



DAR 101

Kansas Society DAR

This DAR 101 is an overview of:

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- The Founding of the DAR
- The Organizational Structure at the Levels
 - National
The President General's Project
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- The DAR headquarters and DAR buildings
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- Staying Informed, Educated and Current
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What is DAR and what are the DAR objectives?

The DAR, founded in 1890 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children.

Our DAR Motto
God, Home and Country.

OUR FOUNDING and FOUNDERS

Our National Society was founded October 11, 1890 and incorporated by an act of US Congress in 1896.

The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) had recently been founded in New York City on April 30, 1889. Some SAR societies permitted women and some did not.

At the next year's general meeting on April 30, 1890, the matter was put to a vote and the SAR decided to officially exclude women from its membership.

This event sparked controversy and discussion in the national press, and caught the attention of Mary Smith Lockwood. Incensed that the contributions of women to the American Revolution were not being recognized, Mrs. Lockwood wrote a fiery editorial that was published in the Washington Post on July 13, 1890. In it, she demonstrated convincingly that women had contributed much to the Revolutionary cause that had previously been overlooked and ignored. She asked, "Were there no mothers of the Revolution?"

William O. McDowell, Vice President General of SAR, disagreed with the vote and believed that women should form their own similar patriotic organization. He wrote his own letter to the Post, which was published on July 21, urging women to organize and offering his assistance. Six women soon replied, including Miss Mary Desha who wrote, "I am good for any amount of work."

Eighteen women attended the first official organizing meeting held on October 11, 1890 at the Strathmore Arms Boarding House at 810 12th Street, the home of Mrs. Lockwood for the purpose of organizing the Daughters of the American Revolution. Included were the four women traditionally considered to be the organization's founders: Mrs. Lockwood, Miss Desha, Miss Eugenia Washington, and Mrs. Ellen Hardin Walworth. Four men also attended the meeting and formed the first Advisory Board to the NSDAR.

The founders of the DAR were four determined women, decidedly not ladies of leisure and anything but traditional. Two were single, two were widowed, and all four were working women who supported either children or extended family.

This group of pioneering women in the nation's capital that formed the DAR has carried the torch of patriotism ever since.

THE FOUR FOUNDERS



Eugenia Washington was born on June 24, 1840, near Charlestown in what is now West Virginia. She was the daughter of William Temple Washington and Margaret Calhoun Fletcher, a great niece of Senator John C. Calhoun of South Carolina. In 1859, when she was nineteen years old, her father moved the family to Falmouth, Virginia, just north of Fredericksburg. Her mother died near this time, and her father was disabled and relied on his daughter to care for him.

When the Battle of Fredericksburg was imminent in December 1862, she wanted to escape with her father to a place of safety quickly, but was delayed one full day because a wounded federal officer was brought to her door and placed in her care while he waited for a surgeon. The battle had begun by the time she was ready to flee, and she and her father were caught on the battlefield.

She found shelter for both of them in a small trench left by a cannon. They were forced to remain in that spot for a whole day and witnessed the entire battle from that position. It is said that Miss Washington's experiences that day inspired in her a will to assist women from both the North and the South in the worthy cause of preserving their shared heritage and that this was her purpose in helping to found the NSDAR.

At the close of the war, Miss Washington was offered a government position with the post office department, and so she and her father moved to Washington, DC. Known fondly as "Miss Eugie" she was considered quite attractive and always received a great deal of attention wherever she went. Eugenia Washington died at her home in Washington on Thanksgiving Day, November 30, 1900.





Mary Desha was born on March 8, 1850, in Lexington, Kentucky. She was well educated and for a short time studied at what is now the University of Kentucky. When her family was impoverished by the Civil War and the women were needed to provide an income, Miss Desha and her mother opened a private school in which they taught their friends' children. Several years later, Miss Desha accepted a position with the Lexington public school system and remained there until she took a job as a clerk in Washington, DC, in December 1885.

After spending a few years in Washington, Miss Desha accepted a teaching position in Sitka, Alaska in 1888. She found the living conditions endured by the Alaskan natives unacceptable and her written protest to the government in Washington resulted in a federal investigation. She returned to Lexington in 1889, but shortly thereafter accepted a post in Washington as a clerk in the pension office. She later worked as a copyist in the Office of Indian Affairs.

Miss Desha continued in the civil service until her death and also spent her own time after working hours acting as an Assistant Director of the DAR Hospital Corps during the Spanish-American War in 1898. Mary Desha died on January 29, 1911. Her fellow Daughters honored her memory with the first memorial service ever held in Memorial Continental Hall.





Ellen Walworth was born on October 20, 1832, in Jacksonville, Illinois. When she was about 12 years old her father, John Hardin, became a United States Congressman. In 1846 Mr. Hardin entered the army to fight against Mexico and was killed while leading his regiment at the battle of Buena Vista. The family continued to live in Jacksonville until 1851, when Mrs. Walworth's mother married the Honorable Reuben Hyde Walworth and moved the family to Saratoga Springs, New York.

Mrs. Walworth earned her law degree at New York University and was entitled to practice before the Court of New York and the District of Columbia. In 1852 she married Mansfield Tracy Walworth, her stepfather's youngest son. Mrs. Walworth opened her home as a boarding and day school after her husband's death in 1873.

The school's success required her eventually to remodel and enlarge the facilities. Mrs. Walworth continued to live on the property year round until finally the cold New York winters affected her health and she began to make her home in Washington, DC, in winter.

One of Mrs. Walworth's earliest public efforts was her moving plea to the members of her local community to contribute to the fund to renovate George Washington's home, Mount Vernon, in Alexandria, Virginia. Mrs. Walworth wrote constantly on patriotic and historic subjects. She was an authority on the battlefields of Saratoga and also published an account of the Burgoyne Campaign. She served as director-general of the Woman's National War Relief Association of 1898. Mrs. Walworth was the first editor of the official publication of the NSDAR, the *American Monthly Magazine*, serving from the spring of 1892 until July 1894. Ellen Walworth died on June 23, 1915, and was laid to rest in the family lot at Green Ridge, near Saratoga, New York.



Mary S. Lockwood

NSDAR #27



Mary Lockwood was born in Hanover, Chautauqua County, New York, on October 24, 1831. She moved to Washington, DC, in about 1878. Mrs. Lockwood's residence was Washington's elegant and imposing Strathmore Arms, and it was there on October 11, 1890, the formal organization of the NSDAR took place.

Mrs. Lockwood was the NSDAR's first historian and the Society, inspired by Mrs. Lockwood's commitment to historic preservation, resolved on October 18, 1890, to "provide a place for the collection of historical relics which will accumulate...and for historical portraits, pictures, etc. This may first be in rooms, and later in the erection of a fire-proof building." She held many other national offices as well and served as editor of the DAR Magazine from 1894 to 1900.

Mrs. Lockwood was also a prolific author and wrote many noteworthy books. Her last book, *The Historic Homes of Washington*, was dedicated to her older brother to whom she became close after her mother's death when Mrs. Lockwood was only four years old. She was an avid promoter of the work of women's clubs and was both the founder of the famous Travel Club and for a time president of the Women's Press Club. She also held the position of Lady Manager at Large at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893.

An acquaintance noted that "she is friendly to all progressive movements, especially so in the progress of women." Mary Lockwood died in Plymouth, Massachusetts, on November 9, 1922, and is buried in Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, DC. She was not only the last surviving Founder, but is also the only Founder buried in Washington.



Since 1890, 42 women have served the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution as President General. Elected to this high office by the Continental Congress, each woman has carried forward her vision and goals for NSDAR. The Wide Blue Sash gives a glimpse of the background, character, leadership and accomplishments of those who have worn the wide blue sash as they represented and led close to a million women since the founding of the organization. Their leadership has allowed the NSDAR to become the largest female lineage society in the country and owner of a city block of iconic buildings in Washington, D.C. The book also includes biographies of the Society's four Founders and its only President Presiding, Mary Ellet Cabell

**** Recommended reading: *The Wide Blue Sash*** which can be purchased from the DAR Shop located at www.dar.org/members .



DAR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Each NSDAR Administration is elected every 3 years. The National Society is led by the President General and an Executive Committee of 11 National Officers: First Vice President General, Chaplain General, Recording Secretary General, Corresponding Secretary General, Organizing Secretary General, Treasurer General, Registrar General, Historian General, Librarian General, Curator General and Reporter General.

The National Board of Management is a body composed of the Executive Officers, 21 Vice-Presidents General, and 53 State Regents. All are volunteers except the staff at National. There are approximately 150 individuals that are staffed at our headquarters.

The core values of the twelve Executive Officers are to interact with integrity, honesty, kindness, loyalty, courtesy, respect for one another, with a sense of humor and the ability to have fun.

The President General is the official spokesperson and is its representative in association with other organizations, business groups, and the general public. She presides at all meetings of the Executive Committee, National Board of Management and Continental Congress. She appoints all committees, which carry out the work of the National Society, and is responsible for the general supervision of the work of the National Society and National Headquarters.

She has a message in each issue of the *American Spirit* magazine, *Daughters Newsletter*, on the Members' section of the DAR Website. She writes messages for other

publications and shares important information regularly on the *Today's DAR* blog. The Office of the President General serves as the central office for the Society. As such, it is responsible for coordinating various communications to the membership.

During her three-year term, and if her schedule permits, the President General makes an official visit to each state and to the Units Overseas. **Our Current President General is Pamela Edwards Rouse Wright.**



Wright Administration Theme

The theme for this administration is “Celebrate Stars & Stripes Forever-Rejoice in our DAR Ties of Service and Friendship”. Historic preservation, education and patriotism, this what we stand for and what we do to promote. Today’s active (and prospective) members seek to fulfill a purpose and embrace a passion for America – we’re grateful that you are a member, and we welcome your ideas and involvement!

Wright Administration Symbol



Wright Administration Scriptures

"Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Wright Administration Theme and Goals

- Celebrate our nation's rich history and diversity of experience upon the threshold of America's 250th anniversary.
- Promote belonging throughout our membership by acknowledging with gratitude and friendship each member and her dedicated service to God, Home, and Country.
- Propel membership growth by welcoming all descendants of American Patriots while retaining our treasured Daughters.
- Encourage and support projects and service opportunities for every chapter to highlight historic preservation, education, and patriotism in unique, local, and impactful ways.
- Maintain financial stability & maximize operational effectiveness.
- Recognize with appreciation our dedicated National Society staff.

Commemorative Events

The Commemorative Events Committee encourages chapters and communities to celebrate significant events in our amazing American history by becoming involved in at least one program each year to recognize selected major events. We promote The Stars and Stripes Forever as we Rejoice in Our DAR Ties of Service and Friendship! The Wright administration has selected the following milestone events for members to commemorate through significant programs and/or events:

- **Independence Day:** Individual members and chapters should plan ways to celebrate the Fourth of July, our Patriots and the signing of the Declaration of Independence: fly flags, enjoy picnics, watch fireworks, participate in community celebrations (and if

you are in lucky enough to be in Washington, D.C., consider marching with DAR in the Nation's Independence Day Parade).

- **50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War:** Chapters are encouraged to continue to recognize Vietnam-era servicemen and women. Be sure to become a commemorative partner of The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration, sponsored by the Department of Defense. <http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/> . This commemoration will continue through 2024.
 - **50th Anniversary of the NASA Space Shuttle Program**
 - **80th Anniversary of D-Day, (June 6, 1944)**
 - **100th Anniversary of the signing of the American Indian Citizenship Act**
 - **125th Anniversary, DAR Hospital Corps**
 - **125th Anniversary of the premiere of John Philip Sousa's march, *The Stars & Stripes Forever***
 - **125th Anniversary of the Spanish-American War (April 21-August 13, 1898)**
 - **125th Anniversary of DAR participation in the Paris Exposition of 1900**
 - **150th Anniversary Yellowstone National Park (March 1, 1872)**
 - **200th Anniversary Lafayette Farewell Tour (1824 – 1825)**
 - **250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, the Edenton Tea Party, and other historic tea parties**
 - **Celebrate the Legacy of Bernardo de Galvez**
 - **250th Birthday of the US Navy (October 13, 1775)**

Part of the NSDAR organization structure is the division of the United States into eight Divisions:

1. **Northeastern:** CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT
2. **Eastern:** DE, DC, MD, NJ, PA, VA, Units Overseas
3. **Southeastern:** AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN
4. **East Central:** IN, KY, MI, OH, WV
5. **North Central:** IL, IA, MN, NE, ND, SD, WI
6. **South Central:** AR, **KS**, LA, MO, OK, TX
7. **Northwestern:** AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY
8. **Southwestern:** AZ, CA, CO, HI, NV, NM, UT

NSDAR EXECUTIVE BOARD

The **First Vice President General** performs the duties of the office of President General during the absence or inability of the President General to serve. The First Vice President General is the chairman of the Personnel Committee and is responsible for the revision and preparation for printing of the *DAR Handbook and National Bylaws*.

The **Chaplain General** opens meetings of the National Society with the reading of scripture and prayer. She conducts religious services as occasion may require and suggests religious projects and activities to the National Society.

The **Recording Secretary General** is the custodian of the legal record of the proceedings of the National Society, which include the minutes and rulings of the Executive Committee meetings.

The **Corresponding Secretary General** answers general and special correspondence. This office oversees the DAR Store and mail room.

The Office of the **Organizing Secretary General** supervises the organization of all chapters. This office works to strengthen existing chapters, discourage disbandment and assists with mergers.

The **Treasurer General** receives the funds of the National Society and disburses them upon authorization of the Continental Congress, the National Board of Management, or the Executive Committee.

The Office of the **Registrar General** is responsible for the examination of all applications for membership and presents those verified to the National Board of Management.

The **Historian General** encourages interest in American history. She honors United States citizens who have contributed in a significant way to the study and promotion of American History. She informs the public about noteworthy historic sites and she maintains collections of historical or history-oriented imprints and manuscript documents.

The **Librarian General** is responsible for the operations of the DAR Library, the Genealogical Records Committee, and the DAR Library Committee. The Librarian General and her staff work with state and chapter librarians to gather genealogical and historical books, microforms and manuscripts to enhance the Library's collections.

The **Curator General** is responsible for the Museum collection that began in the early 1890s. She is the executive officer in charge of the Museum galleries and the thirty-one period rooms sponsored by states. She must approve the addition of objects and alterations to the period rooms.

The Office of the **Reporter General** provides a central location for information, support, and Continental Congress certificates for all national committees and a number of standing and special committees, among them Commemorative Events and Literacy Promotion.

The **National Parliamentarian** is appointed by the President General. She serves as an advisor to the President General, executive officers and members of the National Board of Management on matters of parliamentary procedure and the National Bylaws and Standing Rules. She may also assist national chairs, state parliamentarians and Units Overseas. Chapter members are to first seek assistance from within their own chapter or state.

**KANSAS SOCIETY DAUGHTERS
OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION
(KSDAR)**

The State level of DAR is structured much the same as at the National level. You will find the same officers and Committee Chairs with an occasional variation.

The Kansas DAR Society has fifty-nine DAR Chapters, about 3,000 DAR members and is comprised of active women from all walks of life, who cherish their heritage and enthusiastically support the mission of DAR through state, chapter, and individual activities.

Kansas is a *Centennial State*; the State DAR Society was organized in 1896. Kansas DARs have been working diligently to preserve Kansas heritage from marking historical graves and trails to preserving ancient ruins.”

KSDAR has a member’s website (password-protected): www.kansasdar.org/member/ where you can obtain information about your State Officers, State Committee Chairs, DAR Committee information, State events including updates and registration information.

KSDAR has an e-newsletter called *Cyber Sunflower*. New members should automatically receive the monthly addition. If you are not receiving it, contact State Reporter, Melissa Precht at: darmelissap@gmail.com

Each KSDAR State Executive administration runs three years and changes in conjunction with the National Executive Committee changes.

Like the NSDAR President General, State Regents have State level themes and projects they pursue during their administrations.



Rebecca Kline
KSDAR State Regent

KSDAR State Regent's Project

In recognition of our Patriot ancestors who achieved American Independence, the "A Legacy of Liberty" administration is pleased to have a torch as its' symbol. This torch, an enduring symbol of strength, also represents Kansas Daughters by intertwining sunflowers. The flames reflect the burning desire to seek new learning opportunities, and by passing the torch, we recognize that our leadership roles are illuminated as opportunities for service.



Like the National organizational structure, most states, with large enough DAR population, are divided into Councils or Districts. Kansas Society DAR is divided into four: Northwest, Southwest, Northeast and Southeast. KSDAR Members should become familiar with the Kansas Society Bylaws in the Annual Reports and Proceedings (AR&P).

KSDAR holds two annual conferences:

STATE CONFERENCE: The annual state meeting, usually in the spring, when members from the state convene to celebrate DAR awards and accomplishments. Typically, the evenings are formal affairs with banquets and keynote speakers.

FALL FORUM: An annual meeting held during the Fall. Fall Forum is for updating the state's members on current news, changes and Committee activity.

THE KANSAS CHAPEL

If you ever have the opportunity to visit DAR Headquarters in Washington, DC, be sure and visit the beautiful *Kansas Chapel*, located in the Administration Building of NSDAR Headquarters at 1776 D Street, N.W.



THE DAR CHAPTER

The DAR Chapter is the home and heart of DAR. The chapter is where DAR members convene to collectively decide which DAR objectives they want to accomplish and how they want to accomplish them. It's at the chapter level that the highest percentage of DAR objectives are accomplished.

National and most state organizations have at least a Regent, Vice Regent, Chaplain, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Organizing Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Historian and Librarian; most chapters also have similar officers.

You belong first to the National Society, then to your chapter.

When you become a member of your chapter, you should receive a copy of your chapter's yearbook and bylaws; Make it a point to become familiar with both.

The Chapter Yearbook is the current directory of your chapter and includes the chapter's meeting schedule, program information, State and National Officers, events and dates to remember as well as the DAR Opening Ritual for meetings.

The Chapter bylaws are the basic instrument of the chapter, setting forth its purpose; the rules by which it operates; rights and responsibilities of officers, chairs and members; and assuring continuity in chapter work. A chapter is confirmed by the National Society and is governed by its actions. A chapter is also, in most instances, part of a state organization. The chapter bylaws may be written to meet the needs of the chapter as long as they do not conflict with the NSDAR National Bylaws and the state bylaws. "Any amendment to the Bylaws of the National Society shall become the law of the chapters and states without further notice."



CHAPTER OFFICERS

Regent

The Chapter Regent presides at all meetings of the chapter and should prepare an order of business for each meeting. The Chapter Regent should be familiar with parliamentary law and with the bylaws and other rules of her chapter, the state and National Society. The Chapter Regent should enforce the rules of debate, order and decorum within the chapter. She is responsible for appointing committees, planning chapter activities and programs and completing chapter reports.

Chapter Vice Regent

The Vice Regent performs the duties of the Chapter Regent during her absence. She should be versed in parliamentary law, know the rules and be prepared to preside at any time.

Chaplain

The Chaplain opens meetings with the reading of scripture and prayer. She conducts religious services as occasion may require.

Recording Secretary

The minutes written by the Recording Secretary become the legal record of the meetings of the chapter after their approval. The minute book must be retained by the Recording Secretary and by her successors; the Chapter Regent and her successors should also retain a copy of all minutes. The Recording Secretary should write the minutes as soon as possible after the meeting while her memory is most accurate. She should send a copy to the Chapter Regent immediately to assist in preparing the agenda for the next meeting

Treasurer

The Chapter Treasurer is responsible for the finances of the chapter. She collects dues and other receipts and pays all expenses. She should prepare a written report on the status of the chapter's finances and transactions for each chapter meeting. The Chapter Regent and Recording Secretary should be given a copy of this report. A brief summary may be given to the members stating the balance on hand, or beginning balance with receipts and disbursements and total balance. The books of the Chapter Treasurer should be audited annually. The Chapter Treasurer, the Chapter Regent and one or two other chapter members appointed by the regent prepare the annual budget for the chapter.

Registrar

The Chapter Registrar keeps the membership record of the chapter, including the Application and Supplemental papers. The Chapter Registrar brings to the chapter the names of all prospective applicants. Once the chapter has voted to accept the prospective as a member, the Chapter Registrar assists her with the Application process. The Chapter Registrar ensures that the Application paper is complete including all necessary signatures and that the submitted documentation meets DAR standards for verification. The Chapter Registrar should carefully review all Supplemental Applications submitted by members. A Chapter Registrar keeps a file of the membership Applications and Supplemental Applications that are pending. The Chapter Registrar must report all membership changes as they occur by e-mail or on a Membership Change Form to the Office of the Organizing Secretary General.

Historian

The Chapter Historian is responsible for supporting the objectives of the Historian General in the selection of an Outstanding Teacher of American History, promoting the DAR History Award Medal, the NSDAR Excellence in American History Book Award, and the NSDAR Excellence in American History Children's Book Award. The Chapter Historian should know the approval process for commemorative markers, Revolutionary War Soldiers, Patriots, Wives, Daughters, Real Daughters, the America 250 Patriots Marker, and the Revolutionary America 1775-1783 Marker. The Chapter Historian is responsible for keeping a pictorial history of the chapter's activities, coordinating historical markers, and maintaining a list of members with Insignia grave markers.

THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM
OR
HOW DAR IS ORGANIZED AND FUNCTIONS

The National Society accomplishes the majority of its work under a committee system. The President General appoints a National Chairman for each of the NSDAR committees and appoints an Executive Officer as a liaison to each committee. The National Chairman then directs and supervises the activities of her committee, the National Vice Chairmen, and State and Chapter Chairmen, for the three years of an administration.

Committees are organized under five sections:

- Special
- Administrative
- Service
- Genealogy
- Membership Engagement

Our **National Committees** can be categorized into our three objectives:

- Historical Preservation
- Education
- Patriotism

Within **Historic Preservation**, many chapters and states own historic homes and other Revolutionary-Era sites which mark important historic sites and inform the public. DAR members contribute their time and money to restore hundreds of historic locations. In 2008 the Historic Preservation Committee was established to assist members of the National Society in the area of historic preservation, to encourage recognition of significant volunteer efforts in historic preservation at the community, state and national levels and to catalog NSDAR owned properties.

Other committees that fall within **Historic Preservation**:

- **American History**: promotes American history in schools.
- **Commemorative Events**: has recognized memorials and dedications such as the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. DAR contributed more than \$500,000 toward the construction of the new memorial on the Mall.

- **The Patriot Records Project:** To volunteer for this exiting indexing opportunity, visit the Patriot Records Project Committee web page on the Members' Section of the DAR Website.
- **The Conservation Committee** is dedicated to protecting and promoting the responsible use of our natural resources.

Some committees that fall under **Education** are:

- **Children of the American Revolution:** provides leadership, guidance and support for C.A.R. DAR is a parent organization of this committee.
- **DAR Good Citizens** recognizes and awards high school seniors who possess good citizenship, dependability, service, leadership and patriotism.
- **DAR Scholarship Committee:** provides scholarships in American History, Political Science, Preservation, Medicine, Nursing, and Occupational and Physical Therapy. Since 1903, The DAR School Committee focuses on the education of disadvantaged young people. DAR works with 6 schools with special needs.
- **The JAC (Junior American Citizens):** promotes good citizenship by teaching U.S. history and the principles of government to students pre-K-12.

Patriotic committees include:

- **The Flag of the United States of America:** activities include providing thousands of American flags to schools, military establishments and civic organizations.
- DAR promotes our **Constitution Week** from September 17-23 informing and educating the public. The committee provides materials to help educate the community about the historical events surrounding the creation of the Constitution.
- **Americanism Committee:** Since 1919, DAR's promotes knowledge, loyalty, and love of country in the hearts of American citizens, whether naturalized or citizens by birth. Two prestigious awards are given to American citizens for outstanding contributions to the nation. The DAR Medal of Honor is awarded to native-born American citizens and the Americanism Medal is awarded to naturalized citizens.
- **The National Defense Committee** was established in 1926 to promote an enlightened public opinion. DAR has advocated a strong American military defense.
- **The DAR Project Patriot Committee** became the official DAR effort in support of America's worldwide war against terrorism. At the national level, DAR support is

focused on two groups: women serving in the military and the wounded military personnel at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Landstuhl, Germany. Individual members and chapters are encouraged to support the men and women serving in conflicts abroad in any way appropriate. In addition, DAR awards ROTC Medals to student cadets of outstanding ability and achievement in high school or college ROTC programs

- **DAR Service to Veterans Committee:** DAR members volunteer their time to veterans in both VA hospitals and non-VA facilities. More than 55,000 hours of volunteer time to veterans are logged annually. DAR is one of the largest groups to serve on the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) and is a founding partner of the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress. DAR presents several awards to individuals working with veterans.
- **Service to America Committee** was established to capture the magnitude of volunteer service provided by NSDAR volunteers. This committee encourages community service by all members on all levels as a means of honoring our heritage. In the words of Eugenia Washington, “We want a Society Founded on Service.”

These are only a few of the activities generated by the volunteer efforts of members serving on committees at the national, state and chapter level. For more than a century, the members of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution have dedicated themselves to historical preservation, promotion of education, and encouragement of patriotic endeavor. Currently, DAR has over 50 committees. For detailed information on each committee, please visit the members.dar.org website under the committees section.



OUR DAR BUILDINGS



The DAR buildings are located 2 blocks from the White House across from the Ellipse. We have 3 adjoining structures, the Memorial Continental Hall, the DAR Constitution Hall and the Administration Building. Memorial and Constitution Hall are Historic Landmarks.



The Memorial Continental Hall was built in 1905 and is the oldest section of the DAR buildings. The historic auditorium in Memorial Continental Hall, where the NSDAR held its early Continental Congresses, now serves as the DAR Library. The Hall was designated as a Registered National Historic Landmark in 1973. The public can rent this space as well as the DAR Library and other rooms/areas within DAR for receptions, weddings, or other events.



What is now the DAR Library was originally built to be used as a convention hall during Continental Congress.



The DAR Library, established in 1896, has grown into one of the nation's premier genealogical research centers. It is housed in the former auditorium of Memorial Continental Hall and contains more than 200,000 volumes and approximately 25,000 files of genealogical information. Family histories and genealogies comprise about one-quarter of the book collection, with the remainder being state and local histories and record abstracts.

The DAR Library houses many collections:

The American Indian Collection: a special collection established in 1987 designed to assist with Native American research using existing holdings and newly donated materials now numbering some 2000 volumes.

The American Women's History Collection: a collection that focuses on the role played by women in the development of the United States, the women's rights movement of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and histories of women in the various states.

The DAR Library File Collection: a mixture of approximately 30,000 materials which have come with DAR membership applications, subsequent donations by DAR members, and items given by the public.

The Genealogical Records Committee Collection: approximately 5,000 typescript volumes of unpublished Bible, cemetery, family, vital, county, town, church, and military records since the late 1910s. Because the work of the Genealogical Records Committee is ongoing, users of the Library should expect to find new material throughout the year.

Other collections include, but are not limited to: The President's Collection, the National Huguenot Society Collection and the W.P.A. Collection.

The Americana Collection focuses on Colonial America, the Revolutionary War era, and the Early Republic and includes manuscript items such as letters, ledgers, diaries, and land deeds and grants, tax records, and more.

In 2002, NSDAR acquired the last signature to complete the full collection of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. Button Gwinnett was one of the last two signatures needed. His signature had been difficult to acquire because it is one of the rarest and most valuable of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.



Part of the Administration building houses the **DAR Museum**. The museum is comprised of 31 period rooms and 2 galleries. Our collection consists of over 30,000 decorative and fine arts objects spanning the 18th and 19th centuries, including furniture, glass, ceramics, textiles and silver. The walk-in tours and exhibitions are free to the public.

The exhibitions have included Wedgwood, Quilts and Costumes, and childhood artifacts from 1700-1900. The museum shop is open during regular hours, is also open online and has reproductions of objects inspired by objects in the DAR Museum collection and other specialty items.



The National Society's third building, **Constitution Hall**, is on 18th Street. The NSDAR built Constitution Hall for its annual Continental Congress. Constitution Hall is the premier and Washington DC's largest concert hall, has a capacity of 3,702 and is used for many types of events. 600,000 people pass through its doors each year. Constitution Hall was placed on the Register of National Historic Landmarks in 1986.

Each year hundreds of talented musicians grace the stage of DAR Constitution Hall, performing classical, hip-hop, soul, pop, and rock acts. DAR Constitution Hall has hosted many awards shows and ceremonies, including the National Sports Awards, the Country Music Association Awards, the NAACP Awards, and the Horatio Alger Awards.



THE DAR LOGO

The official logo for the National Society was adopted by the National Board of Management to be used for public relations and other corporate applications where the use of the DAR insignia is prohibited. The logo is registered as a trademark of NSDAR. Questions about its use should be directed to the NSDAR Public Relations Office.

IDENTIFICATION OF STATES AND CHAPTERS

To protect the National Society brand and to achieve consistency essential for effective public relations, chapters and states shall use the official nationally approved logo and, as appropriate, the DAR insignia. Chapters and states shall not develop a unique logo to be used for publicity or creation of badges and pins. (By ruling of the Executive Committee, October 2010.)



Our emblem is a gold wheel,
Banded with deepest blue;
Each shining spoke tipped with a star,
The distaff shining through.
The only jewel in the world
That money cannot buy,
Without such proof of ancestry,
As no one can deny.

Insignia

- The Official Insignia adopted and patented in 1891
- The golden wheel of the Insignia represents a spinning wheel
- The platinum or white gold distaff represents flax
- The blue rim and the distaff carry the colors of the Society
- The stars represent the original thirteen colonies.
- The insignia is the property of the National Society and may not be used for commercial purposes or as an ornament.
- Chapters can use it to put on yearbooks, stationery, programs and, when necessary, to the work of the Society.
- The Insignia should appear in either top center or upper left-hand corner, with no words written or printed above it

New and preowned DAR pins are ordered: <https://shop.dar.org/dar-insignia-store/>

Pins can, in most instances, be engraved with your name and/or DAR National Number for an extra fee.

Some pins can be purchased without authorization such as the commemorative pins. Most however, must go through an authorization process prior to honoring your purchase request. For example, if you request to purchase a pin for a donation you made, an office you are holding or for a pin for service at Continental Congress; the Insignia staff submits an authorization request to the Office of the Organizing Secretary General, Development Office or State level officer who checks to confirm the service, office or donation and then returns either a denial or authorization for the pin purchase.

Basic Insignia:



The Official Insignia Pin: The Insignia pin depicts the Insignia of the National Society. It is engraved on the reverse side with the member's DAR number, and is worn at the bottom of the official ribbon, close to the heart. Official ribbons may be up to four ribbons wide and fourteen inches in length. It is worn only on the left shoulder.



Chapter Bar: All members may wear a bar engraved with the name of their chapter.



Ancestor Bar: All members may purchase an engraved bar for the ancestor on whose record she entered DAR. She may also purchase an ancestor bar for each supplemental ancestor approved by the Society.



State Pin: A member may wear the official pin for her state of membership or associate membership. She may also purchase the state pin for the state of service of her original ancestor and for each accepted supplemental ancestor.

Guidelines for Wearing the DAR Insignia

- The insignia pin should be worn over the left breast and only by active members. The insignia and pins are worn with a 1-inch wide ribbon, which is the same as the ribbon used to create the State Regent's sash. The length of the official ribbon shall not exceed 14 inches. By ruling of the National Board of Management, a flag pin may be worn on the left lapel when wearing the DAR Insignia. No other jewelry is to be worn on the left side when wearing the insignia pin.
- It should be worn only at functions of the National Society, state organizations, or chapters, or when representing the organization.
- It may be worn during the dedication of a grave marker for a deceased Daughter and also at the funeral or calling hours of a Daughter. Daughters may sign the memorial book as DAR members.
- The DAR Insignia should not be worn on the street, in a restaurant, cocktail lounge, or other public places unless a DAR or allied function is taking place then and there.

DAR ATTIRE

This article was written by Laura Reid, past National Chair of the Protocol Committee and published in the September/October 2014 issue of Daughters newsletter (page 363):

“As fall begins, there is increased activity in our chapters and in our state organizations and societies. We become more aware of proper attire for various occasions. Especially when we are representing the National Society in a community project or program, let us remember that how we dress and how we act reflects on the dignity of the Society we represent.

Questions are often asked in reference to dress when wearing DAR Insignia and pins. In the DAR Handbook under the heading Insignia Pin, it states, “The insignia pin may be worn with attire appropriate for DAR occasions, which include pants and jackets.” Pants and jackets indicate a pant suit or dress pants (not denim) with a nice blouse and/or coordinated jacket. Also, dresses and skirts and blouses and/or jackets are appropriate. Even though DAR does not have a dress code, members should conform to the dignity of the NSDAR.

Those who are entitled to wear a sash indicating an active, honorary or past office do not wear the sash when wearing pants of any kind, including evening pant ensembles.

Always remember that how you dress reflects what you think of yourself and of the National Society, which is represented by the DAR Insignia and pins you have on your DAR ribbon. “

Laura M. Reid

*** The above information can also be found on the NSDAR National website www.dar.org/members under the Insignia Committee where more DAR pin information can be found.*

STAYING INFORMED

DAR objectives have remained the same for over 133 years. The details of what we want to accomplish and how we want to accomplish them have certainly changed many times over the last century.

NATIONAL DAR WEBSITE: www.dar.org This is the DAR public website with excellent information about DAR, membership, activities, buildings and more.

NATIONAL MEMBER'S WEBSITE (password-protected): www.dar.org/national-society/member-login The member's only website, is your first and best source of information for answers to your DAR questions. You will also find the DAR Handbook and Bylaws which are downloadable and printable.

STATE WEBSITE (password-protected): kansasdardar.org/member/ The State Website is where you will find information about your State Officers, State Committee information, State Newsletter, State Events and more.

AMERICAN SPIRIT MAGAZINE: An award-winning DAR publication with feature articles that include historical places and people, book reviews, special interest pieces and highlights on inspirational daughters. The pictures are great too! Get your subscription at: www.dar.org/americanspirit.

DAUGHTER'S MAGAZINE: When you subscribe to *American Spirit* magazine you automatically receive the *Daughter's* newsletter which has news highlights of what's happening in DAR from the National to the Chapter level. There is a letter from President General, Committee updates, lists of newly approved Patriots and more.....



FACEBOOK: There are several groups available to stay informed on DAR. Kansas Society Daughters of the American Revolution and your local Chapter are good ones to start with.

NATIONAL DEFENDER: *The National Defender* is a DAR publication. Articles relating to National Defense interests, current and historic, are submitted by DAR members and published on a “space available” basis. Signed articles reflect the personal views of the author and are not necessarily a statement of DAR policy.

To read or download issues of the *National Defender*, visit *The National Defender* webpage at:

https://www.dar.org/search/members/forms-publication-category/sec_natdef

PRESIDENT GENERAL’S BLOG: Don’t forget to read the DAR Blog regularly and subscribe to it so you get updates in your in-box! This will keep you connected to the National Society. Guest writers, from members to staff, will be invited to contribute to these communications. We will keep you informed about a variety of topics so that everyone’s interest may be covered.

To subscribe: go to the DAR member’s website, click on Member Resources and go to New Member Information. On the righthand side of the page, under New Member Information click on General Information. In the middle of the page, under Communication you will see, highlighted in blue, **President General’s blog**. That will take you to the Blog site. At the bottom of the page, under “Stay up-to-date” you can subscribe to the blog by simply submitting your e-mail address.

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS: The Daughters of the American Revolution Continental Congress is a time-honored tradition that has been held in Washington, D.C. as the annual national meeting of the DAR membership since the organization’s founding in 1890.

The week-long convention consists of business sessions, committee meetings, social functions, and is topped off with formal evening ceremonies: Opening Night, Education Awards Night and National Defense Night. These evening ceremonies, held in the historic DAR Constitution Hall, mix pomp and circumstance with touching award presentations and musical entertainment.

DAUGHTERS ONLINE COMMUNITY (DOC): The Daughters Online Community is a secure, DAR-only website where Daughters may interact with one another and share resources and ideas—similar to the way we have interacted in national committee Facebook groups in the past.

DAR TODAY PODCAST: The “DAR Today” Podcast is a broadcast that seeks to educate the public and our membership on exactly who we are, in the “DAR Today,” in a fun and easy to understand way, celebrating the Stars & Stripes Forever, through our patriotic activities.

WHAT EVERY DAR SHOULD KNOW

“Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution, is eligible for membership.”

Since its founding in 1890, DAR has admitted more than 1,000,000 members. Our current active membership is nearing 200,000 members and we have approximately 3,000 chapters in all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and internationally in Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Canada, France, Germany, Guam, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

Learn about DAR!: sign up to take the *NSDAR Members Course*. Contact the State Coordinator, Jan Goss at KansasMembers@yahoo.com

If you believe you are leadership bound, tell your Chapter Regent you are interested in taking the *NSDAR New Horizon's Course*. You must complete the Members Course before starting this course.

Pick up a copy of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in Brief (2nd ed.) and become familiar, if you are not already, with the fundamentals of parliamentary procedure so that you are able to effectively engaged in your Chapter meetings.

Resources:

DAR Handbook and National Bylaws (current printed edition)

DAR Handbook and National Bylaws (DAR Members' Web Site)

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th ed.)

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in Brief (3rd ed.)

Webinar: *Motions! Improving Your Leadership Moves*

Webinar: *Parliamentary Procedure*

In order to protect the non-profit status of the Society, the DAR takes great care to avoid any impression of a lobbying organization and is completely non-political. It is also against the National Bylaws to affiliate with other organizations, or to lend our name to another organization's efforts. We are however encouraged to cooperate with other organizations in efforts that resemble our goals. For instance, as much as we enjoy participating with the local museums and history centers in various activities, we would not want to enter into a contract with them to help staff their gift shops. It is fine for individuals to undertake that commitment, or the chapter to cooperate with them to encourage our members to volunteer, but we don't want anything legally binding.

Each chapter officer should study parliamentary procedure, read Roberts Rules of Order and each chapter member should be familiar with the fundamentals of parliamentary procedure so she can understand her rights as a member and skillfully participate in chapter meetings.

Each chapter officer should understand the duties of her particular office as outlined in the chapter bylaws.

Read the DAR Handbook. The DAR Handbook is a resource that each member can use to accomplish the objectives of each of our committees. Guidance, policies and history of the Society along with important membership information is printed in the handbook and is able for downloading at the members website.

Develop your DAR Elevator Pitch: your short summary used to quickly and simply define DAR and its benefits. The name "elevator pitch" reflects the idea that it should be possible to deliver the summary in the time span of an elevator ride, or approximately thirty seconds to two minutes.

Know your DAR Chapter and State Regent.

Attend chapter meetings, become involved in chapter activities, volunteer for chapter projects and fundraisers.

Attend State Conference and Continental Congress and get to know the organization and its members.

Get to know significant dates about chapter meetings, state and national meetings, special events and anniversaries:

The National Day of Prayer

Because of the faith of many of our founding fathers, public prayer and national days of prayer have a long-standing and significant history in American tradition. The Supreme Court affirmed the right of state legislatures to open their sessions with prayer in *Marsh vs. Chambers* (1983). Days of prayer have been called for since 1775, when the Continental Congress designated a time for prayer in forming a new nation.

The National Day of Prayer was established as an annual event by an act of Congress in 1952, and was signed into law by President Truman. President Reagan amended the law in 1988, designating the first Thursday of May each year.

NSDAR Day of Prayer

The date of the NSDAR Day of Prayer is based on determining the Sunday closest to the date of the founding of the DAR, October 11, 1890. The date will vary yearly.

The NSDAR Members Only website (password-protected) at www.dar.org/members provides links to Committee websites, forms, chapter information, etc. Take time to go through the website and read about the Committees and the history of DAR. Take a look at the archived magazines, the *National Defender* and the genealogy database. Check out the online service projects, genealogy data indexing and more.

Monthly Webinars are free to members and conducted monthly via the Web. Topics may include membership, chapter revitalization tips, and Chapter Regent leadership skills.

Understand where your annual dues are spent: Your annual dues are paid to your chapter, State and National in one lump sum. A specifically set amount is paid to each as predetermined by National, your specific State and as agreed upon by your Chapter. Dues go to support the President General's Project as well as to sustain the function of the society at the National and State levels. Your Chapter's Regent and Treasurer will submit an annual budget to your chapter outlining how your chapter's dues are spent. It is extremely helpful and a matter of courtesy to pay dues on a timely basis each year. Late dues create a hardship on the chapter.

SOME HANDY DAR TERMINOLOGY

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: are members in good standing with their chapters who may be granted associate membership in another chapter. Members are allowed 1 associate membership in her own state, 2 in any other state and there is no limit on Units Overseas.

CAMEO SOCIETIES: DAR groups consisting of Daughters with any combination of grandmother, mother, daughter, granddaughter, or sisters who are members of NSDAR. Cameo societies or clubs promote understanding and fellowship between generations and encourage sharing genealogical information, family histories, and patriotism to future generations. The Kansas group is called **Cameo Generations**.

C.A.R. : Children of the American Revolution Membership is available to any child age through age 22 who can prove lineal descent from a man, woman or child who rendered service or material aid to the Patriot's cause of the American Revolution.

DAR: When pronouncing DAR *always* pronounce each letter independently; don't take a short cut and call it "dar".

DAR STORE: Chapter supplies, DAR publications, and DAR-related gift items are available through the DAR Store. Items can be ordered by phone, mail or online from the members only website.

E-MEMBERSHIP is a restricted access only part of the National website which lists member's and chapter's pertinent information.



GUARDIAN TRUST CAMPAIGN: A campaign to establish a permanently restricted fund to support the preservation, restoration and conservation of our historic home and to fund the immediate restoration needs at DAR Constitution Hall.

HODAR: Husband Of a DAR member.

HONORARY: The title "Honorary" is used only in reference to officers who have been conferred this title by election because of distinguished Service.

JUNIOR: Junior members are chapter members 18 years old through their 36th birthday. Junior members enjoy full privileges and rights of membership and are eligible for any chapter, state, or national office. The Junior theme for 2022-2025 is “Junior Hearts Sparkle in Service”

KANSAS BOARD OF MANAGEMENT: The state governing body with general supervision of the property and business of the State Society consists of the State Officers, National Officers from the State and Chapter Regents. Business conducted by this body is subject to approval by the State Conference.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP The application and non-deductible contribution may be made at any age; however, the benefits of life membership begin after the participating member reaches age 65. Life Member - Pending is the classification of a member younger than the age of 65 who has completed the life member application process.

MADONNA OF THE TRAIL: Twelve memorials commissioned by the NSDAR commemorating the spirit of the woman pioneer placed along the National Old Trails Highway. There is one located in Council Grove, Kansas.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: A member of the National Society with current paid dues but not affiliated with a local chapter.

NIP: National Information Packet This is a packet of information mailed / e-mailed annually to State and Chapter Officers with Committee information, pertinent changes, forms etc...

NSDAR: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

SANTA FE TRAIL MARKERS: A series of granite monuments placed and maintained by the Kansas Society DAR which mark various points of the historic Santa Fe Trail.

SAR: Sons of the American Revolution

SASH: Sash ribbons are worn by current and past National Officers and State Regents. The outer edges of the sash ribbon that are white with blue in the center designate a Current Officer. When the colors are inverted, blue on outer edges, this designates a Past Officer.

SIP: State Information Packet This is the information usually posted (definitely in Kansas) on the State Website about State Officer for corresponding Chapter Officer information, State Committee and Committee Chairs, Forms and Resources.

SUPPLEMENTALS: Genealogical paperwork establishing additional Revolutionary ancestors from whom a member is descended.

SUSTAINING SUPPORTER: is a DAR who makes regular monthly gifts through the Sustaining Supporter Program. Gifts can be directed to a particular project or can go into the general fund.

THE DAUGHTERS TRIBUTE: An electronic database; a place on the National website where a DAR can go to pay special tribute to a fellow DAR who has meant something special to her in her life. Proceeds from the Daughter's Tribute go to the Guardian Trust Campaign.

UNITS OVERSEAS: There are actually DAR Chapters in foreign countries called *Units Overseas*: France, Italy, Mexico, Japan, Australia and others.

YEARBOOK: Your chapter's annual yearbook that contains member's information and chapter meeting and program information



We've come a long way BABY!!



WELCOME TO TODAY'S DAR!!