



Pine Shavings

PineyWoods Chapter #51
Texas Society of Sons of the American Revolution



May 2012

Volume 22, Issue 5



Dear Compatriots,

Consider: May, 241 years past.

“No stately column marks the hallowed place
Where silent sleeps, unurned, their sacred dust -
The first free martyrs of a glorious race,
Their fame a people’s wealth, a nation’s trust.

“Above their rest the golden harvest waves,
The glorious stars stand sentinel on high,
While in sad requiem near their turfless graves
The great Alamance murmurs moaning by.

“But holier watchers here their vigils keep
Than storied urn or monumental stone;
For love and justice guard their dreamless sleep
And plenty smiles above their bloody home.

“Immortal youth shall crown their deathless fame,
And as their country’s glories still advance,
Shall brighter glow, o’er all the earth thy name,
Our first-fought fields for freedom – Alamance.”

This poem was written by Seymour Whiting years after the fight and long before there was a monument marking the bloodied field of battle at Alamance

Creek, North Carolina in 1771. Historians continue to debate whether this was the first fight of the American Revolution or just an insurrection of some local colonial farmers over taxation and corruption of the British Governor William Tryon. On that day the battle was short and brutal - the British won. For the colonials, the fuse was lit and would not be extinguished.

Our meeting this month celebrates American history teachers. Our guests include Judge Tom Lawrence, sponsor of the “Tom and Betty Lawrence Outstanding American History Teacher Award”, and the winner of the award, Mr. Michael Block of Strake Jesuit High School, who was sponsored by our PineyWoods Chapter. We will also be inducting new members. God bless and hope to see you there.

Larry H. Blackburn, PhD

President

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PineyWoods - Meetings - 2012

May 17—Member/Guest	Sep 20 — Member/Guest
Jun -- No Meeting	Oct 18—Member Only
Jul —No Meeting	Nov 15—Member/Guest
Aug 16—Member Only	Dec 20—Member Only <i>(tentative date)</i>

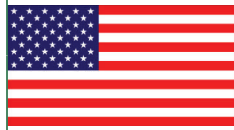
MEETING LOCATION

**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.

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

President
Larry Blackburn
Lblackburn@eereed.com

1st Vice President
Ben Stallings
Bbstallings@gmail.com

2nd Vice President
Gordon Severance
gordonbseverance@sbcglobal.net

Secretary
John Beard
Johnbeard@suddenlink.net

Treasurer
Greg Goulas
greg.red.river@att.net

Chancellor
Allan Henshaw
Allan_henshaw@aigag.com

Genealogist
Kim Morton
genmorton@usa.net

Registrar
Larry Stevens
wardtracker@aol.com

Historian
James Mitchell

Chaplain
Cannon Pritchard
cannon1@livingston.net

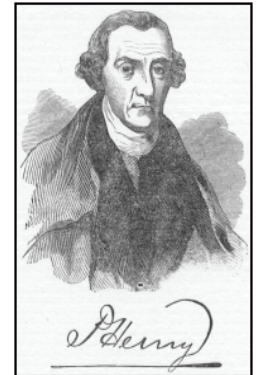
Sgt. at Arms
John Beard
Johnbeard@suddenlink.net

Newsletter Editor
Larry Stevens
wardtracker@aol.com

Web Master
Ray Cox
coxmr@earthlink.net

This Month in the Revolution

May 29, 1765 — Patrick Henry, a newly elected member of the Virginia House of Burgess, within the first two weeks of his term introduced the “Virginia Stamp Act Resolutions.” To rally support for his resolutions Henry was reported to have said, "Caesar had his Brutus, Charles I his Cromwell, and George III... (Henry was interrupted by cries from the opposition)... may profit by their example. If this be treason, make the most of it." There was some opposition to his speech and he was said to have offered a weak apology. Thus began a very famous career as a Burgess and Revolutionary.



May 10, 1773— The Tea Act. This is often spoken of as the straw that broke the camel’s back. It was another of the British “protectionist” measures designed to help an influential British company, The East India Company, which had a surplus of tea. The tea was to be offered to the Colonists at bargain prices. These prices undercut Colonial importers like John Hancock. This act served as a spark to light the fire of the revolutionaries.

20 May 1777— Treaty of Dewitt’s Corner— This treaty ended the Cherokee Wars of 1776-1777 in the Carolinas. In 1776, with British encouragement, the Cherokees, in unity with the Shawnee, Delaware and Mohawks raided the frontiers of the Carolinas, Georgia and Virginia. However, Col. Andrew Williamson, with both militia and Continentals, waged a campaign against the Indians. Most of the Indian Towns east of the mountains were decimated. They then joined with North Carolina troops and attacked the Cherokee towns in Georgia with the same result. Indians were captured and enslaved. This led to a treaty with the Cherokee at DeWitt’s Corner in SC. Boundary lines were set between Indian and Colonial lands. This ended the Cherokee participation in the war.



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)

Approved:

James Liepman - National 183201

Mark Liepman - National 183202

John Taylor - Approved certificate not received

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

In the instance of the long pending application for Compatriot Taylor, though the proofs seemed solid, in the end it was more expeditious to change the patriot

ancestor. This was done and his application was approved speedily.

It is hoped that the additional information submitted on the Baron Schneider application will finally respond to all of the questions regarding his service and residency. This application has been plagued with too many ancestors of the same name in Pennsylvania during the Revolution.

There are several new prospective members working on collecting their proofs. It seems that SAR in Texas is alive and well.

For those members who wish to prepare Supplemental applications Ray Cox has offered copies of his application software to PW members. The applications must be printed on official SAR watermarked paper and be reviewed by the chapter and state registrar.

New Member Induction

At our May meeting we will be inducting the following new members.

David Work Ancestor—Zarah Curtis of Pvt/Cpl Continental Line Connecticut Dragoons

Mark Liepmann Ancestor — Ebenezer McIntosh of Boston Mass

James Liepman, SR Memorial Member—Ancestor —Ebenezer McIntosh

Our Patriots

As patriot ancestors go, every member has one that is interesting, courageous and sometimes even colorful. They were not the sit on the fence kind of people for the most part. They wanted change, and they wanted to help that happen. They did that in so many ways including providing money, providing food, and providing military service. As a feature in issues to come the chapter's patriot ancestors will be highlighted briefly. We are starting this issue with the patriot ancestor of the Liepmann family, Ebenezer McIntosh.

Ebenezer McIntosh

Ebenezer McIntosh was born in 1737 in Boston. Very little is known about his family. His family moved around a bit looking for work. They lived in Boston and Wretham, Mass. McIntosh served in the French Indian War for about eight months and was at the Battle of Ticonderoga in 1758.

He was a shoe maker by trade and worked in Boston. He was a very influential part of the Irish community there. Therefore, when the Stamp Act of 1765 incited

tempers in Boston, his was one that flared. Many historians credit Ebenezer with being the organizing force behind much of the violent reaction to the Stamp Act in Boston. As things heated up, the "Loyall Nine" a group of tradesmen opposed to the Stamp Act, looked up the influential McIntosh. They recruited him and his mob to demonstrate against the Stamp Act. The Loyal Nine evolved into the Sons of Liberty.

The McIntosh-led mob was credited with hanging stamp distributor Andrew Oliver in effigy at the Liberty Tree and attacking the house of Lt. Gov Thomas Hutchinson. Legend has it he often dressed in a gold-laced coat and carried a rattan cane and speaking trumpet. It is also said that he controlled the mob completely, able to silence them by holding up a finger. After a lull McIntosh was active again at the Boston Tea Party. In 1774, fearing for his safety and that of his family, he moved to North Haverhill, NH. He served under Gates in the North Army in 1777. It seems he led a relatively quiet life as a shoemaker in North Haverhill after the Revolution. Ebenezer McIntosh died in North Haverhill in 1816.



At the March meeting Brent Monteleone was sworn in as a member of the VanZandt chapter in Arlington. At that time President Beard did not have his membership certificate. At the April meeting, President Larry Blackburn (far right) and Past President John Beard presented Compatriot Monteleone with his membership certificate. He has applied for dual membership in our chapter so that he can become active in SAR locally.

JROTC Award Presentations

Activity has already begun in our annual award presentations of the Bronze JROTC medals and certificates. We were so pleased to hear the letter of appreciation for Compatriot Goulas' presentation at Summerwood High. President Blackburn shared this at the last meeting. The following PineyWoods Compatriots have made or will be making presentations: John Beard, Larry Blackburn, Ray Cox, Greg Goulas, Jeff Meadows, Kim Morton, Cannon Pritchard and Larry Stevens. We have awarded a record twenty-five medals this year. Please send photos and stories for the newsletter.



Compatriot Jeff Meadows made the JROTC Medal and certificate presentation to Cadet of Lamar High JROTC Robert Herrera on Saturday, April 7 at the Houston Club



Larry Stevens presented the Bronze JROTC medals and certificates at Splendora and New Caney. Pictured above left: Cadet 1st Lt Irvin Spellman New Caney; right: Cadet Capt. Christian Glau of Splendora

Jimmy Gees' Menu Survey

A request for information was sent out last month in order to perfect the menu at our meetings. Members were asked to complete an online survey of potential menu items for our member guest meetings. Only twelve members/guests have responded thus far. Without additional input our menu will be set using these results. See results below:

Starters:

Italian Salad	5 votes
Chicken & Sausage Gumbo	4 votes
Shrimp Gumbo	1 vote
Crawfish Bisque	1 vote
American Field Salad	1 vote

Entrees:

Broiled Catfish	3 votes
Fried Catfish	3 votes
Shrimp Po Boy	3 votes
Chicken Creole	2 votes
Hamburger Steak	1 vote

Dessert:

Bread Pudding	5 votes
Chocolate Brownie	7 votes

If you have not taken the survey you are urged to do so before our next meeting, Thursday May 17th.

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



Color Guard & Community Events



VIETNAM MEMORIAL

The TXSSAR Color Guard is invited to the 4th annual Color Guard Memorial Day Breakfast at 8:30 AM, May 28, 2012 to be held at the 61st Street Diner in Galveston Tx. This event is sponsored by the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter #1 and hosted by Compatriot George Dersheimer.

After breakfast we will assemble at the Vietnam Memorial, Moody Gardens for a presentation and calling of the roll of the fallen heroes of Galveston County. We will not post the colors.

All are invited into the hotel for further refreshments after the Memorial Ceremonies are concluded.

Please reply for head count
Fraternally, George Dersheimer.
DERSH1@AOL.COM

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

Memorial Day

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: Memorial Day Posting of the Colors at the Vietnam Memorial Garden. [see story to the left]

4th of July

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

At the New Caney JROTC Awards ceremony the cadets performed the "empty table" ceremony with a twist. Instead of a single chair and plate, they had cadets march to the table wearing a hat from each branch of the military services. They stood in reverence as each came to the table and then put the "covers" at each place. It was so moving. It is so wonderful to see our young honor the memory of those who have gone before.



NSSAR ANNUAL CONVENTION PHOENIX

The 122nd Annual Congress for the sons of the American Revolution will meet at the Arizona Biltmore Resort with registration beginning on Friday July 6, 2012. If you register before June 15th the fee is \$295.00 which includes the Host Society Reception, the Sunday Memorial service, the Youth Awards Luncheon on Monday July 9th, the formal President General Banquet Tuesday evening, and the formal Installation Banquet Wednesday evening where our officers for the year will be introduced and sworn in. Texas is the largest state society so is allowed the most delegate votes; about 51. Any TXXSAR member in good standing can attend the National Congress and be a registered voting delegate. If you plan to attend, please contact your Chapter President Larry Blackburn, so he can notify our state Secretary. The general sessions at the Congress are where the annual business of the society is conducted. Any business requiring the approval of the SAR Membership is introduced on the floor during the meeting. The slate of new officers is read and is approved by the delegates. If there are any nominations for candidates not on the proposed list, these are made with a first and second from the floor. All run-offs for contested offices are by secret ballots. Each delegate votes and determines the winner. Members vote to accept or reject By-Laws or other such proposals. There are few National Committees that meet during the Congress. National Committees meet at the Leadership Meetings in Louisville.

Check on the NSSAR website for the registration form.



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!

Our parade will form up opposite the Liberty Bell Pavilion, march to Chestnut St. in front of Independence Hall, turn up the center of the Independence Mall, cross Market Street, cross Arch Street and move to the front of the Constitution Center where a platform and podium will be set up where we will conduct our program if weather permits. If not, we will go inside the Center.

There will be a brief ceremony on Chestnut Street in front of Independence Hall as we march past the site where the document was signed in 1787.

Buses will be provided for transportation from the hotel to Independence Hall and return. All SAR members registered at the hotel OR signed on for the buffet and banquet may use the busses. Ladies in colonial garb are welcome at the parade. The busses we are using are school busses not luxury liners. Ladies in attendance should be aware that nearby King of Prussia Mall is one of the best in the country.

All individual guardsmen in uniform, but without a unit, are more than welcome to march with the Philadelphia Continental detail. We welcome all and all will march. (National Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme will be coordinating the National Color Guard participation).

If you have already made your hotel reservation and note there has been a hotel name change, don't fret. The change is in name only. The Hotel remains the same, only under new management, and the contract signed earlier will be honored by the new owner. The Dolce property had been acquired by the Hilton Hotel chain which had built and operated the property originally many years ago. The new name of the hotel is Double Tree by Hilton.

Registration Form is on the NSSAR website.

Rebellion : April 19, 1775, "The First Longest Day in American History"

The Lexington Massachusetts Militia, really a training band dating to Puritan times, had mustered before today and been confronted by the British regulars. There had been no muskets fired and all went peacefully about their ways. The towns inland of Boston learned the British were marching out to seize arms and powder from stores believed to be at Concord and other towns. Captain John Parker, a veteran of the French and Indian Wars, summoned his "band" when learning British Colonel Francis Smith was marching his force of Redcoats up to road to Lexington. All stores of arms and powder were hidden out of town, and Parker and his men, a good fourth of which were related to Parker, retired to Buckham Tavern to wait. Early morning, April 19, 1775, would be the beginnings of a long day. Parker wanting to know where the British were had sent out scouts. At 4:15 am, Thaddeus Bowman galloped his horse up to the tavern and said the British were coming and were right behind him. At first light, John Parker lined his 80 men up on Lexington Green in parade formation and not blocking the road. The band had not long to wait as Major Pitcairn's regulars marched into town. Seeing Parker and his men in parade formation and armed, the British companies attempted to surround Parker. Parker later recalled he had ordered his men to disperse, not to fire, and when he did so he saw the regulars charge his men, firing and killing eight with no provocation. Colonel Smith, hearing the shots, rode to the Green with his grenadiers, surveyed the scene and ordered a drummer to sound assembly. Once the situation was under control and allowing his light infantry to fire a victory salute, Colonel Smith continued on the road Concord.

A mile and a half outside of Concord, his advance spied a militia force of about 250. Concord Militia commander John Barrett, realizing they were greatly outnumbered returned to Concord, held a quick meeting, and moved to a ridge overlooking town above the North Bridge. Colonel Smith, following General

Gage's orders, secured the South and the North Bridges and ordered a search the town. He sent 4 companies north of the North Bridge to look for arms at the Barrett farm and other locations provided to him by Loyalists spies. In Concord, near the South Bridge, the Redcoats found Ephraim Jones' tavern door was barred and forced him to open at gunpoint. Major Pitcairn knew weapons were buried on the property from spies and forced Jones to show them. Three 24 pound cannon were dug up. The British smashed the trunnions on the cannon so they could not be mounted. During the search, citizens of Concord managed to dump cases of lead musket balls and barrels of flour into the ponds which were recovered after the British left. Pitcairn's men found and set on fire gun carriages at the Concord Meeting House and the fires began to spread. Barrett and his men saw the smoke and decided to try and save the town. His Concord Minutemen had been joined by minutemen companies from Acton, Bedford, and Lincoln. The British companies guarding the North Bridge felt exposed due to their small numbers and retreated across the bridge, and began forming for "street fighting" along the wall and streets. Seeing this, Barrett and his officers decided to march into town. He gave orders not to fire unless fired upon. Marching in a long file two abreast, they started down the road towards North Bridge. The British were just 50 yards distant on the other bank. About halfway, the British regulars began firing after one of their men discharged his musket. Redcoats



shot at the front of the American line mortally wounding Captain Isaac Davis and Private Abner Hosmer of Acton. Barrett ordered his minutemen to fire and four of the eight British officers were killed outright. Seeing their position untenable, the British began a hasty retreat into town. Colonel Smith hearing the musket fire took two grenadier companies to investigate and ran headlong into the retreating companies. Able to see Barrett's forces, he stopped his men and rode forward a short distance with his offi-

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

cers. He was concerned for the fate of his four companies in the country side north of North Bridge but saw them returning. They marched back into town under the watchful eyes of the minutemen. The British continued to search the town but after stopping for lunch, Colonel Smith ordered the march back to Boston.

Colonel Smith ordered some of his men to ride the ridge following the road back to Lexington to protect him from the nearly 1,000 minutemen who came to Concord. This ridge ended at Merriam's Corner where a small bridge crossed a stream. The Redcoats had to form three abreast to pass over the bridge.

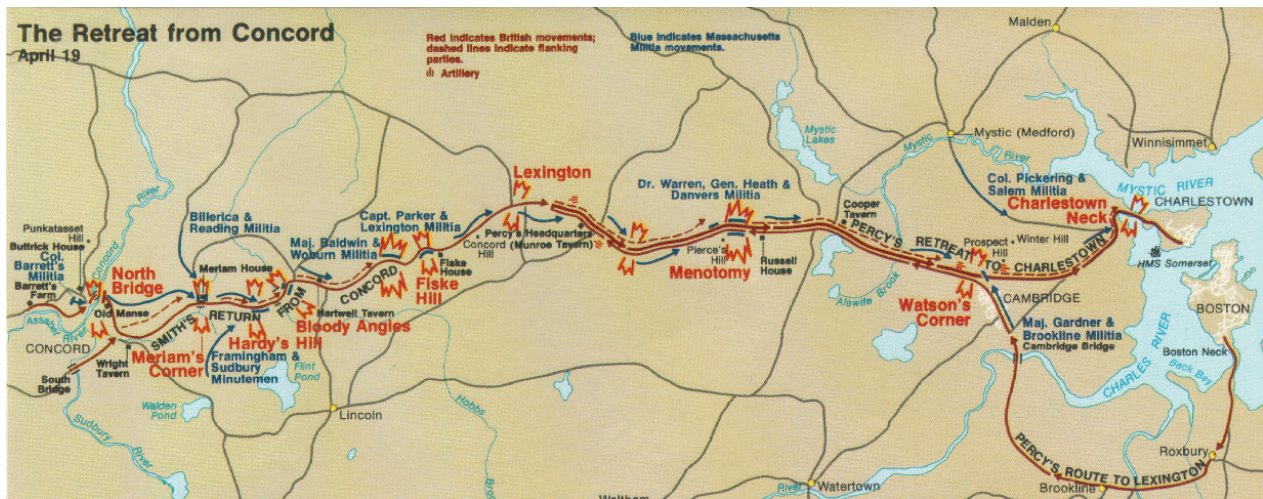
Minutemen from Reading watched and when the last British soldiers were crossing the bridge they fired their muskets, twice, killing two regulars and wounding some, the British returned the fire and Colonel Smith again dispatched his outer guard to fend off the minutemen.

Minutemen ambushing continued along the road to

Lexington; Brooks Hill, Bloody Angle, William Smith's and Ephriam and Samuel Hartwell's properties near Lexington, Fiske Farm, Russell's Yard at Menotomy, Watson's Corner, and Charleston, where at last the British found relief, at about 2:30 pm, with the arrival of Earl Hugh Percy (Smithson). Over a fourth of the British officers had been killed along the road from Concord back to Boston. This was an American victory.

On April 20th, Gage ordered troops under Percy back to Lexington to secure the area. The troops marched out of Boston to the tune of "Yankee Doodle" meant to insult the colonist. By Bunker Hill, only two months later, this tune became a popular anthem. George Washington, after the battles, wrote, "*The once happy and peaceful plains of America are either to be drenched in blood or inhabited by slaves. Sad alternative! But can a virtuous man hesitate in his Choice?*"

Larry G. Stevens.



After fighting broke out in April 1775, Washington appeared at the Second Continental Congress in military uniform, signaling that he was prepared for war. Washington had the prestige, the military experience, the charisma and military bearing, the reputation of being a strong patriot, and he was supported by the South, especially Virginia. Although he did not explicitly seek the office of commander and even claimed that he was not equal to it, there was no serious competition. Congress created the Continental Army on June 14, 1775; the next day, on the nomination of John Adams of Massachusetts, Washington was appointed Major General and elected by Congress to be Commander-in-chief. There has always been controversy surrounding the question: "Was Washington's appearance in military uniform a signal that he wanted the commander's position, or, was the uniform the only clean thing he had to wear that day?"