

PINEYWOODS PINE SHAVINGS

NEWS OF THE PINEYWOODS CHAPTER #51

TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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NOTICE OF MEETING: "Members Only" Dinner Meeting - 21 MAR

On Thursday; MAR 21, 2002; PineyWoods Chapter #51 of the TxSSAR will hold a "Members Only" dinner meeting at the *NEW* Heritage Center just off of Kingwood Drive in Kingwood (see directions below). A social time shall commence at 6:15 PM with dinner (assorted sandwiches from Jason's) to be served promptly at 7:00. Installation of the 2002-3 officers will be the main order of business and plans for Chapter activities in the upcoming SAR year will be discussed. There's also a good chance that a quiz will be given to all present. The dinner cost is \$10.50 per person. All members who are able to do so are encouraged to attend. Please respond ASAP either by e-mail to: genmorton@usa.net *OR* by returning the enclosed RSVP card

U U
S P Kingwood Drive
5 R -[4.0 miles from RR tracks to entrance]-
9 R

The Heritage Center (2825 W. Town Center Circle)
DIRECTIONS
a) From US 59 exit Kingwood Drive going east. Cross RR tracks go 4 miles. Turn right on Main (between Fudruckers & Boston Market).
b) *OR* Drive north on Lake Houston Parkway and turn left on Town Center Place (last one before Kingwood Drive).



PineyWoods WEB Site Upgraded

Chapter member Ray Cox has been working hard to improve on the Chapter's web site. Having incorporated key info (especially address/phone/patriot ancestors) about each member into the web site he requests that everyone check www.coxsoftware.com/pineywoods and review the info therein. Any corrections or updates should be e-mailed to Ray at coxsw@ev1.net - thanks Ray for all your hard work!!!

PineyWoods Chapter #51 - TxSSAR - 2002/03 Officers (duly elected at 21 FEB 2002 mtg.)

office/title	officer's name	telephone #	e-mail address
PRESIDENT	Cannon Pritchard	936-327-2695	CANNON@livingston.net
VICE PRESIDENT (1ST)	James Jones	713-956-6837	JTJONES@hal-pc.org
VICE PRESIDENT (2ND)	John Albright	281-856-7478	NCC1861@aol.com
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR(*)	Mike Culbertson	281-469-8734	MCULBY@yahoo.com
REGISTRAR	Richard Shanks	281-493-4581	RGVPSHANKS@amsn.com
SECRETARY	Ken Fleming	281-358-5839	KFLE532460@aol.com
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	Jim Richards	281-358-7959	
TREASURER	Tom Lawrence	281-893-5450	TLAWRENCE@Houston.rr.com
WEB MASTER(*)	Ray Cox	281-454-6074	COXSW@flash.net

(*) - Unofficial offices but considered crucial to the PineyWoods Chapter.

Please join the Chapter in wishing the following members a heartfelt "Happy Birthday:"

« MARCH Birthdays »

03.02 Thomas Eugene Lawrence
03.04 Steven Alan Richards
03.12 Edward Fillmore Nagel
03.15 Donald Ellis MacGregory

« APRIL Birthdays »

04.01 Patrick Johnson Whipple
04.03 Robert Edward McKenna
04.14 Allen Johnson Green

OK, so you looked here to check on upcoming Chapter meetings and didn't find them. I purposely have left them out because at the last meeting there was significant discussion among some of the attendees about whether it was timely to make some modifications to the schedule (one point in particular was that it would probably be better to hold the annual elections at a members only meeting and then to install the officers at the subsequent member and guest meeting so that spouses could be on hand to participate in the installation). Sooooo, one of the topics of discussion which will likely come up at the March meeting will be the meeting schedule for the upcoming year. The results of that discussion, and a revised schedule, should appear in next month's newsletter. -editor

MINUTES OF 21 FEB 2002 DINNER MEETING: On Thursday, February 21, 2002 - PineyWoods Chapter #51 of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution held a dinner meeting at the Holiday Inn near Bush International Airport in Houston, Texas. Twenty (20) members and sixteen (16) guests were present. At 7:00 PM Chapter President Bob Smith called the meeting to order whereupon the individuals present recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR opening. Following the opening prayer, the business portion of the meeting was suspended for dinner. After the meal the business meeting was reconvened at 7:56. The first order of business was for President Smith to read the Nominations Committee's proposed slate of officers for the new year. After opening the floor to further nominations and getting none President Smith entertained a motion that the slate of officers be elected. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Treasurer Ken Fleming reported that the Chapter finances were still in good shape (no Enrons lurking in the books) and Secretary John Albright distributed the minutes from the previous meeting. Bob Smith noted that it was time for those members working with the local ROTC programs to get things moving forward for medal and certificate presentations. Genealogist Kim Morton read an interesting article on the American dollar bill (see full text below). And First Vice President (now President-Elect) Cannon Pritchard introduced the evening's speaker: Robert L. Schaadt - the Director/Archivist of the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center in Liberty, Texas. Mr. Schaadt began his talk by differentiating between "archives" and "written history" (the main distinction being that the "archives" are the original documents of historically significant events) and noting that the "archives" remain constant while the "written histories" are often in transition. He noted that as the priorities of historians evolve that the "archives" are used to update the "written histories" from the writer's point of view. He then went on to note that the Sam Houston Library has significant "archives" including Jean Lafite's original journal, thousands of "old" (many printed before 1870) books on east Texas, AND collections of the original papers from a number of prominent individuals and organizations from Texas' past. He finished up with an invitation for people to use the materials the library has to offer (claiming that over 18,000 researchers visited the library last year) AND he put in a small plug for financial support of the library and its programs. Following the presentation, President Smith presented Mr. Schaadt with an SAR Certificate of Appreciation. District Vice President Allan Henshaw reported that he was working to form a new SAR chapter in the Katy/West Houston part of town and that anyone interested in that effort should speak to him. He also announced that the State SAR organization was considering an "adopt a patriot's grave" program, where each Chapter would "adopt" a patriot who is buried in Texas AND whose grave has not yet been marked by the SAR. The Chapter would then be expected to go through the process of formally recognizing the gravesite. More info will undoubtedly follow. There being no other business, President Smith called for the SAR closing and the meeting was adjourned.

The following is the text of an interesting opus Kim Morton found on the internet and presented at the FEB meeting.

THE UNITED STATES DOLLAR BILL - Take out a one dollar bill, and look at it. The one dollar bill you're looking at first came off the presses in 1957 in its present design. The so-called paper money is in fact a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. It is actually material. We've all washed it without it falling apart. A special blend of ink is used, the contents we will never know. It is overprinted with symbols and then it is starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it a nice crisp look. If you look on the front of the bill, you will see the United States Treasury Seal. On the top you will see the scales for a balanced budget. In the center you have a carpenter's square, a tool used for an even cut. Underneath is the Key to the United States Treasury. That's all pretty easy to figure out, but what is on the back of that dollar bill is something we all should know. If you turn the bill over, you will see two circles. Both circles, together, comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved. If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid. Notice the face [of the pyramid] is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the West or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, would do anything. "IN GOD WE TRUST" is on this currency. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, "God has favored our undertaking." The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means "a new order has begun." At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1776. If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States. It is also [...] the centerpiece of most hero's monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean. The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm [...] and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying Congress, a unifying factor - we were coming together as one nation. In the eagle's beak you will read, "E PLURIBUS UNUM," meaning "one nation from many people." Above the eagle, you have thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, [with the] clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one. Notice what the eagle holds in his talons: an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows. They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or a 13th floor [in a building]. But think about this: 13 original colonies, 13 groups signing the Declaration of Independence, 13 stripes on our flag, 13 steps on the Pyramid, 13 letters in the Latin above, 13 letters in "E PLURIBUS UNUM," 13 stars above the eagle, 13 bars on that shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch, 13 fruits, and if you look closely, 13 arrows. And [to make it all-inclusive] the 13th Amendment. I always ask people, "Why don't you know this?" Your children don't know this, and their history teachers don't know this. Too many veterans have given up too much to ever let the meaning fade. Many veterans remember coming home to an America that didn't care. Too many veterans never came home at all! [So share these symbols on the] UNITED STATES ONE DOLLAR BILL, and what it stands for [with others.]