



# Pine Shavings



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

## SAR Weekly Reporter

An Illustrated Publication of the Piney Woods Chapter

### EXTRA: James T. Jones, Jr.—Minuteman

Boston, July 11, 2016—At the SAR Annual Minuteman ceremony at the Westin—Copley Place five new minutemen were awarded medals. The Minuteman Award is the highest service recognition awarded by national. It is awarded for outstanding service at the National Level.

We were so proud as our own James T. Jones, Jr. received this award as part of the 2016 Class. This award represents years of dedicated service at the national level focused in finance, but also encompassing other areas such as color guard and genealogy. It was a honor well deserved. Jim was instrumental in establishing the Sorbane-Oxley Compliance program for implementation within SAR.

Piney Woods and Independence Chapters were there to cheer him. Jim is two time president of the Piney Woods Chapter. He served as International VPG and Trustee.

Jim was escorted by former SAR President General Joe Dooley and received his award from President General Thomas Lawrence.

The Class of 2016 included Russell DeVenny of the Missouri Society who is a dual member of the Piney Woods chapter.



PG Joe Dooley, James T. Jones, and  
PG Thomas Lawrence



# **Piney Woods Chapter 51 Texas Society SAR Members Meeting at May, 2016**

President Joe Potter welcomed all to the meeting at 6:30 PM. After the Invocation members recited the pledge to the United States and Texas flags followed by the SAR pledge.

COMPATRIOTS PRESENT: Kermit Breed, Joe Potter, Kim Morton, Larry Blackburn, John Beard, Larry Stevens, Jim Jones, Jeff LaRochelle, Wendell Melrose, Ray Cox, Jim Pinkerton and Karl Falken.

GUESTS: Sandra Breed, Barbara Stevens, Sarah Potter, Dianne Jones, Nancy Pinkerton, Cynthia LePori, Donna Passmore, Jan Smucler, students Mackenzie, Molly, and Matthew Webb. Humble ISD Social Studies Coordinator.

MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve Minutes from the April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Jim Pinkerton reported no changes. Motion was made and seconded to present Willow Creek Middle School a check for \$150.00 to help toward the Patriot Day Program. Motion carried.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Kermit Breed is working on new applications for Randy Anderson and Richard Lynn Fork. Kermit shared the Obituary of John Carroll Breed of the Robert Rankin chapter. In the Obituary the fact that the Battle of Bunker Hill was actually fought on Breed's Hill was brought out.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Nancy Pinkerton, Principle of Willow Creek Elementary School, with the help of fifth grade students Mackenzie and Molly gave us a recap of the events surrounding their fifth grade Social Studies curriculum that includes Patriot Day and night activities. On Patriot Day entire class dresses in period costume and live life as it was in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Nancy Pinkerton implemented the "Values Through History" program "Why America is Free" curriculum prepared by Donna Passmore and Jan Smulcer. This curriculum is being used in 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes in Humble ISD enhancing the Social Studies unit 1750 to 1800 by bringing the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century into all disciplines; Math, Science, English, P.E., etc., The students presented a power point on the program in their school.

Past Texas Society President Larry Stevens and Chapter President Joe Potter presented Principal Nancy Pinkerton with a Certificate of Appreciation, a chapter donation of \$150 to Willow Creek Elementary, and a history book titled "The Brave Women and Children of the American Revolution" to Mackenzie and Molly for their school library.

NEW BUSINESS: Karl Falken, VP Media, discussed the possibility of creating a new NSSAR Medal for recognizing outstanding Civil Air Patrol students; like the JROTC Medal. It was suggested that he contact John Hamlin the Texas Society Medals and Awards Committee chairman about making a recommendation from TXSSAR to NSSAR. Jim Jones, on the NSSAR Medals and Awards Committee, and offered to assist.

NEW MEMBER: Wendell Hugh Melrose was presented with his Certificate and Rosette. Wendell gave a short history of his patriot ancestor Daniel Kincheloe of Fairfax Co., Virginia who furnished beef for the army.

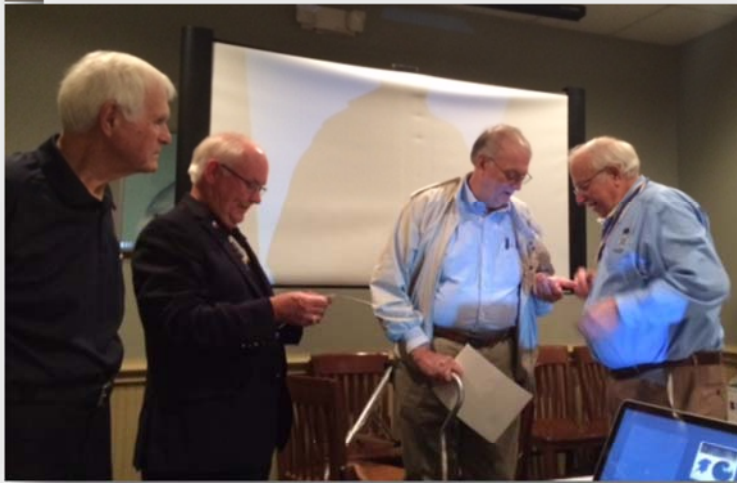
After the Benediction members joined together in the SAR closing. President Potter adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

PineyWoods #51 Secretary Kermit Breed

# Piney Woods Chapter 51 Texas Society SAR Members Meeting at May, 2016



May 19<sup>th</sup> PineyWoods Meeting members Jim Jones, Wendell Hugh Melrose, Ray Cox, Jim Pinkerton



Above: Jeff LaRochelle, John Beard and Larry Blackburn;



Center and left: Wendell Hugh Melrose; New Member Induction



# Piney Woods Chapter 51 Texas Society SAR Members Meeting at May, 2016



## Willow Creek Elementary

The Nancy Pinkerton and the students gave an overview of the activities on "Patriot Day."

Top left: Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Willow Creek Principal Nancy Pinkerton as Matthew Webb, Humble ISD Social Studies Coordinator (left) looks on;

Below fifth grade students Molly and McKenzie.



The students demonstrated some of the activities from Patriot day including:

Making butter using a mason jar

Making possibles bags

Making candles by dipping

Making a toy Bilbo using cardboard egg cartons

Learning quill writing

Making punched tin ornaments

# NSSAR 126th Congress Boston



PG Tom Lawrence and Judy Blackburn



Boston, July 10, 2016 — Members of PineyWoods were honored by an invitation from Commanding Officer Captain Brett Millican to visit the U.S.Coast Guard Station in Boston. Attending were Larry and Judy Blackburn, Tom Lawrence (exCG), Jim and Dianne Jones, and Larry and Barbara Stevens.



Captain Brett Millican and Aunt Judy Blackburn



We first visited the command center for the District and were shown the monitoring systems and a simulation of a rescue operation. We were then able to board a buoy tender, a search & rescue craft, and had lunch aboard a cutter. This particular cutter was in service in the Pacific for drug enforcement. The Coast Guard functions in rescue, security, fishing enforcement, narcotics enforcement, and most recently homeland security.



Judy and Larry Blackburn, Jim Jones, Larry Stevens, and Captain Millican





# NSSAR 126th Congress Boston



At the Sunday Awards ceremony Past TXSSAR President Larry Stevens was awarded the Colonel Stewart Boone McCarty Award for furthering the preservation of the United States History and its traditional teaching in our schools. The award included a cash prize of \$350, which will be used to upgrade some of the items in his teaching trunk.



Pictured above Pulitzer Prize winner Peter Onuf and President General Tom Lawrence. Dr. Onuf, our guest speaker, is the recognized authority on Thomas Jefferson. He was a guest speaker at the SAR Distinguished Scholar Forum in California this year.

In honor of Dr. Onuf's attendance a life statue of Thomas Jefferson was in the lobby for the Tuesday reception. Many members took photos with President Jefferson.



No trip to Boston would be complete without a trip to Mike's pastry. Larry and Barbara Stevens and Jim and Dianne Jones made that trip to the North End the first evening. Yum!



# NSSAR 126th Congress Boston

## Texas Dinner—Monday Evening

The Texas Society Dinner was held at Solas Pub close to the hotel. All members of the Texas Society attended. We owe a thank you to the John Beard for arranging this fun evening.

Pictured below: from left to right: Tom Jackson, Jim Mitchell, John and Mary-Claire Beard, Larry and Barbara Stevens, Dianne and Jim Jones, and Larry Casey



## South Central District Breakfast

The SCD Breakfast was well attended. SCD is comprised of the state society members from Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri. The Texas society attendees at the forward table are (beginning at 12 o'clock) Ron Walcik, Larry Stevens, James T. Jones, John Beard, Larry Casey, Bob Cohen, joined by David Appl.





# Boston



July 11, 2016, Boston — Sunday the NSSAR Memorial Service was conducted at the Old South Church, a block from the hotel and across the street from the Boston Library where the ladies had their Ladies' Luncheon, hosted by First Lady Micky Jo Lawrence.

The church was beautiful, below is a photo of the room where the color guard awaited . The photo top left shows Dianne Jones and Barbara Stevens on their way to the Memorial Service.

Pictured at the bottom left was Debra Sampson, the program from the Ladies' Luncheon in the Boston Library on Tuesday. .







# The Revolution



**June 19, 1775 – The Battle of BREED’s Hill, mistakenly called Bunker Hill** was the first major action in the Revolutionary War. After two hours of battle the Patriots were forced to leave the breastworks and the high ground overlooking Boston. The British attacked with 2200 men and lost more than 1000.



**June 28, 1776 – Charlestown, South Carolina** – Rebel Forces repel British attempt to take Charles Town. The Patriot Force dug in on Sullivan’s Island prevent the British from landing troops. This with the tricky navigation in Charleston Harbor force the British to leave. South Carolina does not see a return of the British Army for 3 years.



**July 4, 1776 – The Continental Congress declares independence** and issues a proclamation called the Declaration of Independence. June 27, 1776, Richard Henry Lee calls for a declaration of Independence and delegates authorize drafting such a document and assign the duty to Thomas Jefferson. The final draft is presented June 28, 1776, and the congress approves on July 4<sup>th</sup>. John Dunlap spends most of the night of July 4<sup>th</sup> printing his famous Broadside of the Declaration of Independence.



**June 18, 1781 – General Greene withdraws forces from Ninety-Six** after a month long attempt to route the Loyalist forces entrenched behind earthen walls. Learning of the approach of a British column, Gen. Greene decides to leave the site. The importance of this battle, which was at best a stalemate, is that it indicates the British do not have sufficient forces to maintain war in the South.



# The Revolution



1775 June – After Lord Dunmore's orders the dissolution of the Virginia Burgesses in 1773 for supporting persons opposed to the Crown, he calls them back to meet in June 1775 to address Lord North's "Consilatory Resolutions".

Peyton Randolph, who was the Virginia Delegate to the Continental Congress, returned to take his place as the Speaker of the Virginia Burgesses. Randolph reported the Resolution was never sent by North to Congress but instead was sent to the Colonies in an attempt to divide them and bypass the Continental Congress. The Burgesses rejected the Resolution, which was later rejected by the Continental Congress, and then formed a Committee of Safety in order to take over the government in the absence of a Royal Governor. They adjourned on the 24 of June 1775 and never again achieved a quorum. Dunsmore takes refuge on a British Warship. Peyton Randolph's name was on the list of those to be hung by General Thomas Gage. Randolph died 28 October 1776 of an "apoplectic stroke."



## **“ GOD PRESERVE CAROLINA AND THE LORDS PROPRIETERS 1694 “**

The newspaper advertisement on the next page prompted me to investigate when the Elephant first appeared in America. As usual I found something that sent me off on a tangent. Three coins were struck in 1694. The use of the "elephant coin" has been dated to somewhere around the London fire in 1666, and used for many purposes. Two made to preserve "Carolinas" and one "New England."

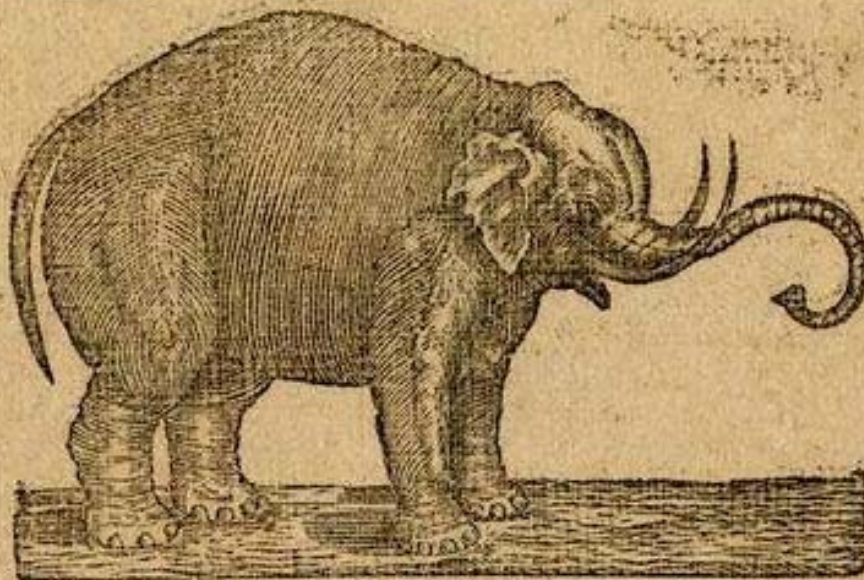
"The Elephant tokens were designed at the Tower mint in London for use in England, with the Carolina and New England tokens evidently serving as promotional pieces to increase interest in the colonies. In fact, as late as 1769, the numismatist Thomas Snelling stated he saw two obverse Elephant token dies in the Tower mint. Traditionally, the dies have been assigned to John Roettier, Chief Engraver at the Tower mint. Although they were probably created during his tenure, there is no evidence he personally worked on the design or cutting of these dies. It appears the tokens were neither made for nor intended for circulation in the American colonies. Indeed, the exact use of these pieces is unknown. They may not have been used as coins at all because of the great weight differentials between thick and thin planchets; some are over 200 grains, far in excess of the 152 grain halfpenny, while other much below the standard at 110 grains or less. Hodder has suggested they may have served as lottery tickets. " [http://www.coins.nd.edu/ColCoin/ColCoinIntros/ElephantTokens.intro.html]





## Newbury Post—19 September 1797

This interesting article describes the elephant. Can one imagine what our ancestors were thinking about this beast?



### THE ELEPHANT,

ACCORDING to the account of the celebrated BUFFON, is the most respectable Animal in the world. In size he surpasses all other terrestrial creatures; and by his intelligence, makes as near an approach to man, as matter can approach spirit. A sufficient proof that there is not too much said of the knowledge of this animal is, that the Proprietor having been absent for ten weeks, the moment he arrived at the door of his apartment, and spoke to the keeper, the animal's knowledge was beyond any doubt confirmed by the cries he uttered forth, till his Friend came within reach of his trunk, with which he caressed him, to the astonishment of all those who saw him. This most curious and surprising animal is just arrived in this town, from Philadelphia, where he will stay but a few days.—He is only four years old, and weighs about 2000 weight, but will not have come to his full growth till he shall be between 30 and 40 years old. He measures from the end of his trunk to the tip of his tail 15 feet 8 inches, round the body 10 feet 6 inches; round his head 7 feet 2 inches, round his leg above the knee 3 feet 3 inches, round his ankle 2 feet 2 inches. He eats 130 weight a day, and drinks all kinds of spirituous liquors; some days he has drank 30 bottles of porter, drawing the corks with his trunk. He is so tame that he travels loose, and has never attempted to hurt any one. He appeared on the stage, at the New Theatre in Philadelphia, to the great satisfaction of a respectable audience.

A respectable and convenient place is hired up adjoining the Store of Mr. Bartlet, Market-Street, for the reception of those ladies and gentlemen who may be pleased to view the greatest natural curiosity ever presented to the curious, which is to be seen from sunrise till sundown, every day in the week.

The Elephant having destroyed many papers of consequence, it is recommended to visitors not to come near him with such papers.

Admittance *ONE QUARTER OF A DOLLAR*—Children *ONE EIGHTH OF A DOLLAR*.

NEWBURYPORT, Sept. 19, 1797.



# Who Was General Washington

By Larry Stevens

## First Years

George Washington was born February 22, 1732/3. He was the first son of his father Augustine Washington's second marriage to Mary Ball of Epping Forest. When about 3 years old, Augustine moved the family to Ferry Farm on the Rappahannock River in King George County. Augustine died in 1743, leaving young George to be raised by his mother. However, George was a restless child and when a little older moved to his half-brother Lawrence Washington's home at Mount Vernon.



## Lawrence Washington 1718-1752

George idolized his older brother. Lawrence taught George Trigonometry and Surveying; he provided schooling in other disciplines as well, but, George seemed as much influenced by Lawrence serving as a ranking militia officer with Admiral Edward Vernon. Mt. Vernon was named after Admiral Vernon. As just a side note, my ancestor Giles Tillet served in the Virginia militia under Lawrence Washington in 1748.



George accompanied his older brother Lawrence on a trip to Barbados. Lawrence died there in 1752 from a lung ailment and George contracted the virus *Variola Minor* or the mildest form of small pox. When George recovered, he sailed back to Virginia. In 1761, George inherited Mt. Vernon outright.

After serving in the French and Indian War George returned to Mt Vernon in December 1758. The same year he was elected to the House of Burgesses and would serve there for the next 15 years. January 6, 1759, George married the handsome young widow Martha Dandridge Custis in New Kent County and became the father of Martha's children, John and Martha.



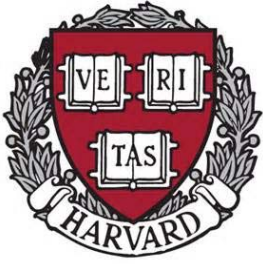
How Washington felt about British rule is obvious when he remarked to a friend in 1765, that Parliament, **“haft no more right to put their hands into my pocket, without my consent. Than I have to put my hands in yours for money.”** Then in 1774, Washington with other Virginia Burgesses gathered at the Raleigh Tavern in Williamsburg Virginia in defense of Virginia Liberties after the action of Lord Dunmore's dissolution of the rebellious Virginia House of Burgesses in 1773. A Resolve was signed to establish a Continental Congress and to ban the importation of British goods. July 18, 1775, Washington chairs a delegation in Alexandria that adopted George Mason's "Fairfax Resolutions".

After serving in the First Continental Congress, Washington returned home and began forming Virginia militia companies and to seek election to the Second Continental Congress. In Philadelphia, on June 15, 1774, he was offered and accepted the command of the American forces. Washington traveled to Massachusetts to take command.

Washington moved into the Longfellow House, Cambridge, Massachusetts, which became his headquarters and residence during the siege of Boston. Martha was delayed in joining him. She had not been exposed to small-pox so she was inoculated with minor variola and when she recover journeyed to Boston. Martha joined her husband each winter spending nearly half of her time with him each year. She would return to Mount Vernon for summers.



# “George Washington Breaks up Snow Ball Brawl” Harvard Yard, Winter 1776



## Harvard Yard

The National Congress is in Boston this year and four Piney Woods members and spouses attended. Touring the Boston area is a study of the early American Revolution and the formation of what would become the Continental Army under General George Washington.

Washington had many challenges when taking and establishing command. Being a deliberate person and only taking action after very in depth consideration, Washington slowly organizes the army. Building a cohesive fighting machine was not easy but some event might have helped establish true leadership.

During this time an interesting event took place and this was documented in the 1845 Pension application of one Israel Trask who was 10 years old in February 1775. Young Israel accompanied his father Lt. Jonathan Trask in mid 1775 to the siege lines around Boston, serving as a kitchen helper and a messenger. His account says he was at Winter Hill, Harvard Yard and at Dorchester Heights. Israel's Pension reads:



*biting & gouging on the one part & knock down on the other part with as much apparent Fury as the most deadly Enmity could create rain poured by their Friends, in less than five minutes more than a thousand combatants were on the field struggling for the Victory, at this juncture General Washington made his appearance, whether by accident or design I never knew, I only saw him & his colour guard both mounted, with the spring of a pair he leaped from his saddle threw the reins of his bridle into the hands of his servant & rushed into the thickest of the Masses with an iron Gasp, seized two tall, brazen,*

*“Sometime before the winter months of 1776 ended, the regiment was ordered to remove to Cambridge, the officers of which were quartered in the second story of the college buildings. It was at this encampment I saw for the first time the commander-in-chief, General Washington. A description of the peculiar circumstances under which it took place may not be thought foreign to the object of the present narrative but tend to illustrate not only the intrepidity and physical as well as mental power of the commandant-in-chief, but measurably show the loss state of discipline then in the army, and the great difficulty of raising it to a proper standard. A day or two preceding the incident I am about to relate, rifle corps had come into camp from Virginia, made up of recruits from the backwoods and mountains of the state, in a uniform dress totally different from that of the regiments raised on the seaboard and interior of New England. Their white linen frocks, ruffled and*

*(Continued on page 14)*

(Continued from page 13)

*fringed, excited the curiosity of the whole army, particularly to the Marblehead regiment, who were always full of fun and mischief. (They) looked with scorn on such an rustic uniform when compared to their own round jackerts and fishers' trousers, (and they) directly confronted from fifty to an hundred of the ffilemen who were viewing the college buildings. Their first manifestations were ridicule and derision, which the riflemen bore with more patience than their wont, but resort being made to snow, which then covered the ground, these soft missives were interchanged but a few minutes before both parties closed, and a fierce struggle commenced with biting and gouging on the one part, and knockdown on the other part with as much apparent fury as the most deadly enmity could create. Reinforced by their friends, in less than five minutes more than a thousand combatants were on the field. Struggling for the mastery.*

*At this juncture General Washington made his appearance, whether by accident of design I never knew. I only saw him and his colored servant, both mounted. With the spring of a deer, he leaped from his saddle, threw the reins of the bridle into the hands of his servant, and rushed into the thickest of the melee, with an iron grip seized two tall, brawny, athletic, savage-looking riflemen by the throat, keeping them at arm's length, alternately shaking and talking to them. In this position the eye of the belligerents caught sight of the general. Its effect on them was instantaneous flight at the top of speed in all directions from the scene of conflict. Less than fifteen minutes time had elapsed from the commencement of the row before the general and his two criminals were the only occupants of the field of action. Here bloodshed, imprisonment, trials by court-martial were happily prevented, and hostile feelings between the different corps of the army extinguished by the physical and mental energies timely exerted by one individual."*

Author Washington Irving first brought the account of Trask to print in 1855 in his *Biography of George Washington*. Many accounts describe the character of George Washington but I believe this and firing of Lee on the battle field at Monmouth Courthouse demonstrated that Washington could react quickly and with an "Iron Hand" when he felt needed. This is further illustrated by Trask's description of the disipline of "two riflemen." These men were Virginians and Washington's redress of fellow Virginians demonstrated his unbiased approach to his men. This was noticed, especially the New Endlanders, that no one was exempt from scolding or more severe punishment.

LGS

**"Pension of Israel Trask", Fold 3** (To read the entire Pension Account, it can be found on Fold 3)  
**John C. Dann**, *"The Revolution Remembered; Eye Witness Accounts of the War for Independence"*, Published April 1999, University of Chicago Press.

**Washington Irving**, *"Life of George Washington"*, Five Volumes 1855-1859; Vol. I, G. P. Putman and Company, 1855. (there are many reprints some available on E-Books) .



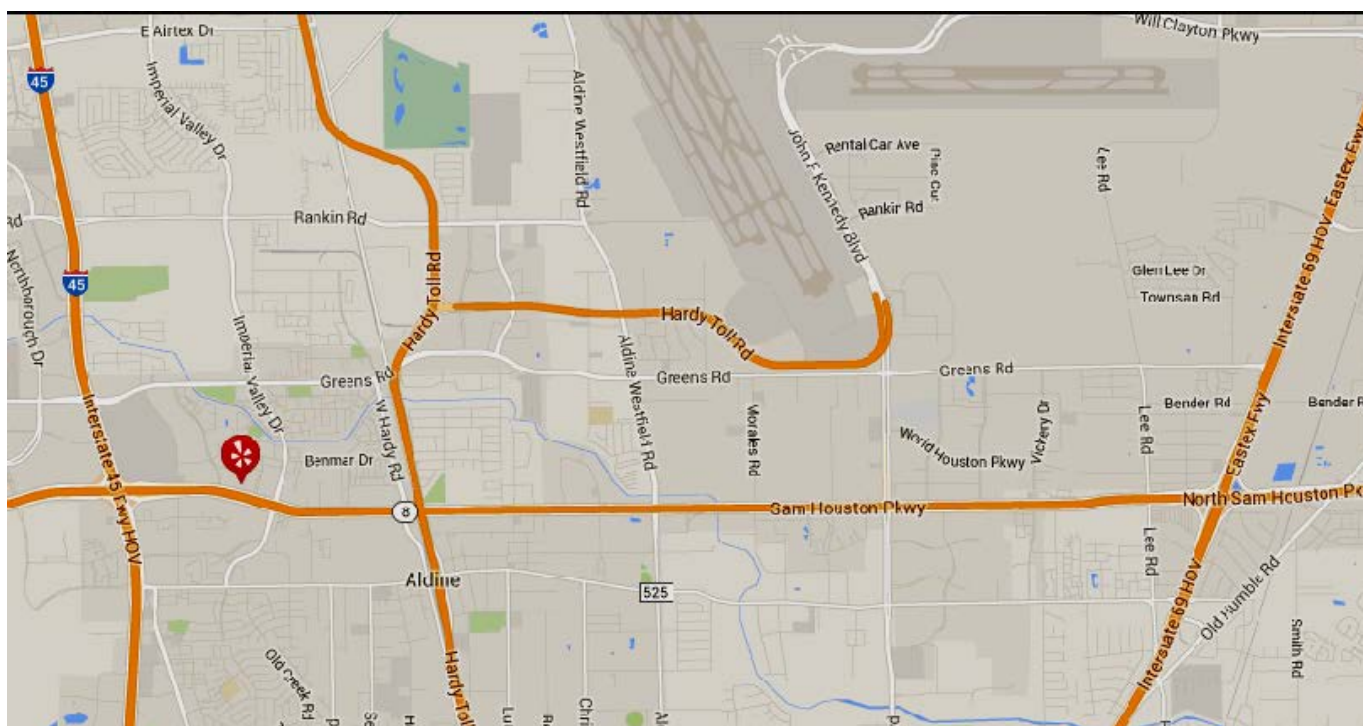


# Piney Woods Meetings

The Piney Woods Chapter 51 meets at 6:30 pm at Jimmy G’s Cajun Restaurant located at Greenspoint at Beltway 8 and I 45 in Houston on the third Thursday of each month except for the months of June and July. The December meeting subject to change due to the Christmas Holidays. (We are currently searching for a meeting location for Changing our Chapter Meetings to early lunch on Saturdays)

## MEETINGS SCHEDULE

August 18, 2016 Member Meeting  
 September 15, 2016 Member/ Guest Meeting with Speaker  
 October 20, 2016 Member Meeting  
 November 17 , 2016 Member/Guest Meeting with Speaker  
 December 2016 TBA



### Calendar of Events and Meeting Dates

August 26-27, 2016	South Central District meeting in Kansas – Sheridan Hotel
Sept. 29-Oct. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	Fall Leadership – The Brown Hotel, Louisville, KY
October 14-16, 2016	Fall BOM at Holiday Inn Midtown Austin
February 18, 2017	George Washington Parade, Laredo, Texas
Mar. 30-April 2, 2017	123 <sup>rd</sup> Texas Annual Conference El Tropicana Riverwalk Hotel San Antonio