



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 NSSAR 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 were 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 were 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. VPG Tom Jacks, 2009

Southern District SAR

Alabama

Mississippi

Louisiana

Tennessee



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



Directory 2023-2024

Vice President General

Steven A. Gaines

Compatriots,

The 2023 Congress was held in Orlando, with 260 credentialed delegates in attendance. Many interesting tours and events made up parts of the experience with the long tour being on Saturday, a tour of the Kennedy Space Complex where such memorabilia launches as the mighty Saturn 5, the Space Shuttles and SpaceX flights occur.

Elections were held for General Officers, Vice Presidents General, Trustees and Alternate Trustee with the resultant election of John Dodd of the California Society as President General. General Officers from the Southern District elected at the 2023 Congress included Secretary General Dr. Darryl Addington (TN), and Librarian General J. Fred Olive and Chancellor General Edmon McKinley, both of Alabama.

With the winding down of the Covid-19 pandemic, our Southern District and State Society activities and events have now resumed. During 2023 we were able to conduct all four of our state conferences and Southern District meeting in-person. I want to thank the newly elected State Society Presidents Jim Griffith (AL), Rev Tommy Thompson (MS), Randall Domingue (LA) and Dr. David Chaffin (TN) and their administrations for their support and dedicated leadership in their State Societies. I am looking forward to working with them during my term.

Excitement is building over our Southern District hosting of the 2027 137th NSSAR Congress in New Orleans, LA. District and State committees have been formed and are actively working on plans for each state's participation. I and other committee members are fully bought-in and anticipating hosting the greatest Congress ever.

I also wish to express sincere gratitude to J. Fred Olive of Alabama for accepting the position as our District Secretary, to David Martin of Alabama as he continues to serve as our District Treasurer, to Doug Evans from Tennessee who has agreed to serve as our District Color Guard Commander and to our Webmaster Jim Maples (AL). Our 2024 Southern District SAR Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Tennessee Society Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Tennessee, March 15-16, 2024.

I look forward to serving you as your Southern District Vice President General in 2023-2024.

Steven A. Gaines

2023-2024 Southern District, NSSAR Vice President General

Call to Order by the Vice President General

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States

Pledge to the SAR

Reading of the minutes of the last Annual Meeting

Reports of the State Presidents

Report of the Vice President General

Old Business

New Business

Report of the 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.

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT, NATIONAL SOCIETY
OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

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 hereinto 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 Southern District

Vice Presidents General

Maj. Bradley T. Hayes, Esq.
VPG (2022-2023)
122 College Drive
Hammond, LA 70401
(601) 870-9220
byhayesesq@gmail.com

Michael P. Schenk
VPG (Jan. 2021-2022)
108 Trace Cove Drive
Madison, MS 39110-9265
(601) 856-9895
mpschenk@gmail.com

Bobby Joe Seales
VPG (2019-Jan. 2021)
P.O. Box 89
Alabaster, AL 35007
(205) 902-6383
bjseales@bellsouth.net

Colin D. Wakefield
VPG (2018-2019)
47 Wakefield Lane
Fayetteville, TN 37334
(931) 703-6674
Colin.d.wakefield@gmail.com

Tony L. Vets
VPG (2017-2018)
504 Oak Street
Colfax, LA 71417
(318) 481-8441
tonyvets@bellsouth.net

Gerald P. Brent
VPG (2016-2017)
9580 Plantation Road
Olive Branch, MS 38654
(662) 812-9209
bg0586@comcast.net

Richard (Rick) D. Hollis
VPG (2014-2015)
14 Nicklaus Drive NW
Rome, GA 30165
(615) 812-2648
Hollis1812@gmail.com

James A. Morock, Sr.
VPG 2013-2014)
3915 Maywood Street
Alexandria, LA 71302-2526
(318) 442-5776
jamkma@aol.com

John R. Taylor, Jr.
VPG 2012-2013)
2509 SCR 83
Mize, MS 39116
(601) 733-9475
Taylorj1947@yahoo.com

James H. Maples
VPG (20114-2012)
1501 Elmwood Drive
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 534-2315
jhmaples@gmail.com

Thomas E. Jacks
VPG (2009-2010)
327 Devon Drive
Mandeville, LA 70448-3316
(985) 626-3894
tejacks1970@aol.com

Andrew M. Jones
VPG (2004-2005, 2008-2009)
600 S. Court Street
Cleveland, MS 38732-2510
(662) 843-9088
amjones1@outlook.com

John R. Wallace
VPG (2007-2008)
200 E. Silver Oak Drive
Enterprise, AL 36330-1572
(334) 347-0661
jrwsar@gmail.com

Hunter McDonald III
VPG (2006-2007)
7036 Wild Iris Drive
Nashville, TN 37221-5102
(615) 662-3732
FrenchRDC@aol.com

P. Rod Hildreth
VPG (2003-2004)
P.O. Box 17
Mentone, AL 35984-0017
(256) 997-9939
pinetree@farmerstel.com

James C. Hofstetter
VPG (2002-2003)
175 Woodmont Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37205-2239
(615) 269-7005
jameshofstetter@comcast.net

Robert C. Judice
VPG (2001-2002)
P.O. Drawer 58
Darrow, LA 70725-0058
(504) 891-8493
sgeneralsar@gmail.com

John Overton Roy, Jr.
VPG (1971-1972)
1819 Octavia Street
New Orleans, LA 70115-5669
(504) 895-6829
SylviaRoy@att.net



Vice Presidents General from

Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Tennessee

1889-1890	Goldsmith Bernard West (1848-1925)	Alabama
	David Campbell Kelly (1833-1909)	Tennessee
1907-1908	Julian Wythe Whiting (1838-1917)	Alabama
1909-1910	Peter Francisco Pescud (1850-1926)	Louisiana
1914-1918 (1)	William Kellogg Boardman (1870-1947)	Tennessee
1918 (2)	Charles Robert Churchill (1868-1946)	Louisiana

Vice Presidents General from the Southern District

1924-1926	Frederick William Millspaugh (1880-1942)	Tennessee
1926 (3)	Charles Robert Churchill (1868-1946)	Louisiana
1926-1927	Frederick William Millspaugh (1880-1942)	Tennessee
1927-1928	George Danforth Caldwell (1891-1976)	Kentucky
1928-1929	Norman Millner Couty (1864-1937)	Kentucky
1929-1931	Frederick William Millspaugh (1880-1942)	Tennessee
1931-1932	Leland Hume (1864-1937)	Tennessee
1932-1934	Ransom Hazelip Bassett (1893-1974)	Kentucky
1934-1936	Archibald Magill Smith (1877-1953)	Louisiana
1936-1938	Arthur Crownover, Jr. (1907-1965)	Tennessee
1938-1940	Arthur Alexander de la Houssaye (1900-1977)	Louisiana
1940-1942	Augustus Lee Read (1896-1979)	Tennessee
1942-1944	Frank Waldo Ziegler (1898-1971)	Tennessee
1944-1946 (4)	Percy Lee Clifton (1878-1966)	Mississippi
1946-1949	Furman Barnes Pearce (1878-1950)	Louisiana
1949-1951	William Thomas Carpenter, Sr. (1858-1962)	Alabama
1951-1953	Cyril Edward Cain (1883-1963)	Mississippi
1953-1954	Hugh Wagner Stallworth (1882-1968)	Tennessee
1954-1956	Frederick Corning Grabner (1886-1975)	Louisiana
1956-1958	Robert Percy Gordon (1897-1975)	Alabama
1958-1960	Horace Yeargin Kitchell (1902-1985)	Mississippi
1960-1962	Henry Martin Nunnelle (1909-1990)	Tennessee
1962-1964	Hugh Miller Wilkinson, Sr. (1890-1973)	Louisiana
1964-1966	Earle Ligon Whittington (1891-1979)	Tennessee
1966-1968	Ryall Stapleton Morgan (1901-1983)	Alabama
1968-1970	Donald Rayburne Fraser (1905-1991)	Mississippi
1970-1971	Robert Cecil Pasley (1897-1981)	Louisiana
1971-1972	John Overton Roy, Jr. (b. 1932)	Louisiana
1972-1974	Oscar Munroe Wilson, Jr. (1921-1994)	Tennessee
1974-1976	James Hollis Chenery (1910-1986)	Alabama
1976-1978	Singleton L. Johnson, Jr. (1921-2004)	Mississippi
1978-1980	Ozeme Dudley Fontenot (1900-1988)	Louisiana
1980-1982	Horace Ankeney Donham (1895-1985)	Tennessee
1982-1984	William Armstrong Cochran, Jr. (1913-1995)	Alabama
1984-1985	Franklin Pierce McCann (1917-1994)	Mississippi
1985-1985	James Grover Harrison, Jr. (1924-1991)	Mississippi
1985-1986	Edward Overton Cailleateau (1945-2020)	Louisiana
1986-1987	Robert Allen Ragland, Sr. (1930-1993)	Tennessee
1987-1988	James Glover Charles (1913-1993)	Alabama
1988-1989	William Lee McIlwain, Sr. (1915-2002)	Mississippi
1989-1990	Philip Robert Allin (1914-2003)	Louisiana
1990-1991	Lewis Fuller Parsly, Jr. (1918-2002)	Tennessee
1991-1992	Cornelius Alston Sheperd, Jr. (1923-2005)	Alabama
1992-1993	Thomas Lee Awwlis (1942-2004)	Mississippi
1993-1994	Bruce Baird Butler (1930-2001)	Louisiana
1994-1995	Larry Duncan McClanahan (1938-2021)	Tennessee
1995-1996	Willard Alfred Israel (1926-1998)	Alabama
1996-1997	Martin William McKinnon, II (1934-2016)	Mississippi
1997-1998	Henry Grady Collier (1926-2001)	Louisiana
1998-1999	William Douthitt McKinney (1932-2021)	Tennessee
1999-2000	Oura Lee Swart (1936-2021)	Alabama
2000-2001	Walter Buchanan Meek (1926-2006)	Mississippi
2001-2002	Robert Charles Judice (b. 1932)	Louisiana
2002-2003	James Carson Hofstetter (b. 1949)	Tennessee
2003-2004	Phil Rodney Hildreth (b. 1939)	Alabama
2004-2005	Andrew Melvin Jones (b. 1932)	Mississippi
2005-2006	George Kirby Reech (1926-2018)	Louisiana
2006-2007	Hunter McDonald, III (b. 1949)	Tennessee
2007-2008	John Riley Wallace (b. 1944)	Alabama
2008-2009	Andrew Melvin Jones (b. 1932)	Mississippi
2009-2010	Thomas Edward Jacks (b. 1970)	Louisiana
2010-2011	Raymond A. Clapsadle (1945-2019)	Tennessee
2011-2012	James H. Maples (b. 1947)	Alabama
2012-2013	John R. Taylor, Jr. (b. 1947)	Mississippi
2013-2014	James A. Morock, Sr. (b. 1945)	Louisiana

2014-2015	Richard D. Hollis (b. 1959)	Tennessee
2015-2016	Michael C. Wells (1944-2020)	Alabama
2016-2017	Gerald P. Brent (b. 1936)	Mississippi
2017-2018	Tony L. Vets (b. 1959)	Louisiana
2018-2019	Colin D. Wakefield (b. 1960)	Tennessee
2019-2021 (5)	Bobby Joe Seales (b. 1945)	Alabama
2021-2022	Michael P. Schenk (b. 1949)	Mississippi
2022-2023	Maj. Bradley T. Hayes, Esq. (b. 1974)	Louisiana

¹ The 1917 Congress was cancelled because of World War I and all officers were held over until the 1918 Congress.
² C. Robert Churchill was elected Vice President General of the Mississippi Valley West District, but declined to take office after he was elected. He was replaced by Frank Rawls of Arkansas by the Executive committee.
³ C. Robert Churchill was elected in June 1926 and resigned in August 1926. The Executive Committee appointed F.W. Millspaugh to complete his term.
⁴ The 1945 Congress was cancelled due to World War II and all officers were held over until the 1946 Congress.
⁵ The 2020 Congress was cancelled due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic and all officers were held over until the 2021 Congress.

Southern District SAR Website

<https://alsar.org/southern-district>

Southern District Officers 2023-2024

	Vice President General Steve Gaines 115 Marseille Dr. Hendersonville, TN 37075 615-585-3241 SteveTNSAR@gmail.com	District Secretary J. Fred Olive III 3117 Canterbury Pl. Vestavia Hills, AL 35243 205-540-6685 folive@mindspring.com	
	District Treasurer Michael Martin 363 Highway 8 Montevallo, AL 35115 205-283-6649 Michael.Martin@cahabacoosasar.org	District CG Cmdr. Doug Evans 2741 Burgess Gower Rd. Springfield, TN 37172 815-202-5799 douglasjamesevans@gmail.com	

State Society Presidents

Alabama SAR President Jim Griffith Jgriffith1963@outlook.com	Mississippi SAR President Rev. Tommy Thompson tthompson393@att.net
Louisiana SAR President Randall Domingue randalldomingue@ymail.com	Tennessee SAR President Dr. David Chaffin davchaffin47@gmail.com

Southern District Color Guard

District Color Guard CDR

Doug Evans
815-202-5799
douglasjamesevans@gmail.com

Alabama Color Guard CDR Joseph D. Barker, Jr. Jbark151@yahoo.com	Mississippi Color Guard CDR Bryant R. Boswell mtcreeklodge@aol.com
Louisiana Color Guard CDR Theodore H. "Ted" Brode, III tbrode@comcast.net	Tennessee Color Guard CDR Cliff Kent (interim) dogwoodlodge@epbf.com

Southern District Meeting Calendar

SAR Fall Leadership	Sep 21-24, 2023	Louisville, KY
Alabama SAR	Feb 23-25, 2024	Hoover, AL
SAR Spring Leadership	Feb 29, 2024	Louisville, KY
Tennessee SAR	Mar 15-17, 2024	Cleveland, TN
Southern District Meeting	Mar 16, 2024	Cleveland, TN
Mississippi SAR	Mar 22-24, 2024	Gulf Coast, MS
Louisiana SAR	April 5-7, 2024	Lafayette, LA
134 th NSSAR Congress	Jul 10-16, 2024	Lancaster, PA