



# KNOW YOUR ROOTS

*Mary Durland, Author/Researcher*

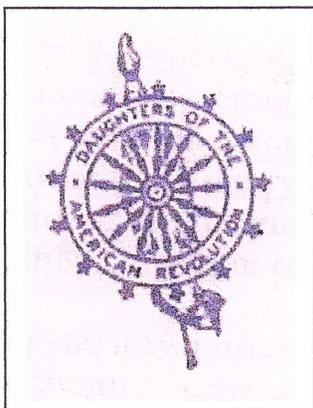
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## HERITAGE ORGANIZATIONS

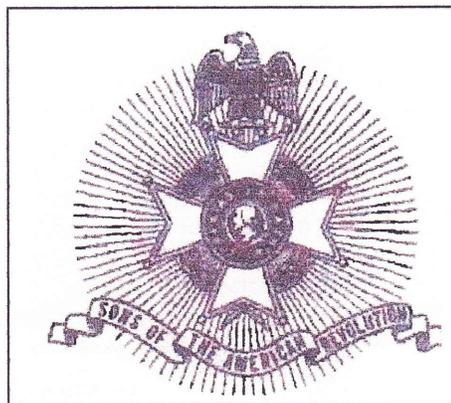
I thought it might be fun for all of you to know what national organizations you are eligible for. I'm sure there are many more than the ones I am going to mention but the following are the obvious in our family. Each one I refer to has its own mission and interests but specifically each one involves history of our country. With each of the following one has to prove to be a descendant of Harry Elson Durland and/or Elvera Ann Schueneman to qualify.



Probably the most famous one for the women is the DAR, better known as the DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. The requirements for membership are quite exclusive. Anyone who wishes to join must have proof of an ancestor who served in the Revolution. I am happy to report that we have several in our background who qualify us for membership. At one time I joined with our ancestor William Dorland, but did not continue with several others who make us eligible.

Historically the DAR was incorporated by an Act of Congress in 1896 and there are over 3,000 chapters in the fifty states and some even in foreign countries. It is very active in preserving the ideals of the Revolution and maintains its three objectives: Historic Preservation, Promotion of Education, and Patriotic Endeavor.

Its counterpart for men is the SAR, or SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, which is the foremost patriotic society corresponding to the DAR. Its mission is to aim for patriotism through American citizenship and to maintain the respect for our national symbols. It is also a "lineage" society so one must trace his ancestry back to the years 1774-1783. One thing that is especially commendable is the cataloging and marking of the Revolutionary War patriot graves. Plus it is very much involved with offering scholarships to Eagle Scouts with the Boy Scouts of America program. One can find many past Presidents and other notables as SAR members. I was particularly impressed with its CAR, or CHILDREN



OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION participation. More information can be found on the internet, and my records are available for anyone who needs proof to join or who wants more information.

Only the descendants of Harry Elson Durland may qualify for the two patriotic societies I just outlined but perhaps the following two historical societies would be of interest to those related to Elvera Ann Schueneman. The Chicago Genealogical Society issues an ancestor certification to direct descendants of early residents of Chicago, and for those of you who are descendent from Johann Heinrich Schuenemann, that is an easy thing to prove.



His son, Lambert John Schueneman was born in Chicago in 1850 and that makes all of you eligible for the PIONEER Certificate which requires an ancestor who settled in Chicago from the city's founding, from 1833 to 1871. (After 1871 a descendant is only eligible for a REBUILDER certificate.) The purpose of the certificate is to preserve the history of the Chicago area. To receive it, one would need to prove only being descendent from the ancestor, and not residency. This would be easy for I have Lambert

John's baptismal certificate. The Society asks for an accounting of how your ancestor arrived. A birth is easy but if you want to, you could use his father Johann Heinrich and his mother who arrived in 1848 so, either way, everyone related to Elvera Ann (Nana) is qualified.

The other historical one is through the McHenry County Genealogical and Historical Society. This too is through Elvera Ann but from Charles Kuhnert. It's called the EARLY SETTLER Program and it was only started in 1985. It is issued to anyone who can prove that he/she is a direct descendant of a McHenry County resident between 1834 and 1880. In the book "History of McHenry County," published in 1885, it states that Charles Kuhnert was an old settler of McHenry County and arrived August 10, 1848. As you know, Charles Kuhnert was Elvera Ann's grandfather.

The four societies that I have mentioned, two very famous ones and two historical ones, are for both men and women. Each one has a price to join and each one has its merits, but the one that I publicly favor and have not referred to is THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF COLONIAL DAMES OF THE XVII CENTURY. I purposely excluded it because it is only for females. In order to be a member one has to be descended from one who came to our shores earlier than the Revolution. Yes, we have several and I have proved one of them, AZARIAH CRANE. It was his father, Jasper, who was the earliest. Azariah, along with his parents and their group, are really the ones who founded the philosophy of this country. I have discovered through my research that even today their contributions are part of our history.

*Webmaster & Technical Advisor: Jerry Larkin (Email: larkinstock@yahoo.com)*