



Pine Shavings



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

Summer 2012

Volume 22, Issue 6



Larry H. Blackburn, Ph.D.
President

Compatriots,
Another summer is here and I am hoping it is not a repeat of last year. We have had a great start in 2012 and there are many more activities coming up to enjoy. Memorial Day and July 4th bring patriotic parades and banquets. This newsletter includes dates, times and places of many chapter, state and national SAR events. I especially want to encourage our new members to become actively involved in some of these outings. Taking advantage of these opportunities will enhance your personal experience and reinforce what

our organization is about – a true appreciation of our patriotic way of life and the freedom we hold dear. Our May meeting was both fun and educational. We got a lesson in Americanism from Judge Tom Lawrence and a Proclamation from Governor Rick Perry in remembrance of Memorial Day were both appropriately received. I look forward to seeing everyone on August 16 when we kick off our Fall 2012 schedule. May God bless and keep us until then. Thanks and best regards to all.

Larry Blackburn, Ph.D.

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EVENTS



National : www.sar.org

July 7-11, 2012 -

122nd National Congress will be held in Phoenix

Sept 28-29, 2012

Fall Leadership Meeting held in Louisville, KY

State: www.txssar.org

Oct 5-6, 2012

Fall TXSSAR BOM—Temple, TX

See page 7 for additional events this Spring and Summer

Piney Woods - Meetings - 2012

Jun -- No Meeting

Jul —No Meeting

Aug 16—Member Only

Sep 20 — Member/Guest

Oct 18—Member Only

Nov 15—Member/Guest

Dec 20—Member Only

(tentative date)

MEETING LOCATION

Jimmy G's,

307 N. Sam Houston Parkway

Houston TX 77060

6:30 PM

See ya'll there

RSVP FOR THE MEETING

Please respond with the number of people attending and their names by Tuesday before the meeting date. You can send an RSVP email to John Beard at johnbeard@suddenlink.net or call John at 281-358-2970 OR Kim Morton at Genmorton@usa.net. OR Larry Stevens wardtracker@aol.com (281-361-2061) Please RSVP to one person only.

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Richard Glee Wood

February 21, 1931 to May 10, 2012

Richard Glee Wood, passed away on May 10, 2012 after failing to recover from heart surgery.



Richard was born in Mt. Vernon, Illinois on February 21, 1931 to Kenneth Glee and Stella Florence Wood. Richard graduated, Baylor University with his B.A. in business and religion, from Texas Technological University with his M.B.A. in finance, and from Texas A&M University with his Ph.D. in higher education finance administration.

Over the years, Richard was a member of the Toastmasters Club and Rotary International. He served as an Electoral College Nominee. He was a deacon and licensed minister in the Southern Baptist Church and a

Stephen Minister in the United Methodist Church. Most recently he was proud to have been accepted as a Son of the American Revolution.

Richard is survived by his wife of 35 years, Taunya Wood of Houston, Texas, his brother, Robert Dean Wood of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, his daughters, Christine Wood of Tomball, Texas, M'Lane Ellis of Crossplains, Texas, Brenda Wood of Florida, and his son, Don Wood of Florida. Richard has six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers and in honor of Richard's strong conviction of the importance of programs for youth, memorials may be made to the Youth Fund at Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920 Road, Spring, Texas 77388.

Excerpted from Houston Chronicle

Get Well Wishes

Eugene Shuffield is home now after having surgery on his foot.

knee surgery.

We miss Jim and Mary Richards and hope that Mary's health improves.

Ann Mitchell, wife of Compatriot James Mitchell, is recovering from

Aaron Stevens has recovered from his brain injury and is doing well.



Larry and Barbara Stevens took their Colonial Life Program to the Atascocita Pines Elementary School on May 16th. They delivered five hour long lectures to students discussing topics like clothing, food, chores, money and games during the Colonial days. The fifth graders, dressed in Colonial attire, were celebrating Spirit Day.

Chapter Registrar Report — *Larry Stevens*

The following applications are with state registrar (S) or are in Louisville (L):

- Baron Schneider (L*,) Jeffery LaRochelle (L, 4/30)
- Gordon B. Severance (S) Laurence Severance (S)
- Nathan Severance (S) Emil Moseé (S)
- Jensen Severance (S) Ethan Abata (S)
- Taylor Napolsky (S) Domenic Abata (S)
- Logan Napolsky (S)

In addition to the nine new member applications for the sons and grandsons of Compatriot Severance. Member Eugene Shuffield submitted two supplemental applications and his son Eugene Shuffield submitted five supplemental applications.

If you have any prospects, please contact me so that we can assist the prospective member with his application.

L* - Questions from national reviewers have been addressed and submitted

Pictured at right Compatriot Gordon Severance after endorsing the nine applications as Sponsor. When these nine applications for his sons and grandsons are approved it will mean that five generations of the Severance clan have been members of SAR. His fa-



ther became a member in 1916 and his grandfather in 1891. PineyWoods is greatly honored to have the last three generations as members of our chapter.

New Member Induction

At our May meeting we inducted new members David Work of Kingwood and Mark Liepman of New Boston. Compatriot Work's ancestor was Zarah Curtis and Compatriot Liepman's ancestor was Ebenezer McIntosh. We were also delighted

to present Davena Rigel-Liepman and Mark Liepman with the Memorial Membership certificate for James Liepman, late husband and father.

In the photo right Chapter President Larry Blackburn is shown swearing in David Work and Mark Liepman with Davena Rigel-Liepman who has accepted her late husband's certificate.



May Meeting

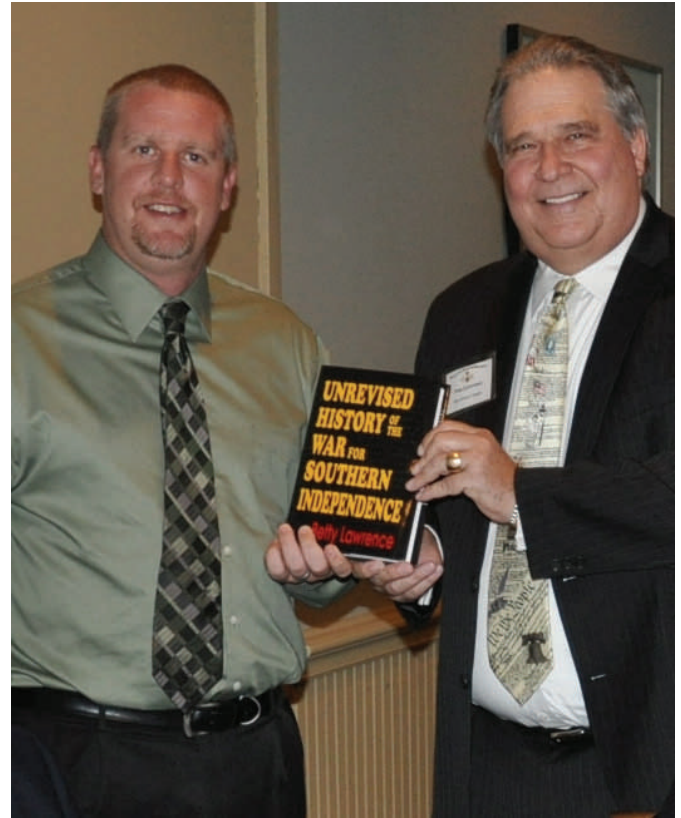
Our May meeting was a chance to celebrate one of the key objectives of the SAR, Education. Our speaker was Judge Thomas Lawrence, who is the Chancellor General of NSSAR, and a long time member and friend of our chapter. Judge Lawrence spoke to us of the value of the teacher's role in educating our youth about the facts of our forefather's contribution in forming the United States of America. He and his wife Mickey Jo, conceived the idea of a scholarship to provide an educational opportunity for teachers to participate in meaningful study. The scholarship, named for Tom's parents Thomas and Betty Lawrence, has been awarded at the SAR National Convention for six years. The annual award is meant to honor a teacher who has already demonstrated excellence in teaching American History. This teacher would then be afforded the opportunity to further their knowledge of the American Revolution in programs like the Freedom Foundation summer program, the Colonial Williamsburg teachers' workshops or the SAR Annual Conference on the American Revolution.

The TXSSAR winner of this contest in 2012 was Michael Block, a teacher at Strake Jesuit High School. He was the candidate from our chapter. Mr. Block is the son-in-law of Compatriot John Beard. Judge Lawrence presented Mr. Block with the TXSSAR award certificate. TXSSAR awards the teacher the same monetary amount as the NSSAR winner, which means the Texas State winner can have the same opportunities as the national winner. Mr. Block will also compete for the national award. The winner will be announced at the Congress in Phoenix in July.

Jimmy Gs' Menu Survey

Remember, if you haven't filled out your survey for the menu at Jimmy G's you will have no voice in our menu selections. Sort of "taxation without representation" Please complete your survey soon. See May issue for vote tally thus far.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9BBFWQ8>



Above Right: Judge Lawrence presented Mr. Block with a copy of his mother's book, "Unrevised History of the War for Southern Independence"

Below left: Judge Lawrence presents Mr. Block with the TXSSAR "Tom and Betty Lawrence Teacher Award."



JROTC Award Presentations

Well the Bronze JROTC Medal and Certificates awarded to cadets in local high schools officially ended on May 17th. Three of our members, Kim Morton, John Beard and Ray Cox, did not attend our meeting that night as they were presenting awards in La Porte, Kingwood and Humble. Last issue stated we awarded twenty-five (25) medals. That count was off, we actually awarded twenty-six (26) medals this year. This is an awesome number for a chapter our size. Thanks to our coordinator Larry Blackburn and everyone who participated.

Pictured below, Compatriot James T. Jones, Jr., presenting the Bronze JROTC Medal and Certificate at Aldine High School.



Pictured above: At our May meeting Janisue Rigel, President of the Thomas Bay Chapter of the US Daughters of 1812, presented a proclamation by Governor Perry to PineyWoods President Larry Blackburn. The Proclamation was made to honor the men and women of the armed forces who risk “the ultimate sacrifice to combat tyranny and oppression. Every time they put on the uniform, these heroes renew their commitment to pay any price, to bear any burden, so they we might be free.”



Judge Lawrence took this opportunity to express his appreciation for the TXSSAR service of several of our PineyWoods Members. He presented copies of his mother’s book on the Civil War. His mother wrote this book but did not have the opportunity to finish it before her death, his father finished it. Mrs. Lawrence was a longtime active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society Colonial Dames of the XVII Century and United Daughters of the Confederacy. Books were presented to Larry Stevens, John Beard, Ray Cox and Jim Jones. *Below Judge Lawrence with Larry Stevens (l) and Mary Claire Beard (r)*



May Meeting



Above Left: President Larry Blackburn presents a SAR mug to Judge Lawrence in appreciation for his presentation. Above right: President Larry Blackburn presents the Jimmy Gs Restaurant manager with a Certificate of Appreciation



Above: President Larry Blackburn, Judge Tom Lawrence, Ben Stallings, Greg Goulas, David Work, Cannon Pritchard, James T. Jones, Allan Henshaw.



Above Left: Davena Rigel-Liepman and Mark Liepman; Above right: Diane and Gordon Severance, Marie Claire Beard, Kayla Block, Michael Block and James K. Thompson



Color Guard & Community Events



Color Guardsmen be on the look out for opportunities to participate in local events. Check these out.

Memorial Day

Cashner Cemetery, Conroe—May 27 Sunday before Memorial Day 3:30 PM Freedom Chapter – Flag Placement Day — Cashner Cemetery et al beginning at 801 Teas Nursery Road Conroe, Texas, 77303 See John Thompson, johnkthompson@rocketmail.com

State Cemetery, Austin: On Monday May 28, the Thankful Hubbard Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Patrick Henry Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution Honor fallen veterans with a gunfire salute.

Galveston: Monday May 28th, Memorial Day Posting of the Colors at the Vietnam Memorial Garden. Contact Compatriot George Dersheimer. dersh1@aol.com

United Daughters of the Confederacy—Annual Awards Bestowal Ceremony

Clayton Library - The Oran M. Roberts Chapter of UDC has sent an invitation to their awards ceremony on the 9th of June at 2:00 pm. Dress business casual, uniform or period dress. RSVP 713-692-4511 or robert-sudc@yahoo.com

200 Anniversary War of 1812

The Woodlands: The Thomas Bay Chapter of the United States Daughters of the War of 1812 is sponsoring a celebration of the 200th Anniversary with a Bell Ringing Ceremony. The event is on June 18th at 11:30 am at the Woodlands Township at Market Street Plaza. Come, in uniform if you have one, to celebrate the real end of the war with Britain. The Thomas Bay Chapter will supply the Bells for you to ring, the hot dogs and “old fashion” root beer floats. Sounds like fun for all. Ceremonies like this throughout the nation will coordinate to ring the bells at noon.

Independence Day

Mims Baptist Church, Conroe— July 1, Freedom Celebration, Mimms Baptist Conroe TX 11 — 1609 Porter Rd, Conroe, TX 77301 - Call John K. Thompson for details.

The Woodlands—July 3, Performance at The Pavilion— Free Independence Day Concert – Pre-Event 6 PM; SAR Color Guard posted at entrance with Lord Sterling Drum & Fife Group — Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands, TX

Galveston: Galveston Island 4th of July Parade and Celebration. Staging area is the Railroad Museum, Galveston. Contact person Ron Whatley, Bernardo de Galvez Chapter.

Kingwood — July 4 Independence Day Parade, Kingwood at 9 AM (walking), Town Center Check with Ray Cox, PineyWoods

National Constitution Day

SAR will observe the 225th Anniversary of the U. S. Constitution in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 14-15, 2012, complete with parade. And, you're invited! Details are in the May issue of Pine Shavings and also on the NSSAR national website.

The War in New England 1775

The following is a brief outline setting the stage and the beginnings of Rebellion in the Northern Colonies. King George III had suspended the Massachusetts Colonial government appointing Thomas Howe as the military governor. The King labeled those men who were meeting at the Colonial Congress in Philadelphia traitors. All the ports were bottled up by the British Navy and Redcoats. Enough was enough. The Colonist took up arms in revolt.

After Lexington and Concord, April 19, 1775, the minutemen and militia converged on Charleston Peninsula and the surrounding area bottling up the British in Boston.

May 10, 1775, the British Garrison at Fort Ticonderoga was overcome by the Green Mountain Boys under Ethan Allen and Col Benedict Arnold. The captured cannon and other armaments were transported to Boston.



May 11, 1775, a small detachment took nearby Fort Crown Point.

May 17, 1775, Benedict Arnold with 50 militiamen raided Fort Saint-Jean on the Richelieu River in

southern Quebec, seizing arms and military supplies as well as the largest British ship on the Lake Champlain.

Although these actions were minor, they did disrupt communication and set the stage for the assault on Quebec in 1776.

But, on June 17, 1775, 4,500 British troops arrived in Boston harbor. Sir William Howe, Viscount, attacked capturing the Charleston Peninsula but suffered such heavy loses at Bunker Hill, that he retreated to Bos-



ton. Shortly after Bunker Hill (Breed's Hill), Howe was replaced by Thomas Gage.

July 1775, newly appointed George Washington arrived to take command of the colonial forces and organize the Continental Army. Washington found the army short of supplies, especially gunpowder, and send parties out to raid stores. Some powder was manufactured but most was smuggled from France.

The Siege of Boston would last until March of 1776 when heavy cannons that were captured at the Battle of Ticonderoga were brought in by Henry Knox and placed over Boston at Dorchester Heights. Howe realizing his position to be untenable withdrew his forces to the British Naval Base at Halifax Nova Scotia on March 17, 1776.

General Washington moved most of the Continental Army to fortify New York.

Larry G. Stevens.