



Pine Shavings

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

March 2009

Volume 18, Issue 13

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A Message from the President

Our Chapter Newsletters are posted on our Chapter Web Site by Ray Cox. Those of you who do not receive The Piney Woods Shavings electronically can go to our site view our newsletter in color. All of our photos are taken with digital cameras so the quality of the pictures are very good, thanks to our newsletter Editor Jim Mims. You can find our web site on internet by typing "Piney Woods Chapter 51 TXSSAR" and you can find the Newsletters by clicking on "Chapter Info". Those of you who have opted to receive our newsletter electronically have cut our chapter newsletter cost nearly in half. If you want to receive the Piney Woods Shavings electronically notify Jim Mims, Ron Barker, Ray Cox, or me. You can find our contact information in this issue.



With rising costs affecting printing, postage, and other materials, money saved by electronic mailing can be used to support our programs and administrative costs.

Chapter members have participated in several events already this year. Our Color Guard participated in a Memorial Service at the Cartwright Cemetery near Montgomery January 31st by posting the US Flag and firing a black powder salute". Sunday, February 1st, we joined the San Jacinto Chapter of the DAR grave marking of Bailey Greenwood by posting and retrieving the flags and again helping with a three gun salute. The next day, we helped the San Jacinto Chapter of the DAR mark the grave of Bailey Greenwood by posting and retrieving the flags and again helping with a three gun salute. Ms. Lynn Young, the TSDAR State Regent and other TSDAR officers were present. The TXSSAR Color Guard included members of the William Hightower Chapter located in New Braunfels, the Alexander Hodge Chapter in Sugarland, Paul Carrington Chapter in Houston, Robert Rankin Chapter in Katy, Freedom Chapter in Conroe, and our Piney Woods Chapter.

Also, the Texas Society Newsletter Winter 2008-2009 issue of the "Compatriot" is on the TXSSAR Web Site in full color. If you have not seen the Compatriot in color you are encouraged to do so. Just type TXSSAR into the internet and click on Compatriot. One of the important goals of our State Society is electronic mailing of the Compatriot. A mailing of one of the four yearly issues cost about \$2300.00 and will increase.

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- PAST PRESIDENTS**
 Ron Barker
 Tom Green
 Bernie Balser
 Don Lemon
 Jeff Meadows
 McLeod Smith
 Robert McKenna
 Bob Smith
 Cannon Pritchard
 James Jones
 Ray Cox
 Larry Stevens

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 Ray Cox
coxmr@earthlink.net



State

www.txssar.org

March 19-22, 2009 - TXSSAR Annual Convention, Fredonia Hotel, Nacogdoches, TX

July 31, 2009 - "Cradle of Texas Historic Tour" (in conjunction with BOM meeting), Brazoria County, TX

August 1-2, 2009 - Board of Managers Meeting, Lake Jackson, TX



National

www.sar.org

July 4-8, 2009 - 119th Annual Congress, Renaissance Waverly Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia



The Revolution

March 23, 1775 - Patrick Henry delivered his "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" speech in St. John's Church, Richmond, VA.

March 17, 1776 - British evacuate Boston, MA and set sail for Halifax, Nova Scotia on March 27.

March 15, 1781 - Battle of Guilford Courthouse, NC. Lt.Gen. Charles Cornwallis defeats Gen. Nathanael Greene.

March 4, 1785 - New York City become the capitol of the United States.

March 4, 1789 - The U.S. begins under the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights are adopted but still need to be ratified.

Our largest expenditure is the cost of our newsletter. Help us eliminate mailing newsletters thereby saving money on mailing. Please send your e-mail address to Ron Barker at ron.barker@hp.com and/or Jim Mims at jhmims4@aol.com and/or Larry Stevens at wardtracker@aol.com.

Meetings

Come and join us at the next meeting.

PineyWoods Chapter 51 Meeting Schedule 2009	
April 16 May 21	Members Meeting and Dinner Guest Speaker and Dinner Meeting

Color Guard Activities

TSDAR Bailey Greenwood Grave Marking Ceremony
Stoneham Cemetery, Stoneham, Texas

PineyWoods Chapter 51 was asked by Lori King, Regent of the San Jacinto Chapter of the DAR, and DAR officers at a grave marking ceremony for Bailey Greenwood 1756-1835 at the Stoneham Cemetery about 10 miles west of Montgomery, Texas, on Highway 105, Sunday February 1, 2009. Lori noted that the PineyWoods Chapter, namely Bob McKenna and Kim Morton, had discovered the grave site of Bailey Greenwood, and their chapter, PineyWoods had placed the SAR Marker at the site in 2005. Lori King asked PineyWoods, and other SAR members, to join their program. Members from Houston area SAR chapters responded to the call to post the colors and fire a musket salute. Many of those that participated in the initial 2005 SAR grave ceremony returned to post the color and fire their musket honoring this patriot. Lynn Young, Regent for the Texas Society DAR and Larry Stevens, President PineyWoods, were asked to address those gathered for the event.



Pictured (L-R) - Fred Hill, Jim Mitchell, Mary Betty James, Kristie Campbell, Carol Goeking (TSDAR State Librarian), Lynn Forney Young (TSDAR State Regent), Tom Green, Lori King (Regent, San Jacinto Chapter, Pamela Wright (TSDAR State Corresponding Secretary) Carl Hill, Tom Houston, Ron Barker, Gordon Wyrick.- Knelling front L – Jim Jones, Larry Stevens

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Larry Stevens



Ray Cox



Front (L-R) - Mary Betty James (Chairman of the Event), Kristie Campbell (Member Event Committee, Carol Goeking (TSDAR State Librarian), Lynn Forney Young (TSDAR State Regent), Lori King (Regent, San Jacinto Chapter (Host)), Pamela Wright (TSDAR State Corresponding Secretary).
Back (L-R) – John Thompson, Tom Green, Carl Hill, Ron Barker.



Happy Birthday

FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Jere Banewski Kenneth Cheatum Andrew Evans James Green Thomas Green Woody Reese Donald Richards James Richards, Jr.	Edward Farmer, II Thomas Lawrence Donald MacGregory Steven Richards Worthy Warnack, Sr.	Robert McKenna Walter Thompson Patrick Whipple	Ron Barker Byron Basham John Ives, Jr. Ken Korthauer Rex McLain, III Jeffrey Meadows David O’Neal Cannon Pritchard

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February 20th, Ron and Conni Barker, Ray and Marty Cox, Jim and Dianne Jones, and Barbara and I car pooled to Laredo and marched in the



111th Laredo George Washington Parade on Saturday the 21st. This parade was first held in 1898. It is attend by more than 400,000 annually. This year, there were color guard members from Texas, New York, Georgia, Massachusetts, and Virginia. Rick Ramirez, President of the Laredo SAR Chapter, was our host and provided a decorated open trailer for our members who cannot walk the three miles as well as for his family and chapter members. This parade was covered by TV, Radio, and Newspaper reporters from the US and Mexico. Our group was featured on the front pages in Spanish and English. This was great press for the Sons of the American Revolution. Next year we have been asked to bear the US Flag on the parade opening ceremony on the main bridge that links Nuevo Laredo and Laredo or Mexico and the USA. This is indeed a great honor.

Ken Cheatum, Dianne and Jim Jones, and Ray Cox for a short time, helped Barbara and I work on the PineyWoods Chapter Scrapbook at my home. We are trying to finish prior to TXSSAR Convention contest in Nacogdoches. Our "Team" took first place in 2006 and 2007. I would like to thank all of our members, especially Jim Mims, for the memories of "2008". I will bring the Scrapbook to a Chapter meeting after the March Congress for a special dedication.

February 27th, Ray Cox and I Joined Pat Kerr, Robert Rankin Chapter and John Thompson, Freedom Chapter, and presented and posted the United States, Texas, and other flags for the Cub Scouts Troop 454 in Katy Texas. We had more flags than bearers, so we enlisted the help from the ranks of the Cub Scouts. We really enjoyed

spending some time with the scouts and parents helping them celebrate the Blue and Gold. I was a Cub Scout in the California Foothills of the Sierra Nevada when I was eight years old.

In the January 15, 2009 members and guest meeting, a list of members nominated to serve as officers for 2009-2010 was submitted to the members present. This list was posted in the December 2008 copy of the PineyWoods Shavings. These candidates were inducted into office at Homewood Suites on March 12, 2009 by our TXSSAR President Elect, Judge Thomas Lawrence. This is an important time for our chapter. Judge Lawrence became the first PineyWoods Chapter 51 member to be elected President of the TXSSAR on March 21, 2009 at the 114th TXSSAR State Convention in Nacogdoches March 19-22, 2009. He will serve the year of March 2009 to March 2010. Also, Jim Jones was elected to President Elect..

There are no nominations for the offices of Historian, Secretary, and Treasurer. Members who served our chapter last year have volunteered to continue in the same capacities for the next term unless one or more of our chapter members step forward. We can use the help. Currently, Ron Barker and I have been holding down two positions each with Ron serving as Vice President and Treasurer and Jim Mitchell has been helping me with the Secretary position. However, Jim's priorities have changed with his daughter Catherine delivering Jim a grandchild in April near Washington DC.

In the April 16th Members Meeting, which WILL NOT be at Homewood Suites, our officers and members will be addressing meeting locations and theme of each meeting. I want every member of PineyWoods in attendance. This is your chapter. You need to help manage it. The meeting locations will be announced later.

We had 11 members who have not paid dues for 2009. Your membership is very important to our Chapter and our Society. Other than our fund raisers and the generosity of some of our members, our only source of income is Chapter dues. At the end of the year we had 70 members.

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Color Guard Activities (cont'd)



Back row: Fred Hill, Gordon Wyrick, John Thompson, Tom Green, Jim Mitchell, Ray Cox, Tom Huston, Carl Hill Ron Barker
Kneeling: Jim Jones and Larry Stevens



Members of TXSSAR Color Guard Flag Posting at the Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution grave marking ceremony of Bailey Greenwood Stoneham Cemetery, Stoneham, Texas. The PineyWoods Chapter 51, TXSSAR, hosted the SAR grave marking in 2005.

**Cartwright Cemetery
Judge Nationiel Hart Davis Chapter DRT Grave Marking
January 31, 2009**

(L-R)

- John Thompson - Freedom, Conroe**
- Larry Stevens - PineyWoods, Kingwood**
- Patrick Kerr - Robert Rankin, Katy**
- Jim Mitchell - PineyWoods, Kingwood**
- Tom Green - Cradle of Texas/Alexander Hodge**
- George Finch - Patrick Henry, Austin**
- Ron Brown - Freedom, Conroe**
- Tom Houston Paul Carrington, Houston**
- Ron Barker - PineyWoods, Kingwood**
- Russell Cox - Freedom, Conroe**
- Ray Cox - PineyWoods, Kingwood**
- Carl Hill - Alexander Hodge, Sugarland**



(L-R)

- Pat Kerr - Robert Rankin**
- Larry Stevens - PineyWoods**
- Carl Hill - Alexander Hodge**
- Tom Houston - Paul Carrington**
- Jim Mitchell - PineyWoods**
- Tom Green - Cradle of Texas**



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Genealogy

Many may not be aware of the free online tools available from your public library. The Houston Public Library and Harris County Public Library both provide free online home access to HeritageQuest. HeritageQuest provides US Census records, Books, Revolutionary War Pensions, and more. Houston Public Library has Newspapers available from several cities around the country.

While searching the census records on HeritageQuest does not return the best results, access is free and you can not beat that. The census records were indexed by the head of the household so you need to have an idea of who that may have been and sometimes it may not be the person you think it should be. I ran across one census where one of the children (a minor) was listed first even though the parents were both living and enumerated on the census in the same household. I used the last name only for the county and state and was able to find them. Also, it helps to search using many possible spellings for the name you are searching. Remember, the way it sounds may be the way it was spelled so try as many spellings as you can come up with if the first spelling does not yield satisfactory results. The advanced search allows you to narrow down the possibilities by age range, gender, location (state and/or county), etc. When all else fails, you can search page by page, which is sometimes the only way to find someone since you are not sure who is listed first on the census. Once you find the family of interest you can download the file to your computer as a .pdf or .tif. The .pdf file can be viewed using Adobe Acrobat Reader which is free to download from the Adobe website (www.adobe.com).

The books section of HeritageQuest is great for many genealogical books. I have downloaded many books or sections of books for use in my family tree. You can simply type in the last name and view the hits. Since each page is searchable, clicking on the “hits” takes you directly to the pages where the name appears in the book. Saves a lot of time!

The Revolutionary War pensions are another great thing on HeritageQuest. Again, by typing

the last name for the person, you can bring up the records, if available on HeritageQuest. Not all of the records are available and there may be more pages not included. I have found footnote.com to have more records available and the records are more complete. However, footnote.com charges a fee for access to most of their records. I found some pictures my dad took in Vietnam while stationed there during the war on footnote.com and they were free to view and download.

Houston Public Library also has access to many newspapers, some recent and some historical. They can be searched by name also. I have searched using a last name, then just browse the results. When I find something of interest I can download the section I want or the entire page of the newspaper. The website is www.houstonlibrary.org. Then go to research, then scroll down to newspapers.

For Harris County Public Library the website is www.hcpl.net. Again, a library card is needed for access and can be obtained at your local Harris County Library. Go to “databases” then click on “genealogy”.

While there are many other sources with much greater information out there, these are just a few of the free ones. I subscribe to ancestry.com as well as footnote.com and like them better but still resort to HeritageQuest when I cannot find what I’m looking for on the paid sites. Using all of these together, I can usually find who I am looking for. Don’t overlook the power of free online access to records. Go to your local library and get a card to begin your free searching and downloading of records to add to your collection. While it may be a little tricky searching the records, you can’t beat the price!

Happy Researching,

Jim Mims



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PineyWoods members Ron Barker, Ray Cox, Jim Jones, and Larry Stevens Traveled to Laredo Texas to march in the February 21st George Washington Parade the largest GW parade in the USA attends by approximately 400,000 annually. The Friday night before the parade is the Debutante Ball. This year was special for Chapter President Rick Ramirez, his wife and his mother, the rest of his family. His daughter was among the debutantes honored at this affair. This is the highlight of the month long event for many. Young Women and Men dress in Revolutionary Era Ball dresses and frock coats and uniform to parade the stage. Some dresses weigh over seventy pounds and cost thousands to make. Then, on Saturday they ride in floats waving to the crowds of cheering and applauding their pleasure.

Last year, only four TXSSAR Color Guard members joined the Laredo Chapter. This year was different. We had twenty members including four from other states; Georgia, Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia. Long time attendees Tom Green and San Antonio's Ed Butler, the Secretary General of NSSAR were present. Due to their urging, as well as that of Larry Stevens at the National Color Guard Committee meetings, Laredo has been declared a National SAR event, joining the likes of Kings Mountain and Yorktown. Laredo is the only National event west of the Mississippi.



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It appears we are now 59. This is one of the concerns we need to address in April.

This is going to be an active year for our chapter with 16 JROTC School presentations, sponsoring an Eagle Scout, a JROTC Scholarship Candidate, the State Convention in Nacogdoches, the NSSAR National Congress in Atlanta, parades and school programs, cemetery dedications, and helping other organizations by presenting the colors and giving educational programs.

This will be my third term as Chapter President, a new record. Thomas M. Green served the first two years after our chapter was chartered in 1993. Jim Jones served two consecutive terms when one of our members was relocated to Norway.

I'm look forward to this year. The challenge is here. We need to build interest in our meetings and programs. I'm looking forward to doing some exciting new things. and reports.

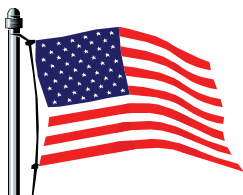
See you then,

Larry Stevens

Pine Shavings

Sons of the American Revolution

Volume 18, Issue 13



Official Newsletter
PineyWoods Chapter #51
Texas Society,
Sons of the American Revolution
P. O. Box 6524, Kingwood, TX 77325

We're on the Web

www.txssar.org/PineyWoods



PineyWoods Chapter #51
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P.O. Box 6524
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TO THE POSTMASTER
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NEW LOCATION FOR THIS MEETING

**RSVP FOR THE APRIL 16, 2009 MEMBERS DINNER MEETING
At ITALIANOS, 217 FM 1960 Bypass Rd. E, Humble, TX 6:30 PM**

Please respond with the number of people attending and their names by Friday, April 10th. You can send an RSVP email to Kim Morton at Genmorton@usa.net or Larry Stevens at wardtracker@aol.com OR you can call Larry Stevens at 281-361-2061. Please RSVP to one person only. Payment of \$15.00 per attendee will be collected at the meeting.