



PineyWoods Pine Shavings

News of PineyWoods Chapter #51 of the Sons of the American Revolution

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PROXY BATTLE TO BE FOUGHT

Well, the GOOD NEWS is that many of you took the time to actually read last month's copy of the Chapter newsletter. But the BAD NEWS is that a number of you had enough time to read it in great detail. And the REALLY BAD NEWS is that some of you went so far as to review my "Draft Notice" article (you remember, the one starting with "Pursuant to Article IV, Section 1, Sub-Section 1...") AND to reread the Chapter Constitution and Bylaws AND to come to the correct conclusion that the creation of my position WAS NOT PROPERLY ACCOMPLISHED. Imagine my chagrin when at the April Chapter Meeting I was stripped of my title: "Assistant to the First Vice President of PineyWoods Chapter #51 of the Texas State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (ie: A1VP-PWC#51-TxSSAR) and once again reduced to "hey you." Oh, you wouldn't believe the sadness I experienced! Sensing my dismay (and probably worried that they might get stuck with putting out the newsletter) the Chapter officers present reviewed the Chapter's Constitution and Bylaws and placed before the members the motion to amend Article IV, Section 2; "Duties of the First Vice President;" of the Bylaws rewording the first item FROM: "♦ Responsible for the Newsletter." TO: "♦ Responsible for the Newsletter, a function that may be delegated to the 'Assistant to the First Vice President' - a position which the Chapter President may fill annually by appointment." Being once bitten (and so twice shy) the officers recognized that according to the Constitution there were not enough members present to approve the amendment of the Bylaws so it was decided to table the motion until the May meeting and to distribute voting proxies concerning the amendment. So if you do not plan to attend the May 18 meeting, please check the appropriate box on the card and drop it in the mail as soon as possible.

KEEPING THE PATRIOTS' DREAM

ALIVE: Over two hundred years ago - at places called Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill - our ancestors pledged their honor, their fortunes and their very lives to realize a dream: a free country for their families and descendants. Today, the seeds of liberty that those patriots planted so long ago have grown into a mighty forest which we know as the United States of America. And amongst the trees of that forest there now exist the components of a vast, thriving society: people, schools, places of worship, businesses, farms, stores, factories and more.

On February 14 of this year, a fire broke out in our city thereby threatening a part of that forest. And like our minutemen ancestors, the men and women of the Houston Fire Department turned out to face the threat that the fire posed. They won the battle but at the terrible cost of two of their own - Lewis E. Mayo III and Kimberly Ann Smith - two heroic firefighters who perished after being trapped inside a burning building.

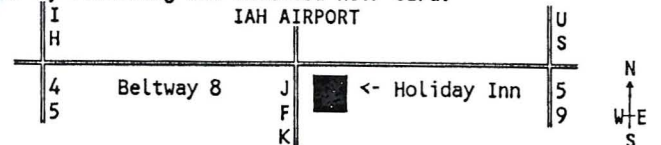
To honor the memory of these individuals and to understand the ultimate sacrifices they made, one must ask a simple question: Why were Kimberly and Lewis willing to risk their lives to put out the fire? Undoubtedly the answer to that question is the same as why our ancestors turned out at Lexington, Concord, and dozens of other places: because they believed that their actions were vitally important to the well-being of the community around them.

And thus it is fitting that as we honor our patriot forefathers who sacrificed so much to create this great nation of ours, that we also acknowledge the ongoing sacrifices of the Lewises and Kimberlys around us because with their selfless actions they and their colleagues are protecting our communities and thereby helping to keep our patriot ancestors' dream alive.

Editor's e-mail NCC1861@aol.com

NOTICE OF MEETING: "Come One - Come All" Dinner Meeting

On Thursday, May 18, 2000, PineyWoods Chapter #51 of the TxSSAR will hold a dinner meeting for members, wives, and guests at the Holiday Inn located near Intercontinental Airport at the intersection of Beltway 8 and John F. Kennedy Boulevard (at 15222 JFK Boulevard - see map below). A social time shall commence at 6:15 PM with the meal (London broil) served promptly at 7:00. Following dinner the evening's program will consist of a Rumbaugh Oration Contest presentation, a contribution to the City of Houston Fireman Memorial, recognition of the "Street Hockey Mom" invention, awards to Chapter Members, and voting on an ammendment to the Chapter Bylaws (see details in article, column 1). The cost for the dinner is \$16.50 per person. Please respond ASAP either by E-Mail to Genmorton@usa.net or by returning the enclosed RSVP card.



SAR GENEALOGICAL CORNER v2-#1

By Judge Edward F. Butler, Sr., TxSSAR Genealogist...
(A) TxSSAR Application Guidelines: Each member of the Texas Society will receive in the forthcoming edition of "The Texas Compatriot," a two page document entitled TxSSAR Application Guidelines. I urge each compatriot to look at these closely. For new applications it is the duty of the first line sponsor to insure that the application is completed properly, that the proof is documented correctly, and that the correct number of copies of the application are submitted. Implementation will result in a smooth application process. It will also free up my time to help with their proof or assist compatriots with supplemental applications.
(B) Patriotic Service: Did you know that serving on a grand or petit jury constitutes good service for your patriot? I just sent one application in for approval where the service submitted was "working on a county road." If this one is approved, many of us can go back and rack up a number of supplemental patriots.
(C) Texas Society Genealogist's Handbook: At the current time I am working on a Handbook,

which hopefully can either be printed for each chapter OR (preferably) be placed on the TxSSAR web site. It will have lots of hints on research.
(D) National Archives: If you would like to have copies of any pension records housed at the National Archives, contact Beth Adams at sadam@mnsinc.com. For a very reasonable fee she will copy the pension and/or military file for you. She lives just outside of DC. The benefits of having her copy the file you need is that you get the WHOLE FILE (Archive people usually send only selected pages) and she will get it done MUCH QUICKER than writing to the NARA - whose backlog is now about 6 months. Recently I received a pension file from her, and in addition to the 10 pages originally sent by the Archives there were 50 more pages, one of which listed this particular ancestor's birth place, not included in the pages originally received from the NARA. -EFB-
--Editor's note: Judge Butler is endeavoring to write a regular column on genealogical matters of interest or concern to the TxSSAR and is making said column available to local chapters. Speaking for PineyWoods Chapter #51, I would like to commend Judge Butler for his efforts in this cause.

PROPOSED Revisions To Annual

Calendar Of Events: At recent meetings of the Chapter Board discussions have been initiated concerning the number of chapter meetings each year and the scheduling of same. A proposal has been made to cut back on the number of dinner meetings. The resultant PROPOSED calendar of events for a typical year would be as follows:

JAN: member only mtg 3rd Thur
FEB: member/wife/guest dinner mtg 3rd Thur (*note #1)
MAR: board meeting
Texas State Convention
APR: member only mtg 3rd Thur
MAY: member/wife/guest dinner mtg 3rd Thur
JUN: vacation, no mtg
JUL: vacation, no mtg
AUG: board meeting
State Board Meeting
SEP: member/wife/guest dinner mtg 3rd Thur (*note #1)
OCT: member only mtg 3rd Thur
NOV: member/wife/guest dinner mtg 3rd Thur
DEC: board meeting 2nd Thur
*note #1: As per the Chapter Constitution and Bylaws the FEB and SEP meetings are the two mandatory business meetings of the Chapter for the year.
*note #2: Such other board meetings as are required for the effective administration of the Chapter will be called as necessary.
*note #3: The dates of specific meetings may be moved forward or backward to avoid conflicts with holidays (such as Maundy Thursday this year) or in the event of inclement weather.
Again, this is a PROPOSED OUTLINE CALENDAR, anyone having any input, concerns, questions, comments, or opinions should contact one of the Chapter Board members and express their views.

Answer To Last Month's Patrio-

tic Trivia Question: OK, you all remember the question: "Where was the Battle of Bunker Hill Fought?" So, how many of you said "Bunker Hill?" Buzzzz, wrong! (You should have called for a lifeline!) No, though the orders called for fortifying Bunker Hill, the Massachusetts militia set up on nearby Breed's Hill. There is some disagreement as to exactly why it is they ended up on the wrong hill, but nevertheless on June 16, 1775, they occupied the hill and on the following day faced 3 British attacks before being forced to withdraw.

PROVE YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE

by John Oliver Albright
As you may recall, this is an ongoing series about various books which are compilations of lists of those individuals who served in the American Revolution (and so are very useful as proof of patriotic service). Last month we noted: MASS: "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War" - Clayton Library - GEN 974.4 M14 MASS
NY: "New York in the Revolution as Colony and State, Vol I-II" - Clayton - GEN 974.7 N532 NY
And this month we continue with the New England area including Vermont and New Hampshire. You may question my including Vermont in this list since it was not one of the thirteen original states, however it was populated before the war, it did become a state soon after the war, and it was the site of a major battle (Bennington) of the war. And as it turns out there is a thorough, modern reference book on the war at Clayton Library: "Soldiers, Sailors, and Patriots of the Revolutionary War - Vermont" by Major General Carleton Edward Fisher and Sue Gray Fisher (GEN 974.3 F533 VT) printed in 1992. Of particular note is that this book also includes considerable references to "public service" performed by various people during the war. Continuing on to the state of New Hampshire, there are two books at Clayton Library which are of particular note: "Composite Index To Vol. XIV-XVII (ie. Revolutionary War Rolls) of the New Hampshire State Papers," compiled by Dr. Frank C. Mevers (GEN 974.2 M599 NH) published in 1993; and "The Military History of the State of New Hampshire 1623-1861," by Chandler E. Porter (GEN 974.2 P866 NH) published 1972. The Composite Index is a listing of the patriots found in the State Papers (volumes XIV-XVII are available at Clayton: GEN 974.2 N532 NH) whereas the Military History book is in more of a narrative form and focuses primarily on the military units involved and their officers (it is indexed). Again, one should treat these books as a starting point for a search - they are the best odds for proving your ancestor's service BUT they are not definitive and so if you do not find your ancestor in here you should not give up hope. Next issue I will finish off New England with the states of Connecticut and Rhode Island.

HIGHLIGHTS OF APRIL MEETING

A "Members Only" dinner meeting was held on 13 APR 2000 by the Piney Woods Chapter of TSSAR at Trigg's Restaurant in Humble, Texas. Fourteen members were present and we were pleased to welcome Judge Tom Lawrence as a guest and potential member of our Chapter (Tom had found out about us via our web page on the internet so I suppose that all those wires and diodes are useful after all). Following a delicious plate of Bar-B-Que (well, I liked it even if some of y'all didn't) a number of Chapter matters were discussed. Key items were legitimizing the position of editor of the newsletter (see article in column 1 on page 1), reviewing the Chapter's finances (they look good to me, but hey - I'm just the newsletter editor pro tempore), an update on our efforts in presenting awards to outstanding cadets in the ROTC programs at a number of local schools, and revamping the annual Chapter calendar (see article this page, column 1). Also the Past President's Award was presented to McLeod Smith for his leadership of the Piney Woods Chapter 1999-2000 - CONGRATULATIONS MAC, and thanks for a job well done!

CHANGES TO NEWSLETTER FORMAT

With your first glance at this month's issue of the newsletter your initial response was probably "AHA, SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED!" How very observant of you! The reason for the changes is that after I put out the last one it was brought to my attention that there is an annual competition for the best newsletters in the TSSAR, the Ross L. Shipman Award, and I was given a list of criteria that the judges for this award use in making their decisions. So, that is why there is now a copy of the SAR emblem on the front page, why the chapter number (#51) is prominently displayed, why there is a color background on the front page (do you like the patriotic stationary I found?), and so on. Actually, I still believe that the key aspect of the newsletter is its content and hope that you continue to find it informative and entertaining.

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK A BOX ON THE PROXY CARD AND GET IT IN THE MAIL!

2000-2001 Chapter Officers:

President [telephone:] Robert McKenna...281-361-5458
First Vice President Bobby Smith...281-373-1356
Second Vice President Cannon Pritchard...281-358-9731
Secretary Paul Culbertson...281-469-8734
Treasurer James Jones...713-956-6837
Chancellor Allan Henshaw...281-894-8084
Chaplin Rev. D. Harper...713-723-9759
Registrar Kenneth Fleming...281-359-3285
Genealogist Kim Morton...281-358-5429
Historian Worthy Warnack...281-479-7905
Sargent-At-Arms Clinton Fleming...713-695-6594

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS

In last month's newsletter:
a) It should have been labeled as volume VIII instead of VII.
b) The cost of the dinner was too high, those who paid \$16.50 are due a refund OR a credit.
c) The Chapter name should be printed as "Piney Woods" (ONE WORD with both the "P" and "W" capitallized! This is how it appears on the charter granted the Chapter when it was formed.

Please join the Chapter in wishing the following members a heartfelt "HAPPY BIRTHDAY:"

« MAY Birthdays »

05.04 Mic Barnette
05.08 James B. Sterling
05.10 Donald Thomas Poindexter
05.11 Jeffrey Manton Meadows
05.14 Cannon Hulbert Pritchard
05.15 Ken Mason Korthauer
05.23 Waller T. Straley
05.27 Adam Sandefer Key
05.27 Donald Dean Young

« JUNE Birthdays »

06.04 Scott William Banawski
06.04 Arlon Joe Williams
06.15 Woody Jene Reese
06.20 Clinton Ray Fleming
06.21 Walter Johnson McCaine
06.23 Howard Blakemore McCarty
06.23 Richard William Muckleroy
06.25 Rev. M. Douglas Harper
06.26 Jack Charles Lightfoot

« JULY Birthdays »

07.04 Vance Phillips Edwardes
07.07 John Oliver Albright
07.12 Laverne Jack Phillips
07.19 George Allen Simmons
07.28 Kim Allen Morton
07.28 Robert Alvin Wonsetler