



# Captain Barron's Bugle

Captain William Barron Chapter #25  
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 7, Number 3

September 2007

Michael Everheart, Editor

## DR. EDWARD TABRI TO BE OUR SPEAKER AT OUR SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Dr. Edward Tabri, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Texas at Tyler will once again make a presentation to our membership at our September 25<sup>th</sup> general meeting. Dr. Tabri graduated from the University of Virginia, majoring in European history. He has spent time studying European history in France and England and has also studied in Belgium as a Fulbright Scholar. Dr. Tabri's presentation will center on both the formal and informal education of Thomas Jefferson. His familiarity with this topic rests largely on his having attended Jefferson's creation, the University of Virginia, and having spent an entire summer working at Monticello, Jefferson's home and plantation.

Please mark your calendars now and plan on attending the Capt. William Barron's general meeting on Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Woman's Building, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The buffet meal is \$15.00 per person. Don't miss Dr. Edward Tabri's excellent presentation!!

## Capt. Wm. Barron Chapter Celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday



Group picture of chapter members and guests at our chapter's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary membership meeting held on July 24th, 2007, at the Woman's Building in Tyler.



## President's Message

We had a wonderful celebration in July of the 40th birthday of the Captain William Barron Chapter. Sheriff J.B. Smith gave a very interesting talk about jails throughout history. He also expressed his admiration for the men of the Sons of the American Revolution, and his regret that he is not eligible to join our organization.

We welcome new member, Tom Copeland, who was inducted at the July meeting, and who also won the door prize.

We received a nice thank you from Hospice of East Texas for the Flag Certificate we presented at the July meeting.

It was good to see Charles Luna, Skip Gustafson, Jim Robertson and Sam Whitten, officers from the Athens SAR chapter, at our meeting. We have received an invitation from their Chapter to attend their Annual "Constitution Week" Meeting - Violin concert and silent auction-Thursday, September 13 - 6:30 pm. Auction preview at 6:00 pm. First Presbyterian Church - Fellowship Hall, 309 East Corsicana Street, Athens, Texas - 1-1/2 blocks east of square. Program by Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck, Supervisor: Genealogy Section - Dallas Public Library, "Researching Your Colonial Ancestor". Catered Dinner at \$15.00 per person. Please reserve directly with Sam Whitten by Tuesday, September 11th, 903-675-8220 or: [samwhitten@aol.com](mailto:samwhitten@aol.com).

The Ashburns, Copelands, Davidsons, Everhearts and Lees attended the summer Board of Managers Meeting held in Boerne in early August. Great fellowship. Our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony will be held at Tyler Memorial Cemetery, Saturday, November 17 at 10 am. Everyone is invited to attend this very moving ceremony

Thanks to the many members who have returned rifle raffle ticket stubs and checks for our annual fund raiser. Larry Ashburn, Tom Copeland and I, have had a ticket selling and recruiting table at Tyler Trade Days and at Lock N Load, with considerable success. If you haven't yet returned your stubs and checks, this is a reminder that the drawing will be held at the November 27th Chapter meeting.

Bob G. Davidson, President

**Join us at the Woman's Building  
on September 25th!**



**TXSSAR  
Capt. Wm Barron Chapter  
10858 Mosswood Drive  
Tyler, TX**

**75703-9433**

**903-581-7891**

**e-mail: [GRAYCIRCE@cs.com](mailto:GRAYCIRCE@cs.com)**

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

**Members and Wives of Captain William Barron  
Chapter 25  
are invited to be our guests  
at a Church Supper and Patriotic Program  
presented by Don Majors, Larry Ashburn, and  
Leland Carter**

**Sunday, November 11, 2007 6:00 pm**

**Assembly of God Activity Building  
Highway 14 (North of IH-20 and 80), Hawkins,  
Texas**

**Rev. Don Majors, Pastor**

**For more information contact Don Majors  
[gloriaanddon@peoplepc.com](mailto:gloriaanddon@peoplepc.com)**



**July Meeting & BOM Photographs**



Wm. Barron Compatriots Ashburn, Everheart, Copeland, Lee & Davidson at Board of Managers Meeting.



New Member Tom Copeland with sponsor Larry Ashburn and President Davidson. **Welcome Compatriot Copeland!!**



Wm. Barron Ladies at BOM: June Everheart, Elaine Ashburn, Anna Lee, Lois Davidson, & Dene Copeland.

**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-----Open
- Eagle Scout Chairman-----Steven Lee
- Bugle Editor/Publisher-----Mike Everheart
- School Program Coordinator-----Tom Copeland



Another view of members in attendance at our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting.



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## The Captain William Barron Chapter, No. 25

### TXSSAR

#### Minutes from the meeting of:

July 24, 2007

The Captain William Barron Chapter, No. 25, of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Tyler, Texas, under the direction of Compatriot Bob Davidson, President, celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on July 24, 2007. In celebration of their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Chapter in the SAR, as well as honoring the 231<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the birth of our nation (July 1776-July 2007), a beautiful cake honoring the occasion was presented to those in attendance.

The meeting opened with the Invocation by Rev. Don Majors, Chaplain. The prayer of invocation also included prayers and encouragement to the families of Walter Knighten and Mrs. Ludie Lee, the mother of Compatriot Steve Lee, and the grandmother of Compatriot Matthew Lee. Our hearts, prayers and thoughts go out to the loved ones of Walter Knighten and Ludie Lee.

The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag, the pledge to the Texas flag, and the pledge to the SAR were directed by Compatriot Matthew Lee. It was only appropriate that on our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Chapter of the Texas Society of the SAR, we would be able to give salute to the newly revised Texas pledge. It goes as follows: "Honor the Texas Flag: I pledge allegiance to the, Texas, **one state under God**, one and indivisible."

A newly revised membership list of the Captain William Barron Chapter was handed out to all in attendance. It is nicely laid out, and I'm sure all of the membership is appreciative for the information. Mention of the anniversary cake was announced for everyone to enjoy after their dinner.

President Davidson at this time gave the introduction of guests in attendance: Christine Morawski, Director of Community Outreach of Hospice of East Texas was in attendance. Also in attendance were members of the Athens SAR Chapter: Compatriot Charles Luna, President, Compatriot Skip Gustafson, Vice-President, Compatriot Jim Robertson, Chancellor, and Compatriot Sam Whitten, Secretary-Treasurer.

It was an honor to welcome back Col. Graham Martin into our Chapter. Compatriot Martin has been in Dallas, Texas for the past few years. We were also honored to have the following prospective members: Mr. Gaylon Hayes, Mr. Brent Riddle (Mr. Hayes's son-in-law), and Jim and Judy Reed. We were also honored to have our esteemed Smith County Sheriff, Mr. J. B. Smith in attendance.

After the introduction of our guests, it was a happy occasion to have the induction ceremony of our new member, Compatriot Tom Copeland. Mr. Copeland was sponsored by Compatriot Larry Ashburn. Compatriot Ashburn pinned on the membership pin.

The Chapter then presented some awards to the following individuals: Ms. Christine Morawski was present a Flag Certificate for Hospice of East Texas. Compatriot Tom Miller, Past-President of the Chapter, was given a Certificate of Appreciation, along with a medal of Meritorious Service. Compatriot Max Herring could not be at the anniversary meeting for health reasons. Compatriot Herring has just resigned after many years of service as Registrar of this Chapter. We will present him with a Certificate of Appreciation and medal at the next available opportunity. Compatriot Lawrence Ashburn has agreed to take over the duties of Registrar.

President Davidson presented the Chapter with some good news. We have been informed that our Chapter winner, Anthony Bernardelli, won second place at the National Joseph Rumbaugh contest. He performed this feat out of 16 entries. He gathered a prize of \$2,000. Congratulations are in order for Anthony. Our Chapter has a new fundraising project going on at this time. President Davidson mailed out to all members raffle tickets to sell to help us with our fundraising project. It is a beautiful black-powder rifle that someone will enjoy. President Davidson wants everyone to know that if you need more raffle tickets, please see him. Also, please turn all raffle ticket stubs and money in to President Davidson. In addition, if you are able to help with the gun raffle at the Tyler Trade Show (Highway 69 north) or at the Longview Gun Show, your assistance would be appreciated. Please sign up as soon as you can. The dates are on the sign-up sheet, or call President Davidson for information regarding the gun shows. For your information, our Color Guard intends to participate in the Hawkins Oil Festival Parade on Saturday, October 13, 2007, and will be participating in the Tyler Rose Parade on October 20. The upcoming flag retirement ceremony is tentatively slated for November 10. Please look for the dates in the upcoming Bugle newsletter. In honor of our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, President Davidson requested for Chaplain Don Majors to present a



short presentation on patriotism. Compatriot Majors quoted a patriot who stated at the time of the conflict the following words: "The fear of the enemy is our greatest weakness, and the fear of the Lord is our greatest strength." On July 4, 1776, these patriots, our ancestors, were up against overwhelming odds. At the start of the conflict there were approximately 18,000 men, and by the end of the conflict there were only approximately 5,000 men. Chaplain Majors quoted the father of our nation, George Washington, when he stated, "Our cause is just." Then Chaplain Majors asked the rhetorical question, "What is our cause? Is our cause still just? Have we lost sight of what our cause is?" He commented on the patriotic spirit of our founding fathers and how their intent was to establish this nation as a Judeo-Christian nation founded and based upon the Ten Commandments. Many in this nation are trying to re-create this nation into a secular nation. That was never the intent of the Founding Fathers. Our cause is not secular revisionism. It cannot afford to be. John Jay, our first Supreme Court Justice said, "We prefer Christians for our rulers." Chief Justice Earl Warren in 1954 stated, "I like to believe that we are living today in the spirit of the Christian religion. I like also to believe that as long as we do so, no great harm can come to our country." The intent of the Founding Fathers must continue to be our cause as well.

After the wonderful dinner that is always put on by the Woman's Building, compatriot Sam Kidd introduced our evening speaker, Sheriff J. B. Smith of Smith County, Texas. Sheriff Smith has served for 30 years as the sheriff of this county. He gave a wonderful history of the jails in Tyler, tracing the history of jails back to 1876. He talked about the branding of bodies for a crime, and mentioned how a person would be jailed for not paying their indebtedness. He talked about his family heritage growing up in his hometown of Sumpter, Arkansas. His topic was very interesting. He is a very entertaining speaker, and everyone enjoyed his talk. He mentioned that there are 254 counties in Texas, and he gave this point of information: He stated that anything under \$10,000, the sheriff is in charge of jails and taxes. He talked about an incident – a shootout – that happened on the courthouse lawn of Smith County in 1871. He discussed the locations of the jails in 1848, 1857, 1916 and 1984. In 1916, a wagon yard was where the jail sits now. The jail has doubled in size every ten years. Today, July 24, 2007, there are 996 inmates housed at the Smith County jail. Some of his closing comments were, "I surround myself with intelligent and talented people...life is about attitude, it's what you think about God, your family and yourself." He received a standing ovation.

After Sheriff Smith's speech, the door prize was presented. The prize was a copy of a painting of the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775. The irony was lost on no one as we observed our new member, compatriot Tom Copeland, win the door prize. Congratulations to him. After the SAR Closing, Chaplain Don Majors gave the benediction. Everyone then gathered up front for a group 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary picture.

(NOTE: In the temporary absence of our Chapter Secretary, Don Boyd, the minutes of this meeting were recorded by Compatriots Steve and Don Majors, and re-typed by the Secretary. Many thanks to Steve and Don Majors from the Secretary.)

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

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

**State and National Events Coming Up**

**NSSAR Leadership Meeting, Louisville Sep 27-29, 2007**

**TXSSAR Board of Managers, Plano Oct 26-28, 2007**

**TXSSAR State Convention, Arlington March 27-30, 2008**

**NSSAR 118<sup>th</sup> National Congress, Sacramento, CA.**  
**July 5-9, 2008**

**TXSSAR Board of Managers, Tyler August 1-3, 2008**