

2017 SAR CONGRESS SPECIAL EVENTS
GOLF, TOURS, CEREMONIES, LUNCHEONS, AND BANQUETS
“The Congress You’ll Not Want to Miss!”
July 6 – 13, 2017 – Knoxville, Tennessee

What kind of special events will be featured during the 2017 SAR Congress? It’s a question asked often. This guide will give a glimpse into the kinds of fun activities you can enjoy in Knoxville in July.

THREE RIDGES GOLF SCRAMBLE *Friday*

Texas SAR President John Beard and Tennessee Past President Paul Jordan are organizing a golf scramble for Friday morning at Three Ridges Golf Club in Knoxville. **Play will be limited to the first 36 who register for the Scramble.** Transportation and lunch will be provided. Don’t delay! Send an email to John Beard at JohnBeard@suddenlink.net or call 713.208.6990 to reserve your place in the Scramble.

OVERMOUNTAIN MEN TOUR *Friday*

A full day immersed in frontier life. Find Overmountain Men in Fort Watauga and walk down to the river where our Patriot ancestors crossed the Watauga River at Sycamore Shoals in September 1780 as they embarked upon their journey to engage the British at Kings Mountain, claiming VICTORY on October 7, 1780.

Enjoy lunch at Amis’s Mill in view of Tennessee’s oldest stone dam built in 1780 by PG David Appleby’s 4th great-grandfather, Thomas Amis, and get a feel for frontier pioneer life traveling through the scenic “hills of Tennessee.” And on the way back, we’ll drop by Crockett Tavern, where David Crockett was raised. Enjoy a day filled with history, imagination and adventure!

EAST TENNESSEE HISTORY CENTER Reception and Museum Tour *Friday*

A Friday Evening Reception includes a Tour of amazing pioneer and early Tennessee artifacts reflecting frontier life. The East Tennessee Historical Society and Museum, along with the Knox County Archives, and the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound are headquartered in the beautiful East Tennessee History Center in downtown Knoxville.

For genealogists, the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection is one of the best research facilities for migration via Southwest Virginia, Upper East Tennessee and through the Cumberland Gap to the west.

WILDERNESS TRAIL TOUR *Saturday*

Visit the spot where many of our grandfathers passed through the Cumberland Gap, into the West. Legendary pioneer Daniel Boone blazed the Wilderness Trail which was an extension of the Great Wagon Road that passed from Carlisle, Pennsylvania to Abingdon, Virginia, and thence known as the Island Road to Fort Patrick Henry on the Holston River (*Kingsport, Tennessee*), then as the Wilderness Trail to Harrodsburg, Kentucky.

In addition to Cumberland Gap, this tour will include a visit to the Museum of Appalachia, where you can “*Let the Past Touch Your Soul.*” An incredible collection of artifacts used by our grandfathers on the Frontier, the trip will at once enlighten, intrigue and inspire.

TENNESSEE SAR BBQ and WELCOME at JAMES WHITE FORT *Saturday evening*

TENNESSEE SAR is proud to invite everyone to an old fashioned Southern BBQ, with all the fixin’s, music, and more at James White Fort, an 18th-century settlement that became Knoxville. The name also refers to the fort, itself. The settlement of White's Fort began in 1786 by James White, a militia officer during the American Revolutionary War. When William Blount, the territorial governor of the Southwest Territory, moved the territorial capital to White's Fort in 1791, he renamed it Knoxville in honor of Henry Knox, the American Revolutionary War general and Washington's Secretary of War.

Anticipate some interesting and memorable surprises as Southern Hospitality is extended to all. It’s an outdoor BBQ, so plan to dress casually, and don’t forget, *shoes are optional.*

“ROCKY TOP” *Sunday morning at sunrise*

Rejoice at sunrise in Cades Cove, a broad, valley surrounded by mountains; a very popular destination with magnificent vistas. Movie scenes and television shows have used Cades Cove as a setting. Details will be available at Congress.

MEMORIAL SERVICE *Sunday*

The Chaplain Committee will preside at the traditional Memorial Service remembering Compatriots of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution who have passed to eternal life. The ceremony will be held at First Baptist Knoxville, just a few blocks from the host hotel. Music will be directed by Richard Brockway of West Virginia and the Color Guard will furnish an elaborate display of colors, under direction of Commander David Hoover of Maryland. A Color Guard photo will be taken after the Memorial Service on the steps of the church.

Ladies are invited to attend a Tea that will follow the Memorial Service.

1812 RECEPTION AT BLOUNT MANSION *Sunday*

Gentlemen are invited to attend a Reception at Blount Mansion honoring the Governors' Blount. Yes, there are two governors' Blount. William Blount was a signer of the US Constitution in 1787 and later Territorial Governor prior to Tennessee statehood. His half-brother Willie (*pronounced Wylie*) was Governor of Tennessee during the War of 1812; during which he lived at the Mansion - Knoxville was the State Capitol. The occasion will honor Signer William Blount and the 230th Anniversary of the Signing of the US Constitution, and Governor Willie Blount and General Andrew Jackson as well as the Grand Victory at New Orleans in 1815. General Society of the War of 1812 President General Thomas E. Jacks will be guest of honor.

ORATIONS CONTEST FINALS *Sunday evening*

More than 20 states are anticipated to send orations contestants to Knoxville to compete. On Saturday and Sunday, a series of preliminary contests will narrow the field for a final competition that will be held on Sunday evening. The inspiring contest draws a large crowd of enthusiasts for the SAR Youth Programs. The winner gives his oration at the Youth Luncheon.

YOUTH LUNCHEON *Monday*

President General Michael Tomme presides at a celebratory luncheon that recognizes the impressive accomplishments of the winners of SAR's Youth Programs. The Eagle Scout, JROTC, Orations, Essay, Poster, and Brochure contest winners are an impressive array of outstanding youth from around the nation. Come, give them your support! A suit and tie is preferred.

MINUTEMAN CEREMONY / AWARDS PROGRAM *Monday evening*

Minuteman is the highest recognition given to a SAR member. Each year, six gentlemen are selected and are honored with induction during a distinguished ceremony at Congress. After a brief intermission, President General Mike Tomme will preside at an Awards Program to recognize achievements of Chapters and State Societies. A jacket and tie is preferred.

PRESIDENT GENERAL'S BANQUET *Tuesday evening*

President General Michael Tomme presides at a Banquet designed to honor the service and accomplishments of the past year. The Color Guard presents colors, we'll enjoy a renowned historian and author Jon Meacham as special guest speaker, the President General makes his closing remarks, and a ceremony will transfer Command of the Color Guard. The traditional evening is formal, so Black-tie or Colonial attire is preferred. Mr. Meacham's topic will be "Washington and Madison to Jackson and Lincoln: The Long Shadow of the Revolution."

"SITE X" TOUR *Wednesday*

By the time President Franklin Roosevelt authorized the Manhattan Project on December 28, 1942, work on the East Tennessee site where the first production facilities were to be built was already underway. At first, this location was known as "Site X". Enjoy a tour of "The Secret City" and the outstanding American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge. We don't know the people who worked here, but we certainly know what they did. Their contributions to American ingenuity and resolve are a story you will never forget.

INSTALLATION BANQUET *Wednesday evening*

President General Michael Tomme presides at a Banquet designed to anticipate a new administration. New General Officers and Vice Presidents General are introduced for the first time during an elegant promenade that opens the evening. Installation of Officers and the first speech of the new President General is the highlight of the evening. The traditional evening is formal, so Black-tie or Colonial attire is preferred. Bring the 2017 SAR Congress to a close while enjoying this time honored SAR tradition.

SAR REGISTRATION

We are told that registration will be available on the SAR website within another week. So, make plans to attend, today.

Email 2 will include hotel/lodging and travel information.

Email 3 will describe special events, golf, tours, ceremonies, luncheons, and banquets.

Email 4 will introduce the special guest speaker and book signing opportunity.

Email 5 will describe dining options for state delegations.

Email 6 will describe genealogical research opportunities.

Email 7 will describe a few side trip tips suggestions.

Email 8 will describe how to purchase Congress Medals, Coin, Pins, and Rifle Raffle Tickets.

For more information, please contact Host Society 2017 SAR Congress Chair Rick Hollis
Hollis1776@att.net | 615.812.2648 m | tnssar.org

2017 CONGRESS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, July 6

Organizing for Registration/Credentials– Host Hotel

FRIDAY, July 7

ExCom/Foundation Meeting - Host Hotel

Golf Scramble – Three Ridges Golf Course - Knoxville

GUIDED TOUR 1: Overmountain Men

[Sycamore Shoals at Fort Watauga, Amis Mill and Home, Crockett Tavern]

Cocktail Reception with Heavy Hors d'oeuvres and Tour - East Tennessee History Center

SATURDAY, July 8

GUIDED TOUR 2: Born in the Backwoods

[Cumberland Gap and the Museum of Appalachia]

Host Society Reception and BBQ – Historic James White Fort

SUNDAY, July 9

SELF GUIDED TOUR: Frontier History and Natural Beauty in Cades Cove

Color Guard Breakfast

Final Trustees Meeting - Host Hotel

Color Guard Parade from Hotel to Church

Memorial Service – First Baptist Knoxville

Ladies Tea – First Baptist Knoxville

General Society War of 1812 Reception and Tour – Blount Mansion

Genealogy Seminar – Host Hotel

Orations Contest Finals – Host Hotel

MONDAY, July 10

Color Guard Presentation of Colors to Open Congress – Host Hotel

Opening and Second Sessions of Congress - Host Hotel

Youth Luncheon - Convention Center

Minute Man Awards Presentation / Awards Ceremony - Host Hotel

TUESDAY, July 11

SAR District Breakfast Meetings – Host Hotel

Third Session of Congress - Host Hotel

VPG/GWEF, PG Luncheon – Host Hotel

First Lady's Luncheon – Cherokee Country Club

Voting for SAR Officers – Host Hotel

President General Banquet - Convention Center

Special Guest Speaker – Historian and Pulitzer Prize Winning Author Jon Meacham

Color Guard Command Change Ceremony – Convention Center

WEDNESDAY, July 12

Closing Session of Congress – Host Hotel

New Trustees Meeting - Host Hotel

GUIDED TOUR 3: *Sssshhh!!!* America's Secret City [*Oak Ridge*]

Installation Banquet - Convention Center

THURSDAY, July 13

ExCom/Foundation Meeting - Host Hotel