Join Now to Obtain you Friends Lapel Pin!!

(Lapel pins are mailed to you upon joining or may be picked up at the SAR Library.)

There are additional recognition programs of the Library for donations above $25. These include:

- **Benjamin Franklin Subscriber** for gifts of $300 or more from an individual, Chapter, State Society, or non-SAR organization.
- **Library Endowment Fund Contributor** for gifts of $500 or more.
- **Life Friends of the Library** for a contribution of $1,000 or more.
- **Robert Morris Benefactor** for contribution of $2,000 or more.

Individuals who contribute to any of these four recognition programs will be presented the Benjamin Franklin Medal and can print free-of-charge at the Library. Some limitations may apply.

These monetary gifts are also invested by the Society. Benjamin Franklin Subscribers, Life Friends of the Library, and Robert Morris Benefactors monies are deposited in the Library Special Purpose Operating Fund; Endowment Fund Contributor monies are deposited in the Library Endowment Fund.

In February 2019, the SAR Genealogical Research Library was designated a *FamilySearch Affiliate Library* by FamilySearch International. This cooperative agreement grants our patrons access to 350+ million additional images of original records and documents. FamilySearch International is a non-profit, volunteer driven organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
History of the SAR Library

The need to establish a Library for the National Society was recognized by the founders of the Society, who specified provisions in the Constitution for the acquisition and preservation of Revolutionary War records, documents, and relics. From 1889 until 1926 the Society acquired 225 books. In 1926, the Society established an office in Washington, D.C. which contained the "permanent records of the Society membership and genealogical library." In 1978 the SAR purchased the South Fourth Street building in Louisville as its headquarters. Over the next year the second floor of the building was redesigned to accommodate a fully functional Library. It opened its doors to the public on January 17, 1979, with approximately 25,000 items. In October 2010, the Library began operations in its new facility on West Main Street.

The primary focal point of the collections is the Revolutionary War era but the collection includes other materials of a genealogical nature. The library collection has grown to over 55,000 items and includes family histories, local, county and state records and genealogy materials, and access to the online databases of Ancestry, Fold3, HeritageQuest, and American Ancestors (NEHGS).

The Library's growth depends upon cash gifts as well as donations of family genealogies, Revolutionary War histories, county and other books and items of genealogical content. Donors should check the Library catalog to ensure the item is not a duplicate or check with the Librarian. A donor gift form is available at the Library and at Society meetings.

The SAR Library is a non-circulating genealogical collection.

Purpose of the Friends of the SAR Library

The Friends of the SAR Library (FOL) was organized to assist the SAR Library in implementing its collection development objectives. These objectives include those books, manuscripts, microforms, and online services as needed to enhance and expand the current collection.

A sub-committee of the National Library and Archives Committee, the Friends consists of the Librarian General, National Library and Archives Committee Chairman, Chairman of the Friends of the SAR Library, the NSSAR Librarian, and State FOL Chairmen. Membership in FOL is yearly and is open to all SAR members, State Societies, Chapters, and the general public.

Membership dues of the Friends are distributed as follows:
- 60% goes into the Library Endowment Fund from which only the interest income may be used by the Library, and,
- 40% goes directly to the Library Special Purpose Operating Fund.

The income from these funds is used to purchase non-budgeted items such as equipment, supplies and new technology, in addition to books, manuscripts and microforms.