

2013 SPECIAL EDITION
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The California Compatriot

The Official Newsletter of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

This special edition of the California Compatriot is being published to inform the members of the California Society of the happenings at the 123rd National Congress and the 2013 Fall Leadership/Trustees Meetings of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution. It is at these meetings where the business of the Society and elections of our National Officers are conducted. All members of the Society are encouraged to participate in the activities of the SAR from the Chapter to the National Society levels.

There are many opportunities for involvement. The voting delegates at the National Congress are selected by their State Societies based on the number of active members in that State Society as of December 31st of the previous year. Each State Society is authorized a minimum of three delegates, the State Trustee or Alternate Trustee, the State President or Vice President and one Delegate at Large, plus one additional delegate for every 50 members of the State Society. With its membership of 1,622 active members, CASSAR was authorized 33 delegates but only 13 registered for the 123rd Congress. Issues brought up included fees and dues, and the Center for Advancing America's Heritage (CAAH). If you are interested in the issues that are under consideration at the national level, consider joining the CASSAR delegation next year for the Congress in Greenville, SC. In addition to the right to vote, the Congresses are usually held in an area of historical interest and tour opportunities are provided to nearby places of interest. In Greenville, tours will be available to see the Kings Mountain, Cowpens, and the Old Ninety-Six battlefields.

The Leadership Meetings, usually held in March and September in Louisville, KY, are where the various committees meet and make or propose policy decisions that will impact the operation of the Society. There are many different committees that work on the future direction of the NSSAR. Some of their proposals require Bylaw changes that go before the Trustees and then the general membership at a Congress, and some are policy changes that take effect upon committee approval. Consider joining one or more committees in areas of interest to you, and consider attending our National Congresses as a member of the CASSAR delegation.

COMING EVENTS

1-2 November 2013 – Fall Board of Managers Meeting

The Hacienda Hotel at LAX - El Segundo, CA

28 February - 1 March 2014 – Spring Leadership Meeting

Louisville, KY

11-12 April 2014 – 139th Annual Meeting CASSAR

The Embassy Suites, Riverfront Promenade - Sacramento, CA

18-24 July 2014 - 124th Annual Congress

Greenville, SC

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2013/2014**

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NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FEES, DUES

NATIONAL, STATE, AND CHAPTER	NSSAR Fee	\$80.00
	NSSAR Dues	\$30.00
	CASSAR Fee	\$20.00
	Chapter Dues	Varies

The National Society offers a discounted application fee to additional family members applying for membership at the same time and under the same lineage as the first applicant listed above. Reduced fees apply to the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th family member and all family applications must be submitted in the same package as that of the original applicant.

THE NSSAR FAMILY DISCOUNT	NSSAR Fee	\$30.00
	NSSAR Dues	\$30.00
	CASSAR Fee	\$20.00
	Chapter Dues	Varies

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION FEES

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION	NSSAR Fee	\$40.00
	CASSAR Fee	\$10.00

JUNIOR MEMBER APPLICATION FEES, DUES

JUNIOR MEMBER APPLICATION	NSSAR Fee	\$80.00
	Nat'l Dues	\$5.00
	CASSAR Fee	n/a
	Chapter	n/a

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP ADVANTAGES

- Junior members receive California and National member numbers that remain with them throughout their adult life.
- Junior member dues are significantly lower than regular member dues (see table next page).
- Junior members automatically become regular members after their 18th birthday simply by paying full dues, even if their membership lapsed during the intervening years.
- May join under the family plan mentioned above. Could also be eligible for the reduced fee when using an acceptable, previously approved DAR or SAR application.



Your chapter news can appear in the California Compatriot. Email your final draft prior to the deadline posted at lower right. Please identify all of the individuals appearing in your photos. Space is limited; therefore the Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The California Compatriot

is the official newsletter of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Unless explicitly stated, the opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the authors, and not necessarily those of the society.

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Next Deadline: 30 December 2013



122nd NSSAR National Congress

The Missouri Society hosted the 123rd Annual Sons of the American Revolution in Kansas City, Missouri at the Marriott Hotel Downtown from July 7 to July 11, 2013. The California Society was represented by Executive Vice President Jim Faulkinbury, NSSAR Trustee-California Keith Bigbee, Vice President South Kent Gregory, Vice President North Ron (Conni) Barker, Secretary Douglas Bergholdt, Color Guard Commander Jim (Un Hui) Fosdyck; Past Presidents John Dodd, Rev. Louis (Karen) Carlson, Stephen (Joy) Renouf, Bob Ebert, Stan DeLong, and Chuck Lampman; and Compatriots Robert (Trudy) Burt, Oliver (Pat) Everette, and Steve Ludwiczak.



Host Society Reception

The California Society hosted a hospitality suite at Congress which was run by Un Hui Fosdyck and her friend Chong Loveland. They did a great job and made the California Hospitality Suite a great success. We received praise from Past President General Ed Butler and SAR Foundation President Sam Powell for providing a great location for compatriots around the country to meet the California delegation and network with each other.



The Western District Delegation (CA, HI, NV)



The Hospitality Suite with CASSAR members and Secretary General Lindsey Brock and Registrar General Mike Tomme

The Kansas and Missouri Societies held the Host Society Reception in the World War I Museum. The reception venue provided the attendees not only the opportunity for the usual social gathering, but also with a tour of this spectacular museum.



On Sunday morning, the board of trustees for 2012-13 met for the final time. Chancellor General Tom Lawrence presented a seminar on the responsibilities and fiduciary duties of the national trustees, and also posted a copy on the SAR website. There was a request by the Executive Committee to raise the line of credit from \$1 million to \$1.5 million – we need \$1.8 million to complete the current phase of construction at the new building. The request was approved by the trustees. There was a proposal to amend bylaw 23 regarding how

invested funds are handled to conform to the laws of the State of Kentucky. The investment policies should not be mandated by the bylaws, which requires a complicated and time-consuming procedure for amending, but rather handled by an investment policy crafted by the investment committee and approved by the trustees. The proposal was approved by the trustees and would be submitted to Congress.

On Sunday afternoon, the National Color Guard lead the procession from the Marriott to the historic Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral for the Memorial Service.



Color Guard Procession

The memorial service was conducted by Chaplain General Randy Moody, and assisted by Rev. Lou Carlson. The many compatriots that passed away in the previous year were honored and remembered.



Memorial Services – Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

The national committees met following the memorial service. John Dodd chaired the Bylaws Committee at 3:30 PM, which reviewed all the bylaws proposals that were to be presented to Congress. Stephen Renouf chaired the Medals & Awards Committee at 4PM. Chairman Renouf noted that the committee had no new medals to evaluate. The committee approved a proposal by Davis Wright of Delaware to clean up the language of the National, State and Chapter Medals of Distinguished Service so they are all consistent, as well as add a new category for the awarding of the National Medal of Distinguished Service for compatriots who are employed by the National Society. This special presentation would be from the National Society (rather than the president general), and would be to a retiring compatriot employee proposed by the current president general, with a minimum of ten years of exemplary service, and the recommendation of his supervisor. The proposal would need to be approved by the Medals & Awards Committee and ratified by the Executive Committee. It was then proposed to be awarded to Craig Johnson, the chief accounting officer of the National Society, who is planning to retire at the end of 2013. The proposal was approved conditional on the Executive Committee first ratifying the Special Presentation Criteria, the new president general requesting the award, and Craig's supervisor affirming his qualifications. The committee voted unanimously to change the ranking of the Daughters of Liberty Medal from #4 to #9, as well as modify the criteria to restrict the presentation of the medal by chapters. A chapter would need to have the permission of their state society to present the Daughters of Liberty Medal, similar to the restrictions on the Silver Good Citizenship Medal. The committee went into executive session to evaluate proposals for awarding the SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal. A majority voted to approve the awarding of the medal to Major General Francis Vavala (proposed by the Delaware Society), and unanimously voted to approve the awarding of the medal to General Richard B. Myers (proposed by the Virginia Society).

On Sunday night, the Order of the Founders of North America hosted a party in the California Society Hospitality Suite. Members of the Order, as well as SAR compatriots, were welcomed by Grand Viscount

General Edward F. Butler. In honor of the great explorer Cristoforo Colombo, we had pizza in addition to the usual snacks and drinks. We also had Spanish, French and Italian wines and Irish beer to celebrate some of the many nations that discovered, explored and colonized North America. Grand Viscount General Butler explained the eligibility requirements of the Order (having a lineal ancestor who discovered, explored and colonized North America from 1492 to 1692. Following the party, compatriots attended the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Orations Contest Finals. California Society candidate, Annabelle Tague, a high school student from Escondido, had presented her speech "The Personality of Virtue" during the morning competition, and, although she did an excellent job, she did not make it to the final round. She was recognized at the evening contest finals with a \$200 check.

On Monday morning, John Dodd attended the Council of State Presidents Breakfast. John served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Council. The Council elected their officers for 2013-14. President General Stephen Leishman opened the 123rd Annual Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution. Distinguished guests brought greetings to the Annual Congress, including the President General of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Children of the American Revolution, and the Order of the Founders of North America. The Mayor of Kansas City, Sylvester "Sly" James, welcomed the delegates to his city. He described the many positive aspects of his city - a large convention center and thriving partnership between the city and business leaders bringing jobs and tax dollars to the community; a thriving arts and cultural experience with symphony, ballet, opera, as well as street jazz and blues performances, and top quality museums and art galleries; and a myriad of dining options, with world famous barbecue, steakhouses, pubs, as well as fine dining. We had free time during the Congress to explore the city, and found that the mayor's statements were accurate. Kansas City is a clean, modern and prosperous city that has successfully met many of the challenges that other large cities have difficulty grappling with. It is truly a model for other large cities to emulate. Following the greetings, the rules of the Congress were adopted, and the officers and committee chairmen gave their reports.

The Youth Awards Luncheon was held at Noon. Following lunch, Chancellor General Tom Lawrence presented the Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence Teacher Award to a teacher from Florida. Mike Tomme presented the Americanism Poster Contest awards – 1st place Pennsylvania, 2nd place Gold Country Chapter, California, and 3rd place North Carolina.



The winning Americanism Poster Contest Entry

It was announced that Tom Adams of California has endowed the SAR Brochure Contest, and the first national competition will be held next year. George Thompson presented \$1,000 for the Children of the American Revolution President's Project. Paul Callanan presented the Outstanding JROTC Contest awards – 1st place Alabama, 2nd place Texas, and 3rd place Kentucky. Stan DeLong presented the Knight Essay Contest awards – 1st place Virginia, 2nd place Tennessee, and 3rd place Texas. William Broadus presented the Rumbaugh Orations Contest awards – 1st place Texas, 2nd place Tennessee, and 3rd place Ohio. T. Rex Legler presented the Eagle Scout Contest awards – 1st place Florida, 2nd place Minnesota, and 3rd place Texas.

On Monday afternoon, Congress reconvened. John Dodd presented the bylaws proposals to Congress. A proposal by the NSSAR Trustees was approved to amend Bylaw 2 to create an International Society for compatriots living in a foreign country without an established SAR society, since there cannot be any members-at-large. A proposal by the NSSAR Trustees was approved to amend Bylaw 17 to allow executive committee meetings to be called with at least 5 days'

notice. A proposal by the NSSAR Trustees was approved to amend Bylaw 18 to affirm that the NSSAR Handbook contains the official policies and provides official guidance for the programs and activities of the National Society. A proposal by the NSSAR Trustees was approved to amend Bylaw 18 to create multi-year terms for the chairman and members of the Strategic Planning Committee. A proposal by the NSSAR Trustees was approved to amend Bylaw 33 to permit the Executive Committee and the Bylaws Committee to propose amendments to the bylaws to the Board of Trustees and Annual Congress. A proposal by the Texas Society was approved to amend Bylaw 18 to remove the investment policy from the bylaws to conform to the best practices for tax-exempt organizations, to charge the Investment Committee to develop an investment policy statement to be approved by the Board of Trustees, and to modify the requirements to serve and term of service for members of the Investment Committee. A proposal by the Texas Society was approved to amend Bylaw 23 to bring the NSSAR's Investment Policy in line with best practices for tax-exempt organizations and Kentucky's Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act of 2006. A proposal by the California Society was approved to amend Bylaws 17 and 18, and creating a new Bylaw 32 to modify the duties and composition of the Ethics Committee. A proposal from the Alabama Society was approved to amend Bylaw 1 to close a loophole in the Grandfather Policy. Currently the policy stated that a member applying on an older approved application that no longer meets the current standards for documentation can only use the older application for proof if the patriot's service has not been called into question. The approved bylaws amendment closed a loophole by also requiring that the lineage must not have been called into question. A proposal by the Vermont Society was approved to amend Bylaw 18 regarding the Museum Board, and restricting the Museum collection to the Revolutionary Era of 1763 to 1801. A proposal by the Delaware Society was approved to amend Bylaw 33 to restrict the enhanced amendment procedure to only protecting the principal of the Alexander Hamilton Fund and the George Washington Fund.

On Monday night, the Mexico Society hosted a party in the California Hospitality Suite. Members of the Society, as well as SAR compatriots, were welcomed by *El Presidente* Rev. Lou Carlson. *El Presidente* signed up many new members for the Mexico Society.



Following the party, compatriots and guests attended the Minuteman Ceremony, where six new candidates were inducted: Lanny Patten (PA), Steven Pittard (NC), Richard Sage (NY), Mike Tomme (GA), Robert Towns (GA), and Michael Wells (AL). The National Society Awards followed the Minuteman Ceremony. The National Society presented 19 Partners in Patriotism certificates for CASSAR and 18 chapters, 18 Liberty Medals/oak leaf clusters for CASSAR Compatriots, 2 Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Awards for CASSAR Compatriots, the Senator Robert A. Taft Award for the State Society with the largest number of new members in 2012-2013 for CASSAR, the Eugene C. McGuire Award to State Society enrolling largest number of sons, grandsons, and nephews of SARs and DARs for CASSAR, and the CAR Activity Award and streamer to State Society which has documented their work with the C.A.R. during 2012-2013 for CASSAR.

On Tuesday morning, Congress reconvened. Family Tree DNA made a presentation on available DNA tests and their applications to genealogy. Past President General Larry McClanahan presented a video on the

construction progress on Main Street, as well as a presentation by Solid Light on the proposed museum space in the new SAR headquarters. Stephen Renouf and John Dodd presented CAAH with title to the dies for the new premium SAR Membership Medal, as well as \$4,175 in donations to CAAH from members purchasing the premium SAR Medal and the premium SAR cuff links. The report of the NSSAR Nominating Committee was presented: President General Joe Dooley, Secretary General Lindsey Brock, Treasurer General Tom Lawrence, Chancellor General John Dodd, Genealogist General Larry Cornwell, Registrar General Mike Tomme, Historian General Robert Towns, Librarian General Mike Wells, Surgeon General Rudy Byrd, and Chaplain General Rev. Lou Carlson. Bruce Pickette was nominated from the floor for Librarian General. The officers running unopposed were elected by acclamation. Voting was held for the contested race for Librarian General. The Vice Presidents General were then elected, including Robert D. Ebert as Vice President General for the Western District. The final report of the credentials committee was presented – 268 delegates were registered. The meeting recessed for lunch, and Lou Carlson, John Dodd and Stephen Renouf walked to the Savoy Grill for lunch. They ate in Harry Truman's favorite booth in the restaurant.

On Tuesday afternoon, John Dodd attended the Council of State Presidents business meeting at 1:45PM. The Council elected state presidents to serve on the NSSAR Nominating Committee to elect National Officers for 2014. At 3PM, the Order of the Founders of North America met and elected officers for the 2013-14 year – Ed Butler was elected as Grand Viscount General, Stephen Renouf was elected Grand Viscount General Elect, and John Dodd was elected Abogado General. Grand Viscount General Butler presented certificates of appreciation to people who have served the Order in its first year of existence, including one to Stephen Renouf. Grand Viscount General Butler presented Un Hui Fosdyck with her membership certificate as the first “companion of the order” – a category of membership for those who do not have lineal descent from a qualifying ancestor. Stephen Renouf and John Dodd attended the meeting of the Premium Membership Medals Committee at 4PM. To date, 62 premium

membership medals, and 3 cuff link sets have been sold – raising \$3,100 for the cost of the dies, and \$8,175 in donations for CAAH. The committee is currently working on creating a premium tie bar and tie tack, and should have a prototype available for discussion by the next meeting.

On Tuesday evening, the President General's Banquet and Awards was held in the Count Basie Ballroom. President General Stephen Leishman presented the gold, silver and bronze Samuel Adams Congress Medals to the people who assisted in planning and implementing the SAR Congress in Kansas City. He also presented the new Roger Sherman Medal to compatriots that assisted the National Society during his term - including one to John Dodd for his exemplary service on the executive committee. He then presented the SAR Meritorious Service Medal to compatriots that assisted the National Society during his term - including one to Stephen Renouf for his work reorganizing the medals & awards committee. President General Leishman presented the National Medal of Distinguished Service to Davis Wright of Delaware and Dr. David Billings for their exemplary service to the National Society during President General Leishman's term of office. Finally, President General Leishman presented the Lydia Darragh Medal to his wife Janet Leishman for her assistance to him over the past many years. The guest speaker for the evening was James E. Koutz, the National Commander of the American Legion. He spoke about the service of the American Legion to current and former members of the US military, and urged all veterans to join the organization.



Jim Fosdyck with James E. Koutz

He said it was a great embarrassment that the United States did not send a high ranking delegation to the 69th D-Day Anniversary Ceremonies in France this year. He said that the veterans of D-Day, both living and deceased, deserved that respect from the United States for the heroic service and sacrifices they made at Normandy. He said this unnecessary slight sends the wrong message to the world about the importance America places on its military heritage and status in the world. He urged everyone to contact their senate and congressional representative to correct this injustice in future years. Next year will be the 70th anniversary of D-Day, and it is important to honor the surviving veterans while they are still able to attend the ceremonies.

On Wednesday morning, the final session of Congress re-convened in the Count Basie Ballroom. The first order of business was electing national trustees, including Keith Bigbee (California), Stephen Hurst (California Alternate), Brian Worcester (Nevada), Gene Butler (Nevada Alternate), Ernest McCullough (Hawaii), Elwin Spray (Hawaii Alternate), Gene Melvin (Oregon), Robert Bogardus (Oregon Alternate), Bob Ebert (Mexico), James Fosdyck (Mexico Alternate), Stephen Renouf (Spain), Leroy Martinez (Spain Alternate), John Dodd (Chancellor General), Rev. Louis Carlson (Chaplain General), and Larry Magerkurth (Executive Committee). The national trustees are the governing body of the Sons of the American Revolution. Each state society and foreign country society has an elected trustee (and alternate trustee in the absence of the trustee); and each general officer, member of the executive committee, and past president general is also a trustee. Stephen Leishman and Randy Ellis were elected to the SAR Foundation Board. Following the elections, Chancellor General Tom Lawrence swore in the trustees for 2013-14. The Congress continued with proposed changes to the Bylaws. The Bylaws call for the dues and fees of the National Society to be approved each year. The Congress voted to maintain the dues at the current amounts. There was a proposal to increase the fees for supplemental applications from \$40 to \$80 - the average cost of approving all applications (original and supplemental) is \$83. The proponents believe it is fiscally irresponsible to subsidize the cost of

supplementals by such a great margin. The opponents believe that doubling the fees would impair the mission of the society to collect and document lineages to Revolutionary War patriots, as well as there was insufficient time to fully debate the issue. The proposal was defeated. There will probably need to be a compromise at the net annual congress to deal with this issue. President General Stephen Leishman announced that Mike Wells was elected as Librarian General.

Following the adjournment of the 123rd Congress, President General Elect Joe Dooley convened the first meeting of the Trustees of 2013-14. The trustees ratified his nominations of Mark Brennan, Rev. Lou Carlson, Stephen Leishman, John Manning and Timothy Ward to the executive committee. Chancellor General Tom Lawrence read the legal and fiduciary responsibilities of trustees. With no further business, the trustees meeting was adjourned, and compatriots participated in tours.

Several California compatriots went on the tour of Independence, Missouri, the hometown of President Harry S. Truman. We went to the National Frontier Trails Museum and saw exhibits on the wagon trains going west from Independence to the Oregon Territory, Utah Territory and Alta California.



Jim Faulkinbury at the Frontier Trails Museum

We also drove around Independence to view houses associated with President Truman and his wife Bess Wallace, including the birthplace of President Truman. After lunch we visited the Truman Presidential Library. We saw the many exhibits about the life and career of President Truman. The exhibits documented his career as a young officer in World War I, his post-war business in haberdashery, his rise in politics working for the Pendergast Democrat Machine in Missouri, as well as the many difficult decisions that he was confronted with as President - taking over for the deceased President Franklin Roosevelt, dropping the atomic bomb to end World War II in 1945, responding to the North Korean invasion of South Korea in 1950, de-segregating the US military, and dealing with Soviet spies in the American government. From humble beginnings, he helped shape the country and the world of his era with his often controversial decisions. We also saw replicas of his home office and the Oval Office as it appeared when he was president.



Chuck Lampman in Truman's Oval Office

The portraits on the wall of the Oval Office represent people that the president draws inspiration from - Truman had portraits of American Revolutionary General and President George Washington, as well as South American Revolutionary General Simon Bolivar. In the courtyard of the library were the graves of Harry and Bess Truman, as well as their daughter Margaret.

On Wednesday evening was the installation of national society officers for 2013-14. Outgoing Chancellor General Tom Lawrence swore in incoming Chancellor General John Dodd, and then Chancellor General John Dodd in turn swore in the incoming Vice Presidents General, and General Officers. Lastly, Chancellor General Dodd swore in the 110th President General of the National Society - Joseph W. Dooley of the Virginia Society.



Chancellor Dodd swearing in PG Joseph Dooley

Former National Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme escorted ring bearer Cilla Tomme to the podium, and Past President General Stephen Leishman conducted the George Washington Ring Ceremony - presenting the ring of our first president George Washington to new President General Joe Dooley



Mike Tomme and ring bearer Cilla Tomme

President Dooley then delivered his inaugural address in which he documented a series of presidential initiatives

that are directed at growing the society and funding the Center for the Advancement of America's Heritage. The initiatives are posted on the SAR website at www.sar.org/News/President-General-Initiatives-2013-2014. President Dooley urged the state societies to do as many of the initiatives as they could. Following the adjournment of the Congress, President Dooley invited everyone to the 12th Street Room to enjoy cheese and chocolates, as well as several favorite drinks of President Truman and his wife Bess. President Dooley announced the upcoming SAR trip to Ireland in May 2014, and flyers were distributed. The trip will honor the contributions of the Irish to the American Revolution, father of the US Navy Commodore John Barry, and

Signer of the Declaration of Independence/Continental Congress delegate Charles Thomson.

On Thursday Morning, President Joe Dooley convened his first executive committee meeting, which included Chancellor General John Dodd and Chaplain General Louis Carlson. Chairman Stephen Renouf presented the report of the Medals & Awards Committee, and all the recommendations from the committee were ratified by the executive committee. The executive committee also expanded the criteria for the Lydia Darragh Medal to include presentations by the national society and chapters. The Congress in Kansas City was a great success, and we look forward to a great year under President General Dooley.

2013 Fall Leadership/Trustee's Meeting

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution held its Fall Leadership Meeting at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky, on September 26-28, 2013. The California Society was represented by Executive Vice President Jim Faulkinbury, Vice President North Ron Barker, California Trustee Keith Bigbee, Tom Adams, and Past Presidents Chuck Lampman, Larry Magerkurth, Bob Ebert, Karl Jacobs, Stephen Renouf, Lou Carlson, and John Dodd.

On Thursday night, there was a candidates' forum for the members running for national office for 2014-15. Lindsey Brock is running for President General, Tom Lawrence is running for Secretary General, Mike Tomme and Larry Cornwell are running for Treasurer General, Bob Bowen is running for Registrar General, John Sinks is running for Genealogist General, Bruce Pickette and Larry Guzy are running for Librarian General, Bobby Towns is running for Historian General, Rev. Randy Moody is running for Chaplain General, Ed Rigel is running for Surgeon General, and Sam Powell is running for SAR Foundation Board.



Bob Ebert during the opening Ceremonies

On Friday morning, the Medals and Awards Committee met and approved the Kentucky Society 125th Annual Congress Medal, the Commodore John Barry Medal for the Ireland Trip, and a proposal to allow the Vice Presidents General to award the Silver Roger Sherman Medal and the Martha Washington Medal. The committee voted to return the Atlantic Middle States Association Medal back to the referring committee for modifications. The Premium Membership Medals Committee met, with Chairman Stephen Renouf and Vice Chairman John Dodd. The committee approved the new premium tie bars and tie tacks. Bob Thomas

showed the other members of the committee an old SAR ring. He also found out that there is a current ring that is sold upon request. The committee will evaluate these rings.

CASSAR Executive Vice President Jim Faulkinbury attended the Genealogy Committee, and the Committee made the following changes to SAR Policy:

Language was added to **Policy #2005-03** (Application Completeness) stating that documentation of the applicant's bloodline is required; other information and documentation is requested and encouraged. All proof documentation must be cited on the reverse page of the application form to the extent that space allows. The citations should provide sufficient information to indicate the source and location of the document.

A third page may be utilized for citing documentation for which space was unavailable, as long as SAR-watermarked bond paper is utilized. A birth certificate containing place of birth, date of birth, and parents' names must be provided by the applicant when available.

Language was added to **Policy #2012-01** (Administrative Requirements for Submitting Applications) to state that adults (18 and over) who apply for membership must sign their application, unless they are incapacitated, and Junior Members (under age 18) may sign their application, or an adult family member (parent or legal guardian) may sign on their behalf. Exceptions may be approved by the Genealogist General.

Language was added to **Policy #2011-03** (Acceptable Revolutionary Services) to add some restrictions to qualifying Civil Service

“Persons in the following positions are not considered to perform a civil service that qualifies as Revolutionary service:

- Fiduciaries such as bondsmen for marriages; executors and administrators of estates, conservators, guardians, and those appointed to similar positions, and witnesses. In certain states, serving in some of the above positions

required swearing or affirming allegiance and may provide evidence that can be used in an indirect proof of Patriotic Service. A witness can qualify for Patriotic Service if his testimony supports the government against activity against it, such as the sale of arms to the enemy.”

Since the turnaround time for new applications is now about 3 weeks, it was decided to rescind **Policy #2009-04** which provided a “fast-track” process for handing the review of easier applications ahead of the more difficult applications.

Language was added to **Policy #2011-01** (Direct and Indirect Proof Sources for Providing Revolutionary War Service of a Patriot Ancestor) stating that when two or more individuals of the same names are in the same area, there must be evidence that the service claimed was performed by the person for whom it is being claimed.

In addition to the above policy changes, an update of the list of various tax lists that qualify for Patriotic Service was presented, and a subcommittee was appointed to look at the current Grandfathering policy. It was noted that the DAR no longer accepts their “legacy” or short-form applications as sufficient for documentation on new DAR applications.

Following lunch, Chancellor General John Dodd and Treasurer General Tom Lawrence presented a seminar on IRS requirements for tax exempt organizations. They went over the Sarbanes-Oxley requirements, including various policies needed by National, State and Chapters. Chancellor Dodd stated that each state is different, and state societies needed to check with their state to learn the appropriate state tax rules. The Strategic Planning Committee met, and adopted possible goals and metrics for the various society capabilities. These will later be refined and presented to the Executive Committee to narrow down and adopt.

On Saturday morning, Chancellor General John Dodd and Chaplain General Lou Carlson attended the Executive Committee Meeting. Chairman Stephen Renouf of the Medals and Awards Committee submitted his report to the committee, which was approved.

The NSSAR Trustees met in the morning, with Keith Bigbee representing California, Stephen Renouf representing Spain, and Bob Ebert representing Mexico. Chancellor General John Dodd and Chaplain General Lou Carlson were also voting trustees. There will be a proposal at the 2014 National Congress to increase the application processing fee for supplemental applications from its current \$40 to \$80 to match the fee for new applications. An analysis of the average staff cost for reviewing supplementals versus the overall average cost of reviewing all application (\$83) showed that the average cost for supplementals was \$76, thus the recommendation. If the membership approves this increase, it will take effect immediately following the Congress (not delayed until the following January). There will also be a proposal that will change family plan costs to be 50% of the initial fee. This will raise the cost of the additional family plan applications from the current \$30 to \$40.

There is a current deficit in the 2013 and 2014 NSSAR budget, primarily due to IT costs to rewrite the software that supports the National Society. It was noted that possible solutions that will fix the deficit would be increased dues, more members, or better retention. It was emphasized that we need to work on membership and retention to avoid increase dues. The National Life Membership program is also underfunded and currently only covers \$18 in dues for NSSAR Life Members so adjustments to that program need to also be made to make it actuarially sound.

Regarding the Center for Advancing America's Heritage (CAAH), it was announced that so far \$9.8M of the \$10M goal to complete construction of Phase 2 has been reached in the form of donations or pledges. So far \$700K has been raised towards PG Dooley's haircut challenge at the 2014 Congress. The Genealogist General, Larry Cornwell, announced that as of 27 September, we have 31,656 members and so far this year, due to deaths, we have lost 464 members. The Genealogy Staff has approved 1,326 supplementals. The Color Guard Committee announced that the annual vigil at Washington's Tomb is now a National SAR event. Chancellor General, John Dodd, provided information on the duties and responsibilities of Trustees and talked

about the NSSAR insurance policies, stating that these policies do not cover State Societies or Chapters. He recommended that each State Society take a close look at its insurance coverage.

The Handbook Committee is rewriting the NSSAR Handbook which they propose to be broken into 7 volumes. One major change needed to allow our Bylaws to comply with current law is to eliminate the 1906 Constitution and put the relevant text into the Bylaws (the DAR did this with their Constitution 60 years ago). Volume 1 of the SAR Handbook was approved, and the remaining six volumes will be posted online so members can comment on them before being approved by the Executive Committee in December 2013.

Davis Wright presented the findings of an *ad hoc* committee regarding foreign societies. He suggested that the charters of the Germany Society (0 primary members), the Mexico Society (1 primary member), and the Switzerland Society (6 primary members) be suspended, giving them 2 years to reach 15 members or have their charters revoked. In discussion, it was determined that although 15 primary members are necessary to form a society, the Bylaws are silent on how many are needed to maintain a charter. The proposed membership requirement could also affect state societies such as Hawaii, Montana, the Dakotas and Alaska. The trustees postponed discussion of the committee recommendation until the following trustee meeting to give everyone a chance to evaluate the proposal. The Congress Planning Committee made a presentation about the 2014 Congress in Greenville, South Carolina which will include tours of Kings Mountain, Cowpens, and the "Old 96" battlefields. The 2015 Congress will be in Louisville, Kentucky; the 2016 Congress will be in Boston, Massachusetts; and the 2017 Congress will be somewhere in Tennessee (most likely Nashville). The committee recommended the Texas Society to host the 2018 SAR Congress, which was approved by the trustees.

The Germany Society met following the trustees meeting. Karl Jacobs was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal for his work on the creation of the new Germany Society Medal, and Stephen Renouf

was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal for his work on the 2012 NSSAR Trip to Germany and his visual presentation of the trip to the Germany Society. Lanny Patten was also presented with the Meritorious Service Medal, and Past President Bill Stone was presented with the Past President's Pin. The society debated the postponed proposal to revoke the charter of the Germany Society. It was noted that there are over 250 dual members of the Germany Society, but no primary members. It was decided that efforts should be made to recruit SAR members living in Germany, as well as German nationals with SAR patriot ancestors, to join the Germany Society. It was also noted that primary members are not required by NSSAR to live in Germany, so it is possible for dual members to transfer their primary membership to the Germany Society. The newly designed Germany Society website was demonstrated - it will allow discussions among members and allow members to vote online. Jim Faulkinbury, the Secretary/Treasurer of the Mexico Society, attended the Mexico Society meeting. They discussed ways to increase in-country membership. The Mexico Society was established several years ago to provide a way for the many American citizens living in Mexico to obtain membership in the SAR since the National Society doesn't allow members-at-large.

An informal banquet was held on Thursday with Compatriot Tom Green of the Texas Society providing a history of the American Revolution through the flags used prior to, and during the war. Larry Stevens, Jim Mitchell, John Thompson of TXSSAR and Jim Faulkinbury assisted in the presentation.



Jim Faulkinbury presents the Bedford Flag during Tom Green's flag presentation.



Keith Bigbee and Tom Green

The Saturday evening banquet was held in the Crystal Ballroom. Following dinner, Professor John W. Hall spoke about myths regarding the military tactics of General Washington, explaining that his tactics were more conventional than is widely believed. Professor Hall is a professor of US Military History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He served for 15 years as an officer in the US Army, and taught at the US Military Academy at West Point. Professor Hall presented a paper at the 2010 SAR Annual Conference on the American Revolution entitled, "My Favorite Officer: George Washington's Discipline, Nathanael Greene." President General Joe Dooley presented retiring Chief Accounting Officer Craig Johnson with a beautifully framed National Medal of Distinguished Service for his many years of outstanding performance.



Rev. Lou and Karen Carlson at the Thursday Banquet