



The Husker Patriot



Issue 40

3rd Qtr 2020



Who was Hayim Salomon?

From the Desk of the President

Presidents Message

As I look outside, the summer that never was (2020) is almost over. And the probable football season that never was is beginning. The Fall state meeting was canceled due to the social distancing constraints. The fellowship and comradery from the meeting were sorely missed. I just completed reading the Summer issue of the SAR Magazine. It contained the winner of the Carl F Bessent Award for the editor of the outstanding single sheet newsletter: Omaha Chapter! Congratulations, Paul, for a great publication! The award also comes with a cash award for the chapter. Also, the Nebraska society was the winner of the President General's State Society and Chapter Activities Award.



Looking forward, the consensus poll was to have the spring meeting face to face or by zoom. I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

Merle McAlevy



Wreaths Across America is set for Saturday, December 19 at 12pm. There is usually an event in Omaha at Omaha National Cemetery, Lincoln at Wyuka Cemetery, and many other cemeteries around the State of Nebraska where you may live.

The Omaha Chapter is a fundraising partner with WAA. If you would like to sponsor a wreath for \$15, you can go to our Chapter WAA page by clicking on the link at www.nessar.org/Omaha-Chapter or you can copy and paste this link: <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/159544/Overview/?relatedId=14880>

Please consider sponsoring a wreath for \$15. This ensures that all veterans get a wreath on their gravesite for this event each December. If you wish to send a check, instead of sponsoring online, send your check (made out to Wreaths Across America) to Paul Burright, 1311 N 208th St, Elkhorn, NE, 68022.



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NEBRASKA SOCIETY OFFICERS

2020-2021

- President: Dr. Merle T. McAlevy, MD, Omaha
- 1st Vice President: Rev. Dr. James L. Hoke, Ph.D., Lincoln
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- Secretary: Rev. Dr. James L. Hoke, Ph.D., Lincoln
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- Registrar: Shawn K. Stoner, Lincoln
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- Alt. Trustee: LaVerne Stetson, Lincoln

BOARD OF COUNSELORS

2020-2021

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- 1st Vice President: Rev. Dr. James L. Hoke, Ph.D.
- 2nd Vice President: Thomas L. Upton
- Secretary: John W. Reinert
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- Past State President: John Parsons, Omaha
- Past State President: Robert Knott Jr., Omaha
- Past State President: LaVerne Stetson, Lincoln
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- Past State President: Fred Walden, Omaha
- Past State President: Dr. David K. Kentsmith, MD, Omaha
- Past State President: William S. Webb, Omaha
- Past State President: Shawn K. Stoner, Lincoln

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State Society News



Treasurers Report

**submitted by John Braisted,
State Treasurer**

We have four CD's as follows:

Eagle Scout— \$8515.07 @ 2.62 %
 Life members— \$1090.30 @1.19%
 General Account\$1199.34 @1.19%
 General Account \$1214.87 @1.19%

Membership Share \$20.16 @ 1.19%

Income

Books.	\$372.00
Books publisher payment	\$ 22.36
SAR refund.	\$ 35.00
Other income	\$ 22.00
Applications	\$124.00

Total Rev. \$575.36

Outlays

Newsletter printing	\$137.61
Newsletter postage.	\$ 98.00
Books expense	\$468.98
Reinstate fees	\$ 70.00
Dues to chapters	\$820.00

Total \$1,594.59

Account Balance \$7,538.99



“Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclination, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.”

- John Adams, Dec 4, 1770

Recognition Medals for Service to the SAR

As we look ahead to the end of 2020 and the hopeful return to normal activities and events in 2021, we wanted to highlight a few of the recognition medals you are eligible to receive by giving your time, service, and financial contributions, to the SAR.

Grave Marking



The Patriot Grave Marking Medal is shown on the left and the Compatriot Grave Marking Medal is shown on the right.

We began Compatriot Grave Markings, as a State Society, this past summer, holding two such ceremonies in August 2019. To be eligible to receive either of the Grave Marking Medals, you must help in the planning of the ceremony, participate as a key speaker or presenter, or contribute to the cost of the ceremony by donating a minimum of \$60. You must contribute in one of these ways for 15 grave markings to be eligible.

As we do not have Patriots buried in Nebraska, you as a member can still be eligible for a Patriot Grave Marking Medal by contributing to a Patriot Grave Marking in the same manner. You do not have to live in the State where the grave marking occurs.

We are planning on continuing our grave markings in Spring 2021.

Liberty Medal

We are consistently talking about recruiting and keeping our members current on their membership. The Liberty Medal is one of the medals you can earn in terms of recruiting new members to the Society.



To earn the Liberty medal, you must recruit and be the first sponsor signer on the new member application of 10 new members. Once you have received the Liberty Medal, you will receive an oak leaf cluster for each new 10 members you recruit.

Talk to your friends, sons, grandsons, etc., and get them interested in our Society and get them to join.

Color Guard



As a member of the Color Guard, you will be eligible for the Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals.

Our State Color Guard uses the event system to measure eligibility. To be eligible for a Bronze CG Medal, a CG member must participate in 50% of scheduled events, for 3 years (does not have to be consecutive years). To be eligible for the Silver CG Medal, a CG member must participate in at least 3 district or National CG events, which for us includes, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day, and Wreaths Across America, plus any other National events you may attend, for 3 years.

Join the Color Guard today.

REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY

Who was Hayim Salomon?



On the back side of a \$1 bill, you will see two circles. Together, they comprise the Great Seal of the United States.



The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task, and another two years to get it approved. If you look at the left hand circle, you will see a pyramid.

You will notice that the face of the pyramid is lighted and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun exploring the west regions of the continent, nor decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we are not even close to being finished. Inside the capstone, you have the all-seeing eye, and ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man could

not do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, 'God has favored our undertaking'. The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, 'a new order has begun'. At the base of the pyramid is the Roman numeral for 1776. (MDCCLXXVI)



If you look at the right hand circle, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States, it is also on the Parade of Flags walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery, and is the centerpiece of most heroes monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean.

The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol of victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong and smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, the shield is unsupported. This country could now stand on its own. At the top of the shield, there is a white bar, signifying Congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one na-

tion. In the Eagle's beak, you will read, E PLURIBUS UNUM, meaning, 'one from many'.

Above the Eagle, you will see thirteen stars, representing the original thirteen colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one.



Notice what the Eagle holds in its talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. The country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in a time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows, as is seen below during World War I.



It is said that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or

any hotels with a 13th floor, but think about this:

- 13 original Colonies
- 13 stripes on our flag
- 13 steps on the pyramid
- 13 letters in Annuet Coeptis
- 13 letters in E Pluribus Unum
- 13 stars above the Eagle
- 13 bars on the shield
- 13 leaves on the olive branch
- 13 arrows in the Eagle's talon

Finally, we get to who was Hayim Solomon. Look at the arrangement of the stars above the Eagle.



You will see they are arranged as a Star of David. This was ordered by George Washington, who, when he asked Hayim Salomon, a wealthy Philadelphia Jew, what he would like as his personal reward for his services to the Continental Army, Solomon said he wanted nothing for himself, but that he would like something for his people. The Star of David on the Seal was the result. Few people know that it was Solomon who saved the Continental Army through his financial contributions, but he died a pauper.

Hayim Salomon was a businessman and financial broker who immigrated to the colonies during the early years of the Revolution. He helped convert the French loans into ready cash, by selling bills of exchange for Robert Morris, the Superintendent of Fi-

nance. This was how he was able to aid the Continental Army, and was possibly, along with Morris, the prime financier of the American cause during the Revolution.

When he came to America, he quickly joined the New York branch of the Sons of Liberty and was arrested as a spy by the British. He escaped and soon moved to Philadelphia. It was there that he became an agent for the French consul and paymaster to the French forces in America. He soon began working with Robert Morris to help finance the Continental Army. Records show that Salomon's fundraising and personal lending helped provide over \$650,000 (approx. \$9.4 billion in 2017 dollars), in financing to George Washington in his war effort. His most meaningful financial contribution came immediately prior to the final battle of the Revolution.

In August 1781, the Continental Army had trapped General Cornwallis in the coastal Virginia city of Yorktown. Washington, along with the French forces under Rochambeau, decided to march from the Hudson Highlands to Yorktown to deliver the final blow. Washington's war chest was empty, as was Congress'. Without food, uniforms, and supplies, the army was close to mutiny. Washington determined that about \$20,000 was needed to mount the Yorktown campaign and finish off Cornwallis. When Morris told him there were no funds and no credit to be had, Washington gave him one order, "Send for Hayim Salomon".

Salomon raised the \$20,000 through sales of bills of exchange. With these funds, Washington was able to mount the Yorktown campaign, which proved to be the final battle of the American Revolution. When he lent his own fortune to finance the army, he asked for below market rates and never asked for repayment. He even helped a prominent army surgeon, who had spent most of his life savings establishing army hospitals, most notable of which was at Valley Forge, revive his private practice after the war.

Hayim Salomon died penniless on January 8, 1785, in Philadelphia, at the age of 44. The hundreds of thousands of dollars of Continental debt that he bought with his own fortune, was worth about 10¢ on the dollar at the time of his death.



2021 Dues Notices

Dues notices for the 2021 membership year are being mailed out to you in early October. Please send your dues into the State Society in a timely manner.

Dues are:

- \$35—National dues
- \$17—Nebraska State dues
- \$10—Omaha/Lincoln Chapter dues (only if you are a member of one of the Chapters)

There are also many different foundations and funds, at the National and State levels that you can donate to as well, including but not limited to:

- SAR Foundation
- George Washington Endowment
- SAR Library
- State Color Guard
- State Grave Markings
- State Society General Fund
- Chapter Events/Funds

More information on the National endowments and foundations can be found on the SAR website, www.sar.org.

Every year we seem to lose members due to non payment of dues. Please ensure you get your dues paid on time. This helps get our year end paperwork completed and submitted on time to National, as well as lessen the paperwork when needing to reinstate a member as dues come in late. Thank you for your help with this.

Chapter Chatter

Omaha Chapter

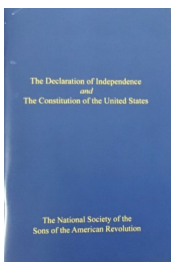
The Omaha Chapter is proud to announce that its Chapter newsletter, *The Quill & Parchment*, Editor Paul Burrignt, has won the Carl F. Bessent Award from National, as the top newsletter in the single sheet Chapter newsletter category.



You are able to see the winning submission on the National website, www.sar.org, or you can read any of our back issues, under the Omaha Chapter link at www.nessar.org.

As a result of the National recognition, the Maryland SAR sent the Omaha Chapter \$175. The Omaha SAR would like to thank the Maryland SAR for their generosity in recognizing this accomplishment.

Lincoln Chapter Constitution Day



To mark the celebration of Constitution Day, the 5th-8th graders at St. Mark's Lutheran School in Lincoln Nebraska were given copies of the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution of the United States for use in studying the these two historic documents. The books were donated by a member of the Lincoln Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

We the People. These three words are found at the beginning of the Constitution the United States of

America, a document that has now endured for 233 years.

In May of 1787, delegates from twelve states gathered to draft what would become the Constitution of the United States. Rhode Island did not send a delegation, and would eventually become the thirteenth state to ratify the document in 1790.

On September 17, 1787 delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed and submitted to the states the Constitution of the United States of America.

Women's Rights

Compatriot John Braisted of the Lincoln Chapter and Evelyn Springer (DAR) attended the following two events. Evelyn is a member of the DAR Chapter, St Leger Cowley in Lincoln.

Nebraska DAR and the La Belle Vue chapter of the DAR held the following recognition ceremonies on August 22 and August 23, 2020.

The first program was held in Hebron, Nebraska on Saturday August 22 at noon. The roles of Lucy Wilder Correll and her Daughter, Lula Correll Perry Merrell in the Nebraska suffragist movement were celebrated. Lucy Wilder Correll started working as an advocate for suffrage in the 1870s and lived to see the adoption of the 19th amendment to the Constitution. Lucy organized the first women's suffrage group in Nebraska and later was the organizing Regent for the Oregon Trail Chapter. Lulu was State Regent in 1913-1915 and was present when the Tennessee Legislature became the 36th state to approve the 19th amendment to the Constitution. Lucy's great grandson Dan Correll, was present to accept Outstanding Women in American History Award on her behalf.

On Sunday August 23rd the La Belle Vue Chapter held a recognition ceremony for Suffragist Blanche McKelvy in Omaha, Nebraska. She was very active in civic life in the community and worked on the suffragist movement as Vice President of the Omaha Suffrage Association.



Prospect Hill Cemetery

The Omaha Chapter sponsors a section of Prospect Hill Cemetery, Omaha's oldest pioneer cemetery, which is on the National Historic Register. We have adopted the section that includes our SAR marker for our 1st Nebraska SAR President, Champion Chase.

Our goal is to help keep the area maintained, trimmed, and looking good for visitors to the historic cemetery. The cemetery has no natural revenue stream, as they no longer have any new internments, so it relies on **volunteers** to help keep the property maintained.

On Saturday, Sept 12, members of the Omaha Chapter worked on our section with gas and battery powered trimmers and hand clippers and worked our way around the section, trimming around headstones and monuments, and cutting down overgrown volunteer trees and bushes. Chapter President, Ben Harvey; Vice President, Paul Burrignt, Past State President, Bill Webb; and our newest member, Drew Whitler all helped.

The work is very rewarding and we will continue to honor the early Pioneers of Omaha who are buried there with this community service.

Meet My Patriots

John Fluck (PA) - P-157237

John (Johannes) Fluck was born in the Palatinate, Germany in 1730 and emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1744. He settled in Bucks County and began farming. John was a bit too old to serve in the militia or Continental Army, but he still supported the patriot movement.

Many of his neighbors and in-laws (such as the Ruths and Flucks) served on active duty, in the militia or Pennsylvania Line.

In the winter of 1777, he provided food supplies and blankets to the Continental Army troops encamped at Valley Forge. Without the logistical support of Pennsylvania farmers, like John Fluck, the army at Valley Forge would have disintegrated.

Consequently, I am very proud of my ancestor for the support he provided to the troops encamped at Valley Forge, some of whom were his friends and neighbors.

Peter Ott (PA) - P-334911

Peter Ott is another one of my Revolutionary War ancestors hailing from Bucks County, PA, the fourth so far that I've uncovered.

As I was doing some research into my forbears, I discovered that Bucks County was not unwavering in the cause of liberty and independence from Britain, but was divided, primarily along ethnic/religious and geographic lines.

The southern villages and townships in the county, closest to Philadelphia, had largely been settled by English Quakers, while the northern section of the county, adjacent to Northampton County had been settled primarily by German immigrants who were either Lutheran or Reformed.



While New Jersey and New York (especially) recruited numerous Loyalist troops, Bucks County is unique, to my knowledge, as being one of the few, if not the only, county in Pennsylvania that recruited Loyalists into service for the Crown. There was a regiment of Bucks County Volunteers (infantry) and a Bucks County Light Dragoons Regiment that both fought against the Patriots. These units were recruited in southern and central Bucks County, not from the northern townships.

The Quaker influenced government of Pennsylvania adamantly refused to recruit county militia units. During the French and Indian War, some Pennsylvania counties, including Bucks County, set up their own militia system, termed Associators. The Associator units were all volunteers, elected their own officers, and furnished their own weapons and ammunition. The Associators continued to function into the Revolution (militia not being organized in Pennsylvania until the summer of 1777).

Peter Ott volunteered to serve in the Bucks County Associators and was on the rolls of Capt Robinson's Company in August 1775. While most of the Associator units did not see active combat (they served primarily as garrisons and reserves for the units of the Pennsylvania Line), the importance of their service, in my mind, is that they were genuine volunteers, not being forced to enroll under a Militia Act (as in most other colonies) and supplying their own weapons and ammunition.

Therefore, I'm extremely proud of the fact that Peter's heart was genuinely behind the patriot cause and not influenced by any other legal or financial factor.

By: John Parsons—SAR #149646



Welcome New Members

Please welcome our two new members, approved over the summer.

Omaha Chapter

- John Andrew Whitler—216405

John (Drew) is descended from Patriot Moses Sweeney (VA), and was approved on Aug 7, 2020.

- Charles Edward Real—216406

Chuck is descended from Patriot Jacob Faust (PA), and was also approved on Aug 7, 2020.

Congratulations to our new members and we welcome you to the Nebraska SAR!

Huzzah!!



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 Burrigh 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!

Freemasonry and the SAR



George Washington in Freemason Regalia

Most Masons have heard the stories of some of their Masonic predecessors and their roles in the American Revolution. George Washington, Paul Revere, Francis Warren, Marquis de Lafayette, Benjamin Franklin, and a myriad of others were very prominent in their roles in the

struggle for American Independence.

While most of the stories that are told are true, some are exaggerations, such as the theory that all the signers of the Declaration of Independence and all of Washington's Generals were Masons, neither of which is true. Of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration, satisfactory evidence proves conclusively that only about nine of the fifty-six were Masons, and only about 46% of Washington's Generals were in fact Freemasons. There were, however, a great number of Masons involved in the fight of independence and historical record, such as service records, can confirm that.

There are many members of the Sons of the American Revolution that are also Freemasons. I have had the honor of serving as the President of both the Omaha Chapter and the Nebraska SAR and as such, I have met and become friends with many members, a good number of whom are also Masons. In the Omaha Chapter, for example, nearly 20% of its members are Masons, and the Lincoln Chapter has a number

as well, including one to whom I presented his 50 Year Masonic membership medal and certificate, when I served as Grand Master in 2010. I was also fortunate to obtain an SAR Masonic apron which was worn during the laying of the cornerstone by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky for the new SAR Headquarters building in Louisville several years ago.

By John Parsons—SAR #149646

Recently, Omaha Chapter, and Nebraska SAR Color Guard member, **Ron Stites**, was named the Nebraska Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge.

Congratulations, Ron, on achieving this prestigious position within the Freemason ranks.



From The Editors:

Please remember that, in an effort to mitigate costs of printing and postage and to be able to use those funds in other capacities for the Society, *The Husker Patriot* is moving to an all digital newsletter, beginning with Issue #42 (1st Quarter 2021).

If you receive the newsletter by USPS, you were sent a notice with the last edition, Issue #39, in July. The notice stated that you will automatically be moved to the digital edition, beginning with Issue #42, if we do not hear back from you.

If you absolutely need to continue to receive the newsletter by mail, you must email one of the editors (email located on Page 2), by December 31.

- Bill Webb & Paul Burright, Co-editors—*The Husker Patriot*



Omaha SAR and Masons

Ben Harvey, John Parsons, Nebraska Grand Master Ron Stites, Hal Daub

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

If you are members of either the Omaha or Lincoln Chapters, please submit all new member and supplemental applications through your Chapter Registrars.

Omaha—Paul Burrignt—pburrignt72@gmail.com

Lincoln—Open—

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

Compatriot Shawn Stoner

2710 N. 4th St

Lincoln, NE 68521.

Email: nessar.registrar@gmail.com

4th Quarter 2020 Meetings and Events

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

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

Friday, Nov 6—Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Eastmont Towers, Lincoln, NE

Sunday, Nov 8—Lincoln Veteran's Day Parade, 2pm

Tuesday, Nov 10—Omaha Chapter Meeting, 6:30pm, Gorat's Steakhouse, Omaha, NE

Wednesday, Nov 11—Veteran's Day

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

Tuesday, Dec 15—Omaha Chapter Meeting, 6:30pm, Gorat's Steakhouse, Omaha, NE

Saturday, Dec 19—Wreaths Across America, 12:00pm

****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 in to 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