



THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**OFFICIAL HANDBOOK**

**Volume 4: Medals & Awards**

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## I. AWARDS COMMITTEE

A. Awards are an important motivator when properly used. Improperly used, they can create cynical views about the very integrity of an organization. Proper use requires that the right organization properly recognize the accomplishments of a deserving individual or organization with the correct award. The National Society, the Virginia Society and the Virginia Society Chapters reward commendable service only at their respective levels. For example, service provided solely at the Chapter level should only be recognized by the Chapter. The service being recognized must qualify for the award being presented. For example, the Good Citizenship Medals recognize performance to the community and are not awarded to SAR members for service to the SAR. A policeman saving a life at risk to his own life should receive the Heroism Medal not the Law Enforcement Medal.

B. The Awards Committee is responsible for the selection of those individuals to receive Virginia Society awards, and to ensure the nominations for National Awards from the Virginia Society meet the criteria and are submitted properly. It coordinates the Virginia Society program for Chapter performance awards and is responsible for ensuring that National Society and Virginia Society standards for awards are followed. To maintain these standards, the Awards Committee reserves the right to withhold distribution of the Virginia Society Medal and the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal when the guidelines in paragraph I F are not followed. The Awards Committee insures the fair and equitable granting of awards under its purview under the criteria for the awards and accepted practice.

C. The Committee coordinates the presentation of awards at the annual business meetings of the Virginia Society and at other times as required. Chairmen of the various contest committees should report the names of their contest winners to the Chairman of the Awards Committee as soon as the contests have been judged. Any other award recommendations should be sent to the Awards Committee Chairman as early as possible so that the awards may be reviewed and ordered from the National Society in time to be presented at the appropriate meeting.

D. The Permanent Chairman should be experienced in the Virginia Society awards process and familiar with past interpretations of the Virginia Society awards guidelines. The Chairman shall advise the committee how guidelines and precedents apply to particular award proposals and the judging of contests that fall within the jurisdiction of the Awards Committee. In short, the Chairman shall provide continuity and institutional knowledge to the Awards Committee, the Executive Committee, and the General Membership. He should be capable of serving for many years in this capacity. The Chairman normally retains custody of the Virginia Society stock of awards materials. As a representative of the Executive Committee, The Third Vice President shall serve as the Vice Chairman of the Awards Committee.

E. For each meeting of the Virginia Society where awards are to be presented, the Chairman with the help of the committee prepares a list of the awards and a presentation script for review by the President. During the awards ceremony, the President or

appropriate official present the awards. The members of the Awards Committee work together to: layout the awards in the proper sequence, hand the awards to the presenter or recipients as required, and read the script. After the awards presentation, the Chairman sends the list of awards to the Editor for publication in *The Virginia Bulletin* and to the web master for inclusion on the Virginia Society Web Page.

F. The general guidelines for awards are as follows:

1. For one or two years of service, a chapter should award a member a Certificate of Appreciation
2. For two or three years of service, a chapter may consider awarding a member a Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal
3. For three or four years of service, a chapter may consider awarding a member a Virginia Society Medal (with the approval of the Awards Committee).
4. A medal should not be given just because of time served in a position. The performance of the nominee must be worthy of the award presented.
5. For exceptional work in a unique endeavor, a chapter or the Virginia Society may give one of these awards within a lesser timeframe than the guidelines provide. For example, recently a VA Society compatriot has been awarded a Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal for his seminal role in establishing a new chapter. This is less than two or three years of service, but his service was exceptional and in a unique endeavor.
6. A medal should not be awarded for service for which a medal has already been given.

## II. INDIVIDUAL MEDALS AND AWARDS

### A. Medals and Awards Presented to SAR Members

<b>Presented to SAR Members</b>				
<b>Medal / Award</b>	<b>Maybe Presented by:</b>			
	<b>National</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Minuteman Award	X			
Gold Good Citizenship Medal	X		X*	
Silver Good Citizenship Medal	X		X	X*****
Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	X		X	X
War Service Medal				X
Military Service Medal				X
National Society Medal of Distinguished Service	X			
Patriot Medal			X	
State Medal of Distinguished Service			X	

Medal for Heroism	X		X	X
Meritorious Service Medal	X	X	X	X
The Florence Kendall Award Medal	X			
Law Enforcement Commendation Medal	X**		X**	X**
Fire Safety Commendation Medal	X**		X**	X**
Emergency Medical Services Commendation Medal	X**		X**	X**
Gold C.A.R. – SAR Medal of Appreciation	X			
Silver C.A.R. – SAR Medal of Appreciation	X		X	
Bronze C.A.R. – SAR Medal of Appreciation			X	X
Liberty Medal	X			
Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award Medal	X		*****	
Service to Veterans Medal				X
Gold SAR Color Guard Medal	X			
Silver SAR Color Guard Medal	X	X		
Bronze SAR Color Guard Medal			X	X
Gold, Silver and Bronze Samuel Adams Congress Appreciation Medal	X			
Virginia Society Medal *****			X	X
Virginia Society State Service Medal			X	
Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal				X
Virginia Society Chapter Medals				X
Former Presidents General Certificate and Former State Society President’s Pin	X			
Former State Society Presidents Certificate			X	
Former Chapter President’s Pin				X
Former Chapter Presidents Certificate				X
Distinguished Service Citation	X			
Distinguished Service Certificate	X	X	X	X
Outstanding Citizenship Certificate	X		X	X
Outstanding Citizenship Lapel Pin	X		X	X
Certificate of Appreciation	X	X	X	X
Virginia Society Presidential Certificate			X	
Samuel Adams Congress Appreciation Certificate	X			
SAR Distinguished Patriot Award (Certificate)	X			
General William C. Westmorland Award	X			
Minnesota Society Stephen Taylor Award	X			
Thomas Jefferson Bond, Jr. Memorial Photographic Award	X			
Col. Stewart Boone McCarty Award	X			
C.A.R. Membership Pin*****				X
Eagle Scout Pin*****				X
5-60 Year Membership Pins*****				X

Life Membership Pin*****				X
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B. Medals and Awards Presented to Non-SAR Members

<b>Presented to Non-SAR Members</b>				
<b>Medal / Award</b>	<b>Maybe Presented by:</b>			
	<b>National</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal	X	X	X	X
SAR Medal of Appreciation (DAR Only)	X		X	X
Martha Washington Medal	X		X	X
Gold Good Citizenship Medal	X		X*	
Silver Good Citizenship Medal	X		X	X*****
Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	X		X	X
Medal for Heroism	X		X	X
Outstanding Citizenship Certificate	X		X	X
Outstanding Citizenship Award Lapel Pen	X		X	X
Gold C.A.R. – SAR Medal of Appreciation	X			
Silver C.A.R. – SAR Medal of Appreciation	X		X	
Bronze C.A.R. – SAR Medal of Appreciation	X		X	X
Law Enforcement Commendation Medal***	X**		X**	X
Fire Safety Commendation Medal***	X**		X**	X
Emergency Medical Services Commendation Medal***	X**		X**	X
Gold, Silver and Bronze Samuel Adams Congress Appreciation Medal	X		X	
Samuel Adams Congress Appreciation Certificate	X			
Virginia Society Ladies State Service Medal			X	
Silver ROTC Medal***	X		X	X
Bronze ROTC Medal***	X		X	X
Eagle Scout Medal	X	X	X	
Eagle Scout Certificate			X	X
State Oration Medal			X	
State Oration Certificate			X	
Chapter Oration Medal				X
Joseph S Rumbaugh Participation Certificate			X	X
J S Rumbaugh Sponsor Certificate			X	X
State Essay Medal			X	
State Essay Certificate			X	
Chapter Essay Medal				X
Chapter Essay Certificate				X
Distinguished Service Certificate	X	X	X	X
Virginia Society Presidential Certificate			X	
Certificate of Appreciation	X	X	X	X



Minnesota Society Stephen Taylor Award	X			
Flag Certificate	X	X	X	X

\* The Virginia Society may present a total of two gold good citizenship medals a year. National's permission is required before awarding this medal.

\*\* These medals can only be presented once to an individual. So for this reason, National and State do not normally present these medals because they have already been presented at the Chapter level.

\*\*\* Persons awarded medals at the Chapter level and nominated to the state level competitions cannot be given the same medal at the state level.

\*\*\*\* Chapters may present the Silver Good Citizenship Medal with the permission of the Awards Committee.

\*\*\*\*\* Chapters may give these pins to members, or members may purchase them on their own.

\*\*\*\*\* The Virginia Society may nominate two people for the Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award Medal a year

\*\*\*\*\* Chapters may award the Virginia Society Medal with the approval of the Awards Committee.

### III. RULES, PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES FOR MEDALS AND AWARDS

#### A. NATIONAL AND MID-ATLANTIC MEDALS AND AWARDS

The rules procedures and guidelines for the awarding medals and awards by the National Society and the Mid-Atlantic District can be found in the NSSAR Handbook and will not be discussed here.

#### B. THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY MEDALS AND AWARDS

1. The Virginia Society will recognize contributions to the Virginia Society and not to a member's own Chapter, other state societies of which he may be a member, or the National Society. The Virginia Society may recognize contributions made by its members to other states and/or to Chapters other than their own. For example, a Virginia Society member who was instrumental in establishing a new Chapter other than his own or an active speaker at the meetings of many different S.A.R. Chapters could receive consideration for an award from the Virginia Society. The Virginia Society may also recognize contributions made by its members when the Virginia Society is the host for a National Congress or a Regional Meeting.

2. The Society will use The Patriot Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Virginia Society Medal to recognize service to the SAR. Only the Virginia Society may present the Patriot Medal. **Both the Virginia Society and the various Chapters may present the Virginia Society Medal.** The Meritorious Service Medal may be presented at the National, State or Chapter level. The Society and its Chapters will not use Good Citizenship Medals to recognize service to the SAR. This shall not be construed to prevent Chapters from recognizing services by its members to the community, state, or nation that are in accord with SAR programs. For example, contributions to the Boy Scouts, C.A.R., historic preservation, or veteran's hospitals could all be considered for a Good Citizenship Medal.

3. To earn a medal for service to the Virginia Society, a member must perform some significant new service that has not previously been recognized by a medal.

4. The Virginia Society President, by virtue of being in an excellent position to see the contributions of the various state officers and committee chairmen, is the primary source of recommendations for Virginia Society awards. Any member of the Virginia Society, including members of the Awards Committee, may make a recommendation to the Awards Committee.

5. The normal progression of award beginning with the earliest is: the Virginia Society State Service Medal, the Virginia Society Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal; Patriot Medal, but no medal is a prerequisite for any other medal. The Oak Leaf Cluster to the Virginia Society Medal may be awarded at any point after the Virginia Society first awards the medal (provided no other medal is awarded

for the same service). The Awards Committee shall take into account the quality and impact, the level and duration of effort, and the ingenuity and diplomacy used. Medals are not awarded merely for having had a position or title. Note: National rules limit a state to awarding the Patriot Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal to an individual but a single time. We cannot award a Meritorious Service Medal (or a Patriot Medal) and then award an oak leaf cluster to it some years later.

### C. CHAPTER MEDALS AND AWARDS.

1. Awards give the Chapter great tools to reward and encourage outstanding performance in the community and in the Chapter. Every effort should be made to recognize deserving members and citizens. There are a variety of Chapter level awards available, including the new Virginia Chapter Service Medal and they are listed below.
2. Chapters are encouraged to present awards to deserving persons publicly in front of those persons' family and peers. Teachers and students should be recognized at a school assembly; policemen and firemen at their unit roll call; SAR members in front of their compatriots, etc.
3. A Virginia Society Chapter will recognize contributions to the member's own Chapter and not to the Virginia Society, other Chapters, other State Societies of which he may be a member, or the National Society.
4. A Chapter will use a Certificate of Appreciation, the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal, the Virginia Society Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal to recognize the service and accomplishments of Chapter members. Only A Virginia Society Chapter may present the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal. Both a Virginia Society Chapter and the Virginia Society may present the Virginia Society Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.
5. To earn a medal for service to a Chapter, a member must perform some significant new service that has not previously been recognized by a medal.
6. The normal progression of awards within a Chapter beginning with the earliest is: a Certificate of Appreciation, the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal, the Virginia Society Medal, and then the Meritorious Service Medal. But no medal is a prerequisite for any other medal. An Oak Leaf Cluster to either the Virginia Society Service Medal or the Virginia Society Medal may be awarded at any point after first award of these medals (provided no other medal is awarded for the same service). Medals are not awarded merely for having had a position or title. National rules limit the awarding of the Meritorious Service Medal to an individual but a single time.
7. Outgoing Chapter Presidents should at least be presented the Past President's Pin and Certificate. This is the first and proper award for all who serve as a

Chapter President. In most cases it should be sufficient recognition for an individual serving a single year as president. The Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal (or an oak leaf cluster) should be considered when the outgoing president has made a significant contribution to the Chapter. The Virginia Society Award (or an oak leaf cluster) should be considered for a multiple-year term of office. The SAR Meritorious Service Medal should be considered for an individual who is completing a term as a Chapter President who has given a great deal of service to Chapter prior to becoming the Chapter President.

8. It is up to the Chapter leaders to ensure that the right award is given to the right person for the right reason. It can be very embarrassing for someone to realize later that he has been wearing a medal that he did not deserve. If there is any question, the Virginia Society Awards Committee can help the Chapter determine the correct award.

9. For some of these programs, certain awards are expected if the program is carried out along the standard lines discussed earlier. For example, a Chapter carrying out the Law Enforcement Program by recognizing and outstanding law enforcement person is expected to award at least one Law Enforcement Medal, even if it does not enter the state contest associated with the program. For some other programs an award is optional. Recognizing participants in a Chapter oration contest is nice, but the \$40 cost of a medal could well be a barrier to the participation of chapters on a tight budget. The following table shows the awards typically associated with each program and the degree of latitude Chapters have about making an award if they carry out the program on standard lines.

AWARDS ASSOCIATED WITH SAR COMMUNITY PROGRAMS		
COMMUNITY PROGRAM	MEDAL OF CERTIFICATE	LATITUDE OF CHAPTER
Youth and Education Programs		
Teacher of the Year	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	Expected
Tom and Betty Lawrence History Teacher	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	Expected
History Day Support	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal or Good Citizenship Pin	Optional for outstanding student in Am. History 1750-1800
	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	Optional for recognizing History Day support by non-SAR members.
Outstanding Student	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal or Good Citizenship Pin	Expected
Historical Oration	Chapter Oration Medal	Optional
	Oration Participation Certificate	Optional
Historical Essay	Chapter Essay Medal	Optional
ROTC/JROTC		
ROTC	Silver ROTC Medal	Expected
JROTC	Bronze ROTC Medal	Expected
C.A.R.	Bronze C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation	Optional for service to the local SAR chapter or C.A.R. society
	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	Optional for service to the community by a C.A.R. member
Eagle Scout Recognition	Eagle Scout Certificate	Expected
Community Affairs Programs		

Outstanding Public Service		
Law Enforcement	Law Enforcement	Expected
Fire Safety	Fire Safety	Expected
Emergency Medical Services	Emergency Medical Services	Expected
Other Civil Service	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	Optional
Good Citizenship		
Good Citizen of the Year	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal	Expected
Heroism	Heroism Medal	Expected
Other significant contributions of local nature or not rising to the level of a Silver Good Citizenship Medal	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal or (children only) Good Citizenship pin	Optional
Displaying the U.S. Flag Properly	Flag Certificate	Expected

10. A Chapter may not substitute a good citizenship medal for a specialty medal, such as a Law Enforcement Medal. In some instances, however, a Chapter may award a Silver Good Citizenship Medal instead of a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal if the person qualifies.

#### D. AWARD DESCRIPTIONS AND CRITERIA FOR STATE AND CHAPTER LEVELS

##### 1. Gold Good Citizenship Medal.

This medal is awarded for OUTSTANDING AND UNUSUAL patriotic achievement and service of NATIONAL IMPORTANCE. The Virginia Society is allowed to award only two Gold Good Citizenship Medals in any calendar year. The Virginia Society may present the Gold Good Citizenship Medal only with the concurrence of the Virginia Society Executive Committee and the acknowledgment of the Virginia Society Awards Committee. The Virginia Society must submit the request for this award to the National Executive Director. No Chapter may award this medal. The National Society sets the criteria for this award. An individual may receive this medal only once.

##### 2. Silver Good Citizenship Medal.

This medal is awarded for national service that did not rise to the level of a gold medal or for state or regional service. The Medal might be presented to a Governor, U.S. Representative, Senator, high-ranking military officer, or some similar post, which has allowed him to perform outstanding service to his state or country. In the case of an SAR member, there are special requirements. The SAR member shall have served in six leadership capacities in any of the following local organizations: Church, School, Scouting, Fraternal, Business Associations, Government, Patriotic, Military, Veterans, Conservation, Hereditary, Genealogical, Historical, or organized Sports (Little League, etc.). It is not to be used for recognizing service to the SAR by an SAR member. The National Society permits chapters to award this medal with approval from the state society. The Virginia Society vests the review for approval in its Awards Committee. The

review of that Committee is restricted to ensuring that the rules for awarding the medal are followed. This medal can only be awarded once to a person.

### 3. Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. (for SAR Members at the state level)

This medal recognizes persons whose achievements are noteworthy in the school, community or state. The Virginia Society sets the criteria for this award at the state level. This medal, the ROTC Medals, and the Medal for Heroism are the only SAR Medals awarded to both adults and minors. It is a multi-purpose medal and is awarded:

- a) For contributions that are not as significant as the Silver Good Citizenship Medal
- b) To SAR Members who have served in at least four of the leadership capacities covered under the Silver Good Citizenship Medal.
- c) More than once to an individual if they qualify under separate categories.

### 4. Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

This medal recognizes persons whose achievements are noteworthy in the school, community or state. This medal, the ROTC Medals, and the Medal for Heroism are the only SAR Medals awarded to both adults and minors.. It is a multi-purpose medal and is awarded for contributions that are not as significant as those warranting the Silver Good Citizenship Medal. A Chapter may present the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal without the concurrence or permission of the Virginia Society Awards Committee. The Chapters determine the criteria for the award at the Chapter level. This medal maybe presented more than once to an individual if they qualify under separate categories

SAR Members who have served in at least four of the leadership capacities covered under the Silver Good Citizenship Medal may be considered for this award. **HOWEVER, THIS MEDAL IS NOT TO BE USED TO RECOGNIZE ONLY SAR SERVICE SUCH AS SERVING A SINGLE TOUR AS CHAPTER PRESIDENT.**

The newly approved Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal fills this need instead of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

### 5. War Service Medal.

This medal is presented to members now serving or who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States or a country that was an ally of the United States or in a United Nations Peace Keeping Force. They must also have fought against a common enemy of the United States in a war or action that has been

recognized by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and for which a campaign medal or ribbon was authorized.

#### 6. Military Service Medal.

This medal is presented to members now serving or who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States, Coast Guard, a country that was an ally of the United States, or in a United Nations Peace Keeping Force, who otherwise do not qualify for the SAR War Service Medal.

Members may NOT wear both the Military Service Medal and the War Service Medal at the same time.

#### 7. Patriot Medal.

This medal awarded only by a State Society with the approval of the National Executive Director, This is earned for the highest contributions to the Virginia Society over an extended period of time, usually more than five years. The contributions of a successful Virginia Society President and the normal contributions that precede election to that office set the standard for earning this medal. This medal is rarely earned without attaining the presidency. The Patriot Medal is intended for the highest contributions to the Virginia Society and is only awarded once to an individual. Oak leaf clusters in lieu of this medal are NOT authorized. Note: National Society policy allows the Virginia Society to award two patriot medals a year, but the Virginia Society rarely awards more than one a year. We have had several instances when, due to vacancies, a person was jump started on the ladder as First Vice President. In these situations, the person may well earn the Patriot Medal without having previously earned the other medals, or may even earn a Meritorious Service Medal but not the Patriot Medal. It would be a mistake to try to compress the normal sequence of awards into a couple of years.

#### 8. State Medal of Distinguished Service.

This is the highest medal that can be awarded by a State Society President. It is presented to a Compatriot for distinguished service rendered to the State Society on the state level during a State Society's President's term of office. This medal is presented by the President at the Annual Meeting before the end of his tenure and does not require other approval. The President may present only one State Medal of Distinguished Service during each year of his term in office. A Compatriot can receive this medal from only one state society. Multiple awards are not authorized.

#### 9. Medal for Heroism.

This medal is for outstanding bravery and self-sacrifice in the face of imminent danger. It is intended primarily for acts by civilians' not in uniform but does not exclude police, firemen, emergency medical technicians or SAR members. It is not intended to recognize acts, which would have been covered by armed forces medals for valor.

#### 10. Meritorious Service Medal.

This SAR Member medal is earned for substantial contributions to the SAR over an extended period of time, normally a three to five year period. The organization giving the award shall view favorably the diversity of contributions, including successful progression through offices. A member may receive this medal only once at the District, State or Chapter level but may receive it more than once at the National Level.

#### 11. Law Enforcement Medal.

The Law Enforcement Medal may be given to those who have served with distinction and devotion in the field of law enforcement and public safety. The medal is intended to recognize exceptional service or accomplishment in the field of law enforcement and is not limited to peace officers but extends to the entire range of persons who make and enforce the law to include, attorneys, judges, prosecutors, legislators, game wardens, court officials, etc who have performed an exceptional act or service beyond that normally expected. This does not exclude SAR members. This medal may only be presented to an individual and only once to a person. A chapter must recognize its entrant in the Virginia Society Law Enforcement Officer of the Year contest with this medal. Single acts of heroism must be recognized with the SAR Medal for Heroism.

#### 12. Fire Safety Commendation Medal.

This award is given to an individual for accomplishments and/or outstanding contributions in an area of fire safety and service. The medal is not limited to firefighters. It may be presented to recognize a variety of fire safety and field service that has evolved into a highly technical and skilled profession with constant study, development, and involvement by dedicated citizens with a single goal – protect human life and property by preventing injuries/casualties due to fire/chemicals. It may be presented only to an individual and only once. This does not exclude SAR members. A chapter must recognize its entrant in the Virginia Society Fire-Safety Person of the Year contest with this medal. Single acts of heroism must be recognized with the SAR Medal for Heroism.



### 13. Emergency Medical Services Commendation Medal.

This medal is given to those for accomplishments and/or outstanding contributions in an area of emergency medical services. The medal is intended for paramedics and certified Emergency Medical Technicians and others in the emergency medical field who have performed an act or service beyond that normally expected. It may be presented only to an individual and only once. This does not exclude SAR members. A chapter must recognize its entrant in the Virginia Society Emergency Medical Services Person of the Year contest with this medal. Single acts of heroism must be recognized with the SAR Medal for Heroism.

### 14. The Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award Medal

The Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award was authorized in 2006. The award is presented to members of the SAR in good standing who are currently active in a scout unit, district, or council or member who have displayed outstanding dedication to the Scouting Program. Work accomplishment and dedication rather than a specific number of years in Scouting, will be the criteria for this award. The Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award acknowledges the service of the recipient to Scouting and is awarded by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution upon nomination by a state society. The BSA has agreed to recognize the Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award by including it among similar awards that are recognized by its Community Organization Award.

The medal is suspended from a red, white, and blue drape like the BSA Eagle Scout medal. The medal is bronze in color and has a BSA fleur-de-lis on the obverse surrounded by the words "Boy Scout Volunteer - N.S.S.A.R." The reverse has area suitable for engraving. The medal is accompanied by a certificate and the BSA COA square knot for wear on the Scout field uniform. The medal is available in miniature for formal wear.

The medal is administered and presented by the NSSAR National Eagle Scout Committee on behalf of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution. The award is limited to two (2) per state per year. Nomination and application forms are available upon request from the NSSAR.

### 15. Silver C.A.R. - SAR Medal of Appreciation. (both SAR and NON-SAR)

The National Society or a State Society may present this medal to a member of the C.A.R. or SAR in good standing in recognition of and in appreciation for outstanding services rendered to a State C.A.R. Society. The award may also recognize outstanding C.A.R. Senior Leaders of a State Society or SAR members who have significantly supported or served a State C.A.R. Society. This medal should not be a routine end-of-tour award. Although, according to the NSSAR Medals and Awards Committee "C.A.R. Senior

Leaders" means both SAR and non-SAR members for all C.A.R. – SAR Medals of Appreciation. The Virginia Society rarely recognizes non-SAR members for senior leadership in the C.A.R. Recommendations for this award are to be submitted to the Virginia Society Awards Committee for approval. The SAR-C.A.R. silver medal is eligible for an oak leaf only if awarded by different SAR awarding levels.

16. Bronze C.A.R. – SAR Medal of Appreciation. (both SAR and NON-SAR)

The National Society, State Society or Chapter may present this medal to a member of the C.A.R. or SAR in good standing in recognition of and in appreciation for outstanding services rendered to a local C.A.R. Society. The award may recognize assistance in promoting C.A.R. members that qualify to obtain SAR memberships, C.A.R. members who participate in the State Society Annual Meetings or at the National Congress, C.A.R. members and C.A.R. Senior Leaders who have significantly supported or served a state or local C.A.R. Society. According to the NSSAR Medals and Awards Committee "C.A.R. Senior Leaders" means both SAR and non-SAR members for all C.A.R. – SAR Medals of Appreciation.

17. Service to Veterans Medal.

This medal may be awarded to SAR members who have given long and exemplary service to veterans. The medal will be awarded for 5000 USS Stark Award Points accrued by the SAR member. The medal will be awarded at the Chapter level after the Chapter Veterans Committee Chairman has approved the member's documentation. The Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded for accumulation of each multiple of 3000 points after the initial 5000 points. A silver oak leaf cluster will replace five previous bronze oak leaf clusters.

18. Bronze SAR Color Guard Medal.

This medal is awarded for at least three years of service in the color guard at the state/Chapter level. This award is given only once. The organization color guard commander determines the eligibility for this award.

19. Daughters of Liberty Medal.

This medal is presented to a lady in appreciation for her unselfish devotion, tireless efforts and assistance to the SAR. This medal is considered second in importance to the SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal. Oak Leaf Clusters are authorized. Consideration of this award should be given only after the SAR Medal of Appreciation and the Martha Washington Medal have been presented.

## 20. SAR Medal of Appreciation.

This medal is presented to a member of the DAR in good standing in recognition of and in appreciation for outstanding services rendered to the SAR. The medal may recognize assistance in obtaining a specific number of new SAR members or otherwise significantly aiding the SAR programs. Oak Leaf Clusters may be presented to an individual if she qualifies by service to SAR rendered subsequent to the presentation of the medal or an oak leaf cluster.

## 21. Martha Washington Medal.

This medal may be presented to a woman over 18 years of age in recognition of outstanding service to SAR. Oak Leaf Clusters may be presented to an individual if she qualifies by service rendered to the SAR subsequent to receiving the medal or oak leaf cluster.

## 22. Virginia Society Medal.

The Virginia Society Medal shall be awarded on behalf of the Virginia Society, only to compatriots of the SAR who have made valuable and outstanding contributions to the State Society and its Chapters, such as but not limited to consistently enrolling new members, making an exceptional effort to further National, State, and/or Chapter programs, making *extraordinary* contributions to a patriotic community project, or consistently providing a Chapter with distinguished representation at the state level, or the state distinguished representation at the national level. The State Society Awards Committee shall have the authority and responsibility to review, consider, and then approve or deny the award of the Virginia Society Medal on behalf of the Virginia Society for service or contributions to the State Society, a Chapters or Chapters. If the award of the Virginia Society Medal is recommended by a Chapter for service to a Chapter or Chapters the recommending Chapter in its nomination shall fully justify its request at the time of the nomination of the candidate for such Award. The medal is worn above; the Virginia Society State Service Medal, the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal, above all other specialty medals of the Virginia Society, including the Jamestown Medal, and above all Chapter medals. Virginia Society Medals can be purchased from the Society office or through the Virginia Society Awards Committee. An individual may receive this award multiple times. An Oak Leaf Cluster may be awarded in lieu of another Virginia Society Medal to compatriots who already have been awarded this medal.

Note: The chart in VASSAR Handbook, Vol. 4, paragraph II, Individual Medals & Awards, should be consulted before an award nomination of a Virginia Society medal is considered.

### 23. The Virginia Society Ladies State Service Medal (Dolley Madison Medal)

Established in 2010, the Virginia Society Ladies State Service Medal, also known as the Dolley Madison Medal, may be awarded by the Virginia Society to recognize the service of women to the Society. The medal features a portrait of Dolley Madison, an indispensable ally, helper and companion to her husband, James Madison. This award is to be presented by VASSAR, as the State Society, to individuals who make **significant and sustained** contributions to the overall success, membership growth, positive public exposure, or program participation by the State Society above that which warrants a certificate of appreciation. While not mandatory, this Award normally would encompass service beyond a single event.

The State Society Awards Committee shall be responsible for determining if the actions or service of a specific individual meet the INTENT of this award. However, the Committee shall use caution that the Award NOT be indiscriminately awarded. Among SAR medals that may be awarded to women, the order of precedence of the Virginia Society Ladies State Service Medal is immediately below the Martha Washington Medal and above the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal.

Note: This award will ONLY be presented by VASSAR at the STATE level. This medal may not be presented by a Chapter.

### 24. The Virginia Society State Service Medal. (Madison Medal)

Established in 2008, the Virginia Society State Service Medal, also known as the Madison Medal, may be awarded by the Virginia Society to recognize the service of individuals to the Society. This medal was developed to provide a logical and sequential way to recognize at the various levels of service by members and non-members to the Virginia Society and to the National Society. The medal features a portrait of James Madison, a colonial 'giant' known for his service to his state and his nation. This award is to be presented by VASSAR, as the State Society, to individuals who make a **significant** contribution to the overall success, membership growth, positive public exposure, or program participation by the State Society above that which warrants a simple certificate of appreciation and below that which would justify the award of the Virginia Society Medal. While not mandatory, this Award normally would encompass service beyond a single event. An Oak Leaf Cluster may be awarded in lieu of another Virginia Society State Service Medal to individuals who already have been awarded the medal.

The State Society Awards Committee shall be responsible for determining if the actions or service of a specific individual meet the INTENT of this award. However, the Committee shall use caution that the Award NOT be indiscriminately awarded. The order of precedence of the Virginia Society State

Service Medal is immediately below the Virginia Society Medal and above the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal.

Note: This award will ONLY be presented by VASSAR at the STATE level. This medal may not be presented by a Chapter, however, Chapters or individual SAR members may recommend to the Committee the award of this medal to a deserving individual.

#### 25. The Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal.

Established in 2007, the Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal may be awarded by any Chapter to recognize the service of individuals to that Chapter. The medal is an elliptical medal bearing the image of a pineapple, the colonial symbol for hospitality. The medal is earned for service or a set of services rising to a level of significance above that normally warranting a Certificate of Appreciation but below the level of valuable and outstanding contributions required for the Virginia Society Medal. Each Chapter, appropriate to its own circumstances, should develop guidelines for distinguishing among these three levels of service within the guidelines established in paragraph 1.F. An Oak Leaf Cluster may be awarded in lieu of another Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal to individuals who already have been awarded the medal. The medal is worn below the Virginia Society State Service Medal and above all specialty medals of the Virginia Society, including the Jamestown Medal. Chapters should report presentations of the medal in their annual Chapter Report. Chapter Service Medals may be purchased from the Society office or the Virginia Society Awards Committee.

#### 26. Chapter Medals.

Chapters may develop, design, and present their own 'Chapter' Medals but they must conform to the guidelines specified in the Virginia Society Bylaws. Specifically, Chapters wishing to issue their own medals after December 01, 2007 should obtain approval from the Virginia Society Awards Committee prior to production or purchase of new Chapter medals.

#### 27. Former State President's Pin and Certificate.

The pin is worn in the "V" of the officer's neck ribbon to show he served as a state president. The certificate and pin should be presented by the society to the former president immediately after the new president is sworn in.

#### 28. Former Chapter President's Pin and Certificate

The pin is worn in the "V" of the officer's neck ribbon to show he served as a chapter president. The certificate and pin should be presented by the chapter to the former president immediately after the new president is sworn in.

29. Distinguished Service Certificate.

This certificate is to recognize outstanding personal service exemplifying the finest American ideals.

30. Outstanding Citizenship Certificate.

This multipurpose certificate may be used at the discretion of the Virginia Society or Chapter making the presentation. One specific use is to present this certificate in lieu of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal when there are budgetary constraints.

31. Outstanding Citizenship Award Lapel Pin. . (for Non-SAR Members)

This pin recognizes deserving students for high ideals of character and citizenship. (Usually awarded to grades K-10, grades 11, 12 maybe awarded the Bronzed Good Citizenship Medal vice the pin.)

32. Virginia Society Presidential Award Certificate.

The President may present to those persons who have assisted him during his term with the Virginia Society Presidential Award. This award is a certificate recognizing services rendered to the President and in turn to the Virginia Society. The President, without any prior approval, may make a maximum of five awards per term. The Awards Committee, based upon written justification, must approve any awards over this number.

33. Certificate of Appreciation.

This is a multi-purpose certificate that can be used by any SAR organization for recognition of service by members, speakers, and for any other persons that may provide services and support to the SAR.

34. C.A.R. Membership Pin

This is a lapel or tie tac style pin that shows your pride in transferring your Membership from the Children of the American Revolution to the Sons of the American Revolution. Chapters may order it for presentation to Chapter members.

35. Eagle Scout Pin

This is a lapel or tie tac style pin that shows a members pride in being an Eagle Scout and also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Chapters may order it for presentation to Chapter members.

### 36. 5 to 60 Year Membership Pin

These are lapel or tie tac style pins showing the number of years in 5-year intervals of membership in the Sons of the American Revolution. Chapters may order it for presentation to Chapter members.

### 37. Life Membership Pin

This is a lapel or tie tac style pin showing that you have enlisted as a Life Member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Chapters may order it for presentation to Chapter members.

### 38. Silver R.O.T.C. Medal.

This medal is presented to students enrolled in a college or university R.O.T.C. program based on leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence. The unit commander should pick the winner.

### 39. Bronze ROTC Medal.

This medal is awarded to students enrolled in a JROTC program at a local school or academy. The unit commander should pick the winner.

### 40. The Eagle Scout Medal.

This medal is given to the winner of the State Society Eagle Scout contest.

### 41. The Eagle Scout Certificate

This certificate is given by chapters to scouts achieving Eagle Scout.

### 42. State Oration Medal

This medal is given to the winner of the state oration contest.

### 43. State Oration Certificate

This certificate accompanies the medal but may also be purchased and given separately.

### 44. Chapter Oration Medal

This medal maybe given to the winner of the chapter oration contest.

45. Joseph S Rumbaugh Participation Certificate

This certificate maybe given to all contestants of the state and chapter level orations contest.

46. Joseph S Rumbaugh Sponsor Certificate

This certificate maybe given to sponsors of the contest.

47. State Essay Medal

This medal is given to the winner of the state essay contest.

48. State Essay Certificate

This certificate accompanies the medal but may also be purchased and given separately

49. Chapter Essay Medal

This medal is given to the winner of the chapter essay contest.

50. Chapter Essay Certificate

This certificate accompanies the medal but may also be purchased and given separately

51. Flag Certificate.

This certificate is presented to an individual, company, or government agency that flies the American Flag properly and for patriotic purposes only.

E. RULES FOR ADDITIONAL AWARDS OF THE SAME MEDAL AND THE USE OF OAK LEAF CLUSTERS.

1. The following medals can be received by an individual only once: Minuteman Award, National Society Medal of Distinguished Service, State Medal of Distinguished Service, Patriot Medal, Gold and Silver Good Citizenship Medals, Law Enforcement Medal, Fire Safety Commendation Medal, Emergency Medical Services Commendation Medal, and the Gold / Silver / Bronze SAR Color Guard Medals.

2. The following medals can be received only once for service at each of the National, District, Society and Chapter levels: the Meritorious Service Medal and the Martha Washington Medal.



3. The SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal and SAR Medal of Appreciation can be presented more than once for additional service to the SAR rendered after the presentation of a medal or oak leaf cluster.
4. Please note that the following line in Volume 3 of the SAR handbook is wrong, it is contradicted by specific medal criteria in several other places in Volume 3. The incorrect line reads: *It should be noted that no SAR medal, other than the Medal for Heroism and Bronze Good Citizenship, may be awarded more than once to any person outside the SAR.*
5. If a person has received additional medals of the same kind, he or she should use the oak leaf cluster system and not wear two or more of the same medals.
6. Oak Leaf Clusters (OLC) are awarded for additional, separate, and distinct acts of service. OLC's come in three colors, bronze, silver and gold. A bronze OLC is worn for each additional medal up to five. If more than five medals are presented, a silver OLC should be worn in lieu of each five bronze's, and a gold OLC is worn in lieu of two silver OLC's.
7. As a rule OLC's are worn in a vertical row centered on the ribbon with each leaf nearly horizontal and the large part of the leaf slightly elevated and pointed to the wearer's left.
8. OLC's maybe worn on the War Service Medal when a bronze bar for the action is not available, please consult the SAR Handbook for details.
9. The Liberty Medal is an exception to both the numbers and the placement. Bronze oak leaf clusters are given for each additional 10 new members recruited in a five-year period, silver oak leaf cluster is given in lieu of 10 bronzes, a gold oak leaf cluster is given in lieu of 10 silvers. Consult the description of the Liberty Medal in SAR handbook for the placement of OLC's on the ribbon.

#### IV. SOCIETY AND CHAPTER AWARDS

##### A. NATIONAL SOCIETY AWARDS THAT CAN BE EARNED BY THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OR THE CHAPTERS.

The requirements for these awards are in Vol. III of the NSSAR Handbook.

##### 1. NATIONAL AWARDS FOR THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY:

- a) President General's Streamer Award
- b) Officer's Streamer Award
- c) President General's Color Guard Trophy Award
- d) Color Guard Streamer Award

- e) N.S.C.A.R. Activity Streamer
- f) Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Streamer
- g) President General's State Society and Chapter Activities Competition
- h) Grahame T. Smallwood Jr. Award
- i) Marian L. Brown Eagle Scout Award
- j) Allene Wilson Groves Americanism Award
- k) The SAR Magazine Award
- l) William Y. Pryor Award
- m) At least 14 other awards concerning membership, annual congress attendance and newsletters can be found in the NSSAR Handbook.

## 2. NATIONAL AWARDS FOR VIRGINIA CHAPTERS:

- a) President General's Streamer Award
- b) USS Stark Memorial Streamer
- c) President General's State Society & Chapter Activities Competition
- d) President General's Cup
- e) The Carl F. Bessent Award
- f) Liberty Bell Americanism Award

## B. VIRGINIA SOCIETY AWARDS THAT CAN BE EARNED BY CHAPTERS

### 1. The Chapter Annual Report

- a) The Chapter Annual Report Form was introduced in 1993. The form queries a Chapter about its participation in the permanent programs of the Society described elsewhere in this handbook, special initiatives of the Virginia Society President for the year, and special initiatives undertaken by a Chapter which the Virginia Society should acknowledge and recognize. It serves as a means for the state officers and chairmen to establish direction for Chapters to plan their activities for the year, a reminder to chapters about opportunities for activities both in planning and reporting, a vehicle for the Chapters to communicate their activities to the Virginia Society, and a basis for the Virginia Society to recognize Chapters that do an outstanding job. The form covers roughly 10 to 15

numbered items. Each numbered item represents a program area, combining related program activities for purposes of program planning and state recognition of Chapters. For example, it is natural to combine Revolutionary Grave Registration with Revolutionary Grave Marking. For a year in which there was a special initiative related to Revolutionary graves, such as registering graves of eligible delegates to the Virginia Convention to ratify the Constitution, an additional query could be added within the numbered item about the Revolutionary grave program area.

b) The 3rd Vice President should review the form, updated it as needed, and distribute the current year's form to the Chapters as soon as possible after the Annual Meeting to assist the Chapters in planning their activities. Any changes made in the permanent programs of the Virginia Society should be indicated, questions regarding special initiatives promoted for the previous year deleted, and questions about special initiatives of the current year added.

c) The Chapter Report Form was designed to correct problems with "free form narrative" that was used in previous reports:

(1) It draws attention to the Virginia Society programs and minimizes the opportunity for oversights both when a Chapter is planning its activities for the year and again when a Chapter prepares the report.

(2) It facilitates the judging of Chapters for annual awards. It is relatively easy to compare the accomplishments of Chapters for the "Best Chapter" contests and it is very easy to ascertain the number of program areas covered for the "Chapter Excellence" Awards.

(3) It reduces questions that arise after judging Chapters for annual awards, which were quite frequent prior to the introduction of the form.

(4) It reduces, if not eliminates, the advantages to chapters that have eloquent writers by calling for short answers about what the chapter actually did.

## 2. Chapter Awards

### a) The Chapter Excellence Award

The Chapter Excellence Award recognizes Chapters that, in a year, do a good job on a wide range of programs. The annual Chapter Report Form groups activities into program areas corresponding to the numbered items. Any Chapter that was active in most of the program areas is recognized with the award. The number of program areas will vary from

year to year, so a fixed number of program areas cannot be given as a hard and fast rule. As an example, for a year in which there were 10 areas, meaningful participation in about seven or eight would be sufficient to earn the award. No program area is given weight over others for this award.

b) The Best Chapter Award

The Best Chapter Award recognizes the best Chapters in the Virginia Society for four different size categories: 1-24 members (Small Chapter); 25-59 members (Medium Chapter); 60-99 (Large Chapter) and 100 or more members (Very Large Chapter). Although it is intended that the Best Chapters cover a wide range of programs, it is not intended that the award be given to a Chapter that stretched itself so thin it shows a token effort in most areas over a Chapter that may have missed an area or two but did an excellent job in numerous activities in which it participated. “Best” means best overall, not the broadest or best in this or that program.

(1) Judging for the award is accomplished in the following manner. The judges examine the Chapter Report Form; and, for a first cut, assign one of three ratings to each program area: no significant activity, participated, excelled, perhaps noting borderline cases.

(2) Two “short lists” are then created for each size category: the Chapters with the fewest “No significant activity” ratings and the Chapters with the most “Excelled.” Typically the contest will usually come down to those Chapters which, for a given size category, appear on both lists. In fact, at this point it is sometimes obvious which Chapter is the winner for a given size category because it is clearly first on both lists.

(3) For a close contest, which often occurs, the judges will need to scrutinize the performance of the top contenders quite closely, ranking the contending Chapters in each program area to determine the outcome. Judges should avoid assigning specific point totals to different program areas. The use of open-ended point totals would make it possible for a Chapter to win the award by an extraordinary performance in a single activity that is by nature open-ended, such as registering 400 graves. Such a method diminishes the importance of activities that are not inherently open-ended, like sponsoring a contestant in the oration contest or essay contest, and encourages gaming.

c) The Sustained Achievement Award

The Sustained Achievement Award recognizes Chapters that do a sound job in carrying out certain programs year in and year out. In 1994, these awards were established as permanent awards for Revolutionary Grave Marking and participation in the Rumbaugh Oration Contest. They were first awarded at the Annual Meeting in 1995 for sustaining the oration contest back to 1990 and the grave-marking program retroactive to 1985. A Chapter earns the award for carrying out one or both of these specific programs for four consecutive years. Thus a Chapter which marked a Revolutionary grave in 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994 would earn a Sustained Achievement Award. If the Chapter marked a grave in 1995, it would not earn another award, but rather would be credited with the first year of a possible series of 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998. For subsequent sustained achievement awards for the same program, a star is awarded that is affixed to the streamer. The criterion for sustaining the Rumbaugh Oration Contest is sponsoring an orator who delivers a speech at the Annual Meeting. The calendar year in which a Chapter conducts its local contest is not relevant, and a Chapter receives no credit for this award if its orator does not participate in the state contest.

d) The Outstanding Accomplishment Award

The Outstanding Accomplishment Award is typically useful where consecutive years of participation are not an appropriate measure, but some other measure is. The four areas where the Virginia Society has established this award is for Revolutionary Graves Registration, History Day Support, Program Innovation, and Recognizing Forgotten Patriots.

(1) The Revolutionary Graves Registration program was established at the Semiannual Meeting in 1994 and first given at the Annual Meeting in 1994. The objective of the Revolutionary Graves Registration award is to give chapters incentive to register graves and register them quickly. We do not want to give Chapters incentive to hold registrations so they can be assured of having a grave to register the next year. A Chapter earns the award for every 10 graves it registers without respect to time limits. If a Chapter registered a grave in 1995 and then registers nine more in 1999, it earns the award. If it registers 35 graves in 1995 (assuming no carryover from previous years), it earns three awards and has five registrations to carry towards the next award. A flag streamer is awarded the first time a Chapter earns the award, and a star is affixed to the streamer on subsequent occasions when the Chapter earns the award. To receive credit for graves registered, a Chapter must submit registrations through the state program chairman or must provide copies to the program chairman.

(2) History Day Support was established as a permanent program in 2006. Chapters are credited with points for supporting History Day in one of five ways:

(a) Financial contributions – 1 point per \$25 donated.

(b) Judging – 1 point for each judge provided.

(c) Attendance – 1 point for each member attending a District, State, or National Competition. (Judges are counted here also)

(d) Promoting History Day – 1 point for each school that the chapter has encouraged to participate.

(e) Recognition – 1 point for each good citizenship medal or pin awarded to recognize achievement in History Day.

(3) If a Chapter develops good, new ideas or processes for meeting a goal of the SAR mission or carrying out a program, it can be recognized with an award for program innovation. The Awards Committee makes this determination from the Chapter Report Form and other information that may be provided to it.

(4) The Virginia Society voted to establish the Forgotten Patriot program as a permanent program at the 2006 Semiannual Meeting. A chapter is recognized for each application, approved by the National Society, on a patriot on whom no person has joined the SAR or DAR using a valid line and service. The Virginia Society gives further recognition for remembering Forgotten Patriots who were Virginians.

(5) The Program Innovation Award allows the Awards Committee to recognize innovative ways a chapter has supported the goals of the SAR. not covered by any other award.....

e) The Special Chapter Award

The Special Chapter Award is used to recognize outstanding performance in a program activity that is part of a presidential initiative for a particular year, whether permanent or special.. Because they are not permanent awards, they do not require approval by the General Membership of the Virginia Society. Presidential Initiatives are noted in the Chapter Report Form and often announced by the incoming President at the Annual Meeting.

## V. PROTOCOL FOR WEARING OF MEDALS

A. INTRODUCTION: Each hereditary society and order has published regulations concerning the use of their various medals and decorations. The rules for the proper usage of insignia vary among the different organizations. Members are encouraged to review the particular protocol of an organization when attending either their formal or informal functions. The following is a general summary of the rules governing the wearing and use of insignia and related items. This information is provided as guidance in order that all may conform therewith, to the end that the prestige and esprit of the hereditary community be maintained and the dignity of their proud backgrounds may be enhanced.

B. SUMMARY: Large medals should be worn on business suits and miniature medals on formal attire. The large or miniature medals shall be mounted in a neat straight row centered on the left breast or lapel about four inches from the top of the shoulder. The top of the row of medals should be straight and as close a possible level to the ground when wearing the jacket. When worn with military or federal service medals, the SAR Medals shall be worn and mounted in the same fashion as the service medals and in the proper order of precedence. Large and miniature medals will not be worn at the same time. No more than three large medals should be worn simultaneously.

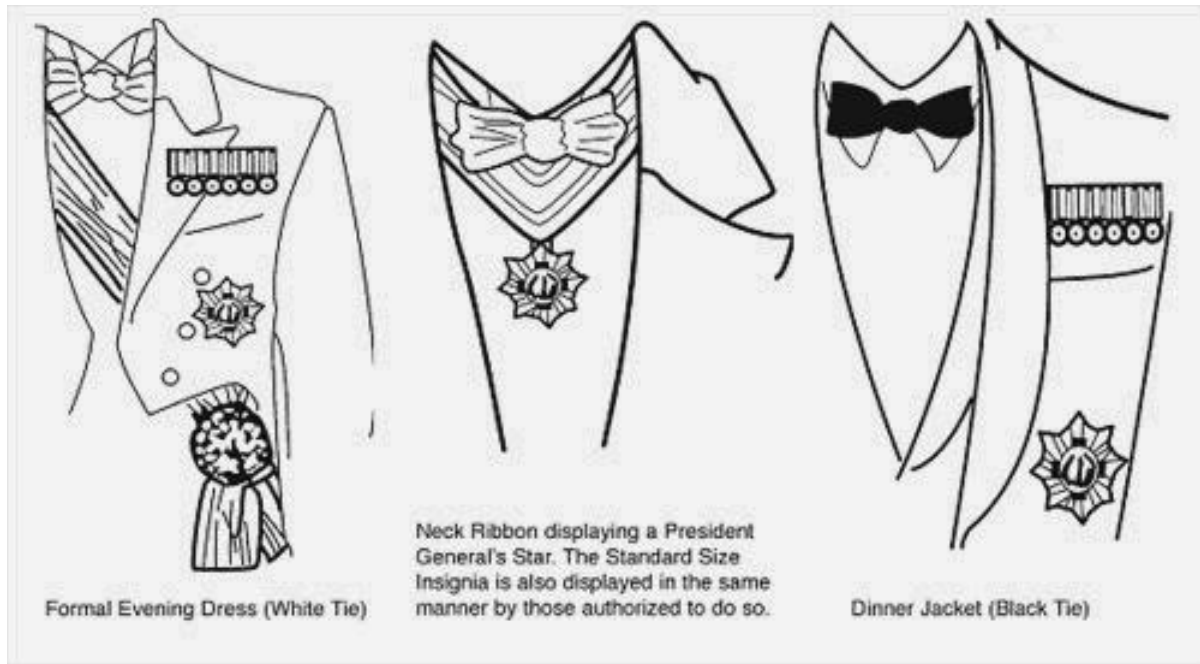
### C. Formal Dress

1. Evening attire (Black Tuxedo, White Dinner jacket or Full Evening Dress) is customarily worn on all formal occasions of individual Chapters, the Virginia Society, the Mid-Atlantic District, and the National Society. Such attire will normally be indicated on either the invitation to or announcement of the event.
2. By tradition: The White Dinner Jacket may be substituted for the more formal Black Tuxedo for events held between Memorial Day and Labor Day of each year.
3. Attire for formal or informal occasions follows the dictates of good taste and social usage.
4. Uniforms of the U.S. Armed Forces, service or dress, may be worn at any social function by those entitled to do so.

D. Informal attire for the Virginia Society and Virginia Chapter meetings shall normally consist of business coat and tie.

### E. Insignia and Decorations for Gentlemen

1. It is recommended that the insignia and decorations of the hereditary community be worn as prescribed below in keeping with customs and tradition:



#### F. Standard Insignia:

1. The standard or full size insignia is worn by members on formal occasions, centered on the left lapel or breast of the coat, about four inches below the top of the shoulder. If more than one standard medal is displayed, the insignia of the most senior organization, by date of founding, is mounted toward the wearer's right side. The top edge of all medals should be on an even line..
2. Members of most societies who are or have been officers, either on a national or state level, may wear the medal pendant from a neck ribbon in the societies' colors. Some of the larger societies also permit Chapter presidents to wear the insignia pendant from the neck. When worn with formal evening attire, the medal is to be drawn up close below the knot of the bow tie.
3. The insignia may be worn with informal clothing such as a sack suit or blazer. It is also appropriate for use upon a cut-away or military uniform. When worn on a uniform, the regulations of the appropriate branch of military or naval services govern the permission and proper placement of the insignia. Certain hereditary society medals have been approved for this purpose. The standard size insignia is never worn with any type of miniature except on occasions when the larger medal is suspended from the neck.

#### G. President General or Governor's Star and other Star Orders:

The Governor or President General's Star is worn on the left front of the jacket several inches below the medal bar. Other order stars (but no more than four) are also worn below. However, when attending an occasion when these orders take precedence, the Governor or President General's Star is worn below them. For example, if attending a



French government function, one would wear the Legion d'Honneur in pride over any other order's decorations or medals. The Star may also be appropriately worn on a ribbon, pendant from the neck by the presiding officer of certain societies and orders. Many of the hereditary societies provide a smaller star for former Governors, President Generals, and National Officers. They are appropriately worn in the same fashion.

#### H. Sash:

The sash is worn by officers and past officers only on formal occasions. It extends over the right shoulder diagonally to the left hip with the society medal pendant from the bow at the intersection of the end over the hip. With full evening dress, the sash is worn under the coat and over the waistcoat. With formal wear (cut-away coat), the sash is similarly worn. With uniforms, the sash is worn over the coat. The sash is not worn with dinner jacket or sack suit.

#### I. Miniature Insignia:

1. Miniature insignia or medals may be worn on formal ceremonial occasions and should be in one horizontal line on the left lapel or breast of the coat. To assure proper alignment, the medals should be mounted on a single bar; this bar should never be longer than the distance between the fold of the left lapel of the coat and the left armhole seam; the medals may be overlapped on the left edges to conserve space if necessary. More than one row of medals may be worn and the decision is a matter of personal taste.
2. When SAR miniatures are worn with military service miniatures, the SAR miniatures should be mounted and worn in the same fashion according to the military service uniform regulations.
3. The foregoing applies whether the insignia in question are full size or miniature. It should be noted moreover that when more than one medal is worn, all must be of the same size; miniature and full size insignia are not aligned together. (This restriction does not apply to neck ribbon insignia, which are always full size and are worn independently of other insignia).

#### J. Rosette:

The Rosette is worn only on informal occasions in the left lapel of a blazer or sack suit provided that no other insignia is worn at the same time. It is never worn with formal evening dress. During inclement weather, on occasions of ceremony, it may be placed on the lapel of an overcoat for identification.

#### K. Blazer Patch:

*The blazer patch is correctly worn on a traditional blazer.* It is mounted on the jacket pocket on the left side of the coat and never worn with that of another society or order. The blazer patch is never used with formal attire or for any other purpose.

L. Tie:

Many of the hereditary organizations provide a necktie in the societies' colors for their members. They are correctly used as any other necktie.

M. Orders, decorations and medals are worn in the following order from the wearer's right to left:

1. Orders
  2. Decorations of honor
  3. Federal decorations of honor or valor in order of precedence
  4. Federal campaign medals in chronological order
  5. State decorations
  6. State campaign medals
  7. State organizational and long-service medals
  26. C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (Bronze)
  27. Liberty Medal
  28. Bronze Good Citizenship Medal
  29. Silver ROTC Medal
  30. Bronze ROTC Medal
  31. Eagle Scout Medal
  32. Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award Medal
  33. Service to Veterans Medal
  34. SAR Medal of Appreciation
  35. Martha Washington Medal
  36. SAR Color Guard Medal (Gold)
  37. Samuel Adams Congress Medal (Gold)
  38. SAR Color Guard Medal (Silver)
  39. Samuel Adams Congress Medal (Silver)
  40. SAR Color Guard Medal (Bronze)
  41. Samuel Adams Congress Medal (Bronze)
  42. Council of State Presidents (Gold)
  43. Council of State Presidents (Silver)
  44. SAR Centennial Medal
  45. George Washington Bicentennial Medal
  46. Charter Centennial Medal
  47. NSSAR Specialty Medals \*
  48. NSSAR Fundraising Medals  
Arthur M. King Eagle Scout Scholarship Fund Medal
  49. SAR State Society Medals
  50. Virginia Society Medal
  51. Virginia Society State Service Medal \*\*
  52. Virginia Society Specialty Medals  
Jamestown 400 Anniversary Celebration
  53. Virginia Society Chapter Service Medal
  54. Virginia Society Chapter Medals
- Insignia of patriotic and veterans societies, in the order of precedence
- SAR Badges
8. SAR Badge
  9. Minuteman Award
  10. Gold Good Citizenship Medal
  11. Daughters of Liberty
  12. War Service Medal
  13. Military Service Medal
  14. National Medal of Distinguished Service
  15. Patriot Medal
  16. State Medal of Distinguished Service
  17. Medal for Heroism
  18. SAR Meritorious Service Medal
  19. Silver Good Citizenship Medal
  20. Florence Kendall Medal
  21. Law Enforcement Medal
  22. Fire Safety Commendation Medal
  23. Emergency Medical Service Commendation Medal
  24. C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (Gold)
  25. C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (Silver)

p. (5), (6), (7) and (8) above are never worn on Federal uniforms except on appropriate occasions of related significance. Insignia are never worn on the overcoat except when specifically ordered.

\* NSSAR Specialty Medals include: Treaty of Paris Medal (1983); The United Kingdom Congress Medal (1986); The Salute to the Netherlands Medal (1996); The Recognition of Spain Medal (1997), Honoring German Patriots Medal (1998), and the Salute to France Medal (2000) and other medals for SAR tours to foreign national societies. These medals were awarded to Compatriots who accompanied the Presidents General on these important tours to recognize significant contributions of our Revolutionary allies and other significant events associated with the War for Independence.

\*\* Includes the Virginia Society State Service Medal (James Madison) and the Virginia Society Ladies State Service Medal (Dolly Madison).

**The complete, chronological list of the hereditary societies and orders of the United States is located on this site. <http://www.hereditary.us/precedence.htm>**

## VI. PROCEDURES FOR AMENDING THIS VOLUME

This volume may be changed by a majority vote of the general membership in attendance at a regular meeting of the Virginia Society, or a special meeting of The Virginia Society called for the purpose of considering changes. Electronic notification and posting of either the entire volume or a Summary of Changes to the Society website is encouraged and satisfies all requirements of prior notification. A summary of the proposed changes shall be distributed by the Secretary to the general membership attending the meeting.

Approval of revisions that do not materially change the substance of an article, item, or program such as correcting spelling, capitalization, grammar, syntax, organization or location of sections within the volume may be made by the Executive Committee.

## VII. APPENDICIES

Periodic administrative updates to all Volume 4 appendices are allowed by recommendation of the Awards Committee and approval of the Executive Committee without being voted on by the General Membership in order to make timely changes/additions when warranted.

Appendix A - Award Forms

Appendix B - Virginia Society SAR Award Streamer Specifications

Appendix C - Virginia Society SAR Individual Awards

## Appendix A - Awards Forms

Listed below are the forms applicable to awards mentioned in this volume. The most current forms can be found on the NSSAR Website and in the NSSAR Handbook. The Website link is <http://www.sar.org/forms/index.html#awards>. On the NSSAR Website [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org) move your cursor over the tab “For Members” and then click on “Forms” or “SAR Handbook” on the list that appears.

### List of Forms

Minuteman Award Guidelines

Minuteman Award Nomination Form (**Legal Sized Paper**)

Gold Good Citizenship Nomination Form

State Medal of Distinguished Service Nomination Form

Patriot Medal Nomination

Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, EMT and Heroism Awards Report

Color Guard Reporting Form

Robert B Vance “Best Website” Contest Entry and Reporting Form

Americanism Award Contest Entry and Reporting Form

President General’s Award Score Sheet

USS Stark Memorial Award Worksheet & Contest Entry; Service to Veterans Medal Award Guidelines.

General William C. Westmoreland Award Entry Form

Military Service Record Reporting Form

## **Appendix B - Virginia Society SAR Award Streamer Specifications**

Streamers are 2 ½ inches wide and 30 inches long with horizontal gold lettering. The colors are generally: Purple, Maroon, Blue, Red, Black, and Hunter Green. Streamer colors and gold lettering are standard stock colors and do not require the surcharges that come with custom colors. Most streamers are dated with the award year. Subsequent awards for undated streamers are recognized with five-eighths inch (5/8”) iron-on gold metallic thread stars. Chapter name is identified on the tag attached to the streamers.

Best Chapter Award (only one per size class)--**Purple**

BEST VERY LARGE CHAPTER 20XX

BEST LARGE CHAPTER 20XX

BEST MEDIUM CHAPTER 20XX

BEST SMALL CHAPTER 20XX

Chapter Excellence Awards (no limit, often 10 or 12)--**Maroon**

CHAPTER EXCELLENCE AWARD 20XX

Best Program (one per program with this kind of award)--**Blue**

JENNINGS H. FLATHERS AWARD 20XX

[Best Chapter Newsletter]

CHESTER E. MAY AWARD 20XX

[Sponsor of the VASSAR Teacher of the Year]

DONALD W. BALDWIN AWARD 20XX

[Largest Membership Increase]

CARROLL WRIGHT AWARD 20XX

[Largest Percentage of Membership Increase]

Sustained Achievement (no limit, few if any per year)--**Red**

REVOLUTIONARY GRAVE MARKING (2XXX – 2XXX)

[Chapter marked at least one grave 4 consecutive years]

RUMBAUGH ORATION PROGRAM (2XXX – 2XXX)

[Chapter marked at least one grave 4 consecutive years]

Program Excellence (no limit, few if any per year)—**Black**

REVOLUTIONARY GRAVE REGISTRATION

[1 for each 10 registered; multiples of 10 honored with stars for streamer]

HISTORY DAY SUPPORT 20XX

PROGRAM INNOVATION 20XX

FORGOTTEN PATRIOTS

[Streamer with one star for each additional Forgotten Patriot Recognized, and one additional star for each Virginian {to be identified by the word “Virginian” on the streamer}]

Sponsor of Best Contestant (one winner/program)--**Hunter Green**

SPONSOR, T & B LAWRENCE AMERICAN HISTORY TEACHER NOMINEE 20XX  
SPONSOR, BEST ORATION 20XX  
SPONSOR, BEST ESSAY 20XX  
SPONSOR, BEST JROTC CADET 20XX  
SPONSOR, BEST EAGLE SCOUT 20XX  
SPONSOR, CITIZEN OF THE YEAR 20XX  
SPONSOR, LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSON OF YEAR 20XX  
SPONSOR, BEST FIRE/SAFETY PERSON 20XX  
SPONSOR, BEST EMS PERSON 20XX  
SPONSOR, HERO OF THE YEAR 20XX  
SPONSOR, LIFE SAVER OF THE YEAR 20XX  
BEST CHAPTER WEBSITE 20XX  
BEST CHAPTER SCRAPBOOK 20XX

100% Participation – Flag Program (if all VASSAR chapters participate)--**Hunter Green**

Presidential Initiatives (usually 2 to 3 initiatives)--**Light Blue**

**Appendix C - Virginia Society SAR Individual Awards**

The awards listed below are approved in the annual Virginia Society Budget and presented at the Annual Meeting unless otherwise noted.

Youth Awards	
Eagle Scout, 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$1,000 and Eagle Trophy
Eagle Scout, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$500
Eagle Scout, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$300
Knight Essay, 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$1,000 and Medal
Knight Essay, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$500
Knight Essay, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$300
Rumbaugh Orations, 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$1,000 and Medal and Travel Expense
Rumbaugh Orations, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$500
Rumbaugh Orations, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$300
ROTC/JROTC, 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$1,000 and Medal
ROTC/JROTC, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$500
ROTC/JROTC, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$300
Middle School Brochure Contest **	\$250
Elementary School Poster Contest **	\$125

Adult Awards	
Law Enforcement	\$500 and Acrylic
Fire Safety	\$500 and Acrylic
Emergency Medical Services	\$500 and Acrylic
Heroism	\$500 and Acrylic
Good Citizen of the Year	\$500 and Acrylic
Life Saver of the Year	\$500 and Acrylic
Teacher of the Year	\$500 and Acrylic
Tom and Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Contest Nominee	\$500 and Acrylic

Other Awards	
Newsletter Editor of the Year	Acrylic
Scrapbook Compiler of the Year	Acrylic
Webmaster of the Year	Acrylic

\*\* Presented in Late Spring.