



Pine Shavings

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

May 2009

Volume 19, Issue 1

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A Message from the President

Our VP Ron Barker, and chapter past president, is also the Chairman of the TXSSAR JROTC Committee. His name is given to national ROTC Officers as the TXSSAR contact for our Enhanced Scholarship Contest and for ROTC and JROTC Medals.



About the middle of April, the NCO representing C. E. King High School, not on our list, contacted Ron wanting us to present the SAR JROTC Medal at the schools JROTC Awards Banquet, Friday, May 1, 2009. Ron will not turn anyone down and told the sergeant PineyWoods would be there. Ron contacted me, one to make sure we had a medal and certificate and two would I help him present the medal. I agreed.

PineyWoods now has seventeen high schools, not counting the two Kingwood campuses just starting JROTC programs. We have one overseas, at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, a place I visited as a USAF Airmen in 1961.

Every spring, some of our chapter members are busy traveling to area High School to present Bronze JROTC Medals. Each school has their own JROTC Awards program and it varies from being very formal to a picnic on Saturday in Tomball. But one thing is consistent. Our medal is presented to

the best cadets and students in their junior year. The awards certificate itself explains the character of the cadet receiving the award...”in recognition of outstanding leadership qualities, military bearing and excellence, thus exemplifying the high ideals

and principles which motivated and sustained our patriot ancestors...”.

Saturday evening, April 25, 2009 was my third trip to Klein Collins High School. Colonel Crum and MSgt Watson have a very professional and disciplined USAF JROTC Unit. This is evident by the cadets in their mannerisms and pride. They were invited and marched in the Presidential Inauguration parade this year in Washington D. C. They placed 1st in team rifle drill six years straight. The non-rifle drill team has performed as well. The retired military officers who manage the JROTC Units at High Schools all have Awards programs each spring. Cadets are recognized for attendance, scholarship, drill, color guard or rifle team performance. These young cadets are very proud of their achievements. When a cadet or team is rewarded, the other cadets stand and cheer. What a great program for our youth.

(Continued on page 5)

- 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

EVENTS



State

www.txssar.org

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

September 24, 2009—Fall Leadership (Trustees) Meeting



The Revolution

May 10, 1775 - Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold capture Ft. Ticonderoga. 2nd Continental Congress convenes in Philadelphia, PA.

May 11, 1779 - Maj. Gen. Benjamin Lincoln occupies Augusta, GA.

May 7, 1780 - Maj. Gen. Horatio Gates appointed by Congress Commander of the Southern Department.

May 29, 1780—Lt. Col. Banastre Tarlton defeats Col. Abraham Buford at the Battle of Waxhaws, SC.

May 25, 1787—Constitutional Congress convenes in Philadelphia, PA York City become the capitol of the United States.

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.

Homewood Suites, Kingwood Park Dr. Kingwood TX 6:30 PM



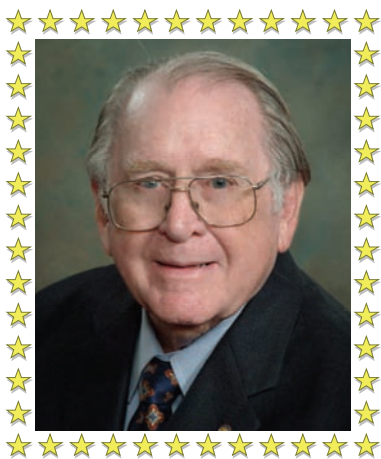
PineyWoods Chapter 51 Meeting Schedule 2009



May 21	Dinner Meeting (Members & Guests)
August 20	Dinner Meeting
September 17	Dinner Meeting (Members & Guests)

- President**
Larry Stevens
Wardtracker@aol.com
- Vice President**
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- Secretary**
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- Treasurer**
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- Newsletter Editor**
Jim Mims
jhmims4@aol.com
- Web Master**
Ray Cox
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Guest Speaker for May 21, 2009



Joe Allen Rice got the nickname “Doc” before he earned his Ph.D. in American Literature. To his surprise, that nickname has stayed with him for half a century. So has his wife, Lynn. They celebrated their golden anniversary in April (2009).

Doc is a Professor Emeritus of the University of Houston. He belongs to the Sons of the American Revolution, the Sons of the Republic of Texas and the Rock Art Foundation. He is a Life Member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

He has been a navigator/bombardier in the Strategic Air Command – a job that took him places you will never visit and don’t want to. He has been a newspaper reporter, a columnist, a research contributor to a series awarded the Pulitzer Prize, an editor, a technical writer for banks, manufacturing and petrochemicals.

Doc and Lynn have two daughters and four grandkids – all wisecracs, bubbling with laughter and mischief. He says those six smart and sassy offspring have contributed in countless ways to his humor, his longevity and, in particular, his awareness of his imperfections.

He was born in an East Texas farmhouse surrounded by fields of four leaf clovers. He claims that’s better than being born smart, talented and good-lookin’ with a silver spoon in your mouth.

Doc Rice has titled tonight’s talk:

APRIL 19th 1775 --- THE FIRST DAY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.



Business meeting at Italiano’s on April 16, 2009. (l-r, around table) Cannon Pritchard, Walter Thompson, Larry Stevens, Ray Cox, Jim Jones, John Beard, Kim Morton, Ron Barker.



2009-2010 Officers at March 12, 2009 elections meeting (l-r) Jim Mims (Newsletter Editor and Historian), Ray Cox (Sergeant at Arms), Ron Barker (1st Vice President and Treasurer.), Larry Stevens (President—3rd Time), Cannon Pritchard (Chaplain), Allan Henshaw (Chancellor), Bob McKenna (Registrar), Kim Morton (Genealogist)

JROTC Awards



Splendora Cadet Lt. Commander John Duke and Larry Stevens



CE King High School Cadet Christopher Coble and Ron Barker

Newsletter

The Piney Woods Shavings is mailed to 26 members . Thirty-four members have elected to receive their copy by e-mail. This has saved the chapter around half of the money budgeted for the newsletter.

The Texas Society is attempting the same due to budget woes. Our State Secretary Bill Marrs is asking all of our 2400 plus members who can to provide him their e-mail address. He has sent messages to all District VPs and Chapter Presidents. The State will have enough money to mail one more hard copy to about half of our members this summer. The Fall Texas Compatriot may just be available electronically.

I would like all of you who currently receive our Chapter Newsletter by e-mail to subscribe to the TXXSAR notification system. This system will alert you to the postings of the Texas Compatriot and other news from our State Society. How to subscribe is detailed in the May 1, 2009 Texas Compatriot that is now posted on the TXSSAR Website (<http://www.txssar.org/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi/list/memb/>).

Our Society is not the only non-profit organization to experience financial problems with the downturned economy. Please help your SAR out.

Happy Birthday

MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Ron Barker Byron Basham John Ives, Jr. Ken Korthauer Rex McLain, III Jeffrey Meadows David O'Neal Cannon Pritchard	Scott Banewski Douglas Harper Charles Lightfoot Walter McCaine Woody Reese	John Albright Gerald Green Jonathan Marshall Robert Marshall Jim Mitchell Kim Morton Ross Partlow	Henry Marshall Jeffrey Meadows James McKim Richard Shanks

(Continued from page 1)

Many national organizations are represented in the medal presentations; the Scottish Rite, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Order of the Purple Heart, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Retired Military Officers Association, the Tuskegee Airmen, The Sons of the American Revolution and others. The Officers and NCO's who command the JROTC Units select only their best cadets to receive these national awards and they like to have members of these organizations present their medals.

The SAR Bronze JROTC Medal is special. It is one of only two medals from national organizations that the United States Congress has approved for wearing on a JROTC uniform, a ROTC uniform, or United States Military uniforms. Each year I see a cadet wearing our medal, which I presented to them the year before, at a High School JROTC Awards ceremony. You can find more information about our ROTC program on the national web site.

We have one more meeting before summer, Thursday, May 21, 2009, at 6:30 p. m. Our speaker will be Joe Allen "Doc" Rice, PhD American Literature and a member of my first chapter, Paul Carrington. Also, I expect Kyle Martin, the Eagle Scout we sponsored this year, and his dad Keith, to be at the meeting. I have a chapter award to present to Kyle. If you have not been to a meeting for awhile, please join us. We have an excellent speaker and a chance to honor our youth.

**Thank you
Larry Stevens**



Members receive a gift of "Black Powder Candy" at the March meeting (l-r) Conni Barker, Larry Stevens, Tom Lawrence, Ron Barker



TXSSAR President and PineyWoods Member Judge Tom Lawrence at the PineyWoods Meeting on March 12, 2009.

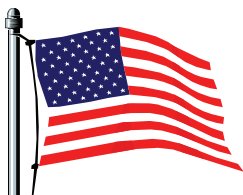


Fifer Ray Cox received a shirt titled "Fife & Drum" at the March 12, 2009 meeting

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Sons of the American Revolution

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Texas Society,
Sons of the American Revolution
P. O. Box 6524, Kingwood, TX 77325



We're on the Web

www.txssar.org/PineyWoods

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Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution
P.O. Box 6524
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TO THE POSTMASTER
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**RSVP FOR THE MAY 21, 2009 GUEST SPEAKER/DINNER MEETING
At Homewood Suites, Kingwood Park Dr. Kingwood TX 6:30 PM**

**Please respond with the number of people attending and their names by Friday, May 15th.
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.**