

The Husker Patriot



2nd Qtr 2024

HONORING COMPATRIOT GILBERT L. COLE

NATIONAL #4611, NEBRASKA #11



JUNE 22, 2024

From the Desk of the President

Presidents Message

My fellow Compatriots,

Service. A single word with so much meaning. Service to our neighbors, our community, our nation. Service. A religious time with fellow believers to worship, celebrate a beginning or mourn the passing of one who touched our lives.

June 22nd two services were held in Beatrice Nebraska to dedicate a grave markers for SAR Compatriot Gilbert Cole and rededicate the DAR marker of Real Daughter Lucy Wills Tibbets. The lives and actions of both were reviewed, their accomplishments were noted. Each had a unique story just as we all do as individuals..



Their stories gave us an opportunity to consider what they did in life and how they served the Beatrice community. We only know of these events through research of records and written documents. It should be noted the accomplishments made by Gilbert Cole and Lucy Wills Tibbets were not all accomplished without the help of others.

Every member of the SAR has the ability to contribute to our organization. Active involvement in the Color Guard, participation in grave markings or working behind the scenes are all important to achieve our goals. The "behind the scenes" work is the majority of what needs to take place to conduct the public events and achieve our goals.

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I am asking each of you as Compatriots in the Nebraska Society to consider helping our organization grow by serving as a committee chair. Contact me if you are interested and together we will move forward. Thank you all for your support and consideration.

My contact information follows:

Email: jcb11012002@yahoo.com Phone: 402-310-0765 Postal addresss: PO Box 94611, Lincoln NE 68509

, John C. Braisted

President, Nebraska SAR



NEBRASKA SOCIETY OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

2022-2023

President: 1st Vice President: 2nd Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer: Registrar: Trustee: Alt. Trustee: Chaplain: Historian: John C. Braisted Paul H. Burright James Hoke Stanley Dale Wostrel William Webb Mark A. Byars Mark A. Byars Dr. James Sly Dr. James Sly John Reinert

Const/ByLaws ChairmanPMembership ChairmanBudget & Finance ChairmanAudit Committee ChairmanPAudit Committee ChairmanEPublicity ChairmanEEagle Scout ChairmanPAwards & Medals ChairmanFlag ChairmanFlag ChairmanColor Guard CommanderPaFirst Responders ChairmanROTC Awards ChairmanAmerica 250 ChairmanAmerica numAmericanism ChairmanPHistory ChairmanJ

Paul Burright Mark Byars Bill Webb Jim Hoke Dale Wostrel Open Open Paul Burright Open Mark Byars Paul Burright John Reinert

BOARD OF MANAGERS 2022-2023

 President:
 John C. Braisted

 1st Vice President:
 Paul H Burright

 2nd Vice President:
 Jim Hoke

 Secretary:
 Stanley Dale Wostrel

 Treasurer:
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 Registrar:
 Mark A. Byars

 Chaplain:
 Dr. James Sly

 Historian:
 John Reinert

 Omaha Chapter Rep:
 Davis (Secretary)

 Lincoln Chapter Rep:
 David Ensign (VP)

 Member At Large Rep:
 Richard Hulse

 Immediate Past President:
 Thomas L. Upton

 Past State President:
 Merle T. McAlevy

 Past State President:
 Open

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> <u>Webmaster</u> Mark Byars markabyars@gmail.com www.nessar.org

State Society News



Welcome New Members!

Matthew Alan Maxon #229611 Patriot Josiah Gardner (MA) Member at Large (Ellendale, ND)

Levi Douglas Heithold #229612 Patriot Josiah Gardner (MA) Member at Large (Carroll, NE)

Gary Lee Austin #229663 Patriot Jacob Walker (PA) Omaha Chapter

Brian Lee Austin #229664 Patriot Jacob Walker (PA) Omaha Chapter

Brody Lee Austin #229665 Patriot Jacob Walker (PA) Omaha Chapter

Bradford Morgan Finch #230064 Patriot Tidence Lane, Jr. (NC) Lincoln Chapter

Congratulations to all of our new members in the Nebraska SAR. We look forward to you all being active, participating members of the Society.



<u>Nebraska State Genealogical Society Conference</u> SAR Booth

On Friday and Saturday, April 26-27, Compatriots Mark Byars and Paul Burright manned the Nebraska SAR's first membership booth during the Nebraska State Genealogical Society's Annual Conference in Columbus, NE.

Both Compatriots had some great conversations with potential members, gave out membership brochures and business cards and discussed the SAR with numerous people, and of course had a few requests for pictures, as we were in uniform and stood out in the crowd of attendees.

We networked and procured a speaking engagement about the SAR with the Platte County Historical Society, set for this coming fall, and we also networked with the Platte Valley Finders genealogy group in Columbus, and will partner with them when we plan to hold our Patriot Real Son grave marking in Columbus for Samuel Goodale, sometime next year, possibly.

All in all it was a productive couple of days, and we hope to get a few new members from the experience. We also plan to utilize the equipment procured for the event (signage, table runner, etc.) for future recruiting events and grave markings.





<u>REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY-250 YEARS</u>



The Battle of Fort San Carlos

The Battle of Fort San Carlos, sometime called the Battle of St. Louis, was fought on May 26, 1780, between British allied Indians and defenders of the Franco-Spanish village of St. Louis, Louisiana (present day Missouri).

After Spain entered on the side of the Americans, the British attempted to control the Mississippi River corridor against Spanish and Patriot military movements.

St. Louis was mainly a trading hub on the Mississippi River, and was governed by Lt. Gov. Fernando de Leyba, a Captain in the Spanish Army, but it was also the administrative capital of Upper Spanish Louisiana. Lebya was warned by a fur trader, in late

March 1780, of an impending British attack on the settlement and the nearby American post at Cahokia. He started to develop plans for defense, but he only had 168 inexperienced militia dispersed around the countryside, and only 29 men from the Fixed Force of Spanish Louisiana. He planned to construct 4 stone towers, but did not have the time to get men and material from New Orleans. He asked the surrounding villagers to contribute funds and labor to the construction of these fortifications, and he paid for some of it from his own personal funds.

By mid May, only one stone tower was constructed. The tower was dubbed Fort San Carlos and it gave a commanding view of the countryside. There was no time to build more towers, so Fort San Carlos was outfitted with 3 four pound cannons and 2 six pound cannons for its defense, with other cannons place at perimeter locations in trenches dug around the fort. The Spanish called upon French defenders, 60 miles to the south, to come to their aid, as the Spanish only had 197 men, and the French sent 60 more capable defenders to help tip the balance against the overwhelming British attack. The defenders took some losses but were able to hold the tower. The Indian force fell back and attacked the American Cahokia outpost, but were again repelled by the arrival of Gen. George Rogers Clark in defense of Cahokia. Clark's reputation as a brutal frontier fighter, caused the Sioux force to call off the attack.

On May 26, 2024, Nebraska 1st Vice President and Color Guard Commander, Paul Burright, traveled to Ste. Genevieve, MO to participate in the commemoration of the Battle of Fort San Carlos, and to participate in the National SAR Color Guard in marking the graves of 5 Revolutionary War Patriots who fought in the battle. He was joined by fellow Iowa SAR Compatriot Randy Lyon, to represent Nebraska and Iowa in the National Color Guard.

The five Patriots honored were: Charles Belmar, Jean Babtiste Fortin, Joseph Courtois, Israel Dodge, and Raimond Govreau. They were buried in unmarked graves, believed to be located in what is now Memorial Cemetery, created in

1787, in Ste. Genevieve, MO, exact burial places were unknown. Their names are now engraved on a Patriot Board to be housed in the Ste. Genevieve Museum. The Missouri SAR also dedicated a new highway marker, located just outside the cemetery, commemorating the lives of the Patriots buried in the cemetery and their service during the Revolution.









Daniel Shed/Shedd (P-288283)

By Compatriot David Ensign #225593

Daniel Shed (Shedd and Sheds) was born at Groton, Massachusetts, April 15, 1746 or 1749. He served as a Private in Captain Asa Lawrence's Company, Colonel William Prescott's Regiment, enslisting on Apr 25, 1775.

Private Shed served three months and eight days (eight months by another account), during which he engaged in the Battle of Bunker Hill. Jul 9, 1777 found him marching in Captain Joseph Barrett's Militia Company, Colonel Nichol's Regiment of Militia into the Continental Army, joining Captain Isaac Frye's Company in Colonel Alexander Scammell's Third New Hampshire Regiment.

The 1790 United States Census lists him as residing in Shelburne, Vermont as the father of two males over the age of sixteen, three males under sixteen, and a female. As a resident of Dearborn County, Indiana, he filed a pension application on Oct 2, 1819, claiming enlistment from Raby, New Hampshire and engagement in the Battles of Bunker Hill and Bennington in Captain Fry's [sic] Company, Colonel Baldwin's (later Colonel Scammell's Regiment).

His place of death and final resting place are unknown.



Spring State Meeting

The Nebraska SAR held its Spring State Meeting on Sunday, April 22, 2024, at Mahoney State Park in Ashland, NE.

The new crop of State Officers were installed and sworn in: President John Braisted, 1st VP Paul Burright, 2nd VP Jim Hoke, Secretary Dale Wostrel, Treasurer Bill Webb, Registrar Mark Byars, Chaplain Jim Sly, and Historian John Reinert.

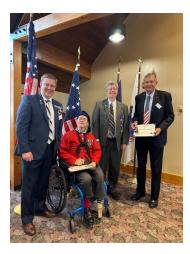
Numerous awards and recognition were bestowed upon members and ladies, including, Paul Burright—Silver Henry Knox Medal; John Braisted—Silver Roger Sherman Medal; Mark Byars—Youth Education Medal; Hugh Nehls— Silver Good Citizenship Medal; Dale Wostrel—State Distinguished Service Medal; Ron Stites—Patriot Medal, and lastly, Jane Upton—Lydia Darragh Medal for her support of outgoing President Tom Upton during all of his terms through many different officer roles at the Chapter and State levels over the past decade. Numerous America 250 medals were also conferred upon deserving Compatriots, who have participated in enough events to qualify for Chapter level awards.

Many upcoming events were communicated to those in attendance, and officers and chairmen gave their final reports for their selected offices and committees. The Nebraska SAR looks to continue its upward trajectory, and continued growth throughout the State!





Silver Good Citizenship



Bronze America 250

Youth Education Medal



Patriot Medal

Compatriot Grave Marking

Honoring Gilbert L. Cole



The Nebraska SAR hosted it's 6th Compatriot grave marking on Saturday, June 22, 2024, in Beatrice, NE. This ceremony was to honor founding Nebraska SAR Compatriot Gilbert L. Cole. Compatriot Cole's National Member number was #4611 and his Nebraska SAR member number was #11. He was one of the original 12 members approved when the Nebraska SAR was formed on April 26, 1890. He was a descendant of Revolutionary War veteran John Cole, who served in the New Hampshire Militia, and was engaged at the Battle of Bunker Hill, as well as being called in defense of Fort Ticonderoga. Compatriot Cole was himself a veteran, serving in Co. E, 29th Iowa Infantry, in 1861. He was also commissioned as a Lieutenant in Co. A, 124th U.S. Colored Infantry.

President John Braisted presided over the ceremonies, Lincoln Chapter VP David Ensign provided Chaplain duties, State Secretary Dale Wostrel led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and SAR Pledge and Recessional, and State Historian John Reinert led the audience in singing the National Anthem and gave a brief history of the Nebraska SAR. State Registrar Mark Byars read the biography of Gilbert Cole, and State 1st VP Paul Burright read the biography of Revolutionary War veteran John Cole.

A very good turnout was had for the service, and a special thanks to members of the Kansas SAR Color Guard who joined us to honor Compatriot Cole, as well as members of the Nebraska Rangers, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, who attended to honor Lt. Cole's service for the Union with a musket salute.

Fourteen wreaths were presented by State Societies and Chapters of the Nebraska SAR, Nebraska DAR, Kansas SAR, North Central District SAR, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.







Service to the Nebraska SAR

Nebraska Compatriots,

I want to begin this article by expressing my sincere appreciation for the work of our Officers and Committee Chairmen from the past term, as well as those members who have contributed countless hours over the years to enhance and help grow the Nebraska SAR into what it has become today. I have only been a member for less than a decade, but I have talked with many of our long-time members and have heard the stories of the days, in the not all distant past, when the Nebraska SAR was very close to folding and closing its metaphorical doors. It was through the efforts of many of these men, recruiting and developing ways to improve membership, that we are in the place we are today.

When I became a member in 2016, we had roughly 85 members total in the Nebraska SAR. Today, we sit at 141 total members. We continue to gain membership in our Chapters, but most importantly, in our outlying communities around the State. We have Members at Large actively recruiting outside of our Omaha/Lincoln metro areas, to hopefully be able to finally form another Chapter, which has not happened in the past 87 years. We are on a great trajectory as a Society, even though we are still a very small Society in comparison to nearly all our neighboring States, and we do not want to lose our momentum.



I say all that, to say this...WE NEED YOU!

We need you to...

<u>Ask yourself, "What can I offer the Nebraska SAR as a member?"</u>

All of us have different strengths that we can offer in service. Are you good with computers and web building? Are you good with marketing? Do you enjoy teaching and speaking to a group? Are you super organized? Are you good with financials? Do you enjoy working with veterans? Do you enjoy working on genealogy and would love to help new members with their applications?

What else are you good at that would benefit the Nebraska SAR?

Attend and participate in support of events that the Society hosts or is involved in!

Here is an example: The Nebraska SAR hosted a Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremony last October for Compatriot John Creigh, the Nebraska SAR's 2nd State President and founding member. Outside of the participating Officers and Color Guard members, only a handful of Compatriots answered the call to honor this veteran and founding member and support this event, and we were outnumbered by members of the other lineage societies that we invited as guests.

When you also look at the attendance for the State Meetings (April and September), we typically have the same 15-20 members (out of 141 state members), which includes the Officers, who attend regularly. This same minority number of members cannot continue to do the majority of the Society's work. We try to keep everyone informed of upcoming events through this newsletter, but if you never attend any meetings (Chapter or State), how can you really know what is happening in your Society?

<u>Get involved and contribute to the workings of your Society!</u>

Gentlemen, we have numerous committees that need you on them, and some that need leaders!

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Service to the Nebraska SAR

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Were you aware that we have 14 standing committees in the Nebraska SAR? Some of these are led by State Officers and some of them have appointed Chairmen, but they all need to be filled with workers, like you, that can contribute and continue the work of the Society in your communities. It is a great way for any of our 141 members to get involved!

One way that we can continue to attract new members is for them to see our current members doing work in the Society, and community at large, that they respect and value. When our new members get involved, we can do more of that work, but it starts with the example set by the current membership.

Remember that we also live in an age where we have technology to where we don't have to have our committees meet in person, per se. We have the capability to use Zoom (my own Constitution & By-laws committee has already met through Zoom as our committee members live in different cities). We can help you to set something up if you need help.

Compatriots, our society cannot move forward, and will grow stagnant, if we don't fill these open spaces. The next page shows all 14 committees and our needs on them. We currently only have 4 committees that are fully staffed and operating, three that are only partially staffed (with generally only a Chairman), and five committees that have no Chairman or staff at all. All of you have heard the saying "Many hands make light work". It is extremely true for these committees. None of these require a lot of time, but the work is important.

I want to thank all of you for being members of the Nebraska SAR!

I realize that some of you do not live in Nebraska, and that makes it nearly impossible to be as involved as you might want to be. I hope this newsletter, as well as our other communications and information items we produce, show you what your dues are going towards for our outreach in our communities.

I also realize that the SAR is not our sole thing in life and that we all have very busy lives outside of our membership in this Society, whether it is your job, your kids and their activities, or other organizations you are a part of. Nobody is asking you to be the next John Adams and work on 26 different committees, as he did in the Continental Congress, but my hope is that you will want to work on at least one of them and do your part to help.

All of the committees are listed on the next page. Please look through them and see if you can help. If you find yourself looking at a particular committee to work on, and want to know more about the responsibilities of said committee, you can find our Committee Procedural Manual at our website here: https://www.nessar.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/NESSAR-Procedures-Manual-16_FINAL.pdf

Once again, Compatriots...WE NEED YOU!

I hope we can continue to grow the Nebraska SAR, across the State, with your help!

Paul H. Burright 1st Vice President—Nebraska SAR

Service to the Nebraska SAR

The only way we can continue to grow is to ensure these committees listed below are staffed and working.

1. Constitution & Bylaws – Chaired by the 1st VP. Committee members currently are Paul Burright (Chair), Mark Byars, John Reinert, David Ensign, and Richard Hulse. This committee is fully staffed.

2. Membership – Chaired by the Registrar. Committee members are Mark Byars (Chair) and Paul Burright. <u>We need 1 more member.</u>

3. Budget and Finance – Chaired by the Treasurer. Committee members are: Bill Webb (Chair), <u>2 open member positions.</u>

4. Audit Committee – Chaired by 2nd VP. Committee members are currently: Jim Hoke (Chair), <u>2 open member positions.</u>

5. Publicity – Chaired by Secretary. Committee members are currently: Dale Wostrel (Chair), Paul Burright and Bill Webb. **This committee is fully staffed.**

6. First Responders – Chairman is by appointment. Committee positions are currently unfilled. <u>We need a Chair and 2 more members.</u>

7. Eagle Scout – Chairman is by appointment. Committee positions are currently unfilled. <u>We need a Chair and 2 more members.</u>

8. ROTC/JROTC – Chairman is by appointment. Committee positions are currently unfilled. We need a Chair and 2 more members.

9. Flag – Chairman is by appointment. Committee positions are currently unfilled. <u>We need a Chair and 2 more members.</u>

10. Color Guard – Chairman is by appointment. Committee members are Paul Burright (State Commander/Chair) and rest of the Color Guard membership. This committee is fully staffed.

11. Medals and Awards – Chairman is by appointment. Committee positions are currently unfilled. <u>We need a Chair and 2 more members.</u>

12. History – Chairman is the State Historian. Committee members are John Reinert (Chair) and Paul Burright (Omaha Chapter Historian). This committee is fully staffed.

13. Americanism—Chairman is by appointment. Committee members are Paul Burright (Chair), <u>2 open member positions.</u>

14. Nominating – This committee is currently inactive. It will be activated in the Spring of 2025 for the next society election cycle.



Color Guard Nebraska SAR

Saturday, May 25, 2024—Omaha, NE

The Color Guard marched in the 4th Annual Patriotic Productions Memorial Day Parade in Downtown Omaha. Mustering for this event was Commander Paul Burright, Jim Sly, Mark Byars, Allyn Sheldon, Andrew Sullivan, and Chad Callenius. We would also like to thank Omaha members Andrew Nehls and Dallas Burright for walking with us and carrying our new banner and waving to the crowd as we marched. It really helped us to be able to utilize all the color guard members and give a more robust flag and musket line for the event.



Thursday, June 6, 2024—Omaha, NE

The Color Guard posted the colors at a luncheon, organized by the Omaha Chapter DAR, for Vietnam Veterans. The DAR has been working with Victory Apartments, to help ensure veterans have adequate housing, and the day was set up like a welcoming home from an Honor Flight. The morning of June 6, the new State Vietnam Veterans Memorial was unveiled in Papillion, NE, and afterward, the DAR bussed the veterans to a clubhouse in Bellevue, where the luncheon and recognition ceremony took place. After lunch, they were bussed back to Victory Apartments where a welcoming committee was waiting for their arrival. It was a great day to support the DAR and honor our Vietnam Veterans! Mustering for this event was Commander Paul Burright, Mark Byars, Ron Stites, and Allyn Sheldon.





Color Guard Nebraska SAR

Saturday, June 8, 2024-Des Moines, IA

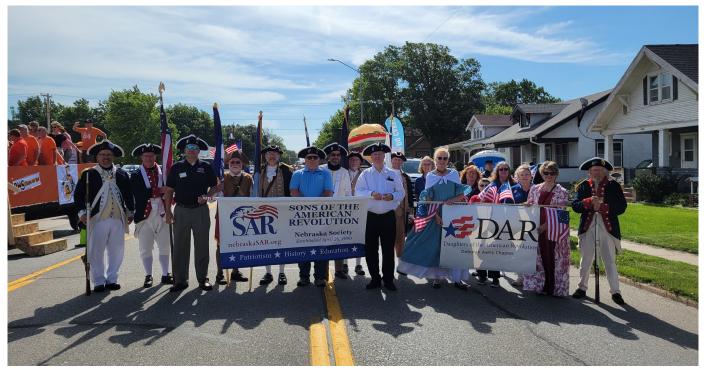
On June 8, Commander Paul Burright, Mark Byars, Ron Stites, and Allyn Sheldon traveled to Woodland Cemetery in Des Moines, IA to join VPG Chris Moberg from Minnesota SAR, and members of the Iowa SAR to participate in the ceremony to dedicate another America 250 Marker that was being placed in the historic cemetery by the Iowa DAR. This marks the 8th America 250 marker that members of our Color Guard have participated in dedicating in Nebras-ka and Iowa in the past couple of years.







On Saturday, June 22, 2024, the Nebraska SAR Color Guard, along with members of the Nebraska DAR and the Nebraska Rangers, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, marched in the Beatrice, NE Homestead Days Parade. This was the first year that we have marched in this parade, and it was part of a greater day of events in Beatrice, which included 2 separate grave marking ceremonies in the afternoon. It was fantastic to get out of our normal bubble of the Omaha/Lincoln metro areas and do some events in other parts of the State. Special thanks to Omaha Chapter Treasurer Andrew Nehls, Omaha Chapter Member Mel Burright, and Lincoln Chapter President, and State Historian John Reinert for participating and helping to carry our banner in the parade. Also special thanks to Kansas SAR Color Guard members, Commander Bill Marshall, Brian Vazquez, and Patrick Crawford for joining us on this day of events, as well as VPG Chris Moberg, attending from Minnesota! We hope to be able to contribute to the Beatrice community again in the future.









Color Guard Nebraska SAR

On Saturday, June 22, 2024, the Nebraska SAR Color Guard participated in a rededication ceremony for the Nebraska DAR, at the gravesite of Lucy Wills Tibbets, a Real Daughter buried in Beatrice Cemetery in Beatrice, NE. This was part of a day full of events for the SAR and DAR in Beatrice. Lucy Wills Tibbets was a member of the Elizabeth Montague Chapter of the NE DAR, and she was the daughter of Revolutionary War Veteran, James Wills, who served in regiments of both Rhode Island and Massachusetts during the war. Her grave was originally dedicated by the DAR nearly 100 years ago, on July 4, 1926. We were once again honored to participate and assist the NE DAR and be a part of this ceremony to honor a Real Daughter of the Revolution!







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, Dale Wostrel at dwostrel43@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, Mark Byars.

Contact information for Compatriot Byars:

Mark A. Byars 5519 N. 156th St. Omaha, NE 68116 Email: markabyars@gmail.com

3rd Quarter 2024 Meetings and Events

Thursday, Jul 4—Independence Day!

Thursday, Jul 4—Independence Day Parade, 11:00am, Downtown Ralston, NE

Wed-Tues, Jul 10-16—134th Annual Congress Lancaster, PA

Saturday, Aug 3—3rd Annual Omaha Chapter Picnic, 11:00am, Chalco Hills Recreation Area, Omaha, NE

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

Saturday, Aug 17—Liberty Tree Dedication/Parade, Hastings, NE

Saturday, Sep 7—Lincoln Chapter Meeting, 11:00am, Gere Branch Library, Lincoln, NE

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

Saturday, Sep 14—BOM Meeting, Location and time, TBD

Tuesday, Sept 17—Liberty Tree Dedication and Constitution Day Celebration, North Platte, NE

Sunday, Sep 22—Spring State Meeting, 2pm, Mahoney State Park, Ashland, NE

Social Media and Online Presence



Nebraska SAR is online! Visit the Nebraska SAR website at www.nebraskasar.org. Nebraska SAR Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NebraskaSocietySAR

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

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