

Husker Patriot

Publisher

William Webb  
webb.w@q.com

Editor

Robert L. Knott, Jr.  
chiefknott@aol.com

Webmasters

Dr. David K. Kentsmith, M.D.  
Merle Rudebusch

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~NESAR/

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# NEBRASKA SAR SPRING MEETING APRIL 21ST

**Presidents Corner:** I hope everyone's Holiday season was enjoyable and you were able to spend it in a relaxing atmosphere with family and friends. In addition, I hope and wish that 2012 will become a banner year of growth for our Society. There is a lot of activity and initiatives that I want to talk about. But, before I discuss the future activity of our Society, I want to first turn to those Compatriots who helped guide me through these past two years and extend to them my sincere gratitude. The Officers and Chairmen of the various



Committees have done such a wonderful job and I want to say thank you for a job well done. You have made us all proud.

Now, to our future business. At our Fall Meeting there was interest in activating a Chapter in the Western part of our state. If you wish to be a part of this endeavor or have an interest, call or email an Officer. We'll make sure it gets to the right person. Also, ROTC and JROTC awards presentations will soon be here and we will again need cont'd on page 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"



At left shows Omaha Chapter President Dr. David Kentsmith welcoming Nebraska State President



LaVerne Stetson and his wife Shirley to the Omaha Chapter meeting. At right is Dr. David Kentsmith, swearing in Bill Webb as the Omaha Chapter President for 2012-2013.

## NESSAR Spring Meeting April 21, 2012

LaVerne Stetson, 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 21st, 2011 at 1:00 PM. Our Spring Meeting is our most impor-

tant Society meeting of the year and all Members are encouraged to attend. It not only is 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 review what lies ahead. One of the most important items of this meeting is the election of Officers to lead us for the next two years. Come and cast your ballot. We have a great program lined up. We will be presenting the Eagle Scout Trophy and Scho-

larship to a deserving Eagle Scout. We will also be presenting the Fireman's Medal and Certificate and stipend to a most deserving Fire Safety individual. 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. I'm sure everyone will enjoy themselves.

### SWEARING IN OF NEW OMAHA CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2012 THRU 2013



The above picture depicts William Webb, President of the Omaha Chapter, swearing in John Parsons as the Chapter Treasurer and Richard Ewing as the Chapter Secretary for the two year term of 2012 and 2013.



William Webb, President of the Omaha Chapter, swearing in Vice President Tom Conley for the two year term of 2012 and 2013.



Dr. David Kentsmith, outgoing Omaha Chapter President, explaining the ceremonial ritual to Chapter members prior to swearing in of William Webb, as President of the Omaha Chapter for 2012 through 2013.



Meet the new Officers of the Omaha Chapter. From left, John Parsons, Treasurer; Tom Conley, Vice President; William Webb, President and Richard Ewing, Secretary. They will serve the Omaha Chapter for the next two years. Congratulations on your election. Each of the Officers look forward to working with as well as serving the members of the Omaha Chapter. If one should ask for a little help on one of the Committees or projects please don't turn

him down. It really is for a worthy cause. Without our members individual support they could be handicapped in getting the programs completed. They have been elected to do a job but it takes all of our individual efforts to see it through.

#### Fort Atkinson Foundation

Omaha Chapter Treasurer John Parsons advised that he received a letter from the Fort Atkinson Foundation thanking the Chapter for their tax-deductible donation of \$250.00. These funds have been designated for their flagpole project. The mission of

the Foundation is: We are dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the site of Fort Atkinson. The Fort Atkinson Foundation shall maintain a continuing commitment to the acquisition of real and personal property which will enhance the site and enable the staff and volunteers to provide a meaningful historical experience for visitors to Fort Atkinson. Their letter continued with: "Your generosity will help to equip us in carrying out our mission".

"We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately."— Benjamin Franklin at the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

**2012 Meetings and Events**

**Mar 2, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Eastmont Towers  
9:00 am**

**Mar 13, Omaha Chapter Meeting, Venice Inn  
6:00 pm**

**Apr 6, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Eastmont Towers  
9:00 am**

**Apr 10 Omaha Chapter Meeting, Venice Inn  
6:00 pm**

**Apr 21, Annual Spring Meeting, The Lodge, Mahoney State Park  
1:00 pm**

**May 4, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Eastmont Towers  
9:00 am**

**May 8, Omaha Chapter Meeting, Venice Inn  
6:00 pm**

**Jun 1, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Eastmont Towers  
9:00 am**

**Jul 6, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Eastmont Towers  
9:00 am**

**Aug 3, Lincoln Chapter Meeting, Eastmont Towers  
9:00 am**

Cont'd from page 1 President's Corner  
presenters. At the Fall Meeting there was interest in a State SAR Medal. I activated a Committee to determine if that is something we should do. This Committee is working hard on various designs and it's requirements. A presentation should be ready to present to the membership at our Spring Annual Meeting. Our Spring Annual Meeting will be held April 21st, again in the Lodge at Mahoney State Park. The Nominating Committee is working on a slate of officers for 2012 and 2013. We will present an Eagle Scout award as well as the Fire Safety Commendation Medal. There will also be other awards that I am proud to report. We will recognize deserving Compatriots who have

**The Nebraska Society Salutes Longtime Members**

The Nebraska Society would like to salute and recognize the following members who have reached longtime membership anniversaries during the year 2011. For:

- 35 years**  
Harry Deeths, Omaha, NE  
Byron Norval, Seward, NE  
Harry Norval, Lincoln, NE
- 25 years**  
Andrew Blossom, Omaha, NE  
John Quest, Parker, CO
- 20 years**  
Byron A. Warlick, Fort Dodge, IA
- 15 years**  
Joseph Campbell, Omaha, NE  
Jimmy D. Wise, Fairbury, NE  
Dr. Denton D. Weiss, Virginia Beach, VA
- 10 years**  
Gary Cline, No. Platte, NE
- 5 years**  
Joseph Mettenbrink, Omaha, NE  
Lester Olson, Kilgore, NE

One of the most important aspects of our Society and the SAR is keeping up our membership. What better way of showing our support for the Sons of the American Revolution and patriotism for our country than continuing our membership in this organization.



Member Dr. Merle T. McAlvy, and Omaha Chapter President Bill Webb assists Dr. Fred Strider finalizing his SAR application. Congratulations to Dr. Strider for completing all the work required for joining this great organization.

Only 2 people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thompson. The last 5 years later.

produced outstanding service to the Nebraska Society and are truly deserving. I want to encourage each of you to come to our Spring Meeting. Develop a fellowship among your fellow members, attend these functions in which you can visit with other members. Lets all demonstrate our support for the SAR. Finally, if you can't or don't want to drive, please call me, and I will try to arrange a ride for you. If you have guests, bring them with you. This will be my last message and it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your State President these last two years. I hope all of us stay active and continue to build a strong NESSAR. I look forward to visiting with you at Mahoney State Park April 21st.

LaVerne Stetson

**First Washington Monument**

Erected in 1829, the marble Doric column in **Baltimore, Maryland** is arguably the oldest formal monument to the first president. The 178 foot monument was designed by Robert Mills, who also designed the more famous Washington Monument in the nation's capital. If you are lucky enough to catch the monument when it's open, you may climb the 228 steps to its top for a bird's-eye view of the city from the historic neighborhood where it is located. It does hold a ground floor museum.



Omaha member Dr. Merle McAlvy with Omaha Chapter President Bill Webb congratulating Earl Miller after taking the oath, joining the Sons of the American Revolution. President Webb has said many times that the road to being a member sometimes isn't an easy one but completing the journey is certainly fulfilling and of course a very worthy one.

## 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 six Newsletters published and distributed to our members. I would like to ask you to again take a good look at these Newsletters and let me 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 PATRIOT

#### "The Knott Family in America" (The Heritage of Francis)

By CMSgt (Ret'd) Robert L. Knott, Jr.  
Part One of Two



I can't believe this mystery is so hard to solve, since there is so much known about Francis Knott. Who were his parents? Where was he born, in England or Virginia or Maryland?

I will attempt to discuss the two schools of thought and hopefully decide to my satisfaction who Francis' parents were and where he was born. Just bear with me while I first show how "Greer" decided that Robert Cole was Francis' stepfather and he came to America, landing in Virginia, married his first wife and had five children. After her death he married the widow of John Knott.

The first mention of Francis Knott is in the will of Robert Cole. Robert Cole, according to Greer's "Early Virginia Immigrants," entered Virginia in 1637, sponsored by Thomas Shippey, of Henrico County. As evidenced by his will, he was from Middlesex County, England, where his mother Jane Cole was still living at the time it was made on the second day of April, 1662.

He entered Maryland in June 1652, with his wife and four children and two servants. No wife is mentioned in his will, and it may be assumed that she was then deceased. In a notation at the end of the will, he named the birth dates of his own children: "My son Robert Cole was born the 15th Octr 1652, my daughter Mary Cole was born the 26th January 1653(?); my son William Cole was born the 23 June 1655, my son Edward Cole was born 9th Novr 1657, my daughter Elizabeth was born 2d March 1659, Francis Knott is three years older than my son

Robert Cole is." This places the birth date of Francis Knott, circa 1649. Since Robert Cole came to the Maryland Province in 1652, with four children, then one of those four children was Francis Knott, then three years old. One other, perhaps Ann Hariton(Harrington?) Francis' sister, named in Robert Cole's will, was born elsewhere. The natural conclusion is that he married a widow Knott, who had at least two children, Francis and Ann, the orphans of John Knott, and that they were both born in Virginia. In Robert Cole's will, Francis Knott was the first beneficiary named, and he seems to have been genuinely fond of him. Francis Knott's name appears from time to time in the Provincial Court Records in connection with Court settlements of indebtedness. John Kilty, in his "The Land Holder's Assistant and Land Office Guide, etc." on page 70 states that Zachariah Knott, the ancestor of Mr. A. Leo Knott and Mr. Henry J. Knott, was descended from John Knott, of Yorkshire, England.

The Biographical Cyclopedia of Representative Men of Maryland (1879), page 260, in the biography of the Hon. A. Leo Knott, states: "The ancestors of the Knott's were from Yorkshire, England, and settled in St. Mary's County in 1642, the pioneer of the family being John Knott." John Knott (spelled "Not" in the Land Records) immigrated

to Maryland in 1642. He was sponsored by Francis Posis (Posey) of St. Mary's County, an outstanding settler in that community, who was responsible for bringing a number of persons into the Province of Maryland. From Kilty's Land Holder's Assistant: page 69: "1st July 1643 John Nott demandeth land by Conditions of Plantation for transporting himself into the Province this present year." For reasons unknown he shortly after assigned over all his interest "in the aforesaid demand unto Francis Posie." Search reveals no further reference to John Knott in Maryland. However, an individual by this name appeared in Accomac County, Virginia, acquiring considerable land in that locality. It was in Accomac that James Knott and his Wife Elinor also owned much property. Whether there was any relationship between James Knott and John Knott, has not been established. Captain John Kilty and Zachariah Knott were contemporaries, and in his position as Register of the Land Office, Kilty no doubt knew Zachariah Knott, who was a large landowner in Montgomery County, and something about his antecedents. No will of John Knott exists in the state of Maryland.

In the Archives of Maryland, Volume 0008, Page 53 it shows that: there was a Council meeting held at the City of St. Maries, Maryland the First day of December 1688. Present were: William Joseph Esqre; Col: Thomas Tailer; Col: Henry Darnall; The honorable Col: William Digges; Major Nicholas Sewall; Col: Edward Pye; Clement Hill Esqre. The King or Cont'd on page 5

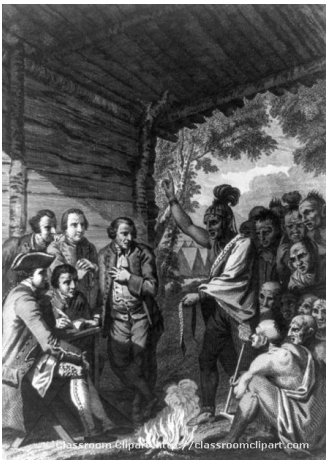


Omaha Chapter President Dr. David Kentsmith, along with Jeremy Christensen initiating Dr. Merle McAlevy into the Sons of the American Revolution. Dr. Kentsmith welcomed Dr. McAlevy into the SAR and congratulated him in completing the tasks involved in becoming a member.

Cont'd from Page 4 Meet My Patriot pretended King or the next heir to the late King of the Choptico Indians and some other of the great men of the Choptico Indian Tribe desired admittance to this board; and the King or pretended King by the name of Tom Calvert presented eleven dressed deer skins as a tribute to his Lordship, the Lord Baltimore and says that his deceased Uncle intended to bring more but died before they could be gotten.

The Chapticons was one of the six tribes of Indians that Lord Baltimore proposed to settle on Calverton Manor containing about 10,000

acres, but his plan of colonization appears to have proven entirely impracticable, as in 1692, a formal treaty was entered into between Governor Copley and "Tom Calvert, King of Chaptico," defining the rights and privileges of the latter over his ancient domain. This Thomas Calvert makes the complaint to this board that one Walter Davis demands two skins more for carrying his Uncle over to the Eastern shore which is more than his



Their beans.. In addition, rum is brought into the Indian Towne by the English and the Indians buy it for skins and that keeps the Indians poor, and besides makes them drunk. "Well, yes it does." There is especially one Francis Knott who brings strong drink such as Rum and sells it for more skins than the Rum is worth. This is done when they are drunk and this cheats the Indians. "Sounds to me like it was just a marketing tool by Francis." Therefore the King desires the English and especially Francis Knott may be ordered not to bring anymore drink to the said Choptico Towne. Also, the English ordered not to let their cattle into their fields.

Francis' wife was Elinor, daughter of Nicholas White and Mary. His parents were Rebecca Knott Cole. Step-father: Robert Cole. Siblings: Ann. His children were: Francis, William, Edward, John, James, Charles, Rebecca, Ann and Elinor. Local Offices: appraiser, 1683, 1685, 1699; juror, St. Clements Manor Court, 1672. Provincial Offices: juror, Provincial Court, 1699. Resident, St. Clements Manor, 1672. Owned land: tenant of William Shercliffe, 100 a. Land at death: 100a plus. Francis Knott died in 1705, will dated 16 March 1704, and probated 14 May 1705. On May 23, 1705, "was then exhibited Eleanor Knott's bond executrix of Francis Knott late of said County (St. Mary's) Thomas Mattingly and John Clark of the same County her security in two hundred pounds. Francis Knott's son William was born about 1697 in St. Mary's County, Maryland. He married Ann Mattingly who was born in 1706 in Leonardtown, St. Mary's County, Maryland. William died in 1737 in St. Mary's County and Ann died in 1750 in St. Mary's County. They had a total of 15 children.

"William Knott, Jr. was born about 1732 in St. Mary's County, Maryland and died in 1802 in Montgomery County. He married Mary Mattingly who was born in 1738 in St. Mary's County and died in 1809 in Montgomery County. They had seven children. For release of penalties, etc., non-jurors are subject to. William, Jr. 'Took Oath of Fidelity and Support to this State before a Magistrate of Frederick County, on the Fifth day of October 1758", having moved there from St. Mary's County. All the treble taxes which has been paid by said William Knott, Jr. or allowed to



him in his present or future State and County Taxes" House of Delegates, January 5th, 1783. (Treble Tax on non-jurors remitted October 1780. Montgomery County was erected from Frederick County September 6, 1776. He had no doubt emigrated from St. Mary's to Frederick County prior to that date. Oaths of Fidelity and Support were required of all male citizens between the ages of sixteen and twenty-six, so if he was twenty-six in 1758, it would place his birth year, 1732, and make him one of the youngest children of William Sr. William Knott, Jr., died in Montgomery County in 1802. His will, made July 25, 1795 and probated April 7, 1802, named his beloved wife, Mary, sons William, Thomas and Philip - two sons Zachariah and Henry, to whom he left one shilling each - to Zachariah, spoons, "as a token of my love for him." Daughters, Mary and Jane. Reference: Montgomery County Wills, Liber D fol. 547. Part two will start with Zachariah Knott, my Patriot, in the Spring edition of the Husker Patriot.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

2012

Lincoln Chapter — Christopher L. Debban  
Omaha Chapter — Earl Miller

## NEBRASKA SOCIETY MEDAL

State President LaVerne Stetson, at our past State Society meeting, activated a Committee to look into determining whether a Nebraska Society Medal would be something the Membership would be interested in pursuing. This Committee, made up of Fred Walden, Chairman, Bob Knott, Bill Webb and Rev. Dr. James Hoke, is charged with the design and criteria required in either earning or purchase of the medal. The design for the medal and criteria would be brought before the Membership at our Annual Spring Meeting on 21 April for discussion and vote. If the Membership does show an interest the State Society medal design and criteria will be forwarded to the National NSSAR Medals and Awards Committee before final adoption.

**MORE PICTURES AND STORIES**



Compatriot Ray Harris presented an outstanding program to the members of the Omaha Chapter during their December meeting about the Minute Men and the beginning of the U. S. Army. Compatriot Harris had handouts for the members as he gave his presentation.

**Kudos to Nebraska Society President  
LaVerne Stetson**

Our State Society President, LaVerne Stetson received accolades in the Crawford Clipper/Harrison Sun newspapers, December 28, 2011. LaVerne completed the editing of the sixth edition of "Irrigation," after years of delays. A previous editor who was a co-worker of Stetson's worked on the book from October of 2008 to January 2009 when he suddenly died. Stetson took the book project over and completed it 32 months later. The book has had 45 authors; has 30 chapters and over 1100 pages and weighs five pounds, three ounces. The book is considered an industry classic and represents the most comprehensive reference book ever published on irrigation systems, technologies and practices. Congratulations to our President who has had his hands full these last two years, leading our Society as well as being an Editor.



LaVerne Stetson discussing his Irrigation editing project at the Lincoln Chapter meeting.



Shawn Stoner; Chaplain Jim Hoke; Virgil Deethardt; Don Miltner, Sr.; Richard Goodding at Lincoln Chapter January Meeting.

**Little Known Facts of American History**

The Battle of Bunker Hill was the first major conflict of the American Revolution. Unfortunately, it did not occur on Bunker Hill. The revolutionary Committee of Safety ordered colonial officers to sieze and fortify Bunker Hill against possible attack from British regiments attempting to control Boston Harbor. But colonial military leaders, for reasons still unknown, entrenched instead on Breed's Hill, a smaller mound some 2,000 feet away. The famous battle occurred on that hill, on 17 June 1775, but popularly became known as the Battle of Bunker Hill. Today, Breed's Hill, where the battle took place, is known as Bunker Hill. The original Bunker Hill is covered with houses.

Chaplain (Col) James Hoke, USA (Ret)



**NEBRASKA SOCIETY OFFICERS**

**2010-2011**

- President: LaVerne Stetson, Lincoln
- 1st Vice President: Fred Walden, Omaha
- 2nd Vice President: John Reinert, Lincoln
- Secretary: Dr. David Kentsmith, M.D., Omaha
- Treasurer: William Webb, Omaha
- Registrar: Thomas Masters, Lincoln
- Deputy Registrar: Robert Knott, Omaha

**BOARD OF COUNSELORS**

**2010-2011**

- Chairman: LaVerne Stetson, Lincoln
- 1st Vice President: Fred Walden, Omaha
- 2nd Vice President: John Reinert, Lincoln
- Secretary: Dr. David Kentsmith, M.D., Omaha
- Treasurer: William Webb, Omaha
- Registrar: Thomas Masters, Lincoln
- Deputy Registrar: Robert Knott, Omaha
- Chap. Vice President: Thomas Conley, Omaha



The above photo shows John Reinert, President of the Lincoln Chapter, Merle Rudebusch and Carroll Reinert on the right during their January 2010 meeting.