

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Gerald Burkland
Michigan Society SAR Eagle Scout Chairman
(989) 871-9569 Home
bftb@tds.net E-mail

For Additonal Information

Sons of the American Revolution to Present National Eagle Scout Award

Michigan Eagle Scout Honored

Louisville, KY – The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) will present its coveted “Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Scholarship Award” to Eagle Scout Gerrit S. Bakker on Monday, July 6, 2009 in ceremonies at the 119th Annual SAR Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. As the National First Place winner, Bakker will receive an \$8,000 college scholarship. Bakker represented the state of Michigan in the national competition after winning the Michigan Society SAR competition which earned him a college scholarship of \$1,000, a SAR Eagle Scout Medal and an Eagle Trophy designating him as Michigan’s winner. The presentation of the Michigan awards was on Saturday, April 18, 2009 at the Michigan Society SAR Annual Conference in Lansing, Michigan. Bakker is believed to be the youngest ever winner of the National Award.

Eagle Scout Gerrit S. Bakker, is the son of Steve and Kristin Bakker of Alma, Michigan and Denise Bakker of Williamston, Michigan. He is a member of the Lake Huron Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and registered in Troop 631 at the Ithaca United Methodist Church in Ithaca, Michigan and Venturing Crew 7603 at the Alma Elks Club in Alma, Michigan. In addition to earning the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America, Bakker has earned 71 Merit Badges and seven Eagle Scout Palms. His Eagle Scout Project provided over 100 hours of combined scout and adult efforts to start a battery recycling program for the City of Ithaca. His other community service includes having built loon nesting islands to help restore and increase Michigan’s common loon population, participating in local food drives, volunteering as a camp counselor at summer camp and assisting in activities at the Ithaca Senior Activity Center. He is also a member of the Gratiot County Community Foundation’s Youth Advisory Council.

Bakker is a freshman at Ithaca High School and an honor student. He is a member of the Ithaca High School Marching and Jazz Bands, freshman basketball team, varsity soccer team and the Model UN team. He is also a member of St. Paul’s Catholic Church in Ithaca.

The SAR Eagle Scout Recognition and Scholarship Program recognizes outstanding Eagle Scouts in our communities. Every SAR chapter sponsors an Eagle Scout Competition that includes an application detailing Scouting experience, academic achievements, and community service, a 500-word essay on a patriotic theme, and a four-generation genealogy chart. The winner of each SAR chapter competition is entered in the SAR state competition. The winner of each state competition competes in the National Society’s Eagle Scout Competition and vies for \$14,000 in scholarships.

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