



2025-2026
Virginia C.A.R. Society
Contest Packet

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STATE CONTEST GUIDELINES

CONTEST ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS: All contest entries should include a completed entry form. You can find the entry form in the National Packet, as well as on page 5 of this packet. Use it for ALL CONTEST ENTRIES. These contests are for members (birth to 22 years of age) only. For fairness and consideration of age-appropriate activity, work is to be done by MEMBERS ONLY!!

STATE AND NATIONAL CONTESTS: This indicates that our State Contest is the same as its corresponding National Contest, which makes it easy to enter at both levels for these contests. You will need to send your entries to the State and Senior State Officer/Chairman and separately send a copy to the National and Senior National Officer/Chairman. See the National Program Packet at www.nscar.org/program for information on entering National Contests.

STATE ONLY CONTESTS: Unless the contest instructs otherwise, send one copy of each entry to the State Officer/State Chairman and the Senior State Officer/Chairman by mail or by email. Check the latest issue of the V.S.C.A.R. Directory on the state website for addresses.

AGE DIVISIONS: Please pay attention to the age divisions on the contests. PEEWEE MEMBERS are age 10 and UNDER ONLY. Remember, contests are entered by members – they must complete the work on their own.

DEADLINE: Unless otherwise stated in a contest description, ALL STATE CONTEST ENTRIES SHOULD BE EMAILED OR RECEIVED BY REGULAR MAIL NO LATER THAN **SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026.**

CONTEST ENTRY SUBMISSION: Contest entries may be submitted **by e-mail** or **by regular mail**. If you decide to mail your contest entry, PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE SURE THAT THE CORRECT POSTAGE IS ON ALL CONTESTS!! Member Officers/Chairman and Senior Officers/Chairman may refuse any mail with postage due. You are welcome to email state contest entries. Make sure you use the most current V.S.C.A.R. Directory from the website for contact information.

STATE OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN: Please judge all contests according to the guidelines in your contest. Remember work is to be done by members only. If you have questions, contact your senior for assistance; if you are unable to contact your senior, contact Mr. Terpenning.

By February 7, 2026, State Officers and State Chairmen must submit winners to Miss Steinbach and Mr. Terpenning by e-mail to:

Miss Cynthia Steinbach: csteinbach1776@gmail.com and Mr. Terpenning: vscarssp@gmail.com

CONTEST WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE STATE CONFERENCE AWARDS BANQUET!!

DON'T BE LEFT OUT! GET YOUR CONTEST ENTRIES IN ON TIME!!

NATIONAL CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Office or Committee			
Contest			
Society		State	
# members		# participating, total	
# prospective members		# guests	
Society President		Senior Society President	
Name		Name	
Address		Address	
City		City	
State	ZIP + 4® Code	State	ZIP + 4® Code
E-mail		E-mail	
Documentation of your program is required. Please attach: “ Photographs of displays, projects, and events “ Scripts of original programs “ Proof of financial and/or material donations “ Verification of ALL volunteer hours “ All other documentation of your required work to accomplish this program			
I do NOT wish to have my entry posted on the N.S.C.A.R. website ☐ (If applicable, check box)			
Details of donations (material and/or financial, number of volunteer hours)			
Details of how this officer's or committee's program was accomplished			
Statement written by a member (or transcribed for younger members) about what they learned or were excited about while participating in this Program			

NATIONAL MERIT AWARD/V.S.C.A.R. HONOR ROLL

The objective of the National Merit Award is to promote the national programs and projects for the current year. The V.S.C.A.R. Honor Roll awards promote the state programs and projects for the current year. Both programs challenge each local society to hold programs, make donations and involve the parent organizations while supporting the National Project and Theme, *Courage, Service, Honor* and the State Project and Theme, *Agent 1776: Spies of the Revolution*.

Local Societies who participate in the National Merit Award are recognized as a Gold, Blue, Red or Honorable Mention society during the National Convention.

- a. Gold Merit Award: All sections must be answered YES (Achieve at least 280 points)
- b. Blue Merit Award: All but one section must be answered YES (Achieve at least 220 points)
- c. Red Merit Award: All but two sections must be answered YES (Achieve at least 160 points)
- d. Honorable Mention: Sections A & F must be answered YES (Achieve at least 100 points)
- e. Certificate of Appreciation: all other entries

Locate the National Merit Award form found on www.nscar.org under Resources/Forms/Conventions & Contests. Follow the instructions for submission and documentation on the National Merit Award Form. National Merit Award entries are sent to the National and Senior National Chairmen only.

V.S.C.A.R. recognizes accomplishments, activities, and hard work of all Societies and members. ALL Societies are honored for their achievements and will receive a certificate of participation during the State Conference.

Star Categories for V.S.C.A.R. Honor Roll

Blue: 50 Pts. Green: 130 Pts. Red: 210 Pts. Silver 275 Pts. Gold: 325 Pts.

Locate the V.S.C.A.R. Honor Roll form on www.vscar.org under Members/Announcements & Forms. The V.S.C.A.R. Honor Roll must be emailed (preferred) or postmarked on or before , February 2, 2026. See submission information and documentation guidance on the Honor Roll Form.

Societies are encouraged to:

1. Read through the National Merit Award form and the V.S.C.A.R. Honor Roll form often during the year to make sure you are on track.
2. Plan your year based on the National Merit Award, the V.S.C.A.R. Honor Roll, the National Program Packet and the V.S.C.A.R. Contest Packet.
3. Keep track of your programs and the projects all throughout the year and include at least one picture from each event.

IDEAS FOR POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES

Below are some ways you can accomplish the learning goals of this year's C.A.R. Programs in your local society. You can use these suggestions and the National Program topics to guide you as you plan a local society meeting or event. These are not exhaustive: use them as a starting point for your creativity.

PROMOTE

- Love of the United States and service to your community
- C.A.R. membership to your local DAR/SAR/S.R. Chapters
- Leadership development to members
- State and National Projects
- C.A.R. experiences to new members, prospective members, and the community

VISIT

- Museums
- Historical Sites
- Monuments
- Natural areas
- Government buildings (with permission!)

HOST

- Guest speakers: invite someone who knows a lot about your topic to present a program
- Joint meetings between local societies, state societies, and DAR/SAR/S.R. chapters
- Experience panels: interview a group of people who have experience with your program's topic
- Donation drives: collect food, clothing, or other items to contribute to your community
- Research sessions/workshop: visit your library or surf the internet with your society members

CREATE

- Presentations: videos, slideshows, movies, reels, vlogs, etc.
- Activities: games, scavenger hunts, growing a garden, coloring page, etc.
- Crafts: time-periods tools or toys, artistic responses to a topic, etc.
- Educational media: pamphlets, lesson plans, podcasts, quizzes, etc.
- Writing: short stories, poems, comics, articles, etc.

ENGAGE

- Volunteer in your community
- Roleplay or reenact an event
- Watch a movie, show, or educational video
- Develop a long-term project, such as a society garden, cookbook, or yearbook
- Encourage ongoing mentor relationships between older/active and newer/prospective members



2025 - 2026

CONTESTS

Welcome to the Triwizard Tournament

STATE OFFICER CONTESTS

STATE PRESIDENT

State President: Meredith Hopkins

Sr. State President: Joe Terpenning

OBJECTIVE: Encourage participation in the National and State programs during the 2025-2026 *Revolutionary Valor* and *The Diplomatic World of James Madison* Administrations.

PROGRAM: The work of your society should be reflected in a complete, but concise report. The answers will be used to help complete the “State President’s Guidelines” for the National Report.

DID YOUR SOCIETY:

- Promote the National Theme *Revolutionary Valor* and the National Project by doing any of the following:
 - Learn about your own patriotic lineage and society's namesake.
 - Learn about the Dr. Joseph Warren Foundation and why Dr. Joseph Warren is known as “America’s Founding Martyr.”
 - Research lesser-known patriots (women, children Indigenous People, and Persons of Color, etc.) and present their impacts to your society.
- Promote the State Theme *The Diplomatic World of James Madison* and the State Project, by learning and presenting on lesser-known connections (such as Madison and Lafayette, or America, France, and Spain)
 - Learning about the impact of James Madison and the Marquis de Lafayette on our economy.
 - Learn how each country influenced one another's cultures.
 - Completing the three Triwizard Tournament challenges.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local society with the best program on the National Theme "Revolutionary Valor	\$4.00
Local society with the best program on The Diplomatic World of James Madison	\$4.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, with the best picture of them in the Triwizard Tournament	\$2.00

STATE 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

State 1st Vice President: Christopher Hopkins

OBJECTIVE: Celebrate and amplify the 2025-2026 National and State Programs in your local Society.

PROGRAM: Learn about Doctor Joseph Warren and the importance he held for the American Revolution.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Learn about Doctor Joseph Warren's impact and find similar patriots who held the same values and mission.
2. In a society meeting or newsletter, share with members about Doctor Joseph Warren.
3. Explore Doctor Joseph Warren's values and how they are represented today. Share what you learn through pictures.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local Society with the best program on the National Project and theme	\$4.00
Member with the most creative way to help instill the values of our Patriot Ancestors	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 and younger, with the best picture of Doctor Joseph Warren	\$3.00



STATE 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

State 2nd Vice President: Drew Wajciechowski **Sr. State 2nd Vice President:** Jennifer Hopkins

OBJECTIVE: To educate members about James Madison and the legacy he left as a founding father.

PROGRAM: To explore the ways that James Madison shaped our modern policies when dealing with foreign countries, and research how France and Spain influenced the American Revolution.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Make a Kahoot, Gimkit, or Blooket of policies that James Madison set, and play it with your society.
2. Compare the differences of France, Spain, and Americas' ideas on supporting the American Revolution, and present it to your society.
3. Create a skit about James Madison meeting with the Marquis de Lafayette and have your society present it at a meeting.
4. Inform members of your society about what contributions Spain made to the American Revolution.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local Society with the best program, first place	\$4.00
Local Society with the best program, second place	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best drawing of a map with the 13 Original Colonies, France, and Spain (Map does NOT have to be to scale)	\$3.00

CHAPLAIN

State Chaplain: Zachariah Vadermeuse-Siteki

Sr. State Chaplain: Jim Guinn

OBJECTIVE: Learn about the importance of religion during the American Revolution.

PROGRAM: Explore ways religion impacted everyday citizens such as farmers and manual laborers. Explore how professional workers (teachers, doctors, blacksmiths, etc) used religion in their practices.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Write a report or presentation about Dr. Joseph Warren and how religion impacted his life as a doctor.
2. Visit Montpelier, the home of James Madison, to learn about Madison's thoughts on slavery and freedom through his religion.
3. Write a prayer, poem or message that James Madison might have said when diplomatically working with France and Spain.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Society with the Best Program on the State Program	\$3.00
Society with the best Program on the National Program	\$3.00
Member, age 11 & older, with the best prayer	\$2.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, with the best prayer	\$2.00

STATE RECORDING SECRETARY

State Recording Secretary: Jocelyn Wilson

Senior State Recording Secretary: Julie Stuft

OBJECTIVE: Understand the role of written communications during the Revolutionary War and today.

PROGRAM: Learn about how correct meeting minutes are important for organizations. Educate members about James Lafayette, his life, and his contribution to the American Revolution as both a spy and an enslaved person. Educate members on correspondence between spies during the Revolutionary War.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Research James Lafayette and his life and contribution.
2. Research other spies in the Revolutionary War and some of the tools they might have used to communicate in writing, such as invisible ink and secret codes.
3. Research criteria for C.A.R. minute-taking and make sure each society meeting has proper minutes. 2025 is the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary Minutemen. Research their contributions and do a program.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

PeeWee – Best drawing of James Lafayette.	\$2.00
Local Society with the best minutes (one society meeting).	\$3.00
Local society with the best program on communication methods used by spies in the Revolutionary War	\$2.00
Local society with the best program on Revolutionary Minutemen	\$3.00

STATE ORGANIZING SECRETARY

State Organizing Secretary: MacPhearson Strassburg **Sr. State Organizing Secretary:** Eugenia McGroarty

OBJECTIVE: (1) Improve your cursive skills so you will be better equipped to study written materials from America's past. (2) Educate yourself and others about James Madison's contributions to America's founding documents. (3) Educate yourself and others about Dr. Joseph Warren's contributions to the American Revolution.

PROGRAM: 1) Practice reading and writing in cursive on topics related to C.A.R. and James Madison's experiences. (2) Research James Madison's role in crafting important U.S. documents. (3) Research Dr. Warren's contributions to the Suffolk Resolves and the Battle of Bunker Hill. As you learn about each item, involve young people outside of C.A.R. to increase new membership and historical literacy.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Learn how to form cursive letters and practice your skills with the activity sheets below. When you submit them for the contest, you may trace the words or challenge yourself with free-hand replicas of the text. Be sure to include your name, age and Society.
 - [Cursive PeeWee Link](#)
 - [Cursive C.A.R. Creed Link](#)
2. Research James Madison's most significant writings and create a list and brief summary of their significance.
3. Give a presentation on James Madison's legacy to a local youth leadership group (e.g., Scouts or your C.A.R. society), DAR chapters or S.A.R. chapters.
4. Create a short program for your local society about Dr. Warren's role in the Suffolk Resolves and the Battle of Bunker Hill.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local Society with best cursive submission of the C.A.R. Creed	\$2.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, with the best cursive submission	\$2.00
Local society with the best program on James Madison's writings and legacy	\$3.00
Local Society with the best program about Dr. Joseph Warren's contributions to the American Revolution	\$3.00

STATE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

State Corresponding Secretary: Angelica Terpenning **Sr. State Corresponding Secretary:** Julie Elston

OBJECTIVE: Support your community through written correspondence.

PROGRAM: Learn how to use modern communication tools to communicate effectively.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Write a press release about the contributions of France and Spain and how they helped America in the American Revolution..
2. Create a video interviewing a fellow CAR member about their favorite part of this year's state project.
3. Write up an email chain between France, Spain, and America to show how they could have communicated today.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local Society with the Best Program First Place	\$3.00
Local Society with Best Program Second Place	\$2.00
Members 11 and older with Best Writing	\$3.00
Pee Wee with best drawing of France, Spain, and America communicating with one another	\$2.00

STATE TREASURER

State Treasurer: Emily Hopkins

Sr. State Treasurer: Rebecca Slaughter

OBJECTIVE: Learn about Dr. Joseph Warren and how he helped in the Revolutionary war, while also learning about how the Spanish were able to help in the American Revolution.

PROGRAM: Research the different ways Spain provided financial aid to America during the revolution war.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Learn about NSCAR's partnership with the Dr. Joseph Warren Foundation
2. Explore the different types of currency used during the revolutionary war
3. Discuss different country's currencies

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local society with the best program	\$5.00
Ages 11 & older, best presentation on the history of Spanish currency	\$2.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best drawing of Spanish coin from the Revolutionary War era	\$2.00

STATE REGISTRAR

State Registrar: William Mason

Sr. State Registrar: Stacy Wajciechowski

OBJECTIVE: Increase membership involvement in society activities.

PROGRAM: Grow ACTIVE C.A.R. members through community involvement, service to others, and society activities that highlight the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of America's early patriots while promoting *REVOLUTIONARY VALOR*.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Promote society participation with a specific service project that captures the REVOLUTIONARY VALOR theme.
2. Visit James Madison's Montpelier as a Society.
3. Encourage members to learn about and share how Dr. Joseph Warren showed *REVOLUTIONARY VALOR*.
4. Encourage members to represent C.A.R. by wearing their State or National C.A.R. shirts to events and when volunteering, as well as to log their service hours on the N.S.C.A.R. website.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Society with the most members, including prospective members, participating in a society service project.	\$4.00
Local society with the best program on James Madison and/or Montpelier.	\$4.00
PeeWee, age 10 & under, with the best short story or description of why they love the C.A.R. (Story or description can be transcribed by an adult.)	\$2.00



STATE HISTORIAN

State Historian: Kara Morgan

Sr. State Historian: Carol McCue

OBJECTIVE: To learn about our State Theme *‘The Diplomatic World of James Madison’*

PROGRAM: To educate members of C.A.R. about the contributions of James Madison, and his relationship with the Marquis de Lafayette in a fun and engaging way, and how America, France, and Spain worked together to turn around their economies.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Visit James Madison’s Montpelier and/or a historic marker along the Lafayette Trail.
2. Discuss the partnership between Madison and Lafayette and the countries of America, France, and Spain.
3. Complete “wizard” member tasks posted on social media.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local Society with the best program about the State Theme.	\$3.00
Members, 11 & older, best member created map showing The Lafayette Trail Farewell Tour Route.	\$2.00
Member, 11 & older, best Harry Potter inspired comic strip showing the relationship between America, France, and Spain.	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best drawing of the flags of American, France, and Spain.	\$2.00

STATE LIBRARIAN

State Librarian: Laura Guinn

Sr. State Librarian: Alex Griffith

OBJECTIVE: Understand the Diplomatic World of James Madison

PROGRAM: Educate members about James Madison’s diplomatic relations with people, for example the Marquis de Lafayette. He turned around America’s economy and success as a developing new nation.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Research the Lafayette Trail on the Web.
2. Research Constitutional Village at Montpelier on the Web..
3. Find some books about James Madison and Lafayette and share the title with your society.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local society with the best program on James Madison’s ideas to turn around America’s economy	\$4.00
Local society with the best program of the Marquis de Lafayette	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, with the best drawing of James Madison	\$3.00

STATE CURATOR

State Curator: Ella Couretas

Sr. State Curator: Suzanne Kerney

OBJECTIVE: Explain what impact key revolutionary supporters had on American history. Show how the things that they carried helped them in their struggle – this could be spiritually (e.g., a Bible, a favorite hymn), mentally (e.g., pamphlets - Thomas Paine’s “Common Sense”) or physically (e.g., a good luck charm, any kind of talisman, etc.).

PROGRAM: Describe an early American patriot, or group of patriots, and the values that we, C.A.R. members should strive to uphold. Show how their actions exhibit Courage, Sacrifice, and Dedication.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Create a display for a local library or your school depicting remembrance of Revolutionary War contributors, including key wives that supported the effort (e.g., Dolley Madison, ...).
2. Visit a museum and report the outing.
3. Build or dedicate a memorial garden in your community.
4. Host a program with your local C.A.R./DAR/SAR chapters on Dr. Joseph Warren and his contributions to the Revolutionary War.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local society with best program	\$4.00
Local society with the best display of Dr. Joseph Warren or Revolutionary War contributors	\$3.00
Pee Wee, age 10 & younger, best drawing or display / build Revolutionary War contributors in action	\$3.00



PROGRAM COMMITTEE CONTESTS

AMERICAN HERITAGE

State Chairman: Glenn Stroud

Sr. State Chairman: Judy Guinn

OBJECTIVE: Focus on the people, places, landmarks, and events significant in American history. In addition, understand the value of family research, genealogical studies, and what those can reveal about contributions to our American heritage. Understand the value of relationships between American and allied countries during the revolutionary time period.

PROGRAM:

1. Research your family tree to find out more about your patriot ancestor and present it to your group.
2. Learn about resources and techniques to assist with genealogy research.
3. Discuss the contributions James Madison made to America and the diplomacy that went on during this time period.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Visit Montpelier or read a book about James Madison.
2. Visit some historical sites related to the revolution (or take an “online tour”) and share with your group about what you learned.
3. Attend a local reenactment and learn about life at the time of the American Revolution.
4. Encourage and assist others with genealogy research.

CONTEST: STATE AND NATIONAL

Local society with the best program, First Place	\$3.00
Local society with the best program, Second Place	\$2.00

STATE ONLY

PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best drawing of your family tree.	\$2.00
Member, age 11 & older, best paragraph on the life/contributions of your patriot.	\$3.00

AMERICAN HISTORY

State Chairman: Alexandra Abbot

Sr. State Chairman: Hannah Cramer

OBJECTIVE: Focus on people, places, landmarks, symbols, dates, and events significant in American history.

PROGRAM: Learn about how diplomacy and alliances with other nations impacted the Revolutionary War. Specifically, learn about James Madison's efforts and accomplishments to support the Revolution, as well as his influence in later events in American history.

SUGGESTIONS:

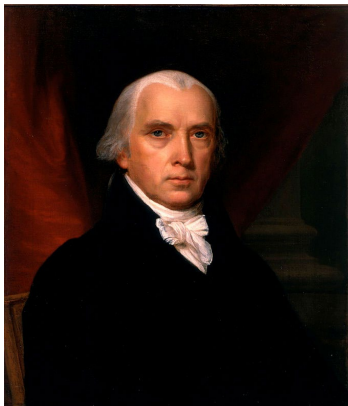
1. Create a timeline of James Madison's life, including his major accomplishments.
2. Madison participated in drafting both the Articles of Confederation and U.S. Constitution. Compare and contrast these two documents and the systems of government they describe.
3. Take a virtual tour of Madison's home, Montpelier ([Virtual Tour of Montpelier - Encyclopedia Virginia](#))

CONTEST: NATIONAL AND STATE

Local Society with the best program, First Place	\$3.00
Local Society with the best program, Second Place	\$2.00
Local Society with the best program, Third Place	\$1.00

STATE ONLY

PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best drawing of James Madison with one of his major accomplishments	\$2.00
Member, age 11 and older, best comic depicting what you think was Madison's most important accomplishment	\$1.00
Local society with the best program on James Madison's most significant Accomplishment	\$1.00



C.A.R./DAR/SAR/S.R. RELATIONS

State Chairman: Ella Glanville

Sr. State Chairman: Tatton Mason

OBJECTIVE: To help develop communications and establish relations between the members of the C.A.R., DAR, SAR, S.R.

PROGRAM: Strengthen involvement with your local DAR, SAR, S.R. chapters and learn about each other's projects.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Encourage DAR/SAR/S.R. members to come to C.A.R meetings and other events such as community service projects and parades or plan a joint meeting!
2. Give a presentation to DAR/SAR/S.R. chapters about a lesser known patriot or an alliance that helped support America.
3. Encourage DAR/SAR/S.R. members to become active in C.A.R by becoming senior society members or by speaking at meetings!

CONTEST: STATE AND NATIONAL

Local society with the best program, First Place	\$5.00
Local society with the best program, Second Place	\$3.00
Local Society with the best program, Third Place honorable mention.	

STATE ONLY

PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best drawing of the DAR/SAR/S.R. working together with C.A.R.	\$2.00
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C.A.R. DAY OF SERVICE

State Chairman: Evangeline Mason

Sr. State Chairman: Nina Brown

OBJECTIVE: To plan and promote the annual C.A.R. Day of Service held on or around April 15th of each year as a designated time for C.A.R. members, seniors, and supporters to complete service activities in honor of the founding of the National Society on April 5, 1895.

PROGRAM: Learn about and support youth programs in local communities through the annual C.A.R. Day of Service, as well as throughout the year, instilling service and community engagement in every member.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Arrange a supply drive to support military children or local Children's Homes (arts and craft supplies, baby shower, diaper drive, gently used clothes, toys, etc.)
2. Clean up or create a community garden and teach children how to identify different plants.
3. Identify places of historical importance to children and assist in restoration or other requested projects.
4. Read to children at local libraries.
5. Donate needed supplies and recess equipment to local schools.
6. Volunteer at community centers to help with children.
7. Collect supplies for and/ or volunteer at a local animal shelter.

CONTEST: There is no contest for this program. Everyone is encouraged to be active in their community through volunteering for the sake of making their community better.

VOICE OF VIRGINIA/C.A.R. MAGAZINE

State Chairman: Angelica Terpenning

Sr. State Chairman: Emily Elston, JoDell Wilson

OBJECTIVE: Publish actions and accomplishments of wizards (members) from their society while finding fun by serving their communities.

PROGRAM: Design engaging content using inspiration in the state and national themes! Including articles and pictures, for your local society newsletter, Voice of Virginia newsletter and the C.A.R. Magazine.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Write an article with information about how James Madison and the Marquis de Lafayette worked together during the 1800s, your own patriot ancestor, and ways you are cultivating leaders and being a leader in your local area while volunteering. Submit to your local and state newsletters and national magazines.
2. Share what you love about being a member of CAR.
3. Pretend you're editing a magazine about The Diplomatic World of James Madison & draw a magazine cover.

STATE NEWSLETTER CONTEST GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION: Local Society Newsletters:

- Publish and distribute (by email) a minimum of 4 newsletters between March 1, 2025, and February 28, 2026.
- Publish and distribute a separate society yearbook. The yearbook should include member name, address, phone number, ancestor, birth date, and national number. Also include a list of officers, chairmen, senior officers, and senior chairmen.
- E-mail these newsletters and directory when they are published to vscarvoice@gmail.com, vscarssp@gmail.com, and nscarnewsletters@gmail.com.
- Each newsletter must include:
 - a. Page 1: Society Name, State, Date, N.S.C.A.R. website: www.nscar.org, and V.S.C.A.R. website: www.vscar.org
 - b. Society President Name and email address
 - c. Senior Society President Name, phone number, and e-mail address
 - d. 2025-2026 National Theme: Revolutionary Valor
 - e. Mention of the National Project
 - f. 2025-2026 State Theme: France: The Diplomatic World of James Madison
 - g. Mention of the State Project
 - h. Article by a member, puzzle/game written by a member, including members' name and age
 - i. Announcement of new members (do not include contact information)
- To qualify for State Awards, send newsletters and directory, when they are issued, to the following via e-mail addresses:
 - o Voice of Virginia Editor at vscarvoice@gmail.com
 - o Mr. Joe Terpenning, Senior State President, vscarssp@gmail.com
 - o Meredith Hopkins, State President, lj.mermer07@gmail.com

Note: V.S.C.A.R. Patriots are friends of Virginia C.A.R. who support V.S.C.A.R. with an annual donation of \$10. Patriots receive the electronic version of the Voice of Virginia. (See National Newsletter Contest Requirements in the National Program Packet.)

CONTEST: STATE & NATIONAL

Local society with the best newsletter, First Place	\$5.00
Local society with the best newsletter, Second Place	\$3.00
Local society with the best newsletter, Third Place	\$2.00

CONSERVATION

State Chairman: Lailana Vadermeuse-Siteki

Sr. State Chairman: Anne Mason

OBJECTIVE: Understand the need for preservation of natural resources and to participate in good conservation practices. Members must accept responsibility for good conservation habits in order to preserve the natural resources of America.

PROGRAM: Learn about methods of protecting plants, animals, and the local environment.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Write a report or presentation on the importance of water conservation or recycling.
2. Match plants and animals to Spain, France, and the United States using the attached map and pictures.
3. Investigate any of the plants and animals found in Spain, France, and the United States from question #2 to determine how the country is conserving their habitat and/or environment.

CONTEST: STATE AND NATIONAL

Local society with the best program, First Place	\$4.00
Local Society with the best program, Second Place	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best drawing of yourself as a firefighter	\$3.00



GOVERNMENT STUDIES

State Chairman: Atticus Stumborg

Sr. State Chairman: Jerry Couretas

OBJECTIVE: Understand how local, state and federal governments work. Learn about the role our Founding Fathers played in creating our federal government. Explore the history of the Virginia state government. Examine how colonists helped shape local government. Experience how your local government operates today.

PROGRAM:

1. Explore how our Founding Fathers helped shape our federal government.
2. Understand our state and national constitutions.
3. Examine how colonists helped shape local government.
4. Experience how your local government operates today.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Our Founding Fathers did not always agree on how to operate our government. Choose two founding fathers who disagreed politically. Discuss what they disagreed about, explain each of their opinions and the final outcome.
2. Draw a picture of a (past or present) local or state site of government. A Courthouse, City Hall, Capitol building etc. Be sure to write the name of the building, the location and the year it was built.
3. Create a chart, game, posterboard or write a skit comparing our Virginia Constitution to the U.S. Constitution.
4. Play the role of a reporter for your local newspaper. Attend a local City or Town Council meeting and report on the issues raised and decisions made by your local leaders.

CONTEST:

STATE AND NATIONAL

Local society with the best program, First Place	\$3.00
Local society with the best program, Second Place	\$2.00

STATE ONLY

PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best drawing of a local or Virginia State site of government	\$2.00
Member, age 11 & older, best article, writeup description of local, State, or national government	\$3.00

INDIGENOUS HISTORY

State Chairman: Alexandra Collins

Sr. State Chairman: GeeGee Nelson

OBJECTIVE: Study various aspects of Native American history, heritage and culture (e.g., food, family, agriculture, art, music, and storytelling) and tribal impact (e.g., migration, political, military) on our nation's history. Learn more about the local tribe or tribes that lived in your area by using Native-Land.ca | Our home on native land. Some lands were shared, used for trade routes, or only for certain seasons, so it may vary.

PROGRAM: Explore how the local tribe or tribes were involved in and impacted by the American Revolutionary War.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Explore how Indigenous people contributed to the major events leading up to the American Revolution.
2. Learn how the local tribe or tribes impacted or contributed to either side of the American Revolution. How did they choose a side?
3. Learn how the American Revolution affected or changed the way of life for the local tribe or tribes. How did it do this? How did they adjust?

CONTEST: STATE AND NATIONAL

Local society with the best program.	\$4.00
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PeeWee, age 10 and younger, best drawing of an American Indian tribe/settlement	\$3.00
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KIDS HELPING KIDS

State Chairman: Jack Akers

Sr. State Chairman: Christina Terpenning

OBJECTIVE: To have fun while providing help with community activities.

PROGRAM: To be active in events in your local community by giving back to programs that Help Kids.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Collect items and donate to an organization that helps kids.
2. Volunteer at an organization that helps kids.
3. Have a peewee draw the cover of their favorite book and donate the book.

CONTEST: STATE AND NATIONAL

Local society with the best program on Kids Helping Kids	First Place	\$3.00
	Second Place	\$2.00

STATE ONLY

PeeWee, age 10 and younger, with the best drawing of First Responders in action	First Place	\$3.00
	Second Place	\$2.00

MEMBERSHIP

State Chairman: William Mason **Sr. State Chairman:** Julie Stufft

OBJECTIVE: Increasing membership in the Virginia Society C.A.R.

PROGRAM: Encouraging membership by providing fun opportunities.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Host a meeting/tour at a local historic location with each member bringing a friend to welcome as a potential new member.
2. Attend wreath laying/grave marking ceremonies.
3. Reach out to the SAR, SR, and DAR to host joint events or send postcards to their members with children or grandchildren.
4. Share your events and meetings – advertise them with other societies, submit stories to your local newspaper or radio stations, or through social media.
5. Post flyers of society information/activities at local libraries, schools, churches, and museums.
6. Keep your website/social media up to date so potential new members know you are still active.
7. Share the State/National Project information with friends.
8. Reach out by phone to less active society members and encourage them to return to in-person meetings or find ways for them to be active.
9. Help a DAR chapter establish a Jr. American Citizens Committee. Kids/teens do not have to have lineage requirements and can join in society activities. They can enjoy the history field trips as non-members, while doing genealogy for possible lineages for C.A.R. membership.
10. Be creative and reach out to the community to let them know C.A.R. is active in the community.

CONTEST: STATE & NATIONAL

Society with largest increase in membership by percentage, 26 members or more	\$4.00
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Society with largest increase in membership by percentage, 25 members or less	\$4.00
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STATE ONLY

Society with the best social media post promoting C.A.R. Membership	\$2.00
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MOUNTAIN SCHOOLS

State Chairman: Anna Cox and Sara Cox **Sr. State Chairman:** Deborah Davis

OBJECTIVE: Provide material and financial aid to Berry College, Inc., The Crossnore School, Inc., Hillside School, Inc., Hindman Settlement School, Inc., and Kate Duncan Smith DAR School.

PROGRAM: Learn more about the Mountain Schools' surrounding atmosphere and facilities supporting them.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Learn about the history and mission of each school.
2. Learn about the different educational opportunities offered at each school.
3. Write and send birthday/holiday cards to students at the Mountain schools.
4. Create a coloring sheet or bookmark about Mountain Schools.
5. Find a specific need of a school and have a bake sale or other type of fundraising activity (Box Tops for Education, Amazon Smile, grocery store reward programs, etc.).

CONTEST: STATE & NATIONAL

Local society with the best program	\$3.00
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Local society sending the most financial or material aid to a Mountain School	\$2.00
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STATE ONLY

Member, 11 and older, with the best essay of one of the Mountain Schools	\$3.00
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PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best craft/project representing a Mountain School	\$2.00
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PATRIOTIC EDUCATION

State Chairman: Sophie Couretas

Sr. State Chairman: Suzanne Kerney-Quillen

OBJECTIVE: Explain what impact that one or more American Revolutionary Patriots had on educating Americans throughout their history. Show how key Patriots set examples of self-sacrifice, leadership, and moral, intellectual and commercial development.

PROGRAM: Describe an early American patriot, or group of patriots, and the values that we C.A.R. members should strive to uphold – show how their actions exhibit Courage, Sacrifice, and Dedication.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Create a display that describes how Benjamin Franklin's focus on personal development led to him being one of the richest men in America
2. Describes how pamphlets were used for education leading up to and during the American Revolution.
3. Create a display for a local library or your school depicting books and movies that tell a Patriot story supporting, during, or following the Revolutionary War that continues to inspire.
4. Describe how the Patriots worked with French and / or Spanish allies in an example of alliance that we continue to see in current International relations today.
5. Visit a museum and report the outing.
6. Build or dedicate a memorial garden in your community.
7. Host a program with your local C.A.R./DAR/SAR chapters on Patriot education that highlights one or more key values that we are still inheriting.

CONTEST: STATE & NATIONAL

Local society that creates the best patriotic education activity for use in a school.	\$4.00
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STATE ONLY

Local society with best program	\$2.00
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Local society with best display of Dr. Joseph Warren or Revolutionary War contributors	\$2.00
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Pee Wee, age 10 & younger, best drawing or display / build Revolutionary War contributors in action	\$2.00
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PUBLIC RELATIONS

State Chairman: Madeleine Morse-Hill

Sr. State Chairman: Alex Griffith

OBJECTIVE: To increase public knowledge and support of VSCAR members, initiatives, and the organization itself. Members are encouraged to showcase creativity in design, knowledge and enthusiasm of their family genealogy, and the ability to curate an informative snapshot into the VSCAR membership process.

PROGRAM: Engage with local community members and publicize VSCAR initiatives in a respectful, educational, and positive fashion.

SUGGESTIONS

1. VSCAR members create a presentation or visual “roadmap” of their journey in becoming a member of CAR and discovering their family history. Include exciting historical details, a member’s patriot’s role in the revolution, and other fun facts.
2. Craft a video essay explaining VSCAR’s history and role in youth American patriotism with an emphasis on how VSCAR values intersect or have influenced a member’s own values as a descendant of a patriot in the Revolution.
3. Write a short article on local VSCAR society initiatives and publicize this article (in local newspapers, online journals/social media, etc.)

CONTEST: STATE & NATIONAL

Society with the best program, First Place	\$5.00
Society with the best program, Second Place	\$3.00

STATE ONLY

PeeWee, age 10 & younger, with best fliers or posters promoting C.A.R.	\$2.00
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VETERANS

State Chairman: Teague Quillen

Sr. State Chairman: Donna Sayre

OBJECTIVE: To honor those C.A.R. members and all veterans who have served our country in the military, just as our ancestors did in the American Revolution.

PROGRAM: Learn about and celebrate the Revolutionary Valor of veterans in our military, past and present, including Virginia patriots who were integral to the Revolutionary War.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Interview C.A.R. members or seniors who are veterans or invite them to speak at your meeting about their military experience.
2. Talk about C.A.R.-aged patriots (under age 22) who showed Revolutionary Valor, such as the Marquis de Lafayette, who was 19 years old during the Revolutionary War.
3. Present a program about James Madison, who briefly served as a private and was later commissioned as Colonel and Commander of the Orange County Regiment of the Virginia Militia.
4. Learn about Virginia patriots who served during the American Revolution, such as James Armistead Lafayette.
5. Honor patriots in your area by finding and visiting veterans memorials in your community.
6. Make a unique and creative presentation about your society members' patriot ancestors and how they contributed to the American Revolution.
7. Participate in Veterans Day events in your community.
8. Participate in Wreaths Across America by either sponsoring wreaths or volunteering to lay wreaths at a local veterans' cemetery.

CONTEST: STATE & NATIONAL

Local society with best program	\$4.00
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STATE ONLY

Local society with the best overall participation in a community veterans event (include a brief, 100 word or less write-up about the society's participation in the event and include photographs or copy of media coverage, such as a newspaper clipping or link to article)	\$2.00
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Member with the best drawing of a veterans event	\$2.00
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PeeWee, age 10 and younger, with the best drawing of the James Armistead Lafayette	\$2.00
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STANDING COMMITTEE CONTESTS

ENDOWMENT FUND

OBJECTIVE: Promote the purchase of the National and State Endowment Fund pins.

PROGRAM: Learn how the purchase of the State and National Endowment Fund pins benefit the National and State Societies. Anyone contributing \$100.00 or more to the National Endowment Fund or in whose honor \$100.00 is given, will receive a National Endowment Fund Pin. The State Endowment pin is the Swallowtail Butterfly pin. Anyone contributing \$50.00 or more to the State Endowment Fund through V.S.C.A.R will receive a pin.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Go to www.nscar.org to learn about the National Endowment Fund pin.
2. Present a program about the different National and State donation pins, and how purchases of these pins benefit the National and State societies.
3. Encourage members and seniors to purchase Endowment Fund pins.
4. Learn about the purpose of an endowment fund and present it to your society.
5. Create a game (or another creative activity) using the Endowment Fund pin as a central theme.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local society purchasing the most National and State Endowment Fund Pins, 26 members or more	\$3.00
Local society purchasing the most National and State Endowment Fund Pins, 25 members or fewer	\$3.00
Member, age 11 & older, with best drawing incorporating either Endowment Fund Pin	\$2.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, with best drawing of either Endowment Fund Pin	\$2.00

FLAG

State Chairman: Wyatt Herring

Sr. State Chairman: Mark Storage

OBJECTIVE: Learn the history, care, and respect of the Flag of the United State of America.

PROGRAM: Create a program to learn the history, care, and respect of the Flag of the United States of America.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Learn about the purpose of the United States Flag Code.
2. Attend or conduct a flag retirement ceremony.
3. Pass out flags at a community event, a naturalization ceremony, during a parade, or at another activity.
4. Learn about the Union and Confederate Flags used during the Civil War.
5. Learn about spies and their use of flags

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local society with best program, First Place	\$4.00
Local society with the best program, Second Place	\$3.00
PeeWee, 10 & younger, best picture of a signal flag used by a spy	\$3.00

INSIGNIA & RIBBON

Sr. State Chairman: Stacy Wajciechowski

OBJECTIVE: Learn more about the N.S.C.A.R. Insignia Pin and Ribbon.

PROGRAM: To inform society members about the N.S.C.A.R. Insignia Pin and Ribbon.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Learn about the N.S.C.A.R. Insignia Pin and Ribbon and its history.
2. Learn about what the symbols on the pin represent.
3. Learn about what pins may be worn on the official ribbon and why.
4. Learn about the proper placement and order of pins worn on the official ribbon and the guidelines for wearing the N.S.C.A.R. Insignia.
5. Learn about insignias worn by government or military officials, such as ambassadors or military ranking.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local society with best program on the insignia	\$5.00
Local society submitted a picture with the most members wearing their insignia	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, with the best drawing of the C.A.R. insignia	\$2.00



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Sr. State President: Mackie Storage

OBJECTIVE: To promote the development of leadership skills in C.A.R.

PROGRAM: Highlight the leadership development opportunities that both N.S.C.A.R. and V.S.C.A.R. offer members.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Discuss how a diplomat's style of leadership might differ from general military leaders' style. Discuss the character traits that good diplomats have.
2. Conduct a team building activity with your society.
3. Divide into groups and assign each a type of leadership to research, including Servant Leadership, Democratic Leadership, Autocratic Leadership, etc. Come together and have groups present on their type.
4. Discuss the leadership and decisions made by famous diplomats. Divide into groups to research a famous diplomat and a tough leadership decision that the diplomat had to make. Does the group think that it was a good decision? Why or why not?
5. Ask a Senior or parent to give a presentation about how leadership skills help them at their job. Learn about effective communication skills to help with leadership in the real world. Discuss what makes a good leader, encouraging each other to take leadership roles within your society.
6. Research your favorite historical leader and explain why you think they are a good leader.
7. Research for and practice a debate. Ask each team to use Pathos, Logos, and Ethos in their arguments. Possible topics include: Should schools have a uniform, should students have homework, and should all students play a sport, etc.
8. Discuss how you can lead within your society and community.

CONTEST: NATIONAL & STATE

Local society with the best program, First Place	\$3.00
Local society with the best program, Second Place	\$2.00

STATE ONLY

Member, best essay on what leadership means to you, one page front and back	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, best acrostic poem, word: leader	\$2.00

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

State Chairman: Lucy Mazzouccolo

Sr. State Chairman: Nancy Akers

OBJECTIVE: Remember, honor, and respect those who fought for our country's freedom along with those who continue to fight to this day.

PROGRAM: Learn about who fell in war, dedicating their lives during the American Revolution.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Research the history of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution and give a talk on why the Tomb is important today.
2. Visit the graves of unknown soldiers and place a flag or wreath at the head of each grave to pay respects to the unknown soldiers.
3. Volunteer to help care for and preserve cemetery grounds that hold unknown or known soldiers.
4. Create a wreath to honor and commemorate a soldier of the Revolution.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Society with the best photo of a wreath created by members, with a description of where the wreath was laid and who it honored	\$5.00
Member with the best story on an unknown soldier describing who you think the unknown soldier was (age, appearance, where from, family, hobbies, occupation, likes/dislikes, etc.)	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 & younger, with the best drawing of a commemorative wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution	\$2.00

STANDING COMMITTEE CONTESTS - STATE ONLY

STATE PROJECT

Sr. State Chairman: Hannah Cramer & Catie Wasenko

OBJECTIVE: To raise funds to restore and renovate cottages in Constitutional Village and to raise funds to place a plaque with The Lafayette Trail along Lafayette's Farewell Tour Route.

PROGRAM: To discover the important contributions of James Madison and the Marquis de Lafayette. Two natural diplomats that put aside their differences to help strengthen their countries.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Visit James Madison's Montpelier to learn more about the state project and all the work James Madison did throughout his life.
2. Present a program on our State Project and represent our state theme "The Diplomatic World of James Madison" to local DAR, SAR, and S.R. chapters.
3. Think of ways to raise money and awareness for the State Project.
4. Help raise money for the state project by purchasing state project t-shirts, pins, and decoders.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local Society with the most creative way of raising money for the state project	\$3.00
Local Society with the most money raised for the project	\$3.00
PeeWee, age 10 or younger, with the best drawing or artwork of the State Project pin or t-shirt	\$2.00
Member, age 11 or older, with the best poster, pamphlet, or digital creation explaining the state project	\$2.00



ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

State Chairman: Jorjica Stumborg

OBJECTIVE: A fundraiser to help support V.S.C.A.R.'s State Project at Montpelier and The Lafayette Trail Organization.

Who: All Virginia Societies and support groups are encouraged to participate by donating a basket for conference attendees to have a chance to bid on/win.

What: Each society/group should work together to create a themed basket filled with items that will be brought to the 2026 State Conference for the auction fundraiser. Theme suggestions: Sports, Patriotic, Pets, Family Game Night, Beach Party, Movie Night, Camping/Outdoors, etc.

Where: Please bring your group's basket to the back of the meeting room after 4:00 p.m. on Friday Evening of the 2026 State Conference. An Auction Committee member will register your basket for you so your society can get credit. **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BASKET ON THE TABLE IF NO ONE IS THERE TO RECEIVE IT.** Otherwise your society may not get credit for it.

How: Basket may be divided into three methods of being awarded; silent auction, live auction, and ticket drawing. Each conference registrant will receive a ticket in his/her registration packet with a chance to win a basket of his/her choosing for the selected ticket drawing baskets. Silent auction bids can be made during the Friday night opening session or the Saturday morning business session. The silent auction will close approximately 15 minutes before the end of the Saturday business session. Official closing time for the silent auction and ticket drawings will be announced during the Saturday business meeting. Live auction baskets will be auctioned off during the Saturday evening Awards Banquet.

CONTEST: STATE ONLY

Local society with the most creative basket donated \$5.00

Local society with the most money raised by their basket donation \$5.00

