

Husker Patriot

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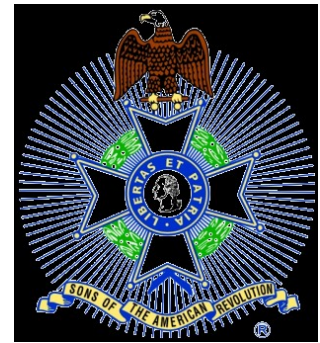
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## Nebraska SAR Society Spring Meeting to be held April 10, 2015

**President's Corner:** With elements of reflection, hope, and grace this transitional message draws attention to the fact that we are a society on the move. By promoting leadership we expand our horizons and seek heightened levels of community involvement. Special thanks is extended to Compatriots Chad Sherrets and Shawn Stoner, among many others, for committing themselves to the idea that a color guard can first equip itself and then present the colors at society meetings. I know the intention is to broaden



the color guard's appeal, first within our own ranks, and eventually to appear at public gatherings around the state. This is a bold initiative deserving of special recognition. Since 2016 is a year of elections, not the least of which brings Lincoln and Omaha Chapters, plus the State Society itself, renewed energy, I applaud those who have already been elected at the chapter level and await the coming elections at the state level. Hats in the air gents, for you are making  
**Cont'd on Page 5, Col 3**



### SAR APPLICATIONS

Please mail all new member and supplemental application to our NE SAR State Secretary: **Compatriot Dr. David K. Kentsmith, M.D.**  
**16902 S. HWY 50  
Springfield, NE  
68059-4827**  
If you need to contact Compatriot Kentsmith, he may be reached by phone at 402-253-2577 or by email at: **K-NESAR@Q.COM**

### Infamous



### "Brown Bess"



Lincoln Chapter Officers being sworn in for 2016-17 term by Past Chapter President Chaplain, Dr. James Hoke. See Page 5

### Swearing in ceremony for Lincoln Chapter and induction of new member of the Sons of the American Revolution.



Gary Wayne Stallcup, his wife Janice and Shawn Stoner, Lincoln Chapter President after Gary was sworn into the SAR.

# Nebraska Society Spring Meeting

John Reinert, President of the Nebraska Society Sons of the American Revolution has advised that the Members of the Board of Counselors has reviewed the Budget for this year and it has been approved. In accordance with the Nebraska Society By-Laws the Budget will be presented to the Membership for their approval at the Annual Spring Meeting which will be held at Mahoney State Park, April 10th, 2016 at 2:00 PM. Our Spring Meeting is our most important Society meeting of the year and all members are encouraged to attend. This is the year that

your Society's new slate of officers will be sworn in. That's always a great thing to be a part of. The Spring meeting is not only the time when we as a group have the opportunity to review our Society's business developments and accomplishments of the past year but also preview what lies ahead. There is so much that we can accomplish in the state of Nebraska to further the ideals of our Patriot forefathers, such as presenting Flag Certificates, presenting ROTC/JROTC medals, working with Scouts and presenting Certificates to Volunteer Firemen, Police Officers and EMT personnel, just to name

a few. The Spring Meeting would be a great time for our members to put a plug in, to submit your ideas on what you want your Society to work on. We have a great program lined up. We will be presenting several awards to some outstanding and deserving individuals. Come and be a part of this important Meeting. It has been a long winter and now it's time to get out of the house and be with your fellow Compatriots, some you probably haven't seen for quite awhile. Bring your wife or guest with you. If you know a Compatriot that needs a ride please bring them with you.

## 'NEBRASKA SOCIETY AND CHAPTER NEWS DURING 1st QUARTER 2016

### INDUCTION OF NEW OMAHA CHAPTER PRESIDENT



Dr. Merle McAlevy, M.D., being sworn in as the new President of the Omaha Chapter, Nebraska Society by outgoing President Thomas Conley.

### OMAHA CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2016-17



Omaha Chapter President Dr. Merle McAlevy with his Chapter officers who will serve for the years 2016 & 2017. Names of Officers from the left are: John Parsons, Treasurer; Dr. Merle McAlevy, President; , Tom Upton, Secretary and seated is Fred Strider, Vice President. Swearing in ceremony was conducted at Gorats Restaurant during their January meeting.

### NEW OMAHA CHAPTER PRESIDENT



Dr Merle McAlevy, M.D., the new President of the Omaha Chapter is shown making his remarks during the January 2016 Meeting at Gorats Restaurant.

**Spencer Initiation**



Jeffrey Spencer was initiated during the Omaha Chapter meeting, January 12, 2016. Shown with Jeffrey (L) NES-SAR John Reinert and (center) and Thomas Jones who conducted the initiation. Compatriot Spencer's ancestor was Stephen Devol, Soldier in Rhode Island. Compatriot Spencer, also a member of the Mayflower Society, presented a biographical sketch of his Patriot. This biographical sketch will be in a future edition of the Newsletter.

**Lincoln Chapter Officers 2016-17**



Lincoln Chapter Officers for 2016 and 2017 are: (L—R) Stan Wostrel, Vice President; Shawn Stoner, President; John Braisted, Secretary and LaVerne Stetson, Treasurer.



Lincoln Chapter Attendees at their January 2016 meeting.

**RE-ELECTED CHAPTER PRESIDENT**



Shawn Stoner, having been re-elected President of the Lincoln Chapter is shown going over the Minutes at the Lincoln Chapter meeting on January 8, 2016. Their meetings are held each month at the Eastmont Towers at 9:00 am.



Chaplain Dr. James Hoke is shown during the Lincoln Chapter meeting held 8 January 2016.

**2016 Meetings and Events**

Apr 1, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

Apr 10, SAR Spring Meeting, 1:00 pm Eugene Mahoney State Park

Apr 12, Omaha Chapter Meeting, 6:00 pm Gorats

May 6, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

May 10, Omaha Chapter Meeting, 6:00 pm Gorats

Omaha Chapter does not hold meetings in June, July and August

Jun 3, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

Jul 1, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

Aug 5, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

Sep 2, Lincoln Chapter Meeting 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

Sep 11, SAR Fall Meeting, 1:00 pm, Mahoney State Park

Sep 13, Omaha Chapter Meeting 6:00 pm Gorats

Oct 7 Lincoln Chapter Meeting 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

Oct 11, Omaha Chapter Meeting 6:00 pm Gorats

Nov 4, Lincoln Chapter Meeting 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

Nov 8, Omaha Chapter Meeting 6:00 pm Gorats

Dec 2, Lincoln Chapter Meeting 9:00 am, Eastmont Towers

Dec13, Omaha Chapter Meeting 6:00 pm, Gorats

“Government is not reason; it is not eloquence It is force. And force, like fire, is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.” George Washington

## Members' Corner

We are looking for articles for our Newsletter about our members Patriots. Would you be willing to put together an article about your Patriot? It could be one or two pages long or even a paragraph. If you go up to four or five pages we could have a continuation into the next Quarter's Newsletter. These articles would then be available for all of our members to enjoy. If we can assist you in any way with putting something together just let us know. An article would be such a great way to pass down to our future generations what our Patriot did for our country. We're only an email away.

We now have twenty two Newsletters published and distributed to our members. I would like to ask you to again take a good look at these Newsletters and let us know what you would like to see in future editions. We did receive several votes of confidence on the outline and direction the newsletter is moving, however, we do need more input from fellow compatriots in our chapter news and general submissions. Are there areas of interest that you would like included? How well are we meeting your needs? If you have any stories and/or pictures you take at any of our events that you can share, please contact the Newsletter Editor Bob Knott at [chiefknott@aol.com](mailto:chiefknott@aol.com) or the Publisher Bill Webb at [webb.w@q.com](mailto:webb.w@q.com). This is your Newsletter and we want it to be as informative and interesting as we can make it. That's where you can help.



### MEET MY PATRIOTS

Presented by Carroll Reinert

#### “MY AMERICAN REVOLUTION ANCESTORS”



My SAR ancestor was Hugh Caldwell, Jr. He was born February 7, 1759 in Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania, so he was only 18 when he fought in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown. He was a Private in the Lancaster County Pennsylvania militia from Martick Township, in the 7th Company of the 6th battalion, James Watson's Company. Hugh, Jr., married Jane Boyd who was born June 23, 1766 and died April 11, 1848. They had eight children. Hugh, Jr. died October 20, 1829 in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania. He and his wife are buried in the Centre Cemetery,

participated in. On October 4th, Washington launched a complicated attack involving the advance of four columns of troops, moving at night with orders to converge on Germantown and simultaneously attack the British at dawn. Some hundred British ran and hid in the Cliveden house, a large stone building, and returned fire from the second story. Cliveden was the country home of Pennsylvania Chief Justice Benjamin Chew. With the British on the run, Washington was tempted to leave Cliveden in his rear. Henry Knox, Washington's artillery officer, advised against it. To an artillery officer, there is nothing more tempting than a stationary target. On October 4, 1777 over 70 colonial soldiers died on these grounds. The British lost only three at Cliveden.

While Knox bombarded Cliveden in an attempt to gain a British surrender, one of Washington's four columns was attracted by the firing and changed direction. In the heavy fog, the column opened fire on the rear of the other American column. With mass confusion, and no hope for a coordinated attack, Washington ordered a general retreat to White Marsh. Although Germantown was an American defeat, it was also a success. The Americans learned that the main body of the British army

was not invulnerable and that they could successfully launch an attack against it. The lessons learned at Germantown as well as the American victory at Saratoga later, helped the French to come to America's aid. On that very same day, General Washington force-marched his troops 25 miles back to where they had started, the night before, again without food or sleep. In the overall battle of Germantown American losses were over 1,100, while the British suffered only 500. Yet, the Battle of Germantown was an American Victory of sorts. The British allowed Washington to escape and even to spend the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge, where he regrouped and brought in Baron Wilhelm Von Steuben and his Prussians from Germany for support. France admired the American plan that failed at Germantown. They were also pleased with the English defeat at Saratoga, New York, several days later. These two battles helped bring the French into the Revolution on America's side. In retrospect, the battle of Germantown may have been the end of Washington's rough beginning and the beginning of the end of British power in America.

Sources: Bing; Google & Wikipedia



Hyde, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania.

In the last Newsletter I wrote about the battle at Brandywine. This article concerns the battle of Germantown in which my ancestor also par-

**THE LEXINGTON ALARM LETTER**

Compiled by Compatriot  
Bob Chandler, Lincoln Chapter

Compatriots, another April has rolled around marking, as spring does, the beginning of a "new" year. Many of us also think of the revolutionary beginnings of this great country of ours. Others familiar with our history may recall Longfellow's "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" and/or Emerson's "The Concord Hymn". But, there's another very important incident which happened that April 19th in 1775, and it's known as the Lexington Alarm Letter.



Joseph Palmer was an outstanding political leader of his day and a member of the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Upon hearing of the shots fired at Lexington, Palmer wrote the following:

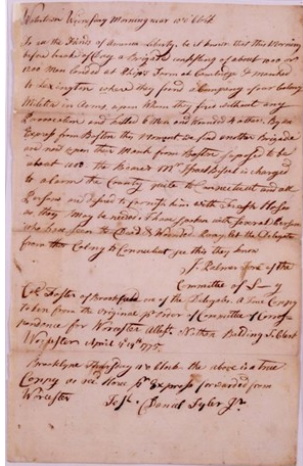
*"Watertown Wednesday Morning near 10 o'clock. To all the Friends of American Liberty, be it known that this Morning before breake of Day a Brigade consisting of about 1000 or 1200 Men landed at Phip's Farm at Cambridge & marched to Lexington where they found a Company of our Colony Militia in Arms, upon Whom they fired without any Provocation and killed 6 Men and Wounded 4 others. By an Express from Boston this Moment, we find another Brigade are now upon their march from Boston supposed to be about 1000. The Bearer Mr. Israel Bissel is*



*charged to alarm the Country quite to Connecticut and all Persons are desired to furnish him with Fresh Horses as they may be needed. I have spoken with Several Persons who have seen the Dead & Wounded. Pray let the Delegates from*

*this Colony to Connecticut see this they know.*

*J. Palmer, one of the Committee of S----y [i.e. Safety]."* Israel Bissel then carried this letter on horseback from Watertown, to Norwich, Connecticut, arriving April 20th. The letter was copied at various points along Bissel's route and eventually ended up being published in the North Carolina Gazette on May 5th.



Colonists had previously used "alarms" in a local manner to rally a community to meet an immediate need.

Historians contend that Palmer's alarm escalated the conflict with the British and that it was this news that caused smoldering tensions to explode into the American War for Independence.

The original Lexington Alarm Letter was in a private collection for 220 years. It then became available for public viewing in the lobby of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington from April 18 - 26, as part of the festivities surrounding Patriots Day, a Massachusetts holiday that commemorates the Battles of Lexington and Concord. However, a reproduction will be on permanent display all other days at the Museum. So if you're ever "Down East", stop in and have a look-see. You'll be glad you did.

**Cont'd from Page 1, Col. 3**

a seamless transition possible and I thank you for your continuing service. For the current officers: the great achievements of the last several years would not have been possible without personal commitments to excellence from every one of you. My thanks alone is insufficient. The society owes you a debt of gratitude. With your considerable spiritual gifts

**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**



Wreaths Across America is an event to pay tribute to fallen members of the military. The annual observance was held at Wyuka Cemetery, Lincoln, NE on Saturday, December 12, 2015, 11 am CST in conjunction with Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. The Lincoln ceremony was held at the new Soldiers Circle. In attendance was the 155<sup>th</sup> Nebraska Wing Civil Air Patrol and Lincoln Air Force Jr. ROTC color guard. There was a 30 minute ceremony with guest speakers Major General Daryl L. Bohac and Lt. Governor Mike Foley. The Lincoln Southwest High School Choir performed. The Lincoln Chapter made a donation this year that allowed for the purchase of two plus wreaths.

came strength, a principled outlook, and the ability to achieve many if not all society goals. Huzzah! Certainly my personal goals looking ahead as your immediate past-president, are to be better read – not only histories and biographies, which are among my favorites, but artistic treatments, music, the classics, and even a few technical tomes to boot. For NES-SAR I plan to write for the newsletter, serve as I am able in an official capacity, and wear a uniform in our color guard, if the tailor is willing. Attending a national congress would be exciting and to serve on a committee remains a possibility. These are my pleasures. I have enjoyed the call to serve in your interest and take solace that our families are safe, our values secure, and: to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

"I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy." John Adams

**American Heritage Dinner**

The Lincoln Chapter NESSAR hosted the Fourth Annual **American Heritage Celebration** on Saturday February 20, 2016. This event is designed to foster education and camaraderie between the various patriotic organizations in Nebraska that share a common goal and to honor our ancestors that had a part in the founding of the United States of America. This event is held in February on a day closest to President Washington’s birthday to honor him for the contributions he made in the founding of our country. Shawn Stoner, Lincoln Chapter President, was the Master of Ceremony. To mention a few of the organizations in attendance the following list is being provided: Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Society of the War of 1812, Sons of Union Veterans (SUV), Sons of the Confederate Veterans (SCV), Mayflower Society, Society of the Cincinnati, Huguenot Society, Founders and Patriots 1492-1692, 1st Families of Kentucky, Plantagenet Society, Sons of the American Colonists, Colonial Dames 17th Century, Magna Charta Society, Society of Boonesborough, Illinois Prairie Pioneers to name a few. Greg Holloway, representing Veteran Affairs gave a summary of veterans legislation that has been passed and is still pending. Displays were provided on American Civil War memorabilia which included many authentic small arms provided by Moss Ellis. A **special thanks** goes to Arlene Rudebusch for providing the table center pieces and to Emmanuela Chandler for the table in the center of the room honoring the Missing In Action (MIA). The interaction with representatives from the other patriotic organizations, food, displays and speakers were enjoyed by all.

“The distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders are no more. I Am Not A Virginian, But An American!”—Patrick Henry in 1774 after the Boston Tea Party.



Sons of the Confederate Veterans (SCV) members attending.



Retired military members in uniform attending the dinner.



Thomas Masters, Past NESSAR State President and current Nebraska SAR State Registrar. Tom has been the Registrar for many years and knows what it takes to get an application ready for forwarding to National Headquarters for final approval whether he receives inquiries from those who wish to join or those who are submitting supplemental applications for their Patriot Ancestors.



Dining table honoring the military Missing In Action (MIA). Prepared by Emmanuela Chandler. Her husband Bob is a member of the Lincoln Chapter NESSAR.



Nebraska SAR State President John Reinert and Past State President LaVerne Stetson. Two SAR stalwarts.

**“Buffalo Bill Cody”**



The featured speaker, Terry Fitzgerald, educator and storyteller, reenacted Buffalo Bill’s life. Terry provided an interesting and informative sketch of “Buffalo Bill” as a rascal and scandalous individual. During his life he was an army scout, buffalo hunter and showman. The focus of the presentation was how he was known as Buffalo Bill and how he got started as a showman and how his “Wild West Show” was started. Terry presented interesting stories about Buffalo Bill’s connection with William Comstock, Ned Buntline, Texas Jack Omohundro and Wild Bill Hickok.



Janet and Fred Walden and Shirley and Virgil Deethardt enjoying the festivities.

Xavier Ocasio; Kathleen Ocasio, Nebraska DAR State Regent; Rosemary Knott and CMSgt (Ret'd) Robert Knott, Past Nebraska SAR State President.

SAR and DAR members who are also members of the War of 1812 Society. CMSgt Robert Knott; Judy Moore; William Webb; Kathleen Ocasio and Frederick Walden.



Wostrel family in attendance. Stan is Vice-President, Lincoln Chapter.

Carol Masters and Ann Reinert, wives of SAR members, having a discussion before the festivities for the evening begin.



Col. (Ret'd) David K. Kentsmith, M.D. will be sworn in as the new President of the Nebraska Society at the April 10th Spring State meeting at Mahoney State Park.



Jan Walden, member of the Scottish Society of Nebraska. Jan is here with her husband Fred Walden, a member of the Nebraska SAR.



CMSgt (Ret'd) Robert Knott, Past SSAR State President and currently the editor of the Nebraska SAR newsletter,

"Husker Patriot".

Fred Walden, Past Nebraska SAR State President and Past SAR Vice President General of the North Central Region and Trustee. Fred says he is thoroughly enjoying himself and hasn't missed one of these gatherings since it began. Fred is one of our great advocates for the SAR, always keeping us up to date on the happenings going on at National Headquarters. Fred and his wife Jan have made trips every year to the National meetings while he has been an officer and enjoys passing along the information he has gathered.



Lincoln Chapter President Shawn Stoner; (Ret'd) NE State Senator Loudon & SAR member; and Past NESSAR President Thomas Masters..

**MORE PICTURES AND STORIES**

**SARPY COUNTY DURING  
WORLD WAR II**



**Photo:** L—R Tom Conley, Omaha Chapter President; Ben Justman, speaker; John Parsons, Omaha Treasurer.

Ben Justman, Executive Director of the Sarpy County Museum gave a very informative program to members of the Omaha Chapter at their December Meeting which is held at Gorats Restaurant. Ben talked about the first draftee of Sarpy County came from Gretna; practically everyone had a victory garden; you could buy a \$25.00 War Bond for \$18.75; there was rationing of sugar, gas and other items; scrap drives to help the war effort. He also talked about Sarpy's soldiers during the war period and on September 13, 1945, the Martin Bomber plant closes. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the program.



Nathaniel McHargue is shown signing his application to become a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Photo was taken during the Lincoln Chapter meeting held March 4, 2016.

**The Nebraska Society Salutes  
Longtime Members**

The Nebraska Society would like to salute and recognize the following members who have reached long-time membership anniversaries during the year 2015. What a wonderful benefit we have of our ongoing membership and having a chance to visit with other members, renewing acquaintances, year after year during our annual meetings such as this one coming up and the one we have in the Fall.

**60 YEARS**

John M. Hale, At Large

**40 YEARS**

Richard D. Gooding, Sr. Lincoln

**30 YEARS**

Robert D. Lembke, Omaha

**25 YEARS**

Marten W. Beerman, Omaha  
Ronald W. Roberts, At Large

**20 YEARS**

Merle A. Rudebusch, Lincoln

**15 YEARS**

Stephen D. Fitts, Lincoln  
Carroll R. Reinert, Lincoln  
Richard E. Richardson, At Large  
LaVerne E. Stetson, Lincoln  
Dennis L. Welty, At Large

**10 YEARS**

Jason W. Huff, Omaha

**5 YEARS**

Jordan T. Cash, Omaha  
Dr. Mark J. Diercks, Omaha  
Richard D. Ewing, Omaha  
Charles W. Harmon, Omaha  
Chester R. Harris, Jr. Omaha  
LeRoy J. Loudon, At Large

“ Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.” — Tom Paine



**NEBRASKA SOCIETY OFFICERS  
2014-2015**

President: John Reinert, Lincoln  
1st Vice President/Secretary: Dr. David Kentsmith, M.D., Omaha  
2nd Vice President: Dr. James Hoke, Lincoln  
Treasurer: William Webb, Omaha  
Registrar: Thomas Masters, Lincoln  
Deputy Registrar: Robert Knott, Omaha  
Trustee: Fred Walden, Omaha  
Alt. Trustee: Dr. David Kentsmith, MD., Omaha  
North Central Vice President General: John Parsons, Omaha

**BOARD OF COUNSELORS  
2014-2015**

Chairman: John Reinert, Lincoln  
1st Vice President/Secretary: Dr. David Kentsmith, M.D., Omaha  
2nd Vice President: Dr. James Hoke, Lincoln  
Treasurer: William Webb, Omaha  
Chap. President: Dr. Merle McAlevy, M.D. Omaha  
Chap. Vice President: Fred Strider, Omaha  
Chap. President: Shawn Stoner, Lincoln  
Chap. Vice President: Stan Wolstrel, Lincoln  
Past State President: LaVerne Stetson, Lincoln  
Past State President: Thomas Masters, Lincoln  
Past State President: Merle Rudebusch, Lincoln  
Past State President: John Parsons, Omaha  
Past State President: Robert Knott, Omaha  
Past State President: Fred Walden, Omaha

“My SAR membership is especially meaningful to me as a reminder that together, as compatriots, we can preserve the great traditions of American freedom and that our task is proudly never ending.” — Winthrop Rockefeller, Governor of Arkansas.

Should any Nebraska member have an address, telephone or email update please notify the State Secretary Dr. David K. Kentsmith, MD, at [k-nesar@q.com](mailto:k-nesar@q.com).

Give me Liberty or give me death. Attributed to Patrick Henry.