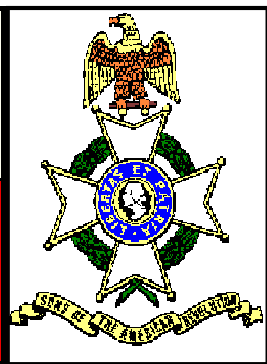




Pine Shavings



**PineyWoods Chapter #51
Texas Society of Sons of the American Revolution**

April 2013

Volume 23, Issue 4



Compatriots,
As the newly elected President of SAR Piney Woods Chapter #51, I am looking forward to being of service to all of you and our organization. Our Past Presidents and most recently, Larry Blackburn

have provided superior and dedicated service to the SAR, and I have big shoes to try to fill. We are fortunate to have an amazing suite of Chapter Officers for the next term with substantial experience to offer.

We look forward to hearing from our Members who attended

the Texas State Conference in Dallas the weekend of April 6th. There will be an exciting array of subjects being discussed and we thank those who will be attending and representing our Chapter.

We are excited about attending the JROTC meetings and honoring those special candidates from the local high schools. Attending these banquets, hearing about the program, and meeting all the quality young men and women is one of my favorite activities during our year. Presenters, please remember to take your flag certificates for the high school at the same time.

PineyWoods will be one of the three host chapters for the October 2013 BOM. Other chapters are Freedom and Robert Rankin. We will be looking for assistance from PineyWoods members to make this an outstanding meeting for all attendees.

Please review the upcoming Meeting Calendar and make every effort to attend. We will be having programs and guest speakers that you will definitely not want to miss.

Thank you and God Bless the United States of America.

Best Regards, Ben Stallings

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PineyWoods - Meetings - 2013

April 27th	Member only	September 19th	Member Guest
May 16th	Member Guest	October 17th	Member only
June - July	No meetings	November 21st	Member/Guest
August 15th	Member only	December TBA	Member

RSVP FOR THE MEETING

Please respond with the number of people attending and their names by Wednesday before the meeting date. Please RSVP ASAP, to Ben Stallings bbstallings@gmail.com and Gordon Severance gordonbseverance@sbcglobal.net.

NOTE THAT THIS IS A SATURDAY MORNING MEMBERS MEETING.

This Month in the Revolution

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April 19, 1775 – British General Thomas Gage learns of weapons being gathered in Concord and secretly sent around 700 British regulars commanded by **Lt Col Francis Smith** to seize and destroy them. Word of the British advance was spread by couriers as the Battles of the American Revolution began at Lexington, Concord, Lincoln, Menotomy (present day Arlington), and Cambridge.



1776 – Early 1776 **General Charles Lee** sends two Continental Army Officers to New Orleans to request supplies from **Spanish Governor Luis de Unzaga**. Unzaga covertly agreed to provide supplies not wanting to provoke the British without a declaration of war. Unzaga authorized a much needed shipment of gun powder in a transaction brokered by Patriot **Oliver Pollock**. When **Bernardo de Galvez y Madrid**, Count of Galvez was appointed Governor of New Orleans on 1 January 1777, he continued to provide supplies.

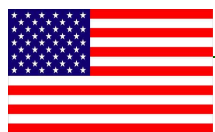


March 1777 – **Benjamin Franklin** wrote to the Congressional Committee of secret Correspondence from Paris that Spain had quietly granted Continental access to the rich Port of Havana. New **Spanish Prime Minister Jose Monino y Redondo**, Count of Floridablanca wrote, *“The fate of the colonies interest very much, and we shall do anything for them that circumstances permit”*.

April 17, 1783 – British ex-Captain **James Logan Colbert**, who had escape capture by the Spanish at the Battle of Pensacola, attacked the Spanish Garrison of 40 men at Arkansas Post, located about 35 miles up the Arkansas River from the Mississippi with 100 partisan militia and Indians. After 6 hours of heavy fighting in which the Spanish fired more than 300 cannon balls, **Spanish Captain Jacobo Du Breuil** ordered a sortie that surprised the British force causing them to run for their boats. Quapaw Indians aiding the Spanish caused the fleeing British to release prisoners they had taken from the town located just outside the fort. Word of the signing of Peace between the British and the French and Britain and Spain in January 1783 did not reach the Mississippi Valley until after this battle.



EVENTS



National : www.sar.org

July 5-10, 2013 NSSAR National Congress—Kansas City, MO



State: www.txssar.org

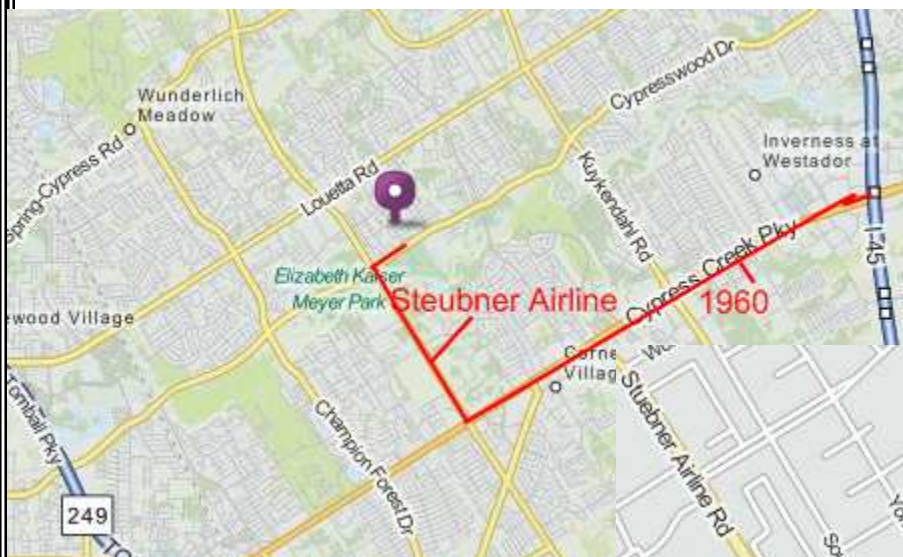
Oct 11-13 TXSSAR BOM Meeting (see TXSSAR website)
Wyndam Hotel, Dallas, TX

PineyWoods April Meeting

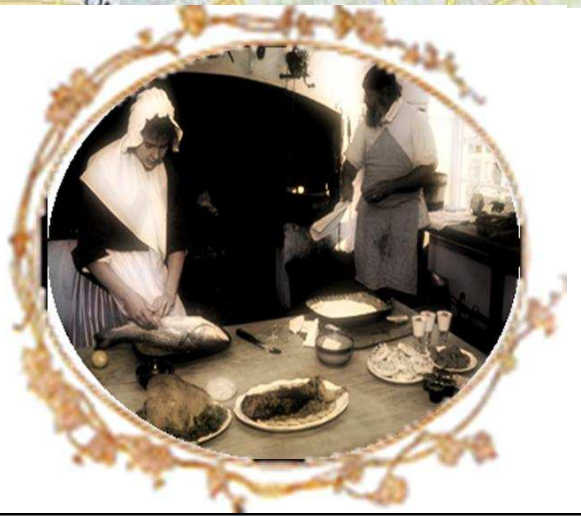
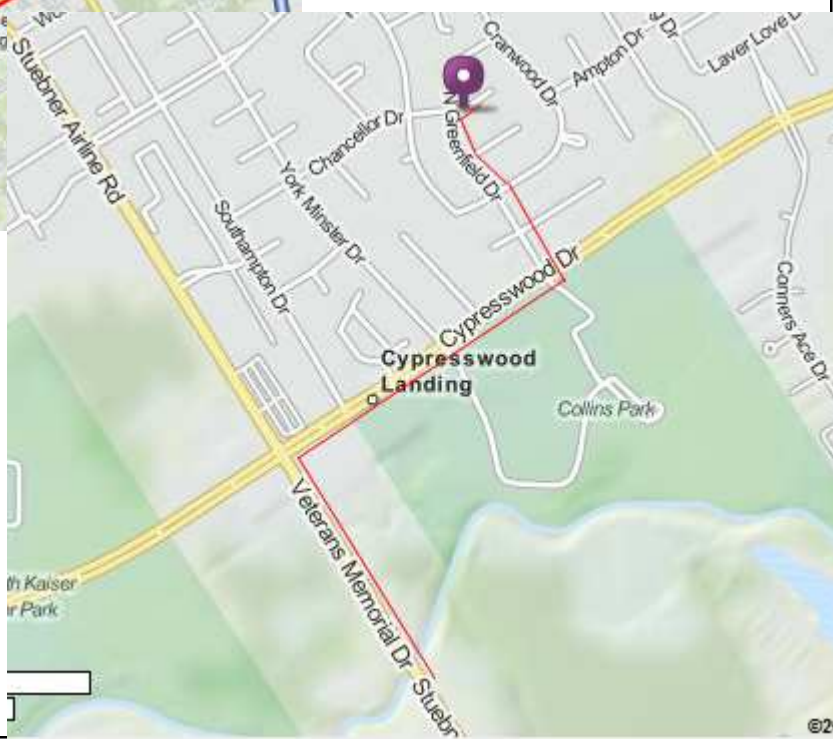
Where: Home of Gordon and Diana Severance

6619 Chancellor Dr., Spring, Tx

When: 27 April; 8:30 a.m.



The Members Only meeting of the PineyWoods Chapter will be at the home of Gordon and Diana Severance. Diana has offered to provide a breakfast for attendees, starting at 8:30. Please RSVP soonest, to Ben Stallings bbstallings@gmail.com **and** Gordon Severance gordonbseverance@sbcglobal.net



March Chapter Meeting

Stephen Rohrbough



Marie Rohrbough



We were honored to have President-Elect Stephen Rohrbough and his wife Marie as our guests at the March Meeting. Stephen presented the goals for his administration for the next year. He stressed youth programs, veteran's programs and getting and retaining members. Stephen complimented PW members for their participation at both state and national levels.



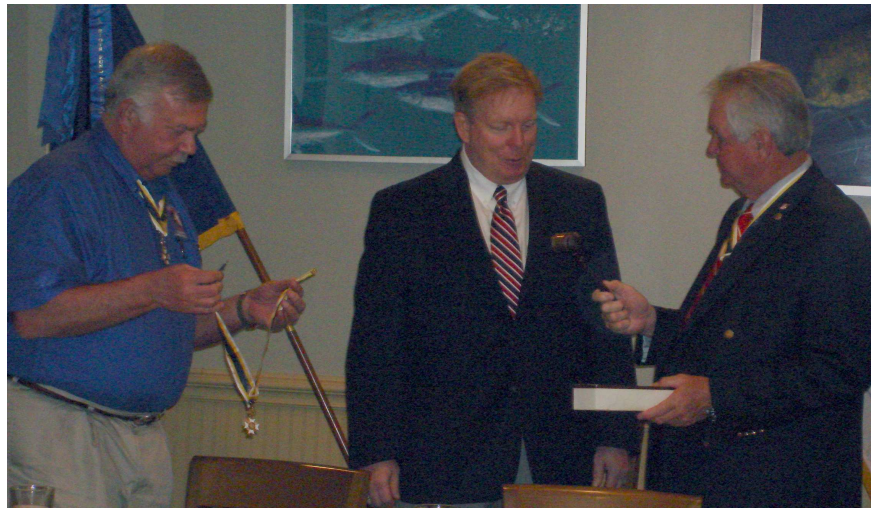
Mary Claire Beard, Dianne Jones, Marie Rohrbough, Diana Severance, Sarah Potter, Jan Stallings; men Gordon Severance, Ben Stallings, Cannon Pritchard, Jim Jones and John Beard.

March Chapter Meeting



Pictured above, President-Elect Stephen Rohrbough ® swears in PW officers, (l-r) Cannon Pritchard (Chaplain), John Beard (Treasurer), Greg Goulas (1st Vice), Ben Stallings (President), Joe Potter (Secretary), Larry Stevens (Registrar) and Kim Morton (Genealogist).

Pictured right: Immediate Past President Blackburn presents the official gavel while Past President Beard readies the president badge, being presented below.



L-r: Sarah Potter, Jan Stallings, Mary Claire Beard, Dianne Jones, Marie Rohrbough and Diana Severance

TXSSAR State Meeting

PineyWoods had the following members attend the state conference: Larry Blackburn, John and Mary Claire Beard, Ray Cox, Jim and Dianne Jones and Larry and Barbara Stevens and Tom and Mickey Jo Lawrence.

Some highlights of the meeting are given here. You can find full minutes from the meeting on the website shortly.

- Texas has petitioned to host the 2018 National Sons of the American Revolution Annual Congress in Houston. The initial petition has been accepted by the National Society Meetings Committee and will be presented to the SAR Board of Trustees at the Fall Leadership meeting in Louisville Kentucky.
- At the Convention this year, the voting body of delegates and officers agreed to raise our Youth Scholarships for First Place from \$2000 to \$2500 for 2014.
- Barbara Stevens' hand stitched patriotic quilt raffle conducted by the Ladies Auxiliary raised \$3333 for the Texas Society Patriot Fund. Interest from this fund is used for our Youth Awards and American History Teacher Contest Award. Contestants also receive travel expense and lodging to attend our state events.
- NSSAR Registrar Mike Tomme of Georgia reported that NSSAR has grown to 29,367 Members. He did note that member record reconciliation for Texas was not yet completed.
- Newly elected TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough announced that a membership trial with Ancestry called "Ancestry Reach" which utilizes our digitized membership applications to 1970 will be soon coming to Texas. There have been more than 17,000 hits from Texas. This occurs when someone searching a name matches one of our membership applications Patriot Ancestor or one listed in the last three or four generations. When this happens the hit is referred to a contact in the state. If the person searching wishes to be contacted, a message is sent to the designated state contact. President Rohrbough has appointed past Texas Registrar Mike Radcliff of McKinney to be this contact. He and Mike both appealed to the chapters to be ready to assist. Mike said we would not

be expected to do the searchers research. He asked all Chapter Registrars to assist him.

- PineyWoods Past President and TXSSAR Treasurer John Beard was honored with the Patriot Medal. The Patriot Medal is the highest award a state can confer on a member. Well deserved John.
- PineyWoods Past Past President Ray Cox was given the Color Guardsman of the Year Award. This is the highest honor a color guardsman can receive and represents years of hard work and service to the TXSSAR and NSSAR color guard.
- The Pine Shavings was awarded Ross Shipman Award for chapter newsletters for division 1 newsletters of five or more pages.
- Past President John Beard accepted PineyWoods chapter awards for Outstanding Chapter and Americanism.
- PineyWoods had two members sworn in as state officers — John Beard as State Treasurer and Larry Stevens as Staff Secretary.

Business minutes for this Convention will be posted on the TXSSAR Web-site soon.



Swearing in Larry Stevens, Sam Massey and John Beard

TXSSAR State Meeting



Ross Shipman Newsletter Award: Pictured below, left to right: Division 2, Newsletters 1-4 pages: Frank Seidule, Cradle of Texas Chapter; TXSSAR President Robert Clark; Division 1, Newsletters 5 or more pages: Larry Stevens, PineyWoods Chapter.



Outstanding Chapter Award: Pictured above, left to right: Division 2: Alan Green, Robert Rankin Chapter; Division 1: Drake Peddie, Denton Chapter; TXSSAR President Robert Clark; Division 3: John Beard, PineyWoods Chapter and Division 4: James Taylor, San Antonio Chapter



Patriot Medal Award: The Patriot Medal is the highest medal a state can award one of its members. The number a state can present is based on its size. Texas is allowed to award five medals each year. Our very own, very hard working John Beard, State Treasurer was awarded this honor at the State Meeting. Pictured at left is John making **the** walk down the aisle of previous medal winners who congratulated him with a hand shake as he moved to the front to receive his award from TXSSAR Past President James T. Jones and President Robert Clark. Congratulations John!

On April 14 we received a call from Ron Barker, CASSAR Secretary and dual member of PineyWoods. We are pleased to announce that he received the Patriot Medal from the California Society that day. PineyWoods got two medals this year! Most **states** don't get that many!

Color Guardsman of the Year

Ray Cox was awarded TXSSAR Color Guardsman of the Year at the State Meeting in Dallas. Ray has been in the state Color Guard since 2004. He served as the National Fifer at the 2006 Annual meeting in Dallas and the 2007 NSSAR meeting in Williamsburg. He has served as the fifer for the Texas society since 2005. He not only attends state meetings and BOM but has fided at compatriot's funerals, in parades, to lead the color guard in at DAR and other lineage society meetings. His color guard participation in patriot grave markings has taken him as far away as Georgia. He has even lugged around granite to mark patriot graves!

We in PineyWoods are proud of Ray and the contributions that he has made to the color guard. Well done, Ray.

Huzzah! Huzzah! Huzzah!



LATXSSAR Quilt Drawing

Well the day finally came, and the lucky ticket was drawn. The winner was a prospective member from the Maj. Van Zandt chapter of Fort Worth. Pictured left Barbara Stevens with Gerald Geiger of the Fort Worth Chapter who took the quilt to the winner.

The quilt donated by our member Barbara Stevens, raised \$3,333 for the Patriot Fund youth programs.

SILENT AUCTION

Thanks to the donations of our own, Greg Goulas, the TXSSAR silent auction made \$1050. The overall contribution from the silent auction was over \$3,200. Thanks Greg for you donation which benefited the SAR youth programs.



Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps



Well the PineyWoods JROTC Program is roaring along as the school year ends.

The following awards have been made: Aldine (Jones), Cleveland (Pritchard), Humble (Goulas), Klein Forest (Blackburn), Klein Oak (Goulas), Livingston (Pritchard), New Caney (Beard), Spring (Blackburn), Westfield (Stevens), Summer Creek (Goulas), Lamar (mailed), Ramstein AF (mailed.) We are also presenting flag certificates to the schools at the same time.



Westfield High School Army JROTC held their Military Ball on 12 April 2013. Larry Stevens presented Staff Stg Marie Gatica the Bronze Medal and Certificate.

Pictured below at the same ball, Larry Stevens presents the SAR flag certificate to Major Thompson for the HS and JROTC Color Guard.



At New Caney HS JROTC Compatriot Beard presents SSGT Lacy the Bronze Medal and Certificate on April 20, 2013.



I am writing this to explain why there is not one of my articles on the History of the American Revolution. Hopefully, my readers will accept this tour of our nation's Capitol a replacement with the promise that the next issue will contain more history. Barbara and I arrived in Washington DC April 13th to attend the first Annual Meeting of the Order of the Founders of North America 1492 – 1692. We stayed close to everything at the Washington Plaza Hotel, on Thomas Circle. After checking in, we decided to take a walk to the White House and lunch on the way. We walked to the Washington Monument and on to the “Mall” passing



the galleries, the Smithsonian and by the National Archives. Finally, we returned to the hotel about 6 PM and exhausted. Barbara said Marvin Morgan, an SAR friend, had a great time touring DC on a Segway.

We discussed this and I was a little concerned due to my age and the problems with my back; however, Sunday, we decided to take a Segway Tour. Just 3 blocks from the hotel at 14th and I St. was a tour location. Our two hour tour, started with instruction in the office and across the street in the park. We were equipped with audio receivers with an ear bud so the tour leader could communicate with us. In a few minutes we were experts. After about 15 minutes of practicing, off we went following our tour guide; there were two actually with one in front of the pack and one following. We drove down I Street to 15th and turned left and in a couple of blocks passed Pershing Park and the William Tecumseh Sherman Monument. Then we were in front of the White House. Here we took pictures and after a few minutes were off again passing near DAR Headquarters, the rear of the White House, and Washington's monument. The monument was still closed for earth quake repairs and will not open until the fall to 2014. We stopped in front of the Smithsonian Complex for a refreshment break before heading off to the Capitol passing the new American Indian Museum. Looks like it should have been built in Taos instead of DC. We spent a few minutes in front of the Capitol building taking photos.

Here you could see how crowded the Mall and the border-



ing streets and walks were. The Cherry Festival was in its last day. And, the last blossoms were falling. The annual celebration honoring the gift to Cherry Trees by Japan in 1912 was ending. And, so was our tour as we passed National Archives and the old US Post Office. Supposedly Donald Trump has acquired this old landmark to make another hotel.

Inside the Post Office building is a beautiful basement to glass roof atrium; it is a beautiful example of the old buildings. It also has an elevator to the roof for spectacular views of the Mall, the Capitol, and all of the buildings and monuments.



Our more than two hour trip ended shortly after. This was a quick and different way to tour. Walking the same route, about five and a half miles could take most of a day.

However, our ride was not without incident. Nearing

home Barbara took a nasty spill, landing on a curb with her face. So we spent the rest of the afternoon at George Washington University Hospital getting stitches, x-rays and cat-scans. So,

over the past week I have been busy caring for an invalid and not writing history, darn, and she says she would ride one again! That is when she can walk and chew again.

