

## GG 2021-2022 Email #2 to State Points of Contact 01 October 2021

The Genealogy Committee met during the national Leadership Meeting held last week in Louisville. Several items of note occurred.

- A change to the NSSAR Genealogical Policies were adopted and placed in the policy manual:  
“5.4001 Birth Certificate of Applicant is required. An applicant for membership shall establish his qualification for membership by providing a birth certificate or court order specifying his gender as male.”  
  
This motion was, adopted by the Trustees on 04 March 2017, has been observed as our practice but was not previously placed in the Genealogical Policies. Thanks to Brendan Potter for pointing that out.
- Genealogy subcommittee structure was reviewed by Chairman Bill Schwetke. In particular, the subcommittee to review and update the Application Preparation Manual and make sure it complies with policies will be activated. Groups were appointed to also look at handling of Memorial Applications, DNA, and the policy on accepting printed sources. Chairman Schwetke is also considering additional appointments and they will be announced later.

On 22 September, I held a ZOOM meeting titled “Genealogy FAQ.” This first session, about 20 minutes long, discussed three “state level errors” and how they could be easily remedied by review within the state. A recording was made of the presentation and I encourage every State Point of Contact to view it and to pass the link to your chapters. It was very well attended on-line with many viewing the recording later. If you need a link to the recording, please email me. I am planning to present additional sessions about every other month. I will appreciate your input on what you would like to have discussed.

At the recent Annual Congress, 208 Compatriots were honored by receiving the Liberty Medal from the President General. These included 61 Compatriots who received their first Liberty Medal for recruiting 10 new members and 153 Compatriots who received an Oak Leaf Cluster for recruiting 10 more members. But that’s not all of the story. Forty-two of those men received more than one OLC, including Emory Neal (5), John Schatzel (7) and Timothy Ward (8)! Those three were this year’s Florence Kendall Award winners. Together the Liberty Medal honorees sponsored about 65% of all new members.

As of 24 September, the application status report shows that the most recent new application reviewed was received on 12 July and the most recent supplemental application reviewed was received on 08 January. This backlog has grown due to staff retirements and disability, the COVID lockdown, and a much larger than usual number of supplemental applications received during the lockdown.

I’m always glad to receive your comments. Just hit the reply button!

Bob Fish  
Genealogist General