Guide to Completing SAR Membership Applications
11 November 2016

The following information is provided to guide you in researching and preparing a Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) membership application.

All SAR applications are to be coordinated through the local chapter Registrar. When the chapter and the applicant are both satisfied that an application is complete, the Registrar will print the final application form on the required SAR watermarked, legal size application paper and will mail the printed application form to the applicant for signature and return to the chapter Registrar along with checks for local chapter, state society and national fees and current year dues. The chapter Registrar will mail the signed application form, supporting documentation confirming information shown on the application fo1·m, a cover letter and the applicant provided checks to the California SAR Registrar to begin the application review process (the review process is about 2-3 months).

The SAR application requires that you show and provide SAR acceptable supporting documentation proving: 1) you are who you say you are, 2) you are a direct line descendant of your patriot ancestor and 3) that your patriot ancestor provided an SAR acceptable "patriotic service." These are the same basic membership application requirements of Daughters of the American Revolution, Children of the American Revolution and Sons of the Revolution (SR).

A photocopy of your birth certificate is required to prove you are who you say you are and also proves you are the child of your parent who is in the direct ancestral line to your patriot ancestor.

To prove you are a direct line descendant of your patriot ancestor, for each generation you must provide SAR acceptable supporting documentation confirming that each person in your direct ancestral line is the child of their parent who is a direct line descendant of your patriot ancestor. The supporting documentation for eac h generation should also confirm, as much as possible, birth dates and locations of birth, death dates and locations of death and marriage dates and locations of marriage. Complete birth, death and marriage dates and locations are not required to obtain SAR membership approval but the more information provided the better in order to confirm the essential direct lineage information. For membership approval, SAR does not require proving birth, death and marriage date and location in formation for spouses of those in your direct ancestral line to your patriot ancestor (it is understood that DAR Registrars do ask for supporting documentation for information on spouses not in the direct ancestral line). Acceptable supporting documentation includes birth certificates, birth records, death certificates, death records, marriage certificates and marriage records, family bibles, published obituaries, newspaper articles, credible family genealogies (that are well documented as to the source of information included), published town histories, published histories, 1850 and more recent census records showing a child in the household of the child's parents, land records and deeds that include parent-to-child relationships, probate records, wills, pension records and other credible records. Previously approved SAR and DAR membership applications stamped as "Record Copy" or "Copy" obtained from the SAR or DAR may be used to prove single or multiple generation child-to-parent relationships (DAR memberships that were approved prior to 1985 are not accepted as full proof and additional supporting documentation may be required to be submitted to confirm the accuracy of the information on the "Record Copy").

To prove "patriotic service" of the patriot ancestor, SAR acceptable supporting documentation may include published lists of Revolutionary War soldiers and sailors, Revolutionary War pension file pages, credible family genealogies, published town histories, published histories, previo111Sly approved SAR and DAR membership applications ("Record Copies").

On the applications, the dates and locations must be in the following form: 04 Jul 1776 and City/County/State (example: Sunnyvale/Santa Clara/CA). If you don't know the county the form would be: Sunnyvale//CA. If you don't know the city but y-0u do know the county the form would be: /Santa Clara/CA. If you only know the state, the form would be: //CA.

For the first three generations, if possible, please include the first, middle and last name of each individual and the city/town, county and state in which they were born.

An applicant can start entering the necessary data for their application form by going to the NSSAR Online Application Form Data Entry System: https://members.SAR.org. Click on "Sign Up", create a login (your email will be your "user name") create an account password, wait to receive an account creation confirmation email, from the confirmation email login again to your account, click on "My Applications," and "Start" an application form. A step by step pdf file guide to entering data into the system can be provided by the chapter Registrar.