

**Constitution of the Nebraska Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
and By-laws**

**Omaha, February 10, 2010 – David K. Kentsmith, MD Chair NE SAR Committee to
Revise the Constitution and By-laws**

Article I. – Name

The name of this Society shall be the Nebraska Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Article II. – Objectives

The objectives of this Society shall be to perpetuate the memory of the men who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people; to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants; to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers; to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution; to acquire and preserve the records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as documents and relics; to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to carry out the purposes expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution of our Country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

Article III. – Membership

Any man shall be eligible to membership in this Society, who, being of the age of twenty-one years or over, and a citizen of good repute in the community, is the lineal descendant of an ancestor, as a volunteer soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman or minuteman in the armed forces of the Continental Congress who was at all times unflinching in his loyalty to and rendered actual service in the cause of American Independence, either as an officer, of the Continental Congress or of any one of the several Colonies or States: or as a signer of the Declaration of Independence; or as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence; or as a member of any Continental, Provincial, or Colonial Congress or Legislature; or as a civil officer, either of one of the Colonies or States or of the National Government; or as a recognized patriot who performed actual civil service or by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain is deemed acceptable when adequate proof is provided.

Article IV. – Officers

Section I. The officers of the State Society shall be President, a Senior Vice-President and a Junior Vice-President. The President shall have been President of a State Chapter who has



completed his two year term at the chapter level. The Senior Vice-president shall be the current president of the other chapter(s) than the current State President. The Junior Vice-President shall be the current President of the State Chapter where the State President had served. Other officers will be a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, and a Board of Counselors consisting of the above mentioned officers and the Vice-presidents of the Chapters. These officers to serve as State officers should be elected upon ballot by simple majority of a quorum of members present at the annual Spring State meeting of the Society. State officers and Board of Counselors members shall hold office for two years or until their successors shall be elected. State Officers shall take office at the Annual State Spring meeting immediately following their election.

Section II. Nominations for Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and two nominees (delegate and alternate) as National Delegates to the National SAR Congress shall be by a committee of members appointed by the State President and evenly distributed between State Chapters. Elections for two year terms of office for State officers shall be held in an even numbered year at the spring State meeting. Chapter elections of Officers will be held in the fall of the year just before the even numbered year when State Officers are elected. Chapter Officers shall serve 2 year terms and take office in January.

Article V. – Meetings.

The Society shall hold two State wide meetings each year for the transaction of business. One in the spring and one in the fall at such time and place in Nebraska as may be determined by the Society at its meeting or by the Board of Counselors to insure wide attendance and minimize travel distance. The meetings shall be chaired by the State President or Sr. Vice-President in his absence. An announcement of the meeting place, time and purpose of the meeting with agenda will be published at least 3 weeks before the meeting. Meetings will be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order. A quorum for purposes of voting or conducting business at a meeting will consist of 7 members in good standing 3 of which must be members of the Board of Counselors.

Special meetings may be called by the State President or by a majority of the Board of Counselors in his absence for the purpose of celebrating historical events of the American Revolution, and for other patriotic purposes, and for the transaction of necessary business that cannot be postponed until the spring or fall State wide meetings.

Article VI. – Amendments.

This Constitution and any By-laws may be amended or repealed by a formal action of members directing the State President through a resolution passed by a simple majority of members to appoint a committee to review and revise them. The committee once appointed will accept and review all written proposals from voting members to revise or amend the State Constitution and or By-laws and propose to the membership said amendments for approval by a majority of the

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members present at any State meeting of the Society where a quorum is present. Such amendments or proposed changes must be provided in writing by e-mail or US mail to each member of the Society in advance at least thirty days before such action is to be taken.

BY-LAWS

1. MEMBERSHIP:

Section A - Methods

Active membership in the Nebraska Society, Sons of the American Revolution, may be secured by any of four methods: 1. By original application on the forms, and subject to the conditions set forth thereon, as supplied by the National Society; 2. By reinstatement, after resigning from, or having been dropped by this Society; 3. By transfer from another State Society or from the Children of the American Revolution, in the form and subject to the conditions set forth, by the National Society; 4. By dual membership, namely, by a member of another State Society, in good standing, who desires to hold membership in two or more State Societies at the same time.

Section B - Original Applications

Applications for membership in this Society, from applicants, who have not previously been affiliated with the National Society, shall file their applications on blanks (preferably electronic forms) prescribed by the National Society and furnished by the State Society. Such applications shall be duly acknowledged, printed on Watermarked paper and shall bear the endorsement of at least two members of this Society and shall be accompanied by proofs which clearly show the direct blood line of relationship from the applicant to the Patriot.

Section C - Reinstatement

A former member of this Society, desiring reinstatement, shall so request in writing.

Section D - Transfer

A member of another State Society, SAR, in good standing, who desires to surrender such membership and become a member of this Society, may be demitted from the original State Society, on a form provided by the National Society, and such demit, properly executed and accompanied by a copy of his original application, shall constitute his application for membership in this Society. In like manner, a member of the Children of the American Revolution, having attained the age of 18, may be transferred to membership in this Society by furnishing a copy of his original application and evidence that he is in good standing.

Section E- Dual Memberships

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A member of another State Society, SAR, in good standing who desires to become a member of this Society, while still retaining his original membership, may be admitted to this Society by furnishing a copy of his original application and evidence that he is in good standing. There shall be no fee for affiliation other than a collection of all annual dues (National, State and Chapter) for the current calendar year.

Section F - Acceptance

Upon receipt of any application in any of the forms above set forth, accompanied by the payment of the admission charges and dues, the secretary of this Society shall present the name, in proper form, to the Board of Counselors. The Secretary will inform the Board of the candidates desire to affiliate with a Chapter or in circumstances that the applicant wishes to be **A Member At Large** and the reason(s) why an exception is requested. If a simple majority of the Board of Counselors approves the application, the Secretary shall so certify, filing one copy of the application with the Registrar of this Society and submitting one copy to the Registrar General of the National Society.

A new applicant shall not be deemed elected to membership until the Registrar General shall have notified the Secretary of his approval of the application, and of the National number assigned to the new member. Upon such notification, the applicant becomes a member of both the State and the National Societies, his membership dating from the approval of his application by the State Board of Counselors. Each newly admitted member of the Society shall be issued, by the National Society, a certificate of membership with the official seal, the signatures of the National and State Officers, his own name and the name of his Revolutionary ancestor printed thereon. If at any time any of the essential statements given in a member's application papers are found to be untrue, then shall the said member's election be declared null and void. Any applicant, failing of admission, shall be so notified by the Secretary, and the amount of his admission charge less a small administrative cost shall be refunded.

Section G - Resignation, Demission, Removal

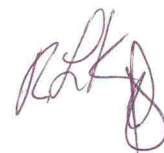
Resignation from membership in this Society may be granted upon written request. A demit may be granted to any member in good standing for the purpose of joining another State Society. Any member may be removed from membership in this Society for cause, by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board of Counselors. Any member delinquent in payment of his dues shall cease to be in good standing and shall be deprived of the privileges of membership.

Section H - Admission Fees

The payment of regular admission fee shall accompany all new applications. The fee shall consist of a National application fee, a State application fee, National dues, and State and Chapter dues. All National, State and Chapter fees will be for the year in which the applicant is accepted by the National Society.

2. DUES

A. The annual dues of this Society shall be published yearly in the minutes of the spring State meeting and shall include annual State and Chapter dues and the amount of dues set by the National Society payable by the State Society to the National Society. National Society annual



dues shall be remitted to the Treasurer General not later than January 20th of the year for which dues are being paid.

B. On October 1st of each year the **State Secretary** shall forward to each member of the NESSAR a dues notice for Chapter, State Society and National Society (except SAR Life Members will not be assessed National dues) for the following year. Dues shall be payable on October 1st of each year and shall become delinquent if not paid by December 31st of each year.

C. Dues shall be payable on October 1st of each year and shall become delinquent if not paid by December 31st of each year. Dues for NESSAR members not affiliated with a chapter will be collected by the State Treasurer on the same schedule as chapter dues collections. On or before December 31st of each year, the Chapter Secretary or Treasurer shall file with the Nebraska State Secretary the Annual Chapter Report, along with a current chapter membership roster and a check, payable to "NESSAR" for the State and National Dues as outlined in paragraph one.

3. **LIFE MEMBER**

The payment at one time of an amount determined by the State society by or for a member in good standing shall constitute a life member, exempt from payment of annual State dues thereafter.

4. **CHANGE IN STATE RESIDENCE**

Whenever a member in good standing changes his residence to the jurisdiction of another State Society, he shall be entitled, if he so elects, to a certificate of honorable demission, in order that he may be transferred to said Society; provided that no such certificate shall be given unless all dues and fees are paid, and said membership in this Society shall not cease until membership in the other society be established.

5. **FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP**

Any member failing to pay his annual dues shall forfeit his membership upon vote to that effect by the Board of Counselors. A member so dropped may be re-instated by the Board of Counselors upon payment of all annual dues for the current calendar year. Any member may be removed from membership in this Society for cause, by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board of Counselors. For causes set forth in the Constitution of the National Society and for like reasons, the Board of Counselors may, and at its discretion by a majority vote, remit the annual dues of any member.

6. **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

It shall be the duty of every member to inform the Secretary, by written communication, of his place of residence, and of any change thereof, and of his post office address, his e-mail address and telephone number.

Service of any notice under the Constitution, or under these By-Laws upon any member of the Society, addressed to him at the last recorded place of residence or post office address, and forwarded by mail shall be deemed sufficient service of such notice. E-mail or other forms of

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electronic communication if available may be used unless a member specifically request all communication be through the US Postal Service.

7. OFFICER DUTIES

A. PRESIDENT

The President, or in his absence a Vice-President provides overall leadership to the Society in implementing the programs that fulfill the purposes of the Society in accordance with the policies and guidelines in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Nebraska Society. The President is responsible for the conduct of the administration of the Society in accordance with the guidelines established by the Nebraska Society. He shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Counselors, and shall exercise the usual functions of a presiding officer, and shall have a casting vote. He shall be the executive head of the Society and shall enforce a strict observance of the Constitution, By-Laws and any rules of the Society and the Board of Counselors.

B. SECRETARY

The Secretary shall keep the minutes, record, and conduct the correspondence of the Society and the Board of Counselors. He shall distribute copies of the minutes of each meeting of the Society and Board of Counselors to each officer and past president of the Nebraska Society and each chapter president within 30 days of the meeting. He, together with the presiding officer, shall certify all acts of the Society. He shall under the direction of the President or Vice-President, give due notice of the time and place of all meetings of the Society, and attend the same. He shall keep fair and accurate records of all the proceedings and orders of the Society. He shall give notice to the officers and members of all votes, orders, resolves and proceedings of the Society, affecting them or appertaining to their respective duties, and he shall forward to the officers of the National Society such reports and information as may be required by them. He shall keep a correct list of the names, addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers of all members in good standing. He shall report to the Society at the Spring State Meeting.

In like manner he shall act as Secretary of the Board of Counselors, reporting to them whenever called upon.

He shall give such bond as the Board of Counselors may require, and on the election of his successor he shall turn over to him, within ten days, all books, papers and property of the Society in his possession.

A member of the Society may be appointed to assist the Secretary in the performance of his duties.

C. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall collect any and all fees, dues and other funds of the Society. Deposits should be made during the same week. As well they should be made in the name of the Society, and in a bank as designated by the Board of Counselors. Withdrawals should be only for payments properly supported by vouchers, and for the purpose of the Society. He shall keep a



ledger or computer generated accounting to contain the accounts of the Society with its members; a cash account and a receipt book, in which to keep the Treasurer's receipts. He shall keep a true account of his receipts and disbursements and at each Annual, and Board of Counselors meeting render an accounting of his records. The Treasurer shall furnish from time to time such information relative to the funds of the Society, as the officers may require. A member of the Society may be appointed to assist the Treasurer in the performance of his duties.

D. REGISTRAR

The Registrar shall receive all applications for membership and proofs of eligibility, of all applicants and shall assist in perfecting and completing the same. When the applications are satisfactory to him he will note his approval thereon and refer them to the Board of Counselors for final action. If the applicant is accepted by the Board of Counselors, the Registrar will forward the applications and fees to the Registrar General of the National Society, and file a copy with the accompanying proofs in his own office. He shall keep copies of such similar documents as the owners thereof may not be willing to leave permanently in the keeping of the Society. Upon approval from NSSAR he will obtain the signature of the President and Secretary and shall issue certificates of membership to the Chapters for members entitled thereto. He shall have the custody of all the historical, geographical and genealogical papers, books, manuscripts and relics of which the Society may become possessed, and shall keep an official record of same. He shall keep a register of the names and dates of admission, transfer, resignation and death of members and at each Annual Meeting shall report to the Society the numbers for the past year. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Society or Board of Counselors.

A member of the Society may be appointed to assist the Registrar in the performance of his duties.

E. HISTORIAN

If a Historian is nominated and elected, he shall maintain a running history of the Nebraska Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and do such historical research as may be assigned to him from time to time by the President or by the Board of Counselors.

8. BOARD OF COUNSELORS

A. The Board of Counselors shall recommend plans for promoting the objects of the Society and shall authorize the disbursement and expenditure of un-appropriated money in the treasury for the payment of current expenses of the Society. In general they shall watch over the interest of the Society, suggesting from time to time such measures as they deem conducive to its prosperity, and shall report to the Society at the annual meeting.

B. They shall have power to fill any vacancy occurring or existing in the Society or Board of Counselors, and an officer so appointed shall act until the following annual election, or until his successor shall be chosen.

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C. The Board of Counselors shall judge the eligibility of applicants for membership in the Society, and elect them if deemed worthy, two negative votes being necessary for a rejection. Each member of the board shall be notified by the secretary of all proposed elections to membership and may send his vote thereon in writing to the Secretary by e-mail.

D. They shall be competent to consent to and to accept the resignation or voluntary withdrawal from membership or transfer of any enrolled member of the Society.

E. They shall have power to suspend or expel any member of the Society for sufficient cause, by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Society for sufficient cause, by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board present at any regular or special meeting; provided, that at least two weeks' notice of such proposed action shall have been given to such member by notice mailed to him at his last known address. A member so suspended or expelled shall have the right of appeal to the Society as a whole in a State Meeting from the action of the Board of Counselors.

F. The Board of Counselors shall meet at the call of the President, or upon the written request of any three members of the Board. The meeting may be held by e-mail or other electronic methods. Three members of the Board shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. The President shall, at least one month before the annual spring meeting of the Society appoint an Auditing Committee of three members of the Board of Counselors, who shall examine and audit the books and accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary, and report thereon at said annual meeting.

G. The Board of Counselors shall supervise all publications issued in the name of the Society. They shall also perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Constitution or By-Laws, or required by any resolve or standing regulation of the Society.

H. The receipts each year from annual dues shall be devoted by the Board of Counselors to the objects and no other viz:

1. Payment of the annual dues to the National Society.
2. Payment of current expenses.
3. Publication of such documents as may be deemed advisable.
4. Payment of such special expenses as may be authorized by the vote of two-thirds of the Board of Counselors.

All receipts from life membership shall be set aside and invested under the direction of the Board of Counselors as a permanent fund, of which only the income may be used for payment of ordinary expenses.

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9. At all meetings of this Society, the following order of business shall be observed, viz:

1. President's Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Calling roll of Officers
4. Introduction of new members and guests
5. Reading minutes of last meeting
6. Presentation of Awards
7. Officers' reports
 - President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Registrar
 - Board of Counselors
 - Other official reports
8. Committee reports
9. Unfinished business
10. Election and installation of Officers and Board of Counselors (to be held in the spring State meeting of even numbered years).
11. New business and correspondence
12. Introduction of the speaker or program
13. President's remarks and thanks for program
14. Motion to adjourn
15. Adjournment

10. The ayes and nays shall be called at any meeting of the Society or upon the demand of five (5) members.

11. No question involving the party politics of the day within the United States shall ever be discussed or considered in any meeting of the Society.

12. Ten or more members of this Society, resident in any county or locality in this state, as may be approved by the Board of Counselors, may form themselves into a Chapter to be called by such name as said members may assume. A charter may be granted to such Chapter by the Board of Counselors, of such form as the Board may provide, upon the application made in writing by ten or more members of the Society, stating the name to be assumed, the location and the names and residences of its proposed members. Such Chapter will enact such By-Laws and Regulations as will not conflict with the rules and requirements of the National Society or of this Society its Constitution or By-laws, and it may be required to pay a per capita tax to this Society. If the application to form a new Chapter is approved by the Board Of Counselors it shall direct the preparation of a charter and shall arrange for it to be presented with a proper ceremony.

No person may be admitted to such Chapter unless he be a member in good standing of this Society. If any member of such Chapter should cease to be a member of the Nebraska Society his membership in the Chapter shall cease.



Local Chapters shall be known as The _____ Chapter of the Nebraska Society of Sons of the American Revolution, No. _____

13. The Seal of this Society shall be the same as the Seal of The National Society, Sons of the American Revolution, except that "Nebraska" shall be substituted for "National" and for "April 30, 1889" there shall be substituted the date of the organization of the Nebraska Society, to wit: "April 26, 1890".

14. These By-Laws may be altered, amended or repealed in the manner hereinbefore provided for changing the Constitution of this Society.

To Members of the Nebraska Society S. A. R.:

The foregoing Constitution and By-Laws were presented to the Society at a Meeting held this date 20 March 2010 by the Committee appointed by the State President Robert Knott under a resolution of both the Lincoln and Omaha chapters of the Nebraska SAR to revise the Society's Constitution and By-Laws.

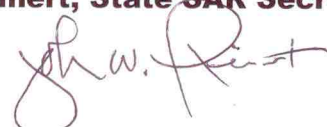
Committee Members: David K. Kentsmith, MD Chairperson, Omaha Chapter
Merle Rudebusch, Member – Lincoln Chapter
Fred Walden, Member – Omaha Chapter
John Reinert, Member – Lincoln Chapter
John Parsons, Member – Omaha Chapter
Virgil Deethardt, Member – Lincoln Chapter
Robert Knott, President NE SAR ex - officio
Thomas Masters, Registrar NE SAR ex-officio
LaVern Stetson, President Lincoln Chapter – ex-officio
Thomas Conley, 1st Vice President Omaha Chapter – ex-officio
William Webb, 2nd Vice President Omaha Chapter –ex-officio

DKK

This Revised Constitution and By-Laws were approved by a vote of the State Members at the Spring State SAR meeting 20 March 2010

John Reinert, State SAR Secretary.

Date 20 March 2010



Robert Knott, President NE SAR

Date 20 Mar 2010

