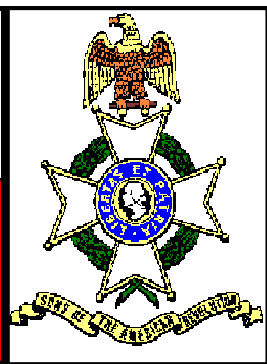




Pine Shavings



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

May 2013

Volume 23, Issue 5



Compatriots,

It is has been a fast moving month so far with many activities accomplished, and many more for the month of May.

We had a very productive Member's meeting April 27th at the home of Gordon and Diana Severance, and made excellent progress on all of the upcoming business items. Thank you very much to Gordon and Diana for their hospitality, and for the delicious

breakfast provided by Diana!

I would like to offer my special thanks to Compatriot Larry Blackburn for his tireless efforts in the JROTC awards program. Larry has organized our Chapter for the large number of awards ceremonies, scheduled us for the events, and handled a large number of high schools himself. Our sincere thanks to Larry and all those who have been able to present at the awards ceremonies. We are also presenting Flag Certificates to the schools, which is new for this year and an outstanding way to recognize the JROTC program themselves and also those who run the programs.

Our May 16th meeting at Jimmy G's will be our last meeting before breaking for the summer. We will be having a very special program this month given by our very own Genealogist, Mr. Kim Morton. Please be sure to come, bring a guest and enjoy the program.

Thank you and God Bless the United States of America.

Best Regards, Ben Stallings

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Piney Woods - Meetings - 2013

May 16th Member Guest
June - July No meetings
August 15th Member only

Location
6:30 p. m. at Jimmy G's,
307 N. Sam Houston Parkway,
Houston TX 77060

September 19th Member Guest
October 17th Member only
November 21st Member/Guest
December TBA Member

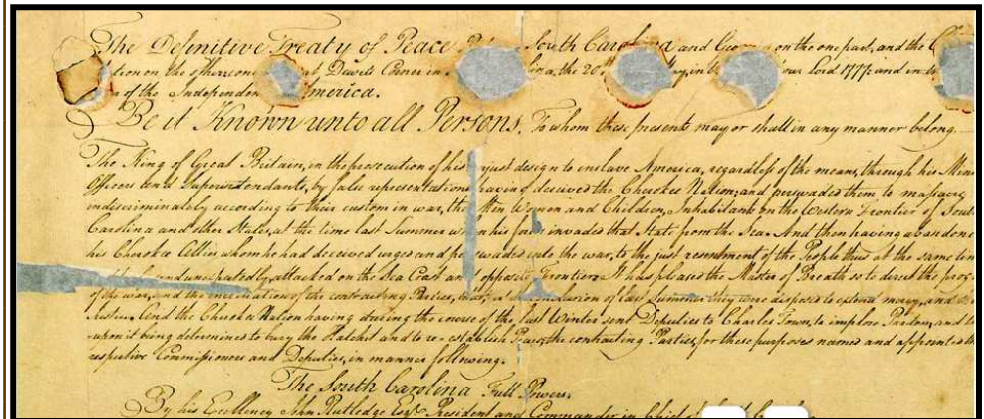
RSVP FOR THE MEETING

Please respond with the number of people attending and their names by Wednesday before the meeting date. Please RSVP ASAP, to Ben Stallings bbstallings@gmail.com or Larry Stevens wardtracker@aol.com. **NOTE THAT THIS IS A MEMBERS /GUEST MEETING.**

This Month in the Revolution

May 10, 1775 - The Second Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia, And on the same day the Green Mountain Boys seize Fort Ticonderoga

May 20, 1777 - Treaty of DeWitt's Corner, SC, Cherokee lose most of their lands east of the mountains. The Cherokee tribes had sided with the British early in the war. This was probably because the British government



had been vigorously enforcing the treaty with them, trying to keep settlers off of their lands. Unfortunately, the British did not have the means to protect the Cherokee as the war in America progressed. With their towns burned and warriors killed, the Cherokee had little option but to accept the terms dictated by South Carolina. The terms were those offered to a defeated county. They lost most of their valuable land, with the boundary line set at the crest of the Oconee Mountains. It also dictated that the American law took precedence over Indian law.

May 20, 1778 - Battle of Barren Hill Pennsylvania, Lafayette with 2,000 men and 50 Oneida Indians successfully evaded British onslaught. General George Washington while wintering in Valley Forge was worried that the British might attack him there. He sent Lafayette scout the British to determine if they were headed there or to New York. Lafayette and his men took a position on Barron Hill, midway between the British and Americans. The British discovered their position and decided to attack.. On May 19, a British force of 5,000 men under Maj Gen. James Grant positioned themselves between the Americans and their retreat option to Valley Forge, then moved to flank them. At his outpost Patriot Allen McLane with his independent company and 50 Oneida learned the British Plan. His men attacked Grant giving the American force the chance to escape with a minimum of injuries.



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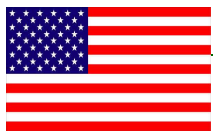
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EVENTS



National : www.sar.org

July 5-10, 2013 NSSAR National Congress—Kansas City, MO



State: www.txssar.org

Oct 11-13 TXSSAR BOM Meeting (see TXSSAR website)
Wyndam Hotel, Dallas, TX

Members Meeting, Saturday, April 27, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by President Ben Stallings. He thanked Gordon and Diana Severance for allowing us to meet in the beautiful home. Members present were: John Beard, Greg Goulas, Jim Jones, Kim Morton, Gordon Severance, Ben Stallings, Larry Stevens, and Dist.8 VP John Thompson.

Beard - although the chapter approved two year terms for officers that the officers must be installed each year in order to be in compliance with our state constitution and bylaws. All agreed.

Treasurer report, saying there is \$1431.40 in the bank with a check outstanding of \$235.00. John will present a proposed new budget next meeting.

Chapter approved donating \$50.00 to the Patriot Fund.

Larry Stevens said the Galvez Chapter was asking for donations for the addition of a statue of Bernardo de Galvez on horseback on Galveston Island and made a motion for the chapter to donate \$100.00. This was approved by the board.

Jim Jones said that in the past the chapter has donated \$250.00 to the CAAH at Louisville and request we do again. This motion passed.

Registrar Larry Stevens said he had one completed application waiting for the applicant to contact him and one new request for membership.

Two supplementals approved: Larry Blackburn for Ancestor *Whitaker* NC and one for Larry Stevens for *Wm Kirby*, and he has one to type for Ben Stallings.

Ben Stallings said he had the approved supplemental for Beard and another for Stevens and would present the Stars in the next meeting. John Beard said he is working on a Member Transfer from Georgia to PineyWoods who lives in Humble. Four Supplemental Stars to the May 16th chapter meeting for presentations since Joe could not be here today

JROTC presentations are ongoing and will complete about May 23rd. Flag Certificates are being presented to each school. John Beard will work with Larry Blackburn to finalize our presentation report and update contact information

April Chapter Meeting

A summary of the topics from this meeting are presented on the previous page. We were so honored to be hosted by Gordon and Diana Severance. Diana fixed a wonderful breakfast! We thank them so much for their wonderful contributions to our chapter.



President Ben Stallings



Gordon Severance and John Beard

Jim Jones, John Thompson and Ben Stallings



April Chapter Meeting



Greg Goulas



Kim Morton and Jim Jones

John Thompson, Gordon Severance, John Beard, Jim Jones (Back) Larry Stevens Kim Morton (shoulder)



Junior Reserve Officers Training Corp (JROTC)

PineyWoods Compatriots continue to attend high school JROTC end of year awards ceremonies and military balls to present the young cadets with the SAR Bronze JROTC medals. Photos of these presentations are presented in this issue. We thank all the Compatriot presenters, and especially Larry Blackburn for coordinating this activity.



Compatriot Jim Jones awards Cadet 1st Lt John A Medina of Aldine Army JROTC the SAR Bronze Medal and Certificate

Above: JROTC Medal recipient Cadet Major Nancy Garcia from Crosby High School Bottom left: Compatriot Jeff Meadows presents the medal to Lamar High Cadet; Below right: Compatriot John Beard presents the medal to Cadet Nicholas Herci at Kingwood Park High School



Flag Certificates



Compatriot Jim Jones pictured presenting a SAR Flag Certificate to a representative of Aldine Ninth Grade Campus



Pictured above: At Lamar High School, Compatriot Jeff Meadows presenting the Flag Certificate to the Administrator on duty, Dr. Gary W. Patterson, who received the award on behalf of the Principal, Dr. James A. McSwain.



Pictured at left: Larry Stevens presenting the SAR Flag Certificate to Kingwood Park High School JROTC Cadet Thomas.

Piney Woods Military Service Award



Compatriots Larry Blackburn, John Beard and Larry Stevens attended the Kingwood Park JROTC Military Awards Night in Kingwood. John Beard presented the JROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate and Larry Stevens presented the school with a Flag Certificate.

In a reverse of usual order, Kingwood Park JROTC presented PineyWoods with the above pictured award to honor the military service of our members. It was such an honor to receive acknowledgement from what will be undoubtedly be members of the future leaders of our community and country.

The text of the award is at right.

HONORING GREAT AMERICANS

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER #51
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
Charter was established February 3, 1994

The PineyWoods Chapter is comprised of members that have served our nation and are continuing to serve us today. The PineyWoods Chapter participates as mentors for local school events, performs Grave Marking Ceremonies for veterans, Naturalization Ceremonies and parades.

The cadets of TX-20092 celebrate their courage and Service today by honoring them as Great Amemricans!
We sincerely appreciate all the service that the members of the PineyWoods Chapter #51 do and all their efforts to keep America Great.

Sincerest Appreciation
TX-20092 AFJROTC Corp of Cadets

Shay's Rebellion

In 1786, a populist up rose against oppressive debt collecting and taxes began in Central and Western Massachusetts. Daniel Shays, an American Revolution soldier, was one of the leaders of this revolt.

Daniel Shays was the son of Irish immigrants Patrick and Margaret Shays and, in 1772, he married Abigail Gilbert and settled on a small

farm near Brookfield, Massachusetts. Daniel joined the militia in 1775 serving in the Boston area at the Battle of Bunker Hill and then at the Battle of Saratoga. Daniel rose to the rank of Captain in the 5th Massachusetts by 1777. Wounded in 1780, he resigned his rank and went home unpaid for his service. Arriving home, he learned he had been summoned to court for unpaid debts. Shays had not been paid and since he had not worked, had no money. The court was not sympathetic. In desperation Daniel sold a gift he had been given by General Lafayette, a Sword, for a few dollars, to pay his debts. His peers frowned upon this act.

Shays discovered by talking to friends and neighbors that they too had suffered a similar fate. In meeting called Commoner Meetings, these men realized they had all been treated unfairly when released from duty and, the Eastern Business men were attempting to squeeze all the money they could to pay their war debts incurred during the War to European investors. At first the rural western communities petitioned the Boston Legislature but the eastern dominated Legislature ignored them. One of the requests in each petition was for the issuance of paper money. The eastern Merchants, such as James Bowdoin, opposed this saying that issuing money is inflationary and would devalue the debts owed them. Governor John Hancock, apparently realized trouble coming, promptly resigned in 1785. James Bowdoin, who had lost

elections to Hancock, became the new Massachusetts Governor. Bowdoin stepped up civil actions to collect debts and, to make matters worse, the legislature raised property taxes to raise funds to pay Massachusetts' portion of foreign debt.

The rural debtors took action on August 29, 1786

when they marched, Shays with them, on Northampton and prevented the county court from meeting. They said they were seeking relief from judicial practices that were taking their lands and properties. On September 2nd Bowdoin issued a proclamation denouncing the protest but took no action. September 5, 1786, the County Court of Worcester was shut down by protesters. The county

Just to set the stage you may wish to picture yourself in the following situation:

- *You have left your family to "mind the farm," your frail wife managing the crops, the animals and the family without you while you go of to war*
- *You have served the Patriot cause faithfully, maybe even during the starving and cold winters which were characterized by Valley Forge.*
- *You have seen friends, brothers, cousins, fathers die from balls, bayonets, starving and disease, but you soldiered on.*
- *You returned home to children who may not remember you, wives worn with hardship, and **debts**.*
- *You also may return with wounds or missing limbs.*
- *You are not paid for your service, your farm is now in debt due to your absence — you are desperate for a solution — Things were supposed to be better without the British rule!*

militia, sympatric to the protestors refused to respond. On November 28, a force of about 300 rode to Gorton to arrest Job Shattuck and other protestors. Shattuck was wounded and arrested with others. The event solidified the western ruralist and they began plans to overtake the Massachusetts State government.

January 25, 1787, the rebels planned to take the Springfield Armory. Shays, Luke Day and other partisan leaders organized forces by establishing regiments with democratically elected leaders; while in the east the state was organizing a militia commanded namely by Generals William Shepard and General Benjamin Lincoln. Shepard had surrounded the Armory at Springfield at the Governor's orders. Planning an attack on three fronts, Daniel Shays,

Luke Day and Eli Parsons each lead their forces into position and readied to attack on the 25th. However, Luke Day changed this at the last minute and sent a message Shays. This was intercepted by Shepard's men, so when Shays and Parsons attacked, Shepard knew the third front would not and concentrated solely on Shays and Parsons some 1,500 men. Shepard fired warning shots over their heads and had two cannon fire grape shot into the rebels killing four and wounding twenty men. Shays and the rebels retreated to Petersham and camped. Unknowingly, General Lincoln, who had pursued all night during a sleet storm, reached the Shays' camp and attacked. More than 4,000 persons signed confessions in exchange for amnesty and several hundred were arrested and indicted on charges of rebellion but most were pardoned. Eighteen men were sentenced to death, including Shays, and two, John Bly and Charles Rose were hung December 6, 1787. Shays was pardoned in 1788 and he returned from hiding in Vermont. Branded an anarchist by the press, Shays returned to farming and heavy drinking, and died September 29, 1825 in Sparta, New York. He did receive a prorated pension for the five years he served.

When researching and reading about Shays' Rebellion, you get a clearer picture on what was happening in the newly free colonies. You see the disparities between the classes in terms of wealth and status; and also political representation. Thomas Jefferson, who was serving as the Ambassador to France at the time, refused to be alarmed by Shays' Rebellion. He argued to a friend that a little rebellion now and then is a good thing. *"The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure."* George Washington, who had been calling for constitutional reform for many years, wrote to Henry Lee, *"You talk, my good sir, of employing influence to appease the present tumults in Massachusetts. I know not where that influence is to be found, or, if attainable, that it would be a proper remedy for the disorders. Influence is not government. Let us have a government by which our lives, liberties, and properties will be secured, or let*



us know the worst at once."

The framers of the US Constitution did not take this rebellion lightly. At the time of the rebellion, the weaknesses of the federal government as constituted under the Articles of Confederation were apparent to many. And, debate was going on throughout the states on the need for a stronger central government; the Federalist arguing for and Anti-Federalist opposing them. Historical opinion is divided on what sort of role the rebellion played in the formation and later ratification of the United States constitution although most scholars agree it played some role, at least temporarily drawing some anti-Federalists to the strong government side. By early 1785 many influential merchants and political leaders were already agreed that a stronger central government was needed. A convention at Annapolis, Maryland, in September 1786 of delegates from five states concluded that vigorous steps needed to be taken to reform the federal government.

In early 1787 John Jay wrote that, "the rural disturbances and the inability of the central government to fund troops in response made "the inefficiency of the Federal government [become] more and more manifest". Henry Knox observed that the uprising in Massachusetts clearly influenced local leaders who had previously opposed a strong federal government.

Federalists cited the rebellion as an example of the confederation government's weaknesses, while opponents such as Elbridge Gerry felt that a federal response to the rebellion would have been even worse than that of the state. Gerry, a merchant speculator and Massachusetts delegate from Essex County, was one of the few convention delegates who refused to sign the new constitution, although his reasons for doing so did not stem from the rebellion.

Whether Shays rebellion had a large impact on the framers of the Constitution is a matter for more discussion and study. But when reading through the next time, keep in mind Shays and his rebel friends and how our Constitution addresses their issue and their actions.

Larry Stevens

Heroine of the Revolution—"Mad Anne" Bailey

A wonderful and lengthy poem by Charles Robb describes the events that led to the 1791 ride of Anne Hennis Bailey some hundred miles one way. Ammunitions were spent after weeks of siege at Fort Lee in the Kanawha Valley so Anne volunteered to go to Fort Savannah at Lewisburg for much needed ammunitions and supplies. Her journey through the wilderness was a success and she is credited with saving the defenders of Fort Lee Fort. Mr. Robb captures this in his epic story of this frontier Heroine.

"Anne Bailey's Ride" by Charles Robb (1861)

Excerpt

*"Thus like some weary, hunted dove
The woman sped through Mountain Cove
The torrent crossed without a bridge
And scaled the heights of Sewell Bridge,
And still the wild, beleaguered road
With heavy tramp the charger trode
Nor paused amid his weary flight
Thoughtout the long and dreary night
And bravely rode the woman there
Where few would venture, few would dare"*

Anne Hennis was born in Liverpool, England about 1742. After her parents died, she traveled to the Colony of Virginia at the age to nineteen, traveling to the home of friends, the Bells, on the Virginia frontier. Not long after she married Richard Trotter, a frontiersman, about 1765.

Life on the frontier was not easy for man, woman or child stated . Virgil A. Lewis in his 1891 book on Anne Bailey.

In 1774, Lord Dunmore mustered militia units from the new District of West Virginia, Montgomery County, Virginia and other western counties, to try to stop the Shawnee raids west of the Blue Ridge. He traveled to Staunton to assist in recruiting. Anne's husband Richard Trotter was among the 250 plus casualties dying 10 October 1774 during the battle against Shawnee forces led by Cornstalk at Point Pleasant.

Wedded at the age of twenty-three, Anne Hennis Trotter was a widow at the age of thirty-two, and so remained for eleven years. From the moment she heard of her husband's death, she resolved to avenge his death. But what could Anne Trotter do. She could not command an army nor bear arms in the wilderness or on the Atlantic sea-

board. After explaining her plans to her neighbor, Mrs. Moses Mann, she left her seven year old son in her care. Anne then hastened away to recruiting stations to urge men to join the militia to protect the frontier settlements. But times had changed. The colonies had revolted against Britain in a fight for freedom. Anne continued traveling to the recruiting stations where she urged enlistments with all the earnestness which her zeal and heroism inspired. Her appeals were first in behalf of the defenseless women and children of the border, who were constantly exposed to the attacks of the savages, and when these were not in immediate danger, she urged men to enlist in the Virginia Lines to fight the British and Indians on the frontier.

Virgil Lewis wrote, "*Clad in buckskin pants, with petticoat, heavy brogan shoes, a man's coat and hat, a belt about the waist in which was worn the hunting-knife, and with rifle on her shoulder, she went from one recruiting station to another and from one muster to another, making her appeals to all whom she met. The whole border, from the Potomac to the Roanoke, was her field of action, and long ere the Revolution closed, the name of Anne Trotter was famous along the border, and her virtue and heroism were extolled by all who knew her*".

In 1785, Anne married John Bailey, A Frontiersman and a Militia Ranger. They moved to Clendenin's Settlement in the Great Kanawha Valley. Here, at Fort Lee, in 1791, Anne made her legendary ride for much needed munitions, completing the ride in both directions.

John Bailey was murdered in 1794 near Point Pleasant, Virginia now West Virginia. Anne remained here until the Treaty of Greenville ending the Northwest Indian wars. When her son moved his family to Gallia County, Ohio, Anne went with him. Known as a great storyteller and teacher she continued traveling until her death in Gallia County, Ohio in 1825.

Larry Stevens

Robb, Charles, "Ann Bailey's Ride," 1861
Lewis, Virgil A., "The Life and Times of Anne Bailey. The Pioneer Heroine of the Great Kanawha Valley," Charleston, WV, Butler Printing Company