



The Quill & Parchment

Omaha Chapter
Nebraska Society, Sons of the American Revolution



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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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COLOR GUARD—A CALL FOR TROOPS

The Omaha Color Guard is actively recruiting Omaha SAR members to join our ranks.

Being a member of the Color Guard allows you to be part of the face of the SAR to the Society and community at large.

If you are afraid that it will be a huge time commitment, you need not worry. While it is true, that the number of events that the Color Guard is becoming involved in is growing, as a member, you can attend whichever events work within your schedule. Maybe parades are too much walking or too long and fast paced, but you would like to be a member as we present colors at meetings or grave markings, or maybe you would like to be part of the group that talks to organizations or school kids, we would love to have you

in whatever capacity you are able to participate.

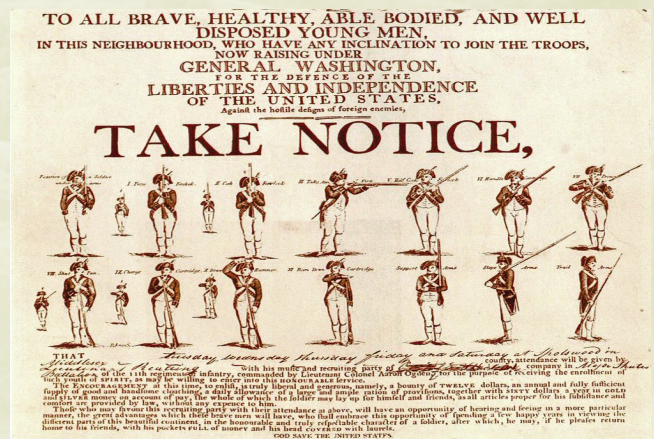
As always, we hope for a majority of our ranks to be present, but attendance is not required at every event.

If you are thinking, "I don't have a uniform, yet, to be able to participate", again there is nothing to worry about. We have loaner uniforms available for

you to wear as you assemble your own uniform.

If you are interested, or are in need of a loaner uniform to be able to participate, please contact Compatriot Chad Sherrets, Nebraska Color Guard Commander at OmahaColorGuard@gmail.com.

We look forward to having you be a part of our esteemed unit!



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!



NATIONAL VETERANS RECOGNITION

It is well known that many of our Omaha Compatriots are veterans, whether it was in military service or serving in a theatre of war. The National Society is making great strides in trying to recognize those members for their sacrifice and service.

The process of being recognized for your service can be found on the National Society website, www.sar.org, and under the members tab, then

SAR Committees, then Veterans Recognition Committee.

There is no cost to send in your paperwork to the committee. Once you do, and your service is verified, you will receive a Certificate of Patriotism. After you receive your certificate, your name is placed on the list of members who are veterans and you are able to receive the Military Service Medal or War Service Medal. The medal is

Priority #4 on the list of SAR medals. We currently have 3 Omaha members who are listed in the National Veteran Database; President Tom Upton, Past President Bill Webb, and Compatriot Jim Sly.

For those of you that served this great country, look into this great National Society program and be recognized. Thank you to our veteran Compatriots.



THIS MONTH IN THE REVOLUTION

18 April 1775—Paul Revere's Ride and the "Shot Heard Round the World".

On the evening of 18 Apr 1775, at about 10 o'clock, Dr. Joseph Warren sent for Paul Revere, and desired him "to go to Lexington, and inform Mr. Samuel Adams, and the Hon. John Hancock Esq. that there was a number of soldiers, composed of light troops, and grenadiers, marching to the bottom of the common, where there was a number of boats to receive them; it was supposed that they were going to Lexington, by the way of Cambridge River, to take them, or go to Concord, to destroy the colony stores."

Paul Revere set out by boat over the Charles River and made his way north, after getting a horse in

Charlestown, narrowly escaping from two officers on horseback, and made it to Lexington and alarmed Adams and Hancock.

William Dawes then arrived in Lexington, as he rode up from Boston over the Neck, and they both set out for Concord. Along the way, they were joined by a young Patriot, Samuel Prescott and the 3 rode on together. They came upon a contingent of soldiers who engaged them. Revere was captured, Dawes lost his horse and had to walk back to Lexington, but Prescott escaped and alerted the minutemen in Concord.

Paul Revere was questioned for a couple of hours, then was let go after the troops heard a gun fired to alarm the countryside of the troops' approach. He went and found Hancock and the full compliment of troops was within 2 miles. Revere rode through the militia

lines and "had not got half a gun shot away when the Ministerial Troops appeared in sight. They made a short halt, when one gun was fired. I heard the report, turned my head, and saw the smoke in front of the troops. They immediately gave a great shout, ran a few paces, and then the whole fired." This was at 5am, when 700 British Troops met 77 American Patriots on Lexington's common green. It can not be determined who fired "the shot", but the green was soon covered in smoke. Eight Americans were dead and 10 wounded. The Revolution had begun.



AMERICANISM REPORT DETAILS – PART 2



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. Last month we discussed the Americanism Award Report and what each

category consisted of for us to do to earn points. This month, we will focus on the 2nd part of the report, the President General's Activities Award Report.

Part 2 of the report, the **President General's Activities Award Report**, lists activities **internal** of the Chapter and SAR.

Category 5 – Support of the DAR and CAR (including attending meetings)

Category 12B – SAR Awards to SAR members (recognition of achievements and support to the Chapter and the SAR)

Category 13 – National Society Service (members who are on National SAR Committees and who attend meetings of the Committee, or hold National SAR elected office, such as Trustees, Vice President General, etc.)

Category 14 – Membership (new members added, reinstatements, and supplemental memberships during the year)

Category 15 – Attendance at State, District, and National meetings (credit is given for each member who attends any of these meetings)

Category 16 – Contributions to the SAR (monetary contributions to any of the NSSAR funds, such as the SAR Foundation, Washington Endowment, SAR Library, etc.)

To give you all some perspective, we scored 775 points, as a Chapter, on the President General's Activities Award Report for 2018. We rate our scores against other Chapters with comparable membership numbers. That being said, with our 915 points on the Americanism Award Report and 775 points on the President General's Activities Award Report, we will not know how we did as a Chapter until after the 2019 Congress. As this is the first year we have submitted, it gives us a baseline and goal to beat in 2019.

Between the article in the March newsletter, and this breakdown of the categories, everyone should now know what the SAR is looking for and how we can gain points as a Chapter and be recognized for the great work we are doing, not only for the SAR but for our community. Please consider how you can participate and help improve our score!

FORT ATKINSON TOUR DATE SCHEDULED

Omaha Compatriots,

As we go on hiatus from our regular monthly business meetings for the summer, we wanted to put together an opportunity for our members to get together, outside of our business meeting setting. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, June 22nd.

We will be traveling just

north of Omaha, to Fort Calhoun, NE, and will be getting a tour of Fort Atkinson. Fort Atkinson is celebrating its bicentennial, and it is the oldest military installation west of the Missouri River.

We are planning for the tour to be at approximately 12:30pm, and we are actively looking for restaurants in the area to have lunch, probably around 11am, so we

have time to make the tour.

All arrangements will be hashed out at our May Chapter meeting. For those members who don't make many meetings, we will send out a reminder notice of the event to everyone. We would love for you to come out and have some fun with us for this first ever Chapter excursion in June!



APRIL MEETING PROGRAM & NOTES

Our program for the April meeting was given by Dr. Franklin Damann, who works for the DPAA Forensics Lab at Offutt Air Force Base. DPAA stands for Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, and their mission is to locate and identify the remains of missing and unknown service men from conflicts from WWII to the present.

The DPAA's mission statement reads to "Provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nation." To date, the U.S. has 83,000 military personnel unaccounted for, and 73,000 of those are still from WWII.

They utilize both archeological recovery, as well as disinterment of unknowns to distinguish remains to be identified.

The forensics lab uses a very detailed process and methods to be able to completely identify remains. The ID process begins with historical evidence (known plane crashes in an area, known area of a sunken ship,

etc., and who may have been in the area with specific equipment). They then will use material evidence to help them identify the loss incident and/or specific individuals for their work grid. They can use serial numbers off of guns, dog tag fragments, equipment material, etc.

They next will use anthropological analysis (sex, age, ancestry, stature, trauma, individual traits, etc.). They are also able to sometimes compare post mortem and antemortem chest x-rays. This has helped them identify 112 service members. DNA can also be used to exclude individuals from a short list, as DNA analysis has only been around for a relatively short while. The final method for identification can be by odontologists. Odontologists compare the dentition to the antemortem dental records, to help determine the identity of the individual.

Some of the bigger projects that the lab is working on include identifying remains from the Korean War, which account for 7300 still unknown. The USS Oklahoma is also a very large project for them to accomplish. In one project they began disinterring 400 unknowns that were

buried in only 62 caskets in 46 gravesites. The first disinterment, in 2003, identified 94 different DNA segments for them to sort through, and that was only one casket. As of 2015, all caskets had been disinterred, and they are working to identify all who were buried there.

In 2018, they were able to identify 203 individuals, through their lab, and so far this year, they have identified 73 unknown service members. Thank you to Dr. Damann and the DPAA forensics lab, for all of the great work they are doing!



Tom Upton, Dr Franklin Damann,
Ben Harvey



April Birthdays

Merle McAlevy—Apr 9
John Parsons—Apr 18
Brian Walden—Apr 19
Hal Daub—Apr 23
Martin Beerman—Apr 23
James Taylor—Apr 24

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

April Anniversaries

Tom Conley—10 Apr 2008



Happy Birthday to those Compatriots listed for April!

To those Compatriots with membership anniversaries in April, 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, check out, like, and follow our new **Omaha SAR** Facebook page.

Don't forget to sign up with **Amazon Smile** and support your Omaha Chapter! Here is the link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-6027779>



The Omaha Color Guard is recruiting! If you are interested in participating and joining our ranks, please contact Compatriot Chad Sherrets, Nebraska Color Guard Commander, at OmahaColorGuard@gmail.com or Paul Burrig, Omaha Color Guard Captain, at pburrig72@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

- Spring State Meeting—28 Apr 2019
- Next Chapter Meeting—14 May 2019
Program: Larry Jacobsen—“History of Prospect Hill Cemetery”
- 24 May 2019—Color Guard—Purple Heart Honor Flight
- 27 May 2019—Color Guard—Memorial Day Ceremonies

Planning ahead

- June 22—Fort Atkinson Tour
- July 4—Color Guard—Ralston Independence Day Parade
- August 10 & 24—Compatriot Grave Markings



“THE TREE OF LIBERTY MUST BE REFRESHED FROM TIME TO TIME WITH THE BLOOD OF PATRIOTS AND TYRANTS”

- THOMAS JEFFERSON

Chapter Meeting Minutes – 9 Apr 2019

9 Apr 2019

The Omaha Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at Gorat's Steakhouse on 9 Apr 2019. Members and guests attending: Ben Harvey, Paul Burrignt, Fred Walden (Jan), John Parsons (Pauline), Mel Burrignt, Tom Upton (Jane), State Secretary, John Reinert, David Kentsmith (Kitty), Hank Austin (Charlotte), Bill Webb (Georgia), Bill Cameron (Karen) – prospective member, Dr. Franklin Damann - speaker.

President Tom Upton opened the meeting at 1902 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 Mar 2019 meeting were accepted by member vote.

Officers Reports:

- Treasurer, John Parsons – \$4571.01 currently. Move by David, second by Ben, Approve by vote.
- Registrar, John Reinert – 15 new applications & 4 Supplementals in process for Chapter

Old Business:

- John Parsons will check on times for an SAR tour at Fort Atkinson in June and report back. 1st choice for date is June 15th, 2nd choice is June 22nd. Date will be decided and scheduled at May meeting.
- All ROTC award ceremonies were scheduled with presenters except Apr 26 – Papillion South
- Amazon Smile link is up on the Omaha Chapter page of the website

New Business:

- National Veterans Recognition Committee – Bill Webb – members with military and war service can submit documentation and be recognized by the National Veterans Committee and be eligible for a Military Service or War Service Medal.
- Chapter Registrars were brought up during application committee meeting in late March. More discussion will be had at the State meeting.
- State Spring Meeting – 28 Apr 2019 – discussed the importance of attendance
- Program – Dr. Franklin Damann – DPAA Forensics Lab, Offutt AFB. Discussed processes used by their lab to locate and identify remains of missing and unknown service men, going back to WWII.

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on 14 May 2019. There being no other business, all members rose and repeated "Until we meet again..." The meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H Burrignt

Secretary Omaha Chapter