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# 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

#### **MARCH 1996**

## MARCH 21, 1996 MEETING & INSTALLATION SCHEDULED

The March 21, 1996 Meeting of the Piney-Woods Chapter will be held in a banquet room at the DoubleTree Hotel, 15747 JFK Blvd., Houston Intercontinental Airport, Houston, Texas with the 1996-1997 TXSSAR President as our special guest.

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution President Ross L. Shipman will be our honored guest speaker for the March 21 PineyWoods Chapter meeting. President Shipman will also be the Installing Officer for the Installation of the 1996-97 PineyWoods Chapter Officers.

Shipman has chosen as the title of his speech, "Religion in the American Colonies," and from what your Chapter Secretary and Texas Compatriot Editor has read from other chapter newsletters where Ross has given this speech, we are all in for a special treat.

Ross Shipman will be installed as the Texas Society President for 1996-97 at the Centennial Texas Society Convention to be held on March 8-10 in Galveston. Shipman has served the TXSSAR in the following capacities: Patrick Henry Chapter - Chaplain (2 terms); Medals & Awards (2 terms); Vice President (2 terms); President (2 terms); William Hightower Chapter: Registrar (1 term); San Antonio Chapter: TXSSAR Annual Meeting General Chairman, 1995; TXSSAR: District 4 Vice President; Editor of The Texas Compatriot; Chairman Budget & Finance Committee (3 years); Chairman Long Range Planning committee; Council of Chapter Presidents (4 years); and President Elect 1995-96.

President Shipman has earned the following TXSSAR medals: Patriot's Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Silver Good Citizenship Medal and the Military Service Medal for W.W.II.

Shipman is also a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Hood's Texas Brigade Association, Order of First Families of Mississippi, Society of Mayflower Descendants, Jamestowne Society, Magna Charta Barons and Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution.

Professionally, Shipman is a Petroleum Investment Consultant and is a retired President & CEO of Live Oak Energy Corporation. He is also a retired Associate Vice President for Research of the University of Texas at Austin. Shipman is a Registered Professional Geologist, Chartered Geologist - United Kingdom; Fellow - The Geological Society of America and The Geological Society of London; Certified with the

American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the American Institute of Professional Geologists.

Ross Shipman was educated in the Jackson, Mississippi Public schools, as well as the Marion Institute of Marion, Alabama and the University of Mississippi. He has



Ross L. Shipman

written many, many historical papers and is a exceptional speaker.



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# PINEYWOODS DELEGATES SELECTED FOR TEXAS SOCIETY CONVENTION

The PineyWoods Chapter slate of delegates to the 101st Annual Texas Society Convention to be held at the San Luis on March 8-10, 1996 has been finalized.

The delegates voting for the PineyWoods Chapter at the Saturday, March 9 session are: Bernard Balser, Don Lemon, Jeff Meadows, Worthy Warnack, Sr., Jack Ward, Cannon Pritchard, Rev. Steve Newman, Donald Poindexter, MacLeod Smith, Woody Reese, Sr., Craig Reese, and Ky White.

Other Compatriots of the PineyWoods Chapter will attend the convention and will vote under their dual chapter, Paul Carrington, #5. These Compatriots are: Thomas Green, Allan Henshaw and Kim Morton.

# May 16 Annual PineyWoods Awards Meeting Scheduled at DoubleTree Hotel

The PineyWoods Chapter has planned a special fare for the May Second Annual Awards Dinner Meeting. The dinner will be grilled marinated beef and/or chicken fajitas with accompanying condiments, refried beans, Spanish rice and flour tortillas. There will be a special guest speaker.

The Chapter meeting will 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.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE

The annual TXSSAR Membership Renewal Notices have been sent and now reminders are being sent. It is the hope of all concerned that our members will take action on this matter expeditiously. When you receive the notice, take action and pay your dues. **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.

The PineyWoods Chapter still has 20 unpaid members and those names will not be printed in *this* newsletter.

# Assistance Is Needed For 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 week following each Chapter meeting or board meeting.

It would be of great interest to the membership if reports from the various Committee Chairmen would be submitted for publication.

The Chapter Secretary is also now the Texas Compatriot Editor and will be the District 8 Vice President as well and is currently working on the Spring 1996 Issue of *The Texas Compatriot*..

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated and welcomed.

#### COMPATRIOT BIRTHDAYS

Steven A. Richards	04 March
Michael D. Young	11 March
Donald E. MacGregory, Jr	15 March
Richard G. Lowstetter	22 March
John P. Adams	26 March
Patrick J. Whipple	01 April
Robert E. McKenna	03 April
Robert B. Sisson	07 April
Allen J. Green, Jr	14 April
Byron G. Ratterree	14 April
Douglas W. Speiden	17 April
Rev. Steven L. Newman	29 April

## 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 Thomas 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.

# 1996-97 PINEYWOODS CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

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 guest - DoubleTree Hotel.

**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. DoubleTree Hotel.

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 4 in a series ★

### Samuel Adams Massachusetts

"'Firebrand of the Revolution,' Samuel Adams probably more than almost any other individual instigated and organized colonial resistance to the Crown. A talented polemicist and agitator-propagandist who relied more on his facile pen than the podium in behind-the-



scenes manipulation of men and events, he religiously believed in the righteousness of his political causes, to which he persistently tried to convert others. He failed in business, neglected his family, gained a reputation as an eccentric, and demonstrated as much indifference to his own welfare as he did solicitousness for that of the public. His second cousin John Adams, more of a statesman, eclipsed him in the Continental Congress, though Samuel signed both the Declaration and the Articles of Confederation. In his later years, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts bestowed on him many high offices, recapped by the governorship.

Adams was one of 12 offspring of a prosperous and politically active brewer and landowner. He was born at Boston in 1722 and enjoyed an excellent education at the Boston Latin School and Harvard College. Upon his graduation in 1740, he first demonstrated his lifelong aversion to normal employment. He studied law for awhile and then skipped from job to job, working for a time in his father's brewery as well as in a counting house and dissipating a paternal loan in an unsuccessful business venture.

When his father died in 1748 and his mother soon afterwards, Adams inherited a sizable estate, including the family home and brewery. By 1764, when the colonial quarrel with Britain began, he had long since lost the latter. And, during the previous 8 years as city tax collector. he had fallen in arrears about £8,000 in his collections. At the age of 42, unable to support a new wife and two children from his first marriage and residing in his rundown birthplace, he was destitute and besieged by creditors. He subsisted mainly on gifts and donations from loyal friends and neighbors.

Adams was a failure by most standards, but he had long before found the only meaningful "occupation" he ever pursued. For almost two decades he had been active in local political clubs, where he earned a reputation as a writer and emerged as leader of the "popular" party that opposed the powerful conservative aristocracy controlling the Massachusetts government. As clerk in the colonial legislature (1765-74), he drafted most of the body's official papers and quickly seized the tools of power. He pounced on the taxation issue raised by the Sugar and Stamp Acts (1764-65), and within a year he and his party fanned popular hatred of the conservatives and gained control of the legislature. He also

spurred organization of the militant Boston Sons of Liberty, a secret society. As time went on, the stridency of his anti-British harangues escalated and sometimes became shrill enough to distress John Hancock and John Adams.

The Townshend Acts (1767), imposing a series of taxes on imports, provided Adams with a new cause for dissent. He urged merchants not to purchase goods from Britain, fomented opposition toward customs officials, inflamed the resentment toward British troops stationed in the colony that led to the Boston Massacre (1770), and humiliated the Royal Governor so much that he was recalled. Adams also authored a circular letter protesting British taxation and advocating united opposition. When, in 1768, the Massachusetts legislature sent it to the 12 other colonial assemblies, the Royal Governor dissolved the legislature, soon a common British practice in America. All these activities, coupled with authorship of scores of newspaper articles and extensive correspondence with prominent persons in the Colonies and England, brought Adams fame.

The conservative reaction on the part of merchants, the legislature, and the populace that surfaced after the repeal of practically all the Townshend Acts in 1770 failed to stifle Adams, though his popularity and influence declined. Relentlessly, in perhaps his chief contribution to the Revolution, he kept the controversy alive by filling the columns of the Boston newspapers with reports of British transgressions and warnings of more to come. Furthermore, in 1772 he began constructing the framework of a Revolutionary organization in Massachusetts. Drawing on a similar scheme he had proposed for all the Colonies 2 years earlier but which had come to naught, he convinced Boston and other towns to create committees of correspondence. The next year, he was appointed to the Massachusetts committee, formed in response to a call from the Virginia House of Burgesses.

Passage of the Tea Act (1773) provided the spark Adams was seeking to rekindle the flame of rebellion. He helped to incite and probably participated in the "Boston Tea Party," which engendered a series of rebellious incidents throughout the Colonies and pushed them closer to war. Parliament retaliated the next spring by passing a series of acts designed to punish Massachusetts.

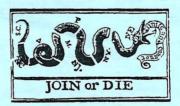
Adams, recognizing that the other Colonies would only adopt non-intercourse measures in concert, urged an intercolonial congress to discuss mutual grievances and plan a united course of action. Subsequently, in June, the Massachusetts house of representatives, meeting behind locked

doors to prevent interference by the Royal Governor, resolved to invite the other 12 Colonies to send representatives to Philadelphia in September and also appointed five Delegates, including Adams. That same day, the Royal Governor disbanded the legislature for the last time. Before heading for Philadelphia, outfitted in new clothes supplied by friends, Adams helped organize the convention that adopted the Suffolk Resolves, which in effect declared Massachusetts to be in a state of rebellion.

Adams served in the Continental Congress until 1781, longer than most other Delegates, but his role was less conspicuous than his preceding career argued. In the early sessions, most of the time he shrewdly stayed in the background with his fellow Massachusetts Delegates, whose radicalism offended most of their colleagues. And, throughout the Congress, he walked in the shadow of John Adams, who dominated the proceedings.

But nothing in the latter's career could match the drama of an episode involving Samuel in the interim between the First and Second Continental Congresses. Back at Lexington, Mass., one night in April 1775, he and Hancock had barely escaped the British force seeking to capture the colonial supply depot at Concord. The outbreak of armed conflict the next dawn—a "glorious morning" for Adams—marked the beginning of the War for Independence.

While still in Congress, in 1779-80 Adams participated in the Massachusetts constitutional convention. He returned to Boston for good the next year and entered the State senate (1781-88), over which he presided. He refused to attend the Constitutional Convention of 1787 because of his objection to a stronger National Government, and the following year unenthusiastically took part in the Massachusetts ratifying convention. A lifetime of public service culminated in his election as Lieutenant Governor (1789-93), interim Governor in the latter year upon Hancock's death, and Governor (1794-97). Still living in "honest poverty," he died at Boston in 1803 at the age of 81 and was buried in the Old Granary Burying Ground." {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 February 17, 1996
has 105 approved Compatriots
2 deceased Compatriots
and 82 approved Supplements