



# Pine Shavings



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



## President's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you the merriest of Christmases, and both a joyous and prosperous 2018. The year 2017, turned out to be a both a rewarding and challenging year. Our own John Beard was installed as our Texas State President This means we have two former state presidents (Jim Jones and Larry Stevens) and current state president within the Piney Woods Chapter. I would say we are well represented within our state organization. The second half of the year brought some unexpected results. In late August, Hurricane Harvey brought challenges that revealed the best in our Houston community. Who could ever forget our Houston Astros. I like many of you, I had suffered through many unsuccessful "Stros" campaigns. Finally, in what some would say was another unexpected event, we finally won the World Series!! Lastly, we had another unfamiliar and unexpected event. We had close to two inches of snow in December.

TXSSAR will be will be hosting the 128th National SAR Congress this upcoming summer, July 13-18, 2018. What a terrific opportunity for our chapter to shine. By helping put on and participate in the many wonderful activities of the convention, PineyWoods will make a most positive statement for all our many visitors to our city. Our own Larry Blackburn will help coordinate our efforts.

This month's program is one that I hope all of you will come out and see. I like many of you have had an interest in our sister organization, the DAR. They were founded one year later than the SAR. I know they are a much larger group than ours. This is about all that I know about the DAR. Come listen to an informative presentation on the DAR. (see page 4)

**Meeting  
Saturday, Dec 16,  
2017**

**Member & Guest**

Jimmy G's,  
307 N. Sam Houston Parkway E.  
Greenspoint  
12:30 p.m.

**RSVP for the Meeting**  
Please respond with the number of people attending and names by Thursday before the meeting date.



## *This Day in the American Revolution*

**1776 December 25-26th—Washington Crosses the Delaware**—George Washington moves his troops on Christmas Eve across the Delaware river a few miles upstream above Trenton with another force just south of Trenton and routed the British Hessians in the town of Trenton on December 26th, 1776. On January 3, they defeat the British force and Princeton.



**Valley Forge December 19, 1777** - Washington's Army staggered into the valley named after an iron Forge on Valley Creek just west of today's King Of Prussia, Philadelphia. They would remain here until June 1778. Washington's assessment to General Clinton follows;

**Governor George Clinton**  
*Head Quarters, Valley Forge, February 16, 1778*

*Dear Sir: It is with great reluctance, I trouble you on a subject, which does not fall within your province; but it is a subject that occasions me more distress, than I have felt, since the commencement of the war; and which loudly demands the most zealous exertions of every person of weight and authority, who is interested in the success of our affairs. I mean the present dreadful situation of the army for want of provisions, and the miserable prospects before us, with respect to futurity. It is more alarming than you will probably conceive, for, to form a just idea, it was necessary to be on the spot. For some days past, there has been little less, than a famine in camp. A part of the army has been a week, without any kind of flesh, and the rest for three or four days. **Naked and starving as they are, we cannot enough admire the incomparable patience and fidelity of the soldiery,** that they have not been ere this excited by their sufferings, to a general mutiny or dispersion. Strong symptoms, however, discontent have appeared in particular instances; and nothing but the most active efforts everywhere can long avert so shocking a catastrophe. Our present sufferings are not all. There is no foundation laid for any adequate relief hereafter. All the magazines provided in the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, and all the immediate additional supplies they seem capable of affording, will not be sufficient to support the army more than a month longer, if so long. Very little has been done to the Eastward, and as little to the Southward; and whatever we have a right to expect from those quarters, must necessarily be very remote; and is indeed more precarious, than could be wished. When the aforementioned supplies are exhausted, what a terrible crisis must ensue, unless all the energy of the Continent is exerted to provide a timely remedy?*



### **Calendar of Events**

NSSAR Leadership Louisville (Feb-Mar) 2018 TBA

#### **State Events**

TXSSAR Annual Conference March 5-8, 2018

#### **Chapter Events**

Member/Guest December 16, 2017

Member/Guest January 20, 2017

Member/Guest February 17, 2017

**Piney Woods Chapter 51 Texas Society SAR**  
**Meeting at Jimmy G's**  
**Greenspoint, Houston, TX 18 November 2017**

Vice President Larry Stevens welcomed all to the meeting at 12:45 PM. The invocation by Cannon H Pritchard was followed by the pledge to the US and Texas flags and the SAR pledge.

COMPATRIOTS PRESENT: Kermit Breed, Larry Stevens, Kim Morton, Larry Blackburn, John Beard, B. Ray Mize, Bernie Kent, Josh Williamson, Ben Baskin, Dennis Keister, Joe Potter, Cannon H Pritchard, Ray Cox, Nolan Richardson, John Kenton Thompson, Brent Monteleone, Jeff LaRochelle and Floyd Guest (Past president of Paul Carrington)

GUEST: John Schmonsees, Bobbie Richardson and Ann Kent

MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve minutes from the August meeting. Motion carried. There was no meeting in September

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer John Beard reported a balance \$2,832.52 A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Kermit Breed is working on new applications for Benjamin Sapp. Applications for Clarence and Bruce Matchett are at state level. Larry Stevens is working on new applications for John Schmonsees. Larry is also serving as State Coastal Registrar.

NEWSLETTER: to view the November Newsletter go to [www.txssar.org/PineyWoods/pdf/nov2017sar.pdf](http://www.txssar.org/PineyWoods/pdf/nov2017sar.pdf)

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: There is always a need for SAR members to help with the JROTC Medal program contact Larry Blackburn.

OLD BUSINESS: Anyone with Military service is eligible for the Military and War Service Medals. A DD214 is required. Contact Kermit Breed at [breedkermit@aol.com](mailto:breedkermit@aol.com)

NEW BUSINESS: Our newest member Josh Williamson was presented with his Certificate and Rosette. John C. Beard, President Texas SAR presented Josh with a Texas SAR Challenge Coin. Josh's Patriot was Thomas Goss Sr. a North Carolina soldier.

GUEST SPEAKER: John Schmonsees presented an outstanding program on the making of the movie "The Patriot". John helped with choreographing the marching, battle scenes and also acted in the movie. This is when John first met his wife Melissa. Vice President Larry Stevens presented John with a Texas SAR Challenge Coin and our thanks.

Members joined together in the SAR closing followed by the benediction by Cannon H Pritchard. Vice President Larry Stevens adjourned the meeting at 2:30PM

## Chapter Dues

**Notice: SAR Dues Notices were mailed in October and were due on receipt. Dues for the PineyWoods Chapter 51 TXSSAR Total \$58.00—\$35.00 is for the National society, \$12.50 is for the Texas Society, and \$10.50 goes to our chapter. The portion of the dues payment to the chapter is spent on youth scholarships and awards, and helping pay guest speaker awards and meals. Your membership is very important to us.**



## New PineyWoods Chapter 51 Members



Kermit Breed, New Member Josh Williamson, 1st VP Larry Stevens

New member Josh Williamson receives his NSSAR Membership certificate. His Ancestor was Thomas Goss Sr. Kermit Breed helped Josh with his application. Josh has been attending meetings and interesting in helping with applications.



Mary Smith Lockwood



Caroline Harrison

### Daughters of the American Revolution

*“God, Home, and Country”*

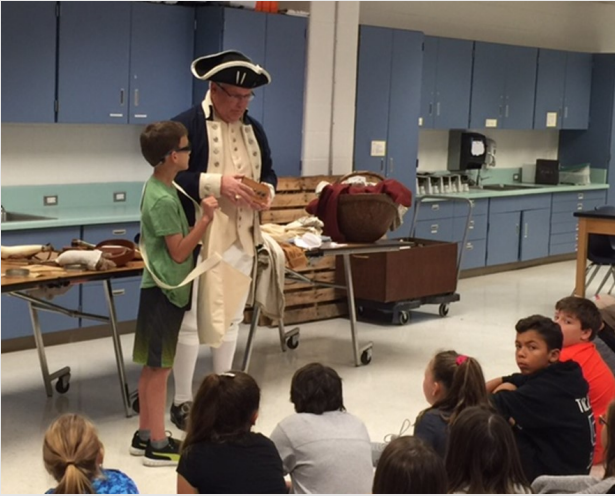
*Founded October 11, 1890, 127 years ago and incorporated in 1896 by an Act of Congress*

*In 1889, the centennial of President George Washington’s inauguration was celebrated, and Americans looked for additional ways to recognize patriotic and preservation societies were founded. On July 13, 1890, after the Sons of the American Revolution refused to allow women to join their group, Mary Smith Lockwood published the story of patriot Hannah white Arnett in the Washington Post asking, “Where will the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution place Hannah Arnett?” On July 21 of the year, William O. McDowell, a great-grandson of Hannah White Arnett, published an article in the Washington Post offering to help form a society to be known as the daughters of the American Revolution. The first meeting of the society was held August 9, 1890. The first DAR Chapter was organized on October 11, 1890, at the Strathmore Arms, home of May Smith Lockwood, one of the DAR’s co-founders. Other r founders were Eugenia Washington, a great-grandniece of George Washington, Ellen Hardin Walworth, and Mary Desha.*

*The First Lady, Caroline Lavina Scott Harrison, wife of President Benjamin Harrison. Lent her prestige to founding of the DAR and served as it’s first President. (DAR Website)*

## Youth Activities

### Traveling Trunk Program or Life in Colonial America



*Larry Stevens explaining the use of an object from the "Trunk" - Brown Box in Middle of picture.*

Our trunk program on Life in Colonial America consists of a Trunk containing artifacts and different items common to the daily lives of many colonial Americans from Maine (Massachusetts) to Georgia.

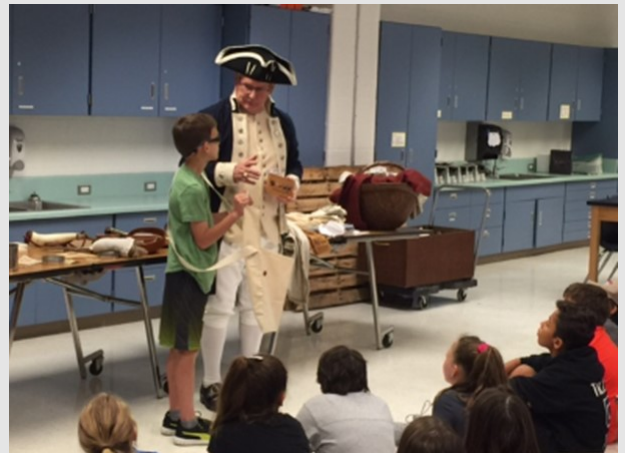
Each year Elementary School in Humble ISD request we come back and make presentations to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students on "Patriot Day" which is the final day of the study unit on the Revolutionary War Period – 1756 to about 1800. We participate in a part of their education enhancements as outlined in the "Why America Is Free" program written for schools by "Values Through History" and Houston based 501c3.

The "Trunk" has foods common to the Americas at the time, utensils, plates, including a "Trencher", cups, cooking pot; clothing both Men, Women, and Children, some work tools, games, and other items.

This Educational program is designed to show and discuss items separately or together depending on the time allowed for each group. Each school is a little different and sessions can range from 25 minutes to an hour. The four schools this fall were all different with two scheduled us on the Patriot Day and two before allowing us much more time.

Artifacts are tied to History Lessons. Stamps, Sugar, and Tea bricks are discussed the students allowed to touch them if time allows. While the article is being shown, the Acts or Taxes are added; such as, the Stamp Act of March 22, 1765; the Sugar Tax April 5, 1764; the Tea Tax May 10, 1773.

When foods are shown, the American Indian contributions to the Colonial diet is discussed; corn, beans, pumpkins, tobacco are just some. It is pointed out the many of the foods raised in Europe were bought by the colonist. Livestock and fowl were brought over on the sailing ships. Wheat did not fare well on the Eastern Seaboard in America so corn became a staple from Maine to Georgia. Flour was imported at a price; so was salt.



### Youth Contests

**Entries for Eagle Scout Contest and Essay Contest** must be received by the chapter on or before **December 31, 2017** to be eligible for competition for the 2017 Awards Year.

#### *American History Teacher — Grades 7-12*

*All entries* must be received at the chapter level on or before **December 18th of the contest year.**



## Member Activities and Working With Others

Each year at this time, our PineyWoods members join other chapters for area parades and other events. Our members join other organizations and parade together since many of our member also belong to the other organizations. This year our SAR guys joined the sons of the Republic of Texas and members of the Texas Army to present the Colors in mass as the marched, and rode, down Main Street in Tomball, Texas on November 18th. Larry Blackburn who walked the entire route left there and hurried to attend our PineyWoods chapter meetings. In the pictures, I recognize a number of guys who like myself belong to the Sons of the Republic of Texas and the Texas Army.



Larry Blackburn with  
"Young and Older"



Larry Blackburn joins fellow SRT members including SRT President Bob Steakley (Center)



**RIGHT:** December 9th was the Conroe Christmas Parade for the kids. And, Larry Blackburn was there helping Freedom Chapter in the SAR entry.



## MEMBER NEWS CONINUED

PineyWoods Member Karl Falken was relocated a few months ago by his company to Riverton, Wyoming; so named due to the convergence of rivers. There was no SAR Chapter and he has been working with me to get one started—Here is the latest!

*Larry,*

*FYI please share with the chapter that we are in the process of chartering the first WYSSAR chapter in Fremont County, Wyoming! We have 5 members already and several more in the pipeline. With the Yellowstone Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol we are holding the first Wreaths Across America event in Riverton at the Mountain View Cemetery this weekend. Over 100 wreaths were sponsored through the WYSSAR too. We hope to elect officers next month. Thanks for the support!*

*Regards,  
Karl Falken*

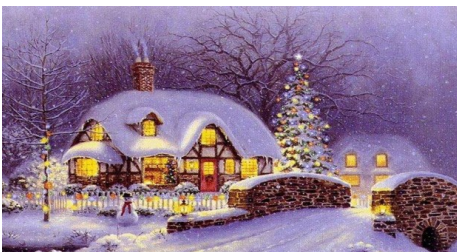
*Thank you Karl*



## Stevens Christmas Traditions

*The was the 20th year of the Seth Heron Bates Chapter DRT Christmas Party at the Stevens home in Kingwood which is attended by DRT, DAR, SAR, and SRT Members. This year three PineyWoods members were in attendance including Joe Potter, B Ray Mize, and Larry Stevens.*

*The high light of the evening is the entrance and performance of the Kingwood High School Madrigal Choir; also the 20th year for the Choir. Harvey devastated Kingwood High School and most of the Victorian Period choir costumes were lost because of flooding in the school. Some were saved, cleaned but still stained. But with makeshift Victorian clothing and big smiles, this resilient bunch of young people marched in singing and after filling the home with brilliantly performed Christmas Carols and Popular Songs, left, singing we wish you a Merry Christmas, "Merrily, Merrily, We Move Along....." LGS*



*From Larry and Barbara Stevens*