



Pine Shavings



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



Dear Fellow Compatriots,

What an active spring we are having at SAR PineyWoods 51 this year. There have been numerous service activities taking place with many members participating.

We are in full swing as far as the JRROTC awards banquets and presenting our certificates and medals to the cadets. It is a pleasure to see all of the fine JRROTC programs in the area and first hand meet the commanders and their dedicated staff. We thank Compatriot Larry Blackburn for his involvement and coordination and organization of the activities.

We will be taking our summer break after the May Member-Guest Meeting, but there will be numerous events to be aware of during the summer. Please watch your email for bulletins. Thank to all of you for making our Chapter the success it is.

**God Bless America,
Compatriot Ben Stallings**

Meetings—2014

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— May, 15th 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

Revolutionary War Timeline

May 1—5 1778 The Battle of Crooked Billet Pennsylvania - in Philadelphia's *Royal Pennsylvania Gazette*, reads as follows:

"On Thursday night last, a small party of the British infantry, dragoons, and Queen's rangers, with a few of Capt. Hoveden's Pennsylvania, and Capt. James's Chester dragoons, left the city about eleven o'clock, and proceeded up the Old York road. About a mile beyond the Billet they fell in with Lacey's brigade of militia, consisting of about 500 men, and immediately attacked them: Lacey, at first, made some appearance of opposition, but, in a few seconds, was thrown into confusion, obliged to retreat with precipitation, and were pursued about 4 miles. They left between 80-100 dead on the field; and on Friday, between 50-60 prisoners, besides waggoners, with 10 of their waggons loaded with baggage, flour, salt, whiskey, &c. were brought in by the troops on their return: What number of rebels were wounded, we have not been able to learn. Besides the above waggons, 3 were burnt after taking out the horses; also all the huts and what baggage could not be brought off. The royal party did not lose a single man on this occasion, and have only 7 men wounded, and 2 horses killed."



May 8, 1778 The Battle of Bordentown Rhode Island - Following the Continental Army's retreat across the Delaware River in December 1776, 2,000 Hessian and Scots troops commanded by Colonel Kurt Von-donop occupied this town. A small band of American's under Colonel Samuel Griffin lured these troops toward Mt. Holly prior to George Washington's attack on Trenton thus contributing to his victory on December 26. The town was pillaged and sections burned by the British on May 8, and June 23, 1778. In May 1778, General Clinton was preparing to evacuate Philadelphia and return to New York via New Jersey. To secure the crossing of the Delaware River, Clinton sent a corps of light infantry to destroy the Pennsylvania Navy that was moored at Bordentown and White Hill (Fieldsboro).

On May 8, 1778, the British Force landed at White Hill, finding a few of the Pennsylvania boats already scuttled. As the British Force marched from White Hill to Bordentown on the Burlington Road, they were met by two companies of militia with an artillery piece. As the British formed, the militia fired one volley and fled into Bordentown. The British immediately marched into Bordentown and destroyed those vessels that had not already been scuttled. Local loyalists directed the British to the homes of Colonel Borden and other influential rebels, which they burned. Their dark deed complete, the British retired to Philadelphia.

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May 25, 1778 Bristol Rhode Island - 500 British and Hessian soldiers, under orders from General Sir Robert Pigot the commander of the British garrison at Newport, Rhode Island landed between Bristol and Warren, destroyed boats and other supplies, and plundered Bristol. Local resistance was minimal and ineffective in stopping the British activities. Five days later 100 soldiers descended on Freetown, where less damage was done because local defenders prevented the British from crossing a bridge.



*Sir Robert Pigot 2nd Baronet
20 Sep 1720 – 1 Aug 1796*

May 30 – June 1, 1778 The Battle of Cobleskill or Cobleskill



Massacre was a raid on the frontier settlement of Cobleskill, New York on May 30, 1778. The battle, having taken place in the modern-day village of Warnerville, NY, marked the beginning of a phase in which Loyalists and Iroquois encouraged and supplied by British authorities in the Province of Quebec, raided and destroyed numerous villages on what was then the United States western frontier of New York and Pennsylvania. A small party of Iroquois entered Cobleskill and drew the local defenders into a trap set by a much larger party of Iroquois and Loyalists under the command of Joseph Brant. After killing a number of the militia and driving off the remainder, Brant's forces destroyed much of the settlement. New York's defenders retaliated against Brant's actions against Cobleskill and other communities by destroying Iroquois villages later in the year, and continental Army forces destroyed more Iroquois villages in a major 1779 expedition.

*Joseph Brant or Thayendanega,
Mohawk
August 1743 – 24 No 1807*



Member News



CONGRATULATIONS

Compatriot Jonathan Beard
PineyWoods Member

Jonathan is graduating from Law School this week. His parents Mary-Claire and John Beard are off to attend graduation and to celebrate the occasion.

We inducted new member Curtis Laird at our April meeting. Curtis is a resident of Dayton. He is also a member of SRT.

Curtis joined SAR on his ancestor, George Thomson (variation Thompson) served in the North Carolina Militia. He began his service in 1776 as a drummer boy and private.

George applied for a pension on October 5, 1833 in Davison Co., NC; and his pension record states that he served with his father Richard from 1776 to 1777. George served until 1781 and was at King's Mountain under Col. Patrick Cleveland in 1780. His pension states he was born in Prince Edward County, Virginia in 1763. George Thomson died on November 28, 1849 in Davison County, North Carolina.

Piney Woods—April Meeting



Kermit Breed, Ben Stallings, Larry Blackburn,



Larry Stevens, Curtis Laird and Bob Cohen



John K. Thompson, John Beard, Charles Rew and Cannon Pritchard



Ben Stallings, Larry Blackburn, Jeffrey LaRochelle, Larry Stevens and Curtis Laird

**April
Meeting**
continued



Back: Curtis Laird, Bob Cohen,
Charles Rew Front:
Ben Stallings & Kermit Breed



Clockwise from 12:
Larry Stevens,
Curtis Laird,
Ben Stallings,
Larry Blackburn
Jeffery La Rochelle



Clockwise:
Bob Cohen, Charles
Rew, John K. Thomp-
son, John Beard,
Cannon Pritchard,
Kermit Breed

JROTC



Ben Stallings at Klein Collins High School



Compatriot John Beard at Humble High School



Compatriot Jeff Meadows at Lamar High School



John K. Thompson at Nimitz High School



Compatriot Larry Stevens at Splendor

Thomas Hardeman – “Overmountain Man” my Ancestor

by Benjamin Stallings

Captain Thomas Hardeman marched with the “Over Mountain Men” and served at the Battle of King Mountain under Colonel John Sevier’s. Tennessee military records state Hardeson served under his friend Captain Bean at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

1833 Jan 23 - Pension file of **William Barron, Washington County Tennessee**. William stated that he

“served under the command of Sergt. John Brooley at Herberd’s Ferry (Va); under command of Sergt. Alexander Neely, Lieut. Frederick Edwards, and Captain Stevens; Joined Col. (William) Preston’s troop: stationed at Rye Cove Fort; spy named Cook, killed by Indians; served under command of Lt. Evans, Capt. Thomas Hardeman, and Col. John Sevier; ...”

The Over the Mountain Men, sometimes called the Over the Mountain Boys, Overmountain Men, were the men in the western militia that lived in the Holston Valley in far western Virginia and Eastern Tennessee, and along the Watauga and the Nolichucky rivers. The militia companies gathered late September 1780 at Sycamore Shoals by Fort Watauga in today’s Elizabethtown, Tennessee.

“On September 25, the militia leaders—including colonels Isaac Shelby, Samuel Phillips, John Sevier, William Campbell, Arthur Campbell, Charles McDowell and Andrew Hampton— assembled their troops on the Watauga River at an outpost called Sycamore Shoals (near present-day Elizabethton, Tenn.). Presbyterian minister Samuel Doak addressed the rifle-toting irregulars from Virginia, Georgia and the Carolinas. “The enemy is marching hither to destroy your homes.... Go forth, then, in the strength of your manhood to the aid of your brethren, the defense of your liberty and the protection of your homes.”
As the makeshift army left Sycamore Shoals, more men joined it. The force had no supply train, no au-



Col. John Sevier

thorization from the Continental Army and no military structure, aside from the militia colonels and a handful of officers chosen en route. The men, most of them mounted, carried what they needed and prodded cattle along the trail for food on the hoof. More hunters than soldiers, most did not carry muskets, preferring the more accurate long-barreled, small-caliber American rifles. Setting off not to fight for a nation but to defend their cabins and patches of cotton and corn, the irregulars headed south in search of Ferguson and his Tory troops.

The militiamen rode or hiked a wilderness road that led across mountains—one more than a mile high—to the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge in North Carolina. At one point on the 330-mile journey, the

army split into two groups, again joining forces near the North Carolina–South Carolina border. Volunteers kept coming. As the army closed to within a few days of its prey, the men numbered more than 1,000.”
 From an article by Thomas B. Allen, Military History Magazine; September 1, 2010



Above: British Major Patrick Ferguson Struck by of volley of musket fire falls dead from his mount.

The Battle of Kings Mountain was a decisive battle between the Patriot and Loyalist militias in the Southern Campaign of the American Revolutionary War. The actual battle took place about 3:00 in the afternoon on October 7, 1780, nine miles south of the present-day town of Kings Mountain, North Carolina in

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rural York County, South Carolina, where the Patriot militia defeated the Loyalist militia commanded by British Major Patrick Ferguson of the 71st Foot.

Ferguson had arrived in North Carolina in early September 1780 with the purpose of recruiting for the Loyalist militia and protecting the flank of Lord Cornwallis' main force. Ferguson issued a challenge to the rebel militias to lay down their arms or suffer the consequences. In response, the Patriot militias led by James Johnston, William Campbell, John Sevier, Joseph McDowell and Isaac Shelby rallied for an attack on Ferguson.

Receiving intelligence on the oncoming attack, Ferguson decided to retreat to the safety of Lord Cornwallis' army. However, the Patriots caught up with the Loyalists at Kings Mountain on the border with South Carolina. Achieving a complete surprise because of a light rain that had fallen, the Patriot militiamen surrounded the Loyalists, attacking first up the north face of King's Mountain. Pushed back twice by Ferguson leading the Loyalists, the third attack on the north slope pushed Ferguson up near the top. At this moment, the patriot militia attacked from the other three sides inflicting heavy casualties. After an hour of battle, Ferguson was fatally shot while trying rally the Loyalist force; after which his men surrendered. Eager to avenge Banastre Tarleton's alleged massacre of the militiamen at the Battle of Waxhaw, the Patriots gave no quarter until the rebel officers re-established control over their men. Although victorious, the Patriots had to retreat quickly from the area for fear of Cornwallis' advance.



Don Troiani's depiction "Col. Cleveland's War Prize October 7, 1780" Col Benjamin Cleveland escorted a woman captured at Kings Mountain; one of two that had accompanied Major Ferguson. The second had left sometime before the battle.

The battle was a pivotal moment in the Southern campaign. The surprising victory over the American Loyalist militia came after a string of rebel defeats at the hands of Lord Cornwallis, and greatly raised the Patriots' morale. With Ferguson dead and his Loyalist militia destroyed, Cornwallis was forced to abandon his plan to invade North Carolina and retreated into South Carolina.

The Battle of Kings Mountain lasted 65 minutes. The Loyalists suffered 290 killed, 163 wounded, and 668 taken prisoner. The Patriot militia suffered 29 killed and 58 wounded. The Patriots had to move out quickly for fear that Cornwallis would advance to meet them. Loyalist prisoners well enough to walk were herded to camps several miles from the battlefield. The dead were buried in shallow graves and wounded were left on the field to die.

Kings Mountain was a pivotal moment in the history of the American Revolution. Coming after a series of disasters and humiliations in the Carolinas—the fall of Charleston and capture of the American army there, the destruction of another American army at the Battle of Camden, the Waxhaw's Massacre—the surprising, decisive victory at Kings Mountain was a great boost to Patriot morale. The Tories of the Carolina Back Country were broken as a military force. Additionally, the destruction of Ferguson's command and the looming threat of Patriot militia in the mountains caused Lord Cornwallis to cancel his plans to invade North Carolina; he instead evacuated Charlotte and retreated to South Carolina. He would not return to North Carolina until early 1781, when he was chasing Nathanael Greene after the Americans had dealt British arms another defeat at the Battle of Cowpens.



Thomas Hardeman (1750-1833)

Thomas Hardeman descended from an old Virginia family. His parents were John Hardeman and Dorothy Edwards. He was the eldest son of ten children. According to a grandson his family was from the Chesapeake area. This grandson traveled back to Virginia with him to visit family in the early nineteenth century. Thomas Hardeman was born on the 8th of January 1750 probably in Albemarle County, Virginia. (*In 1750, Henry Beard sold land to John Hardeman in Albemarle County, Virginia.*) His parents moved into North Carolina when he was young. When he came of age his parents gave him some land there.

He married Mary Perkins in about 1770. She was the daughter of Nicholas Perkins and Bethina Harding. Thomas and Mary Hardeman had fourteen children – two of the children Thomas Jones Hardeman and Sophia Western Hardeman may have been twins. Thirteen of the children lived to adulthood.

Thomas went to the back county of North Carolina as a young man in 1768 with a group of adventurers, including William Bean. He fell in love with this area of the state. After marriage he moved his family into the Washington County area (later Tennessee.) and then by 1780 into the Watauga Settlement. Thomas was a captain in his old friend William Bean's Company of Watauga Riflemen at the battle of King's Mountain. In 1780, Hardeman commanded a company of North Carolina troops against the Cherokee Indian. He received North Carolina Grant Number 17 in 1780.

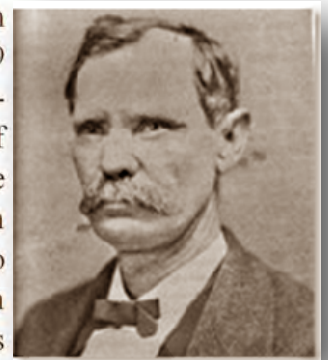
Thomas represented Davison County in the North Carolina House of Commons and North Carolina Convention called to ratify the U.S. Constitution, both in 1788; the legislature of the Territory of the United States, South of the River Ohio in 1795; the Tennessee's Constitutional Convention of 1796; and as a Senator from Davidson County in the Second General Assembly 1797-1799. This political career ended in 1798 with the death of his wife Mary.

Thomas was left with thirteen children from babes to young adults when Mary died. With a short time he

married her sister Susannah Perkins Pryor Marrs. She was the widow of Gideon Marr with seven children her own. This large blended family moved from Nashville to the Franklin area of Williamson County, Tennessee in about 1800. From Thomas Hardeman's letters we know Susannah became ill in about 1815.

In 1816, not long after the death of his second wife, Thomas, now a man of about 66 years decided to move from to the Missouri Territory. His son John Hardeman and his family moved there shortly after. Two daughters' families, Sophie Hardeman Doty Campbell and Dorothy Hardeman Burnett, also moved to Missouri after his move there. There are wonderful letters from this time that have been saved by John Hardeman's family. One of these letters was written by three-time Tennessee Governor Willie Blount who was very interested in the development of the Missouri Constitution which was being prepared in anticipation of statehood. He was urging his old friend Thomas to get involved and make sure they were doing it correctly, citing his experience with the Tennessee constitution.

In 1836, Thomas' grandson John Locke Hardeman (1809-1858), son of John Hardeman, wrote a recollection of his grandfather's move to the Nashville area as told to him by his grandfather. He also wrote a family register from his grandfather's and his own recollections. From his letters we know that he was quite close to his grandfather, spending most of his youth and early adulthood with him. His young brother Glen Owen Hardeman preserved his letters (including letters to and from his grandfather Thomas.) *Pictured right: Glen Owen Hardeman*



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Another of Thomas' grandsons Peter Hardeman Burnett (the son of his daughter Dorothy) became the first governor of the State of California. Like John Locke Hardeman he grew up living near his grandfather. In 1880 he wrote his recollections which contained a sketch of his remembrances of his grandfather and his family. From his "Recollections of an Old Pioneer:"

"My grandfather Thomas Hardeman was born in Virginia, January 8, 1750; and his brother whom I never saw, settled in Georgia. My grandfather Hardeman was among the first settlers of Tennessee, and participated in the Indian wars of that country. He was a stout man, possessed a very fine constitution, a determined will, and a splendid intellect. His education was originally very limited, but by study, he became a man of distinction. He was the neighbor and warm friend of General Andrew Jackson, and was, with the General, a member of the first Constitutional Convention of Tennessee. He was a farmer and made a fortune, living to the age of seventy-two."



Peter Hardeman Burnett
1807-1895

Thomas' son John Hardeman died on a business trip to Mexico (Texas) in 1829. The loss of his son was very hard on the old man. By this time he was suffering from diabetes and other ailments. He felt as if he was a burden on his daughter-in-law Nancy and grandchildren. In 1831, at age 81, Thomas mounted his horse and rode back to Tennessee. He spent the last two years of his life living with his children. He died at his daughter home on the 3rd June 1833.

Western Weekly Review, Franklin, Williamson County, Tennessee, 28 June 1833 issue: Thomas Hardeman died Williamson County, Tennessee, 3 June 1833, born January 8, 1750, a framer of the Tennessee constitution.

Two sons, Bailey and Thomas J. Hardeman, participated in the interim government of the Republic of Texas. Their brother Blackstone, Ben Stallings ancestor, also settled in Texas during the Republic of Texas. His son Eleazar who remained in Williamson Co., TN was an ancestor of Larry Stevens' wife Barbara.

