

[AMENDMENTS PROPOSED FOR MEMBERSHIP VOTE ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2010]

CONSTITUTION
of the
NORFOLK CHAPTER
of the
VIRGINIA SOCIETY
of the
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Adopted November 6, 1953
(Amended September 18, 2010)

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be “Norfolk Chapter of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.” It is appropriate to shorten this name to “Norfolk Chapter.”

ARTICLE II

Purposes

The purposes of this Chapter are declared to be patriotic, historical and educational, and shall include those intended or designed to perpetuate the memory of those who, by their services 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 documents, relics and landmarks; to mark the scenes of the Revolution by appropriate memorials; to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and of 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 to the United States Constitution” and the injunctions of Washington in his “Farewell Address” to the American people; and particularly to engage in such activities and to seek such ends in the Commonwealth of Virginia, in the Cities of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk and Virginia Beach, in the County of Isle of Wight, on Virginia’s Eastern Shore and in their respective communities, collectively.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Any male shall be eligible for membership in this Chapter who, being of the age of eighteen years or over and a citizen of the United States of good repute in his respective Community, is the lineal descendant of an ancestor who proved to be loyal to, and rendered active service in, the cause of American Independence, either as an officer, soldier, seaman, marine, militia man or minute man, in the armed forces of the Continental Congress or any of the several Colonies or States; 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, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland or Germany who rendered service in the cause of American Independence; or as a recognized Patriot who performed actual service by 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 this Chapter. Every member of the Norfolk Chapter shall be subject to all the rules and regulations of both the Virginia Society and the National Society.

Section 2. By two-thirds vote of the Board of Managers, any member of this Chapter found to entertain any of the advocacies or adherences or to be participant in any of the actions prescribed in Section 1 or 2 of this Article, or who be found otherwise unworthy, shall be summarily expelled from membership in this Chapter, after first being

given thirty days notice in writing that the Board of Managers will consider his case, and being provided opportunity to defend himself before said Board. Action of the Board shall be subject to confirmation by the Chapter.

Section 3. No person shall be elected to honorary (or lifetime) membership in this Chapter unless he is duly elected to honorary (or lifetime) membership in the Virginia Society. If so elected, his privileges and immunities with respect to this Chapter shall be the same enjoyed by him with respect to the Virginia Society.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

The officers of this Chapter shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, an Historian and a Chaplain. They shall be elected at any assembly of the General Membership prior to the Annual Meeting of the Chapter, to serve for one year or until their successors are duly designated and shall take office following their installation during the Annual Meeting. The President shall have the option to appoint two color guard officers (or one Sergeant-at-Arms) to serve for one year or until the successor(s), if any, are duly designated.

ARTICLE V

Board of Managers

The Board of Managers shall consist of the President, who shall be the presiding officer thereof, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Registrar, the most recently retired past president holding membership in the Chapter, the Historian, the Chaplain and all Committee Chairmen. The Board shall take office following the installation of officers at the Annual Meeting. It shall have power to fill vacancies in its body and any vacant elective office in this Chapter, unless otherwise provided for, and to manage the affairs of the Chapter. Four members thereof shall constitute a *quorum* for the transaction of business, provided that reasonable prior notice of a convention of the Board is given to all its members. The Board shall meet at the call of the President or of any three members thereof.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Chapter shall be held in January of each year.

Section 2. Regular bi-monthly meetings may be held, except during the months of June, July and August, at such times and places as may be duly appointed by the membership, by the Board of Managers or by the President.

Section 3. Special meetings may be held at any time and place upon the same authority competent to appoint the time and place of regular monthly meetings.

Section 4. Reasonable notice of all meetings shall be given members prior thereto.

ARTICLE VII

Integration with Virginia and National Societies

This Chapter shall be subject to all laws, rules and regulations applicable to Chapters prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Virginia Society and of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be offered at any meeting of the Chapter, but shall not be acted on prior to the next regular monthly meeting. A copy of every proposed amendment shall be transmitted to each member with the notice of the meeting at which the same is to be acted on, at least one week prior to such meeting. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at such meeting shall be necessary for the adoption of an amendment; and an amendment so adopted shall be effective from the time of its adoption, unless the text of such amendment states otherwise.