

The Hawaii Patriot

The Hawaii Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Inc. Winter, 2002 Jeffrey Bingham Mead, Editor
PATRIOTIC, HISTORICAL, AND EDUCATIONAL



“Eternal Vigilance is the Price of Liberty”

Ground-Zero NYC Flag to be Flown at 2002 Winter Olympics

The tattered American flag from New York City's ground zero will be carried into the opening ceremony of the Winter Games and flown beside the Olympic flame in Salt Lake City. The International Olympic Committee originally said that American athletes would not carry the flag, although plans were to raise it as the official U.S. flag at the ceremony.

“*Athletes and other heroes*” will carry the flag at Rice-Eccles Stadium Friday night. The flag will enter after the parade of athletes and before the national anthem. As host nation, the American anthem is played and the U.S. flag is raised over the ceremony, along with the Olympic flag.

The ground zero flag has waved over center field at the World Series, been honored at the Super Bowl and inspired millions since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The 12-foot-by-8-foot flag, which was the only American flag flying at the World Trade Center on the morning of Sept. 11, was buried for three days in the rubble. Rescuers who found it saw two large tears along its the red-and-white stripes and turned it over to a National Guard colonel for a ceremonial destruction. The colonel then gave the flag to the Port Authority Police Department.

Hawaii President's Message

I trust this finds you all well and safe as we embark on the second year of our new century.

I'd like, for a moment, to ask you to think about the word: "volunteer." The dictionary defines it as:
Function: *noun*. Etymology: obsolete French *voluntaire* (now *volontaire*), from *voluntaire*, adjective, voluntary, from Latin *voluntarius*. Date: circa 1618. 1 : a person who [voluntarily](#) undertakes or expresses a willingness to undertake a service: as a : one who enters into military service [voluntarily](#) b (1) : one who renders a service or takes part in a transaction while having no legal concern or interest (2) : one who receives a conveyance or transfer of property without giving valuable consideration.

The example given is one who enters into military service voluntarily, certainly an apt description of each of our Revolutionary ancestors. But what about today, in the 21st century? What is it that compels people to volunteer?

Naturally, there are those people who want to do something good for others. Some want to do something good for themselves - such as learn a new skill, get in shape, test out the possibility of a new career, build their resume, or meet new and interesting people. Some were recipients of volunteerism earlier in their lives and want to give back to others, to complete the circle of giving.

Most volunteer activities do NOT require specialized skills, so much as they require a positive attitude, a willingness to learn, a touch of creativity, a bit of flexibility, and the ability to find joy in helping others. Volunteer opportunities are there to fill an hour, or days, or weeks. It's up to you to find one that fits your time availability, and fulfills your interests. It's waiting there for you. Three quotes provide some additional insight:

"Put yourself in someone's shoes" is a common phrase. But it is not a common thing that we do everyday. We

are most of the time self-centered, especially in this modern, fast-paced life. It is only when we stop for a moment and give our time to others that we realize the true meaning of empathy. *"Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve."* *"First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do."*

I'm sure you all realize the point I'm trying to make, which is, we are an organization made up of members whose ancestors were ALL volunteers, so there should be no question as to our willingness to follow in their footsteps. There are many opportunities to volunteer for worthwhile causes in the community, but I would ask those of you who are able to consider volunteering for one of the activities the HISSAR is committed to. The offices of your Society are the President; Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer; Registrar; and Chaplain. We also have the following positions/committees: Historian, Newsletter Editor, Executive, Ethics and Nominating; ROTC/JROTC; Knight Essay; Medals and Awards; Membership; Eagle Scout; Publicity; Commemorative Events and Programs. None of these requires a lot of time. Rather, they take a few hours a month, and in some cases that is only once or twice a year. So I ask you all to please consider following in your ancestor's footsteps by becoming a volunteer...as it says above, *"Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve."*

Please contact me at luigi@hawaii.rr.com or phone, 254-3286 or contact any of your officers or committee chairs listed in this newsletter to see where you can help...don't hesitate...we need you to step forward, NOW.

Please send me your email address so you can be contacted in a timely manner about issues of interest regarding the HISSAR. Our annual joint SAR-DAR luncheon will be held the 23rd of February at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel and promises to be an outstanding event. I hope to see you all there.

Aloha and God Bless America,

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Louis Torraca, HISSAR President

HISSAR Historical

Events

100 Years Ago

The HISSAR Society suffered the loss of one of its most highly esteemed and patriotic members. Chief Justice Albert Francis Judd died at his home in Honolulu. He was one of the original founders and active promoters of the HISSAR Society. He twice served at its President.

75 Years Ago

The Sons and the Daughter of the American Revolution celebrated the 150th anniversary of the battle of Lexington at a reception at the home of former Governor George Carter, President of the HISSAR.

50 Years Ago

An article in the Advertiser Newspaper reported that a National SAR spokesman met with HISSAR members and stated there is always room for any patriotic society in an American community, and the need for them is felt more acutely now than ever before. These societies keep alive the spirit of true Americanism and are an effective means of frustrating subversive efforts directed against the welfare of the country.

25 Years Ago

Dr. Luther Beck, HISSAR President, in a letter to Dr. Ralph Bingham Cloward, HISSAR Secretary/Treasurer wrote that he was unable to continue his duties due to his illness in a hospital in Kwajalen Island. Later HISSAR held a business meeting at the Willows Restaurant.

The anniversary of the Fourth of July has been celebrated by the community with great enthusiasm. Although the Fourth is peculiarly an American day, yet the participation in the amusements of the occasion was so general, and so hearty, that no one could have had a cause to doubt that a great terrestrial jubilee had dawned.
Sandwich Islands Gazette
Saturday, July 7, 1838



The Battle of Lexington

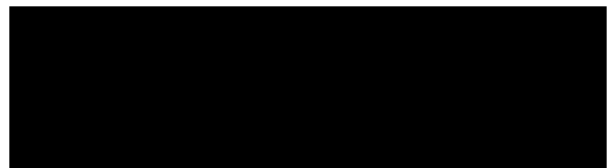
Membership

Membership Chairman Ray Woodstock reports that he has a list of twelve prospective new members. He urges that the prospective members complete their research. He offers help, and will enter draft data submitted to him into a computer to produce the completed application form for them to sign.

Current HISSAR members should consider urging their blood relatives of fathers, uncles, brothers, sons, and grandsons to become members of the SAR. Their membership would require very little effort, and they would be proud of their participation in community patriotic activities.

2002 Meeting Schedule

Jan 4; Feb 23 (joint luncheon with DAR)
March 1; May 3; July: no meeting due to National Congress; Aug 2; Oct 4; Nov 6: Fall Meeting;
Jan 3, 2003. Please post on your calendars and advise as soon as possible of any conflicts so we can decide if we need to reschedule meetings. Your presence is always welcomed!



In Memoriam.....



It is with sadness in our hearts that we report the passing of **ROBERT JOHN LAYSON**, 77, of Honolulu, who died Dec. 4, 2001. Robert was born in St. Joseph, Mo. He was a retired foreign service officer for the Department of State, as well as a U.S. Marine who served during World War II and the Korean War.

At the onset of the Second World War he voluntarily joined the Marine Corps. He completed basic training at the Marine Corps. Depot in San Diego, and combat training in Hawaii. Layson served in the Pacific Theatre in the First Defense Battalion, 5th Amphibious Corps and 5th 105 Howitzer BN where he participated in some of the bloodiest battles of the way, including Palmyra, Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands, Gilbert Islands, Tarawa and Okinawa.

He left the Marine Corps. in 1946 and returned to the St. Joseph, Kansas area. At the onset of the Korean War he was recalled to active duty and served until February 22, 1960, when he resigned from the Marine Corps and joined the American Foreign Service.

In addition to being a member of the national Chapter and Hawaii Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Robert was a descendant of the Eskridge family, who were some of the original settlers of the Jamestown Colony in Virginia. His Layson ancestors were pioneers of Harrison County, Missouri.

He is survived by wife, Eva, or 59 years; son, Robert; three grandchildren; two hanai grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and many friends in Hawaii, Asia, and the US mainland.



Officers and Directors: **HISSAR 2002**

The 2001 Officers of the Hawaii Society of the Sons of the American Revolution are as follows:

President	Lou Torraca
Vice-President	Bob Fraker
Secretary	Bill Settle
Treasurer	Elbridge W. Smith
Registrar	Ray Woodstock
Chaplain	Biff Yarbrough

The following individuals serve as directors:

Historian	Ray Woodstock
Newsletter Editor	Jeffrey Bingham Mead

The following are directors who also serve as committee chairman:

Executive, Ethics, and Nominating	Ray Woodstock John Williams Biff Yarbrough
ROTC/JROTC	John Williams
Knight Essay Contest	Elbridge W. Smith
Medals and Awards	Chip Higgins
Membership	John Williams
Eagle Scout Contest	Howard Andrus

The following director and committee chairman positions are vacant: [Publicity](#); [Commemorative Events](#); [Programs](#)

Please send us your email addresses to luigi@hawaii.rr.com.

The Hawaii Society, Sons of
the American Revolution
&
The Hawaii State Organization,
Daughters of the American
Revolution

Invite you to attend the Annual Joint
Luncheon



Saturday, February 23, 2002
Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, Oahu, Waialua
Rooms, (Ewa end second floor.)
1130-Registration, Noon
Flag Ceremony by the National Sojourners
Heroes of '76
12:15-Luncheon

Our Keynote Speaker will be Major General Craig B. Whelden who assumed duties as Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army, Pacific, 19 July 2000. Prior to his present assignment, he was the Commanding General, U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, Alexandria, Virginia. Major General Whelden was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Purdue University in 1973. He has served in command and staff assignments in CONUS and Germany in tank battalions, armor heavy brigades, a divisional cavalry squadron, and on divisional staff. Key assignments include Tank Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, and Battalion Maintenance Officer, 2-5 Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division; Tank Company Commander and Battalion S-3, 1-35 Armor, 1st Armored Division; Assignments Officer, Armor Branch, MILPERCEN; S-3, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, and S-3, 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division; and Chief of Doctrine/Literature, Armor/Cavalry Tactics Division,

Command and Staff Department, U.S. Armor School.

Soon after the World Trade Center and Pentagon incidents, the Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command appointed the Commander, U.S. Army, Pacific as the Joint Rear Area Coordinator for Hawaii, or JRAC-HI. In this position, the new JRAC-HI is responsible for ensuring the close coordination of Homeland Defense efforts with all the armed forces in Hawaii as well as with local, state and federal civilian agencies in defense of critical military resources and in its support to civil authorities. General Wheldon will talk about the U.S. Army, Pacific's role in this process.

A special awards program for both DAR & SAR will follow; guests are most welcome.

Please clip on the line above and return with your check for \$21 each.

NOTE: If there are a DAR and SAR wife/husband/guest, please submit 2 checks, one to each organization. (Our treasurers thank you!)

DAR Members/guests:
Hawaii State Organization NSDAR
Ms. Linda Claire Woodstock, Treasurer,
98-1412 Ka'onohi Street Aiea, HI 96701

SAR members/Guests: HISSAR
Col. Louis A. Torraca, President, 184 Aikahi Loop,
Kailua, HI 96734

Vegetarian Lunch Available. How many? ____

Names _____

_____ \$ _____

Parking is \$3.00 in the hotel garage with validation.

PLEASE NOTE
Reservations Close February 21.
No Shows Will Be Billed.