

Illinois State Organization National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Marria Elliott Blinn, State Regent



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Patriot Records Project Committee

Imagine this: You are working with a prospective member—or researching your own supplemental—and hit a brick wall. You know the information you need is out there, but where? You set the paperwork aside, then return later to find the breakthrough you needed—someone just indexed the very document for which you were searching.

The Patriot Records Project is one of DAR's most impactful historic preservation initiatives. Volunteers index names from Revolutionary War-era documents—many from the National Archives and other repositories—helping bring the stories of often-overlooked Patriots into the light. These indexed names feed into a publicly searchable database on the DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS).

Participating is easy. After signing up, you'll be assigned a document to index, which you enter following the provided format. If you have trouble reading a name or detail, help is available. Your work is then reviewed by experienced volunteers, and corrections are made if needed to ensure accuracy.

This is a great project for anyone interested in genealogy, history, or historic preservation—and especially for those who are homebound or juggling busy work and family schedules. You can index from home, a library, or anywhere with internet access. All you need is the ability to read cursive and basic data entry skills. Plus, your time counts toward Service to America hours when logged as online indexing under the Historic Preservation category.

And yes—there's a pin! Volunteers who index 10,000 names become eligible to purchase the official Patriot Records Project pin for their DAR ribbon. Additional bars and quills recognize every additional 10,000 names indexed.

If you are interested in volunteering, visit the <u>Patriot Records Project Committee</u> page on the DAR Members' Website and click on the link to get started. Whether you are looking for a flexible way to serve or hoping to help others find their Patriot ancestors, this project offers a meaningful opportunity to make a lasting impact. Every name you index could be the key for which someone else has been searching.

