

B Y - L A W S

of the Gold Country CHAPTER

of the CALIFORNIA SOCIETY

of the

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**ARTICLE I**

Purposes and Objectives

The purposes and objectives of the Gold Country 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 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 fore-fathers; to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution; to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patri9t 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 of the Constitution of our country and the injunction of George Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

**ARTICLE II**

Principle Location and Office

The Gold Country Chapter, chartered by the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution as the Auburn Chapter in 1924 and re-shall maintain its Principal Location within the Counties Placer and Nevada. The Principal Office of the Harbor Chapter shall be the residence or office of the President of the Chapter during his term of office.

**ARTICLE III**

**Membership**

Section 1. Qualification. Invitation to membership is open to men of good character, eighteen years of age or older, who are direct descendants of an ancestor who either fought or aided in the Revolutionary War, or otherwise contributed to establishing our Independence, as determined by the California and National Societies of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Section 2. Designation. The official designation of a member of this Chapter and Society shall be "Compatriot".

Section 3. Categories.

The categories of membership in this Chapter shall be:

Annual Member.

Life Member.

Exempt Member.

Annual Members shall continue as members in good standing as long as all yearly dues - National, State, and Chapter - are paid in full. Any

members in good standing may become a Life Member, thereafter, exempt from payment of annual dues, by meeting the requirements set by the California Society. Exempt membership status may be granted by this Chapter, subject to the requirements of the California and National Societies, on account of age or infirmity, coupled with an inability to pay annual dues. Exempt Membership status may also be granted to those members who have faithfully paid their annual dues for fifty years or more.

Section 4. Definition of a Member in Good Standing. Each Life Member, each Exempt Member; and each Annual Member, whose annual dues are not in arrears, is deemed a Member in Good Standing of this Chapter and this Society.

Section 5. Membership Rights and Privileges. All members in good standing shall equally share the rights, powers, privileges, and liabilities of this Chapter. The privileges of attending meetings, being heard, voting in membership meetings and holding office shall belong to all Chapter Members in good standing. All members in good standing of this Chapter shall be retained on the mailing list to receive all regular mailings and meeting notices"

Section 6. Resignation of Membership. Members of this Chapter, if their dues are not in arrears, may resign their membership or any office held, either orally at any meeting of this Chapter or by written notice mailed to the Chapter Secretary. Such resignation from membership or office shall be effective as of the date of the resignation letter and/or acceptance thereof by a majority votes of the Chapter's Board of Directors.

Section 7. Dues Delinquency. A member delinquent in payment of annual dues may be suspended and dropped from membership by a majority vote of the Chapter's Board of Directors upon recommendation of the Chapter Treasurer. A member so dropped may be re-instated by the Board by the payment of dues in arrears and any reinstatement fees fixed by the National Society.

Section 8. Chapter Dues. The Chapter dues shall be established at \$15.00 per year for Annual Members and Dual Members. The Chapter dues for each year shall be reviewed and confirmed at the Annual Membership Meeting of the Chapter to be held in January. Dues may be paid by check, cash, or through approved digital payment platforms as designated by the Chapter Treasurer.

#### **ARTICLE IV Board of Directors**

Section 1. Powers of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of the Gold Country Chapter shall be responsible for conducting and managing the business, program and activities of the Chapter. They shall generally superintend and guard its interests, in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws. It shall make policy and govern this Chapter subject to the interests and the will of the membership these By-Laws & the By-Laws of the California and National Societies of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Section 2. General Responsibility of The Directors. No member of this Chapter shall in good conscience accept election or appointment to a position or office on the Board of Directors, or to any committee unless he is willing, able and prepared to devote the necessary time and ability to the faithful discharge of his duties during the term of his election or appointment.

Section 3. Number and Qualification of Members of the Board. The authorized number of members of the Board of Directors of this Chapter shall be fifteen until changed by amendment of these By-Laws. No Chapter Member may accept election or appointment to the Board of Directors unless he is a member in good standing at the time of election or appointment.

Section 4. Composition of the Board of Directors

The positions composing the Harbor Chapter's Board of Directors shall consist of the following officers and members of the Board

President

First Vice-President

Second Vice-President

Genealogist

Secretary

Treasurer

Registrar

Chaplain

Section 5. Election and Term of Office.

The Officers and members of the Board of Directors shall be installed at each Annual Membership Meeting of the Gold Country Chapter to be held in the month of January or in a month designated by the Board. Any position or office not filled at the Annual Membership Meeting may be filled by election at any Special Meeting of the Chapter Membership called and held for that purpose. All members of the Board of Directors shall hold office until their respective successors are elected. The term of office for all Officers and Directors shall begin at the closing of each Annual Membership Meeting.

Section 6. Method of Election.

The election of officers and Directors shall be held by voice vote.

Section 7. Removal and Resignation.

Any officer or director may resign or may be removed for cause by the Board of Directors at any time, Vacancies caused by death, resignation, or removal of any officer or director may be filled by appointment by the President and with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 8. Fees and Compensation.

Officers and members of the Board of Directors of the Gold Country Chapter shall receive no compensation for their services as officers or directors but may receive such reimbursement for necessary expenses as may be fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Duties of the Officers and Directors**

Section 1 . The President. The President shall be the Executive Officer of the Chapter and subject to the control of the Board of Directors, shall have general supervision, direction and control of the affairs of the Chapter. He shall preside at all meetings of the Membership and the Board of Directors. He shall recommend any projects, programs, and activities which will further the aims of the Sons of the American Revolution and which shall be undertaken by the chapter during his term of office.

Section 2. The First Vice-President shall function in the absence of the President, or upon the President's inability to act and shall perform such duties as assigned by the President. In addition, the First Vice-President shall give active leadership to and serve as the Chairman of the Chapter Membership Committee and shall develop plans, programs and projects to boost Chapter and SAR membership. He shall serve as liaison officer to genealogical and heritage societies in the Chapter area.

Section 3. The Second Vice-President shall serve as the chairman of the chapter's Program and Activities Committee. He shall secure speakers for the membership meetings; plan and conduct special programs for the celebration of historical or patriotic holidays. He shall be responsible for the development of joint activities with other SAR, DAR, patriotic or historical and heritage organizations,

Section 4. The Secretary shall maintain a record of the minutes of all chapter membership and board meetings, the attendance records, rosters of members and prospective members and the mailing lists of the chapter or will handle all correspondence with the California and National Societies, He will also handle all supplies and supply orders.

Section 5. The Treasurer will keep and maintain adequate and correct books of accounts showing the receipts and disbursements of the chapter as well as an account of its cash and other assets Such books of account shall at reasonable times be open to inspection by any member of this chapter. He shall deposit all money of the chapter with such depositaries as are designated by the Board of Directors and shall disburse the funds of the chapter as may be ordered by the Board of Directors. He shall present to the Chapter at each meeting a financial report showing the financial condition of the chapter,

Section 6. The Chaplain shall open and close all meetings of the chapter with the usual and proper services on such occasions. The Chaplain will serve as the Chairman of the Awards and Recognitions Committee and will make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors for its action,

Section 8. The Registrar shall examine all applications for membership in compliance with the requirements set forth by the California and National Societies. He shall screen all membership applications for thoroughness and completeness. He shall approve the eligibility of each applicant for election to membership in this chapter and report thereon to the Board of Directors.

Section 9. The Historian will record and maintain the history of the chapter, officers, and members. He will seek out ways to place in appropriate depositories a complete history of the chapter during the term of his office. He will maintain liaison with libraries in the chapter area; He may with the cooperation of the membership and the Board produce a yearbook recording the chapter history.

Section 12. The Genealogist will assist candidates for membership who special problems in documenting their lineage. He will conduct seminars for candidates and for members working on supplemental lines.

Section 13. The Directors (Three) not assigned to specific offices shall actively assist in promoting membership, organizing chapter meetings and performing all other such duties assigned to them by the Chapter President.

Section 1. The Annual Membership Meeting. The Annual Membership Meeting shall be held during the month of January to install the officers and members of the Board of Directors and to conduct and transact any other business. At this meeting appropriate recognition shall be made to those members, officers and directors who have rendered exceptional service to the chapter and the SAR, and to those non-members who have given outstanding service or assistance to the chapter or to their communities. Notice of this meeting must be sent to all members in good standing at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Notification may be made by mail, email, or other electronic communication approved by the Board of Directors. The date of mailing or electronic transmission shall be considered the first of the seven days.

Section 2. Quorum. The presence in person of at least five Chapter members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any duly called meeting of the chapter.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**Committees**

Section 1. The Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be empowered to act for the benefit of and on behalf of the Chapter between meetings in matters of extreme urgency.

Section 3. Other Committees. The President may appoint the Chairman and the members of any committee necessary to carry out the program and business of the chapter, or for the purpose of initiating any proposed and approved, project, program or activity.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**By -Laws**

Section 1. Amendments, Revisions and Changes, These By-Laws may be amended, revised, or changed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members in attendance at any duly called meeting. Notice of any proposed amendment, revision, or change shall be provided to the membership at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting, either by mail, email, or other electronic communication.

Section 2. Conformity. Any amendments, revisions, or changes to these By-Laws shall be patterned after the By-Laws of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and not in conflict with the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of the California Society. (Art. v, Sect 5, By-Laws of the California Society, SAR).

Section 3. Inspection. The Chapter shall keep in its Principal Office the original or a copy of these By-Laws, as amended or otherwise altered to date, certified by the Secretary, which shall be open to inspection by the chapter members at all reasonable hours

**CERTIFICATION**

This is a true certified copy of the By-Laws of the Harbor Chapter of the California Society, Sons of the American Revolution as adopted at our Annual meeting January 21<sup>th</sup>, 2026