



# 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

JANUARY 1996

## JANUARY 18, 1996 MEETING SLATED

The next meeting of the PineyWoods Chapter #51, TXSSAR is slated to be held at the DoubleTree Hotel, 15747 JFK Blvd., Intercontinental Airport, Houston, in an assigned banquet room. This is the first time that the PineyWoods Chapter has held its meeting at this location. Wives and guests are welcomed at this meeting.

One of the focal points of this meeting will be the presentation of the 1996-1997 slate of officers by the nominating committee for the PineyWoods Chapter. The speaker for this meeting will be Compatriot Ky White, who will speak on the military and the Revolution.

There will be four Flag Certificates presented to area businesses during the month of January for their patriotic display of the United States Flag. This is the first time that the PineyWoods Chapter has presented the Flag Certificate to a business or individual. The recipients of

this award are as follows: First Liberty National Bank, Liberty, Texas; the City of Livingston, TX; Community Bank, Community Drive, Porter, TX; and Rosewood Funeral Home on U.S. Hwy. 59.

There are also a number of new membership certificates, supplemental certificates and at least two War Service Certificates and medals to be presented at this meeting. Please make every effort to attend. Your RSVP form is included with this newsletter.

The final deadline for making your reservation with your check payable to the PineyWoods Chapter is Saturday, January 13, 1996.

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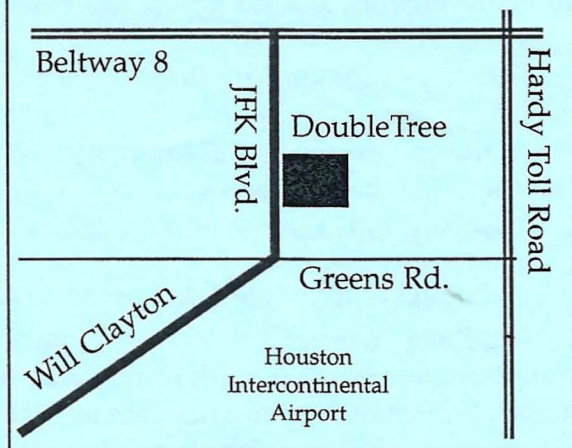
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**Sergeant of Arms**  
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### Directions to DoubleTree Hotel



### JANUARY COMPATRIOT BIRTHDAYS

03 Jan. ....Robert Calkins  
10 Jan. ....James Richards, Sr.  
12 Jan. ....Larry Martin  
16 Jan. ....Dennis Key  
28 Jan. ....Jason Beihl  
30 Jan. ....Jack Nelson

### FEBRUARY COMPATRIOT BIRTHDAYS

02 Feb. ....Donald Richards  
05 Feb. ....David Richards  
09 Feb. ....Richard Freeman  
10 Feb. ....Jere Banewski  
10 Feb. ....James Richards, Jr.  
14 Feb. ....James Green  
23 Feb. ....Thomas Green  
25 Feb. ....Jeffrey Polich  
26 Feb. ....Andrew Evans

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## **VOLUME 1, PINEYWOODS LINEAGE BOOKS STILL AVAILABLE**

The PineyWoods Chapter still has a limited number of the Volume 1 Lineage Books available for purchase. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of this book for yourself or as a gift for a library, as they will not be reprinted, please contact President Tom Green. The cost for the hard bound book is \$35. Volume 2 will not be published until 1997.

At least 10 copies of the PineyWoods Lineage Book have been donated and/or have been committed to various libraries as gifts from the PineyWoods Chapter.

## **LETTER OF THANKS RECEIVED FROM FORMER PRESIDENT GENERAL BRANDAU**

November 20, 1995; "Dear Compatriots: Your excellent book on the PineyWoods Chapter, No. 51 was received and read with interest. Please accept my sincere appreciation. This accomplishment will not only serve the Chapter, but will be an example for others to follow. I wish, again, to extend my congratulations.

The formation and operation of your chapter is outstanding and will receive continuing acclaim by the National Society. Much can be said of your overall achievements, but no group has ever exceeded your recruiting and expansion program.

Thank you for the privilege of participating in your early days. The book will have special meaning to me as I'm sure it will for every member. Best wishes for continued success.

Cordially, FPG George H. Brandau, M.D."

## **MINIATURE MEMBERSHIP MEDALS**

The PineyWoods Chapter has a number of the miniature membership medals available to be purchased from the Chapter. These are available for \$36 each and will be available at the January 18, 1996 Chapter meeting. You may order these from the National Headquarters, but you will have to pay an additional \$4.50 postage and wait for their arrival. Any approved member has the privilege to wear one of these medals, which is a miniature of the large membership medal.

You can make arrangements to purchase one before the January meeting by contacting President Tom Green at the address and phone number on the first page of this newsletter or purchase one at the meeting.

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME**

The annual TXSSAR Membership Renewal Notices have been sent to each member. It is the hope of all concerned that our members will take action on this matter expeditiously. Chapters with 100% renewals receive recognition at the State Convention and the Chapter President is presented with an award.

When you receive the notice, take action and get the matter taken care of. If for some unforeseen reason you can not or will not renew for the new year, please write a letter of resignation and send it to Frank A. Gibson, TXSSAR Treasurer, P.O. Box 26529, Austin, TX 78755-0529. This will reduce our chapter membership and not count against a 100% renewal factor. This is a "last resort." We don't want to loose any members. We have all worked too long and hard to "prove" our membership to let it slip by for lack of a renewal fee.

**EVERY COMPATRIOT IS IMPORTANT!**

## **PINEYWOODS CHAPTER PLANS PARTICIPATION IN 4TH OF JULY PARADE**

The PineyWoods Chapter plans on participating in the Kingwood 4th of July Parade. The Chapter Officers have suggested that a 4th of July picnic for members, wives and guests follow the parade at a time and site to be selected. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact Bernie Balser or Don Lemon.

## **YOUR ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION IN THE PINEYWOODS PINE SHAVINGS**

Your Chapter Secretary has been compiling the information, writing the articles and publishing the PineyWoods Newsletter since it's beginning in May 1994. It is now necessary for articles to be written and submitted by the deadline of the following Thursday after each Chapter meeting or board meeting.

The Chapter Secretary is also now the Texas Compatriot Editor and is currently working on the Winter 1996 Issue. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated and welcomed.



# 1996-97 PINEYWOODS CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

**January 18, 1996** - Presentation of the slate of officers by the nominating committee; speaker Compatriot Ky White; Dinner Meeting with members, wives and guests to be held at the Double-Tree Hotel, JFK Blvd., Houston Intercontinental Airport.

**February 15, 1996** - Election of Officers; Piney-Woods Chapter Members Only; Reports from Officers and Committees; Humble City Cafe.

**March 21, 1996** - Installation of 1996-97 Piney-Woods Chapter officers by newly installed Texas Society President, Ross Shipman; Report from Centennial Texas Convention recently held in Galveston; Dinner Meeting for members, wives and guests.

**April 18, 1996** - Board Meeting; Kingwood Randall's Meeting Room - 7 p.m.

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

**June 7-9, 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.

**December 1996** - No Meeting

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

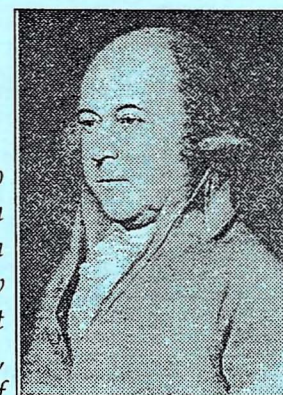
**February 20, 1997** - Election of Officers for 1997-98; Members Only

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

## Signers of the Declaration

☆ Part 3 in a series ☆

### John Adams - Massachusetts



*"Few men contributed more to U.S. Independence than John Adams, the 'Atlas of American Independence' in the eyes of fellow signer Richard Stockton. A giant among the Founding Fathers, Adams was one of the coterie of leaders who generated the American Revolution, for which his prolific writings provided many of the politico-philosophical foundations. Not only did he help draft the Declaration, but he also steered it through the Continental Congress."*

The subsequent career of Adams - as a diplomat and first Vice President and second president of the United States - overshadows those of all the other signers except Jefferson. Adams was also the progenitor of a distinguished family. His son John Quincy gained renown as diplomat, Congressman, Secretary of State, and President. John's grandson Charles Francis and great-grandsons John Quincy II, Charles Francis, Jr., Henry, and Brooks excelled in politics, diplomacy, literature, historiography, and public service.

Adams, descended from a long line of yeomen farmers, was born in 1735 at Braintree (later Quincy), Massachusetts. He graduated from Harvard College in 1755, and for a short time taught school at Worcester, Mass. At that time, he considered entering the ministry, but decided instead to follow the law and began his study with a local lawyer. Adams was admitted to the bar at Boston in 1758 and began to practice in his hometown. Six years later, he married Abigail Smith, who was to bear three sons and a daughter. She was also the first mistress of the White House and the only woman in U.S. history to be the wife of one President and the mother of another.

Adams, like many others, was propelled into the Revolutionary camp by the Stamp Act. In 1765 he wrote a protest for Braintree that scores of other Massachusetts towns adopted. Three years later, he temporarily left his family behind and moved to Boston. He advanced in the law, but devoted more and more of his time to the patriot cause. In 1768 he achieved recognition throughout the Colonies for his defense of John Hancock, whom British customs officials had charged with smuggling. Adams later yielded to a stern sense



of legal duty but incurred some public hostility by representing the British soldiers charged with murder in the Boston Massacre (1770). Ill health forced him to return to Braintree following a term in the colonial legislature (1770-71), and for the next few years he divided his time between there and Boston.

A 3-year stint in the Continental Congress (1774-77), punctuated by short recuperative leaves and service in the colonial legislature in 1774-75, brought Adams national fame. Because he was sharply attuned to the temper of Congress and aware that many Members resented Massachusetts extremism, he at first acceded to conciliatory efforts with Britain and restrained himself publicly. When Congress opted for independence, he became its foremost advocate, eschewing conciliation and urging a colonial confederation.

Adams was a master of workable compromise and meaningful debate, though he was sometimes impatient. He chaired 25 of the more than 90 committees on which he sat, the most important of which dealt with military and naval affairs. He played an instrumental part in obtaining Washington's appointment as commander in chief of the Continental Army. Adams was a member of the five-man committee charged with drafting the Declaration in June of 1776, though he probably made no major changes in Jefferson's draft. But, more directly involved, he defended it from its congressional detractors, advocated it to the wavering, and guided it to passage.

The independence battle won, exhausted by the incessant toil and strain and worried about his finances and family, Adams in November 1777 retired from Congress—never to return. He headed back to Braintree intending to resume his law practice. But, before the month expired, Congress appointed him to a diplomatic post in Europe—a phase of his career that consumed more than a decade (1777-88).

Adams served in France during the period 1778-85, interrupted only by a visit to the United States in the summer of 1779, during which he attended the Massachusetts constitutional convention. Independent-minded and forthright, as well as somewhat jealous of

the fame and accomplishments of others, he frequently found himself at odds with fellow diplomats Benjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee, as well as French officials, whose policies toward the Colonies he mistrusted. He joined Franklin and John Jay, however, in negotiating the Treaty of Paris (1783), by which Britain recognized the independence of the United States.

Meanwhile, during the preceding 3 years, Adams had persuaded the Dutch to recognize the Colonies as an independent Nation, grant a series of loans, and negotiate a treaty of alliance. As the first American Envoy to Great Britain (1785-88), he strove to resolve questions arising from the Treaty of Paris and to calm the harsh feelings between the two countries.

Back in the United States, Adams was soon elected as the first Vice President (1789-97), an office he considered insignificant but in which he emerged as a leader of the Federalist Party. During his stormy but statesmanlike Presidency (1797-1801), he inherited the deep political discord between the Hamiltonians and Jeffersonians that had taken root during Washington's administration. Adams pursued a neutral course without abandoning his principles. He kept the United States out of a declared war with France and achieved an amicable peace. But he proved unable to unite his party, divided by Hamilton's machinations and the ramifications of the French Revolution.

The Jeffersonians drove the Federalists out of office in 1800, and Adams retired to Quincy, where he spent his later years quietly. The death of his wife in 1818 saddened him, but he never lost interest in public affairs and lived to see his son John Quincy become President. John died at the age of 90 just a few hours after Jefferson, on July 4, 1826—dramatically enough the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration. Except for Charles Carroll, who was to live until 1832, Adams and Jefferson were the last two surviving signers. The remains of John and Abigail Adams are interred in a basement crypt at the United First Parish Church in Quincy."

{Ferris, Robert G., *Signers of the Declaration*, publ. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., 1975.}

## The PineyWoods Chapter

as of December 31, 1995

has 99 approved Compatriots

2 deceased Compatriots

and 72 approved Supplements