



Captain Barron's Bugle

Captain William Barron Chapter #25
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 8, Number 1

May 2008

Roger Jacobs, Editor

Mr. Bill Covington Speaks On Revolutionary War Uniforms, Law Enforcement Award To Be Presented

May Program

Mr. Bill Covington will entertain and educate us with his "Show and Tell" of Revolutionary War uniforms and accessories. We understand that Bill is very passionate about this period in history and does his presentation to honor his Revolutionary War ancestors.

Bill is married with three children, lives in Cedar Hill and is currently teaching at Waxahachie Global High School. Bill has been an educator since 1987.

Another very special event will take place and that is the presentation of the Law Enforcement Award to a very deserving Tyler Police Officer - Officer Shane Jasper.

Please join us Tuesday May 27, 6:30 PM at the Woman's Building for this important and interesting program. As usual, the buffet dinner will cost \$15.00 per person.

A Salute to Heroes - Heroism Awards Presented to Firemen

At 1:43 A.M. on August 3, 2007, Firefighters with the Flint-Gresham Volunteer Fire Dept. responded to a five-bedroom house fire. Upon arrival, they immediately requested aid from the Bullard-Noonday Fire Departments. Flames began erupting from the roof and the Noonday Unit was assigned as an interior attack team. 42-year-old Noonday Firefighter Captain Kevin Williams and 19-year-old Firefighter Austin Cheek went inside the burning house, but minutes later outside firefighters lost radio communication. Noonday Fire Chief Gary Arrant, Travis Burnett and Raylene Yates immediately went into the burning structure in a search and rescue mode.

Unfortunately, a rescue was not possible. Kevin Williams and Austin Cheek died gallantly trying to extinguish the



fire. Both Gary and Travis were injured during the recovery process and transported to East Texas Medical Center for heat exhaustion and smoke inhalation. Because of the

brave actions of the Volunteer Units, all of the family members got out of the home safely.

During the March 25, 2008 Capt. Wm. Barron Chapter meeting, Austin Cheek and Kevin Williams were posthumously awarded Heroism Medals and Certificates by President-Elect Stephen Lee. Gary Arrant, Travis Barnett and Raylene Yates were also awarded Heroism Medals and Certificates by Stephen Lee. About 25 family members and friends of the brave firefighters were in attendance for the ceremony.

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Minutes of March 25 Meeting

The March 25, 2008 meeting of the members of Capt. William Barron Chapter 25, Sons of the American Revolution, was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Bobby Davidson. After the invocation and pledges of allegiance, Bobby Davidson introduced TXSSAR President Elect Harry Fife and his wife, Suzanne Fife; Past President of Athens Chapter Charles Luna and his wife, Betty Luna; and prospective member Justin Lee and his wife, Christy Lee. There were a total of twenty-six members and forty-nine guests present.

Stephen Lee discussed the tragic events of a recent house fire in Noonday, which resulted in the death of two volunteer firefighters and injuries to several others. He then introduced approximately 25 family members and friends of the brave firefighters who took part in that effort. Austin Cheek and Kevin Williams were posthumously awarded Heroism medals and certificates by Stephen Lee. Gary Aarant, Travis Barnett and Raylene Yates were also presented Heroism medals and certificates.

Seven new members have joined the Chapter: Two new regular members were inducted: Christopher Fancher and Jimmy Francis Reed. Also, Christopher Fancher's son Layton Fancher was inducted. New membership certificate for Mack Thomas Nolen was accepted by his father, Tom Nolen. New membership certificate for Thomas Eugene Copeland was accepted by his father, Tom Copeland. New member Norris Prichard lives in Canada; his certificate will be mailed. New member Joe Harris was out of town; certificate will be presented in the future.

The following members were presented awards:

Texas Medal of Appreciation: Vickie Jacobs, Roger Jacobs, Chris Williamson, Tim West, Larry Oliver, David White and Tom Miller

Meritorious Service Award: Larry Ashburn, Leland Carter, Tom Copeland, Mike Everheart, Sam Kidd, Steve Lee and Don Majors

Color Guard Award: Tom Copeland

Martha Washington Medal: Elaine Ashburn, Lois Davidson and Anna Lee

After the buffet dinner was served, Bobby Davidson made additional announcements:

- The Everhearts, Ashburns, Lees, Copelands and Davidsons will be attending the TXSSAR convention next weekend.

- Philip Hayes of Lindale H.S., who was our representative at the Regional Rumbaugh Oration Contest, won that event and will be competing at the state convention next weekend. (Post-meeting note: Philip Hayes won the state competition.)

- Our chapter winner of the Knight Essay Contest, Brandon Frisby of Brook Hill School, has won the state contest and will be given an award at the state convention.

- The poster of our chapter winner of Brook Hill School will be presented at state.

Sam Kidd introduced incoming TXSSAR President Harry Fife, who discussed ideas to raise money through grants, recruitment of new members and various publicity ideas. After his talk, Bobby Davidson presented him with a certificate.

Sam Kidd was nominated to be chapter secretary and was elected to that post.

TXSSAR President Elect Harry Fife installed new chapter officers:

President - Stephen Lee

1st Vice President - Tim West

2nd Vice President - Tom Copeland

Secretary - Sam Kidd

Treasurer - George Hall

Bobby Davidson presented Steve Lee with his ribbon and medal, and Steve Lee gave Bobby Davidson the past president pin and certificate for his service as President.

Don Majors gave the benediction and led those assembled in singing "God Bless America". The meeting ended with recitation of the SAR closing.

Sam C Kidd, Secretary

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TXSSAR
Capt. Wm. Barron Chapter Officers 2008-10
President -- -- Stephen Lee
1st Vice President/Programs -- -- Tim West
2nd Vice President -- -- Tom Copeland
Publicity/Media -- -- Tom Copeland
Chaplain -- -- Rev. Don Majors
Secretary -- -- Sam Kidd
Treasurer -- -- George Hall
Registrar -- -- Larry Ashburn
Historian -- -- Sam Kidd
Sgt. At Arms -- -- Matthew Lee
Eagle Scout Chairman -- -- Stephen Lee
School Pgm. Coord. -- -- Tom Copeland
Webmaster -- -- Larry Oliver
Bugle Editor/Publisher -- -- Roger Jacobs



Swearing in Officers: TXSSAR President Harry Fife swears in the new slate of officers at the March meeting. Left-to-right Steve Lee (President), Tim West (1st Vice President), Tom Copeland (2nd Vice President) and Sam Kidd (Secretary)



Left to right: Color Guard Commander Larry Ashburn, Steve Lee and Tim West posted the colors at the Naturalization Ceremony at the Federal Courthouse.



Award Presentation: Certificates of Appreciation were presented at the March Chapter Meeting. Left-to-Right: Steve Lee, Don Majors, Larry Ashburn, Sam Kidd, Leland Carter, Tom Copeland, Mike Everheart.



Daughters of the American Revolution, Mary Tyler Chapter Vice Regent Anna Lee and Steve Lee take part in the Naturalization Ceremony at the Federal Courthouse.



Outgoing Chapter President Bob Davidson (left) and Incoming Chapter President Steve Lee (right)



Tom and Dene Copeland attend the TXSSAR State Convention in Arlington.

President's Message

Compatriots,

I am honored to serve as your president of the Captain William Barron Chapter for this next term. We have an exceptional chapter blessed with wonderful compatriots and I look forward to a great year. We all owe Bob Davidson a great deal of gratitude for his service as president over the past year. Thanks, Bob! Our chapter continues to play a vital role in the community with color guard activities, naturalization ceremonies, school presentations, parades, flag retirements, awards to police, fire officials, and other deserving groups. This type of exposure gains us wonderful publicity and affords the opportunity to present our patriotic message to the public—and to recruit new members!

What a wonderful 113th TXSSAR state convention in Arlington March 27-29. It was incredible to be in attendance and see our state officers not only conduct business, but make long range plans for the future of our society. We had a great turnout from our chapter with the Ashburns, Copelands, Davidsons, Everhearts, and Lees enjoying the activities. We received the Group 2 Outstanding Chapter Award, the John K. Harrell CAR Award for Group 2, the TXSSAR Americanism Award, TXSSAR Flag Presentation Award and recognition in the Knight Essay Contest. Mike Everheart was presented The Hartsell Stephens Award for sponsoring the most compatriots during the past TXSSAR year. Our Joseph Rumbaugh Orientation winner, Philip Hayes from Lindale High School, placed first in state competition and will advance to the national level at the SAR National Convention in Sacramento, California in July. First place also went to our George and Stella Knight essay winner, Brandon Frisby from The Brook Hill School, who will now advance to national competition. Way to go guys! It is so wonderful to have your chapter recognized and I urge you all to work hard so we may even exceed this year's success. Next year the state meeting will be held in Nacogdoches and it is not too early to begin making plans to attend. You will be very proud of your TXSSAR. Our new state president, Harry Fife, presented the chapters program at the March meeting and we want to support him and help contribute our efforts.

The Captain William Barron Chapter will be sponsoring the Board of Management meeting August 1, 2 & 3 at the Holiday Inn Select. Chapters from around the state will meet to plan and conduct TXSSAR business. We will need volunteers to assist in the activities and I know you will want to volunteer your assistance and also take the opportunity to sit in on some of the training sessions. The leaders are dedicated and will present some wonderful guidelines so we can continue to make our chapter a success. Every member of the chapter will want to be present!

Let's all work together and make this a productive year. There will be many opportunities to serve so please

let me know if you can help or how you can help. Thank you in advance for a great year!

Steve Lee, Chapter President



The Piney Woods Chapter dedicated the grave of Revolutionary War Soldier Thomas C. Holmes. Mike Everheart, second from left, participated in the event held near Jasper, Texas.

Help Restore The Traditional Memorial Day Observance

Over the years the meaning of Memorial Day has faded more and more from the public consciousness. From



a solemn day of mourning, of remembrance, and of honor to our departed loved ones, it has degenerated into a weekend of Bar B Q's and beaches where only token nods toward our honored dead is given, if at all. Too many people don't even know what the day stands for. But let's not blame them. The blame belongs to Congress who made the day into a three-day weekend in with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363), to ensure a three-day weekend for Federal holidays. The blame belongs to those of us who know what the true meaning is but fail to observe the day, or at best give a weak token nod toward it (because we don't want to appear "odd" or "different" or a "party-pooper"?) The blame belongs to those of us who know the true meaning but do not politely teach others it, pass it down to our children, or make it a family tradition. And the blame belongs to those of us who know and honor the day, but do not support any societal efforts to return "Memorial" back to Memorial Day.

Texas State SAR Winners for Oration and Essay Contests from Tyler Area!

This deserves to be "Front-Page" headlines if not for the very special Heroism Awards Ceremony held during the last chapter meeting.

The Capt. William Barron Chapter, Tyler, Sons of the American Revolution is very proud to announce that the winners for the Texas State SAR Joseph Rumbaugh Oration Scholarship and Texas State SAR George and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest Scholarship have been awarded to local students from Lindale and Tyler respectfully.



Left-to-Right: Bob Davidson, Past President Wm. Barron Chapter, State Oration Winner Phillip Hayes, Steve Lee, President Wm. Barron Chapter

Capt William Barron Chapter, Tyler, Sons of the American Revolution, announces Phillip Hayes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hayes winner of the Texas State SAR Joseph Rumbaugh Oration Scholarship. The competition for the \$1000.00 Scholarship was held at The Texas State Convention of the SAR in Arlington TX, on Saturday March 29, 2008.

Hayes a student at Lindale High School, Lindale, TX has won Local, District and State competitions to advance to National level. He will now compete in the National Competition for a Scholarship of \$3000.00, which will be held at the Convention of The Society of The Sons of The American Revolution in Sacramento California on July 5-9, 2008.

Philip's award winning speech on Alexander Hamilton and his contribution to the United States during, and after the Revolutionary War was acclaimed after the contest. Philip is the second winner of the this Scholarship from Lindale High School in the past two years, with Anthony Bernardelli winning First Place at the Texas State Level and Second Place at the National Level in 2007. Mrs. Janice Caldwell, Speech Teacher at Lindale

presented leading contestants for the Rumbaugh Contest has been named Teacher of the Year for the two years.

The Captain Wm Barron Chapter, Tyler, Sons of The American Revolution, announces that Brandon Frisby son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Frisby, a student of The Brook Hill School, is Winner of the Texas State SAR George and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest Scholarship Award.



Left-to-Right: Steve Lee, President Wm. Barron Chapter, Bob Davidson, Past President Wm. Barron Chapter, State Essay Winner Brandon Frisby, Tom Copeland, 2nd VP Wm. Barron Chapter

Brandon also won the Local and Regional Contest to qualify for the State level competition.

Brandon's Scholarship was awarded at the Texas State Sons of the American Revolution at its Convention in Arlington, TX on Saturday March 30, 2008.

Brandon's Essay will now compete at The National SAR Competition with the Winner of a National Scholarship Award being announced at the National SAR Convention in Sacramento, CA July 5-9, 2008.

William Barron Chapter **Schedule 2008-9**

Meetings:

May 27, 2008

July 22, 2008

September 23, 2008

November 25, 2008

Local/State/National Events Calendar:

NSSAR 118th National Congress

Sacramento, CA. July 5-9, 2008

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

Color Guard Calendar:

Faith of Our Fathers - National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is a day designated by the United States Congress as a day when all Americans regardless of faith are asked to come together and pray for our country and leaders. There have been several national days of prayer in the United States before the day was made official in 1952. On April 17, 1952, President Harry S. Truman signed a bill proclaiming the National Day of Prayer into law. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed a bill into law decreeing that the National Day of Prayer should be held on the first Thursday of May.

There are many examples in our country's history where our leaders have acknowledged a reliance on a Higher Power or Almighty Ruler that watches over and listens to the voice of His children, which pours His grace upon those who seek him in prayer; asking for His guidance and thanking Him for the many blessings He has bestowed.

Washington's Prayer for the United States of America appears on a plaque in St. Paul's Chapel in New York City as well as Pohick Church, Fairfax County, Virginia, where Washington was a vestryman from 1762 to 1784.

Almighty God: We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy Holy protection; and Thou wilt incline the hearts of the Citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to Government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow Citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the Field.

And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that Charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the Characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed Religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation.

Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

George Washington

May 1, 1777 Washington received intelligence that at last France was coming into the war on the side of America. In announcing the French decision to his joyous troops, Washington proclaimed:

"It having pleased the Almighty Ruler of the universe to defend the cause of the United American States, and finally to raise up a powerful friend among the princes of the earth, to establish our liberty and independence upon a lasting foundation, it becomes us to set apart a day for gratefully acknowledging the divine goodness, and celebrating the important event, which we owe to His divine interposition."

Kistler, Nation, 74

Benjamin Franklin, who some considered an agnostic, was moved during one session of the Constitutional Convention to say the following:

I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth; that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the Sacred Writings that except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that built it. I firmly believe this ...

I therefore beg leave to move that henceforth, prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven and its blessing on our deliberation be held in the assembly every morning.

Benjamin Franklin, at one session of the Constitutional Convention

"We staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self government; upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

James Madison, 4th U.S. President, *DeMar, God & Government, I, 137.*

On July 3, 1776 when independence became a reality, John Adams, who had fought so long and hard for his vision of a new nation under God, was overwhelmed. On this day he dispatched a prophetic letter to his wife Abigail. The day, he said,

"ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forevermore."

On October 3, 1789, mindful of the many blessings God had bestowed upon America, President Washington decided to proclaim a Day of Thanksgiving:

"It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly implore His protection and favor."

Washington, *Writings XXX, 427.*

Alexis-Charles-Henri Clérel de Tocqueville (July 29, 1805 – April 16, 1859) was a French political thinker and historian best known for his *Democracy in America* (appearing in two volumes: 1835 and 1840) and *The Old Regime and the Revolution* (1856). Alexis de Tocqueville had this to say about America:

"I sought for the key to the greatness and genius of America and her harbors . . .; in her fertile fields and boundless forests; in her rich mines and vast world commerce, in her public school system, and in her institutions of learning. I sought for it in her democratic Congress and in her matchless Constitution. Not until I went into the churches of American and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

Thomas Jefferson, our 3rd U.S. President:

"God who gave us life, gave us liberty. Can the liberty of a nation be secure where we have removed a conviction that these liberties are a gift of God? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just. That His justice cannot sleep forever."

The first National Day of Prayer and Fasting in Lincoln's administration was the last Thursday in September 1861:

"And whereas when our own beloved country, once, by the blessing of God, united, prosperous and happy, is now afflicted with faction and civil war, it is peculiarly fit for us to recognize the hand of God in this terrible visitation, and in sorrowful remembrance of our own faults and crimes as a nation and as individuals, to humble ourselves before Him and to pray for His mercy...that the inestimable boon of civil and religious liberty, earned under His guidance and blessing by the labors and sufferings of our fathers, may be restored."

Johnson, Lincoln, 76.