

Fount T. Smothers SAR/C.A.R. Patriot Ancestors Essay Contest

The ultimate mission of SAR and C.A.R. is to share the ideals and values of those valiant men and women who gave us “AMERICA” with our fellow citizens and most particularly, with the next generation. Thus in an effort to find ways to strengthen our natural bond with, and our support of, our young C.A.R. Compatriots, we in SAR have established a program to encourage you young people to explore our shared heritage of liberty, through the lens of your own Patriot Ancestors’ involvement in that epic struggle to give us “AMERICA”. The idea is for SAR chapters to sponsor an essay contest among the members of the Tennessee C.A.R. Society (or societies) in their vicinity and then hold a competition between the various chapter winners at the state level.

1. Age Groups: In order to encourage our younger C.A.R. Compatriots to participate, we have established two age groups:

- Those 12 years of age and younger, and those over 12 years of age.
- The contestant should indicate their age on the submission.

2. Family. We wish to strongly encourage these young people to express their own thoughts and understanding of our history and the ideals and values which led their Patriot Ancestor to risk everything to give us our country. However, we also hope that work on this essay will offer an opportunity for the C.A.R. contestant to strengthen the bonds of their family’s and their community’s shared heritage. We believe that invaluable knowledge of their personal connection to the ideals and values that underlie AMERICA can best be achieved by young people in a strong connection with their own family and community. Therefore, parents, other family members, teachers, etc., are not only “allowed” to work with the C.A.R. contestant on this essay, but they are strongly encouraged to do so. The contestant should acknowledge those family members (and/or others) who assisted them with their essay.

3. Format: We have elected to leave the details of the format to be used, open to the discretion of the contestant. Obviously, it is essential that the submitted essays be easily legible to facilitate judging. To that end, we would suggest (but not require) that the essays be typed and double-spaced, but hand written (and/or hand printed) submissions will be accepted provided they are legible. The length of the essay will be left to the discretion of the contestant. The cover page should be attached to the front of the essay and should include date, name age, address, phone number, email, C.A.R. Society’s name, ancestor’s name and name of the person who assisted the member.

4. Dates:

Contest participants should submit their entry and a cover sheet to Lee Johnson by January 31, 2018 at johnsondna69@gmail.com or 1311 Montvale Road, Maryville, TN 37803. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Johnson at 865-803-3042.

- Tennessee SAR State level winners of this contest will be presented at the Youth Awards Luncheon of the Annual TSSAR Meeting in March, or April. Details may be found on the Tennessee Society SAR website at tnssar.org.