

# The DAR School Sparkler

## "SCHOOLS ARE THE JEWELS OF DAR"

### From The Chairman's Heart

Are you remembering to get your chapter members a copy of the DAR School Sparkler? Chapters throughout the Nation are starting to meet again after Congress. I am still surprised when I visit states and meet people who have never heard of this newsletter. Honestly, more have not heard of it than say they have read it. That tells me we need to work harder to get the word out!

Send your members and friends the link. Download a copy and put it on tables at your chapter meetings. Put it on your chapter and state Facebook and web pages! We have so many options. Let's spread the word... after all, it is on the Chapter Master Report (CMR)!

Which brings me to...

As we hit full stride with our chapters this Fall, don't forget to fill out your CMRs! The awards you saw in the last DAR School Sparkler and the certificates received within your States were based on the input from last year's CMR. Let us know the wonderful things that are happening within your chapter! We don't know what we don't know.

Sparkle on!

Dawn Crumly Lemongello  
National Chair, DAR School



**PURCHASE A DAR SCHOOL PIN FROM THE DAR STORE TO SUPPORT THE DAR JEWELS**

[HTTPS://SHOP.DAR.ORG/HEARTS-SCHOOLS-PIN/](https://shop.dar.org/hearts-schools-pin/)



**GIVING IS NOT JUST ABOUT MAKING A DONATION.  
IT IS ABOUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE.**

	Friends of DAR Schools	Junior Membership	School Chairman Project	Ella Atwell	Other*	Scholarships	Total
Berry	87,000.00	70,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	3,785.00	0.00	165,785.00
Crossnore	105,000.00	65,500.00	8,927.00	707,543.43	13,110.50	32,000.00	932,080.93
Hillside	79,316.00	68,306.05	15,000.00	0.00	10,635.00	8,000.00	181,257.05
Hindman	93,400.00	71,464.00	15,000.00	0.00	12,201.00	0.00	192,065.00
KDS	105,145.00	112,553.00	10,000.00	772,685.71	55,875.30	0.00	1,056,259.01
Tamassee	25,230.00	36,008.21	0.00	340,400.47	175,494.48	14,000.00	591,133.16
<b>Total</b>	<b>495,091.00</b>	<b>423,831.26</b>	<b>53,927.00</b>	<b>1,820,629.61</b>	<b>271,101.28</b>	<b>54,000.00</b>	<b>3,118,580.15</b>

Donations made during the VanBuren Administration 2019-2022

**\$3,118,580.15**

	Friends of DAR Schools	Junior Membership	School Chairman Project	Ella Atwell	Scholarships	Total
Berry	\$50,000.00	\$26,000.00				\$76,000.00
Crossnore	\$44,000.00	\$15,000.00		\$252,644.69	\$10,000.00	\$321,644.69
Hillside	\$23,096.00	\$10,800.00			\$6,000.00	\$39,896.00
Hindman	\$36,500.00	\$11,500.00				\$48,000.00
KDS	\$44,500.00	\$22,500.00		\$252,644.69	\$13,000.00	\$332,644.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$198,096.00</b>	<b>\$85,800.00</b>		<b>\$505,289.38</b>	<b>\$29,000.00</b>	<b>\$818,185.38</b>

Donations made during the first year of the Wright Administration

**\$818,185.38**

## Quarterly Atwell Distribution

Dawn Crumly Lemongello, National Chair

Every quarter we take the interest from the Ella Atwell Fund and per the requests of KDS and Crossnore, providing us with their greatest needs, we distribute accordingly.

To distribute the 2nd quarterly share of the Ella Atwell Fund \$154,082.60 to the following DAR Schools: \$77,041.30 to Crossnore Communities For Children for the purpose of funding their Promise Scholarships which includes their Bridge, Thrive and Discover Scholarships; and \$77,041.30 to Kate Duncan Smith DAR School for the following items: for funding maintenance and repair expenses (\$3,954); quarterly utilities (\$8,529) and for partial funding labor expenses (\$64,558.3).

## KDS Dedication Day

Cheryl Odell, National Vice Chair Congress Events



As the leaves began to turn and the weather grew colder, over 90 Daughters from all over the country descended upon Grant, Alabama for the 99th dedication day at Kate Duncan Smith DAR School. The two-day event began with the much-anticipated arrival of the DAR. As each car appeared, the complete student body and faculty lined the parking lot with their smiles, enthusiasm, and flags. Many students were holding adorable signs and gifts to thank Daughters for visiting KDS. After many hugs, hellos, and photos, the day's events commenced. While some Daughters attended committee meetings, others enjoyed shopping in the gym filled with many KDS alumni and community members selling everything from homemade jams, jewelry and cutting boards. Of course, KDS had a wonderful array of school items for sale in honor of their 100th Anniversary Celebration in 2024. After a fabulous lunch, the Daughters attended the re-dedication of the Nan Roberts Lane Chapel, originally established in 1957. Daughters finished their day at the Hampton Inn where they were treated to dinner and a fun game of Let's Make A Deal.

Friday morning all made their way to the gymnasium for the official Dedication Day where parents, students, faculty, and DAR were inspired by DAR School National Chair, Dawn Lemongello. Mrs. Lemongello took us all back to 1923 when KDS began and encouraged the students to envision what life was like on the mountain during that time. She also enticed us with an invitation to the 100th Anniversary telling us "It will be lit".

Many State Regents were in attendance as they spoke of their donations to the school from their State Societies and the programs they have supported. Over \$1M was donated from all over the country from so many hardworking Daughters. The true highlight of Dedication Day was watching the students and choir sing their appreciation for the DAR.

After the ceremony, the many visiting Daughters made their way to the cafeteria for the KDS Famous Basket Lunch. As we made our way through all the fabulous homemade cornbread, fried okra, pasta salads, baked beans, and desserts galore, we sat and enjoyed old and new friendships.

Another highlight was the annual DAR football game. The cheerleaders donned pink pom poms in honor of breast cancer awareness month and several members were decked out in all pink, even two students who wore pink robes and sunglasses.

There is so much that happens at the annual KDS Dedication Day Celebration that leaves many daughters with so much hope and joy from the accomplishments of the DAR. It inspires many of us to take that hope back to our chapters and states and share what is happening at KDS.

As the 99th KDS Dedication Day came to a close, we began planning what is sure to be an extraordinary celebration for the 100th Anniversary Celebration and Dedication Day. Mark your calendars for October 3-4, 2024. We hope to see you there.



Photo Credit to Kate Duncan Smith School and Executive Director Heather Green; Alabama State Regent Patrice Donnelly; Michigan State Regent Kelly VanWormer; Community Classroom National Vice Chair Congress Events Geni Homles

## Lifting Up Crossnore Students

Lizzy Thier, Micajah Bullock Chapter

On July 29th, the Micajah Bullock Chapter (Raleigh, NC) board members met at the home of their Chapter Regent for our annual chapter board meeting to review the DAR year ahead. While this time was used to review programs and budgets our members also incorporated a school collection drive for the Avery Campus of Crossnore Communities for Children. Items donated included, highlighters, scotch tape, pencils, erasers, crayons, paper towels, an electric pencil sharpener, folders, tissues and a mini backpack. Board members also wrote encouragement cards to the students at Crossnore. With the school year almost in session, our board hopes that these cards provide an added boost of confidence to Crossnore students.



## A DAR School Bus Tour

Adapted from DOC posts by Mary Ann DeVold, Ohio State Chair DAR School

Ohio State Regent Susan Leininger and DAR members from Ohio, West Virginia, South Carolina, and Delaware packed their suitcases full of OSDAR Teddy Bears and went on a DAR School Tour making stops at Hindman Settlement School, Kate Duncan Smith DAR School, Berry College, and Crossnore Communities for Children.

State Chair Mary Ann DeVold had hoped that her state's members would walk away from this "trip of a lifetime" with a renewed interest in the DAR Schools. At each stop, members were asked to write a DAR School minute, an activity DeVold felt would help each member understand the relevance of the school. And, it worked! Ohio Daughters have a greater appreciation for how the schools serve their students and what their chapters can do to support the schools.



## Contact The Committee

Dawn Crumly Lemongello, National Chair  
darschool@nsdar.org

Sammy Lackner, National Vice Chair  
darschoolnvc@nsdar.org

Tracy Suarez, DAR School Scholarship  
darschool.scholarship@nsdar.org

Jacqueline Riddell, Friends of DAR Schools  
friendsofdarschools@nsdar.org

Brook Tyler Hanna, Communications  
darschool.communications@nsdar.org

Cheryl Odell, Congress Event  
cherylodell@gmail.com

### Division Vice Chairs

Northeastern - CT, ME, NH, NY, RI, VT  
Gwendolyn Bondi  
gekbondi@gmail.com

Eastern - DE, DC, MD, NJ, PA, VA, UO  
Nancy Ball  
nanb1620@gmail.com

Southeastern - AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN  
Crickett Crigler  
cricket@crigler.me

East Central - IN, KY, MI, OH, WV  
Susan Kalmey  
bgse@bellsouth.net

North Central - IL, IA, MN, NE, ND, SD, WI  
Nancy Canova  
caznancy@comcast.net

South Central - AR, KS, LA, MO, OK, TX  
Linda Dillard  
dillard-linda@sbcglobal.net

Northwestern - AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY  
Jane Lee Hamman  
janeleehamman@aol.com

Southwestern - AZ, CA, CO, HI, NV, NM, UT  
Rebecca Boudreaux-Clavel  
rbc.dar@gmail.com



## *The Junior Membership Committee: Rooted in support of education*

Sammy Lackner, National Vice Chair



Formed in 1937 by Continental Congress, the Junior Membership Committee has been a powerhouse of education fundraising almost from its inception. Prior to 1937, "Junior Groups" had been established in several states and chapters, and the positive benefits of these groups were garnering national attention. In the October 1935 edition of the *Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine*, then Organizing Secretary Mrs. Helena R. Hellwig Pouch wrote a stirring article advocating the formation of these groups in chapters nationwide. Mrs. Pouch wrote,

"Every member of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution realizes the need of YOUTH in all phases of committee work as well as in the national life of our country. The President General has expressed her conviction that only by encouraging and interesting the younger D. A. R. members will the Society fulfill its noblest mission."

If you would like to read Mrs. Pouch's full article, it is available in the DAR Magazine Digital Archives. A special committee was formed to provide support and direction to the Junior Groups, chaired by Mrs. Pouch. The Junior Groups must have been making waves, because very shortly thereafter, the Junior Membership Committee was made official.

In its earliest reports, the new Junior Membership Committee began fundraising for educational endeavors. The Helen Pouch Memorial Fund, authorized in 1938, was named for Mrs. Helena R. Hellwig Pouch's daughter Helen who had died as a young woman aged 18. The Fund was created to provide donations to the DAR Schools. In the October 1938 DAR magazine, then known as *The National Historical Magazine*, the Junior Membership Committee reported,

"April 19, 1938, at the Junior D. A. R. Assembly, it was voted by the Assembly that the Junior Groups have a project sponsored by the Junior Assembly. This project to be scholarships for Approved Schools, to be known as "The Helen Pouch Junior Groups Scholarship for Approved Schools" in memory of Mrs. Pouch's daughter. Twenty-four Groups pledged their support and since that time four more Groups have sent in gifts. At the present time, we have on hand \$122.00, all the pledges not having been sent in yet."

In 1938, DAR had 17 approved schools, and they were all in dire need of financial help. From May 1937 to June of 1938 America was in a deep recession, with unemployment climbing from 14.3% to 19%. In fact, throughout the Great Depression, schools had been suffering. As Americans failed to pay their property taxes and lost their homes, that lost tax revenue became unavailable for education. Across the United States, rural school districts were closing their doors. It is no wonder that supporting education was at the forefront of the Juniors' minds! They were mothers of school age children.

Our DAR Magazine digital archives is a treasure trove of historical information, and a quick search of those early years sheds a light on the Juniors' enthusiasm. They immediately began holding bazaars with sales tables of homemade goods. They sponsored C.A.R. chapters. With the start of WWII they encouraged the purchase of war bonds. In 1948 they awarded their first scholarships from the Helen Pouch Fund to one student from each of the Approved Schools. They held breakfast meetings at the Mayflower Hotel during Continental Congress. They took their place in our society with confidence and made their chapters better for their action.

The Helen Pouch Fund continues to be a tremendous source of support for the schools and the Juniors remain some of our schools' greatest supporters. It is a pleasure to partner with these enthusiastic and devoted young women as we Sparkle for our DAR Schools!

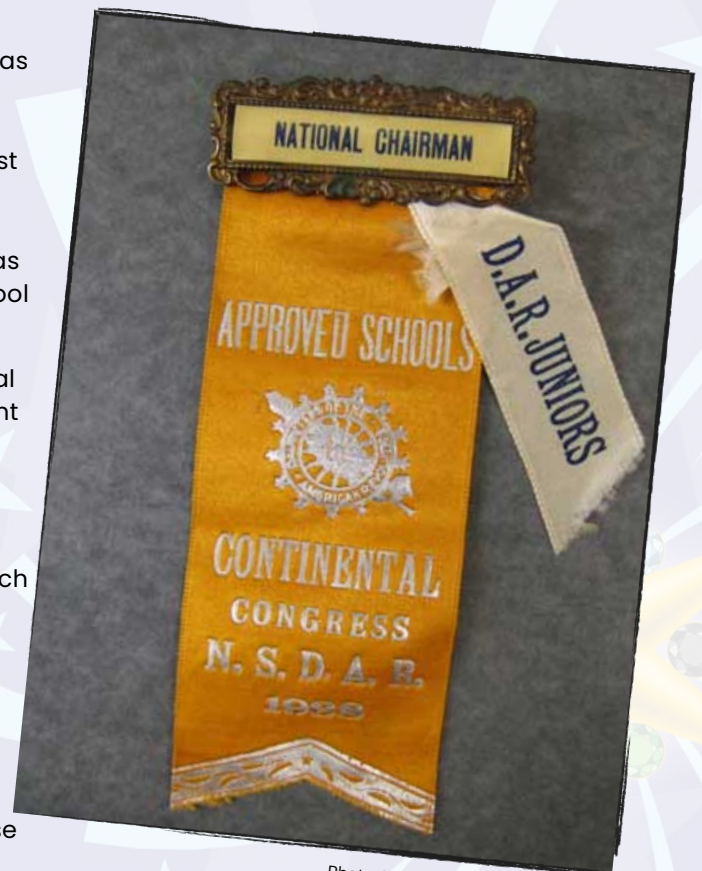


Photo Credit NSDAR Archives.

## DAR Member Spotlight

Jennifer Thomas, National Vice Chair, Junior Membership - Kate Duncan Smith DAR School

I began my DAR journey in April 2006, at just 18 years old with no idea of the impact it would make on my life. I attended my first Tennessee State Conference in 2012 and was hooked. The sashes, the pageantry, the gloves were all so beautiful, and convinced me to be more involved. After chairing various other committees, I was eventually asked to chair the Judge David Campbell Chapter's DAR Schools Committee. Fast forward to 2019, I was asked to serve the Tennessee Society as Junior Membership Committee Chair. My knowledge of the DAR Schools grew tremendously. It is truly remarkable what the Junior Membership Committee and Helen Pouch Memorial Fund contribute to our DAR Schools, and to my surprise, how closely the two committees work together.



Having grown up in the concrete industry and visiting concrete plants located throughout north Alabama, Grant was a familiar place. But it wasn't until my first official visit to Kate Duncan Smith- DAR School's Dedication Day in October of 2022 that I realized what a special place the school is on Gunter Mountain. The children and the community are so proud of the work that we as an organization do.

After accepting this new position as the KDS Representative for the Junior Membership Committee under the Wright Administration I was thrilled. (If 2012 State Conference Page could see me now!) It has been a wonderful experience so far! Getting to know Heather Green and discussing how we can make the relationship between the National Junior Membership Committee and KDS better has been an absolute pleasure. I am looking forward to the next two years of working together.

It is my hope that as KDS enters in to their 100th year that every chapter and every member will support this milestone event by donating to the 100th Anniversary Project, attending any of the events or celebrating with your chapters. If you or your chapter should decide to have a celebration, I would love to know about it! Please email [jennifer.thomas1187@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.thomas1187@gmail.com) with photos and details for a chance to be featured in the Junior Membership Newsletter, Facebook, Instagram and the DOC!! Thank you to everyone who has already donated, and those who plan to donate.

---

## Take a Minute to share the DAR School Committee with your chapter ...

Brook Tyler Hanna, National Vice Chair Communications

### Hillside Alumni Spotlight

Hillside School participated in an Academic Fair at the Terance Mann Complete Player Basketball Camp hosted by Hillside Alumni and LA Clipper Terance Mann. Terance enrolled in Hillside as a 7th grader and credits his time at the school with shaping his present character. There he learned valuable lessons in responsibility and diligence, which he says shaped him in into a disciplined student and allowed him to showcase his skills on the basketball team.



Terance uses his platform as a professional basketball player to make a difference in the lives of underrepresented students through athletic and educational opportunities. His foundation, Terance Mann Complete Player Foundation, strives to educate families about the advantages of early preparatory schooling, an environment that helps students become well rounded individuals both on and off the court.

### For Freedoms Cause



Did you know Berry College has a monument to the former students who lost their lives in World War I? The college's post WWI publication the *Southern Highlander* reported that approximately 500 Berry students were enlisted and fought in the war and 11 Berry Boys lost their lives. It is important to note that Berry was not a college until 1924 so those young men were high school aged students attending a boarding school.

Martha Berry's educational and work programs offered her students vital training that led to their success in the war. She felt her students were "transformed into boys and girls of practical ideals who are fitted for service." Students who stayed at school were mobilized to help feed those in the war. They ramped up dairy and beef production to aid the food crisis; gathered fruits and vegetables and canned foods; sewed and weaved; and worked to support the Red Cross by fundraising throughout the community.

## News From The Schools

### Berry College

Berry College kicked off classes on Aug. 21, welcoming more than 2,376 undergraduate and graduate students back to campus. For the third consecutive year, Berry has experienced record-breaking enrollment, adding 626 students this year with 73% hailing from Georgia. A total of 25 states and 11 counties are represented in the new class. Retention remained steady at 83%, two percentage points higher than the national average, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

In academics, Berry now offers majors in data analytics and data science, responding to expanding career opportunities, as well as a new major in sport leadership and strategy.



### Kate Duncan Smith School



School spirit at KDS is running high this year with a week of Homecoming Spirit activities, culminating in the crowning of the Homecoming Queen and King and a football game against New Hope High School on September 8th. The Friday night game and festivities capped off a spirit-filled week of wacky dress-up days, building floats, and decorating hallways and doors. The Homecoming parade was great this year, with perfect weather and some excellent class floats. This fun-filled week gave students an opportunity to express their school spirit with classmates and the community.

This year's Alumni Tailgate was held on Friday, September 8th before the Patriots' homecoming football game against the New Hope Indians. KDS Alumni in attendance enjoyed a delicious BBQ dinner, played cornhole, were challenged with some KDS trivia, and enjoyed visiting with fellow graduates. 'Pat the Patriot' was on hand to greet alumni and pose for photos. Be sure to join us for next year's Alumni Tailgate! GO PATRIOTS!

### Hillside School

The first two weeks of school at Hillside have seen a lot of activity. Our returning students were excited to see old friends and our 64 new students, a record number for us, are fitting in nicely and adjusting well to campus life. Classes have begun with lessons that include our Fifth Graders constructing a timeline of Hillside's history, Eighth Grade English students reading George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, and History classes developing their critical thinking skills as they assess the reliability of sources and understand various perspectives in analyzing historical incidents.

Outside of the classroom our sports seasons are underway and our Varsity Soccer and Cross Country teams both recorded victories in their first games. On weekends the boys have had a variety of trips including roller skating, the trampoline park, the mall, mini-golf, and a Chinese super buffet. On our farm we are about to begin construction of our brand new lower school campus (for grades K-3, opening in the Fall of 2025), so our eco-team is constructing plant beds up on the main campus to keep the farm program going during construction.



### Crossnore Communities for Students

Are you a Walmart online shopper? If so, did you know you can sign up, choosing Crossnore as your charity, to spark some good?

Visit the below website, choose Crossnore as your charity, and "round up" your purchase total to give to Crossnore.

Here's how:

1. Visit <https://www.walmart.com/sparkgood>
2. Type in Crossnore Communities for Children in the search tab.
3. Click on our name when the results pop up. You will either be able to select the charity over to the right OR you'll be prompted to sign in/create an account if you haven't before.
4. Confirm Crossnore as your charity of choice, and you'll see this message, "Every time you shop, you can round up and direct Network for Good to support this charity."
5. Shop as usual at <https://www.walmart.com/>

### Hindman Settlement School

Thanks to the generous donation of the Junior Membership Committee of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution at the 131st annual Continental Congress in honor of outgoing President General Denise Doring VanBuren, we have recently completed upgrades to our audio and visual systems in the Great Hall of the Mike Mullins Cultural Heritage Center. 🎧🎥

We are grateful for the Junior Membership Committee's gift that will help Hindman Settlement School ensure a robust experience for the participants of our life changing programs for years to come. 🎧🎥



Learn more about the improvements on our blog <https://hindman.org/news-and-updates/>