



Pine Shavings



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

March 2014 Issue



The Piney Woods Chapter 51 was chartered February 3, 1994 in a ceremony in the Teachers Auditorium of Kingwood College. The new officers were installed by Texas President Colonel Delbert Fowler. The late Thomas M. Green, who at the time was a member of Paul Carrington and a resident of Forest Cove, Kingwood, decided there was enough interest and members in the Kingwood, Humble, Spring, North Spring, Dayton, and north up highway 59, to begin a new SAR Chapter. Piney Woods has produced many leaders for the Texas and National Society; serving in many Texas Officer Offices; President, President Elect, Staff Secretary Treasurer and on many important National Society Committees chairing many. Thursday, March 20th, we install the officers for 2014. Although elected for two year terms as of last year, this will be the *twentieth* panel of officers installed to lead Piney Woods through the next year. New Piney Woods member Kermit, who just transferred from Georgia will be serving as a second Registrar. Please support our officers during the next few months and make this a fun and successful year.

March 27-30, 2014, the Texas Society Annual Convention will be at the Omni Hotel San Antonio. The first program is Thursday afternoon on youth education. National Society Education Committee Chairman Larry Stevens, a past Piney Woods Chapter President, has arranged for the Houston founders of Values Through History, Donna Passmore and Jan Smulcer, to present their program "Why America Is Free". This program enhances the existing 5th grade Social Studies unit on the Revolutionary War period. Their program is currently a part of the 5th grade curriculum of 23 Elementary Schools in Humble ISD.

SAR Bronze JROTC Presentations are being scheduled now by Larry Blackburn, if you can with presentations, please let Larry know.

We have four new Piney Woods members; Tony Foster, Curtis Laird, Charles Rew, and Eric Ramsey. I should be receiving their member packages soon.

Please join us a Jimmy G's for some great food and a good time.

Ben Stallings—President

Meetings - 2014

March 20, 2014	Member-Guest (Officer Induction)
April 17, 2014	Member
May 15, 2014	Member Guest
August 21, 2014	Member
September 18, 2014	Member/Guest
October 16, 2014	Member
November 20, 2014	Member/ Guest
December 18, 2014	Member

Meeting—March 20th Member & Guest

Jimmy G's
307 N. Sam Houston E. Parkway, Greenspoint
6:30 p.m.

RSVP FOR THE MEETING

Please respond with the number of people attending and their names by Tuesday before the meeting date. Please RSVP ASAP, to Ben Stallings bbstallings@gmail.com or John Beard Johnbeard@suddenlink.net
NOTE THAT THIS IS A MEMBER/GUEST MEETING AT JIMMY G'S.

Revolutionary War Timeline

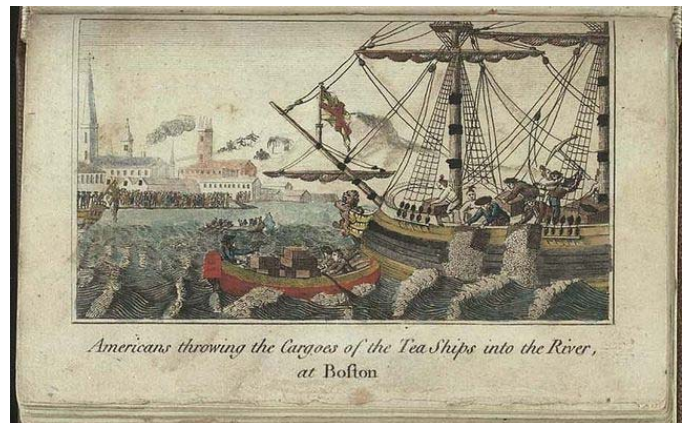
February 23-24, 1779 - George Rogers captures Vincennes on the Wabash in the Western campaign in what is today Indiana. Rogers tricked the British and their Indian allies into believing he had a force of more than 1,000 by moving the militia and Indians back and forth around the fort. The British Indian supporters left, and after 3 days the British surrendered. Rogers lost not one man.



March 5, 1770 - The Boston Massacre

"The Bloody Massacre" engraving by Paul Revere. Note that this is not an accurate depiction of the event. The Boston Massacre was a street fight that occurred on March 5, 1770, between a "patriot" mob, throwing snowballs, stones, and sticks, and a squad of British soldiers. Several colonists were killed and this led to a campaign by speech-writers to rouse the ire of the citizenry.

March 31, 1774 - Boston Harbour – The Port Act which was meant to “to discontinue, in such manner, and for or such time as are therein mentioned, the landing and discharging, lading or shipping, of goods, wares, and merchandise, at the town, and within the harbour, of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, in North America.”



WHEREAS dangerous commotions and insurrections have been fomented and raised in the town of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, in New England, by divers ill affected persons, to the subversion of his Majesty's government, and to the utter destruction of the publick peace, and good order of the said town; in which commotions and insurrections certain valuable cargoes of teas, being the property of the East India Company, and on board

March 3, 1776 – The Continental Fleet captures New Providence Island in the Bahamas



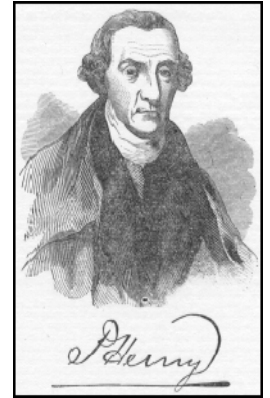
(Continued on page 3)

Revolutionary War Timeline

(Continued from page 2)

March 23, 1775 - Bottom of Form

Patrick Henry, "Give me liberty or give me death...?" Born on May 29, 1736 in Hanover County Virginia and died June 6, 1799. A Lawyer and Politician, Patrick Henry was elected to the House of Burgesses in 1765, admitted to the Bar of Virginia in 1769, elected to the Continental Congress in 1774, was a Virginia Militia Leader in 1775, and the Governor of Virginia 1776-1778 and 1784.

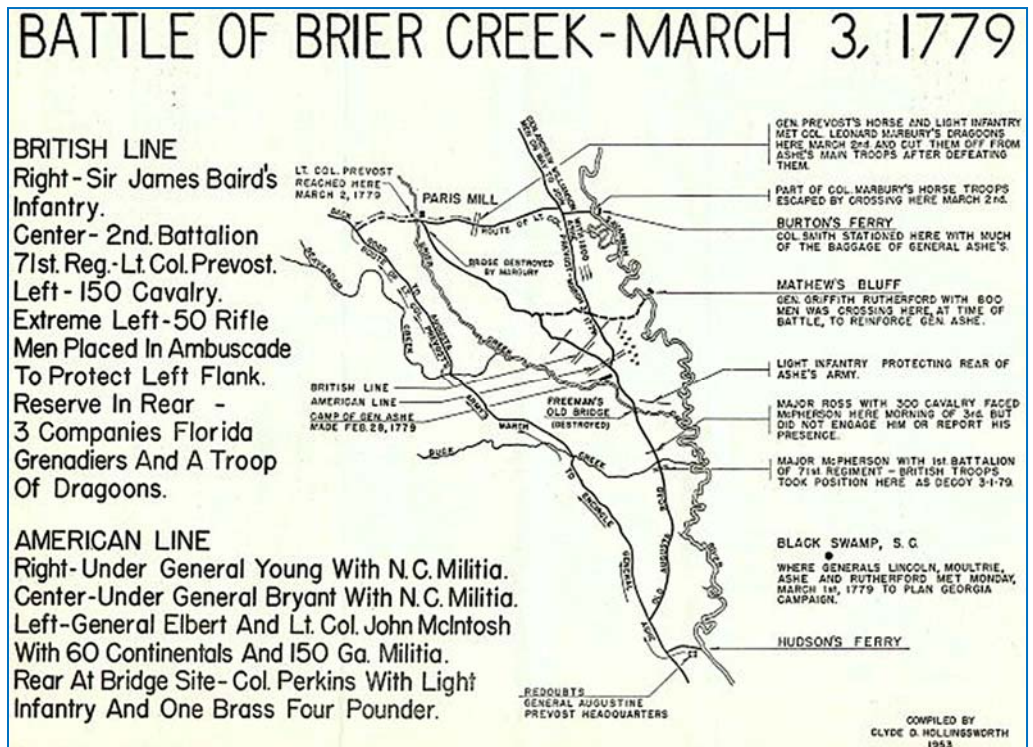


Portrait of Patrick Henry

"Radical," is a title that few men can wear with ease. The name Patrick Henry, during the revolution and for some time after, was synonymous with that word in the minds of colonists and Empire alike. Henry's reputation as a passionate and fiery orator exceeded even that of Samuel Adams. His Stamp Act Resolutions were, arguably, the first shot fired in the Revolutionary War.

March 17, 1776 - The British evacuate Boston, the British Navy moves to Halifax Canada

March 3, 1779 - British Col. Jacques Marcus Prevost defeats Americans under Gen. John Ashe at Brier Creek Georgia



National Events



NSSAR 124th Congress
Greenville, South Carolina
July 18 – 24, 2014

State Events



TXSSAR 119th Annual Convention at the
Omni Hotel, 9821 Colonnade, San Antonio,
Mar 27-30, 2014
TXSSAR Fall BOM October – TBA



20 YEARS AGO

FOUNDING MEMBERS

- Bernard S. Balsler
- Thomas M. Green
- Allan M. Henshaw
- Donald W. Lemon
- Larry G. Martin
- Kim A. Morton
- Rev. Steven L. Newman
- Gary P. Smith
- Larry G. Stevens

CHARTER MEMBERS

- E. Conrad Carroll, Jr.
- Charles S. Fox
- Gerald A. Green
- Thomas G. Martin
- John L. Meredith
- Kenneth R. Vaughn III
- Glen W. Withrow, Jr.

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER, NO. 51
TEXAS SOCIETY
Sons of the American Revolution

CHAPTER INSTITUTION and
OFFICER INSTALLATION

*Keynote Address by Judge, Ted Poe
228th District Court*

Kingwood College, Teaching Theater
Kingwood, Texas 77339
Thursday, February 3, 1994
7:30 p.m.

Battle of Monmouth Court House

While General Washington was still wintered in Valley Forge, Americans overseas were forging new relationships. America had found international diplomacy difficult as they struggled for independence. Forming the Secret Committee of Correspondence lead by Benjamin Franklin, talks begin with France, and on February 6, 1778, France signed “The Treaty of Alliance” with the American Continental government.

The most Christian King and the United States of North America, to wit, New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhodes island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, having this Day concluded a Treaty of amity and Commerce, for the reciprocal advantage of their Subjects and Citizens have thought it necessary to take into consideration the means of strengthening those engagements and of roudring them useful to the safety and tranquility of the two parties, particularly in case Great Britain in Resentment of that connection and of the good correspondence which is the object of the said Treaty, should break the Peace with France, either by direct hostilities, or by hindering her commerce and navigation, in a manner contrary to the Rights of Nations, and the Peace subsisting between the two Crowns; and his Majesty and the said united States having resolved in that Case to join their Councils and efforts against the Enterprises of their common Enemy, the respective Plenipotentiaries, impower'd to concert the Clauses & conditions proper to fulfil the said Intentions, have, after the most mature Deliberation, concluded and determined on the following Articles.



Benjamin Franklin and John Paul Jones at Court of Louis XVI

ART. 1.

If War should break out between France and Great Britain, during the continuance of the present War between the United States and England, his Majesty and the said united States, shall make it a common cause, and aid each other mutually with their good Offices, their Counsels, and their forces, according to the exigence of Conjunctures as becomes good & faithful Allies...”



*Gilbert du M tier,
Marquis de Lafayette
Major General Continental Army
6 Sep 1757 – 20 May 1834*

In the winter months of 1778 when the weather improved, Washington began the training of his army. He brought in Friedrich von Steuben, and the young Marquis de Lafayette, to bring much needed training of his army.

Concerned with the change of the war in America with the entrance of the French, General Sir Henry Clinton was ordered to pull the British Army back to New York due to possible attacks by the French. The Valley Forge Continental Army of George Washington was only 25 miles west; but, on June 18, 1778, Clinton began the evacuation of Philadelphia, crossing the Delaware River into New Jersey.



*Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben
Major General Continental Army
17 Sep 1730 – 28 Nov 1794*

(Continued on page 6)

Battle of Monmouth Court House

(Continued from page 5)

Learning of the departure of Clinton, General Washington called his officers together to plan pursuit. He had learned that Clinton's army of 11,000 was strung out over 12 miles because of wagons full of materials and supplies. Clinton's rear guard was commanded by Lord Cornwallis. Major General Charles Lee vehemently opposed any major attack plan against Clinton claiming with the French in the War, all they needed to do was wait it out and eventually they could win the war. Lee felt the Continental forces could not withstand a major frontal battle against Clinton's forces. Washington and his other officers disagreed and the army was ordered out of Valley Forge. Upon crossing the Delaware, Washington was in reach of the rear guard of Clinton on June 28, 1778. But instead of an all out assault upon the British line, he instead listened to Lee's advice to first attack the rear guard. Washington ordered 4,000 men to attack under Charles Lee, but Lee refused to lead such a group. General Washington added 1,000 more to the assault force and appointed Major General Lafayette to command the army. Lee protested and was put in command.

Lee was to meet with his officers and plan their attack of the rear guard, but it was reported that Lee's only command was to watch for his signals. Lee attacked in piecemeal fashion instead of with a strong unified front. Cornwallis soon took the advantage of this weakness and with a flanking maneuver caused Lee to order a retreat. As Lee's force ran in retreat, General George Washington, who was riding in advance of the rest of his army, some 7,000 strong, ran directly into the retreating men. Seeing the retreat, he ordered them to stop and began to rally them into a position behind a hedgerow at the top of a rise.

Intercepting Lee, Washington cursed him for his failure to command and ordered him from the field. Washington and the remnants of Lee's command held Cornwallis back until the main force established a line of defense on the next rise behind the hedgerow and Washington withdrew to the main army.



*Washington's Army Holds Positions at Monmouth
New Jersey*



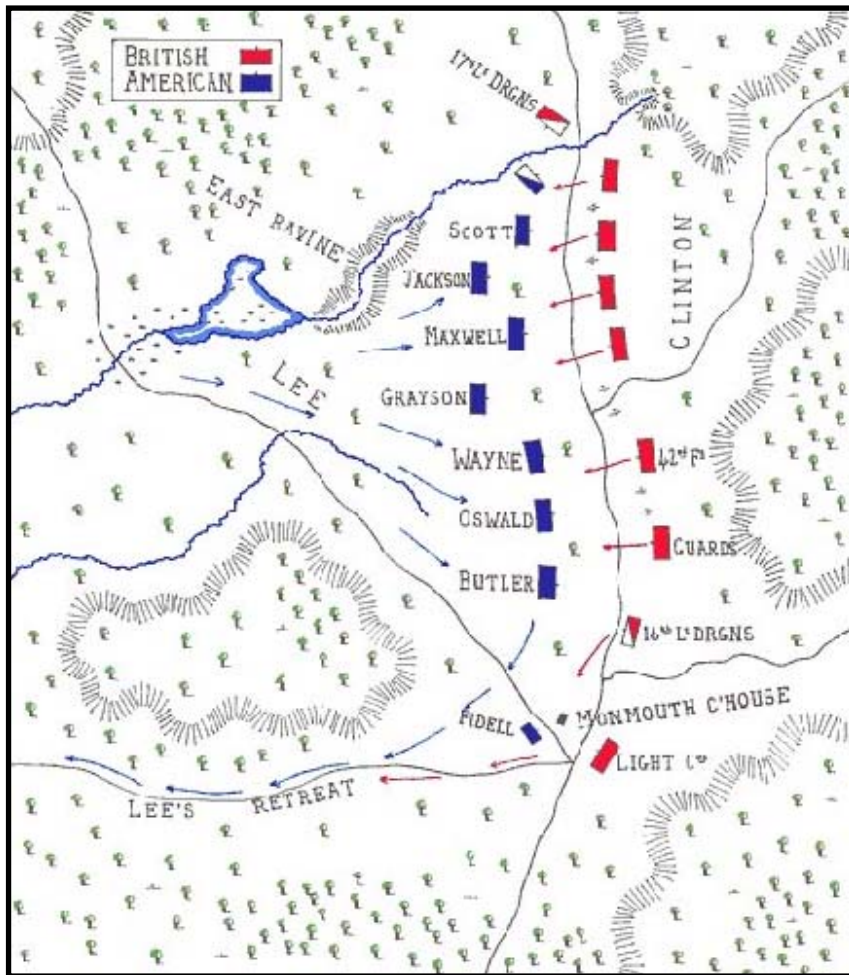
*Washington confronting General Charles Lee
– Monmouth Courthouse*

(Continued on page 7)

Battle of Monmouth Courthouse

(Continued from page 6)

Cornwallis quickly followed forming his commands at the hedgerow and began ordering assaults. The newly trained Von Steuben Continentals held their ground and forced the Redcoats back time and again. Continental six inch cannons commanded by Thomas-Antoine de Mauduit positioned on Combs Hill, and Nathaniel Greene from another location, stopped the assaults of the Regulars with heavy fire which held Cornwallis in place. Greene's cannon shelled the Cornwallis forces behind the hedgerow. Cornwallis began to retreat due casualties and the oppressive heat. Washington then attacked Cornwallis again causing a general retreat east toward Clinton's main force. Darkness stopped the fighting for the day and during the night, Cornwallis withdrew from the field to follow Clinton as rear guard until they reach Sandy Hook for transport to New York City. Washington did not continue the offensive. The 100 °F day on the 28th of June had taken its toll on his army, leaving them exhausted. The oppressive heat cost the lives of thirty-seven patriots. Cornwallis was reported to have lost fifty-nine men to fatigue. Clinton arrived at Sandy Hook and then was transported by boat to New York City just in time. The French fleet com-



Monmouth Courthouse Battlefield June 28, 1778



“Molly Pitcher” Mary Ludwig Hays
1754 - 1832

manded by D’Estaing arrived just a little too late to trap Clinton’s Army at Sandy Hook. Instead of attacking at New York, Clinton, D’Estaing sailed to do battle against the British at Newport, Rhode Island, an American-Franco assault that failed.

The Battle of Monmouth Courthouse was the last major battle fought in the northern theater during the American Revolution. You can only speculate that the Continental Army emerging from Valley Forge in the Spring of 1778 was one the British did not expect; one that fought with the discipline of the armies of Europe; and one that the British could sorely afford to engage. With this and the arrival of the French fleet, British troops had to stay to protect New York. Britain sent Clinton to the Carolinas to begin what they felt was an easy victory with the help of the Southern Tories.

Molly Pitcher – Monmouth Courthouse

The Battle of Monmouth Courthouse New Jersey brings another exciting perspective to the story of the American Revolution. Mary Ludwig Hays, as the story goes, lived near Monmouth Courthouse, and when the battle to

(Continued on page 8)

Battle of Monmouth Court House

(Continued from page 7)

stop Cornwallis's assaults on the continental line began in the near 100 degree temperature, she hurried forward with water for swabbing the cannons and for the men to drink. When her husband John Hays, artilleryman, was wounded, she took his place and then attended his wounds. The story is true, in that this did happen, but it has become embellished; Mary became nicknamed "Molly Pitcher". There are two stops on the battlefield tour of Monmouth Courthouse at a stream named the



Molly Pitcher Spring. Mary received a Revolutionary War Pension after her second husband died proving she truly served in the Battle of Monmouth Courthouse. This was a soldier's pension not a widow's pension.

Registrar's Report

Your registrar has been very busy in the past few months, doing both applications for PineyWoods and also those for the International District. So you can only imagine how excited I was when Kermit Breed said he was interested in being a chapter registrar. Kermit and I have met with one applicant already. It may be a tough one to prove, but we are going to give it one more try.

There are two applications which have been sent to NSSAR. We have not seen a status on these:

Scott Mills and Mark Mills Patriot Ancestor: Nimrod Taylor

The following four membership applications have been approved recently. We hope to install these men into our chapter soon.

Eric G. Ramsey	NSSAR: 190233	Patriot Ancestor:	Private Francis Ramsey of Virginia
Anthony Scott Foster	NSSAR: 190237	Patriot Ancestor:	Private William Foster of Virginia
Curtis Autry Laird	NSSAR: 190238	Patriot Ancestor:	Private George Thompson of North Carolina
Charles Austin Rew	NSSAR: 190344	Patriot Ancestor:	Private Clayton Stribling of South Carolina