

Local DAR chapter hears a program on First Lady Caroline Harrison

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Thursday, 28 April 2011 09:50 -

April 21, 2011 - The April meeting of the George Blakey Daughters of the American Revolution welcomed twelve members and one guest at the Elizabeth May Room of American Bank. Hostesses Alice Creecy and Nita Brandenburger presented a beautiful Easter theme.

Regent Betsy Sterkel shared a few upcoming lineage workshops to be held in Greenville on April 30 from 10 a.m. to noon and in Gainesville on June 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. The Bertha Voyer Library in Honey Grove will also host a workshop on April 30 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Eileen Cox and Beth Roeh were voted on and approved by the chapter as new members. The chapter also voted earlier this year to purchase 350 phone cards for local veterans. They have been delivered to the Bonham VA.

“They are happy to receive them,” said member Dot Linn.

For women's health, Sheri Thedford reminded chapter members of the importance of getting a yearly mammogram.

The program for the April meeting took the members' imaginations to Washington, D.C. to meet First Lady Caroline Harrison. She shared her husband, Benjamin's favorite food, known now as pigs in a blanket, and her love of music and painting. As First Lady, she was able to restore and remodel the White House, clearing the home of rodent problems and installing electricity. It is noted that the Harrison's were both afraid of using the electricity after having it installed. She is also remembered for putting up the first Christmas tree in the White House in 1889. Harrison served as the first President General of the Daughters of the American Revolution and helped found the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and served as first President General.

The George Blakey Daughters of the American Revolution will meet again Saturday, May 14, at the home of Sterkel in Bonham at 2 p.m. Membership is open to all women over the age of 18. Anyone interested in joining can contact Shirley Harman at 903-623-3151 or email shrly_harman@yahoo.com.