

# SAR Alabama

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

My Fellow Compatriots, Since the end of my term of office is fast approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the honor of serving as your State President.

I cannot begin to tell you how much I enjoyed serving in this capacity, since it gave me the opportunity to get better acquainted with many of you. While I was not able to visit all chapters and attend all functions, I was able to see many of you in action and know that we have many leaders.

We have many compatriots who are currently serving in leadership roles and hope that all will continue to give of their time and energy; without their help the task of making our State organization better will be more difficult.

We are a growing State Society (over 50 new members this year) and need to make sure that we are adapting to this growth. I believe we should encourage new ideas and get our new members more active at each level of the SAR.

One area of concern to me is the lack of a permanent home for all of our records. We need a safe repository for all of our historical documents and property. Hopefully this can be addressed in the near future.

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## Gen. Galvez chapter hosts ALSSAR convention in Mobile on Feb. 18-19

A new slate of officers is on the agenda for the 2005 ALSSAR convention that will be held at the Riverview Plaza Hotel, 64 S. Water St., in Mobile on Feb. 18-19.

The Riverview Plaza Hotel is located in the heart of the business, historic and entertainment district and is connected to the Mobile Convention Center.

Area attractions include the Gulf Coast Exploreum of Science/IMAX theater, where the Dead Sea Scrolls will be on

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display beginning Jan. 20; five historic home districts; several museums, many within walking distance of the hotel; Bellingrath Gardens and Home; Fort Conde Historic Museum; Richard's DAR House Museum; Mobile Police Museum; the City of Mobile's Museum; and USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park.

The convention opens on

Friday evening at the hotel with a reception. On Saturday morning, the George Washington Fellows breakfast will be held. A business meeting will follow, along with the orations contest.

Everyone is on their own for lunch and the afternoon. The Richard's DAR House Museum will be hosting a reception for all compatriots and their guests at 256 N. Joachim St.

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## NSSAR President General McCarl visits state



—Photo courtesy of Jim Alexander

*Henry Oldham, left, gets his associate membership certificate from McCarl at Tennessee Valley chapter meeting*

SAR President General Hank McCarl spent several days in December in the state of Alabama, attending chapter meetings in Birmingham and Montgomery.

McCarl spoke to 45 members and their guests at the Tennessee Valley chapter's December luncheon, then visited Montgomery the next evening to attend the Gen. Richard Montgomery chapter's December banquet.

McCarl's talk at both meetings focused on three new planned programs at the national level. These programs will be the centerpiece of the organization's future emphasis on education and research. These programs involve the promotion of history fairs in the high schools of America. This program is intended to parallel the science fairs that are so popular in the nation's elementary and high schools.

As part of the program, a compact disc titled "America's Heritage" is available through the national SAR office.

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