



**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
October 2022 Issue 10**



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.

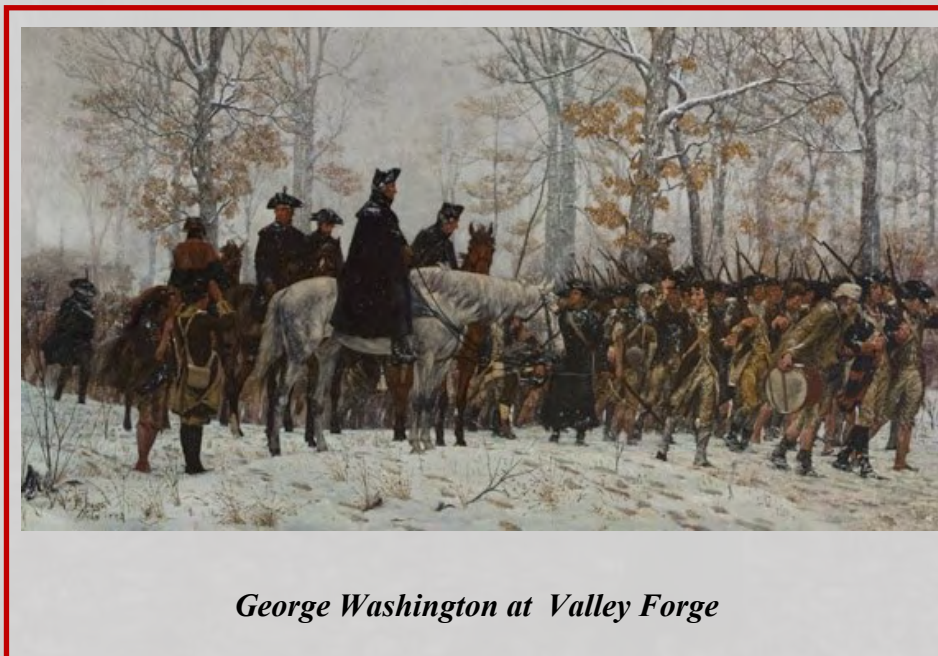
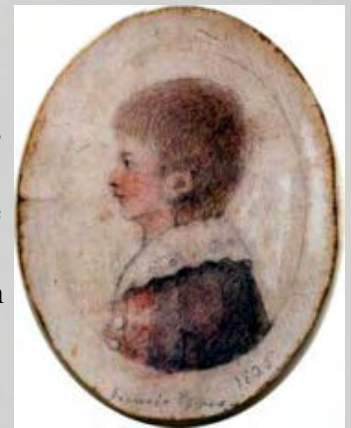


The PineyWoods Chapter #51 was chartered on February 3, 1994, and is named for its geographic location in the state. We draw members from Houston (S) to Livingston (N) and from The Woodlands (W) to Liberty (E). PineyWoods meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month except June and July at Union Kitchen Kingwood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



Colonial Christmas

Christmas for Thomas Jefferson was a time for family and friends and for celebrations, or in Jefferson’s words, “merriment.” In 1762, he described Christmas as “the day of greatest mirth and jollity.” Although no documents exist to tell us how, or if, Jefferson decorated his Monticello for the holidays, Jefferson wrote the festive scene created by his grandchildren. On Christmas day, 1809, he said of his eight year old grandson **Francis Wayles Eppes**, “He is running around about with his cousins bawling out “a merry Christmas”, “a merry gift”... (cont. page 4)



George Washington at Valley Forge

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From the President:

Members and Friends,

Firstly, I want to recognize Larry and Barbara Stevens for hosting our Christmas lunch and meeting on December 10th at their lovely home which is always cheerfully decorated and guaranteed to get you in the holiday spirit. If you have not RSVP'd for this great chapter tradition, please reach out to Larry immediately indicating how many will be attending and identifying what dish you will be bringing. This is a must attend event! A highlight will be the performance of the Kingwood High School Madrigal Choir. Their beautiful voices and authentic Victorian era formal wear are so enjoyable. In April 2021, the madrigal choir won first



place in the American Classic Madrigal and Chamber Choir Festival which is on par with winning a state championship. One of the judges who is the director of the Grammy winning Houston Chamber Choir said, "This was a virtuosic performance that would do credit to any university choir and most professional ones, too."

Last December I wrote about Christmas in colonial times so this year I want to acknowledge a patriot who does not seem to get the credit he so deserves. John Jay, one of our nation's founding fathers, was born on December 12, 1745, to a prominent and wealthy family in New York City. He attended King's College, later renamed Columbia University, and then practiced law. Having established a reputation in New York, Jay was elected to serve as a delegate to the First and Second Continental Congresses, which debated whether the colonies should declare independence from Great Britain. Jay held numerous posts of public importance throughout the American Revolution, including president of the Continental Congress and minister plenipotentiary to Spain. Along with Benjamin Franklin and John Adams, Jay also helped negotiate the Treaty of Paris, which ended the Revolutionary War and recognized American independence. In 1784, Jay was named secretary of foreign affairs, the nation's highest

ranking diplomatic post at the time. In 1789, after the present-day Constitution went into effect, George Washington nominated Jay as the first chief justice of the Supreme Court. Jay's most notable case was *Chisholm v. Georgia* (1793) which Jay affirmed the subordination of the states to the federal government. In 1794, Jay served as a special envoy and helped avert war by negotiating a treaty with Great Britain, which became known as Jay's Treaty. In 1795, Jay resigned as chief justice and was elected governor of New York. He declined to run again in 1801, retiring from public life to his farm in Westchester County, New York. Jay died on May 17, 1829 and is buried in his family's private cemetery in Rye, New York. (Source - Library of Congress)

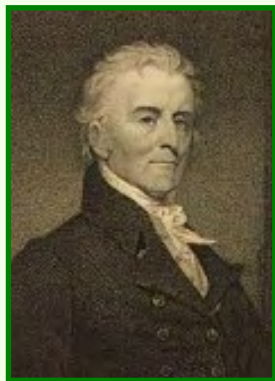
As we finish 2022, I also want to recognize Larry Stevens for these outstanding *Pine Shavings* newsletters he completes every month. They are well organized, researched and written. Larry takes great pride in assembling them, which is reflected in their high quality. Anyone could pick up a newsletter and learn much about the chapter and its activities. THANK YOU, Larry!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our members and their families. May the New Year bring you good health, unexpected wealth and valued safety.

Mike Anderson

President

December 23, 1783 General George Washington surrendered his military commission in the State House at Annapolis to a grateful Congress. He declared, *“Having now finished to work assigned to me, I retire from the great Theatre of Action, and bidding an affectionate farewell to the August body under whose orders I have so long acted. I here offer my commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life.”*



Picture by John Trumbull 1826. Commissioned in 1817, placed in the rotunda in 1824

John Trumbull (1756–1843) was born in Connecticut, the son of the governor. After graduating from Harvard University, he served in the Continental Army under General Washington. He studied painting with Benjamin West in London and focused on history painting.

PineyWoods Chapter Officers

2021-2023

President—Michael Anderson

1st VP—Abe Abdmoulaie

2nd VP—Bernie Kent

Secretary—Jim Pinkerton

Treasurer - B Ray Mize

Chancellor - Allan Henshaw

Parliamentarian-Mark Anthony

Genealogist -Kermit Breed

Registrar - Larry Stevens

Registrar - Joe Potter

Historian - Kermit Breed

Chaplain -Alan Bowman

Sgt. at Arms—Randy Hall

Newsletter Editor- Larry Stevens

Web Master - Ray Cox

Events Calendar



NSSAR

Spring Leadership/Trustee, March 2, 2023 to March 4, 2023
Louisville, Kentucky

133rd Annual SAR Congress Orlando, Florida

July 14-21, 2023



TXSSAR

TXSSAR Annual Convention March 30 to April 2, 2023 - Spring, Texas



PINEYWOODS CHAPTER 51

Meetings at Union Kitchen

December 10, 2022 (Stevens Home)

January 17, 2023

February 18, 2023



**Official Newsletter PineyWoods Chapter #51
Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution
Kingwood, TX 77325**

www.txssar.org/PineyWoods

2022 Issue 10 Editor—Larry Stevens



Members and Friends,

I hope all of you enjoyed Thanksgiving, truly an American Holiday. Although the “pilgrims”, did not wear the tall hats , the black clothes with white neck pieces, or have the lavish dinner depicted in paintings, AND, although they were not the first settlers in North America, they are traditionally recognized as the first to end the harvest season with celebration to God for the blessings He bestowed upon them. Tradition we should still keep today throughout our lengthy holiday seasons from Thanksgiving Week through the Twelve Days of Christmas.

Today, in Britain, they still enjoy the Christmas Pudding, some have FIGGY Pudding. Christian traditions are/were to served desserts at the Christmas meal, 13 deserts in number, eaten all at the same time, one each for the Apostles and one for Jesus Christ. Some made a Christmas pudding made of suet, eggs, flour, fruits, citrus, rum and spices many days before the event. It is better if aged at least 6 weeks before eaten. Sound Familiar? Famous Fruits Cakes? Inside is a six-pence silver coin. The finders is to have good luck the next year.



Figgy puddings were really called FIGEE in the 14th Century and were fish and cruds. I do hope this combination was different than what I think. Many of our grandparents warned of eating fish with milk, indigestion, etc.

Over the years the “pudding” became a “cake”, more of what it is today. Figgy puddings may or may not contain figs that are boiled in wine.

The Kingwood Madrigals are fantastic. Singing with the Madrigals are members of the Kingwood musical production of “Les Misérables” and a couple that volunteer at our Chapter SAR and RevEdu1776 as actors. One young man who played the lead role in “Les Miz” will have been at our home three of the last four years (COVID) if he is available that day.

Barbara and I look forward to seeing many of you at our home on December 10th, 2022. Everyone has a good time. EDITOR

Stevens Home 2022



During Jefferson's time, holiday celebrations were much more modest than those we know today. Socializing and special food would have been the focal points of the winter celebrations rather than decorations or lavish gifts. The customs that we think of today as traditional ways of celebrating Christmas, particularly the decorating of evergreen trees and the hanging of stockings, derived from a variety of national traditions and evolved through the course of the 19th century, only becoming widespread in the 1890s.

References indicate that at Monticello, as throughout Virginia, mince pie — filled with apples, raisins, beef suet, and spices — was a traditional holiday dinner favorite. Jefferson wrote to Mary Walker Lewis on December 25, 1813: "I will take the liberty of sending for some barrels of apples, and if a basket of them can now be sent by the bearer they will be acceptable as accommodated to the season of mince pies." Music also filled the scene. The Monticello music library included the Christmas favorite "Adeste Fideles."

During the holidays, women adorned tables with wild game. Freshly slaughtered meats supplemented the usual rations of pork and cornmeal. Gills of molasses sweetened holiday fare and music lifted spirits not fatigued by a harvest but by another full cycle of work in the fields, shops, and living quarters of Monticello.

Excerpted from the home page of Monticello – *Thomas Jefferson Encyclopedia*
(Inside Mansion—Picture for Tours Beginning December 20, 2022)



Thomas Jefferson 3rd President of the United States

New Year's Day 1772 Jefferson married twenty-four-year-old Martha Wayles Skelton, the daughter of John Wayles and Martha Eppes Wayles and the widow of Bathurst Skelton. The couple met two years earlier and shared an affinity for music and literature and a family heritage that linked them both to the prestige and wealth of Virginia planter society. By all accounts they were well matched and deeply in love. Years later Jefferson described his wife as lively, good-natured, and wise, and encouraged his daughters and granddaughters to look to her example when shaping their own behavior.



His granddaughter Ellen Wayles Randolph Coolidge recalled that her grandfather would often speak of her grandmother, "whose memory he cherished with deep and tender affection," and that "he often quoted to us her sayings and opinions, and would preface his own advice with 'your grandmother would have told you' 'your grandmother always said.'" Coolidge also noted that her grandmother "had a vivacity of temper which might sometimes border on tartness," but that "all the family traditions were greatly in her favour" and that "she made my grandfather's home comfortable, cheerful, pleasant, just what a good man's home should be."

Encyclopedia Virginia—Virginia Humanites Author: Lisa A. Francavilla; managing editor of The Papers of Thomas Jefferson International Center of Studies for Jefferson Studies, 2022

NEW MEMBERS 2021

Welcome new members.

We continue to get inquiries for Membership. These are referred to our Registrar (s) - Larry Stevens, Kermit Breed, Joe Potter. If other members would like to help, please let me know. Helping someone PROVE their PATRIOT Ancestor can be challenging but fun researching.

President Mike Anderson



NEW APPLICATIONS: New Members 2022

New Applications In Progress

One New Mailed to Costal Registrar 11/14/2022

One New Youth Nearly Ready

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Love, Anthony R. SAR# 222328 Anc. Buchanan, John 2nd Lt NC Margaret Kennedy 5/19/2022

Kallina, Cameron SAR# 222517 Anc. Hinds, John Capt. NC unknown 5/20/2022

PineyWoods Chapter Membership: a/o 12/01/2022

Regular— 82 New - 7 Dual— 4 Youth—4 Reinstated 11 Total 108

VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY

SERVICE MEMBERS

CHAPTER PROJECTS

Chapter Coupon Project

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

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



Please cut out the individual coupons before your mail them or bring them to the meeting. Thank you in advance.

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.



AGENDA— December 10, 2022 — 11:00 AM

INVOCATION

PLEDGES; USA & Texas Flag and SAR Pledge

OFFICERS 2021-2023

President Mike Anderson

Introductions

1st Vice President—Abe Abdmoulaie

2nd VP --- Bernie Kent

Secretary—Jim Pinkerton

Treasurer — B. Ray Mize

Genealogist — Kermit Breed

Chaplain—Alan Bowman

Registrars—Larry Stevens, Joe Potter

Historian—Kermit Breed

Sgt. At Arms—Merv Hartwick

Newsletter Report—Larry Stevens

Webmasters Report — Ray Cox

NEW BUSINESS

Officer Nominations Next Terms

BENEDICTION

SAR CLOSING—Abe Abdmoulaie

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

Union Kitchen Restaurant

November 19, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Vice President Abe Abdmoulaie called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Alan Bowman, chaplain gave the invocation. This was followed by Vice President Abdmoulaie leading members and guests in the pledges of the U.S. and Texas flags.

Attendance: (16) Compatriots present: Jim Pinkerton, Ben Baskin, Richard Payne, L. Bennett, Bill King, B. Ray Mize, Ray Cox, Merv Hartwick, Kermit Breed, Alan Bowman, Roland Skelton, Anthony Love, Canon Pritchard, Larry Stevens, Keith Schoonover.

Attendance: (6) Guests present: Denise Bennett, Sharon Mize, Jeannie Hartwick, Carolyn Bowman, Danny Love, Ramsey Love

Program: DAR member, Denise Bennett gave an interesting presentation of a Colonial Printer. She gave a portrayal of Clementina Rind, the first female printer of Virginia. Clementina was a patriot during the revolutionary period.



Old and New Business: The secretary and treasurer reports for the previous month were delivered and approved. Ray Cox reminded members that they could pay dues on line. Registrar Larry Stevens stated that he had one new membership application that was sent to the state office. He was also working on a youth application. Kermit Breed, registrar also had a new membership sent in. John Beard was not present, but an updated coupon report was presented. Vice President, Abdmoulaie thanked members for participating in the Fallen Hero's Golf Tournament. Chaplain, Alan Bowman shared with

members a memorable Veterans Day program at Oak Hill Junior High School. Larry Stevens said that he would again host a Christmas party for the members in December. He stated details would follow.

Adjournment: The closing prayer was given by Alan Bowman, followed by the recessional by Abe Abdmoulaie, and the meeting was closed at 1:30 p.m.

Jim Pinkerton
Chapter Secretary

