



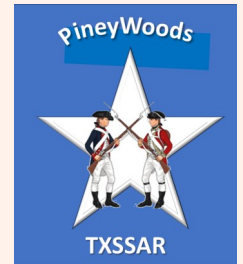
**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
December 16, 2023 Issue 10**



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 Los Cuco's Mexican Restaurant, Kingwood Texas.



MUMMERS TUDOR ERA ENGLAND

COLONIAL CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS



Despite Puritan efforts, many colonists in New England did celebrate Christmas, importing English customs such as drinking, feasting, mumming and wassailing. Mumming, or “masking,” involved people dressing up in costume and going from house to house, putting on plays and otherwise performing. Was-sailers also traveled between homes, drinking and singing, while passing around bowls full of spiced ale or mulled wine. Thought to originate in Rome, the practice of mummering spread through England during

the middle ages. But it was not until the 19th century that it was introduced to Newfoundland, by English and Irish sailors. The earliest record of mummering in Canada is in 1819. The name — taken from the mummery plays that have been a tradition in England since the 13th century — etymologically traces back to the Momus of ancient Greece, a character personifying mockery and satire who appeared in Aesop's Fables. Today's celebration does justice to its namesake.

Mummers did not speak or sing, they just MUMMED, drank and ate, converted, practical joked, made merry, communicating with each other by, YES, Mumming! (see page 5)



Chapter Meeting - STEVENS Home 1706 Chestnut Grove Lane Kingwood Texas 77345

INVITATION PAGE # RSVP PLEASE

From the President

First of all, I hope everyone is enjoying their holiday season!!! We are having our Christmas Chapter meeting/party at Larry and Barbara's house.

We have had a good year in 2023 and that December 16th, 1773, will be the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party. That evening, between 30 and 130 men dressed as Mohawk Indians to disguise themselves, tossed 392 boxes of tea into Boston Harbor from the Dartmouth, Eleanor, and the Beaver who had refused to unload and pay the British Tea import tax.

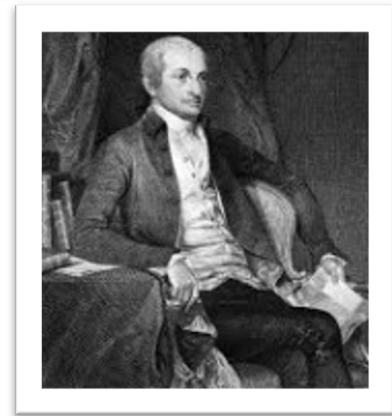


The December meeting has been when we nominate officers for the next terms of office, in this case 2024-2025. Our Constitution and Bylaws said our officers serve for one year. However, just a few years ago the chapter voted to ask officers to serve for two years due to the amount of time just to learn duties of the positions. This has worked to our advantage. During our business meeting on the 16th of December, we will have officer nominations. Our officers are listed in this newsletter.

Famous Birthdays in December were Paul Revere born December 21, 1734, in Boston, and John Jay b. December 12, 1745, in New York City.

Famous battles of the American Revolution include the Battle of Trenton, New Jersey, on December 26, 1776. This was a major victory for George Washington's beleaguered army.

Ben Baskin
President
PineyWoods Chapter 51



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**PINEYWOODS CHAPTER, SAR
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER 16, 2023
AT 1706 CHESTNUT GROVE LN
KINGWOOD, TX
11:00 A.M.—1:30 P.M.
MADRIGALS AT 12 NOON**

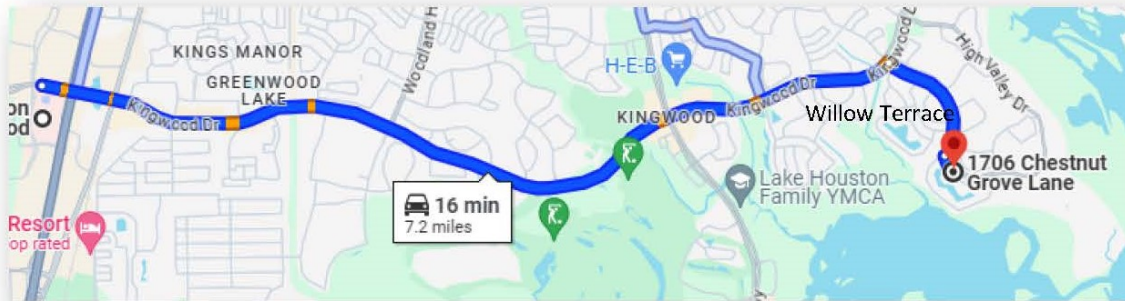
The Christmas party is a pot-luck, with the chapter furnishing the ham. The host provides drinks. Members bring their favorite salad, vegetable, or dessert. A list of Colonial dishes, with recipes is attached. It would be so wonderful if members volunteered to bring a colonial dish. Please RSVP indicating what you will be bringing, or your regrets.

This is a member-guest event so please bring your significant other or a friend. It is a seated event so the host must have a count of attendees.

We will enjoy the beautiful music of the Kingwood High School Madrigal Choir at 12 noon, so please be on time so you won't miss the Christmas Cheer from these Dicken clad youth.

A map is included for your convenience. RSVP to Larry Stevens at 832-814-7132 or 832-814-7130 , or email, wardtracker@aol.com or stevensba@aol.com with the number attending and the dish you are bringing. IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A COUNT TO PLAN SEATING.

Please respond by 12/14



Editor

Mummers, of the front page, can be traced to Roman times. Also known as mumming or janneying, it typically involves a group of friends or family who dress in disguise and visit homes within their community or neighboring communities during the twelve days of Christmas.

Lucy Worsley, on PBS and curator of Historical Royal Places, including Hampton Court., London, has a wonderful historical program on the Twelve Days of Christmas during Tudor England, with Henry VIII and others. Each day was a different celebration, happy, sober, and concluding of Epiphany or the day when Three Kings, who had been following a bright star in the heavens reach the side of the Baby Jesus. You need to find this program, watch it, and gain a deeper understanding of the twelve Days of Christmas. Do not just listen to the Carol, the Twelve Days of Christmas.

In Irish Tradition, mumming is a house visiting tradition involving a group of friends or families who dress in disguise and visit their neighbors and community homes during the twelve days of Christmas. LGS ———FROM: *Isishstuff,info*

“The Mummers sing, dance, play music, tell stories and perform the mummers’ play led by a captain or king. They are in disguise and wear stuffed costumes, cross-dresses and silly masks. They can also adjust the tone of their voices, all for tricking the hosts. The hosts must identify the mummers and are allowed to ask questions, poke and prod them. Only when the guess is correct, the mummers can reveal themselves and spend some time with the hosts before they travel as a group to the next home. The mummers’ play is considered the scene of the first folk theatre in Ireland. The play is in verse, and the main characters are St. Patrick, St. George, Oliver Cromwell, Jack Straw, Beelzebub and the Doctor with his bag of cures and tricks. Usually, the theme is a battle between two heroes, the death and revival of one of them by the Doctor.

In Ireland today, there has been a revival of mumming in some areas such as County Fermanagh, County Tyrone, the Fingal area of County Dublin and notably in south County Wexford where the main characters are from Irish history: Colmcille, Brian Boru, Art MacMorrough, Owen Roe O’Neill,

Sarsfield, Wolf Tone. Lord Edward, Lelly of Killane, Michael Dwyer, Robert Emmet and Fr. John Murphy.

Also, Wexford mumming differs from all others because, in their performance, there is an intricate sword dance performed by 12 players, each with a wooden sword.

Here are a few lines that are typically included in the Mummer’s Play:

Here we stand before your door,
As we stood the year before;
Give us whiskey; give us gin,
Open the door and let us in.

God bless the master of this house
Likewise the mistress too,
May your barns be filled with wheat and corn
And your hearts be always true.
A merry Christmas is our wish
Where’er we do appear;
To you a well-filled purse, a well-filled dish
And a happy, bright New Year.

this tradition because it shows a natural Irish trait: Irish are welcoming. On Christmas Season, they love to meet up with relatives and friends and talk, drink and eat. Christmas Parties start in November and last all December long.”

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Larry Stevens



Larry Stevens, left, talking to a visitor at The Boston Tea Party event at Montgomery Lone Star College December 9, 2023

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

PineyWoods Chapter

Membership: a/o12 Nov 2023

TOTAL 112

Current Regular Members 94 New 3 Dual 3

Youth 6 Reinstated 6

Official Newsletter Piney-
Woods Chapter #51 Tex-
as Society, SAR

Kingwood, TX 77325

www.txssar.org/
PineyWoods

November 2023 Issue 10

Youth Programs

One, the Chapter needs and JROTC Medal Coordinator. The JROTC Instructors want our Broze ROTC Medals to recognize above and beyond performance of a Cadet in their Junior or 11th Year.

In 2023, Sip Hawley, Ray Cox, and Larry Stevens have presented education and history programs to more than 270 hundred 5th grade student. Ray and Larry made presentations to 400 plus Creekwood Middle School 8th grade students. PineyWoods members were at the Humble Museum in February, Jesse Jones Park, and at the December 9th, Boston Tea Party celebration at Montgomery Lone Star Campus in The Woodlands.

There are programs coming up in January!

Humble Museum January 20, 2024

Deerwood Elementary January 31, 2024

Houston Christian Univ. April 6, 2024

Contact Larry Stevens for details on these events at wardtracker@aol.com



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.

VETERANS DAY

Our Humble ISD schools here in Kingwood, concluded their study of Colonial America 1750-1800, or there about, as close as possible to Veterans Day. This is called 'Patriot Day'. Friday, November 3rd, Bear Branch Elementary 5th graders began their Patriot Day. I joined the Flag Patrol and participated in the raising of the Flag of the united States and Texas, presenting them with an SAR Flag Certificate. The celebration began at 8:20 am with a rousing colonial 'line dance' with period lively music.



Larry G. Stevens Editor.

Ray Cox, with his Fife, and Skip Hawley and I presenting a colonial living program to the largest call ever at Bear Branch –more than 170d. The students rotating through period crafts, a cooking demonstration by RevEdu1776, and alternated between Ray and Skip and I beginning at 9:00 am and the last group around 2 pm. Roland Skelton was able to come out for a short time. He has a daughter in the 5th grade so was able to take her picture during the colonial dance.

Great experience. Our teachers to work hard to educate our children, Larry Stevens

Los Cuco's Mexican Cafe

Kingwood Texas

11am—1pm



PineyWoods Chapter Officers

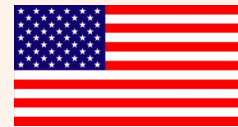
2023 - 2025

President - Ben Baskin
1st Vice President - Abe Abdmoulaie
2nd Vice President - Harry Salisbury
Secretary - Jim Pinkerton
Treasurer - B. Ray Mize
Historian - Roland Skelton
Chaplain - Alan Bowman
Chancellor - Allan Henshaw
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

Spring Leadership/Trustee, 2024 Louisville, Kentucky



TXSSAR

SAN ANTONIO (TBA)
April 10-16, 2024

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER 51
Los Cuco's Mexican Café Kingwood
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

November 18, 2023

December 16, 2023 Stevens Home
January 20, 2023

Piney Woods Chapter #51 Business Meeting

October 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Los Cuco's Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

Texas Sons of the American Revolution - Chapter Meeting Minutes

Acting President Larry Stevens called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. He bid all a welcome and did introductions. Chaplin Alan Bowman led members and guests in an opening prayer. Larry led all in the U.S. and Texas pledges.

Attendance: 16 compatriots present: Jim Pinkerton, Ski Grumboski, Larry Stevens, Ski Hawley, B. Ray Mize, Ray Cox, Michael E. Anderson, Alan Bowman, Merv Hartwick, Kermit Breed, Roland Skelton, Richard Payne, John Beard, Dick Setser, Cannon H. Pritchard, Jim Jones.

Attendance: 7 guests present; Sharon Mize Carolyn Bowman, Jeannie Hartwick, Mary-Claire Beard, Sherry Setser, Nancy, and Darrel Radford

Program: **Barbara** Stevens presented an interesting program on Revolutionary War bounties and land grants given to veterans for service in the war. Each state did something different. She received a Certificate of Appreciation

Business: Louisville, SAR budget and dues increase of \$15. Stevens said SAR would be \$200,000 short for this year's business costs. He said the dues increase would be of no impact until the end of 2024. He said Chapter JROTC Program needs a member program coordinator. And we need to nominate a local elementary school history teacher for teacher of the year.

Secretary Report: Minutes appear in the newsletter.

Treasurer Report: A motion was made and accepted in the September meeting to purchase a C.D. B. Ray Mize was authorized and to establish a C.D. account to be styled appropriately. This was accomplished. There was a discussion of the intended purpose of the grant.

Registrar: Larry Stevens has two he is working on that are almost complete.

Webmaster: Ray Cox stated that dues were

now available on the website. Dues statements would also be arriving by mail at members' homes.

Closing: Alan Bowman led members in the closing prayer. Larry Stevens led members in the recessional. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Jim Pinkerton—Secretary



Barbara Stevens, Los Cucos Manager and Larry Stevens working on Video hookup for Barbara's presentation.

NOTE: the October 14, 2023 meeting minutes were edited after the newsletter was sent. The edited version is re-printed in this issue for record purposes.

Piney Woods Chapter #51 Business Meeting

November 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Los Cuco's Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

Los Cucos Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

President Ben Baskin called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. He bid all a welcome. Chaplain Alan Bowman led members and guests in an opening prayer. This was followed by President Baskin leading members and guests in the pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags.

Attendance: (15) compatriots present: Jim Pinkerton, Bernie Kent, Bill King, Kermit Breed, Ray Cox, B. Ray Mize, Dick Setser, Ben Baskin, Harry Salisbury, Mel Olier, Abe Abdmoulaie, Michael E. Anderson, Roland Skelton, L.E. Grumboski, Merv Hartwick.

Attendance: (7) guests present: Sharon Mize, Laurie Anderson, Sherry Setser, Billy Forney, Barbara Stevens, Susan Grumboski, Jeannie Hartwick.

Program: Billy Forney was a stock trader who was present in the North Tower of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. As a result, he was an eyewitness to what was the largest terrorist attack on the history of the U.S. Billy told members and guests about his remarkable decent from the North Tower just after it was hit by a passenger airplane. President Baskin awarded Mr. Forney a certificate of appreciation after his presentation.

B. Ray Mize and Jim Pinkerton gave their respective treasurers and secretaries report.

Business: Larry Stevens made a motion with regard to the Kim Morton memorial fund. He stated that Kim was active in four Revolutionary War Veterans being identified. He asked that \$2,500 be set aside to help fund head stones from his fund. These patriots are in the Texas State Cemetery in Austin. The motion was seconded and past by the membership.

Piney Woods members will be participating with Freedom chapter members in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party on December 9th.

Abe Abdmoulaie thanked members for again giving \$250 to the Fallen Hero Golf Tournament. Ski Gromboski gave an update on the Stark Report. He also gave a short report about the Wreaths Across America Program. Kermit and Larry both stated that they had new SAR application pending at the national office. Mel Olier stated that there was an opening for Costal Chapter Registrar. Larry Stevens stated that there was an opening for a chapter JROTC

officer. He asked that someone would was currently needed.

Closing: President Baskin led members and guests in the SAR closing at 1:20 p.m.

Jim Pinkerton Secretary





PineyWoods was asked if the chapter who participate in the Crosby, Texas, Historical Society event on December 2, 2023. by the DAR, and provide information on the Sons of the American Revolution. **Kermit Breed Chapter Genealogist (pictured above), attended**, set up an information table and talked to men interested about SAR Membership Applications.

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

The Stevens Home

1706

Chestnut Grove Lane

Kingwood Texas 77345

11:00 AM—1:30 PM

INVOCATION

PLEDGES; USA & Texas Flag and SAR Pledge

Introductions

Officer Reports

President

Secretary

Nomination Committee Chair Report

Business

Program –The Kingwood High School Madrigal Choir

Lunch

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.”