

**WHAT  
ARE THE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR MEMBERSHIP?**

Any man of age eighteen years or over, who is a lineal descendent of an ancestor who supported the war for American Independence is eligible for membership in the *Sons of the American Revolution*.

These ancestors are referred to as Revolutionary War Patriots and include those persons who fought in the military and / or militia, who provided supplies to the American cause, who served on political bodies supporting the Revolution, who signed oaths of support and similar acts.

If you believe that you may be eligible for SAR membership, ask the person from whom you received this pamphlet or contact the name below. In the event you can not locate SAR members in your home area, check our Web site or write National Headquarters.



This pamphlet has been prepared to briefly explain the history, activities, and requirements for membership.

**National Society, SAR  
809 West Main Street  
Louisville, KY 40202  
(502)-589-1776  
<http://www.sar.org>**



For information on membership and SAR activities in Berks and Lebanon Counties, please contact:

Mr. Eric H. Troutman  
252 East 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Bernville, PA 19506  
(610) 488-7855  
[ehtroutman13@gmail.com](mailto:ehtroutman13@gmail.com)

Chapter Website:  
[www.berkssar.org](http://www.berkssar.org)

**ARE YOU DESCENDED FROM A  
REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOT?**



**Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter**

# WHAT IS THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION?

The *Sons of the American Revolution* was incorporated on January 17, 1890, in Connecticut and later chartered by the United States Congress on June 9, 1906.

Prior to this date a number of state societies were formed in the 1880s. These were led by The Sons of Revolutionary Sires, organized July 4, 1876, in San Francisco. The first Congress of the National Society was held in Louisville, Kentucky on April 30, 1890 -- the 101<sup>st</sup> anniversary of George Washington's taking the oath of office of President of the United States.

The *National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution* celebrated its centennial and the bicentennial of Washington's becoming President on April 30, 1989.

The purposes of the *Sons of the American Revolution* are patriotic, historical, and educational. This includes:

- \* Perpetuating the memory of Revolutionary War Patriots.
- \* Promoting fellowship among their descendants.
- \* Inspiring the community with a reverence for the principles of government founded by our forefathers.
- \* Encouraging historical research of the American Revolution.
- \* Preserving the records of Revolutionary War Patriots.
- \* Marking the locations of the Revolution: its events and its soldiers.
- \* Celebrating anniversaries of the Revolution.

- \* Fostering true patriotism.
- \* Maintaining and extending the institutions of American freedom.
- \* Carrying out the purposes of the Preamble of the Constitution.
- \* Following the injunctions of Washington's farewell address to the American people.

The National Headquarters is located in Louisville, Kentucky. There are 50 state societies including the District of Columbia. There are also societies in France, the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany and Switzerland. The current membership is approximately 27,000 active members.



# WHAT DOES THE ORGANIZATION DO?

- \* Honors individuals for outstanding and unusual patriotic achievement on a national, regional, and local level.
- \* Honors persons for outstanding bravery and self sacrifice in the face of imminent danger.

- \* Honors members of the United States Congress for outstanding service to the nation.
- \* Honors outstanding high school students annually with the presentation of a Good Citizenship Award.
- \* Honors outstanding Junior and Senior ROTC cadets annually with the presentation of the ROTC Award.
- \* Honors Law Enforcement officials for outstanding service with a Law Enforcement Award.
- \* Honors Fire Safety Officials for outstanding service with a Fire Safety Commendation Award.
- \* Selects outstanding Eagle Scouts annually at the chapter, state and national level. The national winner receives a college scholarship.
- \* Assists veterans in Veterans Hospitals.
- \* Conducts a national historical orations contest annually.
- \* Sponsors Boy Scout troops and chapters of the Children of the American Revolution.
- \* Places SAR markers at the grave sites of Revolutionary War Patriots and SAR Members.
- \* Commemorates Revolutionary War Patriots with appropriate ceremonies.
- \* Participates in new citizenship swearing-in ceremonies.
- \* Observes patriotic anniversaries.
- \* Cooperates with the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Children of the American Revolution and other hereditary organizations in the promotion of patriotism.