

Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historic Orations Committee

2008 Orations Contest

Dear Chapter Presidents and Chapter Orations Chairmen,

The Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historic Orations Contest is a wonderful SAR program. It encourages youth to express their thoughts about history and gives them and us a chance to:

- Promote the research, study and appreciations of our American History and the significance of the American Revolution.
- Promote public appreciation of the accomplishments of the Georgia Society and the NSSAR.
- Assist promising young people with college expenses.

This packet includes information that needs to be communicated to your Chapters to stimulate and encourage student contestants to participate in this outstanding opportunity.

Note: Some forms have not been updated to reflect important dates for the 2008 contest year. These will be forwarded when I receive them from the NSSAR Committee Chairman.

Sources for Orations contestants:

- The American Legion. This organization has an outstanding orations contest. Many SAR State Societies' entries have come from this program.
- The 4-H Club. If you have a local organization in your area, this group has an excellent oratory program.
- Home School Associations. Home school students are always looking for opportunities to enhance their educational experiences. Contact your local Board of Education for a list of associations in your area.
- Public and Private Schools. Nearly all public and private schools have programs to develop oratorical skills. Schools with debate teams, mock trial teams, and literary competition programs are excellent sources for contestants. Contact your local Board of Education or school administrators.

2008 Awards

The first place contestant of the Georgia Society competition will receive an award of \$500 with an additional \$500 presented to help offset expenses in traveling to the National Congress. I am currently working with two corporate entities to convince them to fund this contest. If successful, we can increase the award and entice more young people to participate.

Important Dates

Each Chapter will determine its own contest dates and deadlines. When establishing Chapter guidelines please keep this date in mind. **All Chapter entries must be submitted to the Georgia Society Orations Committee Chairman no later than April 9, 2008.**

2008 Georgia Society Orations Finals

The date, time, and place of the 2008 Oration Finals will be announced at a later date. I am currently in conversation with Georgia Public Broadcasting to use one of their studios as the site of the Finals. The Finals would be taped and available to be viewed over their website (live streaming). Should this not develop I am working on other possible sites. The Finals will be held in May, 2008. The NSSAR deadline is generally around mid-June for notifying them of the State entry.

Good luck on your efforts in this program.

George H. Wheelless, Chairman
Chairman, Rumbaugh Orations Committee Georgia Society
gwheelless@msn.com
(770) 836-1162