



The Quill & Parchment

Omaha Chapter
Nebraska Society, Sons of the American Revolution



EDITORS: PAUL BURRIGHT, BILL WEBB



OMAHA LEADERSHIP 2020-21

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- Paul Burright—
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- James Sly—
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- John Parsons—
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COLOR GUARD BEGINS ANOTHER EXCITING YEAR!

Your Omaha Color Guard is gearing up for another exciting year of representing our Chapter and the Nebraska SAR.

We added a number of events to our calendar last year, as a State Color Guard, including some DAR events, a Veterans Honor Flight Homecoming Parade, and the Veteran's Day Parade in Lincoln.

Barring any cancellations of events, due to the growing pandemic, we have added a number of new events, plus will continue our participation at annual events we have done in the past.

We have our State Spring Meeting coming up in April, as well as a new event, a Memorial Day Parade and community Patriotic concert at the



Durham Museum in Downtown Omaha, scheduled for May 22. On May 25, we will participate in the Memorial Day Ceremony at Omaha National Cemetery. On June 20th, we are scheduled to present the colors, during the National Anthem, at the opening of the Omaha Storm Chasers game at Werner Park. As we have the last couple of years, we will also participate in the Independ-

ence Day Parade, in Ralston, on July 4.

We hope to add in some classroom presentations this year, to be able to utilize our Patriot Chest, and educate some young people on the Revolution and the era in which our ancestors lived and fought.

As always, we are also actively recruiting new members. Please consider joining our ranks. Remember that we have loaner uniforms available for use, if you do not have your own uniform parts just yet. Talk to any of the Color Guard members, if you have any questions.

We are looking forward to a great 2020 event season! Huzzah!!

OMAHA CHAPTER CHARTER DATE

We have been talking in our Chapter meetings, over the past 6 months to a year, about ordering a replacement Charter for the Omaha Chapter, as no one seemed to know what happened to the original. It was not in any of the archived documents at the State Historical Society, and no one knew what the exact date was

that Omaha was chartered. We have spent much of the last few months searching archives, even at National, for our Charter date.

Great news is, the original Charter has been found! State President Shawn Stoner, found it in some boxes of old State SAR material that he

was given.

Our original Charter date is 07 May 1937. We believe that early on, Omaha members were in a Chapter called the Ethan Allen Chapter. We believe it disbanded in the 1920's, and eventually members formed the Omaha Chapter. More to come later!

THIS MONTH IN THE REVOLUTION

04 Mar 1797—John Adams inaugural address. Here are a few excerpts from that address.



When it was first perceived, in early times, that no middle course for America remained between unlimited submission to a foreign legislature and a total independence of its claims, men of reflection were less apprehensive of danger from the formidable power of fleets and armies they must determine to resist than from those contests and dissensions which would certainly arise concerning the forms of government to be instituted over the whole and over the parts of this extensive country. Relying, however, on the purity of their intentions, the justice of their cause, and the integrity and intelligence of the people, under an overruling Providence which had so signally protected this country from the first, the representatives of this nation, then consisting of little more than half its present number, not only

broke to pieces the chains which were forging and the rod of iron that was lifted up, but frankly cut asunder the ties which had bound them, and launched into an ocean of uncertainty.

The zeal and ardor of the people during the Revolutionary war, supplying the place of government, commanded a degree of order sufficient at least for the temporary preservation of society. The Confederation which was early felt to be necessary was prepared from the models of the Batavian and Helvetic confederacies, the only examples which remain with any detail and precision in history, and certainly the only ones which the people at large had ever considered. But reflecting on the striking difference in so many particulars between this country and those where a courier may go from the seat of government to the frontier in a single day, it was then certainly foreseen by some who assisted in Congress at the formation of it that it could not be durable.

Such is the amiable and interesting system of government (and such are some of the abuses to which it may be exposed) which the people of America have exhibited to the admiration and anxiety of the wise and virtuous of all nations for eight years under the administration of a citizen who, by a long course of great actions, regulated by prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude, conducting a people inspired with the same virtues and animated with the same ardent pat-

riotism and love of liberty to independence and peace, to increasing wealth and unexampled prosperity, has merited the gratitude of his fellow-citizens, commanded the highest praises of foreign nations, and secured immortal glory with posterity.

In that retirement which is his voluntary choice may he long live to enjoy the delicious recollection of his services, the gratitude of mankind, the happy fruits of them to himself and the world, which are daily increasing, and that splendid prospect of the future fortunes of this country which is opening from year to year. His name may be still a rampart, and the knowledge that he lives a bulwark, against all open or secret enemies of his country's peace. This example has been recommended to the imitation of his successors by both Houses of Congress and by the voice of the legislatures and the people throughout the nation.

With this great example before me, with the sense and spirit, the faith and honor, the duty and interest, of the same American people pledged to support the Constitution of the United States, I entertain no doubt of its continuance in all its energy, and my mind is prepared without hesitation to lay myself under the most solemn obligations to support it to the utmost of my power.

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

Two more Supplemental Patriot applications have been approved for our Chapter and the Nebraska Society.

Compatriot Bob Knott now has 18 approved Patriots with the approval of Edward Leach (MD) and Ninian Magruder (MD).

Supplemental Patriot applications are important, as it continues to expand the SAR database on Patri-

ots and their descendants, and preserves your family history forever, in the SAR archives. If you believe you have more Patriots in your family tree, please consider completing the research and submitting a supplemental application.

Congratulations Compatriot Knott on your achievement. Bob currently still has two more supplemental applications waiting for approval at National.



R O T C M E D A L P R E S E N T E R S

Omaha Compatriots,

You should have already gotten an email concerning the need for volunteers to present ROTC medals to cadets, on behalf of the SAR. Thank you to those that have already signed up for a ceremony. For those that are still open, please consider taking one of them. We need 100% representation for these awards. Be sure to get pictures of your presentations. Color Guard members, please present medals in uniform!

Northwest HS	Wed, Apr 15, 6pm	Ryan Fuller
Omaha North HS	Thurs, Apr 16, 7pm	Bill Webb
Burke HS	Thurs, Apr 16, 6pm	Paul Burrigh
Omaha South HS	Mon, Apr 20, 7pm	Dick Galusha
Benson HS	Tue, Apr 21, 6pm	
Central HS	Wed, Apr 22, 7pm	
Bryan HS	Mon, Apr 27, 7pm	
Papillion South HS	Thurs, Apr 23, 6pm	Jim Sly
Plattsmouth HS	Thurs, May 7, 6:30pm	John Parsons
Bellevue East HS	Sat, Apr 25, 6pm	Ben Harvey
Bellevue West HS	Wed, Apr 22, 6pm	Bob Knott
Millard South HS	Date/Time TBD	Hugh Nehls
Creighton Univ.	Tue, Apr 28, 6pm	
UNO	Sat, Apr 25, 7pm	Jim Sly



Bronze ROTC Medal



Silver ROTC Medal

MAR MEETING PROGRAM & NOTES

Our March meeting had a lot of information for the members. Our attendance has been down the last couple of meetings. Please remember to RSVP to the Secretary, and join us on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

We discussed how the original Omaha Chapter Charter document has been found. We were chartered as a chapter on 07 May 1937. There was a chapter in Omaha called the Ethan Allen Chapter, as well as chapters in Fremont and Crete, NE, in the early days of the Nebraska SAR, that have since disbanded. We will be talking about what to do with the Charter now that it has been found. It would be nice to be able to bring and display it during chapter meetings.

We also discussed the upcoming Color Guard events. Please join us as we represent the SAR to the public.

A Nebraska SAR Yearbook 2020 has been published by members of our Society, in celebration of our 130 year Anniversary, this April. They are available for sale, for \$18. All proceeds go directly to the Nebraska

SAR. Be sure to purchase yours. The Society has also purchased some to donate to state and local genealogical societies, historical societies, public libraries, and the SAR Library. More information will be in *The Husker Patriot* coming out in a couple of weeks.



Vice President, Paul Burright, gave a program to the group on "The History of American Coin and Currency". He brought a sample of his collection, to pass around, as he talked through different eras, so that members could see different designs and years of minting, through the roughly 250 year history of

our country. Some of the examples included:

- A Spanish "Piece of Eight" Dollar Coin, minted in 1783. This was one of the first "legal tender" coins allowed by Congress.
- A \$20 Continental Note, minted in 1778 in Philadelphia.
- A set of "Draped Bust" Cent and Half Cent coins, minted in 1803. Some of the earliest coins minted by the U.S. government.
- "Horse Blanket" Silver Certificate Notes issued in 1899. Black Eagle \$1 Note, had 2 Presidents on the front. "Indian Chief" \$5 Note, had depiction of Sioux Chief Running Antelope on the front.
- 2¢ coin, minted in 1863. It was the first coin to have "In God We Trust" on it. Also a 3¢ coin from the same collection of Civil War coins.

These were just a few of the examples that were seen by the members, and they were able to hold and learn about. The program seemed to be enjoyed by those in attendance.

We hope to see you at our April meeting.



Mar Birthdays

Mel Burright—06 Mar
Tom Upton—25 Mar
Jeremy Fischer—27 Mar

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Mar Anniversaries

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



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, 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 Burrignt, Omaha Color Guard Captain, at pburrignt72@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

- 14 Apr 2020—Chapter Meeting—6:30pm, Gorat's Steakhouse
Program: Ben Justman, Sarpy County Museum, WWI
- 26 Apr 2020—Spring State Meeting—2pm, Mahoney State Park
130th Anniversary, Election/Installation of new officers

Planning ahead

- 12 May 2020—Chapter meeting—6:30pm, Gorat's Steakhouse
- 22 May 2020—Patriotic Memorial Day Parade and Concert—Color Guard
- 25 May 2020—Memorial Day Ceremonies—Omaha National Cemetery



“IT WILL BE OF LITTLE AVAIL TO THE PEOPLE THAT THE LAWS ARE MADE BY MEN OF THEIR OWN CHOICE IF THE LAWS BE SO VOLUMINOUS THAT THEY CANNOT BE READ, OR SO INCOHERENT THAT THEY CANNOT BE UNDERSTOOD.” ~ JAMES MADISON—FEDERALIST PAPERS

Meeting Minutes—10 Mar 2020

10 March 2020

The Omaha Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at Gorat's Steakhouse on 10 March 2020. Members and guests attending: Jim Sly, John Parsons, Ben Harvey, Paul Burrigh (Paula), Bob Knott, Fred Walden (Jan), David Kentsmith (Kitty) and Ryan Fuller.

President-elect Ben Harvey opened the meeting at 1910 hours.

All stood and repeated the Pledge of Allegiance. Members remained standing and repeated the Pledge to the SAR. The members introduced guests in attendance.

The minutes of the 11 Feb 2020 meeting were accepted by member vote.

Officers Reports:

- Treasurer, John Parsons – Account has \$4054.75. One expense for \$231.00 is expected to pay for the ROTC Awards. Report approved by voice vote.
- Registrar, Paul Burrigh – 6 apps in preparation, 1 Supplemental approved for Chapter, 4 apps pended.

Old Business:

- Paul Burrigh informed the membership that the original Omaha Chapter Charter (dated 7 May, 1937) was found among a collection of state documents.

New Business:

- John Parsons notified the membership that ROTC Medal presentations are fast approaching. Volunteers are needed for presentations at 12 high schools and 2 universities. More information and sign-ups will begin at the April meeting.
- Paul Burrigh briefed the membership on the Color Guard schedule for this year. Several new events have been added to the previous scheduled events. Anyone desiring to help with the Color Guard should contact Paul or the Color Guard Commander, Chad Sherrets at omahacolorguard@gmail.com.
- Paul Burrigh briefed the membership on the 2020 State Yearbook. State President, Shaun Stoner, Paul Burrigh, and several other members produced a yearbook on the history and recent activities of the Nebraska Society, Lincoln Chapter, and Omaha Chapter. It will be available at the State Spring Meeting on 26 April and other society activities.

Program: Paul Burrigh provided a very informative program on the history and types of currency used in the USA.

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on 14 April 2020. There being no other business, all members rose and repeated "Until we meet again..." The meeting was adjourned at 2032 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Sly, Jr., DRE, ThD, PhD

Secretary Omaha Chapter