



National Trustee's Report **Kentucky Society SAR Annual / Spring Meeting**

March 8, 2025

Traditional Greetings, Introductions & Recognitions:

The National Trustee's meeting was held on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at the National SAR's Spring Leadership Meeting in Louisville. The meeting began with an opening greeting from President General (PG) Darryl Addington, MD (North Carolina) to the National SAR Staff, General Officers, Vice Presidents General, Trustees, other members of the National Society, and guests of the SAR who were in attendance at the meeting. The PG followed his greetings with the introduction of the National SAR Staff, and the recognition of all first-time attendees, first responders, and military veterans.

The introductions and recognitions were then followed by an announcement regarding a patriot grave marking to be hosted by the Indiana Society on Sunday immediately following the Spring Leadership. The grave marking announcement was followed by the traditional presentation of gifts. The gifts were primarily monetary in nature, and were gifted to a variety of SAR funds. The funds included the SAR Education Center and Museum fund, the General Operating fund, the George Washington Endowment fund, various Youth Contest funds, and the First Lady's project, to which PG Addington gifted an additional \$85,000. He had previously gifted \$50,000 to the First Lady's project. In addition, there were a few pieces of historical memorabilia and books that were also gifted to the SAR Museum, and the SAR Library.

The PG conducted a "swearing in" ceremony for those Trustees in attendance who were not previously sworn in at the last NSSAR Congress in Lancaster, Pennsylvania or during the most recent Fall Leadership. The PG then introduced all previous Presidents General (PG's) that were in attendance and allowed each of them to address the audience. Several just offered a welcome, while others spoke on a specific topic including:

- The promotion to Spring Leadership attendees of tourist attractions in the city of Louisville
- The ongoing effort by the National Genealogical Society to digitize all Revolutionary War records
- A presentation of the upcoming 2025 Congress in Uncasville, Connecticut

The PG also reminded attendees (where applicable), to complete their Youth Protection Training, and to submit their conflict of interest statements. Lastly, the minutes of the last Trustees Meeting were approved.

Executive Committee Report:

The report of the approved actions of the Executive Committee (which were numerous), was given by Secretary General Michael Elston. Secretary Elston then asked Jay Deloach to give a report highlighting the SAR's new five-year Strategic Plan. Once Jay's presentation was completed, Secretary Elston called for a vote of the Trustees to approve the Strategic Plan. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Located within the newly approved National SAR Strategic Plan is the SAR's Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and list of Core Values. All state societies (and their respective chapters) are encouraged to recite the National SAR Mission and Vision Statements at all meetings, and to promote its Core Values.

Mission Statement:

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

Vision Statement:

We will be a leading promoter of the study of the American Revolution and an advocate for our Nation's founding principles.

Core Values:

- **Integrity** – Be honest, respectful, and ethical
- **Patriotism** – Demonstrate love, support, and defense of the United States of America
- **Leadership** – Inspire others to achieve our mission
- **Education** – Inform the public about America's founding history

Also noted within the Strategic Plan is the list of upcoming National Congresses. Although the following locations are known, the dates of all but the 2025 Congress remain undetermined at this time...

- 2025 National Congress – Uncasville, CT (July 12th – 18th)
- 2026 National Congress – Greensboro, NC
- 2027 National Congress – New Orleans, LA
- 2028 National Congress – Columbus, OH
- 2029 National Congress – Hosted by the Texas Society

National Trustee's Report

Page 3

Membership Report:

The recent membership trends have indicated that the National Society's membership growth has basically flatlined. The yearly membership totals are listed below:

- **2019** – 38,087
- **2020** – 37,808
- **2021** – 38,077
- **2022** – 38,323
- **2023** – 38,565
- **2024** – 37,839 (There were 4,000+ non-renewals in 2024)
- **2025** – 34,164 (As of March 6, 2025)

The National Program of Emphasis continues to be **Membership**. The **'3' R's** are often referred to when referencing membership in the Sons of the American Revolution. The **'3' R's** represent:

- **Recruitment** (of new members)... As of February 21, 2025, there have been (489) new members applications approved
- **Retention** (of existing members)
- **Reinstatement** (of previously dropped members)

Nominating Committee Report:

As reported by the Nominating Committee Chairman, PG John L. Dodd to the Trustees at the March 1, 2025 Spring Leadership Meeting... The National SAR Nominating Committee has chosen the following **2025-2026** slate of officers:

- **President General:** Michael J. Elston
- **Secretary General:** William A. Greenly
- **Treasurer General:** Edmon H. McKinley
- **Chancellor General:** Peter M. Davenport
- **Genealogist General:** Gary O. Green
- **Registrar General:** Keith A. Weissinger
- **Historian General:** Jeffrey D. Thomas
- **Librarian General:** James E. Osbourn
- **Surgeon General:** Dr. Joe R. Hamill
- **Chaplain General:** Christopher W. Grimes
- **Foundation Board:** Daniel R. McKelvie
- **Foundation Board (PG slot):** PG John L. Dodd

National Trustee's Report
Page 4

Other Reports (Highlights):

- By General Officers / Districts (VPG's) / Committees (Chairs) / Etc.
 - Promotion of 250th Anniversary Events (Including Benches and Liberty Trees)
 - Promotion of the 250th Anniversary – Battle of Lexington and Concord (**April 2025**)
 - The Surgeon General has recommended several vaccinations for members
 - Caution given regarding the use of Intellectual Property and Copyright Infringement
 - A New Flag Folding Ceremony being developed by the Chaplains Committee
 - Possible Elementary Poster Contest Name Change
 - Streamlining the Stark Report
 - Highlighting the new Youth Video Contest
 - Promoting the new education platform called **“SAR University”**

In Liberty,

Tim



Timothy C. Brown

National Trustee
Kentucky Society SAR
(859) 421-5985 (Cell)
kysareaglescout@gmail.com