



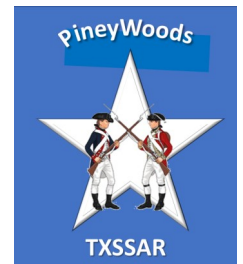
**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
April 26, 2025 Issue 4**



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR or NSSAR) is an American congressionally chartered organization, founded in 1889 and headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky.



The PineyWoods Chapter #51 was chartered on February 3, 1994, and is named for its geographic location in the state. We draw members from Houston (S) to Livingston (N) and from The Woodlands (W) to Liberty (E). PineyWoods meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month except June and July at Los Cuco's Mexican Restaurant, Kingwood Texas.



250 YEARS AGO

APRIL 19, 1775

MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONEY



LEXINGTON AND CONCORD

Minutemen Fire Back at the British Regulars—**THE SHOT HEARD AROUND THE WORLD**



Outgoing President Ben Baskin
passes to Gavel to President Abe
Abdmoulaie

March 15, 2025

Chapter Meeting- Los Cucos Mexican Café, Kingwood April 26, 2025 11:15 AM to 1:00

Patriots,

First and foremost, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Ben Baskin for his exemplary leadership over the past two years. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the President of the PineyWoods Chapter #51. My goal is to uphold the esteemed traditions of this chapter, established since its inception in 1994.

My journey began when my family relocated to Texas from the Midwest in 1986. Growing up, I was actively involved in various sports and attended KHS for high school. I earned a scholarship to play football at McNeese State University, where I graduated with a BS in Biology and achieved Academic All-American status. Subsequently, I obtained my MBA from Texas A&M-Commerce, specializing in transformational leadership, finance, and strategy. Additionally, I hold a Business Leadership and Coaching Program Certification from the University of Texas at Austin and have completed the Merck KGaA Global Empower Leadership Program.

I have been happily married to my wife Kelly for 24 years, and we have three children who keep us engaged with their school and sports activities. I enjoy coaching youth sports, alligator hunting, fishing, exercising, snow skiing, boating, reading, traveling, and spending quality time with my family.



to
a



Professionally, I bring over 24 years of experience in the Biopharmaceutical/Biotech Industry, having held various senior account management and leadership roles. Currently, I serve as a Director of Market Access for a global science and technology company focused on healthcare.

Both my family and my wife's family have deep-rooted traditions of honoring our Revolutionary ancestors and are committed to the mission of SAR/DAR. I am excited to collaborate with the new officers and members to unite us in our shared purpose, as outlined in the SAR mission statement: "The Sons of the American Revolution honors our

Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country." We can bring these principles to life by executing the objectives of SAR as stated in the Constitution.

As we move forward, some initial areas of focus will include Public Service medals and educational outreach opportunities. I propose an officer meeting in May to plan our chapter programs and align our efforts with the 250th Anniversary initiatives.

Abe Abdmoulaie

FROM THE EDITOR

The British Army's infantry were nicknamed "redcoats" for their military uniforms, and sometimes "devils" by some colonists. They had occupied Boston since 1768 and had been augmented by naval forces and marines to enforce what the colonists called

The Intolerable Acts of 1774, which had been passed by the British Parliament to punish the entire Province of Massachusetts Bay for the Boston Tea Party and other acts of protest.

On the evening of April 18, 1775, a plan was formed to hang lanterns in the Steeple of Old North Church to signal the impending arrival of Redcoat soldiers – one if by land and two if by sea, and These two lanterns were the force behind the now famous Midnight Ride of Paul Revere to warn that the British were coming.

On the morning of April 19, 1775, after waiting all night, Parker got the information he was waiting for when Thaddeus Bowman, the last scout that Parker had sent out, rode up at a gallop and told him that they were not only coming but coming in force and they were close. Captain Parker was clearly aware that he was out-matched in the confrontation and was not prepared to sacrifice his men for no purpose. He knew that most of the colonists' powder and military supplies at Concord had already been hidden. No war had been declared. (The Declaration of Independence was more than fourteen months in the future.) He also knew the British had gone on such expeditions before in Massachusetts, found nothing, and marched back to Boston.

The rest of the story is history. Ashot rang out and the British Army fired killing British citizens. The War was beginning. 250 Years ago TODAY! Larry Stevens



Larry G. Stevens
Editor

PineyWoods Chapter Officers

2025 - 2027

President - Abe Abdmoulaie
1st Vice President - Jim Pinkerton
2nd Vice President - Louis Skip Hawley
Secretary - William Bill King
Treasurer - B. Ray Mize
Historian - Kermit Breed
Chaplain - Alan Bowman
Chancellor - Jim Pinkerton
Parliamentarian - Mike Anderson
Registrars - Larry Stevens, Kermit Breed, Joe Potter
Genealogist - Kermit Breed
Sargant at Arms—Merv Hartwick

Chapter Non - Officers Roles

Newsletter - Larry Stevens
wardtracker.aol.com
Web Master - Ray Cox

Events Calendar



NSSAR

National Congress
July 12-18, 2025
Mohegan Sun, CT.



TXSSAR

Sugarland TBA

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER 51

Los Cucos
April 26, 2025
May 17, 2025
August 16, 2025
September 20, 2025

Chapter Members, Officers,

Our NSSAR Communication Committee has been working hard to develop help aids for Chapter Presidents, Chapter Officers, and Members. On this page you will see links to the SAR University Learning Modules and the Chapter Tool kit. These are very informative and will help answer your questions regarding What Are We About, How to Conduct a Meeting, and many other tools.

*Texas SAR Chapter Presidents and Officers, please plan to join in a Zoom meeting on **April 28**, at 7:00pm Central time to go over two new items that should be helpful in educating our Members and running our Chapters. Please forward to your Chapter officers as well.*

SAR University - SAR University – National Society Sons of the American Revolution is a training tool developed by NSSAR to assist with Member and Officer training. Compatriot Jack Bredenfoerder will join us to discuss the project and how best to navigate and use it.

The Chapter Toolkit was developed by the SAR Communications Committee, chaired by Tom Jackson. Tom will be with us to review the program, and how it can be used by chapters.

*Chapter Tool Kit – National Society Sons of the American Revolution. Compatriots, please plan to join us on **April 28**, at 7:00pm, CST, at the Zoom link below. If you have questions, please direct them to me at pres@texassar.org.*


In the Spirit of '76

Mel Oller

Texas SAR President

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SAR UNIVERSITY

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is in the process of creating a platform of training materials for all levels of the organization. At the moment there exist two options for courses as we transition from one system to another.



The newest option is the SAR University. Please feel free to explore the various courses. This link will open a third party site as a temporary server.

[SAR UNIVERSITY](#)

The older eLearning site is still available as not all of the courses have been transferred to the new site and are still available.

PINEYWOOD CHAPTER YOUTH OUTREACH

"Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it."

The PineyWoods Youth Activities program has always been dedicated to fostering the growth and development of young individuals within the community. Through various initiatives, the program aims to provide enriching experiences that promote leadership, teamwork, and academic excellence.

ESSAY and ORATION Contest—PineyWoods was fortunate enough to sponsor Allison Fruewirth as an Essay Contestant. She was awarded the chapter first place award. Freedom Chapter who meets in Shenandoah sponsored Allison in the SAR Oration Contest. And she was selected to compete for the Texas SAR Contest. She delivered her talk on Galvez in a convincing dramatic portrayal and easily was judged the best. All five contestant speeches were videoed. Allison's video will be submitted for the NSSAR Contest in July, and if selected she will travel to Connecticut for a try at First Place.

Junior ROTC – 21 Bronze Medals have been taken or mailed to High Schools in our area for presentation at Annual Awards Ceremonies. Only Cleveland on April 22, Porter on April 17, and Splendora on May 17th, provided information on their awards events and asked for a representative from the chapter to be present for the Bronze Medal presentation. Freedom Chapter has agreed to take care of the five Klein Schools this year as they did last year. Freedom has asked for a meeting later this year to discuss the assignment of schools due to the change in chapter demographics over the past 10 years. Several schools originally adopted by PineyWoods in 2017 and 2018 are no longer tenable due to travel distance, Pasadena, Deer Park, La Porte, and Baytown. These should go to the Galvez or Paul Carrington Chapters. Lamar High School West of downtown Houston should be handled by Paul Carrington.



Cadet C/SRA Schwenke with Larry Stevens
at PORTER HS Air Force JROTC Awards
Program April 17TH.

Splendor Social Studies Eight Grade

History Fair: Chapter representative

Larry Stevens spent nearly 2 hours on April 10th observing students during the History Fair event. Organizers created games based on the trivia concept. Students were grouped into 2-4 member teams to compete against each other for prizes. There were six different contests with classes rotating to each after spending an allotted time at each. Each game had a different format and goals, but each were rooted in the required Texas State mandated Social Studies test. The goal was to provide students with knowledge to improve STAAR scores in 8th Grade American History Social Studies to an acceptable level.



'To: Larry Stevens,

On behalf of the Splendor Education Foundation our heartfelt thanks to the Sons of the American Revolution Pineywoods Chapter for your generous support of our recent 8th Graded U. S. History Showdown.

Thanks for your sponsorship, our students were able to engage in an exciting, hands-on learning experience that brought history to life in a meaningful way. The interactive stations challenged them to think critically and work collaboratively, and the surprise visit by "George Washington" added a memorable touch truly captured their imaginations.

We are incredibly grateful for your partnership and commitment to enriching educational opportunities for our students. Your support is vital helping us create moments that inspire, educate and empower.

I have attached a folder of photos for you. Please let me know if we can do anything for you.

With sincere appreciation,

Katie Key

Education Foundation Coordinator

Splendor ISD Education Foundation'

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

PineyWoods Chapter Membership:

TOTAL 99

Current Regular Members 62 Dual 3 Youth
8 Reinstated 24

Not Paid—14 Regular Members

As of April 15, 2025

Official Newsletter PineyWoods Chapter #51 Texas Society SAR

Kingwood, TX 77325

www.txssar.org/PineyWoods

Apr 2025 Issue 4

More members reinstated thanks to the efforts of Michael Anderson, Past President. We now have 14 dropped which is about average for our chapter over the past few years.

On the down side we are not getting as many men wanting to join SAR for whatever reason. The increase in the applications Fee by National is not the entire story. As some would argue. We have been getting fewer inquires about joining since

COVID reactions cause many folks to remain at home.

The increase in membership National is down, below normal growth of 3% before COVID to nearly flat. This caused the increase in application to try and makeup for a short fall in project income.

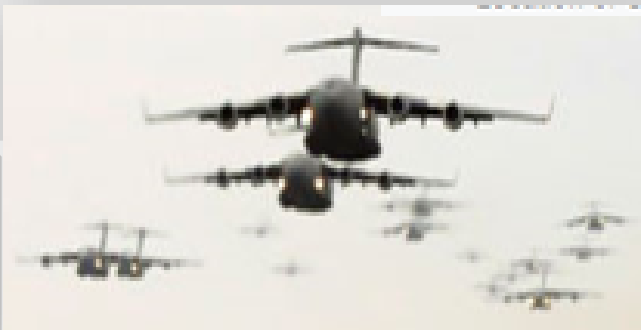
Larry Stevens

Registrar

PINEYWOODS YOUTH

□ **Humble ISD Multi-School Event: May 7**

□ **Splendora ISD Multi-School Event: May 16**



VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

CHAPTER COUPON PROJECT

Coupons for Overseas Military Families program. All that is required is for you to CLIP the manufacturer's coupons out that appear in the newspapers, and mail them to:

**John Beard
3738 Palmetto Creek Dr
Kingwood, Texas 77339**

Please cut the coupons from the pages and bring to the PineyWoods Lunch meetings. The coupons are very helpful to the service members and families and about 90% are used of purchase items in the exchanges.

Pledge to the United State of America

I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.



Texas Pledge

Honor the Texas flag, I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.



PineyWoods Chapter 51 TXSSAR

Lunch Meeting

Los Cucos Mexican Cafe

Kingwood Texas

April 26 , 2025

11:15 AM—1:00 PM

INVOCATION

PLEDGES; USA & Texas Flag and SAR Pledge

Introductions

Officer Reports

President

1st Viced President

Youth Report (Stevens)

Secretary Report

Treasurer

Chaplain

Registrar

Historian

Nomination Committee Chair Report

New Business

SAR PLEDGE

"We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe."

SAR CLOSING

"Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of rights, an Independent Supreme Court, and a nation of free men."

Piney Woods Chapter #51 Business Meeting

March 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Los Cuco's Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

President Ben Baskin called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Incoming chapin, Jim Pinkerton gave the opening invocation. President Baskin led members and guests in the pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags. He then led the member introduction.

Members Present (15) : Ski Grumboski, Kermitt Bread, Richard Payne, Michael Anderson, Ben Baskin, John Beard, Dick Setzer, Larry Blackburn, Larry Stevens, Mel Oiler, Abe Abdmoulaie, Merv Hartwick, Ray Cox, Jim Pinkerton, B.Ray Mize

Guests Present (1): Samantha Ballard, Allison Fruehwirth, Jennifer Fruewirth

Secretary's Report: Jim Pinkerton, secretary, stated that last month's report was in the current newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: B. Ray Mize, treasurer, stated that our C.D. will be renewed in mid-April.

Registrars Report: Both Larry Stevens, and Kermitt Bread are currently working on new potential members.

Old and New Business: Larry Stevens, stated that compatriot Ken Pritchard was in the hospital with pneumonia. Mel Oiler, incoming Texas SAR State President spoke of the trustee meeting he attended in Louisville. He spoke of the new museum located there that will be both educational and informative. The museum will feature an interactive conversation between George Washington and Ben Franklin amongst others. The museum is in the first stage of development. The Piney Woods Chapter 250th anniversary bench was installed at the Humble Museum on March 1st. Other chapters are currently working on similar ones. Larry Stevens stated that JROTC medals are being delivered and will be distributed to area high schools.

Larry Blackburn was given a 15-year anniversary award. Michael Anderson and Jim Pinkerton were awarded Distinguished Service Medals for their work in the chapter. Ski Grumboski



stated that our chapter donation had purchased replacement flag pole #5 at the Veterans Cemetery.



Program: Allison Fruehwirth, our chapter essay winner, gave an interesting presentation on Bernado de Galvez, an important revolutionary



war figure. Allison was awarded \$250.00 from the chapter for her efforts.



Installation of New Officers: Incoming Texas State President Mel Oiler installed the new officers for the Piney Woods Chapter for the next two years. The new officer list is in last month's newsletter. Outgoing President Ben Baskin was given the traditional past president's award.

He turned over the gavel to incoming president Abe Abdmoulaie. Abe said that he was thankful

for the membership in their confidence in him. He stated that he would do his best to uphold the standards of the chapter. He spoke briefly about his past and was looking forward to the future. Abe spoke about his mission and areas of possible improvement.

SAR Closing: President Abe Abdmoulaie led members in the SAR closing and Jim Pinkerton, chaplain gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Jim Pinkerton—Secretary



Left– **Texas SAR President Mel Oller** of The Woodlands area brought greetings. And right, Newly sworn in **PineyWoods President Abe Abdmoulaie** raised his hand and Said’ I GOT THIS ONE!’ This woke up Larry Stevens sitting next to his daughter Samantha. Ben Baskin with Jennifer and Allison



Fruewirth, and Youth Essay Contest Chair 2023-2024

Larry Stevens, pictured, Allison holding her Certificate, wearing her 1st Place SAR Essy Medal, and her check. John Beard and Dick Sester watch with Richard Paine and Ray Cox Bottom left. Bottom right members talk while lunches are being served.

