As Regent of Isaac Garrison Chapter, NSDAR, I am taking the time to tell the Missouri 2021 Bicentennial Commission about the purpose of our resident organization from Nixa, MO.

Although we are part of a National and State Society, we have a local organization with over fifty ladies mostly from Christian County. Membership is a lineage-based service organization for women who are descended from a person involved in the U.S. efforts toward independence.

On April 25, 2009, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution appointed Mrs. Marilyn Treptow Dexter as the Organizing Regent for a chapter to be formed in Nixa, Missouri. On October 3, 2009, the Isaac Garrison Chapter was organized with twenty charter supporters.

The chapter is named after Isaac Garrison, A Revolutionary War Patriot who is buried in Christian County (originally Greene County) Missouri. In 1832, at the age of 100, he moved west to Missouri with his sons and their families and he lived for another four years. His grave, located between Nixa and Ozark, has been marked by this local DAR chapter. In a book about the Garrison family, he is quoted as saying that he had done surveying with George Washington, had hunted with Daniel Boone, and proud that …. “I outlived ‘em both.”

Front L to R; Marie Ziverk, Judy Peace, Jeanette McKee, Connie Bogner, Sarah O’Quinn, Dee Dosch, back, Carmen Boyd, Pat Sneed, Rose Jones, Karen Scott, Sally McAlear, Jody Clifton, and Dianna Price.

The Objects of the National Society are to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; to promote an enlightened public opinion; and to foster true patriotism and love of country. Historic Preservation is also important to NSDAR.

Just last year our chapter celebrated their 10 year anniversary and I would like to share some of the many activities we do for the community. Our chapter meets once a month and many of those who attend bring children’s books that are collected by our Literacy Chair Loa Freeman, who has also secured other preschool literature of which she has donated over 500 books to ‘Labor and Delivery’ for newborns at Cox South Hospital in Springfield, MO.

For the past six years, under the leadership of Constitution Chair Jeannette McKee, several of our women have dressed in early American period costumes and preformed programs during Constitution Week, September 17-23, to the third graders in five Nixa public schools. Each of the almost 500 students is given a brown paper bag with a small American flag, a bookmark with the Preamble, and a patriotic bracelet to keep in their possession. Educating our youngsters about the history of how their country began is one of our most devoted goals. Handing out brochures at the Christian County Library on a Saturday concludes the yearly Constitution celebration.

Every year, under the guidance of National Defense Chair Sarah O’Quinn, the chapter gives out JROTC scholarship awards to two worthy candidates at the Ozark High School. A medal and monetary check are personally given at the annual Senior Awards Night.

The chapter also collects magazines, toiletries, snacks and Christmas gifts for the confined residents of a veterans’ home. Veterans Chair Dianna Price, along with several other ladies, sew and deliver red, white, and blue shrouds for these retired military fellows so that in the end they can leave the care facility with respect and dignity. The shrouds are then given to their families.
2015 Mathews Elementary School, Nixa, after the Constitution Week program for 3rd graders given by Jeanette McKee, Dee Dosch, Connie Bogner, Colleen Baker and Sarah O’Quinn.

2019 L-R; Dee Dosch, Pat Sneed, Vickie Porter-McGowan, Karen Franklin-Scott, Ginny Brant, Carmen Boyd and Rose Jones holding patriotic shrouds made for local nursing home veterans.
Each year a lovely patriotic Quilt of Valor, hand-made by member Karen Franklin-Scott, is presented to a deserving veteran who is selected from several nominations by chapter devotees. Last year our chapter helped do fundraising for the Hike*Bike for Military & Veterans, that raised money for the Fisher Houses in Missouri. These family units provide free, temporary housing for families of veterans receiving hospital care in the vicinity.

Twice yearly we welcome new American citizens at the Naturalization ceremonies held in the area. Pat Sneed’s Americanism Committee makes cookies for the welcoming reception and once again, our chapter gives out small U.S. flags to these newest members of our great country.

In 2019 our chapter presented a Historic Preservation Recognition Award to Mary and Rick McQueary for their tireless efforts in remodeling an old clothing store into a wonderful, state of the art, History Museum on the Square in Springfield. And in 2018 we awarded Bass Pro Shops founder and CEO Johnny L. Morris the prestigious NSDAR Medal of Honor for his outstanding service, leadership and patriotism to country and his community.

During recent months, with the coronavirus pandemic, many of our ladies made hundreds of face-masks using their own materials and time, donating them to local hospitals due to shortages of these much needed items.

Although I could mention much more of what these ladies volunteer their time to do, it is for the above listed endeavors that I think our chapter deserves to be counted in the “snap shot” of Missouri Legacy organizations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dee Davidson Dosch
Regent 2020-2021
2017 Retired Navy Veteran & Fireman Robert Davidson receiving the Quilt of Valor from Karen Scott

2018 *Bass Pro Shops* founder Johnny Morris receiving the NSDAR Medal of Honor from Pat Sneed