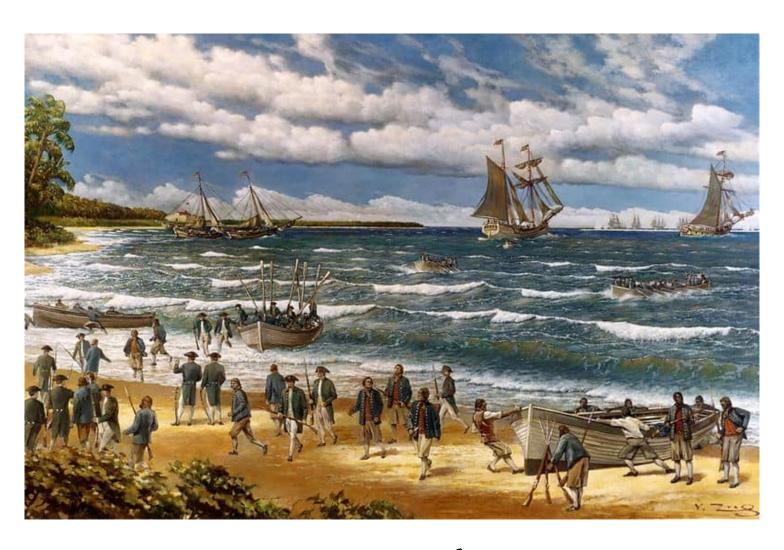


# The Husker Patriot



Issue 42 Ist Qtr 2021



The Battle of Nassau March 3, 1776

## From the Desk of the President

#### Presidents Message



Looking out the window this morning, I saw the first two daffodil flowers of the season blooming. The snow pile from the driveway plowing is down to six inches in height. It looks like spring is

really here!

Spring means that the state meeting of SAR is coming soon. The results of the poll for the meeting was split: one third for zoom, one third for face to face and one third for either.

I called Mahoney state park lodge and it is open and available. The lodge has wi-fi capability. The Cedar room is reserved for May 16 for the spring meeting, both in person and zoom from home. This will allow members to participate within their comfort level.

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If you have agenda items for the meeting, send them to the secretary so a comprehensive agenda may be gathered.

I am looking forward to seeing you all. Remember, don't get your medical advice from politicians!

Merle McAlevy President, Nebraska SAR

#### Financial Report

Submitted by John Braisted, Treasuer

The 2021 membership collections had a net result of 86 members renewing their memberships.

One member chose to become a Life Member in the Nebraska Society. His dues will be added to the CD that holds the funds for the other three life members.

National life members 7

#### **Donations received:**

 Grave Marking
 \$129.00

 EMT
 \$51.00

 First responders
 \$10.00

 Color Guard
 \$119.00

 Eagle Scout
 \$135.00

 New Life member
 \$425.00

 Total
 \$870.00

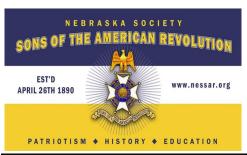
## <u>CDs Balances, interest rates and</u> maturity date:

<u>NE SAR General use:</u> \$1,206.53 1.19% Matures: 25 May 2022

<u>NE SAR General use:</u> \$1,222.14 1.19% Matures: 25 May 2022

NE Life memberships: \$1,096.83 1.19% Matures: 25 May 2022 (New member dues are not included and funds collected to the CD at maturity)

<u>Eagle Scout:</u> \$8,627.60 1.19% Matures: 06 Jun 2021



## NEBRASKA SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Dr. Merle T. McAlevy, MD, Omaha 1st Vice President: Rev. Dr. James L. Hoke,

Ph.D., Lincoln

2nd Vice President: Thomas L. Upton, Omaha Secretary: Rev. Dr. James L. Hoke, Ph.D.,

Lincoln

Treasurer: John C. Braisted, Lincoln Registrar: Shawn K. Stoner, Lincoln Deputy Registrar: Robert L. Knott, Jr., Omaha

Trustee: Fred Walden, Omaha Alt. Trustee: LaVerne Stetson, Lincoln

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# Husker Patriot Co-Editors

Past State President: William S. Webb, Omaha

Past State President: Shawn K. Stoner, Lincoln

William S. Webb william.webb@live.com

Paul Burright pburright72@gmail.com

#### Webmaster

Shawn K. Stoner shawnstoner84@gmail.com www.nessar.org

## Society News—North Central District

## 2021 Spring Leadership Meeting Report

The Spring Leadership Board of Trustees Zoom Meeting was held on Saturday, March 6, 2021, and was led by President General, John T. Manning.

Some of the items of business included the following:

- Approved the investment allocations for the George Washington Endowment Fund, SAR Foundation, and SAR Restricted Fund.
- Approved a motion for the Executive Committee to issue Request For Proposals for the design and build out of the second floor on the National Headquarters.
- Approved a policy for the SAR Foundation to attract large donations by providing naming opportunities.
- Approved a naming opportunities brochure for exhibits and galleries of the SAR Education Center and Museum.

Plans continue to move forward for an in-person Congress in Renton, Washington from July 10-July 15, 2021.

Registration is expected to be available in mid May.

- Chris Moberg, Vice President General, North Central District

\* \* \* \* \*

"We began a contest for liberty ill provided with the means for the war, relying on our patriotism to supply the deficiency. We expected to encounter many wants and distressed... we must bear the present evils and fortitude..."

George Washington in 1781.

#### Other North Central District News

Ethan Read Receives North Central District Meritorious Service Medal

With many service opportunities cancelled due to the pandemic, SAR members across the country have turned to volunteering their time entering data into the Patriot Research System (PRS). The PRS contains information on patriot records, burials, biographies, and more. The database can be used by prospective members to help with their SAR applications and by existing members as an aid for creating supplemental applications. A volunteer completing 40 hours of National Society service receives the Lafavette Volunteer Service Medal and an oak leaf cluster for each additional 40 hours of service.

Ethan Read, of the Minnesota Society, started entering information in the PRS as a volunteer for Minnesota in January of 2019. He quickly completed the 40 hours necessary to earn the Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal and continued to volunteer his time. In January of 2020, Ethan entered applications and worked with volunteers to publish applications for the entire North Central District (Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, and the Dakotas). As an updater, he has completed 611 patriot record updates, 725 application entries, 42 biography entries, and 28 cemetery entries. As a publisher, he has published 526 patriot record updates, 1563 application entries, 30 biography entries, and 39 cemetery entries. This equates to well over 1,000 hours of service. Upon the recommendation of Lt. Col. Gary Green, Chairman of the Patriot Records Committee, Ethan Read has received the North Central District



Meritorious Service medal. Ethan's work is appreciated at the state, district, and national levels. Because of his many hours of service, prospective and existing members across the country will be better able to find information about their American Revolutionary War ancestor.

From: Chris Moberg—Vice President General, North Central District



Compatriot Ethan Read, MN SAR

Members of the Nebraska SAR have also been volunteering their time to help process and update applications, patriot biographies, cemetery data, and patriot records into the PRS.

Compatriots Ryan Fuller was awarded the Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal, with an Oak Leaf cluster for his 115 hours of service, and Compatriots Shawn Stoner and Paul Burright were awarded the Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal for their 56 and 42 hours of service.

These medals should be presented at our State Spring Meeting on May 16.

# **REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY**

March 3-4, 1776— The Battle of Nassau

The American Revolution did not have engagements solely in the original thirteen colonies, but also in far off locations in the Caribbean, around the English Isles, and even up near Alaska.

On March 3, 1776, the newly formed Continental Navy, descended upon the Caribbean island of Nassau, to procure weapons and ammunition for the Continental Armies. This is believed to be the first major engagement for the Continental Navy and Continental Marines. This action is also the first amphibious assault by the Marines.

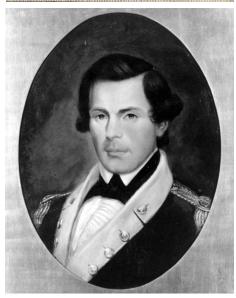
With the beginning of hostilities in April 1775 at Lexington and Concord, Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, directed that the colony's supply of arms and gunpowder be removed to Nassau, Bahamas, to be protected from capture by the colonial forces. The munitions were received by Governor, Montfort Browne, and stored in Nassau under the protection of the harbor's defenses, Forts Montagu and Nas-Despite these precautions, sau. General Thomas Gage warned Browne that an attack from the colonials could still be imminent.

In October 1775, the Continental Congress established the Continental Navy and began purchasing merchant vessels and began converting them into warships. The following month saw the creation of the Continental Marines under the guidance of Captain Samuel Nicholas. As Nichols began recruiting men to the newly formed Marines, Commodore Esek Hopkins began assembling a squadron at Philadelphia. These included the 30 gun Alfred, 28 gun Columbus, 14 gun

Andrew Doria, 14 gun Cabot, 12 gun Providence, and 6 gun Fly.







Captain Samuel Nicholas— Continental Marine Commander

Upon taking command in December, Hopkins receives orders from Congress' Marine Committee to clear British naval forces from the Chesapeake Bay and North Carolina coast. He was also given latitude to pursue operations that could be "most beneficial to the American Cause" and "distress the Enemy by all means in your power". Joining Hopkins aboard his flagship, *Alfred*, Nicholas and the rest of the squadron began moving down the Delaware River on January 4, 1776.

Due to the heavy ice, the squadron had to stay near Reedy Island for nearly six weeks, before reaching Cape Henlopen on February, 14. There they were joined by the 10 gun *Hornet* and 14 gun *Wasp*, which had arrived from Baltimore. Before sailing further, Hopkins decided to take advantage of his discretionary orders, and began planning an attack on Nassau, as he knew the Continental Army, encamped around Boston, needed the materials.

Governor Browne received word in late February, that an American force was forming off the Delaware coast, with a possible destination of Nassau. Even though Browne was told that the Americans would probably attack the stores, he did nothing as he believed that his forts were sufficient enough protection.

The American squadron reached the Great Abaco Island on March 1, 1776, and immediately captured two British sloops and pressed them into American service. He planned for his attack to come on March 3.

The plan called for *Providence* and the two captured sloops, to make their way into the harbor and land Marines to secure the town. Upon reaching the harbor in the early morning, the defenses were alerted and began to open fire. With the element of surprise lost, the three

vessels turned back. A new plan had to be formed. Back on land, Governor Browne, now knowing an attack was coming, began planning the removal of the gunpowder by any and all vessels possible.

Hopkins and Nicholas devised a new plan of landing of the Marines on the Eastern side of the island. Covered by the Wasp, landings began around noon, near Fort Montagu. As the men were being consolidated to secure the town, a British Lieutenant, under a flag of truce, approached. He asked the Americans intentions, which were given as obtaining the stores of arms and ammunition. Upon return to the fort, the officer relayed the information to Governor Browne, who being badly outnumbered by the Marines, removed his troops back to the town.. Nicholas captured Fort Montagu later that day, but did not drive into town.

As Nicholas held his position at Fort Montagu, Hopkins issued a proclamation to the island's residents: "To the Gentlemen, Freemen, and inhabitants of the Island of New Providence: The reasons for my landing an armed force on the island is in order to take possession of the powder and warlike stores belonging to the Crown, and if I am not opposed in putting my design in execution the persons and property of the inhabitants shall be safe, neither shall they be suffered to be hurt in case they make no resistance."

This had an effect in preventing civilian interference, the failure to carry the town on March 3, allowed Browne to spirit away most of the island's gunpowder on two vessels, which sailed away towards St. Augustine at 2:00 am on March 4, and encountered no resistance out of the harbor, as Hopkins neglected to place any ships at the mouth.

The next morning, Nicholas and the Marines approached the town of Nassau and secured it, with the town leaders handing over the keys. Next, approaching Fort Nassau, the Americans took it, and Governor Browne, without a fight.

In securing the town, Hopkins captured eighty-eight cannon and fifteen mortars, as well as other variety of much needed supplies. The squadron stayed two weeks and departed on March 17 to head back to the mainland. Hopkins intended to make port at Newport, RI. Upon nearing Block Island, the squadron captured the schooner Hawk on April 4, and the brig *Bolton* the next day. Upon hearing from his captured British sailors that the British had a large fleet at Newport, he sailed west toward New London, CT.

During the early hours of April 6, Captain Tyringham Howe of the 20 gun HMS Glasgow, spotted the American squadron. Seeing from their rigging that they were converted merchant ships, he attacked, planning to obtain some prizes from the Americans. The inexperienced Americans were unable to defeat the outgunned and outnumbered British ship, over the next several hours. Before Glasgow escaped, it was able to disable both the Alfred and Cabot. Making necessary repairs at sea, the squadron limped back to New London, arriving on April 8.

The fighting on April 6 saw 10 Americans dead and 13 wounded, while the British on suffered 1 dead and 3 wounded aboard the Glasgow. Upon return, Hopkins and his men were initially lauded for the operation, though that was short lived, as reports and complaints of the Glasgow's escape and the behavior some of the squadron's Captains grew. Hopkins also came under fire for not securing the Virginia and North Carolina coasts, as his original orders stated, as well as his division of the spoils.

After many political machinations, Hopkins was relieved of command in early 1778. Despite the fallout, the raid did give much needed supplies to the Continentals, as well as much needed experience to young naval officers, such as John Paul Jones.

Held prisoner, Browne was later exchanged for Brigadier General William Alexander, Lord Stirling, who was captured at the Battle of Long Is-

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Guerilla/Irregular Warfare during the American Revolution

Presented by Ray Harris

The battle of Lexington and Concord was a text book example of what civilian irregulars could do against a military organization. When General Lee advocated this type of warfare, General Washington vetoed it. General Washington found the irregulars lacked discipline and order. He wanted to have a disciplined army which would get recognition for the American Revolution for example France's role.

The continental army became the mainstay for the fight while the irregulars conducted raids and ambushes which made it impossible for the British Army to supply itself. However, irregular forces alone cannot defeat a military army.

With the war in the North at a standstill, the war moved South. The irregulars played an important role. One of the more famous guerilla fighter was Marion - the Swamp Fox. He would stage raids while carefully avoiding battle with a superior force. This type of warfare with the Continental Army was able to force the British to Yorktown which lead to Cornwallis surrendering at Yorktown.

England had the means to continue the fight, but public opinion was growing against it. The war in the Colonies. Because of this the Colonies won their independence

"The hour is fast approaching, on which the Honor and Success of this army, and the safety of our bleeding Country depend. Remember officers and soldiers, that you are free men, fighting for the blessings of Liberty – that slavery will be your portion, and that of your posterity, if you do not acquit yourselves like men.". George Washington, 1776.

#### Chapter Chatter

#### Omaha Chapter

After a year long hiatus in being able to meet as a Chapter in person, the Omaha Chapter was very pleased to be able to get together once again, and meet for dinner and business at Gorat's Steakhouse in Omaha on March 9, 2021. There was a very good turnout for the meeting, and it was a pleasure to see everyone attend and catch up with friends and Compatriots. As more vaccines are rolled out to the public, we look forward to more attendance at meetings, as well as at events this coming Spring and Summer.

The Omaha Chapter was able to induct our newest member, Andrew Sullivan, into our Omaha SAR family. He is descended from Adam Brown (PA). Congratulations to Compatriot Sullivan!



Omaha VP/Registrar, Paul Burright, Compatriot, Andrew Sullivan, Omaha President, Ben Harvey

#### Did You Know?

...That in January 1835, the United States became the only major nation in modern history to pay off completely its national debt. This was accomplished through the sale of public lands in the west. 1835 was the only year America has had no debt.

#### Photos from Omaha's Welcome Back Chapter Meeting, March 9, 2021



#### Pictured:

Kitty Kentsmith, Wife of Omaha member and past State President, David Kentsmith

Jane Upton and Past Chapter President, Tom Upton

Pictured: left around table

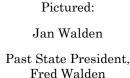
Kathy Nehls, Wife of Omaha member, Hugh Nehls, Andrew Nehls, Andrew Sullivan, Paul Burright, Drew Whitler, Mel Burright, Chuck Real, Ron Stites, Hugh Nehls.





Pictured: Drew Whitler Paul Burright

Mel Burright





# Moet My Patriots

#### <u>Johann Jakob Dorner</u> (P-339693)

Johann Jakob Dorner was born Jan 25, 1727, in Ilbesheim Zweibrucken, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany and died before May 29, 1809 in Middletown, Frederick County, Maryland. Johann married Anna Maria Barbara Sturm between August and October 1751 in Frederick, Frederick County, Maryland.

They had the following children:

- John Jacob—born Jul 24, 1752 in Frederick, Maryland, died May 18, 1818 in Middletown, Maryland.
- Andrew—born about 1755 in Frederick, Maryland.
- Maria Magdalena—born Feb 1757 in Frederick, Maryland, died Nov 24, 1852 in Frederick, Maryland
- Maria Elizabeth—born Dec 9, 1760 in Middletown, Maryland.
- Catharina—born Mar 5, 1762 in Middletown, Maryland.
- Anna Maria—born Oct 29, 1762 in Middletown, Maryland.

John "Jacob" Dorner (Danner) Sr. arrived at Philadelphia Nov 2, 1752 on the ship "Phoenix". He was a son of John Bernard Doerner (1695-1771), master shoemaker and wife Anna Catherine Feaster (1696-1757), who married about 1720 in Ilbesheim, Germany. Jacob married about 1751 in Ilbesheim to Anna Maria Barbara Storm, born about 1730 in Germany. Known children were: John "Jacob" Jr. born 1752, m. Anna Catherine Biser; Magdalena "Molly", born 1757; Maria Elizabeth m. John Jacob Jr. Biser; John Andrew m. Anna Maria Beckenbaugh; Anna Maria,



born 1762; and Catherine "Caty", born about 1764.

Jacob Sr. was a deacon at Christ Reformed Church in Middletown, MD. which leaves little doubt that he was buried there. Along with Dorner, his family is found as Danner, Darner, Derner, Domer, Donah, Terner, and Turner. Many researchers confuse him with Rev. Jacob Danner, Brethren fo Michael. On the same ship with Jacob Dorner appears that John Bernard Doerner may have been a brother to Christian but information about their fathers doesn't quite There were indeed several match. shoemakers in Christian's family. Jacob Dorner also appears to be related to Christian's brother Michael Tanner (1701-1777), whose son-inlaw was John Storm.

From his will made Nov 1790, and probated in Frederick Co. on May 29, 1809, we discover the family of Jacob Ternor. This will is printed in full in "Jacob Beyser family supplement", 1989, page 569-571. He left a widow, Barbara and six children: Jacob, Andrew, Elizabeth, Catherine, and Magdalena.

Sometime, probable after 1757, Jacob Darner made his way to Maryland and on Apr 10, 1760, he became an naturalized citizen in the provincial court of Maryland. On Sep 29, 1760, he was granted a patent for 100 acres for a tract called "Landow". Jacob Derner or Turner also purchased in 1787, a second parcel from the honorable John Rogers, Chancellor of Maryland, called lot #3, "Mason's Folly", for 184 and 3/4 acres.

Johann is listed in: 9000 Men Who Took the Oath of Allegiance and Fidelity to Maryland During the Revolution, Vol I (Lutherville, MD), p 24.

Submitted by: Robert Lee Knott, Jr. SAR #161712



#### Welcome New Members

#### Member-At-Large

Mark Balcom-#217935

Compatriot Balcom is from Kearney, Nebraska and is descended from Patriot, Samuel Balcom (MA).

#### Omaha Chapter

Andrew Sullivan—#217936

Compatriot Sullivan is from Omaha, Nebraska and is descended from Patriot, Adam Brown (PA).

Please join us in welcoming both of our newest Compatriots into the Nebraska SAR family. Congratulations to both of you on the difficult feat of proving your lineage to a Revolutionary Patriot!

#### Patriot Biographies

\* \* \* \* \*

We are still in need of Patriot Biographies!

If you have not yet submitted a biography for your Patriot, please get this done ASAP. Our goal is to have biographies submitted, and put up on our website, for every current member's Patriot ancestor. For us to accomplish this goal, you must write up a quick bio for your ancestor.

Please send bios to Paul Burright or Bill Webb. Their email is on page 2. Help us accomplish this important goal and let your fellow members read about your ancestor and how they contributed to the cause of Liberty!



SAR Color Guard: Returning to Duty

Compatriots,

I am happy to announce that after a very quiet year for us, SAR Color Guard activities are beginning to fire back up!

Now that vaccines are beginning to be administered, and our members (and the public) are getting protected from COVID-19, we will begin seeing parades, ceremonies, and other events we get involved with, returning as well.

The first official event I have to share, beyond our return to in-person State Meetings on May 16 at Mahoney State Park, is a Posting of the Colors event at the Omaha Storm Chasers game on Saturday, June 5. During the National Anthem at the start of the game, your Nebraska SAR Color Guard will present the American Flag, in uniform, out on the field.

We have several CG members already signed up to participate, but did you know that you can participate in events like this, without owning a uniform, or being a member of the Color Guard? The Nebraska SAR has loaner uniforms, in various sizes, for the purpose of letting others join in the fun! Please reach out to me if you are interested in participating. The Color Guard is actively recruiting members, and we would love to have you participate and join the ranks!!

In other news, I have not yet heard about events we annually participate in, such as Memorial Day at Omaha National Cemetery and Wyuka Cemetery in Lincoln, the Ralston Independence Day Parade, or the Lincoln Veterans Day Parade, but I should be hearing soon and we will update the membership in future newsletters.

Special thanks to Omaha Color Guard Captain, Paul Burright, for contacting the Storm Chasers, and thanks to all of our members for participating. It has been a challenging past year, and we are all ready to get back out and represent the Nebraska SAR!

Your most Obed Servant,

Chad Sherrets, Commander, Nebraska SAR Color Guard

OmahaColorGuard@gmail.com





Henry David Neely, Sr. (1927-2020)

We need to inform the membership of the passing of one of our Compatriots.

From his obituary:

Preceded in death by mother, Anne Dennis Neely, father Robert Donald Neely, sister Donna Neely Potts, & infant brother Peter Neely. Survived by wife, Nancee Peterson Neely; children, son H. David Neely, Jr. & daughter-in-law Joni Neely; daughter Beth Neely Stanek & son-in-law Mike Stanek; grandchildren, Robert, Emma, & Kaitlin Neely, & Buck, Jack, & Ashley Stanek.

Died with grace & courage after a long battle with Alzheimer's. David was a graduate of Central High School, a U.S. Navy Veteran, member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity at UNL, & graduated with honors from UNL Law School. Longtime Omaha banking Trust Attorney, President of First Northwestern Trust Co. & Trust Attorney for First National Bank. Longtime board member for the Omaha Home for Boys & Prospect Hill Cemetery; member of Omaha Rotary Club-West, Omaha Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, Royal Order of Jesters, & Omaha Pro-Tem. David was a dedicated & loving father, husband, & friend who will be always be fondly remembered in our hearts as a funny, kind, & caring man who everyone loved.

#### SOCIETY INFORMATION



#### **Contact Information Update**

If you, as a Nebraska SAR Member, have recently had a change of address, telephone number, or email contact information, please inform State Secretary, James Hoke at chaphoke@hotmail.com.

Help us keep our records up to date!

#### **SAR Applications**

Please submit all applications through the online application system at www.sar.org. If you have any questions, contact your Chapter Registrars.

Omaha—Paul Burright—pburright72@gmail.com

Lincoln—Open—

All Member-At-Large applications will be processed by, our Nebraska SAR State Registrar:

Compatriot Shawn Stoner

2710 N. 4th St

Lincoln, NE 68521.

Email: nessar.registrar@gmail.com

## 2nd Quarter 2021 Meetings and Events

Friday, Apr 2—Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Eastmont Towers, Lincoln, NE

Tuesday, Apr 13—Omaha Chapter Meeting, 6:30pm, Gorat's Steakhouse, Omaha, NE

Friday, May 7—Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Eastmont Towers, Lincoln, NE

Tuesday, May 11—Omaha Chapter Meeting, 6:30pm, Gorat's Steakhouse, Omaha, NE

Sunday, May 16—Spring State Meeting, 2pm, Mahoney State Park, Ashland, NE & Zoom

Monday, May 31—Memorial Day

Friday, Jun 4—Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Eastmont Towers, Lincoln, NE

Saturday, Jun 5—Color Guard Event—Present Colors at Storm Chasers Game, Werner Field, Omaha, NE

Saturday, Jun 19—Omaha Chapter, Cemetery Clean Up Day, 9:00am, Prospect Hill Cemetery, Omaha, NE

\*\*Due to current Coronavirus concerns, all meeting and event date and times are tentative.\*\*

\*\*Please visit our website, www.nessar.org, for updated information regarding changes.\*\*

From the editors—The Husker Patriot will be published on the first week of following quarter. For example, the 2nd quarter ends on June 30. The 2nd quarter newsletter will be published the first week of July.

Follow this deadline schedule to get information, articles, and photos in to the editors (contact information on page 2):

1st Quarter—Mar 15, 2nd Quarter—Jun 15, 3rd Quarter—Sept 15, and 4th Quarter—Dec 15. Thank you for your help getting quality content into your Society newsletter!

#### Social Media and Online Presence



Nebraska SAR is online! Visit the Nebraska SAR website at www.nessar.org.

Nebraska SAR Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NebraskaSAR

Omaha SAR Facebook page: www.facebook.com/OmahaSAR