



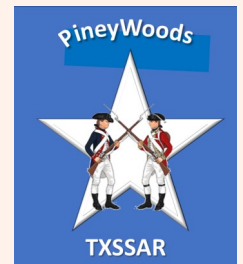
**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
Mar 16, 2024 Issue 3**



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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Espiridion "Speedy" Zuniga, the Senior Center Operations Supervisor at USO - Houston

The USO is not part of the federal government. A congressionally chartered, private organization, the USO relies on the generosity of individuals, organizations and corporations to support its activities, and is powered by a family of volunteers to accomplish our mission of connection.

Lunch Program

USO by "Speedy" Zuniga

Saturday, March 16, 2024 -11 a. m.

Los Cucos Mexican Café Kingwood, TX





From the President:

PineyWoods Members:

Our March Meeting at Los Cusos Mexican Cafe in Kingwood on March 16, 2024. Our meeting will begin at 11:30 am.



Lawrence ‘Ski’ Grumboski invited our guest speaker, Espiridion "Speedy" Zuniga, the Senior Center Operations Supervisor at USO – Houston to talk about “USO.” Ski spends time at the USO at Houston Intercontinental Airport as a volunteer. Traveling US Servicemen and Servicewomen, and their families use the facility to relax and rest before their journeys.

At the Trustees meeting in Louisville of March 2, 2024, Larry Stevens was selected to receive the SAR Minuteman Metal which is the highest award a member can receive for service to SAR. Previously, in our chapter, only Jim Jones was awarded this prestigious recognition.

During our lunch we should celebrate the Birthday of a great Patriot and President of the USA, James Madison who was born on March 16, 1751. in Port Conway, Virginia. He dies on June 28, 1836. His wife was the famous Dolly Payne. Madison was the 4th President of the United States, serving from 1809-1817.

And, when the Redcoats were driven back to Boston, the city was under siege beginning on April 19, 1775, until the British abandoned Boston on March 17, 1776.

The Café opens at 11:00 am. Come early and grab a seat. Los Cucos’ staff begins taking your lunch orders shortly after you are seated.

See you Saturday,

Ben Baskin

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 - Vacant

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
National Congress July 10-
July 17
Lancaster PA



TXSSAR
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
May 18, 2024



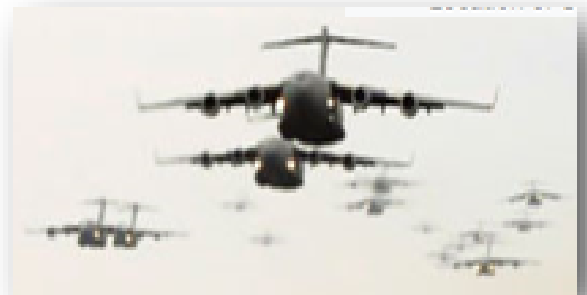
The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 was signed into law by 45th U.S. President Donald J. Trump, designating March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.
<https://www.vietnamwar50th.com/about/national-vietnam-war-veterans-day/>

The NCCGH decided that this year the Houston National Cemetery will celebrate this event on March 28, 2024 at 0900 instead of March 29, 2024, so people may attend other events on the 29th. There will be a speaker, many families will present a wreath of remembrance for soldiers, sailors, marines and air force members KIA or MIA. We're working on getting a fly over but there will be honor guards and other events during the ceremony, such as awarding the Vietnam Veterans clip to any veteran serving any time between November 1, 1955 and May 15, 1975.
 If you attend this event, send me your hours at the event and the round trip milage for the Stark report.

At the PINEYWOODS Chapter meetings in March, April and May, there will be a box to collect clothing donations for veterans at the DeBakey VA medical Center. 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 and 6th-floor Veterans
 - Small fleeces throw blankets
 - Footwear (slides & closed-toe shoes) 7-13
 - Fleece jackets
 - 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)
 Ski Chapter Veterans Coordinator



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.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP
PineyWoods Chapter
Membership: a/o Jan 2024

TOTAL 111

Current Regular Members– 94, Reinstated-3, Dual– 4 Junior –8

NOT PAID FOR 2024 - 9

**Official Newsletter Piney-
Woods Chapter #51 Texas So-
ciety, SAR**

Kingwood, TX 77325

www.txssar.org/PineyWoods

March 16, 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. Metals were mailed to 11 (eleven) Junior ROTC with a letter to the Senior Instructor instructing them to contact Larry if they would like PineyWoods SAR to present the Bronze Metal.

To date,, PineyWoods has given \$1000 to Cleveland High School Junior ROTC and to Splendora High School Air Force Junior ROTC units. The US Air Force cut funding to the High Schools Units by 70% this year due to internal reorganization. Senior Instructors hope this is just a one year cut. Our support will allow the schools to have a more normal awards program this Spring. Without our support, this was not possible. We have other Air Force JROTC groups supported by our chapter for many years. PineyWoods will be offering the same assistance this Spring.



**Pictured—Larry Stevens presenting the check to Echo
Commander**

**February 23, 2024 – ECHO Com-
pany Air Force Junior ROTC Com-
mander at Cleveland High School,
Cleveland, Texas, accepts a dona-
tion of \$1,000 from the Piney-
Woods Chapter to support the units
fund raising for their annual
awards event on May 2, 2024. Due
to cutbacks in funding by the Air
Force by 70% to high school JROTC
programs, the cadets have had nu-
merus fund raising events but were
short of being able to purchase
items as in the past. LTC Robert
Hall, Senior Instructor, said the do-
nation will help them greatly. Past
Chapter President Larry Stevens
said the donation was made possible**

because of funds given to the chapter from a trust of a deceased member, Kim Morton, and he wish to have the chapter use it to help programs like the JROTC. LTC Hall and the Cadets thanked Larry and the PineyWoods Chapter for bringing the donation in person and talking to them about the Bronze ROTC and the origins of Sons of the American Revolution and SAR's goals in Outreach Programs.

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

March 16, 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 Sons of the American

17 February 2024

Los Cucos Mexican Café, 23730 Highway I59 N, Kingwood Texas

President Baskin welcomed all to the meeting at 11:38 PM.

Splendora High School Air Force Junior ROTC Color Guard and Officers posted the United States and Texas Flags.

After invocation by Mike Anderson, Sergeant-In-Arms Merv Hartwick led members in reciting the pledge to the United States and Texas Flags followed by the SAR pledge.

COMPATRIOTS PRESENT (21): Kermit Breed, Larry Stevens, Ben Baskin, Cannon H Pritchard, Ray Cox, Mel Oller, Mike Anderson, Donald Stallings, B. Ray Mize, Skip Hawley, Marv Hartwick, Jim Jones, Joe Potter, Bill King, Harry Salsbury, Ski Grumboski, Bernie Kent, Ray Cox, Darrel Radford, Keith Schoonover, and Mike Allard,

GUESTS (23): Sharon Mize, Caleb Allard, Terry Hawley, Sherry Hall, Cadet/A1C Bradley Ferri, Cadet/SSgt Aylin Perez, Cadet/1Lt Serenity Grein, Cadet/MSgt Brandon Araguz, Cadet/Lt Col Mason Hann and Cadet/Lt Col Layla Alderete, (Ret) USAF, Col. Kevin Mertens, USAF, Wendy Hann, Brittaney Ellsworth, Virginia Harwell, Kennedi Hann, Mason Hann, Nancy Radford, Diane Halvorson, Barbara Stevens, Kyle Farri, Samantha Ballard, Dan Ballard and Art Fontes.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mike Anderson Introduced our guest speaker. FBI Agent Art Fontes (RET) spoke on Mexico Today. He was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by President Baskin.

SPECIAL EVENT: Splendora High School Cadet/Lt Col Mason Hann and Cadet/Lt Col Layla Alderete talked about the Air Force JROTC Program and Larry Stevens presented the Cadets with the \$1000.00 donation from the chapter to help fund their projects in the memory of PineyWoods charter member Kim Morton.

NEW MEMBERS: Kermit Breed inducted Michael Paul Allard, Joshua Paul Allard, and Michael David Allard - (Patriot William Cornelius, NC) Darrel Wayne Radford, Alan Waclaw Radford, Michal Julian Radford, Kent Aaron Radford - (Patriot Reuben Radford), VA. As new members. DAR member Camellia Diane Radford Halvorson, from New Mexico DAR, was presented with a Certificate and Medal of Appreciation for her assistance in bringing new members to SAR.

MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve minutes from the January meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer B Ray Mize presented the results of the 2024 Budget committee meeting. Motion was made and seconded to approve the Budget for 2024. Motion carried.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Larry Stevens Is working on Two new applications. Kermit Breed reported no active application.

NEWSLETTER: February Pine Shavings newsletter is on line. As always, great job Larry.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Youth Programs for 2024. PineyWoods needs help with this part of our program. PLEASE volunteer. Larry Stevens asked the chapter if he should pursue making contributions to the other Air Force Junior ROTC Units, Cleveland, Porter, and K Park as we did Splendora, due to the Air force cutting funding the units this year by 70%. Stevens said he would make this a motion, and President Baskin asked if there was a first to this motion. There was a first and second, no discussion. Motion passed.

VETERANS: Ski Grumboski elaborated on our Veterans Projects for 2024 – Coupon Drive, New Clothing and Personal Article Drive for Vets. Ski brought a donation box and would bring it to each meeting. Some members brought items for the Veterans.

FUTURE EVENTS:

11-15 April 2024 Texas Annual Conference Airport Hilton San Antonio

After the benediction by Mike Anderson members joined together in the SAR closing. President Baskin adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.

Kermit Breed for Secretary Jim Pinkerton



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

Not Pictured-1st VP Abe Abdmoulaie, 2nd VP Harry Salsbury and Historian Roland Skelton.

Chapter Members and Friends,

I was extremely humbled to have been selected to receive the SAR Minuteman Metal. It will be presented to me in the Minuteman induction ceremony in Lancaster PA either July 13 or 14, 2024.

Also, due to right knee surgery , Monday, March 11th, at 9:30 am, I will be out of action for awhile depending of how rehab goes.

This newsletter was finished late on Sunday March 10th, due to the amount of things I needed to get done before surgery. Hopefully there are not too many errors!

Larry Stevens—Editor



Larry G. Stevens

Editor

***Certificate of Appreciation
Art Fantes presented by
President Baskin***



***DAR METAL OF APPRECIATION Presented by
Kermit Breed and President Baskin for bringing new
members to SAR!***

***Camillia Diane Radford Halverson
Of New Mexico DAR***

***New Member Darrel Radford being in-
ducted by sponsor Kermit Breed. Dar-
rel received his SAR Membership
Certificate and New Member package***





Kermit inducting the Allard's, Mike and son, two of three present at the meeting, and pinning the SAR Member Rosette. Kermit was their sponsor. The Patriot Ancestor is

Patriot William Cornelius, NC



Junior ROTC Coordinator Larry Stevens, presenting a check of \$1000 to LTC Kevin Mertens and the Commanders of the Splendora AR JROTC and giving LTC Mertens the SAR Bronze Junior ROTC Metal and Certificate to be awarded to an outstanding Cadet at the Units Annual Award Ceremony late this Spring. The funds will help Splendora have a more normal program since the Air Force reduced funding to High Schools 70% this year.