

SAR Structure

The chapter is the basic unit of the organization. Each chapter determines its procedures and selects the programs it implements. Chapters can vary greatly depending upon their location, number of members, and selected program priorities.

Each state society (made up of numerous chapters) is equal to and independent of other societies, though all still fall under national SAR guidelines. Societies hold annual meetings to set goals and benchmark their achievements, as does the National Society.



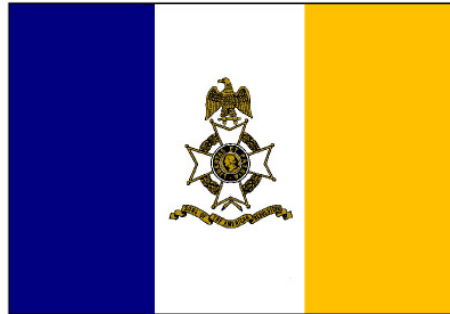
SAR Genealogical Research Library

The SAR Library collection contains over 55,000 items including family histories; local, county, and state records; and premium online genealogical databases. The Mary & James S. Craik Special Collections Room features museum-quality artifacts relating to Colonial America and includes rare biographies of George Washington and histories of the American Revolution.

SAR Membership Requirements

Hundreds of thousands of men are eligible for membership, and members are available to assist you with your application process. Joining the SAR will afford you the opportunity to serve your community, to whatever degree your time allows, all while becoming acquainted with others with whom you share many common interests.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the SAR, or for further information, please contact a member of your local SAR chapter. Society contact information and further details can be found online at <http://www.sar.org>.



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

809 West Main Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202-2619
<http://www.sar.org>

<https://www.sar.org/sar-genealogical-research-library>
(502) 589-1776

SAR®



To Help Preserve A Precious Heritage

The Objects of this Society are declared to be patriotic, historical, and educational; to unite and promote fellowship among the descendants of those who sacrificed to achieve the independence of the American people, to inspire them and the community-at-large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom.

SAR History

A patriotic fervor developed throughout the United States after the Civil War and with the approach of the Centennial of the Declaration of Independence. Many citizens realized that their personal connection with the patriots of the Revolution were being lost, and that many of the patriots' sons and daughters were also passing unacknowledged.

A number of groups and societies were formed across the country in the 1880s, two of these being the Society of the Sons of the Revolutionary Sires in San Francisco and the New Jersey Sons of the Revolution.

These combined to form the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in 1889, which also marked the 100th anniversary of George Washington's taking the oath of office for the President of the United States.



The organization's Charter was established by an Act of Congress and signed on June 9, 1906, by President Theodore Roosevelt, who was also a member of the Empire State Society, SAR.

The SAR, the largest male lineage organization in the U.S., consists of 55 societies with more than 590 local chapters, several international societies (including Canada, France, Germany, Spain, and the United Kingdom), and over 37,000 members. Prominent SAR members include sixteen U.S. Presidents, Sir Winston Churchill, and Kings Juan Carlos I and Felipe VI of Spain.

SAR Goals



Patriotic Goals:

- inspire the community with the principles upon which our nation was founded
- maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom
- carry out the promises expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution
- provide recognition for public service
- honor, respect, and support veterans, especially those in the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital facilities

Historical Goals:

- commemorate and provide memorials for the people and events of the American Revolution
- preserve records relating to the events leading up to and during the American Revolution
- support genealogical research and presentations, through books, articles, and talks, that interpret the history and people of the American Revolution

Educational Goals:

- perpetuate knowledge of our founding documents
- identify stories of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, tragedy and triumph of the Patriots who achieved the independence of the American people
- inspire and strengthen each succeeding generation as it too is called upon to defend our freedoms

SAR Programs

You may see our SAR members in many aspects of outreach and community support programs, including:

Americanism - to promote principles of freedom & liberty for all Americans, and judges the Alene Wilson Groves, Liberty Bell, President General Activities and President General Cup Awards

Color Guard - to encourage patriotic respect for the Flag of the United States and promote Flag Day programs

Veterans - to encourage recognition of support to veterans in all walks of life

Law Enforcement - to promote the recognition of those who have distinguished themselves in the preservation of law and order



Historic Sites and Celebrations - to preserve, mark, and interpret historic sites and buildings, monitor special historic celebration events, and encourage SAR participation

Patriot Records - to register final resting places of patriotic ancestors and publish the results and to add the personal stories in the records

Lineage Research Workshops - to promote family research and courses on genealogical procedures

Youth Programs - to sponsor Eagle Scout Awards; oration, essay, brochure, & poster contests based on historical and patriotic themes; JROTC and ROTC recognition awards; Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award

Education - to define and support educational goals and programs of the SAR on local, state, and national levels