



**Illinois State Organization NSDAR**  
**Marria Blinn, State Regent**

**State Information Packet 2025**

***America 250! Committee***

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**Patriot Marker Grants** - The Storage Administration just announced that Patriot Marker Grants will soon be available. States may receive \$1,000 and chapters may receive \$500 to dedicate a Patriot marker, or placing or rededicating Revolutionary War plaques, monuments, and gravesites. More information on these grants will be available in the next several weeks as the program gets up and running.

**Community Engagement** – Initiatives include chapters collaborating with units of local government to create Proclamations that brings attention to our nation’s milestone and connects communities to your local DAR Chapter. A proclamation template is available on the ILDAR Members Only website under SIP.

Chapters can also assist in designating their community as an Illinois America 250 Community. More information can be found at <https://www.il250.org/250-community>. Other celebration activities can be found on the ***America 250!*** Committee webpage on the NSDAR website.

**Passports to *America 250!*** – Chapters and individual members are encouraged to plan for and produce “passports” for your ***America 250!*** journey. The contents of the passports could be based on travel, experiences, relationships, and/or other aspects of one's experience in this important period in America's history. More information about the passports will be forthcoming, but could range from photo albums, personally constructed scrapbooks, and notebooks, with imagination being the only limit.

**Capture the Celebration** – Chapters are encouraged to preserve and celebrate every moment of America’s celebration with photos. Photos of chapter activities should be action oriented and multi-generational in nature. Published on social media and other outlets, these photos will demonstrate to the public that the society is for everyone from Daughters in their late teens to the well-seasoned Daughter. These photos will be a wonderful way to share the opportunity with prospective members of all ages.

**Club 250!** – All Chapters are encouraged to become a member of “Club 250”, an exclusive club available to ALL Illinois DAR Chapters. Chapters who publicize an ***America 250!*** activity in at least 1 or more categories of Chapter, Community, Veterans, and Youth, will be recognized at State Conference. More information can be found on the ILDAR Members Only website. Our goal is 100% participation!

**Member Engagement** – Highlighting the Patriots that are the basis of each daughter’s membership is a wonderful way to engage members on a personal level. This can be through sharing a “Patriot Pride” moment at meetings or on social media. Members can also purchase Patriot flags or custom signs to place in their yard as a beacon to their communities of the role their family played in our nation’s independence.

**Patriotic Paul & Revolutionary Ruth** – These two fictional Patriots are a terrific way to engage youth much in the same way as Flat Stanley has for the past several years. Children can color and cut out Paul and Ruth and send traveling with Daughters, family, and friends while on vacation or traveling for business. Capturing photos of Paul and Ruth as they travel and visit historic sites and important community landmarks not only excites but educates young minds. What a great activity to add to your Passport, work with school, and connect with your children and grandchildren! A Patriotic Paul and Revolutionary Ruth template is available from the ILDAR Members Only website under SIP.

**Don’t forget to sign up for the Daughters Online Community and check out *America 250!* For more great ideas! No matter the size of your chapter, there are activities you can do to embrace our nation’s monumental birthday celebration! Questions? Please contact Jackie Joines with any questions as we plan to celebrate *America 250!***