



# NORTH AMERICAN SKÅL CONGRESS



On the beach in Waikiki | April 25-28, 2019

Over 150 Skålleagues and guests from 57 Skål Clubs from the United States, Canada and Mexico



arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii for the 2019 annual North American Skål Congress (NASC) held April 25-27 and hosted by the Sheraton Waikiki. Special guests included Lavonne Whittmann, President of Skål International, and a member of Skål Pretoria South Africa club. Madame President was very visible throughout the conference and shared news and information about Skål International in several addresses to the delegates.

Hosted by Skål International Hawaii, the NASC committee designed a conference where there was plenty of time for them to show off “Paradise”, the Hawaiian culture & heritage, hospitality, shopping and save just the right amount of time for informational educational programs on Young Skål, Hawaii Tourism and Skål National Committee business. Plenty of networking, informational sharing and making new and strengthening Skål friendships, was a priority at NASC.



Highlights of the conference included Skål Executive Q&A, where any delegate could ask leaders of Skål International, Skål USA, Skål Canada and other Skål executives any questions. And the awarding of the Skål USA Club of the Year to Skål San Francisco and nominating David Colella from Skål Boston with the Bill Sweet Award as Skål USA’s outstanding Skålleague.



There was no shortage of hospitality with the welcoming event held next to the Sheraton Waikiki’s “The Edge” pool above the ocean floor, complete with the traditional Aloha greeting and presentation of the Lei to all attendees. Throughout the evening, we enjoyed food delicacies and hula dancers and live music from Hawaii resident and Hoku Award-winning slack key guitarist, Bobby Modero.

Other festivities included a trip to the opening of the Hawaii Food and Wine Festival where celebrity chefs and distilleries treated Skålleagues with their favorite dishes, wines and brews.



Nestled beneath the Ko'olau mountain range, the farewell event brought us to Sea Life Park, a marine mammal, and wild animal park and home of the Ka Moana Lu'au. Guests were greeted by the park's fiercest and most tame residents, sharks and sea turtles, then led down a path where we came upon traditions of the islands through interactive cultural activities including lei making, hula lessons, coconut-headband weaving, ukulele lessons and more!

Everyone was asked to gather around the 'imu as dinner was unearthed and carefully brought back to the serving area where we feasted on Kalua pork, Lomi Lomi salmon, fresh catch with a tropical mango, pineapple, and papaya salsa and poi. Despite a gentle Hawaiian evening rain, the Lu'au show went on, magnificently performed the parks entertainers honoring the spirit of lu'au tradition.

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