



CATEECHEE CHAPTER HISTORY 1899 - 2006

Cateechee Chapter was organized by Mrs. Lulah Ayer Vandiver on January 18, 1899 with twelve charter members. Below are some of the highlights of the following years:

1904 - In 1904 Cateechee placed a Tablet in the Courthouse in memory of Robert Anderson, a Colonel in the Revolutionary War and in whose honor the City and County of Anderson were named.

1909 - In 1909 Mrs. W. W. Robinson presented to the Chapter a sword of General Sumter's. The great grandson Major Spann was the recipient of this sword at the home of the great leader.

1911 - A Boulder was placed to mark "The Treaty Oak" (this historic tree was blown down by a storm several years ago) by General Andrew Pickens Chapter and Cateechee Chapter and was dedicated September 19, 1911.

1919 - In 1919, Chapter contributed money and furnished a room at Tamassee DAR School as a memorial to a beloved Regent.

1921 - Cateechee entertained the state conference.

1927 - In 1927, the Chapter contributed to a fund for placing an iron fence around the marker at the "Treaty Oak", contributed to a fund for placing a Memorial Chair in Continental Hall in honor of Woodrow Wilson, contributed to a fund for a tablet in honor of SC Signers of the Declaration of Independence, contributed to a fund for the preservation of Woodrow Wilson's home.

1929 - In October 1929, the Chapter with Hudson Berry Chapter served a dinner in honor of State Regent Mrs. Coulter. The chapter also planted a number of trees.

1930 - In 1930, the Chapter bought a Memorial Acre at Tamassee. They gave a medal to the best history student in High School for the year. In April the Chapter took a room at Tamassee DAR School at a cost of \$400. A generous supply of necessities was also supplied to the school consisting of medicine, an electric iron, etc.

1933 - In 1933, through the efforts of the Chapter, a deed was presented by Mr. J. L. Adams to the SC DAR bequeathing to them the Anderson Graveyard with Cateechee Chapter as the Custodian. A substantial wall (of rock) about four feet wide encloses the burial ground with stone and tablet placed in its center. Plot includes a radius of 50 feet. The cost of work and incidental expenses amounted to

\$350.00. A tablet to Colonel Robert Anderson in this plot was unveiled with appropriate exercises Oct 31, 1933.

1935 - In February 1935, the Chapter paid \$300 for a bathroom at Tamassee DAR School. They had a number of fund raisers that year including a tea showing about 50 "Old Wedding Dresses", selling tags for a Tablet to Signers of the Constitution, a booth at The Fair, and a bridge tournament. They sent \$45 to Tamassee to help refinish the floor in the Dining Hall and Parlors. They started a genealogical shelf at the library and bought a Memorial Acre at Tamassee in honor of the State Regent, Mrs. Mauldin.

1936 – The Chapter organized a C. A. R. Chapter. They entertained the State Conference with the President General Mrs. Becker attending.

1937 – The Chapter entertained the State Regent and Vice-President General and other State officers on Washington's Birthday with a dinner party at Mrs. Orr's home. Lineage books were added to the shelf at the library; helped the Red Cross in flood relief; bought a memorial acre at Tamassee in honor of the Chapter Regent; gave quota for Valley Forge chimes and gave a patron's pledge of \$100 to Tamassee.

1938 – The Chapter entertained the Group Conference No. 2 of the State DAR held in Anderson. Contributed funds for the restoration of the Old Stone Church and for Mrs. Magna's portrait and also sent a 155 pound box to Ellis Island. Catechee Chapter, along with Hudson Berry Chapter and the American Legion Auxiliary, presented a US Flag to the Federal Court Room of the US Court House on May 26, 1938

1939 - The Fortieth Anniversary of the Chapter was celebrated at the home of Mrs. Marshall Orr, State Treasurer with a dinner party. The Chapter contributed to the Valley Forge Chimes fund.

1940 – The Chapter contributed to the Tamassee heating plant, the Penny Pine fund, the Ellis Island fund and gave time and money to the Red Cross.

1941 – The Chapter helped fund the upkeep of the Old Exchange in Charleston, donated money for a new classroom at Tamassee, sent money for British Relief, and contributed money for a volume of Burke's Peerage.

1942 – Catechee Chapter sponsored an American program held in the Federal Court Room in May 1942. It contributed to the USO and the British War Relief. Members of the Chapter aided in entertaining British and American flyers stationed near the city. The Chapter worked to extend work of the Red Cross throughout the County. One of the members of Catechee, Miss Minnie Wilson, was production chairman of the Red Cross for seven years. The Chapter pledged money to help restore the Old Exchange in Charleston. Chapter member, Mrs. Marshall P. Orr, was elected State Regent.

1943 – The Chapter provided funds for the Susan J. Allan Memorial Fund, for blood plasma for war aid, and for Ellis Island. Fifty-five members did Red Cross work as members, 4000 hours of work to their credit. They also worked at first aid and home nursing, one member being chosen chairman of first aid in Anderson County. Two \$100 scholarships were given Tamassee through Catechee. One thousand dollars for a room in the new school building was also given to Tamassee through the Chapter.

1944 – Catechee Chapter raised a special fund for the DAR War Blood Plasma Fund. A tag day was held and \$392.96 was realized for this special work. Four \$100 scholarships were given to Tamassee through the Chapter. Twenty service records of boys in the Armed Forces of the US were sent in by the Chapter. The Chapter was credited for \$10,840 in War Bonds. Twice during the year, the Chapter served as hostess at the Soldier's Service Center, giving much time and money for their entertainment.

1945 – The Chapter made and contributed 47 Buddy Bags in value from \$1.50 to \$3.00 each. These were given to the boys of the Coast Guard and other branches of service. Three \$100 scholarships were sent to Tamassee.

1946 – 1947 – The Chapter entertained the 50th Annual Conference of the SC DAR on March 4-5, 1946 with meetings in St. John's Methodist Church and the John C. Calhoun Hotel.

1947 – 1949 – Donations were made to new buildings in Washington, to Red Cross, to Tamassee, and to other civic organizations. Much attention was given to conservation: 625 trees and 1,273 shrubs planted. Chapter member, Mrs. Marshall P. Orr elected Vice President General of the NSDAR. Chapter won prize for best scrap book in the state. Valuable 30 minute radio program on world affairs presented.

1950 – 1951 – Catechee organized a C.A.R. Chapter in November 1951 with 13 members. Miss Frances Major, Chapter member, elected State Registrar. Chapter won 1951 award for Best Publicity.

1951 – 1952 - A fifteen minute program on national defense was presented on radio. Quotas for National Building Fund and Valley Forge Tower were met. Assisted General Robert Anderson C.A.R. Chapter with state meeting of C.A.R. at Clemson House.

1953 - 1955 – The chapter made outstanding contributions to Tamassee including memorial acres, Christmas Cheer, 500 yards of material for dresses, mirrors for rooms, and donations to SC Cottage Endowment Fund. Celebrated 55th Anniversary with a tea with State Officers as guests.

1955 – 1958 – Catechee assisted chapters of District I in entertaining State Conference of SCDAR at Clemson, Mar 5-6, 1956. Miss Frances Major, chapter member, served as president of Palmetto Officers' Club (1955-56). Received State Gold Honor Roll, also Gold Ribbon for National Gold Honor Roll. Made outstanding gifts to Tamassee including \$200 scholarship. Removed remains of General Robert Anderson to Old Stone Church.

1958 – 1961 – The Chapter purchased new flags and filing cabinet for preservation of records. Participated in naturalization of new citizens who were presented US flags. Gold Honor Roll 1960-61. Markers placed on graves of General Robert Anderson and Mary Smith, Revolutionary War messenger.

1961-1964 – Won \$10 prize for greatest number of inches of publicity in state. Assisted with tea for District I chapter in Greenville. Made a contribution for renovation of bathroom in All States Hall at Tamassee. Gold Honor Roll and first prize for membership.

1964 – 1967 – Gold Ribbon Honor Roll. The Chapter had a Towel Shower for Tamassee. Celebrated 75th Jubilee with luncheon at Anderson Country Club and presented Jubilee Books to Anderson College and Anderson County Libraries.

1967 – 1970 – Cateechee met all requirements for Gold Honor Roll for three consecutive years. Chapter served as hostess for tea with 350 in attendance at State Conference (1969) at Tamasee. \$700 worth of clothes were given to Tamasee; and 90 dolls were dressed to be presented to underprivileged children by the Salvation Army. Valuable relics were given to Ashtabula in Pendleton District.

1970 – 1973 – Received Gold Star Honor Roll. National Defense and conservation stressed. Work was begun on “Cateechee Trail”, a special project for the Bicentennial.

1973 – 1975 – Received Gold Honor Roll Award. Chapter celebrated its Diamond Jubilee at a luncheon at Anderson College with State Regent, Mrs. Olin K. Burgdorf, as speaker. The Bicentennial celebration continued by issuing a pamphlet entitled “Cateechee Trail”. Chapter members and guests made a tour of the 210 miles over the “Cateechee Trail”. 13 markers were placed along highway of Cateechee’s Ride.

1975 – 1977 - The Chapter celebrated the Anderson Bicentennial by sponsoring a float depicting “Cateechee Trail” and a booth at the County Fair which won a Blue Ribbon. During the year the grave of Revolutionary Hero Jehu Orr was marked at Old Rutledge Graveyard

1977 – 1982 – Rev. John Simpson and Mary Remer Simpson grave marked at Roberts Presbyterian Church in Anderson The Chapter celebrated Constitution Week, donated books to the NSDAR library, made gifts to veterans, presented medals for Good Citizenship, History, and ROTC and participated 100% in the President General’s projects.

1982 – 1988 - Cateechee and Hudson Berry Chapters worked together and earned national second place for best all-around celebration of Constitution Week. Continuing their joint efforts, the two chapters were awarded first place for three successive years. More than 5000 persons attended a special observance of the Bicentennial of the United States Centennial of the United States Constitution in a cooperative program with the Anderson School District students.

1988-1989 – The Chapter issued an invitation to the members of the disbanded Emily Geiger Chapter to join Cateechee. Several members accepted this invitation and were transferred.

1989 – 1994 – Chapter projects were expanded to include collecting labels to help purchase a bus for the Tamasee DAR school, raising money for books, playground equipment and a scholarship for a T. L. Hanna High School cadet. A gift received by Cateechee Chapter from the Frances Major estate was divided with \$800 given to Tamasee and \$200 to the National Constitution Hall Renovation Project. Miss Major was a past Chapter Regent.

1994-1997 – The chapter updated its Constitution/Bylaws and began publication of a Chapter newsletter which continues to the present time.

1997 - 2001– On January 28, 1999, the Chapter celebrated its 100th year with an Anniversary Tea held at the home donated to the Anderson Women’s Club by former Chapter Regent, State Regent and National Vice President General Mrs. Marshall Orr. In preparation for this event, chapter members studied and updated the Chapter’s history – founders’ names, highlights of the Chapter’s history and details of the first 30 years. The Regent attended a naturalization ceremony held in Anderson and distributed flags to the new citizens. Luncheons were held annually to collect money for Tamasee.

2001 – 2004 - In 2002, the Chapter donated \$100 to the SC C.A.R. Rebecca Motte project which placed a statue of Rebecca Motte, a SC heroine of the Revolutionary War, in the Old Exchange Bldg in Charleston, SC as a tribute to SC women heroines of the Revolution. Luncheons were held yearly in the Spring to collect money for Tamassee. Special greetings were printed and taken to the veterans at Patrick B. Campbell Veterans Hospital thanking them for service to their country. Chapter Member Jeannie Dobson received first place in the State 2003 Membership Essay Contest with her essay on Lucia Hudgens, a past Chapter Regent. In 2004, the Chapter helped entertain the State Conference in Greenville.

2004– 2006 - In June 2005, the Chapter hosted a Genealogical Workshop at the Anderson Library conducted by State Vice Regent, Mrs. William Glasgow. Members attended many commemorative events including the laying of a wreath at the 266th Anniversary of Andrews Pickens in 2005. In February 2006, Sheila Hey Davis, SC State Regent, was guest speaker at the George Washington Luncheon hosted by Catechee. In 2006, the Chapter collected \$190.00 for the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany for our troops wounded in Iraq. The Chapter contributed several hundred dollars, as well as Campbell Soup Labels, used printer cartridges, several pounds of items for the Thrift Shop, provided baked goods for the Tamassee Founder's Day Breakfast as well as volunteers to help serve the breakfasts as they have always done in the past. 2006 was the year the Chapter went online with their own website.

Throughout the years, the Chapter has always maintained an interest in and support of historical, patriotic and educational activities of the state and national organizations. Special emphasis has been given to conservation, veterans' hospitals, and the Tamassee DAR School. It always meets its State and National requirements promptly. Attractive yearbooks are issued and an attractive newsletter is sent to members before each meeting, acquainting them of upcoming events.