

Mariemont Chapter DAR was formed in the planned English Village of Mariemont located ten miles east of the center of Cincinnati. An original group of 15 ladies from the general area, under the leadership of Mrs. Charles J. Livingood and Mrs. Howard R. Donley, met on February 3, 1930 and subsequently petitioned for a charter which was granted in a record two months. Mrs. Howard R. Donley was named as the chapter's first Regent with an initial membership of 35.



The first essay contest involving the chapter was conducted in 1930 for a \$100 prize. During the period of 1930-31, education regarding proper care and use of the American flag was strongly emphasized. The chapter purchased numerous items, including three dozen complete dinner sets of Martha Washington's pattern, to donate to the DAR Museum located in a building owned by Mary M. Emery.

During World War II, Mariemont Chapter ladies were especially active producing, filling and donating Buddy Bags for soldiers, and supporting the USO at Union Terminal in Cincinnati through donations of homemade cookies and candy.

Chester F. Kroger gave the Waldschmidt House to the Ohio DAR in 1941. One of our members is a descendant of the Waldschmidt family and she and other members remain extremely active in restoration of the property, as well as serving as Trustees and Curators.

Two Revolutionary soldiers graves were marked in the early years and a Revolutionary War Officers sword was presented to the DAR Museum in Washington. Preservation continues to be important to Mariemont as evidenced by the awarding of a preservation award to a Mariemont member for her work to restore the Lindner barn into the Women's Cultural and Arts Center in 2010.

On June 15th, 1943 the FBI spoke to the members about the work that was being done during wartime and National Defense stressed the grave dangers within our borders of Communism. After the War Mariemont DAR was involved with Ellis Island immigrants, displaced persons and war brides. There was a commitment to European children with boxes of shoes.

During 1951-51 the chapter supported DAR schools, Longview Hospital, the Soldier's and Sailor's Orphanage and restoration of Calvary Presbyterian Church. In 1952, DAR began making scrapbooks. The chapter supported the Girl Homemakers and Good Citizen contests and in 1953 a marker was placed at the Old Mercersburg Block House in Newtown Ohio originally part of the Mercersburg Fort involved in the American Revolution. In 1953 the chapter assisted a Native American girl to become a nurse and monetary donations were given to a Korean War Veteran. In 1955 aid to the Tamasee and Kate Duncan Smith Schools was added.

During the 1960's through 1980's the chapter continued to support veterans and currently serving military. The chapter celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1980 under the leadership of Regent, Dell Springfield. Eleven Beech Forest Chapter members joined Mariemont after their chapter was disbanded in 2008 bringing with them an emphasis on education particularly school essay contests and the Good Citizen Award.

Mariemont Chapter wrote and published "Mariemont Chapter Wills" in 1999, written by Dorothy L. Steele and "Mariemont DAR Bible Records" by Martha McArthur Fehl in 1997. Both are in the Columbus Metropolitan Library and Western Reserve Historical Society. A two volume Patriot Index was donated to the Madeira Library.

Mariemont, was named 2nd in the state for work on Veteran's affairs in 2012. Members participated in Honor Flight and sent letters and donations for Christmas packages to current military personnel. Education is also important to this chapter as evidenced by the degree of involvement in literacy projects and sponsoring of essay and Good Citizen Contests. During 2011-13 the chapter sponsored the SW District winner for the Good Citizen Award Contest.

The Mariemont Chapter has always been rather small with membership beginning with 35 and progressing to 62 in 2013. However, Mariemont is a very active chapter with strong allegiance to expanding the mission of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution: patriotism, education and preservation.