



1996-97 Chapter Officers

President
Bernard S. Balser
3711 Fern River Dr.
Kingwood, TX 77345
(713) 360-7041

Vice President
Donald W. Lemon
906 St. Andrews Road
Kingwood, TX 77339
(713) 358-6286

Secretary
Jeffrey M. Meadows
P.O. Box 5004
Liberty, TX 77575-2304
(409) 336-2446

Treasurer
Worthy R. Warnack, Sr.
3415 Maple Park Dr.
Kingwood, TX 77339
(713) 358-2892

Chancellor
Allan M. Henshaw
8513 Wyndham Court
Houston, TX 77040
(713) 894-8084

Genealogist
Kim A. Morton
1823 Willow Point
Kingwood, TX 77339
(713) 358-5429

Registrar
Jack C. Ward
Rt. 7, Box 6000
New Caney, TX 77357-9201
(713) 399-8411

Historian
Cannon H. Pritchard
801 West Noblitt St.
Livingston, TX 77351-3068
(409) 327-2695

Chaplain
Rev. Steven L. Newman
2911 Sycamore Springs, #303
Kingwood, TX 77339
(713) 360-0651

Sergeant at Arms
Donald E. MacGregory, Jr.
2039 Shadow Rock Dr.
Kingwood, TX 77339
(713) 358-3062

Past President
Thomas M. Green



Piney Woods Pine Shavings

Official Newsletter of the PineyWoods Chapter, No. 51

Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution

P.O. Box 6524 • Kingwood, TX 77325

April - May 1996

MAY 16 MEETING OFFERS SPECIAL PROGRAM

Vice President Don Lemon and Secretary Jeff Meadows will act as the speakers for this meeting, to explain the Chapter's goals of winning the Outstanding Chapter Activities Contest for our category of membership. The Chapter will fall into Group 3 (100-199 members) and our competition category includes the San Antonio Chapter. The San Antonio Chapter is also TXS-SAR President Ross Shipman's Chapter and a very active chapter.

The PineyWoods Chapter placed second for 1995-96 in our category (40-99 members) for Outstanding Chapter Activities behind the Plano Chapter, which is notori-

ous for winning this category, as well as many others.

We will be honored with an additional very knowledgeable guest speaker, who will explain the Outstanding Chapter Activities Contest and the Texas Society Americanism Program.

The Spring 1996 *Texas Compatriot* was mailed the last week of April and lists all of the Award Winning Chapters in the Texas Society. It is the goal of the Board of the PineyWoods Chapter to make the PineyWoods Chapter well known for winning awards in our category of 100-199 members. This will take the efforts of each compatriot, not just the board members or Committee persons. You are being challenged to get involved in your Chapter's activities.

The dinner will be grilled marinated beef and/or chicken fajitas with accompanying condiments, refried beans, Spanish rice and flour tortillas.

Please make every effort to attend this meeting which be held on the Patio of the DoubleTree Hotel at 15747 JFK Blvd., Houston Intercontinental Airport, Houston, Texas, on Thursday, May 16 with social time beginning at 7 P.M. and the meeting beginning at 7:30 P.M.

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER RECOGNIZES TWO AREA ROTC CADETS

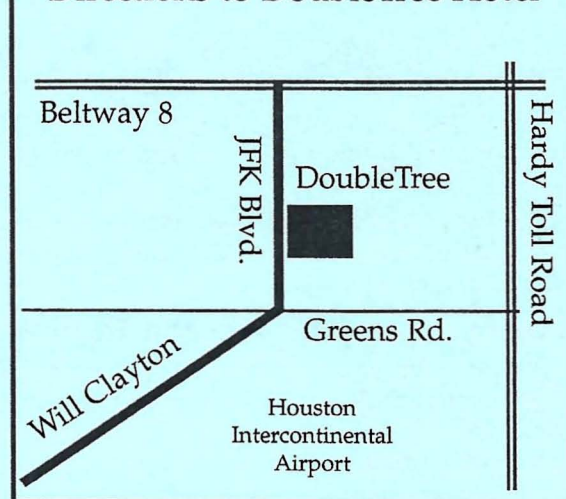
Two area students from different high schools where presented the Bronze R.O.T.C. Medal and Certificate at presentation ceremonies.

Cadet Sgt. Major Leon Joey Dawson of New Caney High School was presented with his medal and certificate on Saturday, April 20 by President Bernard Balser and Sergeant at Arms Donald MacGregory at New Caney High School.

The second presentation was to Cadet Major Jimmie Kellum of Klein Forest High School. He was presented with his medal and certificate on Saturday, April 27 by Vice President Donald Lemon at the Marriott Hotel - Greenspoint.

It is with regret that we inform our compatriots of the death of Mrs. William C. Gist, wife of William C. Gist, President General, National Society Sons of the American Revolution. Mrs. Gist died after a brief illness on or about Thursday, April 11, 1996.

Directions to DoubleTree Hotel



PINEYWOODS CHAPTER BOARD NAMES ASSISTANTS, COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

The PineyWoods Chapter held its first board meeting for the 1996-97 year on the anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord in the Randall's meeting room on U.S. Hwy. 59 in Kingwood.

The final planning of the chapter budget for the 1996-97 year was postponed until the May 16 meeting to allow chapter compatriots to submit suggested projects to the Budget Committee through President Balser. A report of the chapter budget would be presented at this meeting.

The Board decided that the May 16 meeting would also be an educational meeting. The PineyWoods Chapter now has 102 approved members, after losing 9 members due to non-payment of dues. Because the chapter has over 100 members, it changes categories for some of the Texas Society chapter competition and PineyWoods will compete against the larger Texas chapters for awards. There are less chapters to compete against, however those chapters in this category are very active in their communities.

The board assisted President Balser in naming Committee Chairmen of various committees and those that will serve on these committees. A final report of Chairmen and committee will be presented to the membership at the May 16 meeting. Balser also appointed four compatriots to assistant positions: Assistant to the President: **Ky White**; Assistant to the Secretary: **Michael Young**; Assistant to the Treasurer: **Larry McCutcheon** and Assistant to the Chaplain: **Jack Nelson**. Some of these assistant positions were appointed at an earlier meeting.

The PineyWoods Chapter Committees for the 1996-97 year are:

Programs/Speakers: Chairman Don Lemon

Audit/Budget/Finance: Chairman Larry McCutcheon

CAR/DAR: unnamed

KINGWOOD JULY 4TH PARADE

A meeting is planned for Thursday, June 20 to finalize the plans for participation of the PineyWoods Chapter in the Kingwood 4th of July Parade and the activities of the Chapter to follow that parade.

The membership will be notified by mail of the final plans immediately after this meeting.

COMPATRIOT JACK NELSON RECUPERATING

We ask for your prayers for a speedy recovery of Compatriot Jack Nelson, Assistant to the Chaplain of the PineyWoods Chapter, who is at home recuperating from open heart surgery.

Constitution/Bylaws: Chairman Allan Henshaw

Americanism/Poster Contest: Chairman Thomas Green

Eagle Scout: Chairman Ed Nagel

George & Stella Knight Essay Contest: unnamed

Rumbaugh Historical Orations Contest: Chairman Robert McKenna

Retention/Membership/New Members: Chairman Kim Morton, also serving on this committee: Jack Ward and Thomas Green

Flag: Chairman, Don Lemon, also serving is Joe Davidson

Parade: Chairman Worthy Warnack, Sr., also serving is Joe Davidso;

Medals/Awards: Chairman unnamed, also serving is Mac Smith;

Nominating: Chairman Thomas Green

Scrapbook: Chairman Cannon Pritchard, also serving Craig Reese, D.D.S.

PINEYWOODS COMPATRIOT BIRTHDAYS

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

01.....	Patrick Whipple
03.....	Robert McKenna
07.....	Robert Sisson
14.....	Allen Green, Jr.
14.....	Byron Ratterree
29.....	Rev. Steve Newman

MAY BIRTHDAYS

04.....	Mic Barnette
10.....	Donald Poindexter
11.....	Jeff Meadows
14.....	Cannon Pritchard
15.....	Ken Korthauer
23.....	Waller Straley
27.....	Donald Young

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

04.....	Scott Banewski
05.....	James L. Sloan
13.....	Clarence Rheman
15.....	Woody Reese, Jr.
21.....	Walter McCaine, Jr.
23.....	Howard McCarty
26.....	Jack Lightfoot

JULY BIRTHDAYS

07.....	John Albright
11.....	Gerald Green
12.....	Jack Phillips
19.....	George Simmons
28.....	Kim Morton
28.....	Robert Wonsetler
30.....	Kelly Green

1996-97 PINEYWOODS CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

May 16, 1996 - Second Annual PineyWoods Chapter Awards Meeting; Dinner Meeting for members, wives and guests. DoubleTree Hotel.

June 8-12, 1996 - National Society Sons of the American Revolution Congress to be held at the Hyatt Regency RiverWalk, San Antonio.

July 4, 1996 - PineyWoods Chapter represented in the Kingwood 4th of July Parade to be followed by a Chapter Picnic, if enough interest is shown.

August 15, 1996 - Board meeting, if necessary; Kingwood Randall's Meeting Room - 7 p.m.

September 19, 1996 - Constitution Week Chapter Dinner Meeting; proposed Guest Speaker: T. David Yeilding, Ph.D. Meeting for members, wives and guests.

October 17, 1996 - Members Only

November 21, 1996 - Dinner Meeting. Members, wives and guests. Guest Speaker: TXSSAR Treasurer, Frank Gibson

December 1996 - No Meeting

January 16, 1997 - Presentation of the slate of officers by the nominating committee; Dinner Meeting for members, wives and guest.

February 20, 1997 - Election of Officers for 1997-98; Members Only

March 20, 1997 - Installation of 1997-98 Officers; Dinner Meeting for members, wives and guests.

Signers of the Declaration ☆ Part 5 in a series ☆

Josiah Bartlett New Hampshire



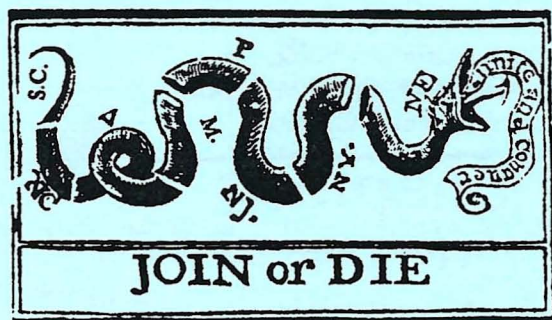
"Thanks to the voting order in the Continental Congress, Josiah Bartlett of New Hampshire was probably the first Delegate to vote for independence, the second to sign the Declaration (after President John Hancock), and the first to ballot for and pen his name to the Articles of Confederation. He also has the distinction of being one of several physician signers. His State service, more extensive than the National, included the governorship.

Bartlett was born in 1729 at Amesbury, Mass. At the age of 16, equipped with a common school education and some knowledge of Latin and Greek, he began to study medicine in the office of a relative. Five years later, in 1750, he hung out his shingle at nearby Kingston, N.H. He quickly won a name not only as a general practitioner but also as an experimenter and innovator in diagnosis and treatment. Marrying in 1754, he fathered 12 children.

During the decade or so preceding the outbreak of the War for Independence, Bartlett held the offices of justice of the peace, militia colonel, and legislator. In 1774 he cast his lot with the Revolutionaries. He became a member of the New Hampshire committee of correspondence and the first provincial congress, which came into being when the Royal Governor disbanded the colonial assembly. Bartlett was elected that same year to the continental Congress, but tragedy intervened and kept him at home. Arsonists, possibly Loyalists, burned his house to the ground. Discouraged but undeterred, he immediately constructed a new one on the very same site.

While in Congress (1775-76), Bartlett also served on the New Hampshire council of safety. Although he rarely participated in congressional debates, whose seeming futility vexed him, he sat on various committees. He was reelected in 1777, but was too exhausted to attend. He nevertheless managed in August to lend his medical skills to Gen. John Stark's force of New Hampshire militia and Continental troops. They defeated a predominantly German element of Gen. John Burgoyne's command in the Battle of Bennington, N.Y. - one of the reverses that helped force him to surrender 2 months later at Saratoga, N.Y. Bartlett's last tour in Congress was in 1778-79, after which he refused reelection because of fatigue.

Bartlett spent the remainder of his life on the State scene. Despite his lack of legal training, he sat first as chief justice of the court of common pleas (1779-82), then as associate (1782-88) and chief (1788-90) justice of the Superior Court. Meantime, in 1788, he had taken part in the State convention that ratified the Federal



Constitution, which he strongly favored. The next year, probably on account of his age and the weight of his judicial duties, he declined election to the U.S. Senate. The following year, he became chief executive, or president, of the State. He held that title for 2 years, in 1793-94 being named the first Governor, as the newly amended constitution redesignated that position.

Despite all his political activities, Bartlett had never lost interest in the field of medicine. In 1790 Dartmouth College conferred on him an honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine. The next year, he founded the New Hampshire Medical Society and became its first president. In 1794, the year before he died in Kingston at the age of 65, ill health forced his retirement from public life. His remains lie in the yard of the Universalist Church in Kingston.

Signers of the Declaration, Robert G. Ferris, Series Editor. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Washington, D.C. Rev. Ed 1975.

"I CANNOT TELL A LIE."

MASON LOCKE WEEMS, CA. 1800

"It's arguable the most famous scene in American folklore. A little boy, hatchet in hand, faces his father. 'Do you know who chopped down my cherry tree?' the elder asks. 'I cannot tell a lie,' answers the kid. 'I did it with my trusty little hatchet.' Whereupon old Dad, stricken with pride, embraces the boy, knowing that a truthful child is worth far more, in the Greater Scheme of Things, than whole ovens full of cherry pies.

Every schoolchild knows, even in these cliophobic times, that the lad here is young George Washington and that his confession was representative of his saint-like probity. The tableau is so well known that merchants advertise Presidents' Day sales with promises that they are 'hacking' or 'slashing' prices, and cartoon figures from Bugs Bunny to Elmer Fudd have made appearances with knee breeches and 'widdle' hatchets.

Ironically, though, the story, and the line, are both fiction. They first appeared in Mason Locke Weems's *Life of Washington*, which came out shortly after the first president's death. Weems was a master at creating richly embroidered moral tales, and he was singularly unfussy about citing his sources. The hatchet tale, for example came from an unnamed (and thus untraceable) 'aged lady' who was supposed to have known Washington at Mount Vernon. The *National Enquirer* checks its facts better.

Weems was an Episcopal minister who, beginning in the 1790s, turned to bookselling not only to make a living, but to spread a gospel of moderation through the South. In partnership with a Philadelphia publisher, he spent decades hawking Bibles and other uplifting works

at county fairs and backwoods commons, often lacing his sales pitches with impromptu sermons and, according to his biographer, Lewis Leary, "with occasional mild ribaldries to keep his listeners alert."

He wrote, too, producing a score of edifying volumes, ranging from pirated 'revisions' of temperance tracts to lives of William Penn and Benjamin Franklin, and a smorgasbord of admonitions against indulgence, including such blockbusters as *The Drunkard's Looking Glass* and *God's Revenge against Adultery*. If Weems were alive today, he would write for Jimmy Swaggart.

In his excellent study of the nineteenth-century 'Washington cult,' historian Barry Schwartz argues that Washington's appeal to most Americans lay not in any real moral perfection, but in 'his simultaneous inclination toward waywardness and repentance.' 'Self-mastery,' Schwartz writes, 'depends upon the recognition of one's own defects, and perhaps nothing better attests to America's regard for this attribute than the continuing popularity of the cherry tree story.' What the cherry tree tale really shows, though, is not that Father of His Country was flawless, but that he owned up to his mistakes and kept on trying.

American History in 100 Nutshells, Tad Tuleja, publ. by Ballantine Books, 1992.

THANK YOU RECEIVED FROM TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

A letter of "Thanks" was received by Treasurer Worthy Warnack, Sr. from the Sterling C. Evans Library at Texas A&M University.

"The Sterling C. Evans Library's Gifts Department would like to thank you for your recent donation of book titled Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution, PineyWoods Chapter, No. 51, 1994-1995, Our First Year.

This book will become a valuable addition to the library's genealogy collection. We are sending a letter to Clovis H. Brakebill telling him that you have donated this book to the library, on behalf of the PineyWoods Chapter No. 51, Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution, in his honor. We are sure he will appreciate your kindness and generosity in doing this.

An appropriate bookplate has been inserted in this book and it will be cataloged and placed in the library's genealogy collection. Per your instructions, your name was not shown on the bookplate. Again, thank you for this gift book.

Yours sincerely, Carolyn J. Smith, Lecturer, Collection Development/Gifts.

The PineyWoods Chapter
as of April 18, 1996 has 102 approved Compatriots
with 2 awaiting approval in Louisville