



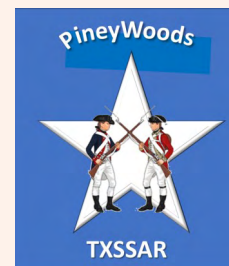
**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
January 20, 2024 Issue 1**



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.



VALLEY FORGE WINTER 1776-1777

George Washington was planning a surprise December 24, 1776, attack on British General Howe camped at Philadelphia, only 20 miles from Valley Forge. Dec 2018 site History A&E Television Networks)

"I ordered the Troops to be in rediness [for an attack] but behold!" Washington wrote to what was left of the Congress, "to my great mortification...the Men were unable to stir on Acct. of Provision. All I could do under these circumstances was, to send out a few light Parties to watch and harass the Enemy." One fourth, or 3,000, of Washington's Valley Forge Army was diagnosed as not fit for duty.

'Washington blamed the civilian authorities for the wretched state of affairs. He was convinced "beyond a doubt" that if the Continental Congress and the Pennsylvania state legislators did not rapidly comply with his multiple requests for food, clothes, medicine, and blankets, "unless some great and capital change suddenly takes place in the [supply] line, this Army must inevitably be reduced to one or other of these three things. Starve, dissolve, or disperse, in order to obtain subsistence in the best manner they can." Starve, dissolve or disperse. It was the gauntlet thrown.' (Bob Drury and Tom Clavin, "Winter at Valley Forge: George Washington's Most Dismal Christmas Ever", 20



**Lunch Program
Saturday, January 20, 2024
Youth Awards
Eagle and Essay**

ATTN: Chapter Meeting is at Los Cucos Mexican Café Kingwood - OCTOBER 14th 2023 11:30 AM

From the President:

We are meeting at Los Cucos in Kingwood, TX on January 20th. Joe Potter suffered a fall and broke his upper arm at home just before Christmas. Larry Stevens has talked with him and he says he is doing good, considering. You may want to give him a call since he is confined to home.

We will be having Nominations for Officers for 2024-2025. This is the second year of the two-year term. However, our bylaws were never changed due to the numbers required to approve constitution and bylaw changes. This needs to be addressed and changed.

We have an Eagle Scout Chapter 1st Place, and we have an Essay Chapter Contest 1st Place. Mason Pinon won both. His Eagle Scout and Essay submissions have been sent for the Texas SAR Contest. Mason will be at the meeting with his Dad, Jorge (Scout Leader), and possibly his mother Jenifer Pinon. He will read his Essay.

Larry Stevens is temporarily taking over mailing the JROTC Medals to probably 10 High Schools. Randy has the list we mailed to last year. Larry will need the medals and certificates, soon.

Ski Grumboski will give a report on our veterans' activities for 2023 and things we can do this year. Remember that veterans are not just old guys. They all need some support.

I'm getting some Hyperbaric Therapy for my foot since Christmas Break. Which is doing very well and will be having surgery on it soon.

Birthdays of great Americans, as well as important Revolutionary War Battles, during January:

Betsy Ross- January 1, 1752 in Gloucester City, NJ

Alexander Hamilton- January 11, 1755 in Charlestown, West Indies

Benjamin Franklin- January 17, 1706 in Boston, MA

Ethan Allen- January 21, 1738 in Litchfield, CT

John Hancock- January 23, 1737 in Braintree, MA

Light Horse Harry Lee- January 29, 1756 in Westmoreland Co., VA

Battle of Princeton- January 3, 1777 in Princeton, NJ

Battle of Millstone- January 20, 1777 in New Jersey

Battle of Mobile- January 7, 1781 in West Florida

Battle of Cowpens- January 17, 1781 in SC.

BEN BASKIN



Elizabeth Griscom Ross was born January 1, 1752 and died January 30, 1836.

She married first in 1775 to John Ross. She married second an Joseph Ashborn and third, John Claypoole. She had seven children. Elizabeth or 'Betsy' was an accomplished upholsterer who was credited by her family in 1870 with making the second official U. S. Flag know as the BETSY ROSS FLAG.



Barbara and I would like to thank all of you who attended the chapter annual Christmas Lunch/meeting in our home this past December. Sometimes it is just nice to sit back and talk to one another.

We have a number of events coming up fast. The Humble Museum on January 27th is a Public Event and has been advertised on Humble ISD Twitter. We will be working again with John Schmonesse and Revolution Education 1776; and the DAR. Dr. Moux, of the Humble Museum, is welcoming us again for the third year. Mayor Norman, a PineyWoods Member, will be by. The opening ceremony is at 10:00 am inside the old High school building. Your help is needed; either in colonial attire or not. It is not supposed to be 40s-60s, not freezing like the first year. Humble HS Drama Class is putting on a short play each hour in the auditorium. Come out, even just to experience the programs.

The next event is at Deerwood Elementary where Ray Cox and I will be presenting programs; Willow Creek Elementary on February 16th.



Larry G. Stevens Editor.

Larry Stevens—Editor

Los Cuco's Mexican Cafe
Kingwood Texas
11am-1pm

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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, 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

January 20, 2023
February 17, 2024
March 16, 2024
April 20, 2024

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 service-women serving

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



Compatriots,

During the year, many of us engage in charitable giving, and I encourage you to consider supporting nonprofits that aid veterans. Among my favorite are:

CAMP HOPE in Houston: A haven supporting service members dealing with PTSD.

FISHER HOUSE in House in Houston: Provides free lodging for families of veterans receiving care at DeBakey VA Hospital.

The LONE SURVIVER PROGRAM in Galveston, Texas: Marcus Luttrell’s 501c3 initiative aiding service members coping with PTSD.

A list of reputable Veteran 501c3 organizations from Charity Navigator –www.charitynavigator.org. These nonprofits channel a significant portion of donations directly to the veterans they assist.

If you choose to donate this year or in the future, please share the recipient and amount with me. Your contribution will be noted in the Stark Report, ensuring recognition for your generosity and support.

Ski—Lawrence Grumboski at sus4ever@gamil.com for more information.

STARK REPORT

6299 Points—PineWoods Chapter Submitted by Ski. Thanks for your book donations and visits.

The USS Stark Memorial Award, authorized in 1988 (revised 2021), was established to memorialize those brave men and women who continue to stand at the forefront to preserve the freedoms our patriotic ancestors fought so long and hard to achieve. Its purpose is to recognize outstanding chapters and outstanding state societies within the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution for their participation with the Veteran community and supporting activities of the NSSAR Veterans Committee.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

PineyWoods Chapter

Membership: a/o 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

January 20, 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

Humble Museum January 27, 2024

Houston Christian Univ. April 6,
2024

Deerwood Elementary January 31, 2024

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.

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

January 20, 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

Christmas Luncheon

December 16, 2023

The Christmas meeting is the chapters officer nomination meeting each year. However, the Texas SAR Convention is not until the 2nd weekend of April, so officers' nomination/election can take place in the January 20th meeting and still meet the time requirements in the PineyWoods Constitution and by-laws. President Baskin and the Chapter officers agreed to hold nominations until January where there would be more time to discuss officer position and other business. There was no formal Chapter meeting, just a time to meet, get to know each other better, enjoy good food, and be entertained by the Kingwood High School Madrigal Choir.



There were Thirty-nine members and guests at the home of Barbara and Larry Stevens – 22 members. Abe Abdmoulaie, Mike Anderson, Ben Baskin, Alan Bowman, Kermit Breed, Ray Cox, Lawrence Ski Grumboski, Marv Hartwick, Skip Hawley, Jim Jones, Bernie Kent, Bill King, Jeff LaRochelle, Sam Massey, B. Ray Mize, Jim Pinkerton, Joe Potter, Cannon Pritchard, Keith Schooner, Dick Setser, Roland Skelton, Larry Stevens.

Guests: Kelly Abdmoulaie, Dan and Samantha Ballard, Carolyn Bowman, Gennie Hartwick, Susan Grumboski, Ann Kent, Sue Ann King, Jen LaRochelle, Sharon Mize, Sarah Pinkerton, Sarah Potter, Ms. David, John Schmonesse, Jenelle Schooner, Sherri Setser, Barbara Stevens,

All were welcomed by President Ben Baskin, and he asked our chapter Chaplain Alan Bowman to bless our lunch at

11:30 am. Lunch, potluck with ham provided by the chapter, began.

At 12:30 pm, the Madrigals, twenty strong, caroled their way through the front door and took their positions on the stairs. They sang familiar Christmas songs both classic and popular for thirty minutes and sang their way back out the front door. The chapter donated \$250 to help fund the Victorian costumes worn by the singers.

After, everyone tasted the many delicious desserts brought for after lunch. The luncheon formally tended at 1:30 pm, although some stayed to visit.

Thank you to those who sent pictures.

Secretary Jim Pinkerton and Larry Stevens



