GENEALOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

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Kansas Daughters can *Rise* to the challenge of searching for unpublished source records *And Shine* a much needed light on those elusive and obscure documents that are integral to prospective members, current members, lineage researchers and genealogists!

With the Indexing projects complete, only a few volunteers will be needed now to index any new volumes. This work is done entirely online from the digitized images using the GRC Indexing program available through eMembership.
Therefore, the GRC has turned their concentration to the records collection program!

COMMITTEE HISTORY and OVERVIEW

The DAR began collecting genealogical records in 1913 and the Genealogical Records Committee (GRC) was officially formed in 1932. In 1986, the committee was placed under the direction of the Librarian General because its work directly benefits the DAR Library. The purpose of this committee is two-fold; to collect, preserve and increase the holdings of unpublished genealogical source materials in the DAR Library, and to make those same records available world-wide through an online every-name index.

COLLECT and TRANSCRIBE UNPUBLISHED RECORDS

Chapter members can copy or make abstracts of certain types of records which might be found in the chapter's geographic area, transcribe them & prepare them for submission to the State GRC Chair. This work may be done by computer OR typewriter. Particular emphasis continues to be on records of the 1880's & 1890's to help fill the void left by the loss of the 1890 federal census, but older historical records, particularly Bible records and cemetery transcriptions are always wanted. The wide variety of genealogical records may include Revolutionary War military records; county & town deeds & other land records; marriage & vital records; wills & estates; final distribution of the estate records; court order or minute books; parish registers of marriages, births & deaths; church records including vestry minutes or session books; Bible records; tax lists; historical funeral home records; school censuses; newspaper accounts or births, deaths & marriages *prior to 1900*; tombstone inscriptions & cemetery records; documented family histories, diaries, papers, & letters found in the manuscript collections in libraries, historical societies, state archives, & private collections; and abstracted newspaper accounts of births, deaths & marriages. **It is important that *primary source records are the items collected for the NSDAR Library.* As we all are aware, the standard for acceptable & approved genealogical proof is being set higher and higher. Many of the biographical and county histories that were once basic references for DAR applications are no longer viewed as an important record of our ancestors' vital & locational proof. Given the fact that many new NSDAR applicants do not live in the same area where their ancestors lived or served & much of what can be found in courthouses & historical societies is not available online; our task is vital to these new members. The cost to hire researchers can prove to be too expensive & prohibitive to many. When members record information from family Bibles, wills, deeds and land records they are making that information available via the NSDAR GRS database. These records are easily accessible & affordable… *AND* it increases the vitality of the NSDAR Library!**

Detailed directions for gathering & transcribing source records can be found on the NSDAR Members' Section under this committee in the publication, *Instructions for Copying Source Records and Preparing Them for Library Use* (Form LG-GRC-2001 (**WHICH HAS BEEN UPDATED & IS NOW EASIER TO USE!**) *or* by contacting me directly.

You and your chapter may be able to locate and make available through this committee, that VITAL missing historic source record needed by a prospective member or a current member working on a supplemental.

WELCOME HOME, KANSAS DAUGHTERS…LET'S RISE AND SHINE!