Merry Ann T. Wright
President General
DAR National Headquarters
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Washington, DC 20006
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DAR Facts

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to preserving American history, securing America's future through better education, and promoting patriotism.

Founded: October 11, 1890; incorporated 1896 by an Act of Congress

Mission: To promote historic preservation, education and patriotism

Motto: God, Home and Country

Membership:
- 165,000 members
- 3,000 chapters in all 50 states and Washington, D.C.
- International chapters in Australia, Austria, The Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain, United Kingdom
- More than 885,000 women have joined the DAR since it was founded

Management: Policy for the Society is made by the National Board of Management composed of the President General, 11 Executive Officers, 21 Vice Presidents General, and 53 State Regents. The National Board of Management meets six times a year at DAR Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Continental Congress: The DAR annual national meeting is named after the original Continental Congress that governed the American colonies. DAR Continental Congress attracts over 3,000 members to Washington, D.C., each summer.

Become a Member

Eligibility for Membership: 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.

Ways to learn more about DAR membership:
- Visit the DAR Web Site (www.dar.org) to read about steps to membership and to fill out a prospective membership form
- Talk to local DAR chapter members in your area
- E-mail inquiries to prospectivemembers@dar.org
- Call the Prospective Member Coordinator at (202) 879-3205

National Headquarters

Buildings: The DAR Headquarters complex occupies an entire city block near the White House and includes three adjoining buildings, two of which are Registered National Historic Landmarks*:

- Memorial Continental Hall* (1905)
- Constitution Hall* (1929)
- Administration Building (1920, 1950)

Hours: Open to the public –
Monday—Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DAR Library: One of the largest genealogical research centers in the United States. A specialized collection of American genealogical and historical manuscripts and publications.

DAR Museum: 31 Period Rooms as well as permanent and changing exhibitions showcase American furnishings and decorative arts prior to 1830. Accredited by American Association of Museums.

Americana Room: Collection of early American manuscripts and imprints, including signatures of all of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. The unique collection is available for viewing and research.

DAR Publications and Resources

For more information, pricing, or to order these materials, call DAR Headquarters.

- America's Women in the Revolutionary Era, 1760–1790: A Bibliographic Guide
- American Treasure: The Enduring Spirit of the DAR
- American Genealogical Research at the DAR
- American Spirit magazine and Daughters newsletter
- Genealogical Records Committee Index
- Getting to Know the DAR
- DAR Handbook and National Bylaws
- DAR Media Kit and Brochures
- DAR Members' Web Site (ask chapter regent)
- DAR National Information Packet
- DAR Prospective Members Packet
- DAR Public Web Site (www.dar.org)
- Forgotten Patriots: African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War
- Lineage Research Kit
- My Father Was a Soldier: The Real Daughters of the American Revolution
- NSDAR Directory
- NSDAR Annual Proceedings
- Today's DAR—membership video

For more information about DAR, visit **www.dar.org** or call (202) 628–1776.

DAR Committees

Most of the volunteer work of DAR is accomplished under a committee system comprised of national chairmen appointed by the President General and locally appointed state and chapter chairmen. The national chairmen direct, supervise, and promote the activities of their committees with the assistance of national vice chairmen.

DAR committees promoting the mission of the society include (but are not limited to):

Historic Preservation

American Heritage: Promotes preservation of American cultural traditions, crafts and music.

Genealogical Records: Over 18,000 volumes of unpublished source records have been copied and bound for the DAR Library.

Historic Preservation: Oversees awarding of the Historic Preservation Medal and supervises the Historic Preservation Project Contest; documents historic site preservation and research.

Lineage Research: Those knowledgeable in genealogy assist prospective members and hold workshops.

President General's Project: "Preserve the Past, Enhance the Present and Invest in the Future" is a project to restore and improve the NSDAR complex of historic buildings, to strengthen membership, and to invest in our communities.

DAR Library: Repository for electronic genealogical resources and microforms of state records not found in other local research centers.

Education

American History: Sponsors American History Essay contests for students in grades 5 to 8 including home-schooled children.

American Indians: DAR has assisted American Indians with financial and scholarship aid since 1936.

Children of the American Revolution: Founded in 1895 by DAR, this committee provides training in patriotism and leadership to today's youth.

DAR Good Citizens: Promotes dependability, service, leadership and patriotism among high school seniors with national and state awards.

DAR Scholarship: Thousands of dollars are provided for NSDAR American History, Political Science, History, Government, Historic Preservation, Economics, Music, Nursing, Medical and Occupational Therapy scholarships annually.

DAR School: Support given to Kate Duncan Smith DAR School, AL; Tamassee DAR School, SC; Berry College, GA; Crossnore School, NC; Hillside School, MA; Hindman Settlement School, KY.

Junior American Citizens: Citizenship training program for boys and girls, kindergarten through high school. JAC Clubs are available to parochial, private, public, and home-schooled students.

Literacy Promotion: Promotes adult literacy and involvement in literacy programs.

Patriotism

Community Service Awards: Medals given to recognize local citizens for outstanding achievements in cultural, educational, humanitarian, patriotic and citizenship work in their communities.

Constitution Week: DAR sponsors special programs during the week of September 17–23 to raise awareness about the United States Constitution. This official week long celebration of the Constitution was initiated by the DAR in 1955 and adopted by the U.S. Congress in 1956.

DAR Service for Veterans: As a member of the National Veterans Administration Voluntary Service Advisory Committee, DAR has representatives in Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Centers. DAR members volunteer in VA facilities and in state/community-based programs, donating gifts, cash, personal care items, cancelled postage stamps, and thousands of hours of time in service to America's veterans.

The Flag of the United States of America: Thousands of flags, flag codes, certificates and other patriotic literature are distributed annually.

National Defense: Good Citizenship Awards presented to elementary through high school students. Gold and bronze ROTC medals presented to outstanding high school and college cadets.

DAR Project Patriot: Provides support to America's service personnel in current conflicts abroad.

Some Additional Committees

- Americanism
- Commemorative Events
- Conservation
- Continental Congress
- DAR Leadership
- DAR Magazine
- DAR Museum
- Membership
- Special Projects and Grants
- Units Overseas
- Volunteer Genealogists

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