

★ Hawaii Society Sons of the American Revolution ★

SUMMER 2021

Hawaii Patriot

President's Message

Aloha Compatriots,

I am honored to have been elected as the President of this Society and ask for your support to work to transition to a more active posture now that the restrictions of the Pandemic appear to be on the way out. The Hawaii SSAR had at its founding just 18 members, and yet they established an organization that has continued to operate for 126 years now. We should strive to follow their example in these challenging times.

As a Compatriot of Hawaii SAR since 2010, I have served under several Presidents as Newsletter Editor, Cadet Awards Committee Chairman, Flag Committee Chairman, and vice President. I wish to acknowledge here the work of the last two State Presidents, Col. Ret. Rob Moore and COL M. Straus Scantlin for their leadership and example, and in sustaining our Society.

Each member of the Hawaii SAR experiences his membership differently, but what is most clear to me, is that serving in a leadership position provides one the distinct satisfaction of knowing that he has contributed to accomplishing the Society's mission.

Our mission:

To preserve and perpetuate the memory of those men and women whose service and sacrifice during the American Revolution secured independence for the American people and established the United States of America; to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants; inspire them and their communities with a more profound reverence for the principles of the representative government; to encourage historical research and the dissemination of knowledge about the American Revolution; maintain and expand the institutions of American freedom; promote the purposes expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the preamble of the Constitution; and to foster patriotism.

The first element of this mission is the perpetuation of the memory of our Patriot Ancestors, and this is where we can all make a contribution in researching the story of service of our Ancestors and contributing to their on-line biography in the Patriot Research System. In pursuit of this overall mission, our members are active in the local Community demonstrating their patriotism, love of American history, and encouraging others to so like-minded. Going forward, we need to determine how we will accomplish this mission, as we slowly return to normal conditions as the threat of the COVID pandemic slowly subsides.

A priority area of focus must be on recruiting and retention. Recruiting for hereditary societies is always more challenging than other civic organizations who do not grant membership based on ancestry. Nevertheless, we get inquiries every year from those who wish to join in part, because they wish to honor their ancestors. When we get such candidates, we must do all we can to assist them in the process of joining.



The Hawaiian Society enjoys the distinction of being the first society of the NSSAR to be formed in a foreign land, formed in the Republic of Hawaii, during the Presidency of Sanford Ballard Dole. The date of the founding of the Society, June 17th, was chosen to honor the anniversary of Bunker Hill.

Libertas et Patria!

Arthur N. Tulak

Hawaii Society Annual General Membership Meeting— 2021

The Hawaii Society conducted two meetings this year, the April 1st Executive Board Meeting, and the May 24 General Membership Meeting. VP Dan Curtis set up the General Membership meeting as a live/virtual event, with in-person attendance at the Buca di Beppo Restaurant in Waikiki, and others attending via ZOOM.

This meeting was a great success, with a total of 23 persons attending. In person, were Derek and Janet Brown, Dan and Liz Curtis, Bill Speed, Matt LoPresti, John T. Smith, Mike Smith, Elbridge Smith, Dan Martinez, Arthur Tulak, and special guests Dan Martinez, of the National Park Service (who serves as the Chief Historian at Pearl Harbor), and LTC Ret. Curtis A. "Manny" Manchester III. Manny is interested in joining to honor his Patriot Ancestor Private Phillip Doddridge, (A032763) who served under the command of Captain William Scott in the Washington County Militia in Pennsylvania.



On line over ZOOM, were Society President Rob Moore; Compatriots Matt Durham, Mike Smith, Tim Apicella, Elwin Spray, and Jack Miller and his daughter Laurie Laychek. Our special guests on-line were James Fosdyck (Vice President General, Western District), Charles Smith (Western District Secretary), Ms. Linda Miller and Ms. Pauline Wagon from the Hawaii Daughters of the American Revolution. At this meeting, the results of the election committee, led by VP Dan Curtis were announced, and affirmed by the general membership. The new officer slate is on the last page of this Newsletter.



From Left to Right: **Front Row:** Arthur Tulak, John Smith and wife ??; Liz and Dan Curtis, Matt LoPresti, Ms. Janet Brown, **Back Row:** Manny Manchester, Elbridge Smith, Dan Martinez, Derek Brown, and Bill Speed.

Compatriot News

Compatriot Matthew S. LoPresti, Ph.D.

Compatriot LTC Dan Curtis was awarded the SAR Meritorious Service Medal for his work as the Society Vice President.

Compatriot Arthur Tulak, COL, USA, (Ret), Was awarded the Silver Roger Sherman Medal (2nd Award) for his work as Vice President, Cadet Awards Chairman, Flag Committee Chairman, 250th Committee Chairman, and Newsletter Editor. He was also recognized by the Hawaii State Senate with a certificate for his work as the Vice Chairman of the Committee that restored the Naval Air Station Barbers Point Memorial at the bast of the Air Control Toer of the former Navy airfield.

Compatriot Elbridge Smith.

Compatriot Mike Smith

Compatriot Rob Moore

Compatriot Straus Scantlin

Compatriot Chris Tourtellot

Is your news MIA?

Send your news to the Editor, and share your stories with fellow Compatriots!!

Hawaii Society Sons of the American Revolution Member Number One

By

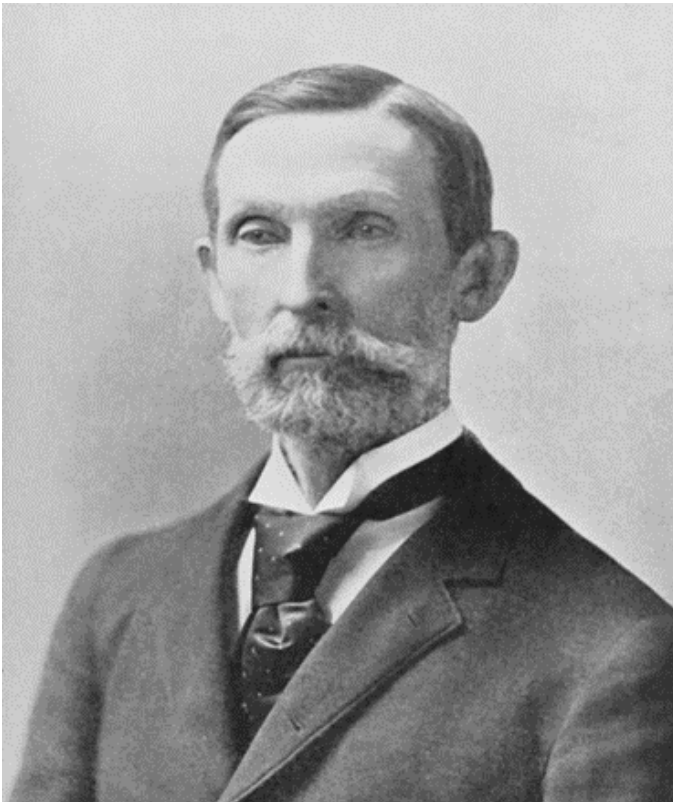
Dr. Michael Smith DM., MGySgt USMC ret.

Rabbit holes. Sometimes when you are doing research, more questions arise than you had going in. History starts with firsts. Who were the first members of our Hawaii Society Sons of the American Revolution? Hawaii was the last state added to our country; how far back does our history go? Hawaii Society records indicate that Member Number One was William De Witt Alexander; admitted in 1895. Initially this was a shallow rabbit hole; little more was known. With the help of on-line research William De Witt Alexander's original Sons of the American Revolution application was located. It turns out that William Alexander, 62 years old at the time, was admitted on June 17, 1895. Long before Hawaii was a state. Alexander was the great grandson of Patriot Colonel William Chambers of Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Colonel Chambers served in the 1st Regiment of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, fighting in the battles of Trenton and Princeton.

The 1st Pennsylvania Regiment, also known as the first Continental Line, was created for service in the Continental Army in June 1775. According to some reports, these were remarkably stout and hardy men many of them exceeding 6 feet in height. They wore white frocks or rifle shirts with round black hats trimmed white and adorned with feather while the officers wore green coats with red facing and similar caps. These men were remarkable with the accuracy of their aim striking a mark with great certainty at 200 yards distance. During a company review, while in quick advance, they fired their muskets into objects of seven inches diameter at a distance

of 250 yards. The accuracy of their shots frequently proved fatal to British officers and soldiers who expose themselves at more than double the distance of common musket shot.

William DeWitt Alexander had every right to be proud of his Great Grandfather. Continuing his proud lineage, William himself was a most remarkable individual. Born on April 2, 1833, the eldest son of Mary Ann McKinney and William Paterson Alexander. His missionary parents travelled, on a whaler, to the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1831 from New Bedford, Massachusetts. On the whaler, in company with eight other missionary couples, they made their way to the Pacific. In each case, bride and bridegroom were practically strangers to each other, for neither couple had even met each other until a few weeks before embarking on their missionary service. Not only was it a long and perilous journey, but it was a personal journey of life-long association in unfamiliar lands, so very far from family and friends.



William De Witt Alexander

His father, William P. Alexander, was chiefly associated with missionary work on Waioli (Kauai), Wailuku and Lahainaluna (Maui) and with the Marquesas Islands, to which he travelled several times. William P. Alexander spent the rest of his life in the Islands; contributing much to the growth and culture of the communities in which he and his family lived and worked.

William DeWitt Alexander graduated from Punahou School (President Obama's Alma Mater) in 1849 and traveled to New England to enroll at Yale. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale in 1855 and a Master of Arts in 1858. He returned to Hawaii and joined the faculty at Punahou School. In 1861, he married Abigail Charlotte Baldwin the daughter of Dwight Baldwin.

William DeWitt Alexander taught at Punahou for many years and became the 4th president of Punahou in the summer of 1864. During his lifetime he published books on Hawaiian history and the Hawaiian language. In 1871 he became a Royal Surveyor-General. As the head of the Kingdom's Survey Department he led a mapping project that produced the map of the islands which the Kingdom showcased at the 1876 World's Fair in Philadelphia. In 1874 he attended the international Meridian conference representing the Kingdom of Hawaii. This conference resulted in the selection of Greenwich Meridian as the international standard for zero degrees longitude. That same year, he was appointed to the Board of Education and then in 1896 Commissioner of Public Instruction.

On June 17, 1895, based on his lineage to his great grandfather Colonel William Chambers and his service in the Continental Army, was accepted for membership in the Hawaii Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Thus, becoming compatriot Number One in the Hawaii Society. He was also officially connected with the Hawaiian Historical Society from its inception, holding the offices of corresponding secretary, president and first vice-president.

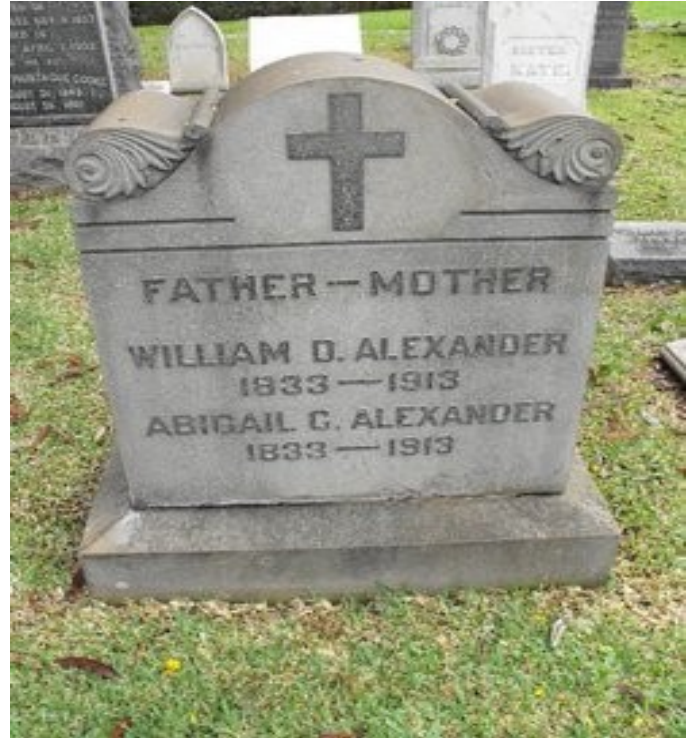
The Hawaiian Society was organized June 17, 1895, on the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill, with 18 members, William DeWitt Alexander being member number one. A constitution upon the Massachusetts Society was adopted and the following officers chosen Peter Cushman Jones (#12), President; Albert Francis Judd (#14), Vice President; John Effingham (#8), Secretary; William De Witt Alexander (#1), registrar; William Joseph Forbes (#9), Treasurer; Rev. Douglas Putnam Birnie (#4), John Walter Jones (#13), and Henry Weld Severance (#16), Members of the Board of Managers. As registrar, William Alexander was busy as the Hawaiian Society processed 57 applications that first year. The Hawaiian Society of the Sons of the American Revolution had the distinction of being the first society of its kind in a foreign land. Hawaii not being annexed as a territory until 1898.

William De Witt Alexander HISSAR application 1896

William Alexander died, February 21, 1913 at Queens Medical Center. He along with his wife are buried in the cemetery at Kawaiaha'o Church, across the street from where he was born. Kawaiaha'o Church is a historic Congregational church located in Downtown Honolulu. The church, along with the Mission Houses, comprise the Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site, which was designated a U.S. National Historic Landmark in 1962. In 1966 it was included in the first issuance of the National Register of Historic Places.

At one time the national church of the Hawaiian Kingdom and chapel of the royal family, the church is popularly known as Hawai'i's Westminster Abbey. The name comes from the Hawaiian noun phrase Ka wai a Ha'o (the water of Ha'o), because its location was that of a spring and fresh-water pool of a High Chieftess Ha'o. It has also been called the "hale pule lahui", the Great Stone Church, the Hawaiian Tabernacle (luakini), the Mother Church, the King's Church, the King's chapel, and the "Ali'i Church".

The Hawaiian Society Sons of the American Revolution has a long and illustrious history. The original members were pillars of the community and represented some of the earliest settlers in Hawaii. Today's our members have every right to be proud not only of their patriot ancestors but of the compatriots who had the vision to organize and pay honor to those who sacrificed so much to earn our nation's independence. It is up to today's members to carry on the tradition of our founding members.



William and Abigail Alexander headstone



First known picture of Kawaiaha'o Church (1857 Hugo Stangenwald)

News from National HQs

The George Washington Endowment Fund Board was established on February 27, 1993. Until the inception of the George Washington Endowment Fund, little funding was available to reimburse the more than fifty SAR committees for administrative purposes or to support their activities or special projects. The board is composed of a board chairman, the chairs of the George Washington Endowment Fund Fundraising Committee and the George Washington Endowment Fund Distribution Committee, and four George Washington fellows elected at the annual SAR Congress. The George Washington Endowment Fund Board oversees all aspects of the George Washington Endowment Fund, which is financed by gifts from members and friends of the SAR.

The purpose of the George Washington Endowment Fund is to maintain a continuing program for obtaining and distributing funds to support the SAR's unfunded and underfunded committees and special projects. The endowment fund should grow annually to continue the support of approved SAR activities and projects. The George Washington Endowment Fund serves as an umbrella under which gifts are placed. Earnings from the contributions over the years have helped to finance a wide variety of programs and projects.

All gifts are important and are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Individuals donating \$1,000 or more are recognized as George Washington fellows. The gifts may be paid in a lump sum amount or in installments of \$200 or more annually over a five-year period. Each individual recognized as a George Washington fellow shall receive a distinctive lapel pin and a certificate denoting his or her status. The name of each fellow will be displayed in the new SAR Center at the SAR Headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky.

Requests for funds are submitted by chairmen of each of the SAR committees. Requests for funds by unfunded and underfunded SAR committees and for various special projects are sent to the George Washington Endowment Fund Distribution Committee for consideration. No more than eighty percent of the net income (interest and dividends) from the George Washington Endowment Fund may be spent in any one year and the remaining twenty percent is then invested into the corpus of the George Washington Endowment Fund. The George Washington Endowment Fund Board oversees the investment of the endowment fund.

Please remember that one-hundred percent of donations go into a permanent restricted fund. Gifts may be made by giving cash, personal checks, stocks, bonds, or any other financial asset that individuals may desire to contribute. Personal checks should be made payable to the SAR George Washington Endowment Fund; please contact your local George Washington Endowment Fund chairman or the SAR Executive Director for further details concerning donations.

SAR Museum Board Seeks Support.

The SAR Museum Board was formed under SAR Bylaw, No. 18, Section 1 (g). The purpose of the Museum Board shall be to collect, preserve, conserve, manage, interpret and exhibit articles of the historical period of the American Revolution (1763-1801). In accomplishing this purpose, the National Society's Headquarters shall function as the primary resource to both the Society's membership and the general public for education on the American Revolution primarily through storied standing and temporary exhibitions.

Both SAR Members and non-members have contributed to the advancement of artifacts and other collectables from the revolutionary period that help tell the story of the war and what life was like during that period, thus meeting SAR educational goals. Contributions can be monetary or accrual artifacts. For example, recently a 1750-1770 American Musket was donated by a SAR Member from North Carolina, a 1780-1790 wagon jack made in Pennsylvania was donated by an organization and a 1760-1785 Spontoon was donated by a past SAR President General. Other members have donated money to collectively buy other items found by our research team.

If you have a documented artifact in your house and would like to see a permanent home for it in the SAR Museum, please consider donating it. Also consider donating money to use in buying an artifact. You will receive artifact signage recognition in the museum in either case.

Hawaii Society of the SAR Honors Eagle Scouts

By Compatriot Arthur N. Tulak

The Hawaii Society recognized with a certificate, Bronson Kane Keahi Klein, a member of the Boy Scout Troop 95 in Hilo, Hawaii and Aloha Council in Hilo, Hawaii, on his achievement of earning the Eagle Scout Rank on June 8, 2021. Troop 95 meets at the Taishoji Soto Mission Church.

To reach the rank of Eagle Scout, Bronson, earned 24 merit badges and has served his troop in a variety of leadership positions, to include senior patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, troop guide, patrol leader, and scribe, and participating in service projects. Bronson completed a major community service project, the Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge Tree Planting, as part of the requirements for promotion to Eagle rank. Bronson organized the planting of over 700 Native Hawaiian Plants at the refuge as part of a research project that will be documented for many years.

Bronson just graduated from Waiakea High School and plans to continue his education at San Diego State University. The court of honor took place August 7th, on the island of Hawaii, where the certificate was presented.

Of note, Bronson’s third and fourth great grandfathers were SAR members, Henry Williams (1825-1907) and Charles Williams, tracing back to Patriot Obed Williams of Connecticut, who served as a Private in Captain Rice’s Company, and in the Regiments of Colonels John Chandler, Sherman and Hait. Private Williams served at the battles of Germantown and Fort Mifflin. Patriot Williams is [buried in Colebrook, Litchfield County CT.](#)

Bronson is interested in honoring his ancestors by joining the Hawaii Society of the SAR.



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Awards this Certificate of Recognition

to Eagle Scout
Bronson Kane Keahi Klein,
Aloha Council, Troop 95

For outstanding achievement in exceptional leadership and citizenship

evidenced by the attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout.

Hawaii Society

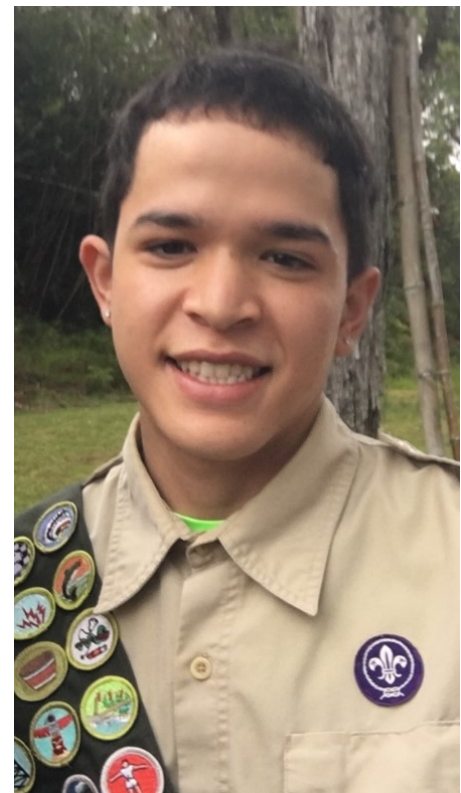
July 9, 2021

Date

Arthur N. Tulak
President

Arthur N. Tulak
Chairman

COL, Ret. Arthur N. Tulak, Ed.D.



HISSAR Supports ROTC and JROTC Awards Ceremonies 2021



By Compatriot Arthur Tulak, HISSAR, ROTC & JROTC Cadet Awards Chairman.

The Corona Virus pandemic of 2020 that originated in Communist China and spread throughout the globe resulted in the cancellation of all in-person awards ceremonies this year. This of course meant that HISSAR Compatriots did not have the satisfaction of meeting this year’s deserving cadets, and expressing how proud we are of their accomplishments. However, the University of Hawaii, and a couple of High School units conducted virtual events. The majority of the JROTC units presented the medals during classes are now sending us reports with the names of the Cadets selected for the Bronze JROTC Medal. Below are the reports received for ROTC and JROTC.

ROTC. Compatriot Tulak attended the on-line Awards ceremony, jointly hosted by University of Hawaii Army and Air Force ROTC programs on June 5th, presenting to to Cadets Meares and Sagapolutele. The cadets attended on-line, and Cadet Sagapolutele is on the bottom left acknowledging receipt and thanking the Hawaii Society..



Screen capture of the Jun 5, 2021, Joint on-line awards ceremony University of Hawaii Army & Air Force ROTC

JROTC Units reporting recipients:

- Hilo HS Army JROTC: **C/1LT Kai Gatting.**
- Kahuku HS Army JROTC: **Cadet Maghanoy Leila**
- Kaiser HS AFJROTC: **Cadet Kylie Howe**
- Kapaa HS Army JROTC: **Cadet CSM Michael Rosa**
- Kapolei High School MCJROTC: **Cadet Aaron Liwanag**

- Kealakahe HS Army JROTC: **Cadet Patrick Eilers**
- Leilehua HS Army JROTC: **Cadet Carlo Garcia**
- McKinley HS Army JROTC: **Cadet Isiah Atkinson**
- Nanakuli HS JROTC: **Cadet Corporal Stephanie Aliva**
- Waimea HS Army JROTC: **Jhames Ragus Lapitan**
- Waipahu HS Army JROTC: **Cadet Mark Matias**



LTC Nick Spiridigliozzi, SAI at Leilehua HS presents the SAR JROTC Medal to Carlo Garcia



CSM Efen Aguilar, Farrington HS JROTC presents the SAR JROTC Medal to Cadet Carl Gamiao. At right is former Senior SAI LTC Ret. Dave Carlson.

Final Farewell to Loyal Compatriot Jack Miller, National No. 161407, Hawaii No. 408.

SAR Compatriot Cdr. John (Jack) L. Miller, USN, Ret. died at his home in Kailua, Hawaii on June 13, 2021, after a challenging battle with esophageal cancer. He is survived by his loving wife of twenty-five years, Carita Miller, daughter Laurie Miller Laychak, son John Miller, step-daughter Maile Green, grandson Zach Laychak, granddaughter Jennifer Laychak, sister Dorothy Jean Paredes, nephew Rob Paredes, and nieces Sue Fernandez and Nancy Paredes.

Jack was proud of his Revolutionary War Ancestor Private Philip King, 1st NY, Capt Leonard Bleekers Company of Light Infantry, Col Van Schaicks Regiment Continental Line.

Jack graduated from Syracuse University, upon graduation he was commissioned as an officer in the US Navy. While in the Navy, Jack obtained a Master's Degree in International Relations from the University of Southern California. He also attended Stetson College of Law.



Jack served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy for twenty-seven years, with ship duty aboard the vessels USS Yosemite, USS Greenwood, USS Saline County, USS Fred T. Berry, USS Perkins, and the USS LaSalle. Jack also served on shore duty in Saigon during the Vietnam War. For his service in the Vietnam War, CDR Miller received the Navy Commendation Medal with Valor and the Combat Action Ribbon. His other assignments ashore included duty as a Logistics Officer on the Staff of the US Naval Forces Europe in London and as a Staff Officer for the Pacific Fleet in Hawaii. Jack's final assignment was as the Defense Attache at the American Embassy in Sri Lanka. Jack's decorations include: Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (Combat "V"), Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, National Defense Service Medal, RVN Campaign Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, and the Navy Unit Commendation among others.

After retirement from the Navy, Jack returned to Hawaii and practiced real estate. Jack devoted himself to Community Service, serving 3 terms as the President of the Hawaii Chapter of the Military Officers' Association of America (MOAA) as well as holding other positions in the MOAA Chapter. He also served as Chairman of the Eagle Scout Committee of the Hawaii Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and was a member of the Kailua 4th of July Parade Committee. The National Society recognized Jack's military service by enrolling him into the ranks of the NSSAR Veterans Reserve Corps. Compatriots Dan Curtis and Arthur Tulak were fortunate to spend time with Jack on March 31, 2021, and to recognize his Service to the Nation, and Service to his Community. Jack was awarded the 50th Vietnam War Commemoration Medal from the Military Order of Foreign Wars for all of his volunteer work in Hawaii. Dan and Arthur presented the Meritorious Service Medal and Silver Roger Sherman Medal in recognition of his service to the Hawaii Society.

Services are planned for October at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery with military honors. To send flowers, or post an on-line tribute, visit <https://www.oahumortuary.com/obituaries/John-Jack-Miller-4/#!/Obituary>



Jack Miller with one of his two SAR VRC certificates, presented 6 MAR 2021, by his nephew Rob Paredes, a former Naval Aviator who flew F-18s and A-6s and later became a flight instructor.



Compatriots Dan Curtis and Arthur Tulak present Jack with the SAR Meritorious Service Medal, and Silver Roger Sherman Medal at his home in Kailua, March 31, 2021.

Upcoming Events

- **11 September— PATRIOT DAY**—20th Anniversary of the 9-11 Terrorist Attacks and Beginning of the GWOT
- **17 September— POW/MIA Recognition Day**
- **18 September— Birthday of the U.S. Air Force, est. 1947**
- **7 October— Operation Enduring Freedom begins in 2001**
- **13 October— Birthday of the U.S. Navy, est. 1775**
- **27 October — Navy Day**
- **10 November — 241st Birthday, United States Marine Corps** (est. 1755)
- **11 November — Veterans' Day**, signing of the Armistice that ended the fighting in WWI Wreath-laying at either the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) or at the WWI Honor Stone in Waikiki††
- **7 December — Pear Harbor Remembrance Day**, 79th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

†† If permitted with State COVID-19 measures in-place.



Hawaii Society Sons of the American Revolution

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Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

2021 Society Leadership:

President: COL, USA (Ret.) Arthur Tulak, Ed.D.

Vice President: Matt LoPresti, PhD

Secretary: Dr. Michael Smith

Treasurer: Elbridge W. Smith

Chaplain: LTC Dan Curtis

Registrar: John T. Smith

Public Relations: Matt LoPresti, PhD

Hawaii Patriot Editor: Arthur Tulak

Flag Committee Chair: Arthur Tulak

250th Committee Chair: Arthur Tulak

Cadet Awards Chairman: Arthur Tulak

Directors:

Col. USAF, (Ret.) Rob Moore

COL , USA, Straus Scantlin

MSG, USA (Ret.) Chris Tourtellot