

The California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (CASSAR) had their semiannual Board of Managers (BOM) meeting November 4 and 5 hosted by Redwood Empire Chapter. Approximately 45 SAR members were in attendance and joined by approximately 30 spouses. Following the CASSAR BOM Meeting was the Western District meeting with Hawaii and California representatives in attendance. Minutes for the meetings will be posted later by the respective organizations.

The CASSAR BOM started with greetings and comments from National and State officers. Many topics were discussed and here are some of the topics that were emphasized:

- The Youth Protection Training (YPT) program must be fully deployed by State and Chapter leaders. Any SAR member coming into contact with youth through a SAR program, must immediately take YPT. The YPT course can be found at the SAR web site (sar.org) under the “elearning tab.” When the current Chapter Present, immediate past President and the next President (elected or presumed) completes YPT, the Chapter will be recognized by NSSAR (and also select State SSARs). It is extremely important to take this training to protect yourselves and NSSAR.
- Correct US flag displays should be recognized and rewarded with a SAR Flag Certificate. There are many opportunities available to present a certificate—just do it.
- Training, retaining and recruiting members into National/State/Chapter leadership positions is a challenge but is necessary for the continuation of the organization. We sometimes keep “reusing” people into leadership roles because we have no one in the “wings” to take over. Take the time to recruit new members into roles that they expressed interest and enthusiasm. Training can be augmented using training courses located on the sar.org web site (some still are in development).
- Chapters must act to maintain their IRS 501c3 status. Proper Federal and State paperwork must be completed and sent in to the appropriate offices in timely manner. Also, remember organizations must demonstrate that monies collected are being used to support the membership.
- Improvement must be made in the preparing of SAR applications to avoid rejection by the SAR (penned status). To help ensure accuracy, the new SAR genealogist guide and checklists should be used to help ensure application are accepted on the first submittal.
- The SAR Education Center and Museum needs support. Plans and RFPs were approved by SAR National Trustees. The build-out phase now needs to be funded. This museum when completed will be the Nation’s (and the World’s) premier museum telling the American Revolution’s story. To get an idea in what the SAR Education Center and Museum will look like, visit this URL: <https://youtu.be/3JaOikT8nxM>. Members and State/Chapter organizations can donate directly through the SAR Foundation or by donations to the Liberty Tree and/or 1776 Society funds.
- The SAR Museum Board is also asking for support for securing artifacts to be displayed in the Museum. It is exciting that many SAR members and chapters have already purchased and contributed artifacts for the SAR Collection, to tell the story of the American Revolutionary War and life during that time. The Museum Board has a wish

list of artifacts currently available from dealers. Please browse the list at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s5WyHzVvh5YSCcbNf17dZMUqbx874m4/view> If you would like to support the SAR by acquiring one of these objects, or others on the list, please contact SAR Curator Zac Distel at [zdistel@sar.org](mailto:zdistel@sar.org), Rob Moore at [robmoore@hula.net](mailto:robmoore@hula.net) or Kent Gregory at [drkentgregory@earthlink.net](mailto:drkentgregory@earthlink.net). Donors will have their name credited with the artifact when on display.

- The 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the start of the American Revolution is fast coming up. State/Chapter organization, if they haven't already, should appoint a 250<sup>th</sup> contact and start advertising the event. Use of traditional and social media is important in getting the word out. SAR must ensure that the general population is aware of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Some ideas are the "250<sup>th</sup> Minute" that quickly reflects on what happened on today 250years ago or purchasing and displaying the SAR 250<sup>th</sup> flag. Visit National Society SAR on YouTube.com for ideas. Also, the SAR Pod Cast is a vehicle that can be used to make people aware of the pending 250<sup>th</sup> America Anniversary activities. Please visit your favorite Pod Cast site and search for "Revolutionary War Rarities."

Future events that SAR members should place on their calendars are (subject to change by the organizations involved):

- 148<sup>th</sup> CASSAR Annual Membership meeting in Costa Mesa, April 13-15, 2023
- 133<sup>rd</sup> SAR Annual Congress in Orlando, FL, July 13-20, 2023
- 148<sup>th</sup> CASSAR BOM meeting, November 3-4, 2023, hosted by the Harbor Chapter

The Western District meeting was held right after the CASSAR BOM and was conducted by Western District VPG Derek Brown. Hawaii and California were represented at the meeting. Here are some of the topics that were emphasized:

- VPG Brown emphasized continued communication was successfully achieved through emails and Zoom conversations.
- Current membership for the Western District was 1843 members (CA with 1646, NV with 171 and HI with 26). Membership growth is vital to the success of the SAR and current members need to personally check on no/delinquent renewals to ensure retention of members. Retaining new members as "active" members can be achieved through personal contact with the new member and cultivate what brought them to the SAR. As Chairman of the SAR Membership Committee, VPG Brown has focus on membership growth. The 3-R resource developed by the Membership Committee is focusing on best practices in recruitment, retention and reinstatement and is expected to be published in early January 2023 for use by the states and chapters. The Membership Committee will also be looking for feedback to gauge effectiveness.
- State/Chapter organizations need to file reconciliation reports in a timely manner. Failure could result in State/Chapter not being able to be represented as a voting member at Congress.
- VPG Brown recognized Compatriot Rob Moore, Hawaii Trustee, as the Western District Secretary. Compatriot Moore reported that Hawaii membership is growing with the assistance of Christopher Smithson (MDSSAR) as the HISSAR Registrar. He also reported that HISSAR is leaning forward to be the leadership role in Hawaii for the 250<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary. HISSAR is hoping the Governor will soon respond to the SAR request to set up a 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commission (backup plan is to have the Hawaii Legislature initiate the action).

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- 148<sup>th</sup> CASSAR Annual Membership meeting in Costa Mesa, April 13-15, 2023
- 133<sup>rd</sup> SAR Annual Congress in Orlando, FL, July 13-20, 2023
- Nevada Annual meeting, Reno, NV, April 1-2, 2023
- Hawaii Annual meeting, Honolulu, HI, 2<sup>nd</sup> week in April 2023

National Officer Endorsements – the Western District voted to endorse the same slate of candidates for National Officers that the California Society endorsed during their business meeting earlier in the day.

Respectfully submitted,

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Western District Secretary  
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