



The Quill & Parchment

Omaha Chapter
Nebraska Society, Sons of the American Revolution



E D I T O R : P A U L B U R R I G H T



OMAHA LEADERSHIP 2020-21

- Benjamin Harvey—President
- Paul Burrigh—Vice President
- James Sly—Secretary
- John Parsons—Treasurer
- Paul Burrigh—Registrar
- Tom Upton—Past President

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

This Month in the Revolution	2
In Memoriam	2
1st Meeting Back	3
Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Chapter Info	4
Upcoming Events	4
Meeting Minutes	5

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

A reminder email was sent to all Nebraska SAR members, just a few weeks ago, about our sponsorship fundraiser to get wreaths sponsored for this year's Wreaths Across America event.

Our Chapter supports the Omaha National Cemetery in this endeavor, and we need everyone's help to achieve our goal.

This year's goal is for the Chapter to get 200 wreaths sponsored. It is our second year in this sponsorship program, and 200 wreaths is a small percentage of the total needed for those interred at Omaha National Cemetery.

I have already been receiving funds from some of you, to

forward on to Wreaths Across America HQ. Thank you very much to those of you who have donated! Every little bit helps us achieve our goal of 200 wreaths.

If you have not yet donated towards our program, please consider doing so today. Sponsoring a wreath is \$15 each and it goes to a very worthy cause of ensuring every veteran has a wreath on their headstone this holiday season.

Also, for each \$15 wreath that is donated, \$5 comes back to the Chapter, to go towards programs and events that our Chapter pre-

sents and supports.

Please follow this link to our WAA sponsorship page to sponsor a wreath online:

<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/159544/Overview/?relatedId=14880>

Or you can mail a check (made out to Wreaths Across America) to Paul Burrigh, 1311 N. 208th St, Elkhorn, NE 68022.

Thank you for your support!



DUES NOTICES - 2021

Just a friendly reminder that your 2021 dues are now due.

Every SAR member was sent a reminder notice, from the State Secretary, on how much dues were and where to send your check.

Current dues are National—\$35, State—\$17, Chapter—\$10, for a total of \$62, made

out to Nebraska Society, SAR.

If you need the reminder sent to you again, please email Paul Burrigh and he will forward the notice to you.

We want to be sure everyone has their dues in on time. Every year we have to drop members for non payment.



Let's please keep everyone on the member rolls for 2021!

THIS MONTH IN THE REVOLUTION

October 17, 1781—Surrender at Yorktown and Von Steuben

Another hero of the Revolution to be stalked by poverty and ill-fortune was Friedrich von Steuben, the Prussian drillmaster who had brought order and real military training into the restless ranks of Continentals wintering at Valley Forge in early 1778. His lack of funds became evident at early as Yorktown, but first he had to settle an affair of two of "honor".

At Yorktown, where he and Lafayette each commanded an American division, the two foreign-born leaders fell into dispute over whose division should be in charge of the trenches at the time of the British surrender. Shouldn't the honor go to Lafayette, whose men were in the trenches when the British sent forth a flag of truce on the morning of October 17, 1781? Or should the honor go to Steuben, whose men relieved Lafa-

yette's in the trenches at noon on October 17, then refused to make way for Lafayette's division when normal rotation would have placed the Frenchman's troops back in the trenches? It was Washington who decided the fierce little baron's division could have the honor of occupying the trenches the afternoon of October 19, when the British marched out of Yorktown to surrender.

In another contretemps involving the feisty baron, the PA troops of Col Richard Butler filed into the vacated British trenches at one point on the day of the surrender to take charge of the entrenchments. This meant planting the regimental colors in a conspicuous spot as symbol of the change-over. The flag was carried by a young ensign at the head of the column—he was supposed to place it on top of the British earthworks, but Steuben seized the staff from him and planted it himself. Butler was so furious they almost settled the matter with a duel.

After the surrender ceremony came a series of dinners hosted by the victors at Yorktown, with the ranking British officers often appearing as guests. Steuben, though, was so short of funds he sold his best horse to raise money and still had to borrow from a friend to put on a banquet of his own.

Before he could leave Yorktown on Nov 1, the apparently penniless Steuben asked Washington himself for a loan. Washington gave his old drillmaster twenty guineas and warned Congress may not ever pay all that it owed. He was paid by Congress in Treasury Certificates, which when sold were only valued at ten cents on the dollar. He lost more money in bad land deals.

The former inspector general of the Continental Army was living in a two room log cabin when he died of a stroke in 1794 at age 64.

- From *The Best Little Stories from the American Revolution*



Compatriots, please keep Compatriot Fred Walden and Jan in your prayers.

Fellow Compatriot, Timothy Walden, son of Fred and Jan, and member of the Omaha Chapter, passed away on October 5, 2020 at the age of 64.

Tim was one of 6 members of the Walden family who are members of the Nebraska and Omaha SAR.

Tim became a member on Feb 27, 2013, being descended from Samuel Bridge (PA).

Pictured on the right: Tim Walden (middle) with brother Chuck Walden (right), who also passed in 2019, and Fred and Jan (left), during Tim and Chuck's induction.

Rest in Peace, Compatriot Walden!



1ST MEETING BACK AND WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Omaha Chapter held its first in person meeting, since March, on Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

While we did not have the attendance that we are used to, we were still able to conduct the Chapter's business and we were able to induct 2 new members into the Omaha SAR and Nebraska SAR.

Please join me in welcoming Chuck Real. He is descended from Jacob Faust (PA), who was a Private in the Pennsylvania Militia and a Frontier Ranger.

Also welcome Drew Whitler. He is descended from Moses Sweeney (VA), who patriotically served by providing much needed supplies to the Army in 1781.

Both Compatriots were inducted by Chapter President, Ben Harvey, and their rosettes were pinned and certificates presented by their 1st line sponsor, Paul Burrigh.

Both Compatriots, later in the evening, mustered in their respective Patriots into the Chapter Muster Roll.

If you have not yet mustered in your Patriot, please attend a Chapter meeting, so that we can have all current member Patriots listed in the Muster Roll.

Chapter awards from the 2020 cancelled Congress were presented as well, including the Carl F. Bessent Award for best

Chapter newsletter, and the Partners in Patriotism Award for our work with Wreaths Across America.

Our WAA project for this year was discussed, as well as our hope for the Color Guard to participate in the 2020 Veterans Day Parade, assuming that it will remain on the calendar.

All in all, it was a good meeting back, in person, and we hope that we will gain more attendance as time wears on with the COVID situation. Many more applications are in the process of completion, so we are hopeful our ranks will begin to swell with more new members soon!



VP Paul Burrigh, Chuck Real, Drew Whitler,
President Ben Harvey



October Birthdays

- Jeremy Christiansen—Oct 3
- Fred A. Walden—Oct 8
- Dallas Burrigh—Oct 14
- Dan Rowe—Oct 16
- Stephen Bothwell—Oct 19
- Bill Webb—Oct 21
- Fred J. Walden—Oct 25
- Ron Stites—Oct 27

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



October Anniversaries

- Stephen Bothwell—13 Oct 2017

Happy Birthday to those Compatriots listed for October!

Those of you with membership anniversaries in October, 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 **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

- Nov 8, 2020—Veteran’s Day Parade, Lincoln, NE—2pm
- Nov 10, 2020—Chapter Meeting—Gorat’s Steakhouse, 6:30pm
Program: Ben Justman, Sarpy Co. Museum—Sarpy Co & WWI
- Nov 26, 2020—Thanksgiving Day

Planning ahead

- Dec 8, 2020—Chapter Meeting—Gorat’s Steakhouse, 6:30pm
Chapter Awards Dinner and yearly review
- Dec 25, 2020—Christmas Day
- Jan 1, 2021—New Year’s Day



“HE THAT WOULD MAKE HIS OWN LIBERTY SECURE, MUST GUARD EVEN HIS ENEMY FROM OPPRESSION; FOR IF HE VIOLATES THIS DUTY, HE ESTABLISHES A PRECEDENT THAT WILL REACH TO HIMSELF.”

- THOMAS PAINE—DISSERTATION ON FIRST PRINCIPLES OF GOV’T—1791

Meeting Minutes—October, 2020

13 October 2020

The Omaha Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at Gorat's Steakhouse on 13 October 2020. Members and guests attending: Jim Sly, John Parsons, Ben Harvey, Paul Burrigh (Paula), Chuck Real (Mavota), and Drew Whitler (Cheryl).

President Ben Harvey opened the meeting at 2004 hours. All stood and repeated the Pledge of Allegiance. Members remained standing and repeated the Pledge to the SAR.

The minutes of the 10 March 2020 meeting were accepted by member vote.

Officers Reports:

- Treasurer, John Parsons – No changes have occurred since the March meeting. Paul Burrigh reminded the members that the Amazon Smiles rewards program will donate a percentage of any sales under the program. The Omaha Chapter is an approved recipient of the program. ☐
- Registrar, Paul Burrigh – 9 new apps in preparation, 1 new and 4 supplemental apps ready for processing. The State Registrar, Shawn Stoner, has 2 supplemental apps. Three supplemental and two new apps pending for Chapter.

Old Business:

- John Parsons notified the membership that ROTC Medal presentations were not conducted this year due to the Covid pandemic. The medals were received and will be kept for next year.

New Business:

- President, Ben Harvey, and Chapter Registrar, Paul Burrigh, installed new members Chuck Real and Drew Whitler into the NESSAR.
- Paul Burrigh reminded the members that Wreaths Across America is scheduled for 19 December 2020. Paul Burrigh made a motion for the chapter to donate \$300.00 to the effort. The motion was seconded by Jim Sly and approved by all members present. Paul notified the members that this year's goal is 200 wreaths donated by the chapter. Donations may be made online by going to WreathsAcrossAmerica.Org.
- President, Ben Harvey, presented Chapter Newsletter Editor, Paul Burrigh, with the Carl F. Award for best Single Page newsletter and the Partners in Patriotism Award for the chapter's involvement with Wreaths Across America.
- President Ben Harvey presented a hand-made walnut bowl to Paul Burrigh in appreciation for all of Paul's work for the chapter.

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on 10 November 2020. There being no other business, all members rose and repeated "Until we meet again..." The meeting was adjourned at 2030 hours.

Respectfully submitted, James E. Sly, Jr., DRE, ThD, PhD Secretary Omaha Chapter