



## OMAHA CHAPTER - Minutes of the 14 March 2023 Meeting

The Omaha Chapter of the SAR met at Gorat's Steakhouse. Members (18) and guests (12) attending: Mel Burright (Sandy), Paul Burright (Paula) Mark Byars, Dan Davis (Linda), Jim Gansemer (Jackie), David Kentsmith (Kitty), Andrew Nehls, Craig Noah, John Parsons, Chuck Real (Marita), Allyn Sheldon, Jim Sly (Janet), Ron Stites (Brandon Van Sky), Andrew Sullivan, Tom Upton (Jane), Todd Vetter (Lucy), Fred Walden (Jan), and Drew Whitler (Cheryl).

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### OPENING:

- Call to order by President Paul Burright at 1835 hours.
- Attendees stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Members remained standing and recited the Pledge to the SAR.
- Members introduced attending guests, and the invocation was delivered by State Chaplain Jim Sly.
- Meeting minutes from 07 Feb 2023 were presented by President Burright. Moved by David Kentsmith, seconded by Tom Upton to approve. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### OFFICERS' REPORTS:

- Treasurer Andrew Nehls delivered the Treasurer's Report. No deposits or expenses reported for the month. Account balance remains at \$4,345.32.
- State Registrar Burright delivered the Registrar's Report. Year-to-date, three (3) new members and five (5) supplementals have been approved. Ten (10) new member applications and three (3) supplementals are awaiting approval from National. Eight (8) prospective members are working on applications.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- ROTC Chairman Chuck Real discussed his preparations for ROTC medal presentations. The medals will be paid for by the NSSAR Ladd Trust. Chairman Real requested volunteers for medal presentations to be held in the Omaha metro area between 05 Apr and 08 May 2023.
- Several Color Guard activities were discussed.
  - Omaha Captain Paul Burright reported good attendance at the DAR 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Marker Placement at the Great Platte River Road Archway in Kearney on 11 Mar 2023 (Sat). Appreciation for the Color Guard's participation was recognized by many compliments from event attendees and a generous \$100 donation from the Nebraska District 2 DAR.
  - Omaha Lieutenant Jim Sly reported brisk weather at the St. Patrick's Day Parade held in downtown Omaha on 11 Mar 2023 (Sat). This was the first time the Color Guard supported two events on the same day!
  - Mark Byars reported on a Patriot Chest presentation delivered by Commander Chad Sherrets and himself on 26 Feb 2023 (Sun) to Cub Scout Pack 396.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual American Heritage Luncheon was held on 18 Feb 2023 at the Havelock Social Hall in Lincoln, with many SAR members and members of other heritage societies in attendance. Guest speaker Charlotte Endorf delivered an engaging presentation on the Orphan Train.
- Fred Walden was presented his 20-year Membership Pin by President Burright.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- The North Central District Zoom meeting for March was held on 09 Mar 2023. Vice President General (VPG) Chris Moberg informed the attendees that NSSAR is encouraging state societies to commemorate the nation's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by planting Liberty Trees. NESSAR's Mark Byars presented on "Dunmore's War and the Battle of Point Pleasant."
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chapter Picnic will be held on a Saturday in June at Chalco Hills.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- President Burright communicated the following items from VPG Moberg as news from the NSSAR Spring Leadership meeting held on 02-04 Mar 2023 in Louisville, KY:
  - The 2023 Congress will consider increasing annual National dues to \$50 (from \$35) in response to inflation, projected budget shortfalls, and static membership numbers.
  - The NSSAR Genealogy Committee has revised its DNA policy to allow for DNA evidence as proof of lineage beyond generations 1-2 or 2-3, provided that such evidence is delivered in a report prepared by a Board-certified genealogist with a specialization in DNA. For more information, please contact the State Registrar.
  - NSSAR is starting a program to recognize former compatriots who were Gold Star Veterans in any war in which the United States has participated. If you know of such a compatriot, please contact President Burright.

**PRESENTATION:**

- Vice President Sly delivered a program that provided an overview of each of the many Youth Programs sponsored by the SAR.

**CLOSING:**

- There being no other business, all members rose and recited "Until We Meet Again . . ." A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 2027 hours.
- Next Meeting: **11 Apr 2023 at Gorat's.**

Submitted by Mark A. Byars, Chapter Secretary