



**July 2025 NEWSLETTER**

**ELIZABETH ELLINGTON CHAPTER, NSDAR**

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**Message from our Chapter Regent Message, Cindy Johnson-Sakuma:**

Our June meeting was certainly a busy one. Held at the Seabeck Conference Center, we welcomed eight new members. Thank you, Registrar Jane Highlander and Chaplain Susan Tollefson. Amy Brooks presented the Women in American History award to Darlene Iskra, and we viewed a wonderful presentation about the Seabeck Cemetery Project by Candace Kolbas and Amy Brooks.

This brings us up to Continental Congress. We are thankful for all the EE members that were able to attend and look forward to their reports on what all they saw and experienced. I know there will be something of interest for everyone.

Speaking of Continental Congress! What a fabulous surprise it was to see Amy Brooks carrying Montana's flag and our newly sworn in Jr member Lucy Schmitt carrying the Washington flag! What an honor! Well done ladies!

We are in the midst of planning our upcoming year which will certainly be full and I look forward to the majority of you being able to join in on some of the activities.

On a personal note, at the June meeting, the chapter endorsed me in running for WA State Librarian in 2026. I thank each of you.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**July 8: Missing in America Project**, MIA Tahoma National Cemetery, Kent WA, 1pm.

**August 15-17, 2025 Early American Heritage Festival, Rainier, WA**

For more info: [www.spiritof76livinghistoryassociation.org/heritage-festival-2025-1](http://www.spiritof76livinghistoryassociation.org/heritage-festival-2025-1)



**Attention all EE teachers!**

Thinking ahead to the next school year... Do you have a 'needs' list you would like to share with the chapter? If so, please email Cindy Johnson-Sakuma with your Amazon link/list and we can send it out to all our members.

**State Conference "Highlight":**



Sandi Garrett won the "Elvis Basket"

## Highlights of our June meeting



Oath of Membership: Gail Kiele, Diane Evans & Ashley Riley with Jane Highlander, Susan Tollefson & Bev Bryant



Oath of Membership: Rebecca Schmitt, Lucy Schmitt, Darlene Monroe\*, Diane Monroe, & Donene Monroe with Jane Highlander & Susan Tollefson (\*Darlene celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday the day before our meeting)



"Years of DAR Membership" certificates:  
Jane Highlander presenting Susan Tollefson with her 10-year certificate

Others, not present: Rebecca Roskowski (5 years), Melanie O'Connell (5 years), Elizabeth Smalser (5 years), Carrie Schmidt (10 years), Annette Nowjack (15 years), Keryl Miller (25 years), and Bonita Regan (30)

**Women in American History Award:** This award is given to women who are, or have been, intellectual, educational, social, religious, political, scientific or cultural innovators and have made a difference in their communities. This year's recipients were Sarah Walton Sisson and Darlene Iskar.

Amy Brooks presenting Darlene Iskar



A wreath was laid on Sarah Sisson's grave at Retsil Veterans Cemetery in May.

L-R: Amy Brooks, Linda Maynard, Jeannine DeVine, Sandi Garrett, Rita Saunders & Candace Kolbas



During lunch, Candace and Amy gave a video presentation on the Seabeck Cemetery Restoration Project. After lunch many of the members visited the cemetery to see the progress the committee and their numerous volunteers have made.



**FYI: Did you plant a pollinator garden? If so, don't forget to take a picture and email it to Susan Tollefon. [instollefon@comcast.net](mailto:instollefon@comcast.net)**

## The Flag Committee:

First Navy Jack Flag



Grand Union Flag



### First Navy Jack flag

After the American Revolution began, the first, unofficial national flag—known as the Continental Colours (or, sometimes, as the Grand Union Flag, the Cambridge Flag, the Somerville Flag, or the Union Flag)—was hoisted on a towering 76-foot (23-metre) liberty pole at Prospect Hill in Charlestown (now in Somerville), Massachusetts, on January 1, 1776; it was raised at the behest of Gen. George Washington, whose headquarters were nearby. The flag had 13 horizontal stripes (probably of red and white or of red, white, and blue) and, in the canton, the first version of the British Union Flag (Union Jack). As the flag of the Continental Army, it flew at forts and on naval vessels.

Another popular early flag, that of the 1765 Sons of Liberty, had only nine red and white stripes. Various versions of “Don’t Tread on Me” coiled-rattlesnake flags appeared on many 18th-century American colonial banners, including the Gadsden flag and several others flown by military units during the Revolutionary War. The version carried by the Minutemen of Culpeper County, Virginia, for example, included not only the rattlesnake and the “Don’t Tread on Me” motto but also Virginia patriot Patrick Henry’s famous words “Liberty or Death.”

### **How to contact your Chapter Board**

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