Maryland Society Sons of the American Revolution

Founded April 20, 1889
At Annapolis, Maryland

Recommended Online Resources
These online sources may contain primary documentation that can be used to reference your ancestral lineage in the society. The society requires primary sources as supporting documentation.

http://patriot.sar.org
www.ancestry.com
www.fold3.com
www.genealogybank.com

See our website for further information regarding our organization, go to
www.mdssar.org

Recommended Resource Centers
SAR National Headquarters
Louisville, KY
www.sar.org

Daughters of the American Revolution
Washington, DC
www.dar.org

Maryland Historical Society
Baltimore, MD
www.mdhs.org

Maryland State Archives
Annapolis, MD
http://msa.maryland.gov/

Maryland Society Sons of the American Revolution

Contact Information
If interested in membership, please contact our Membership Chairman at:

Christopher T. Smithson
4219 Paddrick Rd
Darlington MD 21034-1034
410-836-3433
ctsmithson@gmail.com

George Washington’s historic resignation returning control to the civil authorities at Annapolis 1783

The SAR accepts males only, if you wish to join the Daughters of the American Revolution, please contact them at www.dar.org. We also encourage you to enroll your children in the Children of the American at www.nscar.org

SAR Insignia
The SAR Badge consists of a Maltese cross in white enamel with a gold ball at each of the eight points and a gold medallion in the center bearing the bust of George Washington in profile surrounded by the motto "Libertas et Patria" on the obverse and the figure of a minuteman surrounded by the legend "Sons of the American Revolution" on the reverse. The cross is surrounded by a wreath of laurel and surmounted by a golden eagle and suspended from a ribbon by a golden ring. It is based on the badges of the Military Order of Saint Louis, founded by King Louis XIV in 1693 to honor faithful military service, and the Legion of Honor founded by Napoleon in 1803 to reward public service, civil as well as military. The membership insignia is suspended from a white, yellow and blue ribbon representing the colors of the uniform of George Washington. Chapter and State Presidents only may wear this insignia suspended from a neck ribbon as a sign of their current or past office.
**PURPOSE**

The purposes of our society are manifold – we are a patriotic, historical, and educational organization devoted to the following goals:

**Americanism** – Carrying out the purposes of the Preamble of the Constitution, Following the injunctions of Washington's farewell address to the American people.

**Historical Research** – Encouraging historical research of the American Revolution, Preserving the records of Revolutionary War Patriots.

**Educational** – Maintaining and extending the institutions of American freedom, Inspiring the community with a reverence for the principles of government founded by our forefathers.

**Patriotic** – Marking the locations of the Revolution: its events and its soldiers, Celebrating anniversaries of the Revolution, Fostering true patriotism, Promoting fellowship among their descendants.

**Ancestral** – Perpetuating the memory of Revolutionary War Patriots through the accumulation of genealogical records on our members’ ancestry back to the Patriots.

**MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

Regular Membership: A male age 18 years or older who is able to prove descent from a person who provided Acceptable Service (defined elsewhere) and who is deemed acceptable to our society. Only regular members may vote and hold office in the SAR and receive the SAR Magazine.  

Junior Membership: A male under age 18 who meets the above qualifications and who is enrolled in the Children of the American Revolution (CAR). His National CAR dues are paid from his SAR dues. (The colors represent the colors of George Washington’s uniform.)

Supplemental Ancestors: Our Society also encourages its members to submit additional applications on their other Patriot ancestors. For each additional proven supplemental ancestor, the SAR member may wear the gold supplemental star. For each additional five supplemental ancestors, the member may wear the 5-supplemental star as a badge of honor in our Society.

**ACCEPTABLE SERVICE**

For Membership, acceptable service includes civil, military, naval, or other patriotic service in support of the American Revolutionary cause of Independence including but not limited to the following:

**Civil**
- Civil service under the Colonies from April 19, 1775, to November 26, 1783, inclusive.
- Members of all Continental Congress.
- Signer of Declaration of Independence.
- Member of committees made necessary by the war; such as Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety; Committee to care for soldiers’ families; including Committees from six months before the Battle of Point Pleasant which furthered the cause of the Colonies.

**Military**
- Battle of Point Pleasant, October 10, 1774.
- Ft. William and Mary, December 14-15, 1774
- Military or naval service from April 19, 1775, to Nov. 26, 1783
- Defenders of forts and frontiers; rangers.
- Prisoners of war, including those on the British ship, “Old Jersey;” and other prison ships.
- Military from an Allied Country – Spain, France, Sweden.
- Furnishing a substitute for military service.

**Patriotic**
- Any pledge to support the cause of the Colonies, such as signing the Oath of Fidelity and Support, the Oath of Allegiance, Articles of Association, or the Association Test.
- Signers of Bush (MD) Declaration Mar. 22, 1775, Mecklenburg (NC) Declaration May 20, 1775; and similar declarations. Signers of petitions addressed to and recognizing the authority of the provisional and new state governments.
- Persons accepting obligations or acting under direction of the provisional and new state governments, such as persons directed to hold elections, to oversee road construction, to collect provisions, etc.
- Members of Boston Tea Party 1773; Edenton Tea Party 1774, Cherokee Expedition 1776, Kaskaskia Campaign 1778, and Galvez Expedition 1778;
- Physician, surgeon, nurse, or others rendering aid to the wounded, and ministers known to be in sympathy with the Colonies, either by sermon, speech, or action.
- Rendering material aid, such as furnishing supplies with or without remuneration; lending money to the Colonies, munitions makers, and gunsmiths; or anything which furthered the Cause.

Refer to National SAR Form #910 for more complete and current list of acceptable services or at our National website www.sar.org.

**HISTORY**

The Maryland Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was established on April 20, 1889 at Annapolis MD on the anniversary of the Battle of Lexington and Concord (April 19, 1775). Our National Society was organized on April 30, 1889 -- the 100th anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington as our nation’s first President under the new constitution. The National Society was chartered by an Act of the United States Congress on June 9, 1906 signed by President Theodore Roosevelt who was a member of the SAR. The charter authorizes the granting of charters to societies of the various states and territories and authorizes the state societies to charter chapters within their borders. The Society membership now boasts the membership of 14 U.S. Presidents, Kings, Congressmen, and other professionals from all ranks of life.

**ACTIVITIES**

Our society conducts numerous activities including placement of plaques to mark historic events and people, building monuments to the men and women who served, placing markers on graves, holding meetings and events to continue the fellowship of descendents of the Patriots.

Maryland has 15 chapters that cover all 23 counties. We welcome your inquiry to join our membership ranks.