**Introduction**

This new-member guide provides a handy reference to encourage participation in chapter activities through a comprehensive collection of information about the chapter and what it does. It also provides contact information on fellow members. As a new member you are encouraged to keep informed of chapter activities by reading the quarterly chapter *Compatriot News*, by referring to the chapter website, the State society's *Minuteman* magazine, as well as the National SAR quarterly magazine. They are all good tools to stay abreast of activity at all three levels. Please note that all members can participate in chapter programs. This includes members living at a distance and those difficulties attending monthly meetings. The chapter publishes a calendar which is updated periodically. The calendar includes all activities of the chapter and those of its Color Guard. Members are urged to attend as many of the functions as possible.

The current calendar can be found on page 7, and as you can see there are many events that are held on evenings, on weekends, or on holidays. They range from the relaxed and fun picnic in June to the elegant black-tie installation banquet in November to the celebration of George Washington 's Birthday in February, just to name a few. All are marked by camaraderie and good times. In the following sections you will find a list and brief description of chapter activities and awards committees. The programs are varied, but all serve the three core objectives of the SAR: Historical, Educational, Patriotic. They include Boy Scouts Awards, ROTC and JROTC awards, Student Contests, the SAR Knight Essay Contest, Patriotic Grave markings and registration.

The chapter has a Color Guard, always looking for a for a few (more) good men. See page 14 for more on the Color Guard.

For those living out-of-state (and there are many), please keep the chapter posted on your patriotic activities. To its members the Philadelphia Continental Chapter is much more than a membership in a Hereditary Organization. It is a living, breathing dedicated band of Sons of the American Revolution. Please review this guide to see where you can best put your talents to work.