



## Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution

### NEW MEMBER GUIDE TO DAR



*Reaping a harvest of good deeds as we rise and shine in service to  
America 2019-2022.*

*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will  
reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9*

New Member Guide compiled by Heather Rountree LaBonte, 2016,  
State Membership Chair

Updated August, 2019

## **Introduction**

We hope that you will join your chapter for as many meetings as you possibly can. In addition to chapter meetings, there are two state meetings: the Fall Workshop in September and the State Conference in April or May that we hope you will attend. All members are also invited to attend the annual meeting of the National Society, Continental Congress, held in late June-early July in Washington D. C.

This new member information booklet is intended to give you an overview of the many opportunities for you to become involved in the activities of your chapter.

## **Organizational Structure**

“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.”

The mission of NSDAR is to promote historic preservation, education and patriotism. Our motto is ‘God, Home and Country’.

## **National**

Policy for the Society is made by the National Board of Management, which is composed of the President General, 11 Executive Officers, 21 Vice Presidents General, and 53 State Regents.

The President General and her board are elected for three-year terms. The 11 National officers are: First Vice President General, Chaplain General, Recording Secretary General, Corresponding Secretary General, Organizing Secretary General, Treasurer General, Historian General, Librarian General, Curator General, and Reporter General.

The President General appoints national chairmen and national vice chairs who supervise the programs, projects, contests, and efforts of each national committee.

## **State:**

The Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution is governed by a state board of management which is composed of: the State Regent, State Vice Regent, State Chaplain, State Recording Secretary, State Corresponding Secretary, State Organizing Secretary, State Treasurer, State Historian, State Registrar, State Librarian, and State Curator.

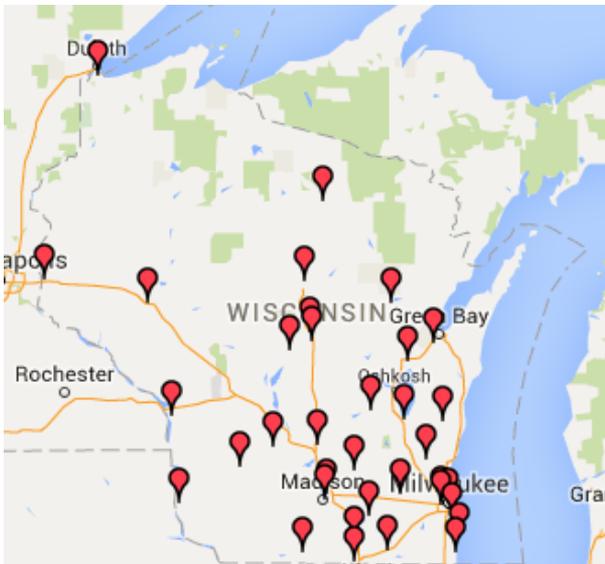
State Chairs are appointed by the State Regent and their terms are the same three years as the State Regent's term. It is the responsibility of the state chairs to administer the work of their respective national and state committee, under the direction of the State Regent.

## **Chapter:**

The local DAR organization is a chapter of the state and national societies. The Chapter Regent is the administrative head of her chapter. She and the other elected officers serve a term of office as provided in the chapter bylaws. Because each chapter is governed by its own bylaws, it is important for each member to review the bylaws of her chapter, keeping them current and not in conflict with National and State bylaws which override chapter bylaws.

Each chapter has officers and chairs who administer the programs, projects, contests and efforts of the national and state committees in order to fulfill specific goals for chapter achievement. Chapter officers and chairs report to the corresponding state officer or chair.

## **Wisconsin Chapters**



Appleton - Appleton  
Beloit – Beloit  
Columbus - Munedoo  
De Pere - Jean Nicolet  
Delavan - Samuel Phoenix  
Eau Claire - Eau Claire  
Fond Du Lac - Fond Du Lac  
Fort Atkinson - Fort Atkinson-Eli Pierce  
Hudson - St. Croix-Chequamegon  
Janesville - Janesville  
Kenosha - Kenosha

La Crosse - La Crosse-Rebecca Myrick  
Madison - John Bell  
Maple Bluff - Governor Nelson Dewey  
Milwaukee - Milwaukee  
Monroe - Colonel Benjamin Harrison  
Oconomowoc - Oconomowoc  
Plover - Nay-Osh-Ing  
Plymouth - Plymouth  
Portage - Wau Bun  
Prairie Du Chien - Fort Crawford  
Racine - Racine  
Reedsburg - Fay-Robinson  
Rhineland - Nokomis  
Richland Center - Black Hawk  
Ripon - John Scott Horner  
  
South Milwaukee - Jacques Vieau  
Stevens Point - Stevens Point  
Superior - Lake Superior  
Wausau - Wausau  
Wauwatosa - Annis Avery Hill  
West Allis - Mary Warrell Knight  
West Bend - Joseph Marest  
Wisconsin Rapids – Ah Dah Wa Gam

## **Where to Go for Information**

### **National**

The website for the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution is: [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org). This site contains general information for the public and non-members regarding the National Society and its work.

You may login to the Members site by clicking “Members” at the top of the [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org) page.



New Members are especially encouraged to visit:  
<https://www.dar.org/members/committees/national-committees/membership/member-training-janet-chapin-mcfarland-national>

## **State**

The home page, open to the public, for Wisconsin DAR is: <http://www.wsdar.com>. This website offers general information about DAR in Wisconsin for non-members, complete with a list of chapters located throughout the state.

There is also a web site just for Wisconsin Daughters at: <http://members.wsdar.com> . The Wisconsin DAR News can be found at this site in electronic form to be viewed or printed, along with committee information, calendar of meetings, and VIS messages. Your chapter regent will provide you with a password to access the member’s pages.

## **Publications**

### **National**

**DAR Handbook and National Bylaws:** This official handbook, printed once during each 3-year term of a national administration, contains the most current National Bylaws plus complete information about every aspect of the National Society. The DAR Handbook is an essential tool for members and provides point-to-point instructions for membership procedures, committees, contests, etc. The most current National Handbook, Bylaws and Protocol, forms and committee information is always found on the national members’ website.



**American Spirit Magazine:** Published bi-monthly by the National Society, American Spirit is an award winning magazine available on newsstands to the public and members alike. It includes articles on woman's issues, patriotic endeavors, historic sites, people, artifacts and events, genealogy, and more. All DAR members are encouraged to support the magazine through

subscriptions. The magazine may be ordered at <http://www.dar.org/national-society/american-spirit-magazine>, through your chapter, or by calling 1-866-327-6242.

**Daughters Newsletter:** This newsletter is sent as a supplement with the American Spirit magazine to those subscribers who are DAR members and is included in the subscription cost. It contains Executive Officer reports, DAR News from national, state and chapters, Congress information and state advertising which typically introduce candidates for National office, honor a State Regent, Outstanding Junior or highlight historic sites particular to that state.

## State

**Wisconsin State News** — This news is published weekly each Thursday thru a MailChimp News distribution to your inbox for all those with registered email addresses.

## **Chapter**

**Chapter Yearbook**—Each chapter usually publishes a directory that includes chapter information, listing of chapter officers and honored members, contact information for each member, a listing of chapter meetings, dates and locations, the DAR Opening Ritual. Some chapters include their chapter bylaws in the yearbook. Many chapter yearbooks are published electronically.

## **Supplementals**

Once you become a member of the National Society, you may file supplemental applications to prove your lineage to additional patriot ancestors who aided the cause during the War for American Independence.

Supplementals require the same documentation for each statement of birth, death, and marriage as required for the original application for membership. Members proving supplemental lines often facilitate the genealogy work for other Daughters and future members who may be descended from the same ancestor.

## **Protocol**

Protocol, proper etiquette, and respect is expected from all members in recognizing and honoring those in positions of leadership. The fundamental principles of protocol are dictated by ethics, courtesy, good manners, and common sense.

A few helpful reminders are:

1. When the President General or a State Regent is introduced and enters a room, members should stand and applaud as they recognize the sash of the office.
2. The State Regent should be addressed as “Madam State Regent” and the local Chapter Regent as “Madam Regent.”

3. Always stand when addressing the chair.
4. Members should remain standing until the Opening Ritual is completed.
5. Never enter or leave the meeting during the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Never hold anything in your hands while repeating the Pledge.
6. Make motions by starting with “I move.....”
7. Some members may find it difficult to stand due to health reasons. Common sense allows them to remain seated.
8. Advise the presiding officer prior to the meeting if you plan to introduce new business.
9. Meetings are conducted in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless otherwise dictated by National Bylaws.
10. There is a prescribed order for the recognition of officers and guests. This information is contained in the DAR Manual and Handbook. In general, officers are recognized first at the National level, then State, then Chapter. Any non-member guest dignitaries would be recognized following Society dignitaries.
11. It is the custom for DAR members to wear white gloves in a receiving line; usually gloves are worn in the evening. The top-ranking official in the receiving line determines whether or not one should wear gloves; if she has them on, wear them, if not, gloves are not needed. When wearing gloves, the right glove is removed during the salute and the Pledge of the Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

## **What Should I Wear?**

Chapter Meeting: The most acceptable form of clothing is a dress, skirt, pant suit or dress slacks with a nice blouse and/or coordinating jacket with pins, unless you are on your way to work and work attire is required. When wearing casual attire, it is not acceptable to wear your Official Insignia.

State Conference: Daytime wear is generally business attire; a dress, suit or pants suit with pins. Dress slacks with a coordinating jacket are acceptable. Formal attire such as a long or tea-length dress is worn for State Officer's Club Dinner and the State Banquet. Gloves may be worn for these formal occasions which feature receiving lines.

Continental Congress: Appropriate daytime wear includes a suit, skirt and jacket, or dress with pins. Comfortable shoes and an umbrella or raincoat are recommended. Opening night and the Banquet are traditionally formal attire, such as a long dress or tea-length dress. Other evening programs may be less formal, but many members will wear a long dress or skirt. In the evening, an appropriate sweater or jacket is suggested since the building interior may be cool.

## **Insignia and Pins**

The official insignia was unanimously adopted 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, and the stars represent the original thirteen colonies.

The official jeweler of the NSDAR is Hamilton Jewelers until February 2020, when NSDAR will take over production of pins.

Most new members start with the basic insignia which consists of the official insignia, chapter bar and ancestor bar. The three pins, when ordered together, will automatically be mounted on the ribbon for you.

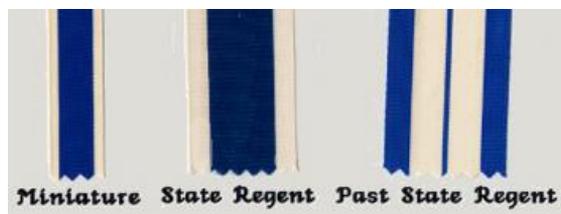
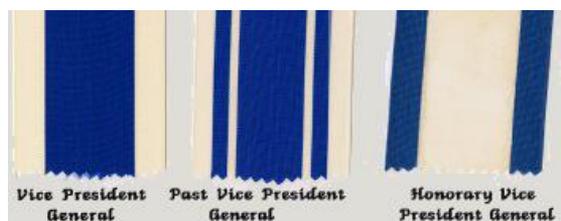
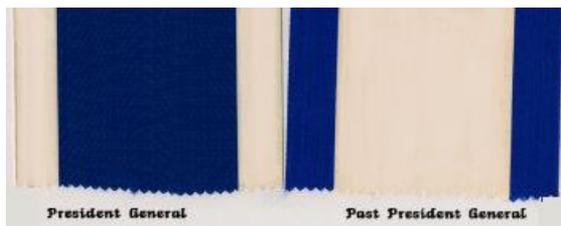


- **Official Insignia:** This is required at the bottom of the official ribbon. Each insignia is engraved on the reverse side with the member's name and national number.
- **Chapter Bar:** A bar to designate her chapter. Chapter Name will be engraved on the front.
- **Ancestral Bar:** Every member may purchase a bar with the name of the ancestor on whose record she entered the Society. A supplemental bar may be purchased for each ancestor whose record has been credited to her national number. Ancestor Name will be engraved on the front.

## Sash

The official sash is worn by the President General, Honorary Presidents General, National Executive Officers, past National Executive Officers, Vice Presidents General, Honorary Vice Presidents General, past Vice Presidents General, State Regents, Honorary State Regents, and past State Regents.

Each sash is blue and white, but the width and color combination determines the official status of the wearer. The sash of a current officer is blue with white edges, and becomes wider as the ranking of the office increases.



## **Opportunities for Participation**

The Mission of DAR: Historic preservation, education and patriotism is fulfilled by DAR members working together in committees. There are committees at the National, State and Chapter level. Review the committees and discuss your interest, your passion, and your time with your Chapter Regent. If your chapter does not currently have a chair of your committee of interest – VOLUNTEER.

## **DAR Committees**

The National Society accomplishes the majority of its work under a committee system. The President General appoints a national chair for each of the NSDAR committees. The national chair then directs and supervises the activities of her committee, national vice chair, state chair, and chapter chair for the next three years of an administration.

Each of these has a specific purpose, but not many chapters are involved in all of these. Chapters should promote the activities that are of interest to the chapter members.

In depth information on every National Committee may be found on the members' website:

**<http://www.dar.org/members/committees>**

Most Chapters also have chapter committees that match the national committees. You can serve your chapter by volunteering to serve on a committee.

## **NSDAR Genealogical Education Program**

Wisconsin Daughters that are interested in helping to prepare DAR applications are strongly encouraged to take the Genealogy Educational Program classes, known as GEP I, GEP II, and GEP III. These courses provide the proper completion and documentation standards required by the DAR for the verification of applications.

### **GEP Course 1--Introduction to Genealogy Research for DAR Applications**

This course provides an introduction to Genealogical Research skills with an emphasis on locating genealogical documentation; identifying specific pieces of genealogical evidence; and evaluating evidence within the context of the

criteria required for DAR applications and supplemental applications.

### **GEP Course 2—Applying Genealogy Research Techniques to DAR Applications**

This course will provide you with the information needed to successfully prepare a DAR application or supplemental application including: the skills needed to analyze the lineage documentation that you have collected, identify acceptable types and sources of Revolutionary War service, and prepare the application and the documentation according to current DAR procedures for the submission of applications and supplemental applications.

### **GEP Course 3—Advanced Techniques for Resolving Problems with Lineage or Service on DAR Records**

The DAR Genealogical Education Program: Course 3-- Advanced Techniques for Resolving Problems with Lineage and Service on DAR Records will provide you with knowledge of alternative source of information, methods of analyzing indirect evidence, and the strategies necessary to resolve complex lineage and service issues that may hinder the verification of an application or supplemental application.

**The courses are available at  
<http://daronlineclasses.mrooms.net>**

### **MEMBER AND NEW HORIZONS COURSES**

NSDAR has two courses for members to take. The Members course introduces you to everything DAR. The New Horizons course can be taken after the Members Course and is helpful to current and future leaders.

## **Wisconsin Society**

WSDAR has state level clubs. From WSDAR.com, members section, click on the learn more about each club.

### **Cameo Club**

Membership in the Cameo Club is open to any member of the NSDAR who can show current active membership and that of a relative: grandmother, granddaughter, mother, daughter, aunt, niece, or sister.

### **State Chairman Club**

The Wisconsin State Chairman's Club was established in 2007 for any Daughter who is serving or has served as an appointed Wisconsin State Committee Chair.

### **State Officer's Club**

Any present or past Chapter Regent, State Officer, or National Officer who is a member in good standing of the Wisconsin Society shall be eligible for membership in this club. Former Officers from other States who are now living in Wisconsin and who qualify under Section 1 of the Bylaws shall be eligible for membership in this club.

### **Junior Club**

Regular membership is limited to WSDAR members who joined DAR as junior members and reside in Wisconsin. Associate membership is open to WSDAR members who do not meet the requirements of regular members.

### **50 Year Club**

Must be a DAR member for at least 50 years before joining the group.

Regular membership is limited to WSDAR members who have been a Page in Wisconsin or at Congress as a Wisconsin Daughter. Associate membership is open to WSDAR members who do not meet the requirements of regular members.



Fort Winnebago Surgeons Quarters, located at 1824 State Road 33 in Portage, Wisconsin, is owned and operated by the Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution. The Surgeons Quarters, built in 1824 by Francis LeRoi, is one of the oldest French Colonial log structures in the state. Fort Winnebago was constructed by the Army from 1828-1830 as one of three forts built along the Fox - Wisconsin Waterway from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien. FWSQ was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 28, 1970. Fort Winnebago was of strategic importance due to its location at the portage of the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers, the major route from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River until the mid-nineteenth century. The location was initially intended as a deterrent to further conflict between the Winnebago and American settlers, and probably to oversee trade with the Indians. FWSQ is open Wednesday through Sunday, May to October for tours. WSDAR Daughters interested in Historic Preservation are encouraged to volunteer. The phone number is 608-742-2949 and website is:

[www.fortwinnebagosurgeonsquarters.org](http://www.fortwinnebagosurgeonsquarters.org)