



A Brief History of the Southern District, National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

At the organizing meeting of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution held on April 30, 1889, at Fraunces Tavern in New York City, a Vice President General was elected from each State Society. Alabama and Tennessee were the only two current Southern District Societies represented at that meeting. At the first NS SAR Congress in Louisville in April 1890, the Constitution was changed to elect five at-large Vice Presidents General.

President General R. C. Ballard Thurston first proposed creating Districts for the Vice Presidents at the Syracuse Congress in May 1914. The proposal was presented as a Constitutional amendment by the Connecticut Society at the Newark Congress in May 1916, but was not acted upon until the Rochester Congress in May 1918. The Districts created by this amendment were the New England District (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut), Middle and Coast District (New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida), Mississippi Valley East District (Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee), Mississippi Valley West District (Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas), and the Mountain and Pacific District (Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, California, Hawaii, and the Philippines).

At the Salt Lake City Congress in July 1924, the number of Districts increased from five to seven and the Southern District was created. The Southern District was originally composed of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Tennessee. At the Philadelphia Congress in June 1926, the number of Districts increased from seven to eleven and the South Atlantic District was created from the Southern District. Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Kentucky remained part of the Southern District. Kentucky became part of the Central District in 1939.

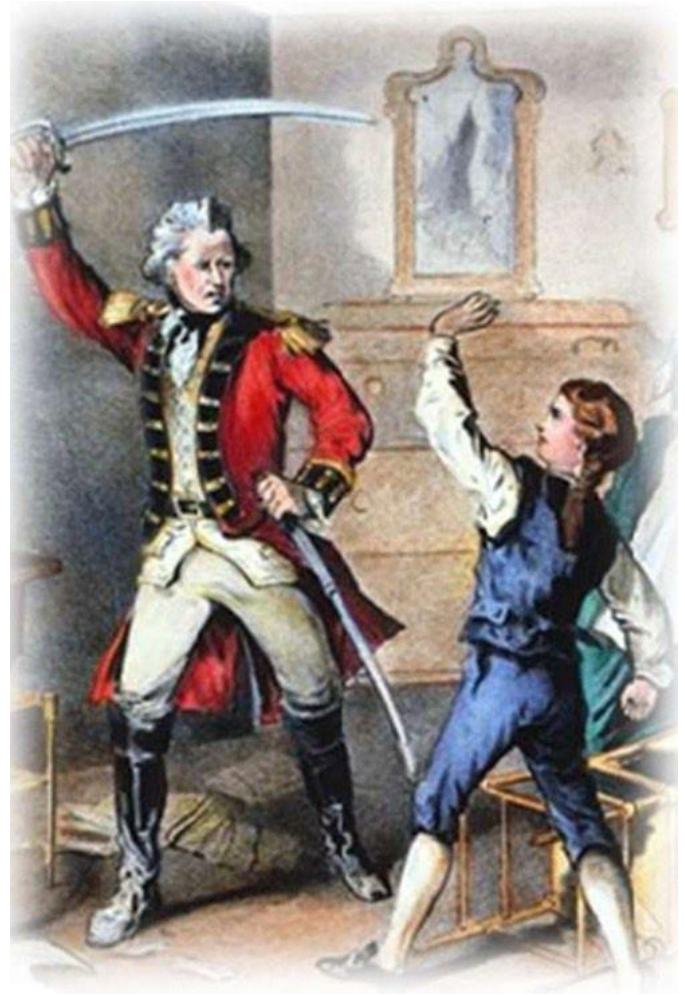
Southern District SAR

Tennessee 6-1-1796 

Louisiana 4-30-1812 

Mississippi 12-10-1817 

Alabama 12-14-1819 



14-year-old Andrew Jackson receiving a sword cut for refusing to clean the boots of a British officer in 1781.

Directory 2025-2026

**Vice President General's Message
Dr. John Fulwider**

Compatriots,

The Connecticut Society hosted the 135th Annual Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in July 2025. North Carolina will host the 136th Congress in July 2026 and the Southern District will host the 2027 137th Congress in New Orleans, LA. The Southern District consists of Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. The Southern District leadership positions have increased for the 2025-2026 term to include the presence of influential compatriots in pivotal areas to ensure the districts increased presence and interaction with its four state societies. Each state has something to offer the district in the way they source their funds, how they recruit and retain their membership and how they process events. It is the responsibility of the district to help each state improve and share their experiences with each other. The leadership of the district must expand in order to accomplish a unified and shared goal moving toward 2027.

The expanded positions include the VPG Dr. John Fulwider (MS), Secretary Billy LeJeune (LA), Treasurer Tony Vets (LA), Color Guard Commander Paul Bergeron (LA), Congressional Secretary Jeff Nolen (LA), America 250 Commission Secretary Russ Godwin (LA), Secretary de la Liaison David Chaffin (TN) who will provide expertise and insight acting as a bridge between patriotic and concordant organizations and the Southern District, Parliamentarian Edmon McKinley (AL), Chaplain Greg Banther (TN).

The new leadership team of the Southern District will interact with all four states to make 2025-2026 a year of coming together as a strong union for participation in district events. As a district, we will strive to reach into every chapter of every state and recognize those who are making a difference in SAR. This team will also work to encourage more involvement between the DAR, C.A.R., VA, BSA, American Legion, Rotary Clubs and other patriotic organizations.

The Southern District is here to support our individual state societies in continuing to be successful in furthering the SAR Mission.

The 2026 Southern District SAR Annual Business and Awards Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Mississippi Society Annual Meeting in Mississippi, March 28, 2026 at the Courtyard by Marriott Oxford, 305 Jackson Avenue East, Oxford, MS 38655. This meeting will also have the four state presidents nominate the 2026-2027 Southern District Vice President General. Louisiana is the next state in rotation for the honor of hosting a VPG.

I look forward to working with you as your Southern District Vice President General in 2025-2026.
Dr. John Fulwider



Call to Order by the Vice President General
Invocation
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the U.S.
SAR Pledge
Reading of the minutes: Last Annual Meeting
Reports of the State Presidents
Report of the Vice President General
Old Business
New Business
Report: District Nominating Committee
Invitation to the next Annual Meeting
Adjournment

Section 2. Special Meeting of the District may be called by the Vice President General or on the application of three of the four Presidents of the State Societies. Any actions taken at a special meeting are subject to ratification by the next Annual Meeting of the District.

Section 3. All members of the District, as described in Article III hereof, shall be entitled to attend, speak and vote on any questions coming before a District meeting except the question of the nomination of a Vice President General.

Article VI – District Nominating Committee

Section 1. There shall be a District Nominating Committee composed of the incumbent Presidents of the State Societies of the District or the representative of an absent President who has been designated as such in writing by his President to the Vice President General. The Vice President General shall serve as Chairman of the Committee and, in the event of a tie vote on the question of the nomination of a Vice President General, shall have the right to break the tie.

Section 2. The Vice President General shall, in advance of the Annual Meeting, solicit the name of a candidate for the office of Vice President General endorsed by the State Society next in the rotation described in Article IV, Section 2 hereof and shall lay the endorsement so obtained before the District Nominating Committee at the Annual Meeting.

Section 3. Prior to the Annual Meeting, the District Nominating Committee shall meet and shall nominate a candidate of the office of Vice President General for the coming term. The endorsement of one's State Society shall be persuasive, but not binding, on the Nomination Committee. The Committee may nominate someone from the same State Society who is next in the rotation other than the Member who has been endorsed, but it should do so only for manifestly obvious reasons and for the good of the District. A majority of the Committee shall be necessary to nominate and, as provided herein, the Vice President General shall have the right to break a tie. The Committee shall report its nomination to the Annual Meeting of the District provided therefore in the Order of Business. The selection of the District Nominating Committee shall be the nomination of the District and shall not be subject to a vote of the Annual Meeting of the District. The Vice President General shall communicate the nomination of the District promptly to the Secretary General of the National Society.

Article VII – Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the District in all cases of which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and any special rules of order the District may adopt.

Article VIII – Amendments

Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Vice President General at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Vice President General shall transmit proposed amendments to the Presidents of the State Societies at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Proposed amendments which have been advertised as herein provided shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present and voting at the Annual Meeting for approval.

Southern District SAR Medal Set

\$40.00 if picked up at Leadership, or

\$45.00 if Mailed to you.

Place orders through SD Treasurer,

Tony Vets

tonyvets@bellsouth.net



Constitution of the Southern District, NSSAR

As Amended Through March 27, 1999

Article I – Name and Status

The name of this organization shall be “Southern District, National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.” The organization shall be composed of the State Societies of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Article II – Objects

The objects of this organization shall be those of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution as they appear in Article II of the Constitution of said Society.

Article III – Membership

Any member in good standing in any one of the State Societies in the District shall be a member of the District.

Article IV – Officers

Section 1. The Officers of the District shall be a Vice President General and such other Officers as he shall appoint in conformity with the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Society.

Section 2. The Vice President General shall be nominated at the Annual Meeting of the District immediately preceding his election and installation at the Annual Congress of the National Society. The Office shall rotate among the State Societies of the District in the order: Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Alabama. If a Member of the State Society next in rotation is not proposed for nomination at the Annual Meeting of the District, the rotation shall pass to the next State Society in the rotation described here into above. The incumbent Vice President General shall not succeed himself.

Section 3. The District shall have one, and only one, candidate of the National Society Nominating Committee in the Council of State Presidents. Said candidates shall be the President of the State Society from which the incumbent Vice President General is serving provided, however, that if the aforementioned State Society President is not eligible for election to the National Society Nominating Committee from the Council of State Presidents in accordance with the Bylaws of the National Society, the members of the District in attendance at the Annual Meeting of the District shall select a candidate for the National Society Nominating Committee in the Council of State Presidents.

Section 4. The duties of the Vice President General, in addition to those prescribed by the National Society, shall be to:

- A. preside over District meetings.
- B. promote the activities and interests of the National Society.
- C. disseminate information to every State Society regarding meetings of the District.
- D. represent the State Societies of the District and report on their activities at meetings of the National Trustees.
- E. visit State Societies and local Chapters and encourage the formation of new Chapters within the District.
- F. attend the Annual Meeting of every State Society in the District during his term of Office and perform such other duties as may be delegated or assigned to him by the President General.

Article V – District Meetings

Section 1. There shall be an Annual Meeting of the District prior to the Annual Congress of the National Society. The Annual Meeting shall, whenever possible, be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting, or Spring meeting, of one of the State Societies in the District. The order of Business shall be, but not limited to, the following:

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Living Former Vice Presidents General

John Overton Roy, Jr. VPG (1971-1972) 1819 Octavia Street New Orleans, LA 70115-5669 (504) 895-6829 SylviaRoy@att.net	Richard (Rick) D. Hollis VPG (2014-2015) P. O. Box H Charlotte, TN 37036-0478 (615) 812-2648 Hollis1812@gmail.com
Robert C. Judice VPG 2001-2002 P.O. Drawer 58 Darrow, LA 70725-0058 (504)8918493 sgeneralzar@gmail.com	Gerald P. Brent VPG (2016-2017) 9580 Plantation Road Olive Branch, MS 38654 (662) 812-9209 Bgo586@comcast.net
James C. Hofstetter VPG (2002-2003) 175 Woodmont Blvd. Nashville, TN 37205-2239 (615) 2697005 jameshofstetter@comcast.net	Tony L. Vets VPG (2017-2018) 504 Oak Street Colfax, LA 71417 (318) 481-8441 tonyvets@bellsouth.net
P. Rod Hildreth VPG (2003-2004) P.O. Box 17 Mentone, AL 35984-0017 (256) 997-9939 pinetree@farmerstel.com	Colin D. Wakefield VPG (2018-2019) 47 Wakefield Lane Fayetteville, TN 37334 (931) 703-6674 Colin.d.wakefield@gmail.com
Hunter McDonald III VPG (2006-2007) 7036 Wild Iris Drive Nashville, TN 37221-5102 (615) 662-3732 frenchRDC@aol.com	Bobby Joe Seales VPG (2019-Jan 2020) P.O. Box 89 Alabaster, AL 35007 (205) 902-6383 biseales@bellsouth.net
John R. Wallace VPG (2007-2008) 200 E. Silver Oak Dr. Enterprise, AL 36330-1572 (334) 347-0661 jrwtsar@gmail.com	Michael P. Schenk VPG (Jan. 2020-2022) 108 Trace Cove Drive Madison, MS 39110-9265 (601)856-9895 mposchenk@gmail.com
Thomas E. Jacks VPG (2009-2010) 327 Devon Drive Mandeville, LA 70448-3316 (985) 626-3894 tejacks1970@aol.com	Maj. Bradley T. Hayes, Esq. VPG (2022-2023) 122 College Drive Hammond, LA 70401 (601) 870-9220 byhayesesq@gmail.com
James H. Maples VPG (2011-2012) 1501 Elmwood Drive Huntsville, AL 35801 (256) 534-2315 jhmaples@gmail.com	Steve Gaines VPG (2023-2024) 115 Marseille Drive Hendersonville, TN 37075 (615) 585-3241 steveTNSsAR@gmail.com
John R. Taylor, Jr. VPG (2012-2013) 2509 SCR 83 Mize, MS 39116 (601) 733-9475 taylorj1947@yahoo.com	Dr. C. David Billings VPG (2024-2025) 705 Heath Dr. SE Huntsville, AL 35802 (256) 683-3456 david.billings@uah.edu
Dr. James A. Morock, SR. VPG (2013-2014) 3915 Maywood Street Alexandria, LA 71302-2526 (318) 442-5776 jamkma@aol.com	



Southern District Officers 2025-2026



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State Society Presidents

Alabama SAR President
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Mississippi SAR President
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Louisiana SAR President
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Tennessee SAR President
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Louisiana Color Guard CDR
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Mississippi Color Guard CDR
Jerry Lilly
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Tennessee Color Guard CDR
Cliff Kent
dogwoodlodge@epbf.com

137th Southern District Medal Sets \$40 each.



Oliver Pollock
137th Congress
Lapel Pin \$25

Medal Sets/Pins will be sold at Leadership Conferences, NSSAR Congress's and online at the **Southern District SAR Website**
<https://alssar.org/southerndistrict>

If ordering on-line there is a \$5 mailing fee

2027 Southern District Congress Medal



NSSAR 137TH CONGRESS

HOSTED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT
TENNESSEE-ALABAMA-MISSISSIPPI-LOUISIANA

Marriott Hotel

555 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana
Friday July 9 – Thursday July 15, 2027

<https://www.2027congress.com>

Southern District Meeting Calendar



SAR Fall Leadership	Oct 2-4, 2025,	Louisville, KY
Alabama SAR	Mar 13-14, 2026,	Hoover, AL
Spring Leadership	Mar 5-7, 2026,	Louisville, KY
Mississippi SAR	Mar 27-28, 2026,	Oxford, MS
Southern District Meeting	Mar 28, 2026,	Oxford, MS
Tennessee SAR	Mar 20-21, 2026,	Franklin, TN
Louisiana SAR	April 10-11, 2026,	Alexandria, LA
136 th NSSAR Congress	July 9-16, 2026,	Greensboro, NC