



Captain Barron's Bugle

Captain William Barron Chapter #25
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 9, Number 1

May 2009

The Ink Well, Editor

TXSSAR President to Speak at May meeting!



Judge Tom Lawrence, newly elected President of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, will be the featured speaker at the May 26th meeting of the Captain William Barron Chapter. A Justice of the Peace in Harris County, Judge Lawrence serves on the State Commission on Judicial Conduct and the Texas Supreme Court Advisory committee.

Judge Lawrence received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Chapman University in Los Angeles and Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree from South Texas College of Law and served as a Commissioned officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. SAR offices include President of the Paul Carrington Chapter and Chairman of the Americanism and Member Services among others. He and Mrs. Lawrence founded the Tom and Betty Lawrence American History Award which awards a scholarship to an American History teacher to attend the Freedoms Foundation Teacher workshop in Valley Forge, Pa. Judge Lawrence will speak on "How the SAR can affect the community." Please make a special effort to attend the meeting and welcome our State President to Tyler!

The SAR Law Enforcement Award will be presented to Tyler Police Officer of the Year, Kenneth Gardner and Rookie of the Year, Josh Hill. Both men were selected by their fellow police

officers as ones that best represent the Department. Mrs. Kelly Prew, Youthful News and Food Editor from the Tyler Morning Telegraph will also be recognized for her publicity of the chapter.

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I love this time of year! Everything is green and alive, the weather warmer and we have the opportunity to celebrate several important holidays. Memorial Day, which is observed on the last Monday of May, was formerly known as *Decoration Day*. This holiday commemorates the men and women who died while in military service to our country. This tradition began when soldiers, who died during the Civil War, were honored and was expanded after World War I to include American casualties of any war or military action. I always consider it a great honor to visit or take part in any Memorial Day ceremony and look forward to being a part of the Color Guard as we participate at Hawkins Veterans Park on Memorial Day 2009. Please join us in Hawkins or visit one of the many Memorial Day Ceremonies, locally. We owe it to the memory of those who paid the ultimate price!

Independence Day, or as we say around here, the Fourth of July, commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, when independence was declared from Great Britain. As lovers of history, we know that most delegates actually signed the Declaration on August 2, 1776. Most Americans think of fireworks, parades and barbecues to celebrate the 4th and there certainly is nothing wrong with that, but let us all take time to remember the sacrifices of our ancestors that we honor through the Sons of the American Revolution. Many of our ancestors lost their homes, land and even their lives as they dared to form a free and democratic nation. We owe these ladies and gentlemen so very much and we must always keep their memories alive!

I realize I am "preaching to the choir" when I say that we are very fortunate to still live in a country where we can participate in a heritage group, such as The Sons of the American Revolution. Through our efforts, we have educated others on the history of our nation and have helped spread our patriotic message. Thank you for your stand and God give us the strength to continue!

God Bless You!
Stephen Lee

Minutes - March 24, 2009

The regular bimonthly membership meeting of Capt. William Barron Chapter 25 was held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at The Woman's Building in Tyler, Texas. 26 members and 27 guests were present.

Chapter President Stephen Lee opened the meeting at 6:30 PM by asking Don Majors to say the invocation. Tom Copeland and Matthew Lee presented the colors and led the pledges to the American and Texas flags. David Hanover led the salute to the S.A.R. flag.

President Lee recognized special guests Art & Sunny Hall (our speaker), Charles Luna and Skip Gustafson of the Athens chapter, new junior member David Gawedzinski and his mother Diane, David's grandmother Jane Barnes, and Johnnie & Norma Holley. Mike Everheart introduced John Merritt and David McLeod, who are applying for membership. Steve also recognized recently initiated members Rick Featherston and James Kidd.

Mike Everheart gave a report on the TXSSAR State Convention in Nacogdoches. He said 108 members were present and about 190 total people attended the meeting. Judge Tom Lawrence of Houston was inducted as President. We have a new web site and the state newsletter will soon go electronic. Mike also said the Ladies' Auxiliary raised \$2,200 from its quilt raffle.

David Hanover reported on the recent Sons of the Republic of Texas state convention in Boerne, discussed upcoming events and invited anyone who is eligible to join SRT/bRT.

Bobby Davidson and Johnnie Holley discussed preliminary plans for a historic organizations ball, perhaps to be held in the Fall, and asked anyone with ideas or interest in helping to contact them or their wives.

Steve announced that Roger Jacobs has asked to step down as "Bugle" editor. He was presented with a TXSSAR Service Medal and Steve asked anyone interested in performing this job to contact him.

Mike Everheart and Steve Lee installed David Gawedzinski as our newest and youngest member of Capt. William Barron Chapter. Mike also introduced John Merritt and David McLeod, who are applying for S.A.R. membership.

Tom Copeland gave a report on upcoming activities of the Color Guard, which includes May 25 in Hawkins, June 2 at Holly Lake Ranch Golf Tournament, June 13 flag retirement at Tyler Municipal Park and June 28 at Green Acres Baptist Church. Tom also reported we will again have a raffle of a black powder rifle and pistol.

President Lee then discussed the loss to the Chapter of over \$400 due to a lot of members reserving meals for the January meeting and then not attending. He said the Officers have decided to install a new policy, effective with the May 2009 meeting, that requires a member to pay for his meals at the usual \$15.00 rate if he reserves places, whether he actually attends the meeting or not.

The members and guests then enjoyed an excellent buffet dinner.

After dinner, Tim West introduced retired U.S. Navy Commander and TXSSAR Coastal Registrar Art Hall of the Athens chapter, who spoke on U.S. Navy espionage activities against the Soviet Union during the Cold War. Steve presented Mr. Hall with a Certificate of Appreciation and gift certificate to Barnes & Noble.

David Hanover led the S.A.R. closing, Don Majors gave the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Sam Kidd, Recording Secretary

Financial Report

March 2009

General Fund Balance

\$7,771.67

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

TXSSAR

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Don't miss our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony to be held in conjunction with the DAR Flag Day Ceremony! Tom and unserviceable American flags will be retired with honors during a special ceremony at 10am June 13th at Tyler Memorial Cemetery, 12053 Texas Highway 64 West. Members of Veteran organizations, military associations, the Tyler Fire and Police Departments, Explorer Scouts, Boy Scouts, Mary Tyler Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons and Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Sons of Confederate Veterans and Civil Air Patrol units are expected to participate in the ceremony. Texas State Representative Leo Bemlan, of District 6 will be our guest speaker. This is a very patriotic time when our chapter will honorably retire these unserviceable American flags that have flown over this great nation!



Our Captain William Barron Chapter winner of the Joseph Rumbaugh Oration contest, Philip Hayes, is on his way to the national SAR competition in Atlanta. Philip placed first at the TXSSAR convention in Nacogdoches with his speech on General George Washington. Tom Copeland, Larry Ashburn, Bob Davidson and Stephen Lee congratulate Phillip after the competition.

POST THE COLORS

By Tom Copeland

It is with honor and humility that I assume the role of Commander of the Captain William Barron Chapter Color Guard. We owe a great deal of gratitude to Compatriot Larry Ashburn who organized the Color Guard and personally made the uniforms. It is my desire to continue the high standards that he established. To Compatriot Ashburn we all owe our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for a job well done.

As members of the SAR our mission is to honor the sacrifices of our forefathers, promote patriotism within our community, and instill pride in our American Heritage. The Captain William Barron Chapter provides us these opportunities through its many programs, such as The Good Citizenship Award, Heroism Awards, and a variety of youth contests.

Presently there are ten members who have volunteered to be a part of our Color Guard activities. We should not expect nor demand that all appear at each function, but we should not expect the same volunteers to carry the full load. Every Chapter member should respect and honor the Guard for their service and dedication to our Chapter. That respect and honor I will hold as sacred. Thank you for the honor to serve our Chapter, and I am so proud to be a part of such a great group of Compatriots.

Upcoming Color Guard Activities:

- May 25^h- Memorial Day Ceremony at Hawkins Veterans Park - 11am
- June 2nd - Present the Colors at the opening of the Holly Lake Golf Tournament at Holly Lake Ranch.
- June 13th- Flag Retirement Ceremony at Tyler Memorial Park Cemetery at 10am
- June 28th - "I Love America" at Green Acres Baptist Church 8:15am, 9:45am, 11:15am
- June 29^h - "I Love America" at Green Acres Baptist Church 7:00pm
- July 4th- Fourth of July Community event at Holly Lake Ranch

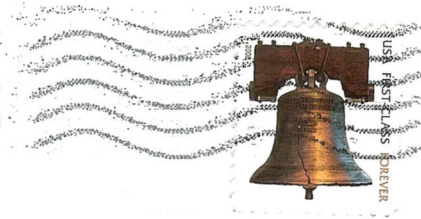


RIFLE RAFFLE

For the past four years our Chapter has held a Rifle Raffle for our major fundraiser. This year you have already received tickets to either buy or sell to help raise money for our many community youth programs. This year two winning tickets will be drawn for an historically correct 1720 Pennsylvania 50 Caliber Black Powder Firing Rifle and an historically correct 1760 Kentucky 50 Caliber black Powder Firing Pistol. Both will be raffled during our November meeting. Thanks to Tom Copeland for his splendid work!

Captain Barron's Bugle
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Newest Member

Our newest member, David Gawedzinski is sworn in as Jane Bames, Diane Gawedzinski and Mike Everheart look on.



JROTC AWARD

Compatriot Bob Davidson presents a certificate and a \$100 check to C/CPT Jacob Downs at the JROTC awards at John Tyler High School.



Steve & Art Hall

TXSSAR Geneologist Art Hall was our speaker at the March meeting with a very informative presentation on NavalIntelligence.

The National Society Sons of the American Revolution Congress is scheduled for July 4-8 in Atlanta, Georgia. It is still not too late to register and you may do so by accessing the national website at sar.org



Chapter Poster Winner

Compatriots Larry Ashburn and Tom Copeland present Grace Community fourth grader, Grace Wang, a certificate and a crisp \$100 bill for her first place entry in the chapter poster contest.



Stan Stokes & David White

Stan Stokes and David White receive supplemental awards at the March meeting.