



The Quill & Parchment

Omaha Chapter
Nebraska Society, Sons of the American Revolution



E D I T O R S : P A U L B U R R I G H T , B O B K N O T T , B I L L W E B B



**OMAHA
LEADERSHIP
2018-19**

- Thomas Upton—
President
- Benjamin Harvey—
Vice President
- Paul Burrignt—
Secretary
- John Parsons—
Treasurer
- Robert Knott—
Deputy Registrar
- Merle McAlevy—
Past President

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Compatriots,

Welcome back, as we prepare to start meeting again on Tuesday evening, 6:00pm, 11 September at Gorat's Steakhouse. I have spoken with Grant and he's working on a seating arrangement that will make it easier for us to communicate and hear our speakers.

Although we haven't met during June, July, and August, that doesn't mean that there hasn't been a lot going on. This newsletter in one of them.

Our State Color Guard Commander, Omaha Chapter member, Chad Sherrets, has been busy creating opportunities for increased public awareness of the SAR locally.

VP Ben Harvey is working on some interesting programs for October and November. In the process of looking for program speakers, he would appreciate any input from the compatriots on interesting speakers they have heard speak.

Secretary Paul Burrignt has not only created the newsletter (and joined the Husker Patriot team) but also coordinated our recent survey, the results of which will be our September program. Please plan on attending. The responses from our membership have provided some interesting options for us to consider as we go forward.

Paul will be sending out meeting reminders in the near fu-



ture. Please be sure to RSVP so that the restaurant can provide enough room and seats for us.

Thomas L. Upton
President, Omaha Chapter

MEMBER SURVEY UPDATE

Thank you to all the members that contributed answers and suggestions on the member survey that went out over the summer. It is your input that will be instrumental in allowing the Chapter to change and grow. This chapter newsletter is a first start, as it had quite a

lot of support on the survey to help get more information to you all.

When we resume our regular Chapter meetings next month on 11 Sep 2018, we will be presenting the findings of the survey, our initial plan on how

we move ahead with your ideas and suggestions, and discuss as a membership, the best way to achieve those goals. We hope to see you there as our meetings resume. We are excited about what the future holds for the Omaha Chapter!

S U M M E R C O L O R G U A R D

This past summer, our Color Guard members, from the Chapter were able to be part of some fantastic events and represent the NESSAR in the community.

On 28 May 2018, Color Guard Commander, Chad Sherrets, and Compatriot Paul Burrignt, helped to present the colors for the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Omaha National Cemetery.

On 2 Jun 2018, Compatriot Paul Burrignt, along with State President, Shawn Stoner, represented NESSAR as part of the National Color Guard for the Grave Marking Ceremony of President Dwight D. Eisenhower at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene, Kansas.

On 4 Jul 2018, Commander Chad Sherrets and Compatriot Paul Burrignt, participated

with the State Color Guard in the 58th Annual Independence Day Parade in Ralston, NE. We were able partner with the CAR to showcase our Society to approximately 42,000 spectators at the event. As our Color Guard participates in more and more events, we will only get to represent our Society and grow our presence in the public eye.

**PRESIDENT
EISENHOWER
BECAME AN
SAR
MEMBER IN
1945 WITH
THE EMPIRE
STATE
SOCIETY
(NEW YORK)**



Memorial Day—Omaha National Cemetery



National Color Guard—Eisenhower Grave Marking



Independence Day Parade—Ralston, NE



Revolutionary Selfie—Independence Day Parade Ralston, NE

NEW MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

At our Chapter meeting on 8 May 2018, we welcomed a new Compatriot to our rolls. Chapter President, Thomas Upton, presided over the initiation of Charles G. Reynolds. Compatriot Reynolds is descended from William Reynolds of Maryland and is the father of Compatriot Michael Reynolds (Omaha Chapter). Congratulations to Compatriot Reynolds and his

family and welcome to the Omaha Chapter and the Nebraska Society!



**THE OMAHA
CHAPTER
HAS 65
MEMBERS
WITH 96
TOTAL
PATRIOTS
FROM EVERY
COLONY
EXCEPT
DELAWARE.**



SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOTS

This past spring, 2 of our members received word from National of approval of their Supplemental Patriot applications.

Compatriot Ryan Fuller who is descended from Daniel Gage (MA).

Compatriot Paul Burrigh who is descended from Samuel Huntley (NH).

As everyone who is a member knows, it takes quite a lot of hard work and perseverance to prove your lineage on your initial application. Congratulations to these two Compatriots for the hard work of proving another Patriot in their family trees!



June:

Cary Clark—2007

July:

Daniel Rowe—2016

Charles Senrick—2012

Chad Sherrets—2014

Jeffrey Sill—2014

Timothy Cash—2010

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

August:

Mel Burrigh—2017

Gary Gray—2013

Ben Harvey—2015

Tom Jones—2015

Richard Luther—2011

Clinton Miller—2011

Michael Reynolds—2017



James Sly—2013

Ron Stites—2013

Hal Daub—1984

September:

Paul Burrigh—2016

Charles Harmon—2010

Merle McAlevy—2011



Check out our website at:

<http://nessar.org>

There is a lot of important information on the website that is updated regularly to keep you all informed of the happenings and events within the Society.

If you have any recommendations for content to this newsletter or our online platforms, please contact Paul Burright at pburright72@gmail.com.



If you have any interest in joining or supporting the Color Guard in any way, please contact Compatriot Chad Sherrets, Color Guard C o m m a n d e r , at OmahaColorGuard@gmail.com.

We will keep you all posted on SAR and Color Guard events, as we would love to have you attend and show your support for the Society and your Chapter and State Color Guards!

U P C O M I N G M E E T I N G S A N D E V E N T S

- **Labor Day**—3 Sep
- Next Chapter Meeting—11 Sep—Gorat's Steakhouse, 6pm
 - We will summarize the Chapter survey and discuss the actions to move the chapter forward.
- **Patriot Day**—11 Sep
- Fall State Meeting—23 Sep—Mahoney State Park, Ashland, NE, 1pm
 - Color Guard to present the colors.



Chapter Meeting Minutes – 8 May 2018

8 May 2018

The Omaha Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at Gorat's Steakhouse on 8 May 2018. Members and guests attending: Thomas Upton (Jane), Ben Harvey, Paul Burrigh, John Parsons, Bob Knott (Rosemary), Merle McAlevy, Hank Austin (Charlotte), David Kentsmith, Mel Burrigh (Sandra), Richard Ewing (Lynn), State Secretary – John Reinert, Fred Walden (Jan), Ryan Fuller, Tom Jones (Sharon), Charles Reynolds **(23% of chapter membership in attendance)**

President Thomas Upton opened the meeting at 1805 hours. Our program was held prior to dinner. Jason Grof from Fort Atkinson gave a nice presentation on the history of the fort and the Bicentennial Celebration activities going on over the next 3 years.

All stood and repeated the Pledge of Allegiance. Members remained standing and repeated the Pledge to the SAR. The members introduced themselves (with guests) in a roundtable.

The minutes of the 11 Apr 2018 meeting were moved and accepted.

Officers Reports:

- Treasurer, John Parsons reported a balance of \$4,329.25. David Kentsmith moved to donate \$200 to Ft. Atkinson Foundation. Seconded by Bob Knott. Approved by membership.
 - 2 apps in preparation. 1 awaiting approval. 3 still pended. State Secretary, John Reinert was thanked for all the time he puts in on ensuring applications are ready and sent to National.
- 6 member anniversaries for May: Martin Beerman (1990), Jeremy Christensen (2011), Richard Ewing (2010), Joe Mettenbrink (2001), Jason Huff (2005), Tom Upton (2015).

Old Business:

- Cancelled State Spring Meeting. No plans to reschedule before fall meeting in Sept. Eagle Scout award was given out. Patriot Biographies are still needed.

New Business:

- President Tom Upton initiated Charles G. Reynolds into the Society. Compatriot Reynolds gave a brief history of his Patriot Ancestor, William Reynolds (MD) and his application journey.
- Paul Burrigh spoke on upcoming SAR outreach opportunities for Color Guard and SAR members – Memorial Day at Omaha National Cemetery, Independence Day Parade in Ralston, Veterans Day Parade in Bellevue, and Eisenhower Grave Marking on June 2. Compatriot Mel Burrigh and State Secretary, John Reinert voiced interest in attending the Eisenhower Ceremony. No other interest shown as yet on attendance at any other event by chapter membership. Tom Jones moved for chapter to pay up to \$50 for wreath for Eisenhower Ceremony. Seconded by David Kentsmith. Approved by membership.

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on 11 Sep 2018. There being no other business, all members rose and repeated "Until we meet again..." The meeting was adjourned at 1947 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H Burrigh

Secretary Omaha Chapter