

Entrusted With History's Future

Newsletter for the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the District of Columbia

Capacity Crowd at Annual Meeting Salutes Roll of Honor Recipients



Lizzie Cantacuzene (L) and Betsy Edgeworth, lateral descendants of our DC Founder Britannia Peter Kennon, find her name in the NSCDA ROH Book.

Nearly 100 members and special guests attended the DC Society Annual Meeting on May 18 at Dumbarton House. The event focused a spotlight on our ten current recipients of the NSCDA Roll of Honor, an award that identifies worthy individuals whose sustained service, dedicated leadership, and devotion to the ideals of the NSCDA has gone above and beyond the ordinary. In a surprise announcement, three members were announced as new recipients of the ROH. They are Gretchen Bukowski, Kay Glenday and Kathy Prendergast. All three have been active in the DC Society and also in the larger Dames community.



ROH awardee Kathy Prendergast (R) is congratulated by her mother (NJ Society President Mary Prendergast).

Our new recipients join the ten previously announced honorees. Unfortunately, Jennie Boyd was unable to join us, but the nine attending were Hannah Cox, Sara Davis, Carolyn Abshire, Betsy Nottingham, Betsy Ruderfer, Louise "Bunny" Muir, Louise Beale, Amy Dewey, and Ellen Boomer. Also attending was Mimi Conger, whose late mother (Mary Calvert Conger) was an ROH recipient, as well as two lateral descendants of Britannia Peter Kennon, who was the Founder of the DC Society and served as the President from 1892-1911. Her descendants are Lizzie Cantacuzene and Betsy Edgeworth.



DC's Roll of Honor recipients (L-R). Standing: Kay Glenday, Kathy Prendergast, Betsy Ruderfer, Amy Dewey, Louise Beale, Betsy Nottingham, Gretchen Bukowski. Seated: Sara Davis, Hannah Cox, Carolyn Abshire, Bunny Muir, Ellen Boomer. Missing from photo: Jennie Boyd.



L-R: Mimi Conger (daughter of ROH recipient Mary Conger), Margaret Schutrumpf (Maine Society President), ROH Honoree Hannah Cox, and Marta Dunetz (DC Society President).

In addition to the program, a brief business meeting included reports from the President, Registrar, Treasurer, and Nominating Committee Chair. Marta Miller Dunetz will continue for one more year as President, and Vice Presidents are Eleanore Boyse and Doris Dixon. New members of the Board are Tippy Anderson, Daisy Berexa, Saralee Boteler, Liza Chapman-Memery, Kristen Nunnally, Ellen Schreiber, and Mary Ann Way. Belle Brent Duchin will attend Board meetings representing Fisher House.

(continued on page 2)

Capacity Crowd at Annual Meeting Salutes Roll of Honor Recipients (cont.)

A festive lunch followed the meeting, and extra tables outdoors on the Lower Patio accommodated the overflow crowd. Plans are already underway for next year's Annual Meeting, which will be on Wednesday, May 17, 2023. Mark your calendar!



ROH recipient Gretchen Bukowski (L) with Carol Cadou (NSCDA Executive Director).



Honoree Ellen Boomer (NSCDA VP for Region IV).



Honoree Carolyn Abshire.



President Marta Dunetz announces ROH award to Kay Glenday.

President's Message



As I begin my third and final year as your president, I want to thank all the officers and committee chairs whose hard work has led to our continuing success. In the pages of this Newsletter, you will read about the diverse and interesting programs and activities planned for the upcoming months, and I hope to see you at many of these events. Our Patriotic Service Committee already has had three significant activities, and I want to particularly mention the Congressional Essay Contest and the June week in Washington for the winners. Please note that although relatives of Dames are not allowed to enter the essay competition, members are encouraged to sponsor (pay the fee of \$1,300) for their relatives to attend in the Legacy category. This year, there were Legacy participants from eight states, including William Dreiband, the son of DC Dame Laura Dreiband. If you have a relative in high school, please consider sponsoring him or her to participate in this meaningful educational experience.

I want to announce a generous donation made to our Society by the family of the late Nan Hobson, who died last fall and was the President of the DC Society for four years. Her husband, Jim Hobson, has directed that the gift be for the Young Dames, because developing and encouraging Young Dames was very important to Nan. She understood that engaging younger members is essential in strengthening our organization and ensuring future growth and success. We have more Young Dames than any other society in the NSCDA, and our Young Dames Committee is working on plans utilizing the gift from the Hobson family.

Finally, I want to thank all those who worked so hard to make our recent Annual Meeting such an extraordinary success. So many members wanted to join in recognizing our Roll of Honor recipients that we had to turn people away. There was tremendous support for our Honorees, leading to our capacity crowd. But, more wonderful events lie ahead. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for future programs.

Marta Miller Dunetz
President of the DC Society: NSCDA



Laura Dreiband and her son William



Outdoors at the Annual Meeting

Please Join us for the Biennial!



We hope that you will join us in October, with Dames from across the country, for this year's Biennial to be held at the Omni-Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C., Thursday, October 13 through Sunday, October 16, 2022.

A long weekend full of exciting programs has been planned that will provide you the opportunity to socialize and learn more about the important work of the NSCDA and our Corporate Societies: our Dame Impact.

Beginning on Friday, we look forward to three special tours built with Dames in mind. *A Tour of Her Own*, a Washington, D.C.-based and woman-owned company, will lead us on a preservation-focused walking tour of historic Georgetown. And, on the other side of town, we will walk the hallowed and beautiful halls of the Library of Congress and learn more about our partnership with the Veterans History Project, housed there.

Friday evening, at the opening reception of the conference, Katherine Cammack, our National President, will officially welcome us with an elegant party at the fabulous Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens. Attendees and their guests will enjoy exclusive access to the gilded mansion, impeccable grounds, and their new special exhibition *Grace of Monaco: Princess in Dior*.

On Saturday, after a day of meetings, lectures and educational sessions designed to increase our Dame Impact, we will enjoy informal special interest group meet-ups. The evening will start with a cocktail reception, featuring a full open bar and hors d'oeuvres. The reception will be followed by a multi-course black-tie dinner, where we honor the amazing women who have been nominated to this year's Roll of Honor. Our keynote speaker for the evening is the ever-inspiring Lisa Sasaki, Interim Director of the Smithsonian Institution's new National Women's History Museum. She will introduce us to our nation's plans for enshrining women's contributions to our great American story.

Sunday will begin at the Omni-Shoreham with the closing Biennial Council session and will finish with extraordinary tours of the recently restored Arlington House museum. Following our visit to Arlington House, we will conduct a Memorial Service at Arlington National Cemetery, as has been done for 120 years.

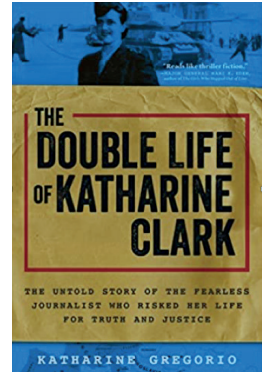
Two NSCDA Biennial Sessions Feature DC Society

At the October Biennial, two of the Educational Sessions on the afternoon of Saturday, October 15 will feature the DC Society. Our member Sarah McComas, an experienced non-profit Development professional, will be the lead panelist for a session titled "Securing Your Society's Future." Another session will focus on one of our Society's major funded projects. Lisa Fager, Executive Director of the Mount Zion/Female Union Band Cemetery, will describe the continuing efforts to establish this Historic Memorial Park. The title of the session will be "Creating Society Impact and Visibility: Cemetery Interpretation and Collaborations." Ms. Fager will be joined by a representation of the Iowa Society in the presentation.

All members of the DC Society are encouraged to register for the weekend Biennial and participate the wide variety of programs that are available, including evening social gatherings. A timetable of the events is on page 9, and registration is available on the Website: NSCDA.org. The user name is history, and the password is future.

Upcoming Programs: Save the Dates!

Monday, September 12, 2022; 10:30 a.m. - Katharine Uhre Gregorio will speak about her book "The Double Life of Katharine Clark: The Untold Story of the Fearless Journalist Who Risked Her Life for Truth and Justice." Ms. Gregorio, the daughter of DC Dame Lea Uhre, was inspired to write this gripping book when she uncovered a family secret about her great-aunt, Katharine Clark, who worked as a foreign correspondent in Europe during the height of the Cold War, but that was the tip of the iceberg. Ms. Clark's unlikely adventures began in 1955 when she befriended Milovan Djilas, a high-ranking Communist leader in Yugoslavia, who was questioning the ideology he had helped to establish. Their collaboration resulted in Ms. Clark smuggling Mr. Djilas's manifesto out of Yugoslavia and into the hands of American publishers, where it became a New York Times bestseller, was translated into sixty languages, and was used by the CIA in its covert book program.



Wednesday, October 26, 2022; 6:30 p.m. – "Keep it the Home of Washington!" – The Ongoing Restoration of George Washington's Mount Vernon: 2022's Linda Mattingly Memorial Lecture with Adam T. Erby, Curator of Fine and Decorative Arts at Mount Vernon, who will speak about the extensive renovations at the estate that began in 2013. Aided by a restoration campaign grounded in cutting-edge research on the material lives of the Washingtons and their enslaved work force, curators and architectural historians went to work. Mr. Erby will highlight restoration of the Chintz Bedchamber, the Blue Bedchamber, the Yellow Bedchamber, the Central Passage, and the Front Parlor as well as upcoming restoration of the Washington Bedchamber, and the Small Dining Room. He also will discuss continuing and upcoming work on the Greenhouse Slave Quarters and the North Lane, the heart of the enslaved African American community in the 18th Century.

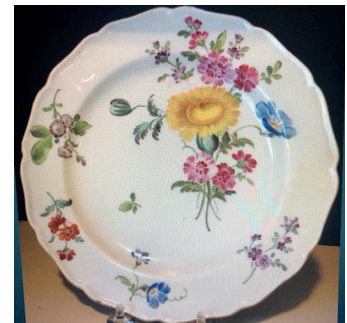


Yellow Bedchamber



Enslaved Womens' Bunk Room

Wednesday, November 16, 2022; 10:30 a.m. – Dr. Keith Lindgren will share his exquisite collection of floral-painted porcelain with an illustrated lecture about "The History of Flower Painting on Porcelain". Dr. Lindgren, husband of DC Dame Janet Lindgren, began collecting this special category of porcelain nearly fifty years ago as he simultaneously pursued a distinguished career as a practicing cardiologist. Dr. Lindgren will discuss the technical challenges of painting on porcelain as it progressed from the invention of porcelain in the first millennium to the discovery of cobalt pigment that was used in the famous Ming blue and white decoration on porcelain to the profusion of flower painting on porcelain in the 18th Century and continues to the present day.



Excursions Committee

The Excursion Committee has a number of interesting events planned for the fall and winter. Below is a brief description of planned activities and dates. Announcements, with sign-up instructions, will be emailed to all members closer to the date. Please mark your calendars!



Friday, September 23, 2022: Tour of President Lincoln's Cottage and the adjoining First National Cemetery that was established by the Army in the aftermath of the first Battle of Bull Run. Lunch to follow at Honeymoon Chicken.



Monday, October 10, 2022: Indigenous Peoples Day private tour of Piscataway Park, sacred homeland of the Potomac's first people. Guided by Piscataway Indian Nation Tayac and Accokeek Foundation. This six-mile shoreline protects the Mt Vernon viewshed. There will be a catered picnic lunch option. Dogs are welcome.



Thursday, January 26, 2023: Mount Clare House, one of Maryland's oldest and finest examples of colonial Georgian architecture. It is owned and managed by the NSCDA-MD and houses an extraordinary collection of furniture, paintings and decorative arts. This excursion includes a private tour followed by lunch at the Mount Vernon Club located in the oldest neighborhood of Baltimore.



DC Dames pictured in the Mount Vernon garden during a recent visit.



The delightful day at DeLaBrooke Manor, hosted by Stephanie and Leander McCormick-Goodhart, was filled with historical presentations in a beautiful riverfront setting. Our hosts made special presentations to three guests with special family ties to the land. L-R are Leonard "Skip" Calvert, III, Betsy Ruderfer, Leander McCormick-Goodhart, and Anna Brooke.



A Tour of Arlington House organized by the Excursions Committee.

Historical Activities

Historical Activities Trip to Richmond

Wednesday, November 2 – Thursday, November 3
Registration information to be sent out by email in September!

Accommodations: The Jefferson Hotel
(Room block reserved for one night)

Wednesday, November 2

Arrive in Richmond on own by car or train
Beginning at 11:00a.m., a guided tour of the VA Historical Society & Museum

Lunch

Guided walking tour of Richmond to include the Virginia State Capitol, Virginia Executive Mansion, Hollywood Cemetery and St. John's Church.

Dinner at The Commonwealth Club

Thursday, November 3

Beginning at 9:00a.m., tour of James River Plantations by chartered bus

Tour of Wilton House Museum, owned by NSCDA-VA

Lunch

Additional tours of James River Plantations

At 4:00p.m., arrive at Jefferson Hotel for individual departures.



Wilton House Museum



DC Dames enjoy the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia on a tour organized by the Historical Activities Committee.

2022 Holiday Wreath Pre-Sale

Saturday, October 1 - Tuesday, November 1
Mark Your Calendar!

The Historical Activities Committee will begin taking orders on October 1 for the DC Dames Holiday Wreath Sale to support the Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries.



Wreaths may be picked up at the D.C. Dames Christmas Tea and Boutique at Dumbarton House on Wednesday, December 7.

In addition, members may sponsor smaller 14" wreaths to commemorate the cemeteries for the holidays.

The Historical Activities Committee works with the Mount Zion Memorial Park Foundation to support preservation and education efforts for the historic cemeteries, which are located directly to the east of Dumbarton House and are the final resting place for between 8,000 and 10,000 people, mostly enslaved African Americans, who lived and worked in Washington. An existing building on the property was likely a stop on the Underground Railroad.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities with Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries, please contact Sarah Demarest at bealesarah@gmail.com or 301 452-6944.

HELP WANTED

Video Editor for DC Dames Oral Histories Project

The Historical Activities Committee has embarked on an exciting Oral Histories Project to document on video individual interviews with the DC Society Roll of Honorees.

An experienced Video Editor will be hired on a contract, part-time basis in the Spring of 2023 to work with the committee and compile the interview footage for a full length Oral Histories presentation. Interested applicants may contact Debbie Sams Sczudlo by email at debrahsams@gmail.com. Please include a resume outlining qualifications and examples of work. The Oral Histories Committee hopes to fill this position by February 2023.

Patriotic Services

DC Dames attend the Military Women's Memorial Day Ceremony

Memorial Day brought DC Dames together for the Military Women's Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. For 25 years the NSCDA-DC Society has supported this impressive Memorial honoring all women who have defended America throughout our nation's history. After a six-month renovation, the Memorial reopened in May with new exhibits and visuals.



The patriotic wreath was presented on behalf of the NSCDA by our President Marta Dunetz. Standing with Marta are members Gretchen Bukowski, Liza Chapman-Memery, Sandy Webster, (Marta), Allison Beckler, Ellen Martin, Stephanie Green and Hannah Sears.

Congressional Essay Winners Visit Dumbarton House

On Tuesday, June 28, 2022 Dumbarton House hosted the Congressional Essay Winners for the first time since 2019! Thanks to the generous donation of expense paid trips to Washington by NSCDA, 109 students attended the Washington Workshops Foundation seminar. Many DC Dames, a member from the Alexandria Committee and a California Dame welcomed these students. Given the opportunity to interact with these bright and articulate students provided the opportunity to hear their thoughts about the American ideas of our Constitutional freedoms, equality, and the importance of civic duty.



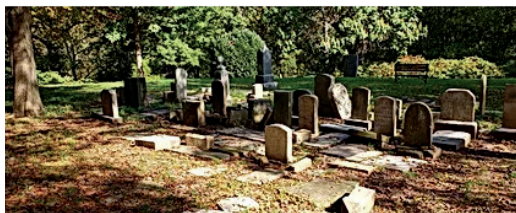
Pictured with legacies are Gretchen Bukowski, William Dreiband (son of DC Dame Laura Dreiband), Florence Grant (granddaughter of Alabama Dame Lucille Leatherbury Grant), Louisa Hunt (daughter of New York Dame Holly Hunt) and Sandy Webster.

Naturalization Ceremony at Gunston Hall

On June 11, several Dames attended the semi-annual Naturalization Ceremony at Gunston Hall

Pictured front row (L-R):Sandy Webster, Marta Dunetz, Dale Walter (WV)
Second row: Gretchen Bukowski, Patricia Toffling (WV) and Sarah McComas

Third row: Nell Payne and Mary Bradshaw



A Morning of Hands-On Volunteering at Mount Zion Cemetery

Saturday, October 1, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Please join the Historical Activities Committee and the Young Dames on Saturday, October 1, from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at the Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries for a morning of learning, helping, and camaraderie! Following coffee and conversation about some of the latest discoveries at the cemeteries, we will be taught how to properly clean gravestones. We will then get to immediately put this knowledge to use as we clean gravestones, pull weeds, and learn about a variety of other volunteer opportunities on site. While this event is an orientation of sorts for those who would like to volunteer together at the cemetery a few times a year, there is no commitment made by attending - it is just an opportunity to learn about this wonderful neighbor to Dumbarton House and spend a bit of the day helping in our community!

If you are able to attend or have any questions, please contact Sarah Demarest at bealesarah@gmail.com or 301-452-6944.

Membership Committee

We Love to Welcome New Members!

As summer comes to an end, this is the perfect time to think about proposing a friend or family member for membership in the NSCDA-DC. With several exciting events coming up this this fall, there will be many opportunities to introduce your proposed candidate. The process to propose a new member is not difficult. For the *Membership Proposal Step-by-Step Check List*, and a printable or on-line fillable nomination form, contact Membership Co-Chair Doris Dixon at dorisdixon8@gmail.com or 202-285-0486. You may also contact Membership Co-chair Nan Whalen at glamella.nan@gmail.com with questions. We are here to support you through the process. We look forward to meeting your candidates!

Young Dames



Young Dames picnicking at the Jane Austin Film Festival Dumbarton House.

BIENNIAL 2022 Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, October 12

6 – 9 p.m. Executive Committee Dinner

Thursday, October 13

8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting

1 – 4 p.m. National Leadership Meeting

1 – 4 p.m. Corporate Society President's Meeting

6 – 9:30 p.m. National Board Reception

Friday, October 14

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. National Board Meeting

8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m. Optional experiences: Historic Preservation Walking Tour of Georgetown tour of Dumbarton House, and Library of Congress Tour and Veterans History Project

6 – 9 p.m. Welcome Reception at Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens

Saturday, October 15

7:45 – 8 a.m. Coffee and Conversation

8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Biennial Council Opening Session and Announcements

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Luncheon at which committees & workshop groups may convene

2 – 3 p.m. Dame Impact lectures and educational sessions

3:15 – 4:15 p.m. Dame Impact lectures and educational sessions

5 – 6 p.m. Special interest group meet-ups

6 – 7 p.m. Cocktail Reception and Announcements

7 – 9 p.m. Biennial Dinner (black-tie) and Awards, including the inaugural Award for Preserving History's Future, additionally featuring keynote speaker, Lisa Sasaki, the Interim Director of the Smithsonian Institution's new National Women's History Museum

Sunday, October 16

8:45 – 11:30 a.m. Biennial Council Closing Session

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Luncheon honoring incoming officers

1 – 3 p.m. Arlington House Tours

3:30 – 5 p.m. Memorial Service at Arlington National Cemetery

5:30 – 7 p.m. Optional Dutch Dinner at Robert's Restaurant at the Omni Shoreham Hotel

For additional information and to register for Biennial, log in to the NSDCA Website NSCDA.org.
Username: history Password: future



A mobile app is available for our directory!

Download the app by searching "Online Member Directory" in your app store.
Enter our mobile code: **NSCDADC**

NSDCA-DC Photo Directory

In an effort to help us recognize and get to know one another better we have created a directory which includes headshots as well as emails, telephone numbers, and home address contact information. It is password protected and only available to members and courtesy members of NSCDA-DC. The information in the online directory will be updated often, so it is the best place to find your fellow Dames' latest phone numbers, etc.

The Photo Directory can be found:

- 1) on this website <https://nscdadac.ctrn.co/>
- 2) on our website, nscdadac.org, on the "For Members" page (password: dcdames1891)
- 3) or on the Online Member Directory mobile app. The convenient mobile app allows you to call, text, or email your Dames friends from your phone easily. Instructions on downloading the app are found below. Please check out your member profile, which has already been created, and send in corrections and headshots to nscdadac@gmail.com

Please contact nscdadac@gmail.com with any concerns, corrections, or questions. We hope you enjoy the Photo Directory!

Registrar's Report

The DC Society continues to grow. We have increased our membership to 316 despite a slight increase in members who have transferred their membership to other Societies.

Since our last newsletter was published, we have welcomed ten new NSCDA members:

- Molly Hayward Adams
- Gwinneth Ann "Daisy" Berexa
- Katherine Preston Cory
- Elizabeth Lichte "Beth" Crocker
- Stephanie Leigh Green
- Jacquelyn Andrea "Jacqui" Jones
- Catherine Conaway "Cathy" Jones
- Danielle Markel Kozlowski
- Elizabeth Leonard Stinson
- Amelia Belcher "Amy" Turcotte

In addition, we have welcomed two members who transferred their membership to DC from other Societies:

- Susan Tippen Harvey "Tippy" Anderson, from Alabama and
- Katherine Westmoreland, from South Carolina

There are ten candidates completing their lineage papers and collecting their proofs.

We mourn the death of two members — Florence "Cici" Hughes, whose creative arrangements graced the tables at many Dames events, and Patricia Coryell "Pat" Humphrey, who lived in Alexandria.



DC SOCIETY PIN AVAILABLE

Should you want a DC Society pin or the NSCDA badge, please contact Registrar Llewellyn Bensfield (lwbensfield@gmail.com) to place your order.



Dames Christmas Tea and Boutiques

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Dumbarton House

~ Featuring ~

Melissa Carey ~ The Christmas Cabinet

Christmas Wreaths sponsored by Dames Historical Activities Committee

Meg Carter Designs

Mia Glickman ~ Author of Dog Heraldry

Chrissie Griffin ~ Designer Pillows and Screens

Deborah de Gorter ~ Cashmere and French Silk Scarves

Mary Page Hickey ~ Botanical Notecards

Lynn Keith ~ Cheese Straws and Peppermint Bark

Maribeth's Bakery ~ Iced *There's Nothing Like a Dame* Cookies

Nancy Smith ~ Walton Street Stationery

Merrill Strange ~ Ceramics

Mary Wheeler ~ Beeswax Candles

Dumbarton House, Gunston Hall, Sulgrave Manor

Suggested Contribution to Fisher House

Sponsored by Dames Patriotic Services Committee

Bring Friends!

Co-Chairs

Shelley Rodgers (hot pepper jelly)

and

Mary Ann Way

CALENDAR

2022

September 10	Naturalization Ceremony at Gunston Hall
September 12, 10:30a.m.	Lecture with Katharine Uhre Gregorio, author of "The Double Life of Katharine Clark: The Untold Story of the Fearless Journalist Who Risked Her Life for Truth and Justice"
September 14, 10:00a.m.	DC Dames Board Meeting
September 23	Excursion to President Lincoln's Cottage
September 29	Celebration of Dumbarton House 90th Anniversary.
October 1	Volunteer day at the Mount Zion and Female Union Band Cemeteries
October 10	Excursion to Piscataway Park
October 13-October 16	Biennial and National Board Meeting
October 26, 6:30p.m.	The Linda Mattingly Annual Decorative Arts Lecture with Adam Erby of Mount Vernon
November 2-3	Historical Activities overnight field trip to Richmond
November 10, 5:00p.m.	Board Meeting (Betsy Nottingham's)
November 16, 10:30a.m.	"The History of Flower Painting on Porcelain" lecture with Keith Lindgren, MD
December 7, 11:00a.m.-2:00p.m.	Christmas Tea and Boutiques

2023

January 18 10:00a.m.	DC Dames Board Meeting
January 26	Excursion to Baltimore
March 15 10:00a.m.	DC Dames Board Meeting
May 17	DC Dames Annual Meeting