



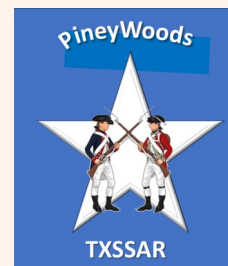
**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
February 17, 2024 Issue 2**



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.



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George Washington
(February 22, 1732 – December 14, 1799)

Lunch Program
Saturday, February 17, 2024
11 a. m.
Los Cucos Mexican Café
Kingwood, TX



From the President:

PineyWoods Members:

We are beginning this year with 100 members who paid their dues on time. We had 20 who did not, and I hope they will reinstate. There is no fee for reinstating.

The largest George Washington Parade in the world is taking place while we meet on Saturday, February 17, 2024, in LARADO, Texas. This celebration has been taking place since 1898. Ray Cox, Jim Jones, and Larry Stevens marched in the parade several times and they reported that each year over one half a million men, women and children line the street for a least three miles.

We are meeting at Los Cusos in Kingwood, TX on February 17th. Our Guest Speaker this month is Arturo Fontes. He has 28 years of law enforcement experience. He has been with the FBI since 1991.

The Splendor Junior ROTC are attending to receive an award from our chapter. Their Color Guard will be posting the United States and Texas flags. Two of their officers will make a presentation on JROTC.

Ski Grumboski will place a veterans donation box at the lunch meeting. Members who bring donations of new clothing and personal articles can place them in the box. Ski does ask you to keep and bring your receipts for our 2024 Stark Report of Veteran Activities.

February famous birthdays include most important to our Republic, George Washington February 22, 1732, in Westmoreland Co., Virginia; and, of course,

“THESE are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated”, Thomas Paine born, February 9, 1737, in Thetford, England.



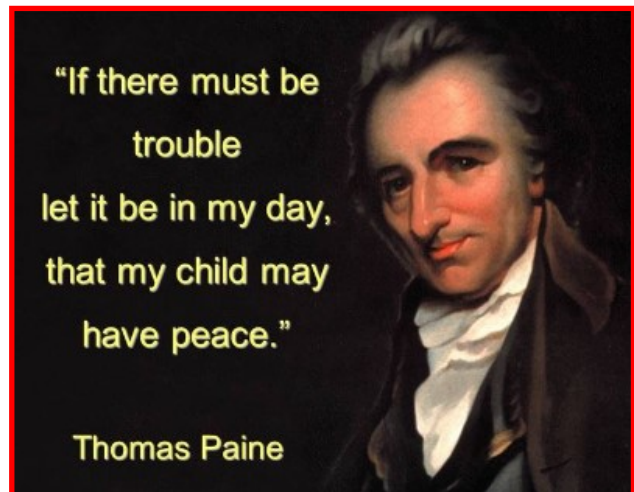
And, in February there were many famous battles, like the Battle of Port Royal Island, SC aka Battle of Beaufort, SC February 3, 1779, Kettle Creek, GA February 14, 1779, Moore's Creek, NC February 27, 1776.

During our meeting, our Budget Committee will submit our budget for this coming year, March 2024 to March 2025. We will need to approve the budget.

If any of you have a report or something that should be discussed in the meeting, please let me know.

We are meeting at Los Cusos in Kingwood, TX on January 17th.

Ben Baskin



Larry Stevens—Editor

I love all the jobs that I am doing for PineyWoods, but at times I feel a little overwhelmed. Trying to get this newsletter out before the meeting was quite a challenge this month. I am working on two applications and the distribution of the JROTC medals, the essay contact, and National Compliance Officer. At my age I am slowing down and find that I volunteer for things, like doing the medals because no one else stands up. These jobs are important to PineyWoods and SAR. It is so heartwarming to see Ski and John Beard take care of Veterans and Servicemen, and Kermit do Genealogist, Co-Registrar, and photographer. Mike Anderson is out there trying to get our programs, and Merv sets up the flags. Ray is maintaining our website and also serving as TXS-SAR Communications secretary. And non-member Samantha Ballard is working with our venue to ensure everything is ready for us. Don't get me wrong I love helping, and I got a thank you card from Mason Pinon, just like the one below to Ben and the chapter. It makes it all worthwhile.

I am having knee replacement surgery March 11th, I will probably be out of service for at least a couple of months. So this may be my last newsletter for a while

It takes a lot of volunteers to keep a chapter going. We need more help. Please consider volunteering. Larry



Larry G. Stevens Editor.



Dear Mr. Baskin, 1/30/24
I wanted to thank you and the other SAR members for inviting me to lunch the other week and granting me both the Knight Essay Contest award and the King Eagle Scholarship Contest award. I really enjoyed meeting everyone and sharing my essay with the group. I am grateful for your generosity. This financial assistance will help me achieve my goals as I pursue a degree.
Sincerely, Mason Piñon

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
Sergeant at Arms—Merv Hartwick

Chapter Non - Officers Roles

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

Events Calendar



NSSAR

Spring Leadership/Trustee,
February 29 to March 2, 2024
Louisville, Kentucky



TXSSAR

Texas Society Annual Conference
San Antonio
April 11 to April 14, 2024

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER 51
Los Cucos Mexican Café 11:30 AM -
1:00 PM

March 16, 2024
April 20, 2024



Arturo Fontes Biography

Arturo has over 28 years of law enforcement experience and began his career in law enforcement with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in 1991. During his career in the FBI he was assigned to the FBI offices in San Antonio, TX, San Diego, CA, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Laredo, TX, and he completed two (2) separate tours of duty assigned to the U.S. Consulate in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. Before retiring from the FBI, Arturo was a Supervisory Special Agent and Program Manager for the FBI assigned to the U.S. Consulate in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. Arturo was previously a Certified Firearms Instructor with the FBI, a member of the San Antonio, TX FBI SWAT team and has been trained in negotiation and hostage rescue. Arturo is considered a subject matter expert on kidnappings, money laundering, organized crime and building relationships between law enforcement and intelligence entities in Mexico and Latin America. Arturo previously maintained a Top Secret - SCI secret clearance with U.S. Government.

After retiring from the FBI, Arturo continued to work in building relationships with multi-national companies and founded *Fontes International LLC* based in San Antonio, TX. Through Fontes International LLC, he has consulted for a vast array of companies in the mining, petroleum, tobacco and manufacturing sectors in the United States, Mexico, Colombia, and Panama. Arturo has also been a member of U.S. trade delegations to China and Mexico on the behest of various U.S. Chambers of Commerce.

Having spent a large part of his career working on or near the U.S. – Mexico border, Arturo has a high level of understanding of the importance of communication between the U.S. and Mexico related to Transnational Criminal Organizations (TCOs). This, coupled with his language skills and years spent living in Mexico, has given him the experience and perspective to assist multi-national companies and governmental agencies with quality advice and consult on security and intelligence.

Arturo obtained his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Economics from St. Mary's College in Muraga, CA, and he is a bilingual Spanish speaker and also a veteran of the U.S. Army. Arturo currently resides in Houston, TX and travels to Mexico and other countries in Latin America on a frequent basis. Arturo is also a licensed Private Investigator in Texas.

Splendora USAF Junior ROTC

Air Force JROTC (AFJROTC) provides citizenship training and an aerospace science program for high school students. Students who enroll in the AFJROTC program are offered a wide variety of curricular and co-curricular activities. The program explores the historic and scientific aspects of aerospace technology and teaches high school students self-reliance, self-discipline, and other leadership characteristics. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts are also an important part of this world-class program.

Senior Instructor Col Kevin Mertens USAF (RET). See Splendora Website!



Welcome Splendora JROTC February 17th who will be posting the Flags and Talking about JROTC

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732, at Popes Creek in Westmoreland County, Virginia. He was the first born, of six, to Augustine and Mary BALL Washington. His father was a justice of the peace and prominent public figure and had four additional children from his first wife Mary Butler. In 1734, Augustine moved the family to Little Hunting Creek before finally settling in Ferry Farm near Fredericksburg, Virginia. When his father died, George inherited Ferry Farm; his older half-brother, Little Hunting Creek which he renamed Mount Vernon.



George Washington's Birthday is celebrated as a federal holiday on the third Monday in February. It is one of eleven permanent holidays established by Congress.

Federal holidays apply only to the federal government and the District of Columbia; Congress has never declared a national holiday binding in all states and each state decides its own legal holidays.

George Washington was born in Virginia on February 11, 1731, according to the then-used Julian calendar. In 1752, however, Britain and all its colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar which moved Washington's birthday a year and 11 days to February 22, 1732.

Americans celebrated Washington's Birthday long before Congress declared it a federal holiday. The centennial of his birth prompted festivities nationally and Congress established a Joint Committee to arrange for the occasion.

At the recommendation of the Committee, chaired by Henry Clay of the Senate and Philemon Thomas of the House, Congress adjourned on February 22, 1832 out of respect for Washington's memory and in commemoration of his birth.

Prompted by a memorial from the mayor and other citizens of Philadelphia, the House and Senate commemorated the 130th Anniversary of Washington's birth by reading aloud his Farewell Address.

In a special joint session held in the House Chamber, the House and Senate, along with several cabinet officials, Justices of the Supreme Court and high-ranking officers of the Army and Navy, gathered to listen to the Secretary of State read the address aloud. Eventually, the reading of George Washington's Farewell Address became an annual event for the Senate, a tradition that is still observed to this day.

Washington's Birthday, however, did not become a legal holiday until January 31, 1879 when Congress added February 22nd to the list of holidays to be observed by federal employees in the District of Columbia. The act did not stipulate that employees were to be paid for the holiday - in fact, some government employees in the District of Columbia were paid while others were not.

In 1885, Congress resolved this discrepancy with legislation that required federal employees to be paid for all federal holidays and made federal holidays applicable to *all* federal government employees, including those employed outside the Washington DC area.

Washington's Birthday was celebrated on February 22nd until well into the 20th Century. However, in 1968 Congress passed the Monday Holiday Law to "provide uniform annual observances of certain legal public holidays on Mondays." By creating more 3-day weekends, Congress hoped to "bring substantial benefits to both the spiritual and economic life of the Nation."

One of the provisions of this act changed the observance of Washington's Birthday from February 22nd to the third Monday in February. Ironically, this guaranteed that the holiday would never be celebrated on Washington's actual birthday, as the third Monday in February cannot fall any later than February 21.

Contrary to popular belief, neither Congress nor the President has ever stipulated that the name of the holiday observed as Washington's Birthday be changed to "President's Day."

Benjamin Franklin

The Power of Diplomacy and the Written Word

With the 2024 presidential election quickly approaching, our nation's leaders are at the forefront of our minds. Yet many of the most influential Americans never worked a day in the Oval Office. The man on our \$100 bill, Benjamin Franklin, is one of these significant Americans whose influence is still felt today. Franklin is well-known for his part in the American Revolution as a signer of the Declaration of Independence, but he made many contributions to the development of the early United States through his printing, writing, public service, and diplomacy. Franklin truly helped form the country we know today.

Franklin fine-tuned his skills as a printer in his early life and then transitioned into a career in writing, diplomacy, and public works. As early as 1722, Franklin wrote in his brother's newspaper, the *New England Courant*, that there can be "...no such thing as public liberty, without freedom of speech" (Galles). Writing under a pseudonym, Franklin expressed his ideas about the principles of a free government at the young age of 22; his writings as "Silence Dogood" demonstrated his "commitment to individual rights and foreshadowed his long public career" more than 50 years before the creation of the Declaration of Independence (Alison 15).



In 1729, Franklin purchased the *Pennsylvania Gazette*. He continued to publish essays under pseudonyms in this paper, and later in his famous publication, *Poor Richard's Almanack*. Franklin strove to keep his publications nonpartisan, with a mission to increase the public's knowledge about colonial rule (National Park Service). He shared in his autobiography that he aimed to exclude "all libeling and personal abuse [from his newspaper]" (Franklin 112). He strove to maintain an ethical newspaper that could be used as a vehicle for free speech.

Franklin clearly understood the power of the printed word. In 1729, he authored a pamphlet to increase public support for paper currency. He found that those opposed were not able to respond in print effectively. Franklin profited from his support of this cause, as he was chosen to print the new paper currency; he wrote that this was "another advantage gain'd by my being able to write" (Franklin 83). Over time, he gained recognition throughout the colonies for his intelligence and humor. His witty sayings published in *Poor Richard's Almanack* and his paper, such as "Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise", made him a household name (Allison et al. 56).



Gordon Wood, professor at Brown University and Britannica contributor, writes that Franklin came to consider print "a vehicle of instruction for common people who could not afford books, a literature for the masses" (Wood and Hornberger).

Additionally, Franklin published the first political cartoon in the colonies and used his talents for writing to garner support for America's first public library and hospital (Galles). At age 42, Franklin became financially stable, allowing him to retire from the printing business and become a diplomat. An example of Franklin's superb diplomatic skills can be seen in his protest of the British Stamp Act of 1765.

Parliament decided to use this tax on the colonies to repay their debt from the French and Indian War. The Stamp Act sparked a storm of

opposition in the colonies. Franklin opposed the tax and asserted that the colonial legislatures should make decisions about taxation. In 1766, Franklin gave a four-hour testimony before Parliament denouncing the Stamp Act. He expressed the deeply rooted resistance in the colonies and that the people of America would “never submit” (Allison 142). Franklin’s diplomacy worked and the Stamp Act was repealed; however, his confidence in the wisdom of British officials was weakened. Wood writes, “He began to feel what he called his ‘Americanness’ as never before” (Wood and Hornberger). During the next four years, Franklin sought to “bridge the growing gulf between the colonies and the British government” (Wood and Hornberger). He wrote over 100 newspaper articles between 1765 and 1775 trying to explain each side to the other and create a reconciliation, but eventually committed to working toward independence for the colonies (Wood and Hornberger).

Ultimately, Franklin authored, contributed, printed, and signed many important articles and documents to shape our nation before, during, and after the Revolutionary War. After Franklin was elected to the Second Continental Congress, he served on the Committee of Five, the group that drafted the Declaration of Independence. As we approach the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, we must acknowledge how impactful this document was to our nation’s history. While Thomas Jefferson wrote most of the Declaration of Independence, he pulled from the past writings of many others, including Franklin. Once Jefferson completed his draft of the document, he asked Franklin to review and edit it. Isaacson, in *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life*, writes, “The most important of [Franklin’s] edits was small but resounding” as Franklin added the famous line, “We hold these truths to be self-evident” (312). Franklin helped create a revolutionary document that explained the opposition many felt toward colonial rule and provided solid logic for seeking independence (Wood and Hornberger).

In addition to the Declaration of Independence, one of the most important documents Franklin negotiated and signed was the Treaty of Alliance with France. In 1776, Congress sent him to Europe to seek military aid and diplomatic recognition from France. He used his eloquence and written persuasion to play on the French aristocracy’s “liberal sympathies for the oppressed Americans and extracted not only diplomatic recognition of the new republic, but also loan after loan...” (Wood & Hornberger). For example, in France, he wrote a “newspaper supplement” that detailed wartime crimes committed by the British against the colonists, including “wartime imprisonment,” and described Franklin’s work to get prisoners released. (Mulford 492).

Without France’s support, the colonies would have remained at an extreme disadvantage during the Revolutionary War. With the Treaty of Alliance, signed in 1778, the defense of both France and America was guaranteed. Furthermore, in 1783, Franklin played an important role in drafting the Treaty of Paris, the final peace treaty with Britain (Wood and Hornberger). Isaacson states that once Franklin had “been instrumental in shaping the three great documents of the war: the Declaration of Independence, the alliance with France, and the treaty with England...he turned his thoughts to peace” (417).



Without the genius of Benjamin Franklin’s printing, writing, and diplomacy, the United

States of America would not have been nearly as successful in securing its freedom from Great Britain and establishing a solid foundation for our democracy. As the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence nears, we must recognize the contributions that Franklin made in writing this historical document as well as many other publications and treaties. He worked tirelessly to educate the public about their rights and used his talents for writing, persuasion, and diplomacy to promote the fundamental principles of a free government. Franklin has certainly earned the right to be called a “Founding Father” and “First American” based on the critical role he played in the

American Revolution and the founding of our nation.

By Mason Pinon

Texas SAR—George and Stella Knight Essay Finalist

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Veterans Activities—PineyWoods

VETERANS MEMORIAL INSTALLED AT MCKNIGHT HISTORICAL CEMETERY

A Plaque honoring military veterans buried at McKnight Historical Cemetery in Cushing Texas has been installed. There are 183 veterans identified and interred at McKnight who served in the Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korea, the Cold War, and Vietnam. All five US Military Branches are represented – The US Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

The veterans represent families who were early settlers in Colonial America and pioneers in The Republic of Texas. Family names include Whitacre, Wade, Rawlinson, McKnight, Nichols, Fuller, Durrett, Chancellor, Beck, Blackburn, Etal.

Some were killed in action and did not come home. All served with honor. They will not be forgotten.

This Memorial is dedicated to their service.

An alphabetical index can be found at internet address:

[McKnight Cemetery in Cushing, Texas - Find a Grave Cemetery](#)



Larry Blackburn and his nephew, Maury Millican Col. Army Chaplain Retired.



God bless Texas and God bless the USA!

L H (Larry) Blackburn
SGT USMC FMFPAC

Added 140 Veterans to FindaGrave on ancestry.
Added 2,200 burial plot locations





Veterans Activities

Engaging in voluntary initiatives not only contribute to Supporting veterans but also plays a pivotal role in shaping the impact of the chapters Stark Report. Your participation in these activities could pave the way toward earning recognition, potentially leading to the prestigious "Service to Veterans Medal".

Were you involved in any of the following:
Attend a veteran's funeral, Visit a Veteran in a nursing home, hospital, or at the veteran's home, Place a flag or decorate a Veteran's grave' Donate to a veteran charity, Make a monetary contribution, Donate coupons for servicemen or servicewomen serving

If you were, contact Ski at sus4ever@gamil.com for more information.



VETERAN DONATIONS

Starting at the February meeting there will be a box where members may drop off clothing donations for Veterans in need. This box will also be at the March, April, and May chapter meetings. After the May meeting these items will be presented to the DeBakey VA medical Center and the Richard A. Anderson Veterans Home.

There will be a sheet on the donation box where you may write down the items you're donating and their cost **less** the tax. If you add your name, then you'll be given credit in the 2024 Stark report. If you leave that field blank, then the chapter will be given the credit.

Here is the list of items needed. **Only new items, no used clothing**

Current inpatient needs:

- Unisex pants (medium – 4XL)
- Men & Women underwear-SM-4XL
- Women Sports Bras- SM-3XL
- Fleece Jackets SM-4XL
- Solid T-shirts for men and women (medium – 4XL)
- Large-size toiletries for CLC (Community Learning Center) and 6th-floor Veterans
- Small fleece throw blankets
- Footwear (slides & closed-toe shoes) 7-13
- Sweat pants (medium – 4XL)
- Gym shorts (medium – 4XL)
- Crossword puzzle books, word search, Sudoku, dominos
- Blankets, caps, and other items that have a Branch of Service logo or name (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard)
- \$25 VISA gift cards (used to buy snacks and magazines within the hospital)

Current outpatient needs include:

- \$25 grocery store gift cards for "food insecure" Veterans (HEB, Walmart, Target, Kroger)
- Gas cards for VA Outpatient Clinics: Conroe, Lufkin, Humble, Tomball, Sugarland, Galveston, Beaumont, Richmond, Katy, Lake Jackson, and Texas City.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

PineyWoods Chapter

Membership: a/o Jan 2024

TOTAL 102

Current Regular Members– 88 Dual– 4 Junior –8

NOT PAID FOR 2024 - 18

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

Kingwood, TX 77325

**www.txssar.org/
PineyWoods**

February 17, 2024

Youth Programs

One, the Chapter needs and JROTC Medal Coordinator. The JROTC Instructors want our Bronze ROTC Medals to recognize above and beyond performance of a Cadet in their Junior or 11th Year. Larry Stevens has volunteered to get the Bronze ROTC Medals to the schools.

Eagle Scout Contestant Mason Pinon Placed 1st in the PineyWoods contest. Mr. Pinon's entry was sent to the Texas Eagle Scout Chairman as our entry in the state scholarship contest.

Essay Contestant Mason Pinon Placed 1st in the Chapter Contest. Mr. Pinon's Essay was forwarded to the Texas Essay contest Chairman as our entry in the Essay Scholarship Contest.

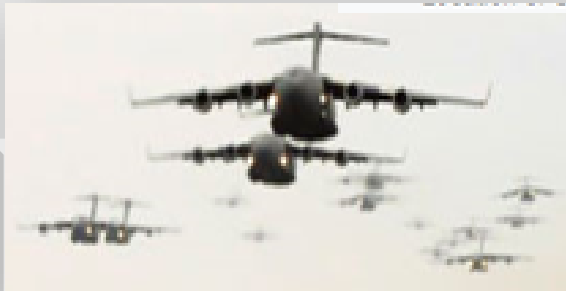
School and Public Programs—Color Guard and Volunteers

Houston Christian Univ. April 6,
2024

Deerwood Elementary Rescheduled?

Willow Creek February 16, 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.

How to fire to weapon Basics Class

8 Feb 2024



Instructor—Loren Truman Johnston

Gun Inspection

- Is it loaded?- ram rod check, cap or pan cleared
- Exterior corrosion
- Action check-functional half cock and full cock
- Flintlock safety - flash guard, frizzen cover
- Read your manual or look it up, you are in charge of everyone's safety, check possible-bag for projectiles - none
- Look up SAR gun training and drill online, check Safety Manual for THC, stop if you anyone has questions



How to roll a cartridge

- **Dowe-II** - 1/2 inch, **paper-thin**,
- Types of powder measures
- Black powder only, no synthetic (Pyrodex or smokeless) 3F or 4F
- measure powder 70 grains full charge, 40 grains quiet load
- roll cartridge, fold and tuck, baggy (powder dry), put in possible bag.
- No powder flask (explosion hazard) except for small primer on flintlocks



How to load cartridge

- Bite off round or rolled tip
- Pour in powder
- Throw paper on ground, never in the barrel, nothing else in barrel
- **No ram rod (it becomes an arrow)**
- tap gun on foot, or tap side of gun with hand

How to cap or prime

- Know your cap - musket, 10, 11 or flintlock (3f or 4f)
- Capping tools, cap at 1/2 cock, nervous behavior due to commands so stay calm and breathe
- The black powder primer is spring loaded allowing just a few grains of Powder with each push. Release just enough to cause a flash





Firing

- No body in front of you for at least 20'
- Flintlocks need extra space for flash (maybe just on right side of column)
- Full cock at ready command
- Elevate 45 degrees
- Just pull front trigger
- What if it does not fire - dump barrel or recap, both, do not carry home charged, no double load, excess oil?



Cleaning (standard cleaning, not barrel and lock removal at this time)

- Remove the nipple optional
- Hot water down the barrel twice or until clear
- Solvents special black powder, bore butter, Windex, etc.
- Brush- brass, swab or patch, Q-Tip's for tight areas, pipe cleaners for nipple
- Breakfree or gun oil until the patch is clean
- Oil wipe exterior, wood too, especially around the cap
- Bees wax or hard wax stock

By

Loran Johnston Freedom Chapter

Merv Hartwick (Tan Shirt Left) and Larry Stevens (Light Solid Blue shirt Back row), Loren Johnston (Middle back) join Art Byram, President Freedom Chapter, and Freedom Chapter members, in graduation picture!



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 Cuco's Mexican Cafe

February 17, 2024

11:00 AM—1:00 PM

INVOCATION

PLEDGES; USA & Texas Flag and SAR Pledge

Introductions

Officer Reports

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Chaplain

Historian

Genealogist

Registrars

Webmaster

Old and New Business

Lunch

BENEDICTION

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.”

PineyWoods Chapter 51
Texas Society of the Sons of the American

January 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Los Cucos Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

President Ben Baskin called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. He led members and guests in pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags. He also led members and guests in the SAR pledge. Chaplin, Alan Bowman led the invocation.

Members Present: (17). Richard Payne, Larry Blackburn, Ski Grumboski, Merv Hartwick, Skip Hawley, Michael Anderson, Jim Jones, Ray Cox, Jim Pinkerton, Alan Bowman, Bernie Kent, B. Ray Mize, Ben Baskin, Larry Stevens, Kermit Breed Richard Setser, John Beard.

Guests Present (6) Susan Grumboski, Samantha Ballard, Carolyn Bowman, Barbara Stevens, Sherry Setser, Mary-Claire Beard

Program: January's program was given by Mason Pinon. Mason is an Eagle Scout, and a first place winner in the Eagle and Essay Contest. The chapter gave him \$400 for his endeavors. Mason gave a presentation on Ben Franklin and his accomplishments.

Secretaries Report: The report will appear in the February newsletter.

Treasurers Report: B. Ray Mize stated that money had been given to the Fallen Hero's golf tournament. A committee composed of John Beard, Jim Jones, and Michael Anderson was formed to review potential Piney Woods future awards recipients and other treasurers needs.

New and Old Business: Larry Stevens stated that compatriot Joe Potter fell and broke his arm. Both Larry and Kermit Bread that there were several potential new members who were in various stages of being approved for new membership. Ray Cox, webmaster said that members had until the end of the month to pay yearly dues or would be dropped from active membership. Ski Grumboski gave the Stark Report on member interaction with Vets. John Beard gave the coupon report. He stated that in 2023 41.25 pounds of coupons had been accumulated for military bases in the Pacific. The estimated value is \$240,000. Two women Jean Waldron and Johnnie Horn have been instrumental in collecting coupons. A motion was made to give these women certificates of appreciation for their efforts. The motion was approved. A motion was made and approved to use \$1000.00 for the Splendor JROTC Program. They are struggling financially. This money would come out of the Kim Morton fund. The motion was approved.

Closing: President Baskin led members and guests in the SAR closing at 1:30 p.m.



President's Day

Also known as Washington's Birthday, is on the third Monday of February each year and is a federal holiday in the United States. The day not only honors George Washington (born February 22), the first President of the United States, and Abraham Lincoln (born February 12) whose birthdays are both in February, but honors all the presidents who have served in the United States.





Larry Stevens, Ben Baskin, Mason Pinon, Jeff LaRoche



Mason and George Pinon, Sherri Setser, Mary-Claire Beard, Barbara and Samantha Stevens, Richard Payne



Ray Cox and Jim Jones



Sue and Ski Grumboski



Bernie Kent and B. Ray Mize



PineyWoods Officers: Back row: Ray Cox, Merv Hartwick, B. Ray Mize, Mike Anderson Front Row: Larry Stevens, Kermit Breed, Ben Baskin, Alan Bowman, Jim Pinkerton



Jeff La Rochelle and Larry Blackburn



Larry Blackburn and John Thompson



Sue and Ski Grumboski



Alan and Carolyn Bowman