Good morning, Ms. Smith-Leins,

My name is Joy O’Donnell and I am one of the archivists here at the NSDAR.  The Public Relations department passed along to us your request for more information on Dr. Flora Myers Gillentine, which I am happy to oblige.

According to Gillentine’s application papers, she joined the DAR on June 4, 1913, specifically the Colonel Hardy Murfree Chapter in Murfreesboro, TN.  She was born in Pikeville, Bledsoe Co., TN and lived in Nashville.  Her membership card also mentioned, “Winter: State Teacher’s College, Arkadelphia, Arkansas.”

She was quite an active member.  She was her chapter’s Historian from 1915-16 and 1917-18, the Treasurer from 1916-17 and 1920-22, and the Chapter Regent from 1918-20.  From there she became involved at the State Society level, becoming the State Registrar from 1920-22 and the State Regent from 1922-24.  From several Tennessee State Society DAR history books, I scanned the pages that are relevant to her time as State Regent.  After serving her State Society, Gillentine moved on up to the National level.  She was one of the Vice President Generals from 1924-27 and the Historian General from 1929-32.  She also served on a number of National Committees during this time frame.  In 1935 she ran unsuccessfully for the office of President General.  I also scanned her biography from her campaign material.  According to her membership card, she passed away on October 11, 1946.

Another resource that you can explore is the DAR magazine, which is available and searchable here: <http://services.dar.org/members/magazine_archive/>.  I did a quick search for “Gillentine” and there are several articles, with photographs, while she was in office as Historian General.  I went ahead and scanned her portrait photograph since several in the magazine did not turn out well.

My last suggestion is for you to contact the Tennessee State Society DAR and/or her chapter, Colonel Hardy Murfree.  For the State Society, you can email the State Historian, Linda Mines, via historian@tndar.org, while the Chapter can be reached at colhardymurfree@bellsouth.net.  They may be able to provide more specific information on Gillentine.

Thank you for contacting us here at the NSDAR and please do not hesitate with any other questions.

All the best,

Joy

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