

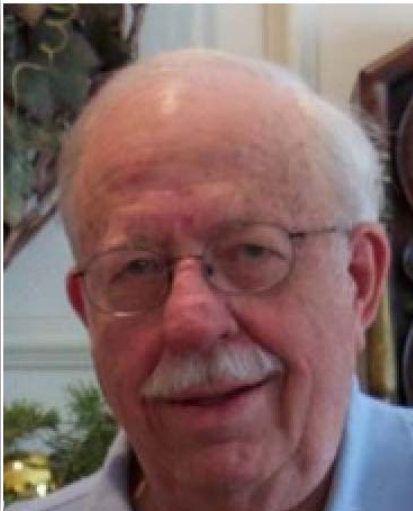


Pine Shavings



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

MAY 2015



Compatriots,

The Speaker for our Member Guest meeting on May 21, 2015 will be US Coast Guard Captain James Brett Millican. Captain Millican is the commanding officer at Galveston. He attended the US Coast guard Academy after graduating for Scarborough High School in Houston. He and his wife Leslie have four children. His next assignment will be Boston. Captain Millican is the Nephew of our past Chapter President and our District 8 VP Larry Blackburn.

We attended the 120th State Convention of the Texas Society Sons of The American Revolution. Our own Larry Stevens was elected and installed as the 101st Texas Society State President. We give thanks to The Ladies Auxiliary for providing a Hospitality Suite.

Members of our chapter, Joe Potter, Jim Pinkerton, Kermit Breed, Marty Landry, Ray Cox, Todd Simmons, John Thompson and others manned the registration desk or helped in other ways during the convention. John Meredith of the Freedom Chapter joined us and helped in the silent auction. This was a successful Convention and we have a slate of state officers that will do excellent work for the following year. At the April members

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Calendar of Events National Society

125th NSSAR Congress – Friday, 26 June 2015 – 1 July 2015 – Galt Hotel, Louisville
Fall Leadership – Friday, 25 September 2015 – Saturday, 26 September 2015



Texas Society

TX SAR BOM – October 9-11, 2015
Galveston, Texas

Meeting - May 21, 2015 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 names by Wednesday before the meeting date. ASAP to Larry Stevens
wardtracker@aol.com or 281 361-2061

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meeting Jim Pinkerton and John Beard reviewed the financial statements from the state convention. We did quite well. The earnings from the meeting will be allocated as follows: \$1,000 (required to be remitted to TXSSAR) and the remainder to be divided between PineyWoods, Rankin and Freedom chapters. A donation of approximately \$1,700 will be made to the Patriot Fund.

I want to do as much as possible during my term to encourage member participation in the meetings of our chapter. I will endeavor to contact as many as possible to notify them of the meetings. I suppose that I was not paying attention to the size of the chapter and did not realize that there were so many members in this chapter. I went to the state website and downloaded the January member list. We would crowd the meeting room at Jimmy G's if only one fourth of the members and spouses showed. This is a problem I would like to have.

I would like to have members participate in relating stories about your ancestors to give a perspective about those that participated in the Revolutionary War and any interesting descendants. We will publish these stories in the Pine Shavings newsletter.

I wish to thank each one of you for giving me this opportunity and will endeavor to live up to the confidence in me that you have.

Joe Potter
President

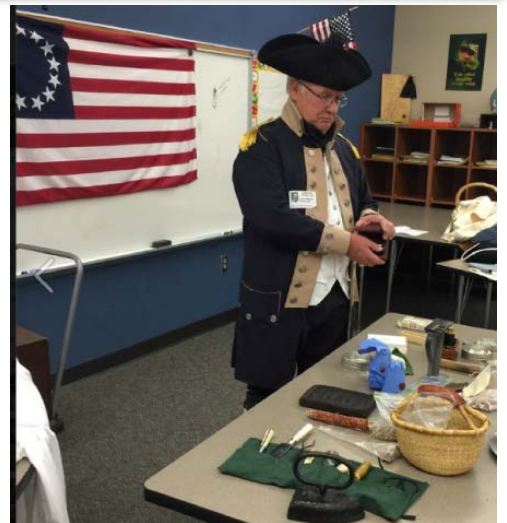
ATASCOCITA SPRINGS—PATRIOT DAY



As many have heard the Humble School district was the first and is one of the most active districts in implementing the “Why America is Free,” curriculum.

Pictured here Larry Stevens is presenting the “Life in the American Colonies” trunk show.

All fifth graders show up in their version of colonial attire, armed with a great knowledge of history.



And we would be remiss if we did not give our congratulations to Principal Nancy Pinkerton for the wonderful work at Willow Creek Elementary. Willow Creek was awarded an “A+” in academic achievement. Willow Creek is one of the schools participating in Patriot Day. Nancy is the wife of Com Patriot Jim Pinkerton.

This Month in the Revolution

April 19, 1775 – Lexington: at about 5 a.m., 700 British troops, on a mission to capture Patriot leaders and seize a Patriot arsenal, marched into Lexington to find 77 armed minutemen under Captain John Parker waiting for them on the town's common green. British Major John Pitcairn ordered the outnumbered Patriots to disperse, and after a moment's hesitation the Americans began to drift off the green. Suddenly, the "shot heard around the world" was fired from an undetermined gun, and a cloud of musket smoke soon covered the green. When the brief Battle of Lexington ended, eight Americans lay dead or dying and 10 others were wounded. Only one British soldier was injured, but the American Revolution had begun.



May 16, 1771 - The Battle of Alamance, a pre-American Revolutionary War battle between local militia and a group of rebels called "The Regulators", occurs in present-day Alamance County, North Carolina.

"Alamance Camp, Thursday, May 16th, 1771.

To Those Who Style Themselves "Regulators": In reply to your petition of yesterday, I am to acquaint you that I have ever been attentive to the interests of your County and to every individual residing therein. I lament the fatal necessity to which you have now reduced me by withdrawing yourselves from the mercy of the crown and from the laws of your country. To require you who are now assembled as Regulators, to quietly lay down your arms, to surrender up your leaders, to the laws of your country and rest on the leniency of the Government. By accepting these terms within one hour from the delivery of this dispatch, you will prevent an effusion of blood, as you are at this time in a state of REBELLION against your King, your country, and your laws.

(Signed) **William Tryon.**"

Anthony Benezet



Benezet instructing colored children
Illustration in a book from 1850

April 14, 1775 – **Anthony Benezet** - The Society for the Relief of Free Negroes Unlawfully Held in Bondage was the first American abolition society. It was founded April 14, 1775, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by Anthony Benezet, born Antoine Bénézet on January 31, 1713 and died May 3, 1784 was a French-born American. Anthony and others, held four meetings. Seventeen of the 24 men who attended initial meetings of the Society were Quakers, or members of the Religious Society of Friends. Thomas Paine was also among the Society's founders.

April 14, 1775 - Massachusetts Governor Thomas Gage, was secretly ordered to suppress any Rebellion with force if necessary. Gage is best known as a British General and his many years of service as military commander in North America. Born to an aristocratic family in England, he entered military service, seeing action in the French and Indian War, where he served alongside his future opponent George Washington in the 1755 Battle of the Monongahela. After the fall of Montreal in 1760, he was named its military governor. During this time he did not distinguish himself militarily, but proved himself to be a competent administrator. From 1763 to 1775 he served as commander-in-chief of the British forces in North America, overseeing the British response to the 1763 Pontiac's Rebellion. In 1774 he was also appointed the military governor of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, with instructions to implement the Intolerable Acts, punishing Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party. His attempts to



Thomas Gage
1719—April 2, 1787

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seize military stores of Patriot militias in April 1775 sparked the Battles of Lexington and Concord

April 17, 1775 – The last “Novanglas” letter by John Adams appears in the Boston Gazette. *Novanglus*, meaning “New Englander,” is the pseudonym used by John Adams in 1774 and 1775 for a series of letters he published in the *Boston Gazette* just prior to the start of the armed conflict in America. An answer to the *Massachusettsensis* essays, Adams laid out the American position on the natural rights of individual Americans and the rights enjoyed by all colonial governments under British law.

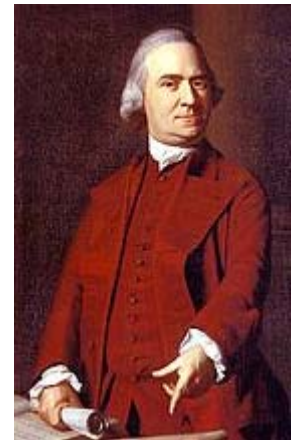


Did You Know?

American Revolution Trivia (See: Alpha History–American Revolution Trivia)

Myths sometimes become our history as we know it, but if we research our past and our heros', we may find a more accurate story to tell. The on-line Alpha History site has a tons of these myths.

Today, most believe Sam Adams was a brewer and a number of American beers have carried his name because of this; Samuel Adams Lager, produced in Boston, sports his image on its labels. However *Adams neither brewed beer nor drank it.*



Research suggests that colonial America was one of the most literate societies of its time. Adult literacy in rural areas was around 70 per cent; in American cities it usually exceeded 95 per cent. This is in stark comparison to literacy levels in Europe, which ranged between 40 and 70 per cent.

Native Americans are stereotyped as wearing skins and firing bows and arrows was the exception rather than the rule. The men in many tribes wore at least some Western clothing and used guns as weapons; they acquired these items trading with colonists. In fact this is not always true. Native Americans had sophisticated cultures with representative governments and treaties between tribes. Many tribes assimilated early into the European cultures.



Most chapters of the Sons of Liberty prohibited the involvement of women; they were composed entirely of men who clung to the prevailing belief that women had no place in political movements. This prompted revolutionary women to form their own groups, called the *Daughters of Liberty*. In 1767 one Daughters of Liberty chapter seized a Loyalist heckler and (not having any tar and feathers to hand) doused him with molasses and flowers. *Look for an article in next issue about the Daughters of Liberty.*

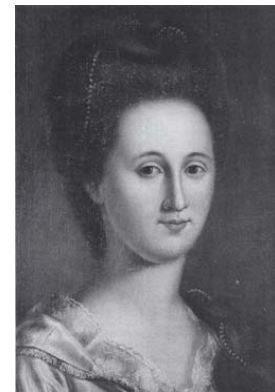
The Daughters of Liberty were a secretive group of what is believed to be 92 Women, organized in 1765, who demonstrated their loyalty to the Continental cause by boycotting imported British goods about the time of the passage of the Townshend Acts. They rebelled against these taxes by spinning their own cloth, sewing their family's clothes, and experimenting with substitutes for tea. Broadcasting their protest, they held spinning contests, "spinning bees" in village squares which were widely attended by women and men.



Martha Washington



Sarah Franklin Bache



Easter de Bredt who married Joseph Reed

Quartering Act. - Despite rumors and propaganda to the contrary, no American colonists were ever forced to accommodate British soldiers in their homes against their will. Both Quartering Acts specified that private homes should only be requisitioned if they were vacant. The owners of buildings used for quartering soldiers received compensation via the colonial assembly.

Study your history.

IF you like your history doused with fiction, watch the TV Series "Sons of Liberty" or Washington's Spies "TURN".

Larry Stevens
Editor





JROTC AWARDS PROGRAM

Our JROTC Awards program is in full gear. We are presenting awards in 31 high schools this year including mailing one to Ramstein Germany. Our coordinator Larry Blackburn is doing such a good job and compatriots have been great at stepping up to attend the ceremonies. Some of these award presentations are pictured herein.



Pictured below Compatriot Larry Stevens with Cadet Jason Weisner at Crosby High School. The Bronze JROTC medal and certificate were presented to Jason.



Compatriot James T. Jones, Hr attended the Aldine High School JROTC function. Pictured above he has presented cadet Lesley Perales with the Bronze JROTC Medal and Certificate. Aldine High is important to Jim as both of his children attended school there.



Pictured above at Magnolia High School, Compatriot John Meredith with JROTC Cadet Kubela and Commander Bedell.

Pictured above Compatriots Larry Stevens and Jim Pinkerton with medal winner Robert Wood at Hargrove High School. Pictured below Hargrove JROTC instructors—Sr. Inst. Capt. David Brown (Ret); CSM Linton

Pictured below, Compatriot John Thompson with Cadet Phillips and his mother at the Willis High School JROTC end of year celebration.





Pictured above Compatriot Jeff Meadow presenting the JROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate at Lamar High School.

Pictured above Compatriot Larry Stevens presenting the JROTC Bronze Medal and Certificate to Cadet Dalton Luke at Splendor HS.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS—LOYALTY DAY



Tom Jackson, Larry Stevens, Post Commander, Allen Greene, and Ladies Auxiliary President . The Post presented SAR with a Certificate of Appreciation



Larry Stevens



Tom Jackson



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



Betsy Ross, aka Ginny Evans



Larry Stevens



Larry Stevens presents the VFW Post 581 a SAR Flag Certificate