



**Husker Patriot**

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# NESSAR Fall Meeting and Awards Ceremony

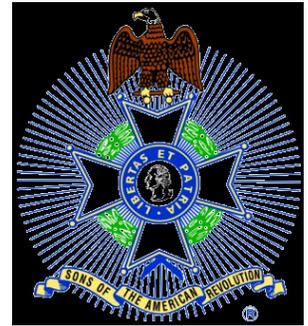
### Presidents Corner:

My second year as your President is quickly coming to an end and it is truly an honor to serve. The membership has sincerely been an inspiration to me and I want to thank everyone who has worked so hard this past year. We can't rest on our laurels and we must continue to beat the bushes to increase our membership. The Peter Kiewit Lodge at Mahoney State Park was the setting when the Nebraska Society held its Fall Meeting and Awards Ceremony on October 15th.



We had a wonderful buffet lunch at the Lodge. One of the highlights of the Fall Meeting for me was the awards ceremony to some very deserving individuals.

I was privileged to present the EMS Award to David Addleman from the Springfield, NE Volunteer Fire Department. I was also privileged to present a Flag Certificate to Alvin Divoky of Bellevue, NE a Korean War Veteran, for flying the flag for almost 40 years. We presented the Law Enforcement Award to Nebraska State Trooper Don Trimble at their Troop Meeting November 23rd.



### SAR APPLICATIONS

Please mail all new member and supplemental application to our NE SAR State Secretary: **Compatriot David K. Kentsmith, M.D.**

**16902 S. HWY 50  
Springfield, NE  
68059-4827**

If you need to contact Compatriot Kentsmith, he may be reached by phone at 402-253-2577 or by email at: **K-NESAR@Q.COM**

### Infamous



### "Brown Bess"



At left shows VPG Fred Walden being recognized for outstanding support of the Center for advancing the



American Heritage Capital campaign by NSSAR President Larry Majerkurth. At right is VPG Fred Walden and his wife Jan during a break at one of the Awards banquets.

## Nebraska Society Fall Meeting

President LaVerne Stetson opened the meeting at 2:00 pm with a call to Order. There was a Quorum. This was followed with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the SAR. Rev. Dr. James Hoke gave the invocation. Past Nebraska SAR Presidents were introduced as well as the members and guests. We had a lot of positive feedback on the outstanding presentation of Awards. First was the awarding of the Emergency Medical Services Award to David Addleman of the Springfield, Nebraska Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Department. David has been an active member of the Springfield Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department for twenty six years. We then had the presentation of the Flag Certificate to Alvin Divoky. Al has flown the United States Flag every day at his home for almost 40 years and it is always lighted at night. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the awarding of the Law Enforcement Award to Nebraska State Patrol Trooper Don Trimble was presented at their Patrol Troop meeting. Trooper Don Trimble has been a member of the

Nebraska State Patrol since 1998 and is also completing his 20th year of service with the United States Army Reserve with ten years of that time serving on active duty as a United States Army Ranger. After the Awards Ceremony the NESSAR members continued with the Officers' Reports and Committee Reports. President Stetson appointed a Nominating Committee for new Society Officers for the 2012-2013 period. President Stetson also appointed a Committee to look into establishing a Nebraska State Medal. After closing remarks, the meeting was adjourned.

### 2011 FLAG CEREMONIES

The Flag Certificate Program is a way for a Chapter or our Society to recognize citizens or organizations who regularly and properly display the Flag of the United States. It can be presented by a Chapter or our State Society during a regular scheduled meeting or may be presented on site, to organizations that fly the flag for patriotic purposes only.



#### Lincoln Chapter presents Flag Certificate

Ed Hoffman is a recent retiree of the University of Nebraska, Campus Utility Plant, a Vietnam Veteran, Navy Corpsman, VFW member, and has been the Lincoln Memorial Day Observation Association Chairman and Co-Chairman for about 20 years. He displays the flag 24/7, has it lighted, and have left flag poles in previous homes where he has lived. Shown is John Reinert, Lincoln Chapter President, Ed Hoffman, Merle Rudebusch, Chairman of the Lincoln Flag Recognition Program and LaVerne Stetson, Nebraska Society President.



Our SAR compatriot Wally Quest, who served three terms as the Omaha Chapter President, two terms as the Nebraska Society President and Vice President General of the North Central Region, celebrated his 100th birthday August 27th with his family and many friends. Wally was honored by the Omaha Chapter with a Flag Ceremony for his flying "our" flag for so many years. Michael Wheeler, Chairman of the Omaha Chapter Flag Committee said "It was a great honor for me as well as other members of the Omaha Chapter who are here today to be a part of this ceremony, to recognize Wally for showing such patriotism to America during his lifetime." Other members attending were William Webb, Dr. David Kentsmith, Michael Wheeler, Fred Walden and Robert Knott.



Alvin Divoky is a veteran of the Korean War and proudly served his country. Al has flown the flag every day at his home for almost 40 years and has it lighted at night. Nebraska Society President LaVerne Stetson, in his presentation of the Flag Certificate said "We are honored to pay tribute to you for your long standing respect and dedication to the flag of the United States of America. "

## 2011/12 Meetings and Events

Nov 4, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Towers 9:00 am	Eastmont
Nov 8, Omaha Chapter Meeting, Inn 6:00 pm	Venice
Dec 2, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Towers 9:00 am	Eastmont
Dec 13, Omaha Chapter Meeting, Inn 6:00 pm	Venice
Jan 6, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Towers 9:00 am	Eastmont



The Constitution is not an instrument for the Government to restrain the people; it is an instrument for the people to restrain the Government—lest it comes to dominate our lives and interests.—Patrick Henry

presented by the Lincoln Chapter to the GAR Hall for display along with the donations from many veterans representing all the wars. The Museum is toured by many schools in the area, and will be viewed by many children in the future.



Pictured above is Merle Rudebusch, Past Lincoln Chapter President and Past State Society President. Merle presented to the GAR Hall Museum in Elmwood, NE, copies of the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights at the 125th Anniversary Celebration in Elmwood. These two documents were presented to an Elementary School in Lincoln in 1947 by the Lincoln Chapter and then were removed from the Classroom and stored for many years. They then were to be placed in the trash. The documents were recovered and



Above is Nebraska Trustee Jim Say with Jan and VPG Fred Walden at the Fall Leadership Conference/Trustee Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. Jim Say worked with Tennessee Trustee Rick Hollis in crafting language for a motion to initiate a process to provide living qualified Congressional Medal of Honor recipients with a lifetime SAR membership at no cost to the Medal of Honor hero. The motion was amended to be an emeritus membership, and was passed by the Trustees. VPG Fred Walden

## Continued

Jan 10, Omaha Chapter Meeting, Inn 6:00 pm	Venice
Feb 3, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Towers 9:00 am	Eastmont
Feb 14, Omaha Chapter Meeting, Inn 6:00 pm	Venice
Mar 2, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Towers 9:00 am	Eastmont
Mar 13, Omaha Chapter Meeting, Inn 6:00 pm	Venice

had this to say about the Meeting in Louisville: We attended the first night Friday dinner which was quite enjoyable. In the morning we started out with the 1,000 Morning Breakfast for some recognition and presenting of awards. At the beginning of our first meeting, all of the Vice Presidents and Generals were asked to stand up and give a report on any progress that was taking place in their area. I attended the Vice President and General's meeting where we were reminded of how we should plan for our replacements in the future. Also, I attended a financial meeting where there was a discussion on completing the other half of the National Projects where there would be displays of American Revolution artifacts. This discussion started out where there would be a \$1 million renovation that would have to take place and somehow it got up to \$2 million. Fortunately, a couple of older people who served on the committee were not so anxious to go into debt for repairs prior to having the income. The ladies went out to Louisville's Churchill Downs for a tea and got to make up their own hats for the occasion. There was the marching of the colors and pledges to the flag and to the SAR. The glee club also sang to a couple who were celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. The meetings were very worthwhile and I'm sure everyone came away with a very positive feeling.

## Members Corner

We are looking for articles for our Newsletter about our members Patriots. Would you be willing to put together an article about your Patriot? It could be one or two pages long or even a paragraph. If you go up to four or five pages we could have a continuation into the next Quarter's Newsletter. These articles would then be available for all of our members to enjoy. If we can assist you in any way with putting something together just let us know. An article would be such a great way to pass down to our future generations what our Patriot did for our country. We're only an email away.

We now have five Newsletters published and distributed to our members. I would like to ask you to again take a good look at these Newsletters and let me know what you would like to see in future editions. We did receive several votes of confidence on the outline and direction the newsletter is moving, however, we do need more input from fellow compatriots in our chapter news and general submissions. Are there areas of interest that you would like included? How well are we meeting your needs? If you have any stories and/or pictures you take at any of our events that you can share, please contact the Newsletter Editor Bob Knott at [chiefknott@aol.com](mailto:chiefknott@aol.com) or the Publisher Bill Webb at [webb.w@q.com](mailto:webb.w@q.com). This is your Newsletter and we want it to be as informative and interesting as we can make it. That's where you can help.



### “THE BOOT MONUMENT”

#### Battle of Saratoga

By Col (Ret) Dr. David K. KentSmith, M.D.



**Benedict Arnold V** (January 14, 1741 [O.S. January 3, 1740] – June 14, 1801)

Born in Connecticut to the widow of a wealthy merchant seaman and her second husband Benedict Arnold IV also a merchant and seaman. Arnold's father later became an alcoholic. The Arnolds had come to Providence, Rhode Island in 1636 and his ancestors were associated with Roger Williams. Of the six children born to his father and mother only Benedict and his sister survived to adulthood. As an adult, Arnold was also a merchant operating ships between the Colonies, Caribbean and London when the war broke out in 1775. He was married, had two sons and was very well to do.

After joining the growing army outside Boston, he distinguished himself through acts of cunning and bravery which brought him to the attention of General George Washington. Benedict Arnold's actions included the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in 1775 with Ethan Allan. He helped to bring cannons to Boston with Knox resulting in a successful defensive that won the

battle of Bunker Hill.

In September 1775, early in the American Revolutionary War, Colonel Benedict Arnold on George Washington's order led a force of 1,100 Continental Army troops on an expedition from Cambridge, Massachusetts to the gates of Quebec City. This was part of a two-pronged invasion of the British Province of Quebec. The expedition passed through the wilderness of what is now Maine. The other expedition led by Richard Montgomery, invaded Quebec from Lake Champlain. Due to lack of support from Ethan Allan, no supplies, the death of Montgomery and the failure to surprise the British at Quebec, the invasion failed.

His delaying tactics on sloops and gunnery skills almost overcame the British. He still lost the Battle of Valcour Island on Lake Champlain in 1776. When his Connecticut home was invaded (the Battle of Ridgefield, Connecticut) he returned to lead his neighbors and protect his home. He again distinguished himself and afterwards was promoted to major general. He then participated in operations in relief of the Siege of Fort Stanwix, and key actions during the pivotal Battles of Saratoga in 1777. It was during this battle where he suffered leg injuries from a bullet wound that ended his combat

career for several years. He lost his leg from the wound at Saratoga thus the nameless “Boot Monument” where his leg was lost. He was assigned by Geo. Washington, as military governor of Philadelphia after the British left in 1777. In spite of successes, Arnold was passed over for promotion by the Continental Congress while other officers (Horatio Gates) claimed credit for some of his accomplishments.

Adversaries of George Washington in Military and Political circles brought



charges of corruption or other malfeasance, but Arnold was acquitted in most formal inquiries. Congress investigated Arnold's accounts, and found that he owed it money after he had spend much of his own money on the war effort. Frustrated and bitter, and seduced by American Loyalist Beverley Robinson and after marrying a Tory, Lady Margaret, daughter of Edward

Shippen and associating with Tories in Philadelphia, Arnold decided to change sides in 1779. He opened secret negotiations with the British. In July 1780, he sought and obtained command of West Point in order to surrender it to the British. Arnold was assured that British Lord North would renew the liberal terms already offered in 1778, which conceded everything that the Americans had demanded in 1775. By rendering a cardinal service to the British, he might hope to attain a position of such eminence as to conduct these negotiations, end the war and restore America to her old allegiance, with her freedom from parliamentary control guaranteed.

Arnold's scheme was exposed when American forces captured British Major John Andre carrying papers that revealed the plot.

Upon learning of André's capture, Arnold fled down the Hudson River to the British sloop-of-war Vulture narrowly avoiding capture by the forces of George Washington, who had been alerted to the plot. Arnold received a commission as a Brigadier



General in the British Army, an annual pension of £360, and a lump sum of over £6,000.

He led British forces on raids in

Virginia, and against New London and Groton, Connecticut before the war effectively ended with the American Victory at Yorktown.

Arnold moved to London with his second wife, Margaret "Peggy" Shippen Arnold. He was well received by King George III and the Tories but frowned upon by the Whigs.

In 1787, he entered into mercantile business with his sons Richard and Henry in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada but returned to London to settle permanently in 1791, where he died ten years later.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 2011

Omaha Chapter—

Andrew J. Blossom

Jeremy Christensen

John M. Strathman

James B. Strathman

Clinton E. Miller

Dr. Merle T. McAlvy, M.D.

Lincoln Chapter—

Shawn K. Stoner

Rev. Dr. James Lyle Hoke

Jason L. Hoke

At Large—

Thomas G. Brader

Michael R. Luther

**Spring 2012 NE SAR Meeting** Please note on your calendars Saturday 21 April 2012, Mahoney State Park for our next State Meeting. More information to come.



The Nebraska Society honored Trooper Don Trimble of the Nebraska State Patrol with the Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Award during their Troop Meeting at the Omaha Headquarters on November 23, 2011.

Trooper Trimble has been an exemplary member of the Nebraska State Patrol since 1998. His service to the citizens of Nebraska include, service as a Carrier Enforcement Officer stationed in Greenwood and Omaha, as well as serving in patrol Services working traffic in the Omaha area. Trooper Trimble's commitment to public safety is exhibited by enforcing traffic laws that prevent serious injury and death upon our state's highways.

Trooper Trimble is completing his 20th year of service with the United States Army Reserve, with ten years of that time serving on active duty as a United States Army Ranger with the Military Police. He has served and protected our citizens by two overseas deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. While deployed in Afghanistan he served in a forward military post that suffered numerous enemy attacks by shells and suicide bombers.

A Certificate and citation accompanied the presentation. The purpose of the presentation is to recognize those who have served with distinction and devotion in the field of law enforcement.

### NEBRASKA SOCIETY MEDAL

State President LaVerne Stetson, at our past State Society meeting, activated a Committee to look into establishing a Nebraska Society Medal. This Committee, made up of Fred Walden, Chairman, Bob Knott, Bill Webb and Rev. Dr. James Hoke, is charged with the design and criteria required in either earning or purchase of the medal. State Society medals and criteria will be brought before the NSSAR Medals and Awards Committee before final adoption. More information in future editions and our next State Meeting.

**MORE PICTURES AND STORIES**



Top left shows members of the Lincoln Chapter at their September meeting. Top right shows Rev. Dr. James Hoke being congratulated by Society President LaVerne Stetson on joining the SAR. Bottom left shows Lincoln member Richard Goodding. Bottom right shows Shawn Stoner being congratulated by Society President LaVerne Stetson on joining the SAR. A big congratulations to both of our newest members to the Nebraska Society.

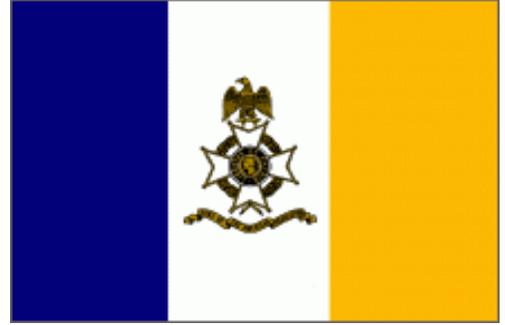


Jan Walden and some of the ladies in their new hats at Churchill Downs.



Nebraska Society President LaVerne Stetson presenting EMS Award to David Addleman from Springfield, NE

David has been an active member of the Springfield Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department for twenty six years. He is consistently a call volume leader for both fire and rescue calls. He is well respected within the fire department for his knowledge and commitment to preserve and protect the community of Springfield. David makes time to participate in additional training, run a squad crew for Friday night high school football games, helps cook and set up for fundraiser events. Fire Chief Lutz stated: "Although David has never served as a member of the armed forces, he is a big supporter of our troops and one of the most patriotic people I know."



**NEBRASKA SOCIETY OFFICERS**

**2010-2011**

- President: LaVerne Stetson, Lincoln
- 1st Vice President: Fred Walden, Omaha
- 2nd Vice President: John Reinert, Lincoln
- Secretary: Dr. David Kentsmith, M.D., Omaha
- Treasurer: William Webb, Omaha
- Registrar: Thomas Masters, Lincoln
- Deputy Registrar: Robert Knott, Omaha

**BOARD OF COUNSELORS**

**2010-2011**

- Chairman: LaVerne Stetson, Lincoln
- 1st Vice President: Fred Walden, Omaha
- 2nd Vice President: John Reinert, Lincoln
- Secretary: Dr. David Kentsmith, M.D., Omaha
- Treasurer: William Webb, Omaha
- Registrar: Thomas Masters, Lincoln
- Deputy Registrar: Robert Knott, Omaha
- Chapter Vice President: Thomas Conley



VPG Fred Walden and Robert L. Knott represented the Nebraska Society at the 10th annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony Sept. 11 in Bellevue, NE. Above is a 3-ton steel artifact from the World Trade Center at the Ceremony.