

# PineyWoods Pine Shavings

News of the PineyWoods Chapter #51, of the Texas Society of The Sons of the American Revolution

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## Schedule of Meetings:

September 19, 2002

October 17, 2002

Chapter Dinner

Members Only

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The next meeting will be held September 19, 2002 at the Holiday Inn located at 15222 JFK Boulevard near Intercontinental Airport at the intersection of Beltway 8 and John F. Kennedy Boulevard. Social time begins at 6:15 PM and with dinner served at 7:00 PM. Our speaker will be Kelly Coghlan. Mr. Coghlan was born and grew up in Longview, Texas. At the age of 13, he was elected to his first position of leadership as President of his school's student council. By 14, he had earned the rank of Eagle Scout--the highest achievement in Boy Scouting. And at 17, was elected President of his high school's student council.

After graduating *cum laude* with a Business Degree from Southern Methodist University, he entered S.M.U. Law School and there graduated *cum laude*, in the top 4% of his class, Order of the Coif, and Law Review. Upon completing law school, he clerked for a federal district court in Houston and then took a position with Vinson & Elkins--one of the largest law firms in the nation. Today, he heads his own law practice focusing on litigation, personal injury, and constitutional law; and has received Martindale-Hubbell's highest rating for legal competency every year since 1988.

He is a Fellow of the College of the State Bar of Texas, a Fellow of the Houston Bar Association, a Board member of the K.S.B.J. Educational Foundation, a Deacon at Second Baptist Church, Houston, a member of American Mensa and the National Eagle Scout Association, and has been listed in Who's Who in America for the past 10 consecutive years.

Kelly is nationally known for his representation of students in the "Texas school-prayer cases." He is the attorney for Marian Ward in *Ward v. Santa Fe* and has represented 159 Santa Fe students and parents before the United States Supreme Court as *amici* in *Santa Fe v. Doe*. He has represented all of these students for a fee of one penny. St. Mary's Law Journal recently published a law review article written by Kelly entitled "Those Dangerous Student Prayers." It is the latest peer-reviewed treatise on the subject of school prayer.



In an unprecedented victory, on September 3, 1999, Kelly obtained the first injunction ever issued by a federal court that protected a student's right to pray over a public school's microphone on school property at a school sponsored event.

He has been featured on Good Morning America. The CBS Early Show, Fox News, MS-NBC, Court T.V., the BBC, The Debra Duncan Show; and in USA Today, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Washington Times, The Dallas Morning News, Houston Chronicle, The American Bar Association Journal, Texas Monthly, and World Magazine. The Texas Lawyer named Kelly as one of its five "Impact Players" of the year.

### **PATRIOT DAY 9/11**

On December 18, 2001, President George Bush signed Public Law No. 107-89, designating September 11th as PATRIOT DAY. State and local governments and the people of the United States are asked to observe Patriot Day with appropriate programs and activities to honor the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks on that date in 2001. The day has also been designated as a day that the U.S. Flag should be flown at half-staff from sunrise to sundown, not just until noon as is done on Memorial Day. In addition, the people of the United States are asked to observe a moment of silence on PATRIOT DAY in remembrance of the victims. With our beliefs in the American way and the remembrances of our freedom on July 4th, we should also honor and remember Sept. 11th in our homes, SAR Chapter, TXSSAR, and NSSAR.

### **PBS Children's Series**

PBS is beginning an animated series entitled "Liberty's Children." The program will be 40 episodes beginning with the Boston Tea Party in 1773 and ending in 1789 with the constitutional convention and will be animated with a very high production value. Some of the people doing the voices of the animated characters include, Walter Cronkite, Sylvester Stallone, Whoopi Goldberg, Annette Benning, Billy Crystal, Dustin Hoffman, Michael Douglas, Michael York, Ben Stiller and Liam Neeson. Connie Hill, with the Houston PBS affiliate, is very interested in any resources we may be able to provide. She envisions putting the information on their stations web site, which is <http://www.houstonpbs.org>. She believes that teachers, including public, private and home schooling, will want to consult their website for more resources for their students. The program is aimed at 7-12 year olds.

She wants us to give her sources for speakers and any other resources we may have, which could include color guards, or anyone who had revolutionary war era articles, such as rifles, camping equipment, flags, or anything which could be shown to the kids. She would like a list of speakers, resources, etc. and a contact person that teachers can call or e-mail. Bob Smith is our contact person. They will have the information on the web site by Labor Day, Sept 2nd, but the list can be revised and added to at any time. I think this is a great opportunity for the SAR to get some recognition. Since we are talking about speaking to 7-12 year old kids, it will not require a polished presentation and it would not have to be very long. Any member could give a presentation. Pick out a subject you have some interest in, read up on it, and you will be able to help these kids understand why the history of the founding of our country is important. For example, it would be interesting to tell them about your ancestor who fought in the war, how he lived, when and where he enlisted and where he fought. All of this would be interesting to these school kids and you would be furthering our cause. Obviously anyone dressing in a revolutionary war uniform will be a big hit.