your Chapter President know.

I attended the National Society Fall Board of Management at the Marriott Georgetown in October and had a nice time there as well. We had a very productive meeting to plan the National Conference in April. Texas has the honor of hosting the National Banquet at that conference, so please consider attending to show National how much fun our Texas Dames are!

I'm sorry to tell you that the Richard Borden Chapter in Tyler has voted to disband. They are working with the State Officers and Membership Chairman to follow all the disbanding procedures, and many of their members have chosen to transfer to chapters across the State Society. If your Chapter gets an inquiry from one of these ladies, please be welcoming to them. Reach out to any State Officers if you have questions on transferring and reinstatement procedures.



Another reminder that year-end reports are due to the Reports Chairman for her receipt by Jan 2, so please prepare accordingly! We want to put together a nice awards luncheon for the State Conference in San Antonio, but we need your reports to do so! Remember this when dealing with financial awards: if the money didn't pass through the State Treasurer, your Chapter does not get credit for the donation. So, if your Chapter wants to get those awards, then your treasurer needs to get those checks to Janet Kres by the end of December.

In December and January, I am making three more chapter visits to Lubbock, Fort Worth, and New Braunfels. Am I on your Chapter's schedule yet? If not, do reach out, and we will work on arranging a visit. This has been my favorite part of the job, as I love meeting my favorite Ladies and seeing some of the ones who can't make it to one of our State Meetings.

I am (im)patiently waiting for the State President's Project pin and should have news by the end of this month. For those of you who would like to see the final design, I've sent a copy of it to Lori for inclusion in this Crier. As soon as I have the final production dates, Lori will send out an order form.

(cont'd next page)

Sales of the State Directory are proceeding well, and Janet Hicks has already requested a second printing. If you would like to pick up your copy at the State Conference, please send your order form to Janet Kres by mid-January at the latest. This gives us time to go to a third printing if needed.

Planning for our 88th State Conference is going well, and we have included a reservation link for the San Antonio Marriott Northwest Medical Center in this newsletter so you can get started planning with us!

It's a busy time of year, but don't forget our State President's Project, Day1Bags! Please send any monetary donations to the State Treasurer, but if you choose to do a service project, please let one of our State Officers know! You can check out their website, www.day1bags.org, for inspiration.

I hope you have a wonderful holiday season with your friends and families. Watch your emails for further updates on everything as information comes in! Best, *Charlie*

STATE PRESIDENT'S PROJECT PIN



More information on ordering coming soon!



"Shine Together as a Family"

STATE DIRECTORY ORDER FORM

The 2025-2027 State Directory, including the Revised Bylaws and Standing Rules, is a valuable resource for all Texas Dames. The Directory includes contact information for all National Officers & Chairmen, State Officers & Chairmen, Chapter Presidents & Officers, and every member of the Texas Society. Do you want to know if another Texas member shares your ancestor or might have proved your Heraldry/COA ancestor? You can find that information in the State Directory!

Now you can order these fantastic books until 15 January 2027! Directories will be printed in sets of ten.

The price for pickup at a state meeting is \$20.00, or a mailed copy is \$28.

(Select your purchase option below)

- I want to pick up the Directory at a state meeting
 Please mail the Directory to me at the address below

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS BELOW

Name: _____

Address: _____

City State & Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please make checks payable to TSCDXVIIC and write "State Directory" in the memo line. Mail this form and your check to:

Janet Kres, State Treasurer
P.O. Box 80635
Austin, TX 78708-0635

For use only during the 2025-2027 term



Recording Secretary
Barbara Glodt

Chapter Recording Secretaries, please continue to be diligent in recording the business of your chapter at each meeting.

The State Directives for State Officers, State Chairmen, and Chapter Presidents will be posted on the Texas website outlining your reporting responsibilities for 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.

Corresponding Secretary
Lori King



This officer 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.

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 2026 Summer Colonial Crier Newsletter is **July 1**. Looking forward to receiving articles and photos of what chapters have been involved in since the prior newsletter as well as articles from our state officers and state committee chairs! Also, the State President and Editor reserve the right to edit for fit, accuracy & redundancy.

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.





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.

State President's Motto:

Shine Together As a Family

Chapters,

Please use my new mailing address:
P.O. Box 80635 Austin, TX 78708-0635
Already this year I have not received two pieces of correspondence (with checks enclosed) mailed to the street address. I can only deposit checks I receive.

You may include National and State dues in the same check. All checks should be payable to "TX Society CDXVIIC".

State membership dues are \$10.00 for both adults and juniors (18 to 35 years)

National membership dues are \$35.00 for adults and \$17.50 for juniors

Senior Members over 95 years of age who have been active members for a total of 15 years or more are exempt from paying State and National dues. The Chapter decides whether senior members pay Chapter dues.

State Supplemental fee continues to be \$2.00 and mailed to this officer.

The TSCDXVIIC Procedure Manual, available at the State website, has Chapter Treasurer information starting on p. 46, which provides processes and deadlines for treasurer duties as well as all other activities relating to the Texas Society.

Chapter Treasurers, please collect all donations to State or National projects made by your chapter or individual members in your chapter, and send these donations to the State Treasurer for processing. Any donations sent directly to the National Society will not be credited to your Chapter or member. The Chapter, members, and State Society will only receive recognition for donations processed through the State Treasurer.

If you have any questions, please email (Janetkres800@gmail.com, or call 512-836-5773 (home) or 512-658-1721 (cell).

Chapter treasurers are doing a great job with the new website!! Thank you.



Registrar
Kimberley Calaway

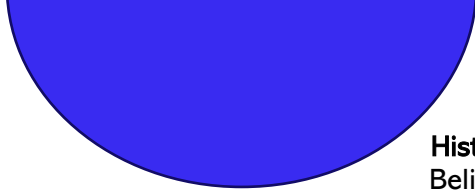


The Winter 2025 “Colonial Crier” brings the good news that the Texas Society Colonial Dames 17 Century now has 1,100 active members! We have had 42 new members approved since the start of the Mullenweg Administration, with 29 of those approvals since July 1st. We are working as a mighty team, and I am very proud of our hard-working chapter registrars and their new members and prospective members!

On a state level, keep those questions coming! I am impressed with the number of great questions I've been asked because it shows me how hard you ladies are working, and it also shows how hard you are trying to do things correctly.

Remember that the first week in January 2026 is when your chapter registrar reports are due to me. You may email them to me at aapcolonialdames17c@gmail.com or snail mail them to me at the address on the form. If they are snail mailed, please mail the report before the end of December so I can receive your report in time. The Texas Registrar's Packet was emailed to all chapter presidents in August, but if you did not receive the email, the Texas Registrar's Packet is available on our Texas Society's website at member.txdames17c.org.

On a national level, the Registrar General has posted a new Registrar's Checklist. She is requesting that the new checklist be included with all applications. The “Registrar's Checklist” may be found on our national website at: colonialdames17c.org. Go to our website, log-in, go to Dashboard and under Directories, go to National Executive Board, go to Registrar General and there you will find the downloadable “Registrar's Checklist for Applications”. The Registrar General has announced that she will no longer accept Short Form Membership applications. All membership applications are to be long form only.



Historian
Belinda Brouette



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.

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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.

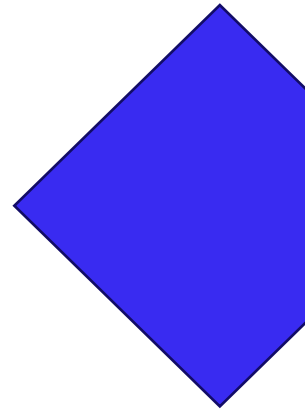
If you ever have a question, an idea, or just want to chat, don't hesitate to reach out! I'm so excited for the year ahead and can't wait to see all the incredible work you'll do.

Financial Examiner
Kay Bakken



This Officer 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 2026 State Conference!



STATE CONFERENCE 2026 HOTEL RESERVATIONS LINK

The link for hotel reservations for the 2026 State Conference is found below.

Hotel Reservations for the 88th State Conference
San Antonio Marriott Northwest Medical Center
February 26-28, 2026

Reservations are now open for the 2026 State Conference. You can use the link below to reserve your room from Wednesday, February to Sunday, March 1, 2026. The hotel is offering your special group rate of \$139.00 USD per night and you can select the type of room you would like. The last day to book your room is Monday, January 26, 2026.

Book your group rate for Texas Society of Colonial Dames XVII Century 2026

Copy and paste into your browser:

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1752767391743&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Calling all Texas Dames to the America 250 Banquet

The Texas Society has the honor of hosting the America 250 banquet Friday, April 10th during the 2026 National Conference in Washington, DC. Our banquet will be the biggest event of the conference, and we urge Texas Dames to be there for the celebration. Make plans to attend now!

The Texas Society will be decorating with these beautiful centerpieces, and there will be special celebration giveaways at the banquet and throughout the conference.

We are estimating 175 attendees for the banquet, which is larger than the normal banquet attendance. We need as many Texans as possible to help with the event set up. All Texans who attend the banquet will have reserve seating for the event!

Marsha Richards and Chris Womack
America 250 Banquet Co-Chairs



Colonial Heritage, Research, and Records Committee

Robin Carter, Chair

For Colonial Heritage Month in October, please share any activities, proclamations, or presentations that your chapter participated in with any pictures you would like to share on our Texas Society Colonial CDXVIIC Facebook page. Members would enjoy seeing the variety of ways our colonial heritage was celebrated in our great state.

For Chapter Presidents or Committee Chairs who will be completing the Annual Report Form for Colonial Heritage, Research, and Records, you will find this report in the Summer Packet for 2025-2027. This report should be sent to the State Reports Chair in late December to be received by the early January deadline. *Thank you in advance* to all chapters sending this in, even if you check “no report.” *We appreciate you* and would love to receive reports from all chapters for 100% participation.

Seventeenth Century Occupations

In the Seventeenth Century, there was an extensive variety of occupations. The need for practicality drove the types of occupations for the people immigrating to America. The need for housing, home goods, clothing, tools, food, and farm products dominated the types of skills or trades practiced. *How many of the following examples did you know or are new to you?*

- ACKERMAN: a man who ploughed or cultivated the land
- ALL SPICE: grocer
- BEAVER: one who made felt used in hat making
- BOOTHMAN: a corn merchant
- CHALONER: blanket maker
- COPER: a horse dealer
- DOWSER: a person who found water using a forked stick or dowsing stick
- EYER: a person who made eyes in needles used for sewing
- FELLER: a woodcutter
- LORESMAN: a teacher
- POTTER CARRIER: a chemist or pharmacist
- STAY MAKER: a corset maker
- THACKER/THATCHER: one who covered roofs with straw or reeds
- VULCAN: blacksmith
- WAY-MAKER: a person employed to make roads



Source websites:

- <https://genpa.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/pennsylvania-genealogical-magazine/PGM-Volume-35-No-4-319-325.pdf>
- <https://homepages.rootsweb.com/~sam/occupation.html>



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 2025-27 State Officers and State Committee Directives packet and have been 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. Chapters not submitting a credentials form will be contacted periodically as the deadline approaches.

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

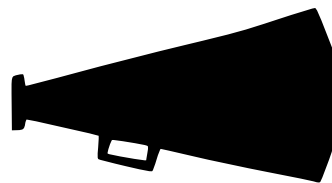
Please remember that Delegates by Virtue of Office are "extra" votes; use your total membership number when calculating the number of chapter delegates you need to elect, regardless of the number of Delegates by Virtue of Office you have. And these Delegates by Virtue of Office cannot be one of your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

National Defense Committee Kimberley Calaway, Chair

As the Texas State National Defense Chairman, I would like to challenge all our chapters to do a one-to-three-minute National Defense Report, or "Tribute" at your next chapter meeting. The report could be on spotlighting national defense efforts, historical events, war heroes, celebration of National holidays (Independence Day, Memorial Day), or Wreaths Across America. If you recognize U.S. Military War Heroes/Veterans, sponsor or discuss National Defense Education in schools, participate in American flag ceremonies or U.S. Citizenship education, please let me know.

Wanda Samek of Star of Destiny Chapter sent me a wonderful National Defense program on "Robot Dogs" that I will gladly email to you. Please contact me at aapcolonialdames17c@gmail.com for this program.

Then, at the end of this year, you can report back to me about all of the National Defense moments you and your chapter have shared. The year-end report form for National Defense is in the Texas State Summer Packet, or I can send you one if you contact me at aapcolonialdames17c@gmail.com.

Page Committee Sue Berry, Chair

Call for Pages for the 2026 State Conference!

Are you going to 2026 State Conference in San Antonio?

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 me at sjfbarry@gmail.com



Reports Committee Vene Gregg, Chair

Chapter presidents, please use the Texas forms contained in the Summer Packet you received when making your year-end chapter reports, not the committee forms on the national website. Encourage your ladies to turn in their reports to you by 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!

Attending 2026 and/or 2027 state conferences? Please consider serving on the **Teller Committee!** Tellers are needed to count ballots at state conference 2026 and 2027. If interested, please contact Coyla Holmes, Chair, Teller Committee, at: c_holmes3@hotmail.com



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 CDXVICC 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

Ark and Dove Chapter Celebrates 5th Anniversary

The Ark and Dove Chapter held a delightful tea on Saturday, November 18th to celebrate and recognize their chapter's first five years. The organizing committee was led by member Vene Gregg and included Phyllis Parker, Ann Zugg, Janet White, and Joan Lawrence. For the tea to celebrate, chapter members and guests were able to page through the chapter scrapbook with photos from the charter meeting and view up close the original charter which 27 members signed 5 years ago, and is now framed to protect it for years to come. A large spread of sandwiches, desserts, and other treats did not disappoint. Members made cookies in the shape of doves, as well as in the shape of Texas and decorated with "TX50" to represent our chapter number. A cake featured the Colonial Dames logo, as well as yellow frosting Texas roses. Chapter President Susan Goldsworthy ceremonially cut the first slice. Later, she gave a short speech, recognizing the founding and chapter members and spoke a little about projects completed over the years.

The chapter continues to grow, with more than 20 new members added this year. Current chapter membership is 81. To keep members engaged, the chapter held a summer social gathering in the chapter president's back yard and has followed up with lunch meetups at restaurants during months not having a regular chapter meeting.



Ark & Dove Chapter President Susan Goldsworthy cuts the anniversary cake.



Ark & Dove Chapter held a summer social in late June, in the back yard of chapter president Susan Goldsworthy.



Several past and present state officers attended the Ark & Dove 5th Anniversary tea.

L to R: Honorary State President Chris Womack, Honorary State President Marsha Richards, Tea Committee Chair Vene Gregg (and also Honorary State President), Chapter President Susan Goldsworthy, State Organizing Secretary Anna Weil, State Historian Belinda Brouette, and State Corresponding Secretary Lori King.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
AMERICA!
YOU ARE INVITED**

**JANUARY 31, 2026
10 - 12 NOON
WIMBERLEY VILLAGE LIBRARY
400 FARM TO MARKET RD 2325
WIMBERLEY, TX**

**FAMILY STORIES TO SHARE
DO YOU KNOW YOURS?**

**COMAL SPRINGS CHAPTER
colonialdames17c.org**

Cross Trails Chapter

The ladies of Cross Trails are making a difference in their community by continuing to serve the veterans in our area. The Honor Flight "Mail Call" activity on the Vietnam Honor Flight Houston is an event the Cross Trails Dames enjoyed participating in by writing upwards of 100 letters of love and appreciation to our veterans who were on the October Honor Flight.

The chapter continued their acts of service by cleaning and restoring the 3 standing historical markers at Wunderlich Farm in Klein, Texas. Jaime Pierce, RoxAnne Martin, Cheryl Downing, Lori King and Jennifer McStravick attacked this project with vigor. The marker on the wall of the Peter Wunderlich house, placed by Cross Trails in 2017, now looks as new as ever!

At our October meeting our speaker was Susan Lawyer, who shared her journey as an adopted child using DNA to find family she never knew she had. Her talk was both humorous and emotional at the same time.

A few weeks later, members took a field trip to the Schulenburg area to tour (4) of the painted churches there. Afterwards we enjoyed lunch and shopping.



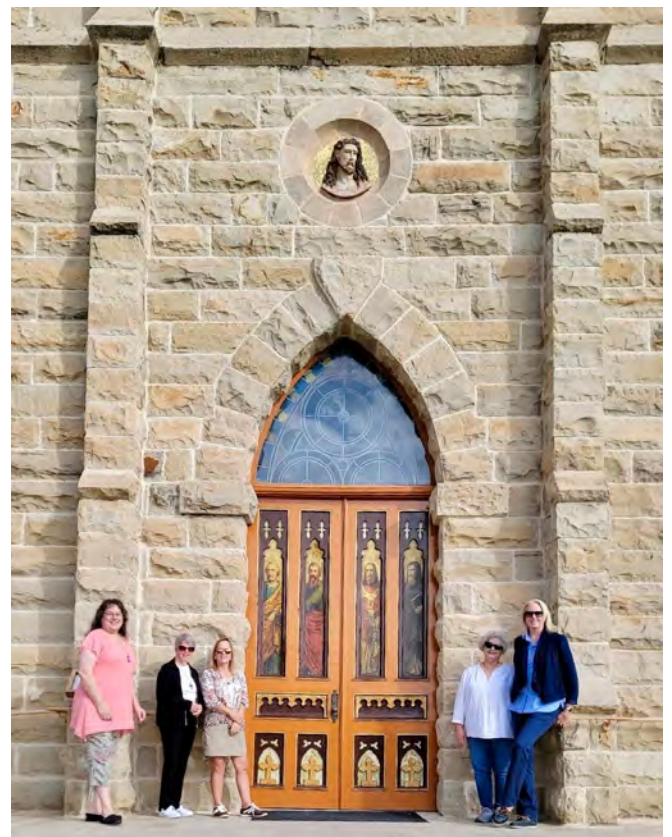
Jennifer McStravick, RoxAnne Martin, Jaime Pierce, Lori King and Cheryl Downing in front of the Peter Wunderlich House with the Cross Trails Chapter marker on the front of the house just right of the door.



Jaime Pierce, Cheryl Downing, Mary Betty James, President Kathy Cotton-Windham



Vice President Jaime Pierce, Speaker Susan Lawyer, President Kathy Cotton-Windham



St. Mary of the Assumption. There were three tiny chapels, each honoring 3 of the 9 men from here who served in WWII. Charlene Jandik, Jaye Hendon, Jaime Pierce, Kathy's friend Loraine and Kathy Cotton-Windham.

Capt. Thomas Jefferson Chapter



Our chapter has added a new junior member, Nichole Hartman, who participated in supporting our local Lt Thomas Barlow, D.A.R. with a library window display for the America 250 celebration in August. We are happy to be supporting our national goal and celebrating this 250th anniversary of America in our community!

Gov. Thomas Hinckley Chapter

The Governor Thomas Hinckley Chapter is getting ready for a fun filled two years under President Diana Lussier. Our chapter has grown to eighty-eight members during the last seventy-four years since our charter. Governor Thomas Hinckley organized October 6, 1951, and chartered April 9, 1952. We are celebrating our 75th Anniversary, during our 14 Nov 2026 meeting, with Douglas Richardson as our speaker. Douglas Richardson is the author of "Royal Ancestry", Plantagenet Ancestry", Magna Carta Ancestry" and many more books, publications and articles.

Our programs for 2025-2027 are:

Nov 8, 2025-Ky White "William Marshall, 1st Earl of Pembroke, a Knights Templar and Advisor to Five Kings" (aka The Greatest Knight)

Jan 10, 2026-Texas State President Charleen Mullenweg

May 9, 2026-Honorary President General Dorothy Thompson

Nov 14, 2026-Douglas Richardson

Jan 9, 2027-Texas 1st Vice-President Janet Hicks

May 8, 2027-Kevin Bassett



SAVE THE DATE FOR
GOVERNOR THOMAS HINCKLEY CHAPTER'S
75TH CHAPTER ANIVERSARY
ON NOVEMBER 14, 2026

GUEST SPEAKER IS DOUGLAS RICHARDSON

Douglas Richardson is the author of "Royal Ancestry," "Magna Carta Ancestry," "Plantagenet Ancestry" and many other genealogical books, publications, and articles.

Please contact Kimberley Smith Calaway if you are interested in joining us for this wonderful program. The cost will only be for the luncheon at around \$48. We already have over 50 ladies on our reservation list, but we can possibly accommodate up to 100. Seating will be limited. The meeting/luncheon will be held at Ridglea Country Club in Fort Worth, TX, and will start at 11:30 am.

We extend an invitation to all members, and prospective members of the NSCDXVIC.

Contact: Kimberley Smith Calaway at aapcolonialdames17c@gmail.com



James River Chapter

The James River Chapter of Irving began the 2025-2026 year with our September luncheon meeting being held at the Woman's Club of Grand Prairie. Our speaker was Connie Mize presenting the endearing program, "Flour and Feed Sack Fabric," with a display of her grandmother's heirloom quilt and childhood dress.

For Colonial Heritage Month in October, we prepared an educational display for exhibit at our local library. Special flyers with information about our society and chapter are available for distribution to patrons. On November 11th, we will be honoring resident veterans at a special Veteran's Day celebration to be held at a local senior living center.

Our chapter is quite pleased to welcome our two newest members: Pamela Knight whose ancestor is John Gresham of Maryland and Patricia Lemoine whose ancestor is William Carter of Virginia. We are grateful for the continued assistance of our Chapter Lineage Research Committee.



Robert Woodson Chapter



Summer and the Robert Woodson Chapter make me think of the first meeting of our new Administration. We met in a new meeting room which overlooked the waterfront of Lake Conroe. It was a beautiful September day and our meeting room was filled with fresh sunflowers in beautiful bouquets on every table. The Honorable State Vice President Janet Hicks presented her program "Maintaining Chapter and Personal Records." In New Business we appointed a Committee to develop plans for a Semiquincentennial celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. As a fun finale, there was a drawing and the winning members took those beautiful bouquets home. During a leisurely lunch, some of us had fresh fish right from Lake Conroe. The only thing that we needed to complete that idyllic day was some apple pie.

Photocaption: L to R: First row: Judy Weidner, Melissa Belcher-Robinson, State Vice President Janet Hicks
Second row: Pamela New, Ginne Liles, Pat Sheridan, Kaye Stone, Third Row: CoylaHolmes, Laura Dahlberg, Peggy Duncan, Sue Hereford, Cecily KeJly, Dianne Taylor-Kebodeaux, and Maureen Chegin





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