

August 2003



Piney Woods Pine Shavings

News of Piney Woods Chapter #51
Sons of the American Revolution

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Second VP:

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Mike Culbertson 281-469-8734

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Allan Henshaw 281-894-8084

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Historian

(vacant)

Registrar

Robert McKenna 281-361-5458

Sgt-At-Arms

Jim Richards 281-358-7959

Web Master

Ray Cox 281-454-6074

Newsletter

Bernie Balser 281-360-7041

Debbie Riddle to speak at the Sept. 18th meeting

State Representative Debbie Riddle, a member of the DAR, will be our speaker at the September dinner meeting. She is in her first term as the representative from District 150 and will speak on the re-districting imbroglio, the upcoming special session dealing with property taxes and school financing, and the particular problems in Texas caused by illegal immigrants.

IMBROGLIO (IM BROL YO) is defined as:

1. A complicated or difficult situation
2. A complicated misunderstanding or disagreement
3. A confused heap

Piney Woods Chapter Meetings

Thursday	Sept 18, 2003	6:15	Dinner with members & guests
Thursday	Oct 16, 2003	6:15	Members only meeting
Thursday	Nov 20, 2003	6:15	Dinner with members & guests
Thursday	Dec 18, 2003	6:30	Nominating Committee Only meets
Thursday	Jan 15, 2004	6:15	Dinner with members & guests
Thursday	Feb 19, 2004	6:15	Members only, Election of Officers
Thursday	Mar 18, 2004	6:15	Dinner with members & guests

Piney Woods Junior ROTC Awards Program for 2003

Aldine High School	Sgt Randy Hall	Jim Jones
Cleveland High School	Col. Jim Meyer	Cannon Pritchard
Hargrave High School	Capt Rick Nelson	Don Lemon
Humble High School	Joseph Lang	Ray Cox
Klein High School	Col. David Crum	—(open)—
Klein Forest High School	Sgt Roby Robinson	Bob Smith
Klein Oaks High School	Col. Irv LeBlanc	—(open)—
LaPorte High School	Maj. Lawrence Vidinha	Tom Green
New Caney High School	LtCol. Paul Timmerburg	Bernie Balser
Tomball High School	Cmdr. Reedy Buford	—(open)—



Remember to check out our Chapter Web Site:

www.coxsoftware.com/pineywoods

2002 Piney Woods Chapter Compatriots Celebrate Birthdays

July

7 John Albright
28 Kim Morton
12 Jack Phillips
11 Gerald Green

August

5 Kenneth Cox
18 Donald Lemon
8 Richard Shanks
20 Bobby Smith

September

13 William Green
9 Keith Wiggins
9 James Jones
9 David Mahavier

Chronology of Events

1763 The end of the French and Indian War. Britain's King George issues proclamation to the American colonies forbidding westward expansion.

1765 Parliament passes the Stamp Act

1770 On March 5, five colonists die in what came to be known as the Boston Massacre, a street argument that got out of control

1773 On December 16 the Boston Tea Party is held in Boston Harbor as a rebellion against the Tea Act.

1774 Parliament passes the Intolerable Acts. The first Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia to protest the Intolerable Acts.

1775 British and American troops clash in Lexington and Concord on April 19. The Battle of Breeds Hill is fought, the bloodiest of the entire war on June 17. On July 3, Washington takes control of the Continental army.

1776 July 4th, The Declaration of Independence is signed by members of the Continental Congress. German mercenaries (Hessians) arrive in New York to fight for the British. British defeat the American Army at New York's Long Island which brings the war-long occupation of New York City by the British. On December 26 Washington's troops surprise the Hessians, defeating them in the Battle of Trenton.

1777 A large portion of the British Army surrenders at Saratoga on October 17. Washington leads his troops to miserable winter quarters at Valley Forge on December 19.

1778 February 6, France and America sign an alliance. November 11, Butler's Rangers, aided by Mohawk chief Joseph Brant, massacre settlers at Cherry Valley, NY. December 29, British capture Savannah, Georgia.

1779 George Rogers Clark and his small band of men capture the British fort at Vincennes on the Wabash River, and "Hair Buyer" Hamilton is sent to prison. John Paul Jones's ship *Bonhomme Richard* captures the British ship *Serapis* in a bloody sea battle.

1780 The city of Charleston, SC falls into British control on May 12. On October 7, Over-Mountain men soundly defeat British and Loyalist troops at King's Mountain, NC.

1781 British General Cornwallis begins his campaign to end the war quickly by taking Virginia. Washington, hearing French Admiral De Grasse is coming to Chesapeake Bay with a large naval force, makes plans to secretly send his army to Yorktown. Cornwallis surrenders at Yorktown, ending the British military threat in America.

1783 America and Great Britain officially end the war by signing a peace treaty in Paris.

MARGARET COCHRAN CORBIN

General George Washington allowed a number of soldiers' wives to travel with each company in the Continental army. Twenty-five-year-old Molly Corbin was married to John Corbin, a gunner, and artillery man who loaded and fired cannons for the First Company of the Pennsylvania Artillery. Molly was among those wives who cooked for the men, washed and mended clothes and nursed the sick and wounded. Though the work was abundant and hard, Molly sometimes watched John's daily drills and learned the gunnery routine.

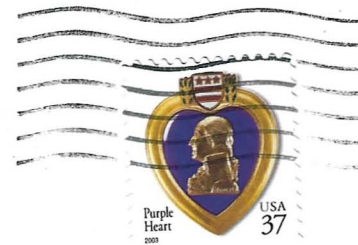
In mid-November 1776, when John and Molly were stationed in Fort Washington, New York, nearly 9,000 British and Hessian soldiers were bombarding the fort. Only 2,800 Americans were there to face the attack from warships in the river below.

Molly refused to leave her husband's side in his two-gun battery as shells fell around them. When the gunner in charge fell dead, John quickly took over and Molly became his assistant. Together they kept the cannon roaring down at the enemy. Then, in a sudden loud explosion, Molly saw her husband reel back from the cannon. A direct hit had killed him.

Though distraught with grief and shock, Molly knew what she must do. She took the ramrod and stepped to John's place with the cannon. As the battle raged until late that afternoon, she continued loading and firing the cannon until she, too, felt hot British grapeshot tear through her shoulder. A shower of small iron balls had lacerated her jaw, mangled her chest and nearly tore her left arm from her body. Soldiers carried Molly to the rear, where she received first aid.

When the fighting stopped, the British and Hessians had captured Fort Washington, and the American survivors became their prisoners. The British put the American wounded on parole and Molly, together with the wounded men, was ferried across the river to Fort Lee. From there she was taken nearly one hundred miles in a jolting wagon to Philadelphia.

Molly never fully recovered from her wounds, and in April 1783, was mustered out of service. She became the first woman to ever receive a lifetime pension from the United States government, and spent the rest of her days near West Point, NY, where she was known as "Captain Molly."



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