

Meet Your National Defense Committee Chair



Contact Kaye via email or text:

kwsprlady@gmail.com

205-907-4545

Kaye Walker Sutley, Lily of the Cahaba Chapter,

Hoover, Alabama,

joined DAR in 2008 as a Charter Member of her Chapter. Over the years, she has served the Chapter as chair of The Flag of the United States of America, Service for Veterans, National Defense, and Public Relations Committees, as well as Corresponding Secretary, First Vice Regent, Regent, and now as an Honorary Chapter Regent. Kaye was State Co-Chair, Service for Veterans in the Folk administration and DAR's VAVS Representative to the Birmingham VA Hospital in the Dillon administration. She considers it a privilege to be part of DAR's support of our military, both active duty and veterans, and is honored to serve in the Clemons administration.

National Defense Committee History and Purpose

- The National Defense Committee was formed in 1926 as the Patriotic Education Committee.
- The mission of the National Defense Committee is to bring our members information pertinent to preserving our American heritage of freedom. We accomplish this through:
 - **Education** of our members,
 - **Raising Awareness** of issues relevant to our mission, and
 - **Expressing Appreciation** for the patriots, heroes and historic events that have contributed to our American heritage.

National Defense Committee Medals/Awards

The following medals are presented through the National Defense Committee. (*Forms and award criteria are on the National Defense Committee page of the NSDAR members website.*)

ROTC & CADET MEDALS

- Gold ROTC Medal – Award for qualified college students.
- Bronze JROTC Medal – Award for qualified high school and junior college students.
- Silver DAR Outstanding Cadet Medal – Award for students in a non-ROTC, military-affiliated cadet program.

National Defense Committee Medals/Awards

CITIZENSHIP MEDALS

- DAR Youth Good Citizenship Medal – Award for qualified boys or girls in grades 5 through 12.

NOTE: A Chapter may award one medal per grade per school.

- DAR Distinguished Citizen Medal – Award for an individual (18 years or older) or group.

NOTE: A Chapter may award ONLY 2 medals per year, to be approved by the State Chair.

National Defense Committee 19/20 Achievements

National Defense Medals Awarded by Alabama Chapters in 2019:

- Gold (college) ROTC Medals awarded: 26
- Bronze (high school/junior college) JROTC Medals awarded: 72
- Silver DAR Outstanding Cadet Medals awarded: 8
- DAR Distinguished Citizen Medals awarded: 12
- DAR Youth Good Citizenship Medals awarded: 114
- \$806 contributed directly to ROTC and cadet award programs

National Defense Committee

20/21 Updates

UPDATE: Distinguished Citizen Medal

- May now include groups, as well as individuals.
- Emergency health responders were added to the list of those eligible to be nominated for this medal.
- If a group is named Distinguished Citizen, medals and certificates will be given to each person in the group receiving the award. Chapters should plan for this expense if nominating a group.

National Defense Committee 20/21 Updates

UPDATE: JROTC Medal

- If a JROTC unit has cadets from more than one high school, a JROTC Bronze Medal may be awarded to the outstanding cadet at **each** of the high schools that have students taking part in that consolidated JROTC program.
- Ideally, the award will be made at the student's school or a Chapter meeting, rather than at the consolidated unit.

National Defense Committee

20/21 Updates

UPDATE: *National Defender*

- A re-design of the *National Defender*, the bimonthly newsletter of the National Defense Committee, allows for more material and a greater range of topics on national defense-related issues.
- Members are encouraged to submit suggestions and articles.

National Defense Committee 20/21 Updates

UPDATE: NSDAR 2021 FOCUS

During the Patriotism Luncheon at next year's Continental Congress, the NSDAR National Defense Committee will "Shine a Spotlight" on:

- First Responders
- K-9s
- Cyber Security Groups

National Defense Committee 20/21 Goals

Alabama's National Defense goals for 2020/21 are:

- Award medals to qualified recipients in each National Defense Category.
- Submit a story to the *National Defender* from an Alabama Daughter.

Every Alabama Chapter can play an important role in meeting these goals and honoring many deserving individuals and groups.

National Defense Committee

If you need help or have questions about the National Defense Committee activities or awards, please contact State Chair Kaye Sutley.

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Thank you for your support of the National Defense Committee.