



The Quill & Parchment

Omaha Chapter
Nebraska Society, Sons of the American Revolution



EDITORS: PAUL BURRIGHT, BOB KNOTT, BILL WEBB



OMAHA LEADERSHIP 2018-19

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

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OMAHA PATRIOT MUSTER ROLL

The Omaha Chapter has launched a new way to install new members, honor our Patriot Ancestors, and keep a record of all of our Patriots going forward. It is the Omaha Patriot Muster Roll Logbook.

This is something that we put together, as officers of the chapter, and we will utilize this new book as part of each installment ceremony for every new Compatriot being installed into the Chapter, beginning in January 2019.

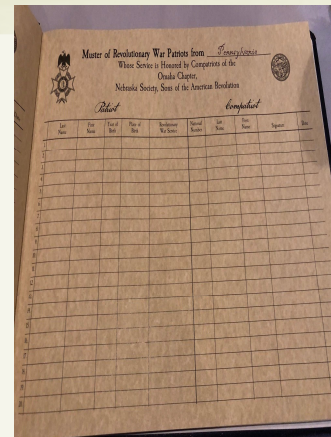
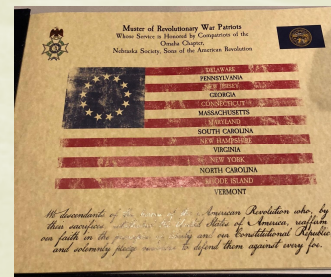
At our December 2018 meeting, our current members will muster their Patriots into the Muster Roll at a special program and ceremony to honor our current members and preserve our Patriots for future

generations of our Chapter.

This book came about as I was researching some of the traditions that other chapters around the country utilize in their meetings and ceremonies. As President Shawn Stoner and I were in Abilene, KS this summer for the Eisenhower Grave Marking, I was able to meet and speak with fellow Compatriots from many different chapters around the Society. I want to give special thanks to the Henry Leavenworth Chapter of the Kansas Society. They were instrumental in helping me get in contact with printers and book sellers to be able to put this together, as they do something similar in their chapter.

Mark your calendars now for 11 Dec 2018, as that will be the day that we will get current members to list all of their approved Patriots in the Muster Roll. We hope to have as many of our members attend to get their Patriots mustered in. We hope to see you all!

- Paul Burright

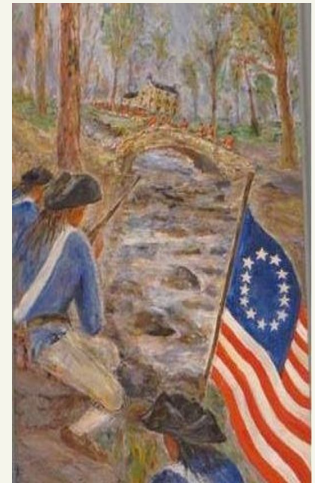


THIS MONTH IN THE REVOLUTION

On September 3, 1777, the American flag is flown in battle for the first time, during the Revolutionary War skirmish at Cooch's Bridge, Maryland. Patriot General William Maxwell ordered the stars and stripes banner raised as a detachment of his infantry and cavalry met an advance guard of British and Hessian troops. The rebels were defeated and forced to retreat to General

George Washington's main force near Brandywine Creek in Pennsylvania. Three months before, on June 14, the Continental Congress adopted a resolution stating that "the flag of the United States be thirteen alternate stripes red and white" and that "the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation." The national flag, which became known as the

"Stars and Stripes," was based on the "Grand Union" flag, a banner carried by the Continental Army in 1776 that also consisted of 13 red and white stripes. According to legend, Philadelphia seamstress, Betsy Ross, designed the new canton for the Stars and Stripes, which consisted of a circle of 13 stars and a blue background, at the request of George Washington.



CHAPTER SURVEY SUMMARY

WITH JUST OVER HALF OF OUR MEMBERSHIP REPLYING TO THE SURVEY, ABOUT 71% OF MEMBERS DO NOT ATTEND REGULAR MEETINGS, WITH 20% NEVER ATTENDING AGAIN AFTER THEIR INSTALLMENT IN THE SOCIETY. THESE NUMBERS ARE CONCERNING!

The Chapter Survey over the summer was very successful and we were able to get quite a lot of information from all of you. Based on your responses, we came up with a top 5 actionable item list to tackle as a chapter:

1. Need for more and better programs,
2. Need for a better/larger meeting space,
3. Need for activities beyond the monthly business meetings,
4. Need for Chapter specific communications on a more frequent basis, and
5. Need for a more welcoming climate for new members.

The #1 response was the need for more and better programs. One possibility we are looking at is creating a Program Committee so that we can network many different people to get the best programs as opposed to the responsibility being on one member only. As this was the

biggest response, we hope to have plenty of men volunteer for this committee, if we proceed with forming it. The second biggest response was about the size of our meeting space as well as the food quality being insufficient. We already made changes to the set up of the room to help with communication before and during the meetings, and the membership seemed to appreciate the new set up. The 3rd biggest response was the need for more fellowship time, beyond just the standard business meeting setting. A number of different ideas were given (annual chapter picnic, committee cookouts, etc.) We will have more information in coming newsletters about these opportunities. If you have any ideas, pass them along to a fellow Compatriot! There was also a call for more Chapter specific communications, via Newslet-

ter, website, Facebook, etc. Obviously, as you are reading this, you know that we have started a Chapter newsletter and the website and Facebook are planned for later in the year as they take a few more logistics to set up properly. The final task is improving our climate for new members. Many responses indicated that new members are not feeling very welcome when coming on board with us, and that is very concerning and must be rapidly changed. We are looking at a number of different ideas to help with this and will hopefully be talking about this more as a Chapter going forward. We will also change how we will initiate new members, to garner excitement that new Compatriots are coming on board. More on how this will look, in future communications.

GET YOUR NEBRASKA MEDAL!

Compatriot Fred Walden, made it known at our last Chapter meeting that there are still many Nebraska medals available to purchase. The proceeds from this purchase go right back into the treasury of our State Society, so you will be acquiring a nice, state specific SAR medal, as well as helping out your Society with your contribution. The medal sells for \$22. For any Compatriots

who may have never seen the medal, a picture is shown to the right. The ribbon is blue with buff colored stripes. The obverse of the medal is a depiction of the State of NE alongside a Patriot, with "Nebraska Society" curved along the bottom of the face, and "Sons of the American Revolution" curved along the top. Within the depiction, it shows the NSSAR medallion. Under the depiction reads,

"Est. 1890". The reverse of the medal is left blank to be able to engrave your name and national number. Compatriot Walden will be bringing medals, available for purchase, to our next Chapter meeting on 9 Oct. If you can not make the meeting and would like to purchase a medal, please contact Paul Burrignt at pburrignt72@gmail.com for more information.



SUBMITTING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION, HELPS PRESERVE THE LEGACY OF YOUR PATRIOT ANCESTOR AND YOUR FAMILY TREE!



SUPPLEMENTAL PATRIOT

We have had another Supplemental Patriot application approved at National for one of our Compatriots.

Compatriot Hugh Nehls submitted his application for the service of his Patriot Ancestor, James McLene/McLean, Sr. (PA) It was approved on 31 Jul 2018 and registered at National on 10 Aug 2018. Congratulations Compatriot Nehls for

this great accomplishment!

If you have more than your initial Patriot in your family tree, consider submitting a supplemental application. By submitting another application, It helps preserve the legacy of all of the Patriots in your lineage, as all applications and proofs are kept at the SAR Library in Louisville, KY.



MEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



September Birthdays

- Cary Clark—Sept 1
- Hank Austin—Sept 2
- Mark Diercks—Sept 10
- Richard Ewing—Sept 11
- Fred C. Walden—Sept 16
- Robert Huff—Sept 18
- Robb Hagstrom—Sept 24

September Anniversaries

- Paul Burrignt
- 23 Sep 2016
- Merle McAlevy
- 28 Sep 2011
- Charles Harmon
- 29 Sep 2010

Happy Birthday to those Compatriots listed for September!

To those Compatriots with membership anniversaries in September, thank you for your membership and service to the SAR!



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

- State Fall Meeting—23 Sep—Mahoney State Park, Ashland, NE, 2pm
- Next Chapter Meeting—9 Oct—Gorat's Steakhouse, 6pm

Our speaker will be Lorraine Jeffus, Immediate Past President of Questers International. Their mission is to promote preservation and restoration of antiques, be it buildings, architecture, or antique pieces

- Halloween—31 Oct

Planning ahead

- 10 Nov 2018—Veteran's Day Parade—Bellevue, NE
- 11 Dec 2018—1st Annual Chapter Awards night with Patriot Muster for current membership. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending!



Chapter Meeting Minutes – 11 Sep 2018

11 Sep 2018

The Omaha Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at Gorat's Steakhouse on 11 Sep 2018. Members and guests attending: Thomas Upton (Jane and daughter, Karen), Ben Harvey, Paul Burrigh, Bob Knott (Rosemary), Merle McAlevy, Hank Austin (Charlotte), David Kentsmith (Kitty), Mel Burrigh (Sandra), State Secretary – John Reinert, Fred Walden (Jan), Roy Prather (guest of Fred Walden) from SAR chapter in Liberty, MO, Ryan Fuller, Gary Gray (Karen), Dick Galusha, Bill Webb (Georgia), Hugh Nehls (Katherine)

President Thomas Upton opened the meeting at 1810 hours.

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. President Upton presided over a moment of silence in remembrance of the 9/11 attacks, 17 years ago.

The minutes of the 8 May 2018 meeting were moved and accepted.

Officers Reports:

- Treasurer, John Parsons – No report
- Registrar, Bob Knott - 3 apps in preparation. 1 awaiting approval. 11 apps approved this year (7 new, 4 supplemental)

Old Business:

- Recap of Summer/Color Guard events – presentation of Eisenhower streamer – deferred until October.

New Business:

- State Society Fall Meeting – will be held Sunday, 23 Sep 2018 at Mahoney State Park at 2pm. Lunch will be served beginning at 1pm in the restaurant in the Main Lodge. RSVP if you plan on eating lunch.
- Color Guard Flag Pole – State President, Shawn Stoner has requested that Omaha help to cover one of the 4 flag poles that were purchased for use by the Chapter and State Color Guards. The cost is \$95. David Kentsmith motioned to agree to cover cost of one pole. Ben Harvey seconded. Approved by membership.
- Program was given by Secretary Paul Burrigh on the results and actions from the summer survey. Moving forward, membership will decide on 1 or 2 top ideas to tackle to move the chapter forward at the October meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on 9 Oct 2018. There being no other business, all members rose and repeated "Until we meet again..." The meeting was adjourned at 1815 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H Burrigh

Secretary Omaha Chapter