

The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in California Monterey Peninsula Committee Minutes of Board Meeting, May 13, 2025

The Monterey Peninsula Committee Board, Committee Chairs, and Advisors met in person at St. John's Chapel Community Room. This was the 1st meeting of the newly elected Board. Present were Margie Martin, Marguerite Meyer, Alicia White, Elizabeth Barratt, Mary Potter, Susan Clark, Ruth Donohugh, June McBride, and Marcia Harrington by telephone.

The Meeting was called to order. The Pledge was recited and attendance was taken.

Minutes from the March 6, 2025 meeting and the Annual Meeting March 20, 2025 were discussed. Minutes were approved unanimously and will be posted on the Monterey pages of the website by the webmaster.

Board Member Reports:

Chairman: Margie Martin reported that one of the meeting's main objectives was to decide on the 2025-2026 Monterey Calendar. The following dates and events so far through Dec. are:

June 7, Sat.	Summer Event: Tour of Jollyhase House and Gardens.
July 27, Sun.	Docent events at Octagon House.
Sept 16, Tues.	Board Meeting, St. John's Chapel.
Oct 16, Thur.	Fall Event: Tour and Lunch at Rancho Cielo Youth Campus.
Nov 18, Tues.	Board Meeting, St. John's Chapel.
Dec 7, Sun	Holiday Luncheon: Woody's at Del Mesa Restaurant.
Dec. 13, Sat	Wreaths Across America; CA Central Coast Veterans Cemetery.

All Board Meetings will be held at St. John's Chapel, on the appointed Tuesdays at 4:00pm. Please see the attached 2025-2026 Monterey Calendar.

Margie reported about the current plans for the Annual Meeting of the California State Society to be held April 21-22, 2026. April 21 will include a tour of the Historic St. John's Chapel during the afternoon. The evening dinner will be held at Woody's Del Mesa Restaurant. On April 22, the Annual Meeting will be held at Corral De Tierra Country Club with a luncheon following. Ken Hess will be the Luncheon speaker. Due to the fact that prices vary greatly in the Monterey/Carmel area, it was decided that all Hotel Reservations be made by each attending individual. Alicia White has been appointed to represent Monterey on the California Dames State Board of Managers. Margie Martin, as Chairman of the Monterey Peninsula Committee was voted to be the 5th Vice President on the State Board of Managers.

Margie reported that National Colonial Dames have books about America's First Veterans and Great American Treasures that would be offered to each State and local Committees to be sold to their members. Discussion ensued about how and when to offer the books. It was proposed that the books could be displayed and sold at the September meeting. Also discussed was the pricing. Margie will report back with more information.

Finally, Margie opened a discussion of meeting ideas. Ideas included: tour of the Carmel Mission, tour of Colton Hall, trip to Point Lobos, tour of the Photographic Collection at the Monterey Historical Society, tour of the VA Transitions Center.

Vice Chairman: Ruth Donohugh had no report.

Treasurer: June McBride reported that the ending balance of April 30, 2025 was \$18,232.54. The Annual Meeting cost was reported to be within budget with \$200 to spare.

Corresponding Secretary: Elizabeth Barratt thanked Marcia Harrington for helping her with all the responsibilities at the beginning of her job.

Recording Secretary: Alicia White had no report.

Patriotic Services: Susan Clark reported that her solicitation letter had been sent at the beginning of October previously but would like to send it out earlier; possibly September 1. She would like to include Wreaths across America. Susan would like to have a committee of five to help with the Congressional Essay Contest and would like to include some of the new members. There was a discussion about National History Day and the current political climate. There will be more of an effort to recruit Judges this year. Ruben Mendoza sent a letter reporting on the repairs at the Historical Society.

Membership: There are 73 members and 23 candidates. New member Stephanie Lee was approved in record time! There are 18 Junior members statewide, most are in the Monterey Committee. There was discussion about placing a mark on the nametags of Junior Dames. California State calls members under 50 - Young Dames.

Historian: There is a search for a new Historian. Shannon Kirby has stepped down.

Webmaster: Marguerite Meyer reported that she posted a recap and photos from the Annual Meeting. One new member photo and bio was added to the Meet Our New Member's page. Minutes from years previous are archived on the website. The 2025-26 Calendar will be posted.

Advisors: Cathy Lee, Mary Potter had no reports.

Old Business: Margie Martin and Alicia White will go to the Ribbon Cutting ceremony of the new Octagon House garden. Margie Martin reported that a Committee has been formed for the planning of the April 21-22, 2026 State Annual Meeting consisting of the following: Elizabeth Barratt, Marcia Harrington, Ruth Donohugh, Cathy Lee, and Marilyn Riehl. Registration fee will be raised to \$35. Margie will report to the State Board about Hotel Choices for the State Annual Meeting. She does not want the Monterey Committee to have the stress of having to pay to make up an unreserved minimum. The planning will continue.

The meeting was adjourned by Margie Martin at 5:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Alicia White, Recording Secretary.