



Eliza Lucas Pinckney Chapter, NSDAR
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2020

The regular meeting of the Eliza Lucas Pinckney Chapter was called to order by Regent Jill Templeton, at 2:30 pm, on February 9, 2020, at the Old Exchange Building, in Charleston, SC.

Regent Templeton welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order after Beth Lee, Membership Chair, stated that there was a quorum present.

Chaplain Brenda Burch gave the invocation and Faye Dandridge and Trish Francis, Co-Chairs of our Service to Veterans Committee, led Opening Exercises.

Our Registrar, Ivy Blake introduced Prospective Members: Martha Lisicki, Mary Lee Rogers, Wendy Wellin, Caroline Crowe, and Cristina Gillespie. Our Guests in attendance were Kathryn Cullinan, Dawn Heberling, and Mickey Sieracki.

Regent Templeton then asked all members and guests who have served or are currently serving in military service to please stand and be recognized and join her in thanking them for their service, and as they remain standing, she asked all members and guests who have family members who have served in the past or are currently serving, to please stand and be thanked for their service as well.

Regent Templeton then introduced District VI Director Mickey Sieracki who added her thanks to all the Veterans present and wanted to compliment Eliza Lucas Pinckney Chapter for their impressive number of Service to America hours posted. She was also proud of our Service to Veterans Committee, especially at the VA Hospital here in Charleston, and thanked ELP for all we do in service to the community, church, and literacy. She looked forward to being with us at the Spring Conference in March.

First Vice Regent, Tracy Kral, introduced our guest speaker, Bambi Bullard, Retired Marine Corps veteran after 15 years which included 2 tours and obtaining Research and Engineering degrees. She established and is the Regent of the Carolina Gold Chapter in Murrells Inlet. She is also a docent at Hopsewee Plantation and a foster care parent. Expanding on one of the articles presented in the *DAR National Defender* last month which highlighted the plight of the growing number of homeless women veterans and their children, Bambi shared her own story. During her 15 years of service in the Marine Corps,

Bambi suffered numerous health issues and serious injuries for which she had a difficult time obtaining needed surgeries and rehabilitation services afterward, sometimes for as long as 3 years. She established the Grand Strand Carolina Gold Chapter of DAR to help women veterans get the same benefits, respect and medical care as male veterans. This has also led to information assistance and support for these homeless female veterans through the HUD program.

The Program concluded and 1st Vice Regent, Tracy Kral, thanked Bambi Bullard and presented her with an honorarium.

Regent Templeton then commenced with the business portion of the meeting and invited our guests to remain if they would like and directed members to please visit the President Generals message at www.dar.org.

National Defense Report was given by Beth Lee. It was from *National Defender* NSDAR for January-February 2020. Beth encouraged us to read the article, *Female Veterans and Their Children (The fastest growing homeless population in America)*, especially after hearing the story of our Guest Speaker, Bambi Bullard. Also, as a nurse, Beth reminded all of us that February is National Heart month (also an article in the *National Defender*) and we should be wearing red and to read up on all the negative aspects of a sedentary lifestyle that contributes to heart problems. Make sure you see your doctor about your risk factors and GET MOVING!

Indian Minute: American Indians Chair, Paula Hart, was not present today, but an article on *Native Women Veterans* can be found posted in the Committee Corner Section of our Members Only Website.

Conservation Minute: As noted in the Agenda, Conservation Committee Chair, Connie Brailsford, shared an article on *How Advancements in Packaging Can Reduce Food Waste* that is also posted to the Committee Corner on our Members Only Website. It is a very comprehensive report on this issue including packaging to keep foods fresher longer which impacts the life cycle of food products and how they work together to reduce waste. Reducing waste can be tied to redesigning packaging which will involve smart and intelligent packaging methods as well as protective packaging.

Reports from Officers:

Approval of Minutes by Leslie Harrelson, Recording Secretary: Regent Templeton asked if there are corrections to the Minutes of the January 12 Meeting Minutes which were sent electronically for Chapter approval.

Yes, there are corrections as per Leslie Harrelson, who had received the incorrect dates for the Cincinnati Lecture on Abigail Adams Lecture and Wreath Placement Memorial for Francis Marion. The CORRECT DATES ARE:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20th at 5:45 pm Reception & 6:30 pm Lecture – You must RSVP for the Reception & Lecture (\$35/person) by February 10th.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27th at 11 AM at the Tomb of Francis Marion in Pineville
Regent Templeton then asked if there were any further additions or corrections to the
January 12th Meeting Minutes. Hearing none, the Minutes are Approved as Corrected.

Treasurer Report: Brandi Rutledge, Treasurer is out-of-town, but her report was sent electronically and has been posted to the Members Only Website. Melissa Levesque moved to accept the Treasurer Report. Motion carried. Treasurer Report is approved as filed.

Reports of Chapter Service Committees:

Preservation Committee: Andrea Ulmer (Chair) sent word to Regent Templeton that the Eliza Lucas Pinckney house marker will be placed on the side of the street where the house stood (corner of East Bay and Guignard Streets).

DAR Project Patriot Care Packages – Deedie Harrington thanked everyone for all the items from her list that have been sent to her house and brought in today. She is packing all the items in large shipping boxes. She is also checking to see if any Air Force planes are going over there from Base Charleston and could take the boxes for us. Deedie said Libby Billham, our State Regent, is helping us with the name tag for DAR female veterans to have crystals on their name tags, designating them as veterans as well as in which branch of the military they served.

DAR Magazine: Claudia Farmer said we have exceeded 30% membership (which is the minimum requirement) that have now subscribed to the magazine and has asked us to please continue to subscribe to the *American Spirit Magazine*, so we can get to 40%! She reminded us that this magazine contains many very interesting articles, such as one on Hannah Till, the personal cook on the battlefield for George Washington for over 6 years, including that horrid winter at Valley Forge. She also served as the cook for the Marquis de Lafayette who regarded her so highly, that when he came for his grand tour in 1824, he paid off all her debts so she could keep her home. Hannah Till was named as a DAR Patriot serving as a woman of loyalty, fortitude and skill. This story as well as necessary National and State information regarding DAR and upcoming events and opportunities for our committees, in general, can be found in this magazine.

Service to America: Nancy Davidonis – Nancy is not present today due to illness but asked Jill to thank all those who posted their hours.

Patriot Records Project: Deborah Getter – Invited members to get involved in this project through internet access at home or libraries, etc. The Committee was formed in 2014 and since then 84 groups of records have been indexed (more than a half million images). The work of this Committee will make finding and identifying Revolutionary War Patriots easier. You can search the Patriots Records Project index on the GRS, click on the Revolutionary War tab, then select Patriot Record Project index. The records span over 75 years. Besides names, sometimes we can capture titles, positions, ranks and locations. The

names are from records of the original 13 colonies as well as other states such as Maine and Ohio. In addition, some Mexican and French records have been indexed by volunteers who can read these languages. The National Chair and Vice Chair are available via email and monitor 365 days a year. The work of this Committee supports the mission of the DAR in the area of Historic Preservation. If you have questions, please contact me!!

Available Courses: Regent Templeton that the CMR shows all that we do as a Chapter and we have reached Level 1.

Volunteer Genealogists: Pat Sayko shared information on these classes. There are 4 courses – the first 3 build on each other and how to fill out applications. The course is 90 days to complete. Each course is \$125 and tests must be taken. If you pass, then you go to Course 2, pay fee, then course 3, pay fee. How to prove without evidence: There is a new Independent Course on DNA - \$100.

Members Courses: Beth Lee – New Horizons – Leader Course - \$10 sign up online. There is a handout on the table. We have 14 New Members since September and 6 Transfers. Please contact Beth Lee or Jill Templeton for the PW for these courses.

Regent Templeton said information on all courses has been added to the Members Website.

Hostess Committee: Mary Lucas and Kayann Januchowski worked together to create a Sign Up sheet. The link was emailed and also uploaded to the Committee Corner on the Members Only Website. We need a few more people to sign up through May.

Unfinished Business:

Regent Templeton: **Reminder:** Partnership with Cincinatti: February 20th – Abigail Adams Lecture - Sign Up Deadline is February 10th.

Also: February 27th – Wreath Laying Memorial for Francis Marion in Pineville, SC

Regent Templeton advised the Members that we will begin working on the bylaw updates in the next few weeks.

New Business:

Regent Templeton asked if we have any New Business at this time?

There was none.

Regent Templeton asked if there were any other Announcements?

Regent Templeton then reminded us that our next meeting is March 8th. “Crab Bank and Water Resources” will be presented by our Speaker, Caroline Brachner of the Coastal Carolina League.

Regent Templeton said we will have an installation of New Members at our April Meeting.

Jayne Larion announced the Spring Tour of Gardens and Homes begins soon, which offers a wonderful history of Charleston.

Renee Gibson shared information on the Revolutionary War Institute.

Recognition of hostesses: Beth Lee, Claudia Farmer, Renee Gibson, Erin Mellen

Sunshine Report and Benediction: Brenda Burch, Chaplain mentioned:

Happy to have Marjorie Manigault here and doing better, along with her daughter, Michelle Ballard, who thanked the chapter for the contributions for the bench in Middleton Gardens where Marjorie invited us all to come sit with her;

Get Well wishes to Nancy Davidonis;

Condolences for Alice Brook who lost her cousin;

Condolences to Annette Seignious who lost her brother;

Margaret Jones, whose husband had been through surgery and recovering and thought they would have to move out of state for his recovery, was at the Meeting and announced that they were going to be able to stay in their home and have assistance as he heals since he was just inducted into the Marine Corps League Auxiliary. Margaret also shared with us and Bambi Bullard (our Speaker today) that the Auxiliary Project may be able to help Bambi also!

Adjournment: Regent Templeton adjourned the meeting at 3:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Harrelson, Recording Secretary