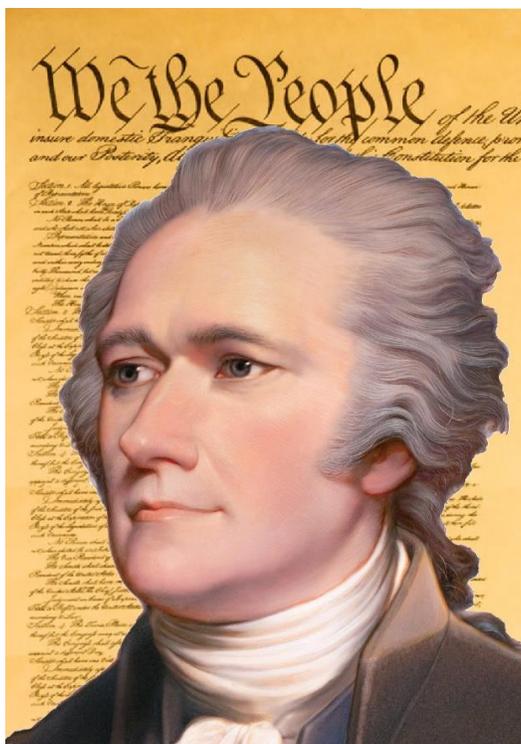


The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution



Washington State Society



Alexander Hamilton Chapter Bylaws, Adopted 17 Sep 2020



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ARTICLE I - NAME:

The name of this organization shall be: **ALEXANDER HAMILTON CHAPTER**, Washington State Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE:

The objectives of the Alexander Hamilton chapter are declared to be patriotic, historical and educational and shall include those intended or designed:

- * To perpetuate the memory of those patriots, who by their service or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people;
- * To unite and promote fellowship among their descendants; to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers;
- * To encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution; to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as document relics and landmarks;
- * To mark the scenes of the American Revolution by appropriate memorials; to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and the Revolutionary period; * To foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to carry out the purposes expressed in the preamble of the Constitution of our country; and the injunctions of Gen. Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

ARTICLE III - ELIGIBILITY AND MEMBERSHIP:

Any male shall be eligible for membership in the society and chapter who, being a citizen of good repute in the community, is the lineal descendent of an ancestor who was at all times unflinchingly loyal to, and rendered service in the cause of the American independence, either as an officer, a soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman, or minutemen, in the armed forces of the Continental Congress, of any one of the several Colonies or States, or as a signer of the Declaration of Independence, as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence, as a member of any Continental, Provincial, or Colonial Congress or Legislature, as a foreign national of, but not limited to, France, Germany, Poland, Spain, Sweden or Switzerland who rendered service in the cause of American independence or as a recognized patriot who performed actual service by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain, provided, however, that no person advocating the overthrow of the Government of the United States by use of force or violence shall be eligible for membership in the Society and Chapter.

Section A. An applicant for membership in the NSSAR and this chapter shall be referred to the Chapter Registrar who will help the new applicant start an application online and assistance in completing it. It shall contain his ancestral lineage back to his patron ancestor with proper documentation for each generation and record of the name, residence, and service of his ancestor in the American Revolution, from whom he claims eligibility. Once complete the Chapter Registrar prints one copy of the application on SAR watermarked paper, obtains signatures of the applicant, sponsor and co-sponsor, attaches the supporting documentation, and obtains three checks from the applicant for the applicable fees and dues. The completed application is then sent to the WASSAR Registrar. When the application is approved, the new member will be invited to attend the next scheduled meeting at which time he will be properly inducted, presented with a certificate of membership and a rosette for his lapel, thereafter his official designation shall be Compatriot.

Section B. Transfer of Membership into the Chapter. Any member in good standing with his previous chapter and the state society may become a member of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter upon acceptance by the Chapter and payment of required dues. To retain membership, a member must maintain membership in the National Society and State Society.

Section C. A member wishing to resign from the National Society shall present his resignation in writing to the treasurer who shall immediately report the resignation to the Treasurer General. The resignation of a member whose dues are in arrears shall not be accepted.

Section D. Dual Membership: Any member of another NSSAR chapter may become a member of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter by paying the Alexander Hamilton chapter dues and being a member in good standing of his home chapter. A dual member may vote on chapter matters and may also hold office in one chapter at a time but not in both.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS:

Section A. Officers of this chapter shall be: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, REGISTRAR, HISTORIAN, CHAPLAIN, SERGEANT AT ARMS and two TRUSTEES. The IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT shall be an Ex-officio officer.

Section B. A nominating committee consisting of three Chapter members, selected by the President shall be announced at the October meeting. The committee shall nominate only those members whose consent has been obtained for the respective office. Additional nominations may be made from the floor, if the consent of the nominee shall have been obtained. Election shall normally be by ballot. If there is but one (1) nominee for each office, election shall be by voice.

Section C. The offices of President and Vice President shall be for a term of two years and incumbents may not hold office for successive terms. All other officers' terms of office are also for two years but incumbents may hold office for several successive terms. It is normally a progressive move from Vice President to President. If this is not feasible, the term of office shall be for one year, December to December. To fill the position for the second year, a Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the president with the election to take place at the November meeting preceding the start of the term.

Section D. All officers serve without compensation in performing the duties of their respective office. Reimbursements shall be made for incidental expenses incurred in carrying out their duties.

Section E. Vacancies: in the event the office of President becomes vacant; the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President. In the event the office of any remaining chapter officers become vacant, the Executive Committee shall select a successor to fill the unexpired term of office.

ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section A. The **President** shall:

1. Be the chief executive officer of the Chapter and official representative of the Chapter.
2. Preside at all meetings of the chapter and perform such duties as pertain to the Chapter President.
3. Appoint members to committee(s) or as project chairman where necessary to fulfill the needs of such committee(s) or project(s) of the Chapter.
4. Direct and oversee the orderly accomplishment of the Chapter's objectives, goals and activities.
5. The President is authorized to sign checks in the absence of the treasurer.

Section B. The **Vice President** shall:

1. Perform the duties of the President during his absence.
2. Coordinate the arrangements for the speakers/programs for the monthly Chapter meetings.

Section C. The **Secretary** shall:

1. Maintain an accurate record of all monthly meetings and officer meetings.
2. Conduct the general correspondence of the chapter.
3. Maintain a list of chapter membership.
4. Notify the State Secretary of chapter member changes of address and contact information.
5. Maintain the most current versions of relevant National, State and Chapter documents and proceedings.

Section D. The Treasurer shall:

1. Be the custodian of Chapter funds and maintain accurate financial records.
2. Open and maintain bank accounts for the Chapter. Upon the change, of Chapter officers a by-name list shall become an attachment to these Bylaws for banking purposes.
3. Collect all dues and other funds payable to the Chapter.
4. Pay all Chapter expenditures. Proposed expenditures beyond routine administrative expenses, usually more than Two Hundred Fifty dollars (\$250) shall be approved by the Chapter Executive Committee prior to commitment by a member.
5. Reimburse members for all authorized Chapter expenses incurred by them.
6. Provide a financial report at all Chapter meetings or upon request of the President.
7. Perform all duties required by NSSAR, WASSAR, and Federal and State Laws.
8. Perform all legal financial activities approved by the Executive Committee.
9. The Treasurer shall have the authority to deposit Chapter funds in interest bearing accounts and financial instruments upon approval by the Executive Committee.

Section E. The Registrar:

1. Must review and approve all Chapter applications for membership before being submitted to the WASSAR Registrar.
2. Will assist members and potential members with the completion of membership and supplemental applications.

Section F. The Historian shall:

1. Keep a record of historical and commemorative events of the Chapter.
2. Is custodian of all Chapter records and correspondence.

Section G. The Chaplain shall:

1. Perform the Invocation and Benediction at Chapter meetings.
2. Make courtesy calls on Chapter members confined by illness.
3. Advise the general membership at Chapter meetings of the serious illness or death of a member.

Section H. The Sergeant-At-Arms shall:

1. Meet and Greet members and guest/prospective members on arrival of the monthly meeting.
2. Place guests with a member of the chapter who will help the guest/prospective member feel comfortable at the meeting explain what the chapter does and is about.

Section I. Two Trustees:

1. Trustee for Projects:

- a) Develop and coordinate worthwhile projects that the Chapter can support to include, but not be limited to:
 - 1)The ROTC/JROTC Program,
 - 2) The Veterans Memorial Museum,
 - 3) The Eagle Scout program and,
 - 4) A Chapter/State Color Guard.
- b) Recommend appointment of nominees to lead committees and the Color Guard where appropriate to the Executive Committee.
- c) Develop the necessary input for the Chapter annual budget.

2. Trustee for Fund Raising:

- a) Develop and coordinate funding of Chapter projects.
- b) Be responsible for implementation of each project to include recommending, where appropriate, the appointment of a committee chairman to the Executive Committee.
- c) Develop the necessary import for the Chapter annual budget.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS:

Section A. The meetings of the Chapter shall normally be held on the third Saturday of every month with the exception that no meetings are held in the months of July or August.

Section B. The President may call a special meeting of the Chapter when time is of the essence. Any five (5) members may also call such a meeting providing all Chapter members have been notified at least five (5) days in advance as to time, date and place.

Section C. At a regularly scheduled or a special meeting, a quorum shall consist of twelve (12) members in good standing.

Section D. The scheduled meeting held in December shall vary in content depending upon the year:

1. Election years: the meeting shall consist of installation of officers followed by Christmas party.
2. Non-election years: Christmas party only, no formal meeting.

ARTICLE VII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section A. The Executive Committee consists of all officers named in Article IV, Section 1 of these bylaws and the immediate Past President. They shall meet at the call of the President.

Section B. A quorum of the executive committee shall consist of five (5) members.

ARTICLE VIII - STANDING COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS:

Section A. Audit Committee. This Committee members will be appointed by the President shall audit the financial records of the Chapter at least once annually.

Section B. Membership Committee is chaired by the Chapter Genealogist who will select one non-officer member to serve with him. The Committee shall seek new members and will work to retain current members.

Section C. Awards Committee is chaired by the Vice President who will select two non-officer members to serve on this Committee. All awards initiated at the Chapter level will be accomplished by or through this Committee which will ensure selected individuals merit the respective award. They will follow the guidelines for awards as given in the National Societies Handbook and decide for proper presentation, photos thereof, and publicity where appropriate.

Section E. Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President. Its duties are to nominate a slate of officers and trustees to fill the expiring terms of officers/trustees for a Chapter election at the regular November general membership meeting.

Section F. Tellers Committee. The President shall appoint a Tellers Committee consisting of three non-officer members for the purposes of tabulating the ballots at the election meeting in December, if there is voting by ballot.

Section G. Chapter Newsletter Editor. The President shall appoint the Chapter Newsletter Editor. The Chapter Secretary will have oversight responsibility for the newsletter.

Section H. Chapter Color Guard. The President will appoint a Color Guard Captain based upon the recommendation of the Trustee for Chapter Projects. The Color Guard Captain will be responsible for:

1. Recruiting Chapter members for duty with the Color Guard.
2. Identifying Color Guard participation opportunities.
3. Ensuring that the Chapter is represented at local patriotic events to the Maximum extent possible.
4. Coordinating participation with the WASSAR Color Guard where appropriate.
5. Develop the necessary import for the Chapter annual budget.

Section I. The ROTC/JROTC program. The President will appoint the chairman of this Committee based upon the recommendation of the Trustee for Projects. The Committee responsibilities will include:

1. Identifying schools with ROTC/JROTC programs it will support.
2. Notify selective schools how they can participate in our program.
3. Procuring the necessary medals and certificates.
4. Recruiting Chapter members to participate in presentation of the ROTC/JROTC awards.
5. Developing the necessary input for Chapter annual budget.

ARTICLE IX - DUES AND FEES:

Section A. The National and State societies dues and fees shall be designated by those respective societies.

Section B. The annual Chapter dues shall be \$20.00 unless changed by the Executive Committee approved by a majority vote of the members present.

Section C. A member whose Chapter dues are in arrears shall not be entitled to vote, to act as a delegate, to hold office, to be a member of the standing Committee, or to be transferred to another state Chapter. A member whose dues are in arrears after WASSAR closes its annual books will be dropped from the Chapter and State membership rolls. Reinstatement of a dropped member will be made upon payment of current year's dues plus the National Societies reinstatement fees.

Section D. There is no National, State or Chapter fee for affiliation from other state societies, transfer from Children of the American Revolution, or Children of the Revolution, or the Washington Guard before the individual's 22nd birthday. Sons of SAR members and DAR members can be elected to membership before their 25th birthday without payment of admission fees, will be charged two dollars for a membership certificate.

Section E. No annual WASSAR and Chapter dues are required of those members who held life memberships in the Washington State Society. National dues are still required.

ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:

The rules contained in *Roberts Rules of Order* shall govern in all cases in which they are not in conflict with these Bylaws, State Bylaws or the National Bylaws. In the interest of expediency, these rules may be waived by the President.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS:

Section A. These bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the general membership by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, provided the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing thirty (30) days in advance by mail or at the previous regular meeting. Unless otherwise provided prior to its adoption or in the motion to adopt, an amendment shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Section B. Any amendment adopted by the National Society, or by the State Organization affecting the work of this Chapter shall become the law of the Chapter without further notice.