



# The Quill & Parchment



**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

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

This month in the Revolution	2
Fall State Meeting Recap	2
Become a Mentor	3
Color Guard Captain	3
Supplemental Patriot	3
October Program	4
Compatriot Honored	4
Birthdays and Anniversaries	4
Chapter info	5
Upcoming Events	5
Oct Meeting Minutes	6

## A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Compatriots,

Our Chapter has decided to move ahead with the formation of 2 different committees that you will be able to participate in, if you feel the call to volunteer and help your Chapter.

The first committee will be the Programs Committee. It will be chaired, on an ongoing basis, by the Chapter Vice President, and will be responsible for searching out and scheduling quality speakers and presenters for our programs that occur during our monthly meetings. This is an item that almost everyone stated in the survey that we needed, so we hope that many of you will step forward and

help us procure those programs that so many of you want.

The second committee will be the Membership, Recruitment, and Retention Committee. This will be chaired by Secretary, Paul Burrignt. This committee will be responsible for implementing a new mentor program for all new, incoming members and creating new member literature to help new members feel informed and welcome within our ranks.

State President Shawn Stoner also has created a state level Compatriot Grave Marking Committee to help plan, work out funding and logistics, and preside over Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremonies. We are

planning on two within the next year for our first two Compatriots to help usher in our 130th Anniversary as a State Society.

We are putting out a call for volunteers to come forward and help us in this endeavor. Please consider helping if you are able!

Contact Vice President, Ben Harvey at [benharvey08@cox.net](mailto:benharvey08@cox.net) for the Program committee.

Contact Secretary, Paul Burrignt at [pburrignt72@gmail.com](mailto:pburrignt72@gmail.com) for the Membership Committee.

Contact State President, Shawn Stoner at [shawnstoner84@gmail.com](mailto:shawnstoner84@gmail.com) for the Grave Marking Committee.



## THIS MONTH IN THE REVOLUTION

The Battle of Yorktown ended on 19 Oct 1781, at Yorktown, VA. This was a decisive victory by a combined force of American Continental Army troops led by General George Washington, and French Army troops led by the Comte de Rochambeau over a British Army commanded by Lt. General Charles Cornwallis. This battle proved to be the last major land battle of the Revolutionary War, with the

surrender and capture of Cornwallis and his army prompting the British government to negotiate an end to the conflict. With the combined armies surrounding the British fortifications and the British fleet, sent to provide assistance to Cornwallis, defeated by Comte de Grasse at the Battle of the Chesapeake, Cornwallis had nowhere to escape. Washington began a bombardment of

the defenses on 14 Oct 1781. The French took redoubt #9 and the Americans, under Alexander Hamilton, took redoubt #10 and the British lines deteriorated quickly. Cornwallis called for capitulation on 17 Oct and surrender was given on 19 Oct, with Cornwallis absent. With the capture of 7000 British soldiers, negotiations began, and the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1783.



**ONE OF OUR ESTEEMED GUESTS AT OUR FALL MEETING WAS OUR NEW DISTRICT VP-GENERAL, MIKE ROWLEY. HE PARTICIPATED IN POSTING AND RETRIEVING THE COLORS WITH THE STATE COLOR GUARD.**

We had a great fall meeting at Mahoney State Park on 23 Sep 2018. One of our guests was our esteemed District Vice President General, Mike Rowley from Iowa. He participated in full uniform with the State Color Guard in presenting and retrieving the colors for the meeting.

The State Society was awarded numerous ribbons from National at the past Congress in Houston. We received a Certificate of Appreciation from the DAR for the help they received on the Indian Project in the Sandhill region of the state. We received the Eisenhower ribbon for our wreath laying in Abilene, KS during the grave marking, the Eagle Scout ribbon for our participation in the Eagle Scout program, and we received the Franklin Flyer streamer for our participation in the Friends of the Library program.

The Fire Safety Award was presented to Donald L Fritz from Norfolk for his long career in the Norfolk Fire Department and numerous fire safety councils.

A Meritorious Service medal was presented to Sen. LeRoy Loudon for his service in representing the SAR at numerous DAR functions, as well as his work on the Indian Project in the Sandhills.

A new member of the NE SAR, Charles Tomlinson, was inducted into the Society.

Interim President, Shawn Stoner, was formally voted on and sworn in as our State President, and all officers went through their reports. The Board of Councilors will discuss procedures should another cancellation of a state meeting occur, so there is no confusion with the communications.

## FALL STATE MEETING SUMMARY

President Stoner mentioned that 2020 will be the 130th Anniversary for the Nebraska Society and would like to plan a celebration meeting for our State Meeting on 26 Apr 2020, which is the exact date for 130 years. He would also like to form a grave marking committee to mark the graves of the first two Compatriots in the Society. 2026 will be the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, and he would like to form a small committee to look into what can be done for that celebration.

An application committee has been formed, with John Reinert as chairman, to discuss and streamline the application process between chapters and the state. Contact him if you would like to volunteer. Overall, a very busy meeting with a lot of discussions!

**B E C O M E A M E N T O R**

Have you thought about when you joined the Omaha Chapter, were excited about what you accomplished for entry, but possibly didn't know many, or any, of the other members, so you felt uncomfortable and didn't enjoy Chapter meetings or events? We are trying to change that by instituting a Mentoring Program for new members. We are issuing a call for volunteers to be

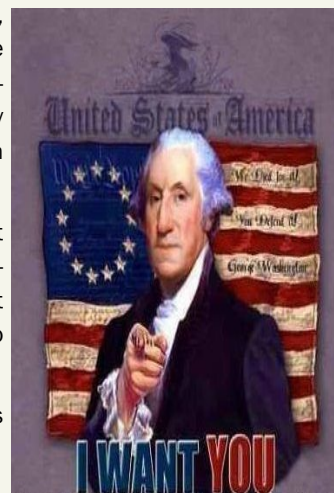
mentors for new members as they are approved and initiated into our Chapter.

It is not hard, or a long time commitment, but it will help give our new members more knowledge about us and different ways they can contribute to the Chapter. They will have someone that they already know in the Chapter, before they are installed as a member, that will be with them, introduce them to the

officers and other members, give them knowledge and be able to answer any questions, and ensure that they feel welcome when they join our ranks.

If this is something that appeals to you, please contact Secretary, Paul Burrigh at pburrigh72@gmail.com to sign up!

Be a mentor and help us grow our Chapter!!



**O M A H A S A R M E M B E R P R O M O T E D  
T O C O L O R G U A R D C A P T A I N**



At the Fall State Meeting for the Nebraska SAR, State Color Guard Commander Chad Sherrets swore in Omaha member, Paul Burrigh, as Omaha's new Color Guard Captain.

As Chapter Color Guard Captain, Compatriot Burrigh will take on leadership of Color Guard events in Omaha, as well as promoting the program at chapter meetings.

Previously Compatriot Sherrets held this position in addition to

State Commander.

"When we launched the SAR Color Guard in Nebraska, there were only 3 of us. Now that our numbers are growing, we can assign duties to more members," Commander Sherrets said. "Paul joined the Color Guard earlier this year and has really taken a lot of initiative and has been one of our most active members. He is very deserving of this promotion, and I know he'll do great leading the

Color Guard in Omaha."

Also at the State Meeting, Compatriot John Braisted was promoted to be Lincoln's Color Guard Lieutenant.

The SAR Color Guard is an activity that members can volunteer for, and includes activities such as parades, posting of the American flag at meetings, speaking to school and scout groups, and doing grave markings, all while in Colonial era uniforms.

**S U P P L E M E N T A L P A T R I O T**

Our Chapter had its fourth supplemental application, for this year, approved this past August.

Compatriot, and Past State President, David Kentsmith, had his application approved for his Patriot Ancestor, George Hamilton, Sr. (GA). This is Compatriot Kentsmith's 12th approved

Patriot in his family tree. With this approval, this gives our chapter, 3 new member approvals and 4 supplemental approvals so far for 2018.

Congratulations, Compatriot Kentsmith, on this great accomplishment!





**OCTOBER PROGRAM**



Our program for October was delivered by Lorraine Jeffus, Past President of Questers International.

Her program covered the history of the Questers organization which was founded in 1944 in Ft. Washington, PA. Their mission is to educate by research and the study of antiques, be it antique items, landmarks, or archi-

ture. Their National organization gives grants to their chapters to help with restoration projects that the chapters take on. One of the projects in the Omaha area that received a grant was the restoration of a stained glass window within the Joslyn Castle. They have also sponsored a fellowship that helped to restore the tent that General

George Washington used during the Revolutionary War. That tent is now on display at the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia, PA.

It was a very interesting program, and a great organization to learn about. If you are into antiques and want to learn more, check out The Questers online.

**DAVID WAS  
STATE  
PRESIDENT  
FROM  
2016-2017  
AND  
VP-GENERAL  
FOR THE NORTH  
CENTRAL  
DISTRICT FROM  
2017-2018**

**COMPATRIOT DAVID KENTSMITH  
HONORED**

At our Chapter meeting on 9 Oct 2018, Compatriot David KentSmith was honored for his service to the SAR.

Chapter President, Tom Upton, presented David with a certificate from National for his service as Vice President General for the North Central District, which includes

Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, and North and South Dakota. He was also presented with a certificate and pin for his service as our Past State President.

Congratulations Compatriot KentSmith, and thank you, from all of the membership, for your service and dedication to the SAR!



**MEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND  
ANNIVERSARIES**



**October Birthdays**

- Jeremy Christensen—Oct 3
- Fred A. Walden—Oct 8
- Daniel Rowe—Oct 16
- Stephen Bothwell—Oct 19
- William Webb—Oct 21
- Fred J. Walden—Oct 25
- Ron Stites—Oct 27

**October Anniversaries**

- Stephen Bothwell
- 17 Oct 2013

Happy Birthday to those Compatriots listed for October!

To those Compatriots with membership anniversaries in October, 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.

A new Chapter website is in the works, so stay tuned for more information!



If you have any interest in joining or supporting the Color Guard in any way, please contact Compatriot Chad Sherrets, State Color Guard Commander, at [OmahaColorGuard@gmail.com](mailto:OmahaColorGuard@gmail.com) or Paul Burreight, Omaha Color Guard Captain, at [pburreight72@gmail.com](mailto:pburreight72@gmail.com).

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

- Election Day—6 Nov 2018
- Next Chapter Meeting—13 Nov 2018—Gorat’s Steakhouse—Program will be given by Kevin Potter, OPD officer, on Winter Driving Safety
- Thanksgiving—22 Nov 2018

### Planning ahead

- 15 Dec 2018—Wreaths Across America
- 11 Dec 2018—1st Annual Chapter Awards night with Patriot Muster for current membership. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending!



**“THOSE WHO EXPECT TO REAP THE BLESSINGS OF FREEDOM MUST, LIKE MEN, UNDERGO THE FATIGUE OF SUPPORTING IT.”**

**- THOMAS PAINE**

# Chapter Meeting Minutes – 9 Oct 2018

9 Oct 2018

The Omaha Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at Gorat's Steakhouse on 9 Oct 2018. Members and guests attending: Thomas Upton (Jane, Karen), Ben Harvey, Paul Burrigh (Paula), Bob Knott (Rosemary), Merle McAlevy, Hank Austin (Charlotte), David Kentsmith (Kitty), State Secretary – John Reinert, Fred Walden (Jan), Gary Gray (Karen), Bill Webb (Georgia), Hugh Nehls (Katherine), Ron Stites, John Parsons, Tom Jones (Sharon), Steve Bigelow (Ginny) – prospective member

President Thomas Upton opened the meeting at 1805 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.

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

## Officers Reports:

- Treasurer, John Parsons – \$3951.47 in treasury. \$177.89 paid for Patriot Muster materials.
- Registrar, Bob Knott - 2 apps in preparation. 2 awaiting approval. 11 apps approved this year (7 new, 4 supplemental), 3 apps still pending

## Old Business:

- Eisenhower Ribbon received at the Eisenhower Grave Marking this summer for participating in the wreath laying, was presented to the chapter.
- Secretary Paul Burrigh recapped the discussions and activities at the Fall State Meeting

## New Business:

- President Tom Upton presented David Kentsmith with a certificate for his service to the SAR as the district VP-General, as well as a certificate and pin for his service as Past State President.
- Secretary Paul Burrigh gave the members information on the Amazon Smile Program.
- Program was given by Lorraine Jeffus, Past President of Questers International, including information on the history of the organization and some of the projects that their local chapters have been involved in helping to restore.
- Top 2 actionable items – Chapter will form two committees. A Program Committee, chaired ongoing by the Vice President, to seek out and procure quality programs, and a Membership, Recruitment, and Retention Committee, to form a new mentoring program for new members, create and publish new member material (handbook, directory, etc.), and plan events for retention and fellowship. Membership Committee will be chaired by Secretary Paul Burrigh.
- Discussion of State President, Shawn Stoner's call for a grave marking committee, to help seek out Compatriot Graves to have ceremonies for, as well as plan logistics, costs, etc.
- Tom Upton received the Vietnam War Veterans Corps Certificate

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on 13 Nov 2018. There being no other business, all members rose and repeated "Until we meet again..." The meeting was adjourned at 2020 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H Burrigh—Secretary, Omaha Chapter

Secretary Omaha Chapter