

History of the SAR Library

The need to establish a Library for the National Society was recognized by the founders of the Society, who specified provisions in the Constitution for the acquisition and preservation of Revolutionary War records, documents, and relics. From 1889 until 1926 the Society acquired 225 books. In 1926, the Society established an office in Washington, D.C. which contained the "permanent records of the Society membership and genealogical library." In 1978 the SAR purchased the South Fourth Street building in Louisville as its headquarters. Over the next year the second floor of the building was redesigned to accommodate a fully functional Library. It opened its doors to the public on January 17, 1979, with approximately 25,000 items. In October 2010, the Library began operations in its new facility on West Main Street.

The primary focal point of the collections is the Revolutionary War era but the collection includes other materials of a genealogical nature. The library collection has grown to over 55,000 items and includes family histories, local, county and state records and genealogy materials, and access to the online databases of Ancestry, Fold3, HeritageQuest, and American Ancestors (NEHGS)..

The Library's growth depends upon cash gifts as well as donations of family genealogies, Revolutionary War histories, county and other books and items of genealogical content. Donors should check the Library catalog to ensure the item is not a duplicate or check with the Librarian. A donor gift form is available at the Library and at Society meetings.

The SAR Library is a non-circulating genealogical collection.

Purpose of the Friends of the SAR Library

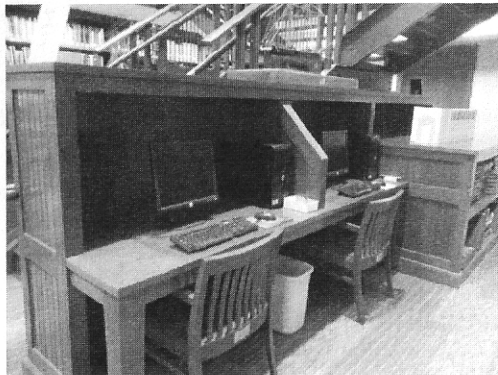
The Friends of the SAR Library (FOL) was organized to assist the SAR Library in implementing its collection development objectives. These objectives include those books, manuscripts, microforms, and online services as needed to enhance and expand the current collection.

A sub-committee of the National Library and Archives Committee, the Friends consists of the Librarian General, National Library and Archives Committee Chairman, Chairman of the Friends of the SAR Library, the NSSAR Librarian, and State FOL Chairmen. Membership is also open to all SAR members, State Societies, Chapters, and the general public.

Membership dues of the Friends are distributed as follows:

- 60% goes into the Library Endowment Fund from which only the interest income may be used by the Library, and,
- 40% goes directly to the Library Special Purpose Operating Fund.

The income from these funds is used to purchase non-budgeted items such as equipment, supplies and new technology, in addition to books, manuscripts and microforms.



Computers provided through
Endowment Fund

FRIENDS OF THE SAR LIBRARY APPLICATION/RENEWAL PLEASE PRINT

MEMBERSHIP: \$25 (check payable to "NSSAR")		NEW MEMBER APPLICATION		RENEWAL	
NAME: _____		STATE: _____		ZIP: _____	
ADDRESS: _____		(If listed, please note that Membership Notices and Renewals will be via email.)			
EMAIL: _____		STATE SOCIETY: _____		CHAPTER: _____	
NATIONAL NUMBER: _____					
<input type="radio"/> Benjamin Franklin Subscriber		<input type="radio"/> Library Endowment Fund		<input type="radio"/> Life Friends of the Library	
<input type="radio"/> Robert Morris Benefactor					
Please detach and mail with payment to: NSSAR, 809 West Main St., Louisville, KY. 40202					
NON-SAR MEMBER (Please check as applicable.)					
DAR: _____	SR: _____	CAR: _____	SPOUSE OF SAR MEMBER: _____		OTHER: _____

While the SAR Genealogical Research Library tries to keep costs as low as possible a portion of your gift may be used to cover processing and administrative costs.