



COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS COMMITTEE

NSDAR Submission Form for Outstanding Chapter or State Report

Commemorative Event: 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party

State Iowa

State Chair Susan Klein

Name of Chapter or State Priscilla Alden Chapter

Regent Mary Ealy

Commemorative Events Chair Janice Brandt

**Contact information for this chapter or state:**

Name of Contact Janice Brandt

Address.

210 Park Street Apt#11 Coon Rapids, Iowa 50058

Phone 515-370-2924

E-Mail [janicebrandt74@gmail.com](mailto:janicebrandt74@gmail.com)

Chapters Chairman to send electronically to State Chairman for judging by **the state deadline**. State Chairman will send first place winners to their respective National Division Vice Chair for judging by **February 15th**. The National Division Vice Chair will judge their entries using the rubric and will send the Division 1st place winners to the respective National Vice Chair for each event by **March 15th**. National Vice Chairs will judge using the rubric and send report form to the National Chair by **April 5th**.

*Signature of state chair*

*Date*

Susan B. Klein (electronic signature)

February 10, 2024

**The Celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party**

by

**Priscilla Alden NSDAR Chapter**



## **The idea and the planning of our program**

The concept of having a tea party had been discussed for several years, but it just had not happened. At a chapter meeting in the summer of 2023, members were talking once again about the idea, which everyone was in favor of, but where to have it was a problem. Then one of our members had an idea. She suggested that I contact the Greene Historical Society in Jefferson, Iowa and she gave me a contact name. That was the beginning of a great program and a new friendship.

The Greene Historical Society hosted many programs in their meeting room at the Greene Historical Museum during the year and so when I called their contact, Margaret Hamilton, she took the information I gave her and said that she would talk to the board. She was very friendly and polite during our conversation. Several days later we talked again, and she said that the board had agreed that we could have the program at the museum. This was very exciting news! There were several phone calls and emails between Margaret and Mary Dolan who was presenting the program. Both wanted to make sure that Mary would have everything she needed to have a successful program. It is the policy of the historical society to publicize the programs they help sponsor, so Mary Dolan emailed the information about her speech to the historical society contact who in turn rewrote the information and sent it to various media outlets. They included Raccoon Valley Radio, Greene County News Online, Greene Historical Society Facebook page. Priscilla Alden contacted members through our Facebook page and emails.

On the day of the program, Priscilla Alden members set up a refreshment table and both organizations helped restock the table, as necessary. Mary Dolan furnished several kinds of tea used in colonial times and very pretty paper teacups with matching paper plates. Priscilla Alden members furnished some wonderful cookies and bars and the historical society had bottles of water available. Refreshments were served before and after the program.

## **The Speaker**

Mary Dolan is an associate member of Priscilla Alden Chapter, Regent of the David City Chapter in Nebraska and National Vice Chairman of the America 250 committee. She enjoys learning about all things historical. When asked if she would be our presenter she said yes and proceeded to research materials about the Boston Tea Party, then developed a program and a power point presentation. Also, she purchased samples of colonial tea used in the time of the Boston Tea Party to share with the group and an example of a block of tea, which she passed around the audience during the presentation.

## **The Program**

The 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party was celebrated by the Priscilla Alden Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Greene County Historical Society September 17, 2023 at the Greene County Museum meeting room in Jefferson, Iowa at 2:00 PM. There were approximately thirty-five individuals in attendance.

Members from both societies were there along with history buffs from the surrounding area. Margaret Hamilton, member of the Greene Historical Society, introduced Mary Dolan, our presenter, to the audience.

Mary Dolan opened the program by answering the question, "Why was tea so important to the colonists?" and then launched into a humorous description of what a proper tea party looked like and tea etiquette. She also explained the difference between loose tea and block tea. Colonists preferred loose tea because it was easier to use. A sample of block tea was passed around the group.

She told of how when the Parliament of England passed Tea Act it caused outrage among the colonists who disguised themselves as Native Americans and processed to break into 342 chests of tea and then dump the tea into the Boston Harbor. One young boy, walking along the shores of Boston Harbor the was able to rescue a tea box which he took home, and it was passed down from generation to generation until a family member donated it to a museum.

Mary shared another event that happened about a year after the Boston Tea Party which was the burning of a ship named Peggy Stewart. This event was later called the Annapolis Tea Party. An angry crowd forced Anthony Stewart to burn his ship named after his wife because it carried tea and he had violated the resolution drawn up by the colonists by paying taxes on the tea. The irony of the story is Peggy was in labor with their child and she could see the ship burning from her bedroom window. There is a tea named after Peggy Stewart that is still used to this day. There were other tea parties that were briefly described.

Mary did a wonderful job engaging her audience by answering questions asked during the presentation and after it as well. There were times that the information was provided in a serious tone and at other times humorous.

After the presentation, a short program was held in honor of Constitution Day. Mary led the audience in reading The Preamble of the Constitution followed by the ringing of bells at precisely 3:00. We had many wonderful comments about the day's events. We give our thanks to the Greene Historical Society for their help and hope someday the organizations might pair up again for another presentation.



Priscillia Alden Facebook notice to members about the Boston Tea Party.

**Join the Priscilla Alden Chapter Boston Tea Party on September 17 at 2 in the afternoon! Meeting will be at the Greene County Historical Society in Jefferson, Iowa. Short business meeting at 1 and the program at 2.**

Email sent out to Priscillia Alden Members

### September Meeting-The Boston Tea Party

Attention Priscilla Alden members, our September meeting will be held on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Greene Historical Museum located at 219 E. Lincoln Way in Jefferson, Iowa.

We will have a short meeting at 1:00 pm followed by a program about the Boston Tea Party at 2:00 pm presented by Mary Dolan associate member.

Since it is Constitution Day, we will have a short bell ringing service following the program. Hope to see many of you there. Feel free to invite a friend or two. The program and bell ringing will be opened to the public. We are grateful to the Greene County Historical Society for helping us with this project.



[Posted on the Greene Co Historical Society Facebook page.](#)

## **Boston Tea Party topic of program at museum this Sunday**

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 September 13, 2023

The Greene County Historical Society and the Priscilla Alden Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will present a free program about the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party (Dec. 16, 1773), Sunday, Sept. 17, at 2 pm at the Greene County Historical Museum, 219 E. Lincoln Way in Jefferson.

Mary Dolan, who is the national vice-chairman of the DAR's America 250! committee, will present the program. She will also speak about other tea parties inspired by the Boston event. Refreshments will include cups of authentic colonial-era tea.

**This article was used on The Raccoon Valley Radio, Greene County Online and The Greene County Historical Society Facebook page.**





Mary Dolan presenting her program about the Boston Tea Party.

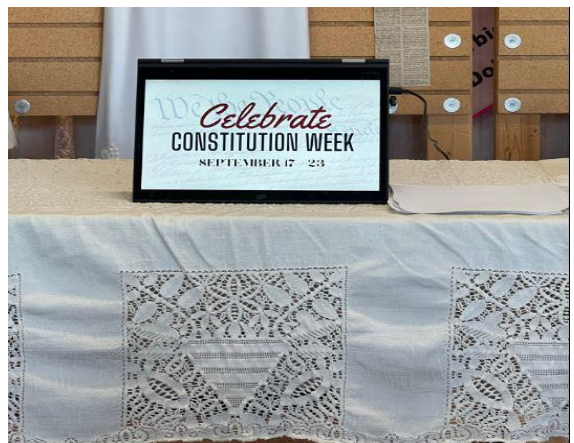
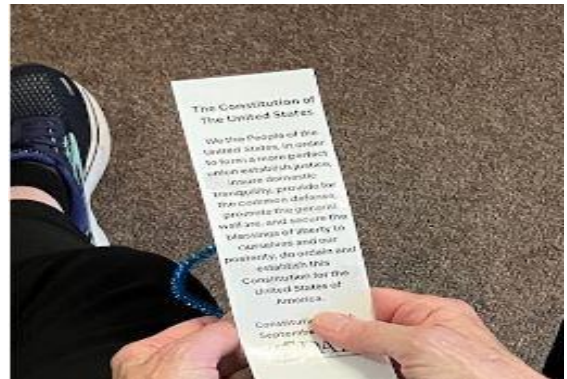


Colonial Teas to Taste



Tea was served in pretty paper cups.

## Mary Led the Audience in the Ringing of the Bells





Mary Ealy, Priscilla Alden Regent, authored the article and sent it to four local newspapers. Those newspapers were The Carroll Daily Herald, Coon Rapids Enterprise, Glidden Graphic, and the Jefferson Herald. We do not have a copy of the Carroll Daily Herald

## Boston Tea Party celebrated



The 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party was celebrated by the Priscilla Alden Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution and the Greene County Historical Society September 17 at the Historical Society meeting room. Mary Dolon of the Nebraska DAR served colonial teas and presented the program about the Boston Tea Party and ten other tea parties held in revolutionary times.

Mary presented tea serving etiquette points that were followed during the times. Pointing the pinky finger as drinking is not one of them!! Loose tea was used more than block tea and she had examples of both. The Boston Tea Party was instigated because the colonists did not want to pay the tax England was charging for tea. They dressed as Native Americans and threw the tea boxes into the harbor. It was low tide so the colonists had another problem - getting rid of the tea!! One original tea box that

was thrown into the harbor remains today at a museum in Boston.

Mary also shared the story of the ship Peggy Stewart. This ship was named after the wife of the owner of the ship. The ship had picked up cargo in England from various shippers. The trouble was one of the businessmen was shipping tea. When the ship reached America, all the cargo was unloaded except for the tea. The colonists said the ship had to be burned. Poor Peggy Stewart, the wife of the ship owner, was in labor with their child. She had to watch as the ship named after her was burned while she was in labor. There is a tea today named Peggy Stewart.

The group also celebrated the beginning of Constitution Week, September 17 - 23. The preamble to the constitution was read and at three pm, bells were rung as part of the bell ringing throughout the United States.

From the Coon Rapids Enterprise Thursday, September 21, 2023..

## HISTORY

# Boston Tea Party celebrated

Special to the Jefferson Herald

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From the Jefferson Herald

## Boston Tea Party & Ringing of Bells Across America

By Mary Dolon & Daughters of the American Revolution

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From the Glidden Graphic September 21, 2023