

★ Hawaii Society Sons of the American Revolution ★

MARCH 2009

Hawaii Patriot

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Fall Meeting

Members and guests met at the Waikiki Elks Club Friday evening, November 21, 2008 for the Fall General Membership Meeting. Despite the threat of a major storm – flood warnings were posted for Thursday through Saturday – the deluge held off and all were able to drive home safely.

Highlights of the buffet dinner included:

- the welcoming of new member Compatriot Jack Schmidt
 - a presentation by Compatriot Alan McCullough on Revolutionary War Footnotes (including the three thieves of West Point)
 - Compatriot Jack Miller's report on the Hawaii Eagle Scholarship program
- or as was noted at the meeting, the evening's program was *Alan and a pair of Jacks*.



Welcome to Compatriot Jack Schmidt

Kailua resident Jack Schmidt was welcomed by Treasurer/Registrar Elbridge "E.W." Smith with the presentation of his SAR member label pin. His ancestor, Benjamin Pettingill, served from Massachusetts in Col. Michael Jackson's Regt. Compatriot Schmidt is retired from Hawaiian Airlines (flight captain).

Aloha and Welcome to New Members:
Compatriot Frank Graham Embree
Compatriot Jack Moulton Schmidt
Compatriot Dale Christopher Rielage

Hawaii Eagle Scout Scholarship Program

Eagle Program Committee Chair Jack Miller presented the Hawaii SAR program, explaining that Eagle Scouts are invited to apply annually for a \$250 scholarship from the Hawaii membership, and with that one winner being referred to the National Society for competition for a \$8000 National First Place scholarship winner. He explained that the application process includes an essay, a resume listing Scouting and community participation, and the preparation of a short genealogical chart.



Compatriot Miller displayed the Hawaii Society SAR trophy. He explained the deadline was December 15 for the submittal of material and encouraged Compatriot members to invite Eagles to apply for the scholarship. The Hawaii SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship application is on the Aloha Council site: www.alohacouncilbsa.org.

Photos from the Waikiki Elks Club buffet dinner:





Honors to the Flag

Flying our national Flag is a basic component of American character and flying encouragement by SAR Societies has long been one of our projects. Shown above is a recent honoree, the portal of the tunnel on the H-3 Freeway, where the Hawaii State Department of Transportation has maintained the Flag display. Not every public building or site has a Flag, and the Hawaii Society salutes the State DOT for its efforts.

You are invited to submit nominations for a Certificate from the Hawaii Society (preferably with a photo).



Great Seal Displayed at Fall Meeting

Compatriot Alan McCullough displayed both sides of the Great Seal at the recent Fall Dinner. It is the latest in a series of seals he has produced on granite with gold leaf. Although the seals can be made of other materials, these seals are intended for presentation, with a State of Hawaii seal having been presented to Lt. Governor Duke Aiona, a Honolulu City seal to Mayor Mufi Hannemann and the Great Seal intended for the centennial of a federal agency.



Revolutionary War Footnotes

Compatriot Alan McCullough reviewed *the Group of Three Thieves* as part of his presentation on Revolutionary War Footnotes. He highlighted little know events that had the potential to cause a major shift in the whole direction of the war:

- Successful withdraw of Washington's Long Island troops due to fog
 - Congressional appointment of an unknown 25-year old Lafayette as a Major General
 - Refusal of portions of units to fight (a mutiny) were overturned due to British attempts to recruit the mutineers
 - Three thieves interception of Major Andre – and the discovery of his papers by someone (John Anderson) who could read – which was also set up because Andre had lost track of time and the sun had come up
 - British raids from Detroit on Kentucky outposts – which were basically unopposed due to the overwhelming British and Indian joint forces – were ended by the British commander due to the cruelty of the Indians following the attacks
- Compatriot McCullough is planning on expanding and posting information in future newsletters.

2009 Calendar Events

- **Spring Meeting: Saturday, April 25 w/DAR**
 - **National SAR Congress: July 3-8 Atlanta**
 - **Pacific Regional Conference Hawaii: September 3-5 Waikiki luau / meeting**
(Norwegian interisland cruise September 5-12)
- Hawaii Society Board meetings are usually held every other month's 1st Friday noon.**
All are welcome. (April, June, August, October)

Reminder Annual Membership Report / Dues

Did you send in your annual dues? Our Annual Membership Report and payment of national dues is done in the first week for each year. If your dues weren't submitted, send your dues to:

Elbridge W. Smith

HISSAR Treasurer & Registrar

745 Fort St., Ste. 311, Honolulu 96813

Regular annual dues are \$45 and need to be sent to Compatriot EW Smith by December 31. Also important is to note your preferred address changes (if any) and, since we all try to do at least some of our communication by electronic means, include a current e-mail contact point.

Youth Programs: ROTC and Eagle Scouts

Your Hawaii SAR dues provide support to two youth groups, the ROTC (and JROTC) and Eagle Scout recognition programs. HISSAR awards are given to an outstanding cadet from each of the University of Hawaii Manoa Army and Air Force units, as well as to Hawaii high school units (Junior ROTC) – a total of 27 awards. Eagle Scouts participate in the Hawaii SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship program (currently funded for a \$250 annual award), as well as other recognitions.

The ROTC/JROTC units are combined under the chair of Compatriot Cameron Wahineokai, who is always seeking assistance in coordinating the presentation of the medals at each of the high school unit's recognition events. The schools bunch their end-of-school-year events in late April and the first week of May, covering the distance all the way from the Big Island to Kauai – and even possible events in Guam and Saipan. Compatriot Wahineokai usually received the dates of the presentations by end of March so if you have an interest please contact him. Several events are relatively short and immediately after school while some are along the lines of a formal dinner – a “dinning-in” mess.

The Hawaii Eagle Scout Scholarship program was described at the Fall meeting and the 2008 winner will be announced at the April 25th meeting. Compatriot Jack Miller (and Eagle Scout) serves as the Hawaii Society SAR Eagle Scholarship Chair; Compatriot Miller is also encouraging contact from those interested in assisting with this youth program.

New National Headquarters building and the Center for Advancing America's Heritage

Plans are proceeding to prepare our newly purchased historic downtown Louisville building for a move of our library records. Our books, genealogical records and headquarters operation are currently squeezed into a building near downtown. The new building is immediately across from the Louisville Slugger Museum, a site that will give us much expanded visibility, in addition to providing the needed space and allowing us to develop lesson plans and resources for our educational component.

President's Message

How do you thank those individuals who've put in much more than the original calling? Our SAR organization has many men who have made extraordinary commitments to our society – to start naming them is to slight many. Universal agreement would be reached with our Hawaii Society Compatriots (and former Hawaii Society Presidents) Roger Monsarrat and Ray Woodstock for their service, but we also would single out Compatriot Louis Torraca in recognition for his ten years tenure as Hawaii Society State President. Lou is now continuing his service in the position of National Trustee. Thank you to all of you; and thanks Lou.

--- *Elwin Spray, Hawaii Society President*

Hawaii Society Officers 2008-2009

Elwin Spray	<i>President</i>
Bill Settle	<i>Vice-President</i>
Alan McCullough	<i>Secretary/Alt. Nat. Trustee</i>
Elbridge W. Smith	<i>Treasurer/Registrar</i>
Lou Torraca	<i>National Trustee</i>
Jack Miller	<i>Director</i>
Cameron Wahineokai	<i>Director</i>
Ray Woostock	<i>Director</i>

National Events

The National SAR Congress is held yearly following the July 4th weekend and continuing for the next several days. National officers will be elected and policies will be set for the coming year. The Congress meeting also serves as a fellowship and educational experience, with a memorial service on Sunday and culminating with the installation of the President General at the Wednesday night dinner. Special programs, including events for spouses, are planned, as well as a genealogical workshop and city tour. This year's event will be in Atlanta, with future Congresses planned for Cleveland, North Carolina and Arizona (future dates are listed on the National Society website: www.sar.org).

- ✓ If you are traveling on the mainland, please consider include attending the Congress in your plans. Additionally, National Leadership meetings are held annually at the Louisville headquarters on the last weekend of September and the first weekend in March.