



Pine Shavings

**Piney Woods Chapter #51
Texas Society of Sons of the American Revolution**

April 2011

Volume 21, Issue 1



A Message from the President

April marks the beginning of a new Chapter year for Piney Woods #51. March marked the transition from one group of Chapter Officers to another. At the TXSSAR Convention, held in Irving, Texas in late March, your Chapter received many accolades and awards for participation and for individual contributions and volunteerism. I, as your newly installed Chapter President, had the privilege of accepting some of the awards, for example: The Ross Shipman Award – this is presented by TXSSAR to Chapters for excellence in newsletters published. Our thanks go out to Jim Mims for helping the Chapter bring this one home again. We also received NSSAR recognition for our participating in the Center for Advancing America’s Heritage Capital Campaign, a certificate signed by President General David Simpson. On the individual achievement side, Jim Jones, Larry Stevens and Jim Mitchell received the Silver Color Guard Medal for their participation in Color Guard activities not only in Texas but also around the country at their own expense, I might add.

For those who were here for our March meeting, Bill Marrs was sworn in as TXSSAR President for the year 2011-2012. Bill has dedicated many years of service to TXSSAR and NSSAR serving as Secretary and on the various Technology Committees. Bill has big plans for TXSSAR for his tenure, one being to deploy the use of technology to help our organization better communicate with not only the membership, but also with the public. Yours truly was sworn in as TXSSAR Treasurer, I now have boxes of records and a part time job keeping the books for TXSSAR. It’s like a small business, but very liquid. I would highly recommend that you consider attending the Summer Board of Managers’ Meeting which will be held at a venue in North Houston at the end of July. The venue will be announced shortly. You do not have to be on any committees, but if you have any interest at all in getting more out of your organization by

putting effort into your organization, it would be very convenient to get a glimpse in late July. The TXSSAR has a listing on the website of all of the committees and their activities. Just volunteer, you’ll like it.

If you check out the Piney Woods #51 website and, thanks to Ray for keeping the site current and lively, you’ll see that the programs have been set except for January 2012 for the Chapter year. Here are a couple of highlights: our own James T. Jones, Immediate Past President TXSSAR, will be sharing with us in May, his reflections on his year as TXSSAR President, I’m sure Jim will challenge us all to participate more; in September, our own Jim Mitchell will give us some insight into Spies of the Revolutionary War era; and in November we’ll have something different, Dr. Joe ‘Doc’ Rice and his wife will put on a play: First Feminist, Second President. Your wife or guest will really enjoy this production. We have President Elect Bob Clark lined up for our March 2012 meeting to continue our tradition of having the TXSSAR President Elect swear in the new officers.

April’s meeting is dedicated to planning and making sure everyone knows their assignments for the JROTC awards presentation. If you would like to take a presentation slot, please contact Larry Blackburn. If you don’t want to participate in presenting, maybe you could attend and see what happens, you’ll really be surprised – it’s a wonderful experience.

I hope to see you all at Jimmy G’s on April 21. This is Maundy Thursday and many of you may have church commitments. If you can’t attend, and there’s something that you would like considered in the plan, please send it to me and we’ll discuss it and let you know. I am very excited about our Chapter and this year. I know that your discretionary time is dear to all, but try to carve out some for Piney Woods Chapter #51, you like what you’ll participate in.

John Beard

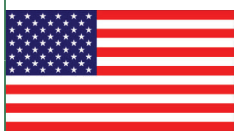
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PAST PRESIDENTS

- Tom Green
- Bernie Balsler
- Don Lemon
- Jeff Meadows
- McLeod Smith
- Robert McKenna
- Bob Smith
- Cannon Pritchard
- James Jones
- Ray Cox (2)
- Ron Barker
- Larry Stevens (3)

EVENTS



National : www.sar.org

July 8-13, 2011 -

121st Annual Congress, Marriot Winston-Salem, Winston-Salem, NC

Aug 26-27, 2011 -

South Central Annual Mtg
Overland Park, Kansas

Sept 30—Oct 1, 2011 -

Fall Leadership Meeting, NSSAR HQ,
Louisville, KY



State: www.txssar.org

Aug 26-27, 2011 -

Summer—Board of Managers Meeting
Houston, TX

Oct 29-30, 2011 -

Fall—Board of Managers Meeting
Galveston, TX

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This Month in the Revolution

April 18, 1775: The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere. We all remember that poem by Longfellow,

*“Listen my children and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;
Hardly a man is now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year”*



We hope that is not true of SAR! We also remember that he was not the only rider that night. William Dawes, who started out earlier than Paul Revere, is little known. In 1896 Helen Moore celebrated his fete with the poem, “The Midnight Ride of William Dawes.”

April 19, 1775: The first battle of the war, Lexington marked the beginning of the American Revolution. Although Lexington and Concord were considered British military victories, they gave a moral boost to the American colonists.



April 26, 1777: The third rider to warn the colonists of danger from the British is less well known than William Dawes. Her name was Sybil Ludington. Sybil was a 16 year old of Dutchess Co., NY, daughter of one of George Washington’s Colonels in the region. When her father learned that the British were in Danbury, CT burning and headed their way, he tried to send a soldier to warn the people. The soldier, too tired, refused to go. Young Sybil volunteered to ride. She started out at 9 that night in pouring rain to cry. “The British are burning Danbury. Muster at Ludington’s!” She roused 400 men who rushed to Danbury, too late to save the town. But in the Battle of Ridgefield they drove Gen. Tryon to Long Island Sound.



April 25, 1781: The Battle of Hobkirk’s Hill is sometimes referred to as the Second Battle of Camden. Nathaniel Greene considered the battle a lost opportunity to defeat a significant force of British under Lord Francis Rawdon and force the British to retreat to Charleston, SC. Greene quickly recaptured the hill after Rawdon only left a company of dragoons to secure it. Greene then reoccupied the hill.

**PineyWoods Chapter 51
Meeting Schedule 2010**

April 21 **Members Meeting**
May 19 **Dinner Meeting (Members & Guests)**
Aug 18 **Members Meeting**

MEETING LOCATION

**Jimmy G's,
307 N. Sam Houston Parkway
Houston TX 77060
6:30 PM
See ya'll there April 21st!**



Allan Henshaw was presented the SAR Distinguished Service Medal by Texas President James T. Jones Jr. for his ongoing technical contributions to both to the Texas and the National Society. Allan has held several officer positions at state and chapter level, including District 7 VP and District 8 VP, chapter president, and he is the perpetual Chancellor for the PineyWoods Chapter [since the chapter was chartered in 1994]. This is the second time Allan has been presented this award. The first was made by the National Society President and he was the first compatriot to be presented this award.



Jim & Ann Mitchell

Jim Mitchell was presented the highest state award, the Patriot Medal, for his continued and distinguished service to SAR. Jim has been a chapter president, secretary, and historian. He has served the Houston area as the Oration Committee Chair. He is on the state and national Eagle Scout committees and attended the BSA Jamboree in Virginia in 2010, helping man an SAR information booth, passing out literature on our Eagle Scout contest and talking about SAR. Jim has been the guest speaker at several chapters presenting "Spies of the Revolution" and other talks. Jim has personally marked three of his Revolutionary War ancestors' graves in Georgia, Louisiana, and Virginia and has participated in grave marking ceremonies in the Color Guard in Georgia, Louisiana, Texas and Virginia, firing musket salutes. Jim's Color Guard activities, both in Texas and at National events, from Laredo to Yorktown are too numerous to list here. He has earned the SAR Silver Color Guard Medal for his service to the society.

Other Awards Given at State Meeting

Jim Jones receives his State President Past President pin after completing a very successful and memorable year.

Dianne Jones received the SAR Silver Service Medal for her support of the administration

Larry Stevens received the Meritorious Service Medal.

Happy Birthday

April	May		June
Robert E. McKenna	Ronald J. Barker Byron C. Basham John G. Ives, Jr Ken M. Korthanuer	Rex E. McLain, III Jeffery M. Meadows David J. O'Neal Cannon H. Pritchard	John O. Albright Jonathan H. Marshall Robert W. Marshall Kim A. Morton Ross G. Partlow



Jim Jones, Jim Mitchell, and Larry Stevens were presented the National Society Silver Color Guard Medal. This award is presented by the national color guard to color guard members who served at three national events or meetings in three years. These include National Congress's, SAR Leadership meeting at Louisville, South Central District meetings, and the Texas Society Annual Convention where the SAR PG is present. The only national event in Texas is the Laredo George Washington Parade. This became a national event in 2010. **Picture left:** *National Color Guard Commander Joe Dooley, Jim Mitchell, Larry Stevens, James T. Jones and TXSSAR Color Guard Commander Don Stone.*

Pictured right: PineyWoods member Ron Barker is awarded his Silver Color Guard Medal during the CASSA State Conference in April of 2011.



PineyWoods Chapter Officers are sworn in by President-Elect William Marrs at the March 2011 Meeting. *Pictured below: (back l-r) Larry Stevens, Ray Cox, Ken Morton, Greg Goulas, Allan Henshaw, Cannon Pritchard (front row) Larry Blackburn, John Beard, Ben Stallings*



Pine Shavings the PineyWoods Chapter 51 newsletter was awarded **first place** as the best Texas Chapter Newsletter of more than 4 printed pages. Congratulations to our Editor Jim Mims for the great job he has done since taking over from Bernie Balsler several years ago. Compatriot Mims has done an excellent job producing this award winning newsletter. Demands of his job have forced him to step down from his role as Pine Shavings editor. His body of work with this newsletter is a testament to the quality and time he put in. He will be sorely missed.

Larry Stevens will assume the role of editor. He hopes to keep the format and innovations established by Jim. We are hoping to see Jim resume his active role in the future. His priority of job and family is right on!



Congratulations and Thank You Compatriot Mims!

Ron Barker, PineyWoods member, who retired and moved to California last summer has let no moss grow under his feet. He is pictured above being sworn in as the California State Secretary. He is also writing his chapter newsletter.



TXSSAR President William Marrs was presented a Liberty Bell in appreciation for his attendance and swearing in of the PineyWoods officers in March.

Membership News: PineyWoods is continuing to see growth as Registrar Bob McKenna continues to see success with applications. New members approved this year include:

- Greg Goulas—inducted in January, serving as First VP this term
- Aaron Stevens — application approved Feb 17, 2011
- Dr. Gordon Severence — inducted at the March PineyWoods meeting

In a time when we are transitioning from Bob McKenna to Larry Stevens we are still reaping the benefits of Bob’s long and successful tenure as Registrar. The average approval time from submission is about 12-19 weeks for all applications nationally. The following applications are pending at national:

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| • William Allan Bowman | • Joseph Butterworth | • Todd Alexander Irion |
| • Rev Gordon Waterman | • Richard Wood | |

Dr. Severence is pictured above with his membership certificate. Also pictured Bob McKenna, Wm Marrs & Ray Cox



Pictured above at the March Meeting at Jimmy G's: back row Marty Cox, Severence, Sylvia Marrs, seated Mary Claire Beard, Dianne Jones and Barbara Stevens

State Awards:

Flag Presentation Award: Given to Chapters having recognized an Individual, Company, or Organization for the proper display, maintenance and care for flying the Flag of the United States during the past year.

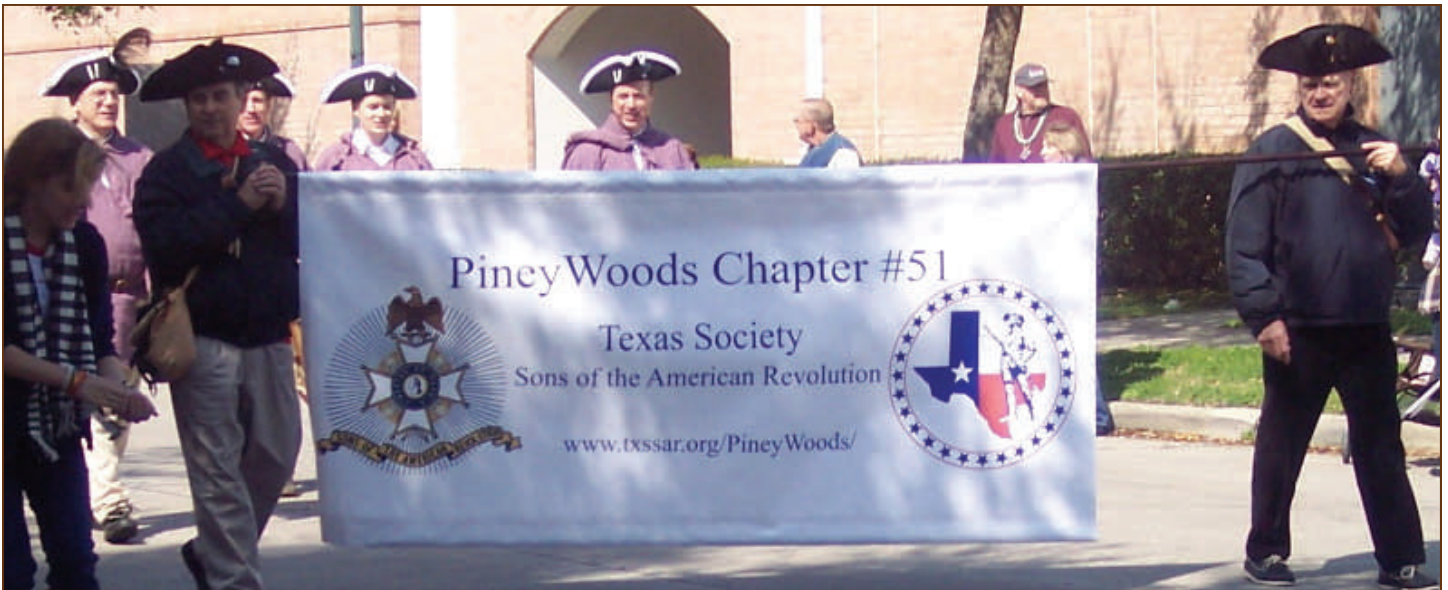
The Ross Shipman Award (Best Newsletter): This award recognizes chapters newsletters published during the contest year. PineyWoods won first place in Division 1, Newsletters with 5 or more pages. *Pictured above Piney-Woods President John Beard accepts the award.*

State Officers: At the March Annual Convention in Irvine new state officers were sworn and the previous term breathed a sign of relief. PineyWoods had members in both categories this year.

Those breathing a sigh of relief after a term well conducted was TXSSAR President James T. Jones and District VPs Ray Cox and Allan Henshaw..

Those pausing to say, “What have I gotten myself into.” were new TXSSAR Treasurer John Beard and repeating State Historian Larry Stevens. Larry will be leaving as the Texas Compatriot editor in the fall to be replaced by Dallas compatriot Charles Barker. John Thompson, Freedom Chapter, will replace Ray Cox as our district’s VP.

Color Guard Activities



Kingwood Mardi Gras Parade: For the fourth straight year PineyWoods participated in the parade. Joined by the Lord Sterling Drum and Fife Corp the parade experience was one which highlighted SAR's presence in the community. Compatriots from Galveston and the Woodlands joined local SAR. Note the photo—we used our new banner! Jim Mitchell and Pete Lenes march with the banner and Ray Cox can be seen behind Jim marching with the Fife and Drum Corp. In a pre-parade chili cook-off sponsored by Jim & Ann Mitchell, Galveston's Sue Lenes took home first place.



Hunstville, April 9, 2011: Members of the PineyWoods Color Guard joined members from other chapters for the Re-dedication of the Bicentennial Patriots Plaque. This Plaque commemorates the service of patriots of the American Revolution buried in Texas. Past President Tom Green was the Guest Speaker and President James T. Jones was the speaker. Pictured above: Stephen Tanner, James Mitchell, Ray Cox, Jim Kuykendall, James T. Jones, Dianne Jones, John K. Thompson, Joe Allen Thompson, and Tom Green

The Olive Branch Petition of 1775



This petition was a product of **Second Continental Congress** following the Battles of **Concord & Lexington** and **Breed's Hill** disagreed about what steps should be taken. Some wanted independence declared and others, feeling their sovereign was unaware of the abuses, wanted to petition his intercession. So as a compromise, the delegates agreed to make one more try to work out a reasonable solution with King George III. The petition avowed the Colonial loyalty to the King stated the Colonists desired peace with England.

It was adopted and two originals were signed by members of the Second Continental Congress in July 1775. Richard Penn and Arthur Lee carried the petition to England. Lord Dartmouth was given a copy for the King. When the Lord Dartmouth to deliver the petition, the King

would not see him. Lord Dartmouth told the colonists: "As His Majesty did not receive the petition on the throne, no answer will be given." When the delegates in Philadelphia heard King George III would not read the Petition, they started writing the Declaration of Independence and the Revolution War was not far behind.

In August 1775, King George III formally rejected the petition (see below), because it was an illegal document created by an illegal congress, and then declared the colonies in rebellion.

King George III Proclaims the Colonies to be in Open Rebellion

August 23, 1775

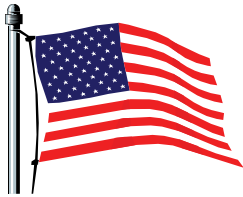


Whereas many of our subjects in divers parts of our Colonies and Plantations in North America, misled by dangerous and ill designing men, and forgetting the allegiance which they owe to the power that has protected and supported them; after various disorderly acts committed in disturbance of the publick peace, to the obstruction of lawful commerce, and to the oppression of our loyal subjects carrying on the same; have at length proceeded to open and avowed rebellion, by arraying themselves in a hostile manner, to withstand the execution of the law, and traitorously preparing, ordering and levying war against us: And whereas, there is reason to apprehend that such rebellion hath been much promoted and encouraged by the traitorous correspondence, counsels and comfort of divers wicked and desperate persons within this realm: To the end therefore, that none of our subjects may neglect or violate their duty through ignorance thereof, or through any doubt of the protection which the law will afford to their loyalty and zeal, we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to issue our Royal Proclamation, hereby declaring, that not only all our Officers, civil and military, are obliged to exert their utmost endeavours to suppress such rebellion, and to bring the

traitors to justice, but that all our subjects of this Realm, and the dominions thereunto belonging, are bound by law to be aiding and assisting in the suppression of such rebellion, and to disclose and make known all traitorous conspiracies and attempts against us, our crown and dignity; and we do accordingly strictly charge and command all our Officers, as well civil as military, and all others our obedient and loyal subjects, to use their utmost endeavours to withstand and suppress such rebellion, and to disclose and make known all treasons and traitorous conspiracies which they shall know to be against us, our crown and dignity; and for that purpose, that they transmit to one of our principal Secretaries of State, or other proper officer, due and full information of all persons who shall be found carrying on correspondence with, or in any manner or degree aiding or abetting the persons now in open arms and rebellion against our Government, within any of our Colonies and Plantations in North America, in order to bring to condign punishment the authors, perpetrators, and abettors of such traitorous designs. Given at our Court at St. James's the twenty-third day of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the fifteenth year of our reign.

GOD save the KING.

Pine Shavings



Sons of the American Revolution



Official Newsletter
PineyWoods Chapter #51
Texas Society,
Sons of the American Revolution
P. O. Box 6524, Kingwood, TX 77325

We're on the Web

www.txssar.org/PineyWoods

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RSVP FOR THE APRIL 21, 2011 MEMBERS' MEETING
At Jimmy G's, 307 N. Sam Houston Parkway, Houston TX 6:30 PM

Please respond with the number of people attending and their names by Monday, April 18th. You can send an RSVP email to John Beard at johnbeard@suddenlink.net or call John at 281-358-2970 OR Kim Morton at Genmorton@usa.net. Please RSVP to one person only. Payment of \$25.00 per attendee will be collected at the meeting.