



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
- Benjamin Harvey—Vice President
- Paul Burright—Secretary
- John Parsons—Treasurer
- Robert Knott—Deputy State Registrar
- Merle McAlevy—Past President

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Omaha Compatriots,
Spring is here and I hope everyone remained safe and dry. We will meet again at 6:30pm and begin the meeting at 7pm, for our next meeting on 9 Apr, in an effort to allow members who are not retired to be able to attend. Dinner orders will begin at 6:30pm. Please come and join us for current news and a good program. Hopefully we will have some information on the Fort Atkinson tour for this summer.

One of our members, at our last meeting, generously offered to purchase a Nebraska SAR Membership Medal for whomever sponsors a newly installed member, between now and the end of December 2019. The idea is to present the Nebraska medal to the new member at

the time of installment. Hopefully we can step up our recruitment efforts and dig a little deeper into his pocketbook.



For those that have not yet mustered in their Patriot by signing in the Chapter Muster Log Book,

Secretary Burright has been bringing the book to each meeting for you to sign your Patriot in. Come and check it out. It is a very nice, tangible document in which we can record a part of our histories in our ever increasing digital world.

A final reminder that Compatriot John Parsons is still looking for volunteers to present medals at the ROTC Award Ceremonies at our local high schools. Please look for his email in the new Chapter Directory and find out his needs and how it matches up with your schedule. We currently have 3 Compatriots doing multiple ceremonies, so there is still opportunities available for you to help. Please consider this request!

Tom Upton—President, Omaha

SPRING STATE MEETING

Omaha Compatriots,
Please remember that our Spring State Society Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 28, 2019. As usual, lunch will be in the restaurant at 1pm with the meeting beginning at 2pm. The meeting will be held at Mahoney State Park, in the

main lodge.
With our 130th Anniversary as a Society upon us, there will be lots of discussion about our plans for the coming year. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend and represent your Omaha Chapter!



SPEAKERS BUREAU

We are starting a Speakers Bureau to include those Compatriots that would like to give talks to other lineage societies, classrooms, etc. on different topics that they are knowledgeable about. The topics can be at your discretion.

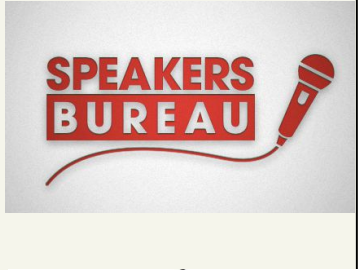
As we are getting more in the public eye, we feel, as a State Society, that this is a natural progression for our group. This is also something for

which we can gain points toward on the Americanism Report, which we are beginning to address on a State and Chapter level.

We are looking for someone to head up this Bureau and be a main point of contact for those seeking our speakers. For the Americanism Report, we must have this set up and publicized on our website by June, as it has to be published on our website for at

least 6 months of the current year.

It does not have to be a huge time commitment. It would be your choice as to which event you wanted to commit to, as the requests come in. Please think about this opportunity. It is something else, beyond the Color Guard, that can get the name of the Sons of the American Revolution out into the community and grow our outreach!



THIS MONTH IN THE REVOLUTION



Paul Revere

On 5 Mar 1770, the Boston Massacre occurred. An altercation between British soldiers and a crowd of angry, drunk colonists occurred. The colonists were throwing snowballs and yelling at the soldiers and they eventually began to throw clubs and other heavy objects, all while taunting the soldiers to "fire".

A soldier was hit in the head with a club and his musket discharged as he fell. The other soldiers, thinking there was a command to fire, opened up on the crowd. Three men were killed and 8 others wounded, with two of them later dying from their injuries. The soldiers were taken to court in Boston where they had John Adams as their council. The soldiers were found innocent, taken to England, where they were found guilty and punished.

— and his savage Bands, With murd'rous Rancour stretch their bloody Hands; Like fierce Barbarians grinning o'er their Prey, Approve the Carnage, and enjoy the Day."

The etching and Prose was titled, "The Fruits of Arbitrary Power, or the Bloody Massacre". The etching was used as propaganda by the colonists to give the Patriots one more thing to blame on the King. Based on the evidence that John Adams brought, the etching was inaccurate, but the seeds of discourse were beginning to be sown.

Boston! See thy sons deplore, Thy Hallow'd Walks, besmear'd with guiltless Gore: While faithless

(The Boston Massacre etching by Paul Revere is shown on the left.)



AMERICANISM REPORT DETAILS



Our Chapter's performance is evaluated at the National level through the Americanism Report.

The Americanism Report is two reports combined, that Chapters submit to the Nebraska SAR and to National SAR. Chapters report their various activities and participation in events during the year which is used by the NESSAR to compile the State Report, and National uses these reports to evaluate Chapter and State Society performance throughout the year and select Chapters and State Societies for awards and recognition, based on their results. We will focus on the 1st part, the Americanism Award Report, in this issue and the 2nd part, the President General's Activities Award Report, in the April newsletter.

Part 1 of the report, the **Americanism Award Report**, lists activities **external** of the Chapter and State Society in support of SAR goals and objectives. **Category 1** - Publicity in both print and electronic (web-based newspapers/letters/blogs, etc.) media of chapter or member activities

Category 2 - Publicity through broadcast media (TV and radio)

Category 3 - Speakers Bureau (talks on patriotic, historical, or educational

topics to organizations/groups, schools, or SAR, DAR, or CAR events/meetings)

Category 4 - Multimedia distribution (dissemination/donation of NSSAR produced, free CD's to schools and educational organizations)

Category 6 - Youth Programs (recognition of and awards to oration, essay, poster, and brochure contest participants, JROTC students, Eagle Scouts, and history teachers)

Category 7 - Public Service Programs (recognition of fire safety, law enforcement, and EMS personnel; Chapter members on a school board; Rev War displays in libraries, museums, or schools; sponsoring a public service event with an SAR theme; participation in public parades; and presenting a framed copy of a historic document to a school, library, museum, or other public building)

Category 8 - Granting of scholarships and monetary awards to youth contest winners

Category 9 - Veterans support (points come from the Chapter's Stark Report on veteran's support and activities)

Category 10 - Special Observances/Ceremonies (sponsoring or attending historic events such as Washington's Bday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Yorktown Day, Veteran's Day, Wreaths Across America, and many other historic events held locally and across the state and nation)

Category 11 - Patriot and Compatriot Grave Markings and Patriot Biographies

Category 12A - SAR Awards to **Non-SAR members** (recognizing support to the community or the SAR other than youth and public service awards from other categories)

For many of these categories, when any of us participates while we are in Revolutionary War uniforms or period clothing, we receive bonus points in that category. So we ask you to consider becoming part of the Color Guard and utilizing a loaner uniform for any of the categories, meetings, or events that we host, support, and/or participate in. Please think about how you can participate and help us gain more points for 2019. Even if it is just attending the State Meeting, if we all contribute just a little bit towards our meetings, activities, and events, the dividends will pay off in the long term. If you participate in any form, at any activity that we may not know about, please be sure to let Secretary Paul Burrigh72@gmail.com, so that it can be added to the Chapter Report. To give you all some perspective, we scored 915 points, as a Chapter, on the Americanism Award Report for 2018. We rate our scores against other Chapters with comparable membership numbers. As this is the first year we have submitted, it gives us a baseline and goal to beat in 2019. Please consider how you can participate and help improve our score.



MARCH MEETING NOTES

Due to the pouring rain and dense fog on the evening of our March meeting, we didn't quite have everyone in attendance, but we had a good turnout, regardless. While we did not have a program for this meeting (our scheduled presenter was ill), we still had plenty of SAR business to discuss.

1. As many of you will remember, we have discussed having a Chapter outing to Fort Atkinson in Ft. Calhoun, NE, just north of Omaha. For those of you that don't know, Ft. Atkinson is the oldest military facility west of the Missouri River. It was commissioned in 1819 and in use until 1827 and housed 1200 soldiers at its height. We had discussed doing a tour during their living history weekend on June 1, however it was brought up that we may want to choose a different weekend when there won't be such a large crowd of people. John Parsons will be looking into getting a tour set up and where we might have lunch the day of the tour and get back to the group.
2. ROTC award ceremonies are coming up in April and May. We have gotten volunteers for all ceremonies, so thank you to all who have volunteered. We have some Compatriots that are doing 2 ceremonies, so we would like to get more of you to volunteer. Notices and reminders will go out to those that have stepped up to represent your Chapter and Society by presenting our award to a cadet.
3. The Chapter Directory will be going out to everyone very soon. Be on the lookout in your email for it. It will come in a pdf attachment in your email and you can save it to your computer, or print it off if you wish to have a hard copy. Thank you to everyone who got your information and picture to the Secretary.
4. You should have received a notice that Amazon Smile is up and running. Please click on the link you were sent and choose our Chapter as your preferred organization. The money donated to us is not much (.05% of each sale), but every little bit helps and the more people we can get to sign up, the more we can receive. Please tell your friends and fam-

ily about this program for us!

5. Color Guard—We are currently looking to build our ranks and grow our Color Guard. We have 3 loaner uniforms that can be worn for events if you do not yet have your own. We are looking for 2 non Color Guard members to participate with us and try it out and we are looking to expand by at least 1 new recruit. Come and join in the fun times we have as a Color Guard unit!!

6. Be sure to attend the Spring State Meeting at Mahoney State Park on 28 Apr 2019 at 2pm. There will be a lot to discuss with our 130th Anniversary approaching.

7. A fellow Compatriot posed some incentive to recruiting new members. He will purchase a Nebraska SAR medal for the top line sponsor of a new member to present to the new member at their installment ceremony. This will be for every new member brought on between now and 31 Dec 2019.

We hope to see everyone 9 Apr 2019!



March Birthdays

Mel Burright—Mar 6
Tom Upton—Mar 25
Jeremy Fischer—Mar 27
Jeffrey Sill—Mar 29

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

March Anniversaries

Andrew Blossom—18 Mar 1986
Hank Austin—23 Mar 2015
Henry Neely III—26 Mar 1979



Happy Birthday to those Compatriots listed for March!

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



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Check out our website at:

www.nessar.org/omaha-chapter/

We are updating the Omaha Chapter link on the State website and adding more pages and content. Check back often to see what updates we have installed.

Also, go and like our new **Omaha SAR** Facebook page. We will post lots of pictures, posts, and articles relevant to our Chapter and the Revolution. Check it out!!

Don't forget to sign up with **Amazon Smile** and support your Omaha Chapter!



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 or Paul Burrig, Omaha Color Guard Captain, at pburright72@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

- St. Patrick's Day—17 Mar 2019
- Next Chapter Meeting—9 Apr 2019
Program: Dr. Franklin Damann—The DPAA Forensics Lab, Offutt AFB
- 28 Apr 2019—Spring State Meeting—Mahoney State Park
- ROTC Award Ceremonies—April/May 2019

Planning ahead

- 14 May 2019—Chapter Meeting
- 24 May 2019—Color Guard—Purple Heart Honor Flight
- 27 May 2019—Memorial Day Ceremonies



“THE POWERS DELEGATED BY THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ARE FEW AND DEFINED. THOSE WHICH ARE TO REMAIN IN THE STATE GOVERNMENTS ARE NUMEROUS AND INDEFINITE.”

JAMES MADISON—FEDERALIST PAPERS, NO. 45, JANUARY 26, 1788

Chapter Meeting Minutes – 12 Mar 2019

12 Mar 2019

The Omaha Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at Gorat's Steakhouse on 12 Mar 2019. Members and guests attending: Ben Harvey, Paul Burrigh (Paula), Merle McAlevy, Fred Walden (Jan), John Parsons (Pauline), Steve Bigelow (Ginny) – prospective member, Mel Burrigh (Sandra), Tom Upton (Jane), Hugh Nehls (Kathy), Ron Stites, Dick Galusha, Ryan Fuller, State Secretary, John Reinert.

President Tom Upton opened the meeting at 1901 hours.

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

The minutes of the 12 Feb 2019 meeting were accepted by member vote.

Officers Reports:

- Treasurer, John Parsons – \$3462.52 currently. \$55 to Tom Upton for Dec award. Omaha dues check to be deposited. Moved by Ron, second by Ryan, Approved by vote.
- Registrar, John Reinert – Multiple applications in process – new and supplemental

Old Business:

- John Parsons will check on times for an SAR tour at Fort Atkinson in June and report back.
- All ROTC award ceremonies were scheduled with presenters
- Chapter directory will be published this weekend. Any last-minute information needs to be sent to Secretary Paul Burrigh ASAP
- Secretary Burrigh received the last piece of information needed for Amazon Smile. Should be up and running this weekend.

New Business:

- National Veterans Recognition Committee – Bill Webb – tabled for April meeting
- Program: No program. Presenter Jeff Barnes was ill.
- State Spring Meeting – 28 Apr 2019 – discussed the importance of attendance
- Patriot Muster – Compatriot Ron Stites mustered in his Patriot, Benjamin Stites (PA), and Compatriot Dick Galusha mustered in his Patriot, Jonas Galusha (VT)
- Membership incentive by a fellow Compatriot for purchase of NE medal for top line sponsor of any new member to present to said new member added from 12 Mar 2019 – 31 Dec 2019

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on 9 Apr 2019. There being no other business, all members rose and repeated "Until we meet again..." The meeting was adjourned at 2030 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H Burrigh

Secretary Omaha Chapter