



The Husker Patriot



Issue 48

3rd Qtr 2022



WHO SAVED THE LIBERTY BELL?

From the Desk of the President

Presidents Message

Compatriots, Ladies and Friends,

The summer was quite busy. Jane and I had the opportunity to travel (drive) to Savannah, GA for the 132nd National SAR Congress. Despite the fact that we turned this into a 19-day road trip and were really tired when we got home, it was a rewarding and informative experience.



We started with a memorial service for our departed compatriots in a beautifully maintained 1857 Episcopal Church. The service was led by our new Chaplain General and accompanied by an impressive Color Guard which not only

presented the National Colors, but also presented all of the State Flags. The numbers were great enough to have the state flags lining the side isles of the church.

It was rewarding to see the active, hands-on governance of the Society by the dedicated individuals serving in our leadership roles.

Everyone was friendly and welcoming. It's also interesting to learn that a state like ours with a relatively small membership (about 100) is entitled to five delegates. Two are the State President and Trustee and the other three as elected by the state membership. I would encourage you to consider the 2023 National Congress in Orlando next year.

Other events included the completion of the updating of our State NESSAR Constitution, By-laws and Procedures by Past State President Bill Webb and his committee, which includes Compatriots Mark Byars, David Kentsmith, Robert Knott, John Reinhert, James Sly and Ron Stites.

We were also able to fill a few positions at the State Level. Past President Bill Webb has been confirmed as the State Treasurer for the balance of 2022-23 and Mark Byars has assumed the duties of America 250 Chairman.

Please support them in their efforts as they enter into these leadership positions.

Thomas Upton
President, Nebraska Society, Sons of the American Revolution



NEBRASKA SOCIETY OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

2022-2023

President: Thomas L. Upton, Omaha
 1st Vice President: John C. Braisted, Lincoln
 2nd Vice President: Paul H. Burrigh, Omaha
 Secretary: Stanley Dale Wostrel, Lincoln
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 Registrar: Paul H. Burrigh, Omaha
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 Flag Chairman—Drew Whittler
 First Responders Chairman—Open
 ROTC Awards Chairman—Open
 America 250 Chairman—Mark Byars

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2022-2023

President: Thomas L. Upton
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 Chap. Secretary: Shawn K. Stoner, Lincoln
 Past State President: Shawn K. Stoner, Lincoln
 Past State President: Dr. Merle T. McAlevy, Omaha

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State Society News



Important News!!

The DAR is spearheading a national program to place markers dedicating the 250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War in every State. The Nebraska DAR is planning to install and dedicate 4 markers throughout the State of Nebraska.

The 4 markers will be placed in Omaha, Lincoln, Kearney, and Alliance.

The first dedication will be held on Sunday, November 6, 2022, at 2pm, at Memorial Park in Omaha, NE.

The second dedication will be held on Sunday, November 20, 2022, at 2pm, at Antelope Park in Lincoln, NE.

This is a call to all of our Nebraska SAR members to attend this momentous occasion. We need to come out in full support of our sisters in the DAR, and show our solidarity with promoting the ideals and sacrifices that our ancestors made in forming this great nation and help to commemorate this anniversary!



District CG at Iowa DAR 250

Fall State Meeting

The Fall State Meeting was held on Sunday, Sep 25, at Mahoney State Park. Out of 108 members of our State Society, we had 16 members in attendance, and that includes the presiding officers. That is only 15% participation in the process of conducting our state business. Compatriots, we have to do better! The Americanism Chair will be sending out the updated Americanism Report to all our members in the coming week. Please look it over and see where you can contribute and be a participating member.

Our necrology included long time Compatriot Jeff Deeths, who passed away on Sept 21.

Awards from the 2022 Congress include: The Richard S. Thompson Award, for the state society with the fewest dropped members for non payment of dues; The Marion L. Brown Eagle Scout Award, for the state society participation in the Eagle Scout Essay Contest; and an Honorable Mention for "The Husker Patriot" in the Graham T. Smallwood Jr. Award.

An updated set of the state society constitution, and also an updated set of state society by-laws, were discussed and approved by the membership. The website will be updated shortly so you will be able to see the new documents.



Member Anniversary awards will now be the responsibility of the respective chapters, and the state society will cover the members at large. Certificates will be presented at 5 years, and pins will be presented at 10+ years.

The Proclamation from the City of Lincoln for Sterling F. Mutz, from his grave marking ceremony this past June, was read to the group. The state officers will attempt to deliver the official proclamation to one of his descendants.

Compatriot Kenneth Paulson, member-at-large from Wakefield, NE, was presented his 30 year member pin and certificate and congratulated by the membership.



Compatriot Bill Webb was sworn in and installed as the new State Treasurer, taking over for John Braisted, who will remain the 1st Vice President.

Membership Dues!

It is that time of year again. Dues for 2023 are coming due.

Watch your mailbox in October for your dues notices from Secretary Wostrel!



REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY



Who Saved the State House Bell?

By: Chuck Real, Omaha Chapter

With General George Washington's defeat at Brandywine on Sep 11, 1777, the subsequent withdrawal of the Continental Army set in motion Washington's eventual decision to make his winter camp at Valley Forge. In addition, the retirement of the colonial forces in the face of General William Howe led to the British occupation of Philadelphia and the evacuation from the city of the members of the 2nd Continental Congress along with those most vocal in their support of the war for independence. But those several interconnected actions were not the only difficulties facing Philadelphia as the British Army approached.

As soon as Washington's forces fell back from Brandywine, it became evident to Philadelphia city fathers that there was an immediate need to make a survey of any items in the city that could be confiscated and put to use by the British army. Any such items would have to be quickly hauled out of the city to safety. To this end, an ad hoc committee, likely established by the Supreme Executive Council for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, soon determined that the city's church bells, if confiscated by the British, could be melted down and recast into cannonballs or musket shot. Additionally, the committee quickly realized that if the church bells could be recast, then what about the venerable State House Bell hanging in the Pennsylvania State House Building, so recently the seat of Congress?

At this time, the State House Bell was not known as the Liberty Bell. That term came into popular use well after the War for Independence. The survey committee deter-



mined the bell had to be removed post-haste and that a site away from Philadelphia would be required to assure its safe storage for the duration of the British occupation.

The plans for the safe keeping of the bell included transportation, by wagon, to Allentown, where it was to be hidden in the cellar of the Zion Reform Church. To make the haul of 60 miles on poorly maintained country roads required a good driver with a wagon capable of a heavy load, along with a strong team to pull it. The bell, only 3' tall from the bottom lip to the top and 4' in diameter at the bottom lip, still weighed a hefty 2,080 lbs. A pulling team and wagon would be well tested during the trip.

At this point, two Patriots become part of the history of the bell. These two men were Frederick Leaser and John Jacob Mickley.

While hauling the bell to safety is well known in the historiography of the Revolution, there has been a question about the manner in which the Bell itself was hauled. That mystery centered on two questions: 1) which of the two men, Lesser or Mickley, actually arrived in Allentown with the Bell loaded in their wagon, and 2) what was the role of the other man? Those questions outlasted the lifetimes of both men.

Sometime around Sep 18 or 19, with Howe still trying to either corner

Washington for one last set-piece battle or ride out time until his overland supplies and communications lines between New York and Philadelphia had been established and guarded, the bells and other goods were loaded on to wagons. Once the bells were loaded and the journey to safety at the Zion Reform Church commenced, we arrive at the next related event. Near the small village of Bethlehem, just a few miles from Allentown, and as one of the bell wagons was approaching an incline by a nearby creek, the driver attempted to slow the wagon by wrapping a breaking chain around a wheel. This brought the wagon to an unexpected stop as the wheel broke apart.

In some accounts, this was Mickley's wagon that suffered the damage while other accounts claim it was Leaser's wagon. In several SAR and DAR applications made by descendants of Frederick Leaser, it is clearly claimed that the applicants' Patriot ancestor "hauled the Liberty Bell from Philadelphia to Allentown." There is no mention of Mickley. On the other hand, similar applications from Mickley's descendants claim for him the honor, without mentioning Leaser.

An article written for Vol 2 of the Anniversary of Lehigh County notes that "Maria Dorothea Leaser, who married Daniel Follwieler, was the

daughter of Frederick Leaser who hauled the Liberty Bell from Philadelphia to Allentown in 1777.” (Note: Daniel Follweiler was the son of Bernhardt Follweiler, a 6x great grandfather of this author, Chuck Real).



The plaque above was erected close to the Zion Reformed Church, commissioned in 1908 by the local DAR with Mickley’s name quite prominent in the upper half. Leaser’s name and his role are given in the lower half, but the size of his name is about half that of his compatriot. Given the smaller size of Leaser’s name, it is interesting to note that one of the DAR committee members who commissioned the plaque was a 3x great granddaughter of Mickley.

What might be called a dueling commemorative marker and plaque was placed about 1 mile south of the Leaser homestead. It was commissioned in 1928 by the Valley Forge Chapter of the SAR. It does not mention Mickley’s role in the transportation of the Bell. It states that Leaser with his “farm team hauled the Liberty Bell from Philadelphia to Allentown”. The marker also notes that the wagon used by Leaser later passed into the hands of his grandson, Jesse Follweiler. In 1833, Jesse used the wagon to haul a victory pole to a rally celebrating the second inauguration of Andrew Jackson. The wagon was in possession of the Follweiler family until 1888, when it was destroyed in a

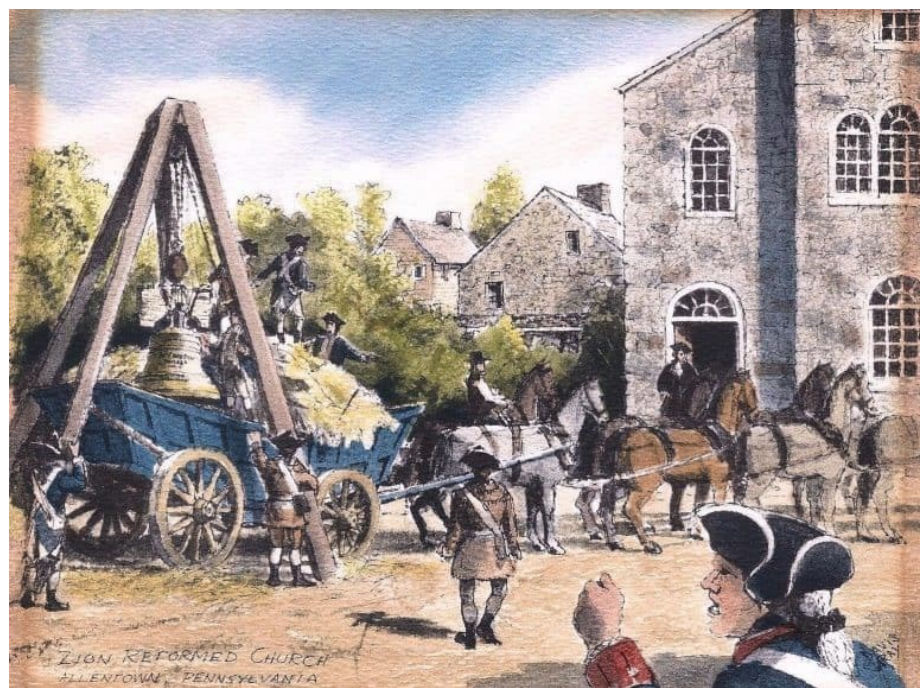
barn fire.

It is written that wagons carrying the bells came across and joined a formation of 700 wagons carrying goods from Philadelphia and Washington’s military supplies. It’s hard to imagine that 700 military and civilian wagons could have been collected into one wagon train with British troops descending on the area. Conservatively, if each wagon and its team took up 30 lineal feet of space, the collection of 700 wagons would have stretched 4 miles. But that would mean that each team and wagon would have been the nose of the leading pair of horses for each wagon, touching the rear of the wagon in front. And Howe would likely have learned from Tory spies or his own scouts of such a prize on the backroads leading in and out of Philadelphia. The 700 wagon story plus a 200 man calvary escort, however, is repeated in the Wikipedia entry for the [Liberty Bell Shrine](#).

On Sep 23 or 24, 1777, the bells of Philadelphia arrived in Allentown. The State House Bell and most of the church bells were quickly unloaded at the Zion Reform Church. The church had a door in the foundation, under the church windows. Each of the bells, large or small, could fit through the door into the cellar of

the church, without any damage being done to the church. In an email written on Feb 2, 2022, the Reverend Josh Knap, from the church museum, explained how the bells were carried in through the cellar door and then covered with canvas to hide from anyone who might look through the windows on either side of the door. Covering with canvas does not appear to be the stealthiest manner in disguising the bells from an overcurious soldier if the British army had made it to Allentown.

In Jun 1778, British forces evacuated Philadelphia. By August 22, the church bells and State House Bell had been returned to their respective steeple and tower. As noted above, the secure storage of the State House Bell in Allentown to avoid use by the British has been fairly well known since the Revolutionary period. But how the bell was transported and which individual had the most important role in “saving the State House Bell” may still be a ‘who done it’ type of mystery. While we can question whether it was Leaser or Mickley who shepherded the Bell safely to Allentown, we cannot question that both men have earned the tole in the rich lore of the call to defend their new nation by also serving honorable in the local militias during the Revolutionary War.



Chapter Chatter

Omaha Chapter

Flag Chairman, Drew Whitler, presented a Flag Certificate to the Tiburon Golf Club in Omaha on July 1, 2022.

Pictured below is Chairman Whitler with Tiburon General Manager, Jason Greateorex.



On August 20, the Omaha Chapter held its 1st Annual Chapter Summer Picnic out at Chalco Hills Recreation Area. For mid-August, the weather was beautiful. Chapter President, Paul Burrignt, worked the grill for everyone, grilling up some burgers and hot dogs and everyone brought a dish or dessert to share with the group.



State President, Tom Upton and Chapter President, Paul Burrignt

This was a great way to say Welcome Back to our members, as we had not held a meeting for our summer hiatus. It was also a great way for some of our younger members, and those members with children, who are not always able to make it to our Chapter meetings, to come to an event for the Chapter and mingle and chat with their fellow Compatriots. Pro-



spective members were also invited to be able to meet some of our members, before their applications are approved. Prospective member Brian Foss was originally slated to come, but he was not able to make it due to an emergency, however his wife Kristen and their daughter still made it out and we were very happy to be able to meet them and talk with them. We are definitely looking forward to Brian becoming a member!

As we continue this new tradition in the coming years, we hope that it grows and that many more members and their families will be able to come and enjoy the company of their Compatriots!



Some of the Omaha Members enjoying the day

Members At Large



Compatriot LeRoy Louden, partnering with the Sandhills Chapter, Nebraska DAR, helped to deliver ten fidget laptop blankets to the Western Nebraska Veterans Home in Scottsbluff, NE, on Friday, September 2.

The blankets were presented to Administrator, Peggy Ratzluff, by seamstress and Sandhills Chapter DAR Registrar, SharonAnn Louden, LeRoy Louden, Nebraska SAR, and Dalene Louden, Sandhills Chapter DAR.

On behalf of the rest of the Nebraska SAR, thank you for your thoughtfulness and dedication towards our veterans!





William McAlevy (P-243774)

By: Past State President,
Merle McAlevy

William McAlevy was born in 1728 to Miles McAlevy and Mary Jane Ayers in County Down, Ireland, and died in 1822, in Huntingdon County, PA.

He married Margaret Harris, 1734-1768, daughter of John Harris, founder of Harrisburg, PA. This marriage produced 4 children: Jane (1763-1826), Margaret, William II (1766-1817), and Elizabeth (1768-1825).

William McAlevy II (1766-1817) married Ruth Allen. This marriage produced 6 children: George (1799-1855), William III (1800-1844), Samuel (1803-1876), Miles (1805-1874), Margaret Jane, and Catherine.

William McAlevy III (1800-1844) married Asenath Ann Semple. This marriage produced 7 children: Jane, William IV, George, David, Samuel (1836-1905), Thompson, and Asenath.

Samuel McAlevy (1836-1905) married Nancy Margaret Fleming (1839-1908). This marriage produced 10 children: Asenath, William, James, John, Alexander, Luther, Jane, Nancy Elizabeth, Lulu Maude, and Samuel George.

Samuel George McAlevy (1880-1958) married Anna Ashburn (1882-1926). This marriage produced 3 children: Frank, Samuel George, Thomas Woodrow.

Thomas Woodrow McAlevy (1917-1980) married Florence Tate (1912-2007). This marriage produced 3 children: Merle, Merlene, and Bruce.

William McAlevy immigrated with his parent to Philadelphia in the middle of the 18th Century, date unknown. William and his father, Miles, moved to Dauphin County in 1744, where his father purchased a land warrant from the Penn family. Today, it is located within the city limits of Hershey, PA.

When he was 18, he moved to Carlisle, PA, across the Susquehanna River from Harrisburg. He purchased a 277-acre land warrant in Cumberland County along the Juniata River. The land now is near Duncannon, PA. At this time, he married Margaret Harris, the daughter of John Harris, founder of Harrisburg, PA.

He found that "urban" surroundings were not to his liking. In 1768, after the death of his mother, he trekked up the Juniata River to Standing Stone Creek, in now what is Huntingdon County, to the edge of the frontier. This was more to his liking for a homestead. Only Indian trails existed in the virgin forest at that time. To bring his family to the homestead, he felled a large tree, made a dugout canoe, and brought his family upstream by water. His closest neighbor was 10 miles away. Because of the constant Indian threat, he built a block safehouse for him and his neighbor's protection. His homestead, with the blockhouse, became known as McAlevy's Fort, and appears today on current maps as McAlevy's Fort, PA.

William McAlevy enlisted in the 1st Battalion, Bedford County, PA Militia in 1777, as Captain of the Battalion. The battalion served as protection from the Indian and Tory raiding parties supplied by the British out of Detroit during the Revolutionary War. He continued to serve in the militia after the war, rising to the

rank of Colonel, then to General in the Pennsylvania State Militia.

After the Revolutionary War, he continued farming, engaged in local politics, and built the local grist mill for the valley on Standing Stone Creek. He died on the homestead in 1822. He is buried in the Pioneer Cemetery at McAlevy's Fort, Pennsylvania.



Important Message about Patriot Biographies!

Numerous reminders have gone out to all of our Nebraska SAR members about getting a biography written about your Patriot Ancestor.

A very heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you that have sent in your bios. We received a good number of bios over this summer and they will be featured in future editions of this newsletter and other future projects. This absolutely helps us to work toward completion of different various projects concerning these biographies.

If you have not yet written your Patriot Bio, please do so ASAP and send it to Compatriot Paul Burrighat at pburrighat72@gmail.com.



DISPATCHES FROM THE COLOR GUARD



July 4, 2022—Ralston, NE

The Nebraska SAR Color Guard celebrated Independence Day by marching in the Ralston Independence Day Parade, the largest Independence Day parade in the state. Even though it was a hot, humid day, with a heat index over 100*, there were many spectators lining the parade route. They stood and saluted the flag or held their hands over their hearts, and clapped as the Color Guard marched by. The members were also able to provide some education to some of the younger spectators when they asked, “Are you a pirate?”, when they saw the tri-corn hats upon our heads. We were able to tell them we were Patriots from the Revolutionary War. Then one young spectator asked Commander Sherrets if he was George Washington.

Participating in the parade was Commander Chad Sherrets from Omaha, Captain Paul Burrigton from Omaha, Mark Byars from Omaha, Andrew Sullivan from Omaha, and Adam Ensign, a prospective member from Lincoln. Driving behind our company in his convertible was State President, Tom Upton, with State Historian, John Reinert, riding shotgun and waving to the crowd as they followed the flag bearers. Lincoln Lieutenant, John Braisted, unable to march with us, provided refreshment for the tired and hot marchers at the end of the parade route. Everyone’s involvement and participation was much appreciated, and we hope that we may have found a couple of new recruits for our permanent ranks.





DISPATCHES FROM THE COLOR GUARD



September 10, 2022—Werner Park, Papillion, NE

The Nebraska SAR Color Guard, for the 2nd year in a row, presented the colors prior to an Omaha Storm Chasers game at Werner Park, outside Omaha. The Omaha Storm Chasers are the AAA affiliate baseball club of the Kansas City Royals.

Color Guard members that mustered for this event include, Commander Chad Sherrets, Omaha members Jim Sly and Ron Stites, and Lincoln member John Braisted.

There was some rain in the morning, which gave way to beautiful sunny skies by the colors presentation around 6:30pm. The Color Guard plans on continuing this tradition in the coming years.



Wreaths Across America will be held on Saturday, December 17, 11am, at various cemeteries around the State of Nebraska and the United States.

If you have never attended one of these ceremonies, it is a fantastic way to honor veterans from all wars, and place a wreath on their grave.

The Omaha Chapter is a fundraising partner, with Wreaths Across America, for Omaha National Cemetery. You can help out the State Society and the Omaha Chapter by sponsoring one or more wreaths for \$15 each. You can find our Wreaths Across America sponsor page at: <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/159544/Overview/?relatedId=14880>

Thank you for your support of this national program for veterans!

National SAR Congress 2022

The SAR held its 132nd Annual Congress in Savannah, Georgia, this past summer, from July 10-15.

Nebraska SAR President, Tom Upton, attended the convention this year. It was the first time Nebraska has had a representative attend Congress in about 6 years. As President Upton stated in his President's Message on page 2, Nebraska is allowed 5 delegates at each Congress. Would you consider attending, and representing Nebraska, next year?

Along with the business meetings and various meetings of committees and other work to be done, there was plenty of time for tours and other events. There was an extended tour of Fort Morris, that was manned by approximately 200 Patriots in late 1778, and taken by the British after a heavy bombardment in Jan 1779.

The Georgia Society also completed a Patriot Grave Marking ceremony, honoring five Patriots, at the historic cemetery of Midway Congregational Church.

There were many luncheons and other festivities, honoring the various youth programs that the SAR sponsors, as well as the memorial service, that President Upton referenced in his opening message, to our departed Compatriots from 2022.



Photo from the memorial service at Congress 2022

The grand banquet is always the awards banquet. This is where the different national awards are presented to the various state societies, as well as the introduction of the new class of Minuteman Award winners. The Minuteman Award is the top award given to Compatriots in our society.

Nebraska won 1 award (least amount of dropped members), received 1 honorable mention (newsletter), and received 1 national participation ribbon (Eagle Scout contest).

The 2023 Congress will be held in Orlando, Florida.



The National Color Guard at Congress 2022



Compatriots at Congress 2022 who are veterans.
State President, Tom Upton is 2nd from left in the seated row.

Community News

Local Genealogical Societies

Many of us are passionate about our genealogy and our specific family histories, especially as it pertains to our Revolutionary War era ancestors. Have you thought about how you might be able to find out even more information on your pioneer ancestors? Especially those that settled right here in Nebraska?



There are several local genealogical societies, as well as the Nebraska State Genealogical Society, that offer quite a number of different resources on genealogy, genealogical research options and techniques, and other items you may find you can use to help you in your genealogical search.



As with any organization, membership is its lifeblood. The Omaha Chapter SAR has begun a partnership with the Greater Omaha Genealogical Society, to help each other gain more members. As both organizations are steeped in genealogy, lineage, and family history passions, it is a natural partnership to form.

Membership has its privileges in discounted conference fees, and access to collections and genealogical items and books that may give you some more insight into your own family tree that you did not know about. Check out gogsne.org or nsgs.org to find out how they can help you.

Active SAR Membership

By: Paul Burrig

What does being a member in the SAR mean to you? What does being a member in any organization or group mean to you?



Who are you as a member?

Are you the active member, the kind that would be missed? Or are you just a member, your name upon a list?

Do you attend meetings and mingle with the crew? Or do you mostly stay at home and read the quarterly news?

Do you play an active part to help the work along? Or are you satisfied to be the kind to say you just belong?

Do you really get involved and try to make things run? Or do you leave the work to just a few and let them have all the fun?

Do you come to meetings often and help with hand and heart? Don't be just a member, but take an ACTIVE PART!!!

One of the key items for me is to be a reliable and participating member of my chapter and the state society.

As we are getting into the 4th quarter of 2022, I am looking over our State Americanism Report and seeing where we can accomplish more, to highlight the ideals, focuses, and goals of the Nebraska SAR in our communities and throughout the State of Nebraska.

One way we can improve is by having more participation. That doesn't mean having every member at every

event we do. That is an unreasonable expectation, as we all have busy lives.. But, as we look at our year to date participation rate, we are only at 31% of our current membership having contributed in some way on something that can be recorded in the Americanism Report for our State Society. We currently have 108 members in the Nebraska SAR. Through September, only 34 of those 108 members have contributed in some way for us to record something on our Americanism Scorecard. The Americanism Scorecard is the way we track the different activities we are involved in to further the goals of the SAR in our communities.

Being an active, participating member does not mean that you one day have to become President of your Chapter or Society. Every single member can contribute in some way, no matter how small. For example, writing and sending in your patriot biographies. Every one that we send in and post on the PRS gets recorded for the year. That is EASY participation for every single member! Can you attend just one SAR event or meeting? We have a big event coming up on November 6, at 2pm, in Omaha, for the DAR America 250 marker dedication at Omaha's Memorial Park. Please consider joining us for this awesome celebration of our 250th Anniversary as an independent nation.

Thank you so much to those members that have stepped up, some from the moment that we handed over your member certificate, whether it is turning in your biography, or taking on an officer role or chairmanship, or working with a committee. Your help is needed to get our participation up above 31%. If you are willing to help out, in any capacity, please let an Officer know. We have many open positions that need to be filled! Thank you for your help!

Chaplain's Corner



“nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith.” 1 Timothy 1:4 (ESV)



This verse has always intrigued me. My love of history, including genealogy, goes back to my freshman year of high school. On the surface, and many of my friends and relatives have taken the superficial/surface view, this verse seems to repudiate the practice of studying genealogies. In actuality, this verse is referring to the practice of Jewish men to track their genealogy back to Abraham, to make themselves look better or to justify, in their own minds, their spiritual heritage received as a son of Abraham. This led to much pride and traditionalism (see Galatians 1:14 for Paul's former attitude). This often led to families developing fables and myths about their heritage. This still happens today. My grandmother believed that we were related to George Washington's mother because both were Balls. Modern genealogical research has proven that my grandmother's branch of the Ball family has no connection to George's. The goal of Paul's command in this verse is a call to service based on love, not pride or tradition. In the next verse Paul states: “The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” 1 Timothy 1:5 (ESV)

Many today, like my friends and relatives, rebuke those of us who try to obtain our ancestry and genealogy, but we can use the factual stories of our ancestors to help others learn important truths about our nation's

history. The last few years have seen a mass effort to deny ugly parts of our nation's history and substituted more acceptable myths and facts. We need to take a stand, in love, for our nation's factual history, in spite of current trends. It is important for us to help others understand the true history of our nation, to include the ugly warts of personal actions and events. Understanding the ugly parts can help ensure they do not happen again. Failure to see the complete successes, some of which have not been previously taught, will give us hope for the future. I hope that each member of the Nebraska SAR will personally strive to live out the educational purpose of the SAR. This will probably mean that we need to study and teach others about the previously overlooked successes of others in our nation.

Finally the position of State and Chapter Chaplains is new to the Nebraska SAR. The State Chaplain is responsible for updating national records on the deaths of SAR members. A memorial service for all SAR members who died in the past year is conducted at each national congress. The State Chaplain is tasked with updating the list so each member is represented. Therefore, I need each Chapter Chaplain, if appointed by the Chapter President, or other Nebraska SAR members to notify me of any serious illnesses or deaths of Nebraska SAR members. I have tried to use my crystal ball to manage the situation, but it is broken, the warranty is expired, and the Nebraska SAR doesn't have the funds to get it repaired/replaced. I have to rely on your assistance in these situations. The best way of notifying me is to send me an email at DrJSlySAR@gmail.com. You can also let me know about anything you would like me to pray about—prayers are cheap and do work.

Until next time,

James Sly, DRE, ThD, PhD

State Chaplain, Nebraska SAR

In Memoriam



Harry Jeffrey Deeths #110328

(1938-2022)

Compatriot Harry Jeffrey Deeths was born Aug 16, 1938, in Atchison, KS. He was the son of Harry J. Deeths and Marie Kathryn Schmitt.

Compatriot Deeths was a long time member of the Omaha Chapter and the Nebraska SAR, having joined the SAR on Feb 19, 1976, as a descendant of his 4x great grandfather, James Jacobus Blauvelt (NY). Compatriot Deeths was just presented his 45 year membership pin and certificate at our Spring State Meeting this past April. At the same meeting, he was able to pin on the member rosettes for two of his grandsons, Anton and Grant Kerrigan.

Compatriot Deeths passed away peacefully at home on Sept 21, 2022.

Rest In Peace, Compatriot Deeths

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, Stan Wostrel at dwestrel43@gmail.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 the State Registrar, Paul Burright.

Contact information for Compatriot Burright:

Paul H. Burright

1311 N. 208th St

Elkhorn, NE 68022-6940

Email: pburright72@gmail.com

4th Quarter 2022 Meetings and Events

Saturday, Oct 8—Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 11:00am, Gere Branch Library, Lincoln, NE

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

Saturday, Nov 5—Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 11:00am, Gere Branch Library, Lincoln, NE

Sunday, Nov 6—DAR 250th Marker Dedication, 2pm, Memorial Park, Omaha NE

Tuesday, Nov 8—Omaha Chapter Meeting, 6:30pm, Gorat's Steakhouse, Omaha NE

Sunday, Nov 13—Veteran's Day Parade, Lincoln, NE, 2pm

Sunday, Nov 20—DAR 250th Marker Dedication, 2pm, Antelope Park, Lincoln, NE

Saturday, Dec 3—Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 11:00am, Gere Branch Library, Lincoln, NE

Tuesday, Dec 13—Omaha Chapter Meeting, 6:30pm, Gorat's Steakhouse, Omaha, NE—2022 year recap and Chapter awards night

Saturday, Dec 17—Wreaths Across America, 11am, Omaha National Cemetery, Omaha; Wyuka Cemetery, Lincoln

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

Social Media and Online Presence



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

If anyone needs a template to write your Patriot's biography, you can follow this example.



_____ was born _____ to _____ and _____ in _____ and died _____ in _____. He married _____ of _____ (Birth year-death year) on _____ in _____. This marriage produced __ children; _____ (full name year of birth and death i.e. John Smith 1745-1803). He married second, _____ (in format for first wife, children if any).

List anything that is known of his life; occupation, family life, anything of interest.

List Revolutionary War service information and list source.

This does not have to be long and detailed. A short bio of 200 to 500 words is all that is requested. Below is a sample biography.

SAMPLE BIO

Nathaniel Phelps Sr was one of 2 Nathaniels that participated in the American Revolution. They were father and son from Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts. Nathaniel Sr was actually the 4th in an unbroken line of 7 Nathaniels who lived and died in Northampton.

Nathaniel Sr was born 13 Dec 1721 to Nathaniel Phelps and Abigail Burnham in Northampton and died 29 Oct 1789 in Northampton. He married Elizabeth Childs of Deerfield, MA (1724-1769) on 19 Mar 1750 in Northampton. This marriage produced 8 children; Burnham Phelps 1752-1772, Elizabeth Phelps 1753-1767, Abigail Phelps 1755-1756, Nathaniel Phelps 1757-1833, Elijah Phelps 1759-1760, Elijah Phelps 1761-1837, Anna Hannah Phelps 1763-1819 and Rufus Phelps 1766-1826. He married second, Rebecca Child.

Nathaniel was a talented and renowned mason, brick layer and stone carver. There are a large number of extant tomb stones in the Northampton and Deerfield cemeteries as well as others in the area. "Phelps was married to a member of the Childs family of Deerfield, which may explain why the Albany Road Burying Ground (Deerfield) has a number of stoners from his shop, identifiable by their simple design, circular face, stylized headgear and wings carved on pink to beige sandstone." Nathaniel was the dominant stonecutter of the area from the 1750-1770's; he went bankrupt in the 1770's but continued his craft until his death, passing his talent and business to his son Elijah. Historic Deerfield Magazine, Autumn 2002 p. 5.

Nathaniel Sr served as a minute man in Captain Ebenezer Strong's (the future father of his son Nathaniel) company of volunteers, 2nd Hampshire Company regiment; service against the insurgents at Northampton May 6, June , 15, 16 and 17, 1782, 4 days, by order of Elisha Porter, Sheriff; company marched for support of the government at Springfield, Northampton and Hadley. Interestingly he is listed in the Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War as Nathaniel Phelps Jr! Also note his advanced age of 61, he obviously thought there was something worth fighting for the true embodiment of the Patriot spirit.