



THE EAST TEXAS PATRIOT

Sons of the American Revolution

Chapter # 57 Longview, Texas



Volume 13, Number 3

June 6, 2019

The President's Message

“What is Our History?”

What have you done to help promote our history? I have not accomplished all that I desired. Where does time go? In the past six weeks I have had the opportunity to watch, assist with and/or run contests of various Academic Regional meets and One Act Play contests. My interest in various one act plays depicting different stories of historical nature. Knowing the requirements of the research that the play companies must do to have a viable show that will tell the playwright's story is more than the simple memorization of the lines and saying them. All members must research the time period in which the story takes place in order to design proper costumes, set pieces, music, and action of the actors. It is sometimes amazing the work and depth that these individuals accomplish in a relative short time. In the research of a show the history relevant at the time of the show is a must. For instance, using a repeating rifle in a Revolutionary War show would not be correct nor would a bow and arrow be used in World War II battles. Things have changed in our lifetime. Have you noticed that in most old black and white WWII movies, when the conflict of battle ends the characters stop for a cigarette break and lite up. Today in our society, smoking is not prevalent in the United States, however, it is still found in some foreign countries. It has been my privilege to work with some of these companies and share some of my stories from the good ole' days when one walked to school or rode your bicycle. You were ill or had a doctor's appointment if someone picked you up. Today young people have trouble existing without their cell phones and UIL individuals have to forfeit that pleasure for the run of the contest due to UIL rules. More to come at a later date.

Dave Conner and I were able to attend the Longview High School Jr. ROTC end of the year awards program. We were able to make the presentations to our cadets and very proud when these cadets were announced to be part of the Jr. ROTC Officer Staff for the school year 2019 – 2020. Please put this on your calendar and make plans to represent SAR at next years ceremony. It will be held in the Little Theater about the same time in 2020.

Please submit Flagg Certificate proposals for Flagg Day Friday June 14, 2019. Bring to our June meeting or email to me at cfhedges@sbcglobal.net.

We need to see your smiling face at our meetings, and we need to grow in numbers. I encourage you to make it a point for perfect attendance or at least attend most of the time. Have you thought about bringing a friend that just might wish to become a member of our organization? I have many fond memories and shall never forget SAR.

GOD BLESS AMERICA! I'll see you at Jason's Deli, June 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Carl

Minutes and Treasurer's Report of April 4, 2019

The East Texas Chapter #57, TXSSAR, held its bimonthly meeting on April 4, 2019, at Jason's Deli Restaurant in Longview, Texas at 7 PM. The meeting was called to order by President, Carl Hedges. The opening prayer was given by John Bolton. The pledges to the United States Flag, the Texas Flag and the SAR Flag were given and guests were introduced. Guests were John and Suzanne Whitsell, a prospective member, Trey Hedges and Lisa Matthews.

After dinner, the meeting resumed with the consideration of the Minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer's report as printed in the newsletter. Both were accepted as presented.

President Hedges asked once again for everyone to update their e-mail addresses. As a fund raiser, the hat was passed for excess change from members.

The newly compiled yearbook for Chapter # 57 was passed out to members present. Some will be mailed and if you do not receive yours, please let John Bolton know.

President Carl Hedges introduced the speaker for the evening Leonard Reese, III. Mr. Reese has written a book entitled "*The Nam Within*" which discussed his life before, during, and after his time in combat and his inner conflict with PTSD.

It was announced that the next meeting will be on June 6, 2019. The program will be presented by Donnie Pitchford a writer and illustrator of the weekly "Lum and Abner" comic strip.

Please send news items to Mickey Cole our Webmaster.

The meeting was adjourned with the SAR Closing and the benediction by Compatriot John Bolton.

John Bolton, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

March/April 2019

Beginning Balance (03/1/2019)		\$1336.20
Deposits: Membership "Pass the Hat" Donations	\$16.49	
Total Deposits:		\$16.49
Checks: J. Bolton - Year books	\$148.29	
J. Bolton – Stamps (27.50) Paper (\$18.48)	\$ 45.99	
C. Hedges – Medals & Certificates	\$244.50	
C. Hedges Guest speaker meal	\$ 17.13	
Total Checks:		\$455.91
Ending Balance (4/30/2019)		\$896.78

Mickey Cole, Treasurer

A big 'thank you' to Mickey Cole for standing up to accept the Historian position. We must all do our part and Mickey certainly does!



“My Country ‘Tis of Thee”

Moved deeply by the desire to create a national hymn that would allow the American people to offer praise to God for our wonderful land, a twenty-four-year-old theological student, Samuel Francis Smith, penned these lines on a scrap of paper in less than thirty minutes in the 1830s. Yet even today many consider *My Country, ‘Tis of Thee* their favorite patriotic hymn and call it our “unofficial national anthem.”

Although we know the words were written by Samuel Francis Smith, the origin of the song’s melody remains a mystery. The history of its verses is even more complex. Such an earlier melody, if it did exist, has been attributed to various seventeenth-century sources including the English composer John Bull, the French court composer Jean-Baptiste Lully, and even a military hymn from Switzerland. Although the tune’s exact origin is not confirmed, it was printed in England in 1744 in the tune book *Thesaurus Musicus*. One theory is that the words and music of this tune were composed as “God Save Great George the King” in London in 1740. The song was intended to show support for the Hanoverian King George II. Before the music of “My Country ‘Tis of Thee” made its way to the United States it was played in many countries and by the 1790s it had become the Danish national anthem. Eventually it also became the national anthem of at least six other places, including Prussia, Britain and Liechtenstein.

After the colonies became independent from England the words were further adapted for use in the United States. For example, George Washington was greeted as he arrived in New York City for his first inauguration in 1789, with the following words sung to the familiar tune of “God Save the King.”

Hail, thou auspicious day!
For let America
Thy praise resound.
Joy to our native land
Let every heart expand,
For Washington’s at hand,
With Glory crowned.

Thrice beloved Columbia, hail!
Behold before the gale
Your chief advance.
The matchless Hero’s neigh;
Applaud him to the sky,
Who gave you liberty,
With gen’rous France.

A number of popular versions of the song may have evolved in America, with no known documentation as to their source. It would have been known, for example, to many members of the Lewis and Clark expedition (1803-1806) under the title “God Keep America.” The words that eventually became a tradition were the ones written by Samuel Francis Smith. Composer. Lowell Mason, debuted the song on July 4, 1831, in Boston. Smith initially wrote another verse, which he cut because it seemed too strident and not in keeping with what he wanted to be a peaceful homage to the nation.

My Country, ‘Tis of Thee
Sweet land of liberty,
Of the I sing;
Land where my fathers died
Land of the pilgrims’ pride
From every mountainside
Let freedom ring!

Our fathers’ God to Thee.
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing
Long may our land be bright,
With freedom’s holy light,
Protect us by thy might,
Great God our King!



The Star-Spangled Banner was written by Francis Scott Key during the War of 1812. It was adopted as the official U.S. national anthem in 1931.

Officers of the Sons of the American Revolution, Chapter #57

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Speaker for the June meeting will be Donnie Pitchford. He is a graduate of Spring Hill High School, Kilgore College, Stephen F. Austin and the University of Texas at Tyler. Mr. Pitchford is an instructor at Hawkins High School. He also is Carthage High School broadcast journalism instructor; CHS-TV sponsor, and media director 1985-2010.

Pitchford is the writer-illustrator of the weekly “**Lum and Abner**” comic strip and audio series since 2011 and a freelance cartoonist. He and his wife are members of First United Methodist Church in Carthage.



ROTC Cadets of the Year
 Left--Sgt. Elijah Cox—2019 Honoree
 Right--Sgt. Samuel Ruvalcabe—2018 Honoree

Carl Hedges and Major Roland Beasley. Major Beasley was presented the Military Service Medal for 25 years of service.



It is with much sadness that we inform you of the passing of Chapter #57 member, John Claud Wallace. Claud honorably served his country in the US Army obtaining the rank of Colonel and retiring after 30 years. He received the Bronze Star and 2 Legion of Merit Awards. He was so proud to be a member of SAR and always wore his rosette. Our prayers and thoughts go out to Claud's family.

Next meeting will be June 6, 2019 at Jason's Deli in Longview. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

We need some information from each of you.

Please complete and send to me or bring to our next meeting.

I served or am serving in the (Please circle the correct one for you)

JOHN S. BOLTON- U.S. NAVY AIR FORCE, HURRICANE HUNTERS
Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Army Air Force, Navy Air Force,
Coast Guard, or other _____branch of the armed
services.

From (dates in years)___SEPT. 1955_____until _ SEPT.1961_____

My rank was _PETTY OFFICER 3 (ELECTRONICS AND NAVIGATION)_

I was stationed in U.S. NAVAL AIR STATION, JACKSONVILLE , FLA.

Also, my spouse served or is serving in the (Please circle the correct one)

Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Army Air Force, Navy Air Force,
Coast Guard, or other _____branch of the armed
services.

From (dates in years)_____until _____

My rank was _____

I was stationed in
