



# Captain Barron's Bugle

Captain William Barron Chapter #25  
Sons of the American Revolution



## Smith County Sheriff J. B. Smith to Speak At July Meeting

Sheriff J. B. Smith has been in law enforcement for many years having served as a Tyler Police officer prior to moving up in the ranks of the Sheriff's Department and becoming sheriff in 1976. He was recently elected to his eighth term as sheriff where he manages a department of 287 personnel and supervises over 1, 000 prisoners.

Sheriff Smith is a graduate of the University of Texas at Tyler with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He is also a graduate of the National FBI Academy.

J.B. was elected by his peers as President of the Sheriff's Association of Texas, an office he held in 2002-2003. In addition, Sheriff Smith is a twelve year member of the National Speakers Association and has given hundreds of speeches all over the country. Besides being a sheriff and a national speaker, J.B. is a licensed Texas auctioneer and is a connoisseur of Texas chili. He has participated as a finalist judge in the World Championship International Chili Cook-off. Sheriff Smith has also published his first book, entitled "The Christmas Day Murders," which can be purchased at Barnes and Noble book store.

Sheriff Smith's philosophy on life is "Blessed are they who laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused." His presentation will be "The History of Law Enforcement and Some Current Issues." Please come and enjoy the humor of our own Sheriff J.B. Smith, Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m., at the Woman's Building, and celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Captain William Barron Chapter.

### Compatriot Walter Knighten Passes Away

It is with sadness that we inform you of the passing of Compatriot Walter Knighten. Compatriot Knighten served his country in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

Walter had been a member of the Capt. William Barron Chapter since 1993. He and his wife, Christine, rarely missed a chapter meeting prior to his experiencing health problems. He will be greatly missed.

#### IN THIS ISSUE

July Program	1
President's Message	2
Chapter Officers	3
Photos – Chapter Activities	4
Photos—May 2007 Meeting	5
Minutes - May Meeting	6
Chapter 2007 Scheduled Meetings	6
Wm. Barron Web Page URL	..6
President's Address & Phone No.	..6

## President's Message

When we were growing up, the 4th of July was called Independence Day. The calendars still show the name, but in common usage, the words are pretty much out of fashion. Now and then we hear "Freedom Isn't Free". See the following article on the History of Captain William Barron to see just what kind of price was paid to win our freedom.



This month we are celebrating the 231st Anniversary of Independence Day and the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Captain William Barron Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

**Join us at the Woman's Building  
on July 24th!**



For those who were not at the May meeting, President Tom Miller has resigned due to poor health. In order of succession, 1st vice-president Sam Kidd was not able to take on the responsibility of finishing out President Miller's term. As 2nd vice-president, I have been installed as the new President of the Captain William Barron Chapter. We owe a debt of gratitude to Tom Miller, for all his ideas and thoughts and work. He took on the job of President, even though his health has been poor. Most of us have not realized how much effort he had to expend to take care of this obligation. Tom, we honor you for your commitment and thank you for your service. Sit back, and enjoy the meetings!

Don Majors brought three reproduction Revolutionary War dolls which had been given to him as a donation to our Chapter by Ms. Judi Solomon of Hawkins.

The recipient of the Emergency Medical Services Commendation Award, Dr. Luis Fernandez, was not only honored by having been chosen to receive the award, but amazed at our organization. He had not been aware of our group, and was most impressed by the members he met, and by the concept and history of our organization. In addition to being in charge of the Trinity Mother Frances Hospital Trauma Center, he is also a Lt. Colonel in the Texas State Guard. When I suggested that he wear his military uniform to the meeting, he contacted his commanding general for permission. His commandant

was aware of SAR and informed Dr. Fernandez that SAR is one of the oldest and finest organizations in the country, and that he should feel very honored to receive our award. Once again, the Three Majors and a General were in great form. Members and guests were especially proud to hear the patriotic songs incorporated in their presentation. Perhaps you are not aware that they also do a great many programs for other groups in the community.

The following week, the Chapter Color Guard brought in the colors to open the city-wide Memorial Service at Tyler Memorial Cemetery.

Lois and I have lived during one third of the existence of the United States, and thereby remember a great deal of our history. However, all those who are even five years younger than we, remember very little, if any, of the events of World War II, and certainly nothing earlier than that. The entire concept of a world at war is something which must be learned. There is so much to learn to have a sense of the history of the United States. We had a stark lesson in awareness recently. Two students in advanced 8th grade social studies did not recognize the Betsy Ross Flag, by that name, or by sight, or by the fact that it was the first flag of the United States. They were intelligent, attentive students - they simply had not been born knowing anything about the Betsy Ross Flag, and had not yet been taught. It really caused us to be aware that there is so much we know that we take for granted, and so very much that must be learned.

Visual presentations at the schools may be the most important functions of the SAR. Larry Ashburn, Don Majors and Leland Carter have been in the forefront of this effort. There are a lot of schools and a lot of school children - not only in Tyler, but in the surrounding communities. The Poster contests involve the children in thinking about just what went on during the Revolutionary War. Larry Ashburn formed the Color Guard and their presentations leave a very positive and lasting impression. Tom Miller has put the Chapter in the black with his fund raising efforts the past few years. It was his idea to raise money from outside the Chapter membership. What a concept! Way to go, Tom! I hope to carry that concept on. Mike Everheart brings us the high quality Captain Barron's Bugle, which is on display at the Tyler Library. To my knowledge, we have not been very active in Veterans' affairs. As we are beginning to see more and more Veterans returning from combat, involvement in this area will become increasingly important. Remembering the price paid, and displaying Love of our Country whenever possible, will bring our people together.

Roy Adams was President when I joined the Chapter, followed by Ed Kennedy, Mike Everheart, Larry Ashburn, and Tom Miller. Through these years we have grown in numbers and in outreach. We have been very well received everywhere we have gone, and that is most

rewarding.

We have a great group of men and women involved in the Captain William Barron Chapter. The programs are interesting; the food is delicious; the camaraderie is uplifting; and the building is attractive. These would be reasons enough to get together every couple of months. However, in addition, we have a unique opportunity to inspire patriotism by our presence in the community. With the May issue of the Captain Barron's Bugle, Past President Tom Miller sent out a questionnaire listing the categories of activities our Chapter has been involved in during the past few years. It was a very good listing of the items of work needed if we are to maintain a presence in the community. We need a few good men to step up and become involved. If I haven't already contacted you about participating on one of the committees, please think seriously about taking some time from your busy schedules to help spread the message of the Sons of the American Revolution. My phone number is 903-581-7891; email, graycirce@cs.com.

Bob G. Davidson, President

\* \* \*

**IRA Distribution  
To SAR - Tax Free - This Year**

President General Nathan White has sent a notice that if you are 70½ years old and required to take an IRA distribution, a new law allows a distribution directly from your IRA to the Sons of the American Revolution - tax free - FOR THIS YEAR ONLY. Up to a maximum amount of \$100,000, this donation may satisfy part or all of the amount you are required to take as an IRA distribution. For more information call Craig Johnson at headquarters at 502-589-1776.

**History of Captain William Barron**

William Barron, Sr. was born in Waterford County, Ireland circa 1740 and married Prudence Davis there circa 1760. Six years later William, Prudence and several children came to America and settled in Warren County, Georgia.

William Barron, Sr. served as a Captain in the Georgia Army during the American Revolution. In 1788, during the siege of Augusta he was wounded and fell into the hands of the Tories. They lured the Indians to behead him. The Tories then put his head, as a trophy of war, on a pole and placed it in the center of Augusta where it remained for three weeks until the Whigs regained control of the town and took it down.

Descendants of William Barron, Sr. were in Smith County, Texas prior to the War Between the States.

\*\*\*\*\*

**William Barron Chapter History**

The first regular meeting of the proposed Tyler Chapter of the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution was held in the library of the Wilson, Miller, Spivey and Steger law firm, Peoples Bank Building, at Tyler, Texas, on Wednesday, July 12, 1967, being convened at 4:30 o'clock p.m. There were fourteen charter members and included two of the descendants of William Barron, Eugene Earl Barron and Kenneth Ray Barron. Each member was assessed \$10.00 for the purpose of defraying expenses incurred in connection with the Chapter installation program at the Blackstone Hotel the ensuing Friday evening, July 14, 1967.

Three days after that first meeting, the Board of Managers of the Texas State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution granted the application to form a chapter to be located in Tyler and a charter was issued to the Captain William Barron Chapter on July 14, 1967.

The first annual meeting of the Captain William Barron Chapter was held in the library of the Wilson, Miller, Spivey and Steger law firm on Thursday, December 14, 1967. Nine members were present and they elected officers for the year 1968. The chapter was organized with fourteen members, had increased its membership to twenty in 1971, and currently has seventy four members.



**Capt. Wm. Barron Chapter Officers**

- President** -- -- Bobby Davidson
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/ Programs**-Sam Kidd
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** -- -- Steven Lee
- Publicity/Media** –Mike Everheart
- Chaplain** -- -- Rev. Don Majors
- Secretary** -- -- Donald Boyd
- Treasurer** -- -- George Hall
- Asst. Treasurer**--Christopher Williamson
- Registrar** -- -- Larry Ashburn
- Historian** -- -- Open
- Sgt. At Arms** -- -- Archie Anderson
- Eagle Scout Chairman** -- -- Steven Lee
- Bugle Editor /Publisher**—Mike Everheart



## Capt. William Barron Chapter Activities

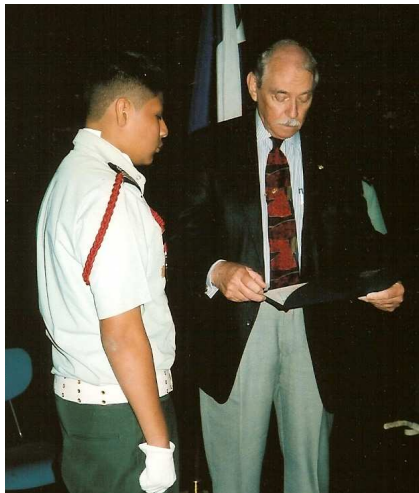
President Davidson presenting SAR Bronze R.O.T.C. Medals with certificates & \$100 Scholarship Checks.



Samuel Trevino – Gilmer High School



Molinna S. Em – Marshall High School



David Cruz – John Tyler High School

Color Guard at Memorial Day Observance



## May Meeting Photographs



Outgoing President Tom Miller installing Bob G. Davidson as Capt. Wm. Barron President.



Three Majors and a General entertaining Wm. Barron members and guests at May meeting.



Dr. Luis Fernandez, recipient of the Emergency Medical Services Award. Dr. Fernandez is a Lt. Colonel in the Texas State Guard as well as an M.D.



Wm. Barron Assistant Treasurer Chris Williamson and mother, Helen Williamson.



**Welcome President Davidson!!!**



MINUTES  
 MEETING OF THE CAPT. WILLIAM BARRON CHAPTER  
 May 22, 2007  
 Woman's Building, Tyler, Texas

1. President Miller called the meeting to order. There were 19 members present and 16 guests. Rev. Don Majors gave the Invocation, and Comp. Bobby Davidson led us in the pledges to the U. S. flag and the Texas flag and the S. A. R. pledge.
2. Pres. Miller introduced our guests. Members of the Majors family included Stacey Majors Hendrix and Kevin Hendrix. Also present as guests were Bill Hay and wife Starling, Fred X. Nicholson, Luis Fernandez, Jr. and Luis G. Fernandez, M. D.
3. Pres. Miller reminded everyone the Chapter needs help with our school programs, Veterans' program, parades, etc. He formally announced that he must retire as President due to health problems. Bobby Davidson will serve as President until the next election of officers is held. Steve Lee will step up to Second Vice President.
4. Larry Ashburn talked about our school programs and other upcoming Color Guard projects. He asked for more volunteers.
5. Pres. Miller presented Certificate of Appreciation Awards to the following members: Sam Kidd, Jr., Rev. Don Majors, George Hall (not present), Steve Lee, Larry Ashburn, Chris Williamson, Mike Everheart and Larry Oliver.
6. Pres. Miller presented Certificates and Meritorious Service Medals to these members:  
 Bobby Davidson, Don Boyd and Archie Anderson.

7. Bobby Davidson presented an Emergency Medical Services Commendation Award to Dr. Luis G. Fernandez, M. D., who is chief trauma surgeon at Trinity Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler. Dr. Fernandez gave a short acceptance speech, and Lois Davidson passed out a brochure describing some of his life history and accomplishments.  
 (Dinner)
8. The meeting was re-called to order by our Program Chairman, Sam Kidd, Jr., who announced that our speaker for the July meeting will be Sheriff J. B. Smith. Compatriot Kidd then introduced our program for the evening, Three Majors and a General, a group composed of Larry McClellan, Rev. Don Majors, Rev. Steve Majors and Stacey Majors Hendrix. They presented a very enjoyable program of well-known patriotic and historical songs, as well as some original songs written by Rev. Steve Majors.
9. Pres. Miller mentioned the three Revolutionary period dolls that Judi Solomon donated to our Chapter.
10. Pres. Miller installed Bobby Davidson as our President, and Bobby gave a short acceptance speech.
11. President Davidson led the S. A. R. Closing and Rev. Don Majors gave the benediction. Our next regular meeting is scheduled for July 24 at the Woman's Building.  
 Donald Boyd, Chapter Secretary.

**William Barron Chapter**  
**2007 Meeting Schedule**

July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
 September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
 November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007

**TXSSAR**  
**Capt. Wm Barron Chapter**  
**10858 Mosswood Drive**  
**Tyler, TX**  
**75703-9433**  
**903-581-7891**  
**e-mail: [GRAYCIRCLE@cs.com](mailto:GRAYCIRCLE@cs.com)**

**<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txwbcsar/>**