



National Society Daughters of the American Colonists Colonel Gideon Macon Chapter TSSDAC

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Spring 2013

MEETING 9 FEB 2013

Our first meeting of 2013 was called to order by Chapter Regent Joy Bland at



11:00 .am. on Saturday, Feb. 9 at Tom's Pizza and Steak House in Paris. Chaplain Janice Webb gave the invocation followed by our ritual. Regent Bland welcomed our guest, Emily Conroy. National Defense Chairman Mary Ann Claxton related the history of our Interstate highway system which was first funded in 1944 and received the support of President Eisenhower in 1956, but the "reason" for building the system was national defense: in case of a land invasion of our country (still a real possibility in 1944), there was no way to move troops effectively over the existing roads. So national defense is what has given us the system of roads that allows us to go from one ocean to the other in a matter of days rather than the two months that it took an Army convoy in 1919. Regent Bland read the minutes of the last meeting which were approved as read. She then said that, in talking with the program director at the veterans' home in Humboldt, it was determined back before Christmas



that all angel tree gifts for the veterans had been taken and they had an excellent supply of the snacks and small items that they need for bingo prizes and

other "incidentals." They asked that we wait until April or May to help them out as that is when their supply of these items begins to run low and there is no additional money coming in at that time. The members all agreed that this was what needed to be done with the money.

Regent Bland then read a note from DAC National President Carole Holt thanking the chapter for our contribution to the National President's Project. The next order of business was to elect delegates to the DAC State Assembly. We determined that most of the people who would be going were officers and already had a vote, so Mary Whayne Miles was selected as a delegate from our chapter. Similarly, delegates for the General Assembly in Washington in April are Mary Whayne Miles, Stella Anderson, and Mary Caroline Prince; no one else from the chapter was expecting to attend.

PROGRAM

The program was presented by Stephanie Tayloe and was a very, very informative talk on research sources for Black people in our county. Due to the issue of slavery, it is often difficult for Black people to trace their family history. She said the 1870 census is the beginning place for many Black researchers and that intestate probates of masters were excellent sources because they listed EVERY slave, unlike the will where the master might mention only selected slaves. In 1865 Blacks were required to have marriage licenses, but it was not until 1930 that death certificates became mandatory and not until the 1960's for obituaries. Of course some of these records DID exist prior to these dates, but it was not required until then. Three "Slave Account" books have been put together for our county containing any reference which gave the name of a slave. Stephanie said that these records have helped many of the Black researchers who have come to the library; she said they continue to search for such references and will put them into another volume of records when enough have been found. Her suggestion for any Black researcher is first to listen to the stories passed down in the families – this is where the names of the progenitors are found, and it emphasizes again for all of us how important it is to write down the stories of our grand and great-grand parents.



Following Stephanie's program, our meal was served and the meeting was adjourned



At 2:00 p.m. on December 15, 2012, member Stephanie Routon Tayloe opened her home to guests for a tea and a chance to see the beautiful Christmas decorations that Stephanie had arranged throughout the house. Beautifully decorated trees graced many rooms and other greenery decorated many of the beautiful antiques found in all the rooms. Above, standing, is Stephanie and seated on the settee are Chapter Regent Joy Bland and Chapter Historian Mary Ann Claxton. Below: three of the trees: the Patriotic Tree, the tree in the Polk Sitting Room, and the tree at the top of the stairs



REMINDERS!

Our State Regent Joan Harmon announced as one of her State Regent Projects collecting ancestor stories for compilation into a state book which would be available for members to have for a small donation. We are still needing stories for this project. Please send stories to Chapter Historian Mary Ann Claxton. Mary Ann says that she has all of the stories that were contributed by our chapter over the last three years to the National Historian's Project, but Joan has opened her project to ANY ancestor – not just a colonial ancestor. So there are still stories out there for you to write! And if you know of anyone OUTSIDE our chapter who contributed stories to the national project, please contact them and be sure that they know that they need

to send a copy of their story(or stories) to Mary Ann Claxton(State Corresponding Secretary who is coordinating this Regent's project).

Also, don't forget that the **new National Historian's Project** is to tell "**How I wound up here.**" This should be a migration story starting with your ancestor on whom your DAC membership is based and telling about each generation - where they were and where they wound up (if they moved), ending with you and how you got where you are today. You were all so very good about turning in your ancestor stories, I know we will have a good representation on this project as well. Again, these are histories that we need to be documenting for future generations. Send yours to Mary Ann Claxton, Chapter Historian. Deadline for turning in to national is Feb. 1, 2015, but we need to have them in well before that.

Reports from committee chairmen should already have been turned in to our Chapter Regent. Also remember that they need to be turned in to the state committee chairman as well. If you've not turned your committee report in (either to chapter or state), you need to do so right away. Forms for committees should now be available on the national website.

And If you've not been to the national website recently, you should take a look. The new webmaster has done an excellent job in restructuring the site and getting needed information readily available. One of the National President's goals for the present is to "support the integration of computer technology methods of communication and record keeping." The revamping of the national website has made a good start in working toward that goal.

81st TENNESSEE STATE ASSEMBLY

March 6, 2013
Four Points Sheraton
Brentwood, TN

92nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

April 7-10, 2013
Mayflower Hotel
Washington, D.C.

