



Pine Shavings

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



President's Message

I want to thank everyone who attended the April PineyWoods Meeting. This was my first meeting as your new president, and I feel everything went off well. Tom Green's presentation on George Washington was a great success. I received many compliments on his delivery. The new ordering of the food format was successful. When all our members, guests, and wait staff get on the same page, it will surely be a great improvement. I want to thank Sara Potter and Barbara Stevens for their help in the implementation of the new menu. I encourage each compatriot to attend and bring a friend to our May meeting. Matt Webb's presentation should be outstanding. I would love to break a 2017 attendance record. I look forward to seeing everyone at our May meeting!

Jim Pinkerton

Special Speaker From Humble ISD



Please help us welcome Mathew D. Webb to our May 20th meeting. Mathew's program is titled, *"Social Studies Now More Than Ever"*.

Matthew Webb is the Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator for Humble Independent School District and has a wealth of classroom and leadership experience teaching a wide assortment of social studies offerings.

He has served as the Humble ISD district coordinator since 2014, and prior to that Mathew was the Social Studies Academic Lead Teacher at Atascocita High School and United States History content-team leader.

As district coordinator, he has helped develop a deep and rich social studies curriculum for students in kindergarten classes through high school and dual-credit college courses. This work has included supporting teacher-leaders and classroom teachers with curriculum and instructional design, meaningful assessments, and integrating social studies and literacy.

**Meeting
Saturday, May 20th
Member & Guest**

Jimmy G's,
307 N. Sam Houston E. Parkway,
Greenspoint
12:30 p.m.

RSVP for the Meeting
Please respond with the number of people attending and names by Thursday before the meeting date.

ASAP to Larry Stevens
wardtracker@aol.com or
281 361-2061

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Piney Woods Chapter 51 Texas Society SAR

Meeting at Jimmy G's

Greenspoint, Houston, TX 15 April 2017

President Jim Pinkerton welcomed all to the meeting at 12:30 PM. The invocation by Thomas B. Green was followed by the pledge to the US and Texas flags and the SAR pledge.

COMPATRIOTS PRESENT: Kermit Breed, Larry Stevens, Kim Morton, Jim Pinkerton, Larry Blackburn, Joe Potter, John K. Thompson, Jeff LaRochelle, Nolan Richardson, Thomas B. Green, Todd Simmons and Alan Bowman

GUEST: Joshua Williamson, Tom Morris, Barbara Stevens, Bernie Kent, Ann Kent, Sarah Potter, Bobbie Richardson, Daniel Florian, Charlie Hill, Andy Hill and Terri Hill

MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve minutes from the March meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer John Beard sent a report showing a balance \$4,106.83 Motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Kermit Breed is working on a new application for John Schmonsees, Tommy Morris, Joshua Williamson and Clyde Wilton Simmons Jr. Larry Stevens is working on new applications for Bill McKinney. for B. Ray Mize, Charles Jones, Dennis Keister, James Barber, Bernie Kent and James Smith. Newly approved applications for Lark Leazar, Nolan and Michael Richardson have been received as well as Joe Potter's supplemental on Medaris.

NEWSLETTER: The April newsletter was great as usual. Thanks Larry

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Larry Blackburn recognized the members that help with the JROTC medals and certificates. Let Larry know if you wish to help with this worthy project. We will present in person around 30 of the 36 JROTC Bronze Medals at the different High Schools. Larry said he needed someone to present a medal at Klein High School on April 22nd.

NEW BUSINESS: Compatriot Nolan Richardson was sworn in as our newest member. His patriot was Daniel Smith of Virginia. Joe Potter was presented the supplement for his ancestor John Washington Medaris.

GUEST SPEAKER; Thomas B. Green Past President Texas Society gave a great talk on George Washington, covering his youth on in to adulthood. Thanks for the visit Tom.

Charles Hill, winner of the Texas Society SAR Eagle Scout 1st place and the Knight Essay 2nd place was present to receive his cash awards and gave a short speech on his essays.

FUTURE EVENTS: Members/Guests Meeting at Jimmy "G"—Our program for our next meeting on May 20, 2017 will be on the teaching of Social Studies in our schools. Please see our May Newsletter for more information.

After the benediction members joined together in the SAR closing. President Jim Pinkerton adjourned the meeting at 2:30 PM

Piney Wood #51 Secretary Kermit Breed

Membership

New Members - A membership package has been received for **Lark Leazar**. Lark Leazar's Patriot Ancestor was **Lt. Samuel Blythe** of the North Carolina 1st. Regiment Continental Line under Col. Thomas Clark. He was commissioned on 5 February 1777 and resigned on 16 April 1778. His regiment saw action at Brandywine and the Battle of Germantown.

New Member William McKinney. William "Billy" McKinney's Application for Membership has just been approved. Billy's Ancestor was Jacob Miller who served in Capt. Foster's Company, 15 Virginia Reg't commanded by **LT Col James Innes**. He enlisted Jan. 15, 1777 and served for three years. His most notable engagement was the Battle at Bound Brook, at Middlebrook New Jersey.

PineWoods Chapter 51 was chartered in 1994 and currently has 75 active members, 3 youth members, and 3 dual memberships.



New member **Nolan Richardson** receives his New Member Package from President Jim Pinkerton. (above). Nolan made a presentation on his Patriot Ancestor Daniel Smith.



Larry Blackburn, Jeff LaRochelle, Joe Potter, and Larry Stevens.

Membership



Above Left. - Genealogist Kim Morton and above right Bernie Kent. Bernie's application is pending review and approval in Louisville.

Below— Alan Bowman, Daniel Florian and Kermit Breed.

Compatriot Bowman's grandson Daniel Florian expressed an interest in SAR membership [Update: His application was prepared by Registrar Stevens and mailed May 6th.]





Left 2nd VP Todd Simmons & Past Dist. 8 VP John Thompson.

PineyWoods Chapter Officers 2017-2019



Top - Cannon Pritchard, Chaplain; Kim Morton, Genealogist; Joe Potter, Past President; Brent Monteleone, Chancellor

Front - Kermit Breed, Secretary/Registrar; Larry Stevens; 1st VP/Registrar; James Pinkerton, President; John Beard, Treasurer; Larry Blackburn, Sergeant-at-Arms

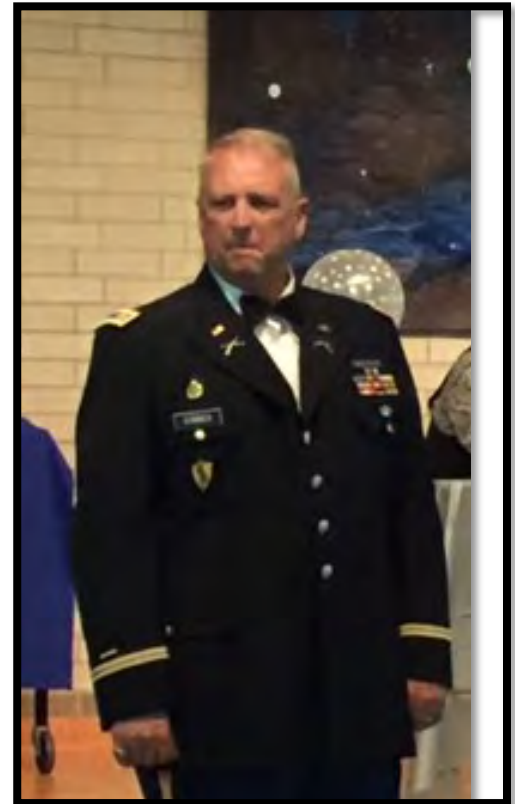
Not Pictured: 2nd VP, Todd Simmons; Historian, Ben Stallings; and Webmaster Ray Cox

Youth Activities and Programs

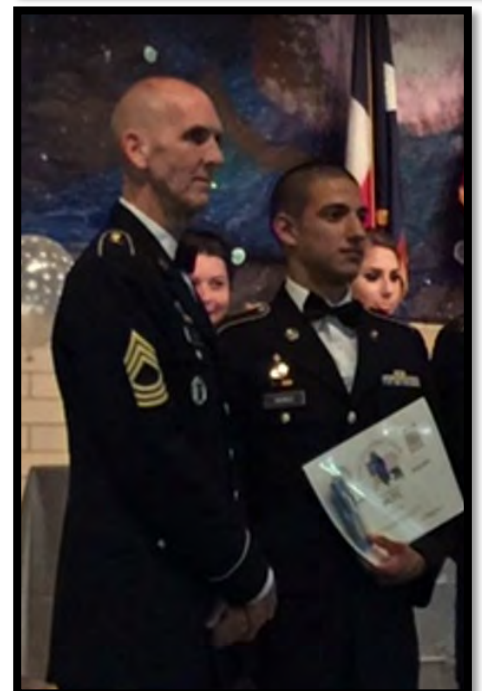
Eagle Scouts—PineyWoods Chapter 51 Eagle Scout Contest winner Charlie Hill was presented with his 1st place award of \$200 in the 2016 PineyWoods Eagle Scout Contest. Last year, Charlie place first in the 2015 Contest Year and was presented a first place check and the SAR Eagle Scout Medal.

Essay Contest—Charlie Hill also placed 2nd in the chapter 2016 Essay Contest and was presented with a check of \$100.

JROTC Presentations are nearly complete. This year, PineyWoods Chapter# 51 presented medals to cadets at 36 High Schools from Baytown to Livingston. If you are interested in assisting with medal presentations, please contact our chapter JROTC Medals Coordinator Larry Blackburn.



PineyWoods Eagle Scout Medal Winner Charlie Hill with President James Pinkerton at the April 15th Meeting



New Caney JROTC Cadet C/CPT Steven Daum (Left) was chosen to receive the SAR JROTC National Award at this year's JROTC Awards Banquet. Larry Stevens presented the award the Bronze JROTC Medal.

Pictured at right is MSGT Lang presenting an award. Lang has been at New Caney for several years. Major Mike Connors, above SGT Lang, is retiring after serving as Senior Instructor at New Caney for many years.



Texas Piney Woods Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution
@SARPinewoodWoods



PINEYWOODS FACEBOOK



Compatriots—Our PineyWoods chapter now has an **official presence on Facebook**, perhaps the world’s most popular social media website and “friend” connection culture. Rather than a straightforward individual’s page, we have a group page designed for communities like ours. So far, our page provides website links to the USS constitution Museum, the Mount Vernon Historical site, the Official Website of the sons of the American Revolution, and of course to our own longstanding PineyWoods official website. As of April 16th, we also feature photographs from our April meeting when we hosted Thomas B. Green (Past President of the Texas Society), eagle Scout Charles Hill, and new chapter compatriot Nolan Richardson. To find this site, visit Facebook and use search terms Piney Woods Texas Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. [Note that Piney Woods is two words on the Facebook page.]

Todd Simmons, 2nd Vice President

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He has also been involved in developing and leading professional learning for Humble ISD social studies teachers .

Prior to serving in this position, Matthew lead the social studies department at Atascocita High School focusing on providing instructional coaching to teachers, curriculum alignment for high school social studies, and coordinating Advanced Placement exams. As a classroom teacher at Atascocita and Mountain Pointe High School (Phoenix, AZ), Matthew primarily taught a variety of United States History courses and American Government. These courses included Advanced Placement United States History, American Studies, A Survey of U.S. History: 1492-present, The United States Since 1877, United States Government & Politics, Arizona Government, and We the People: The Constitution and Civics. He has also taught World History, Economics, and Criminal Justice. During his years as a classroom teacher, Matthew also coached high school baseball. He earned his Master’s Degree in Education from Northern Arizona University and his Bachelor’s Degree in History from Davidson College. Matthew is a veteran of the United States Navy, serving from 1987 to 1991 including service during Operation Desert Storm. Since teaching is really his passion, he still teaches cycling classes at gyms in the Kingwood community.

Who Are Your Ancestors

Many of us watch ‘Who Do You Think You Are?’ and other such Genealogy programs on PBS. Many are interesting, although, as a person who has researched family lineage for nearly forty years, I am disappointed when the research stops short of the many different names that are skipped over.



Larry H. Blackburn, PhD

When Larry Blackburn said he was going to North Carolina to the home of one of his Patriot Ancestors, he was asked to write a short article about this Ancestor, Col John Whitaker. Compatriot Blackburn is organizing a grave marking ceremony at the old family cemetery where he will place a stone marker in the memory of his ancestors buried there.

One might say that John Whitaker (originally spelled Whitacre) could not avoid a connection with the American Revolution. He was the age of many of the patriots, old enough to understand the political issues and active politically in his community. He lived in an area that recognized and discussed many of the problems with the governance of the Crown’s representative.

He was born the 21st of May in 1745 in Craven County, (later to become Wake Co.) North Carolina, where he lived his entire life. John was the son of Robert Whitaker and Sarah Burton. The Whitaker family was a founding family of Vir-

ginia where Jabez Whitaker and wife established themselves in the Jamestown Colony before 1617, when their son William was born.

John Whitaker was an active citizen in Wake County, North Carolina, was very active in the politics. His name appears often in the colonial records. In Wake County, he is recorded as a Trustee of the Peace in 1776, a member of the local militia during the revolution, a Justice of the Court, a coroner, a road commissioner, and many other local leadership positions. One can see his signature on the minutes of the Wake County Governing Board in 1776. In 1792 George Washington appointed him Inspector of Revenue for District 4 of North Carolina.



His plantation was named Echo Manor. The manor was built in the mid to late eighteenth century by his father Robert. Over the years its appearance has changed as it evolved and grew. In addition to his successful plantation he had other interests, including a brick yard and tannery. His lumber mill was augmented with a turpentine and pitch distillery.

Colonel John Whitaker married first, Elizabeth Hardy, and they had six children. One of their sons, Samuel Whitaker, served as High Sheriff of Wake County (1820-21), and was elected nine times to the House and five times to the State Senate. It is from this marriage our own Compatriot Larry Blackburn descends.

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His ancestor, Robert Whitaker, was born in Wake County in 1774, at the threshold of the American Revolution. Robert's father John was insuring for his future as evidenced by a deed dated 29 July 1819, he conveyed 175 acres to John and his children after his death.

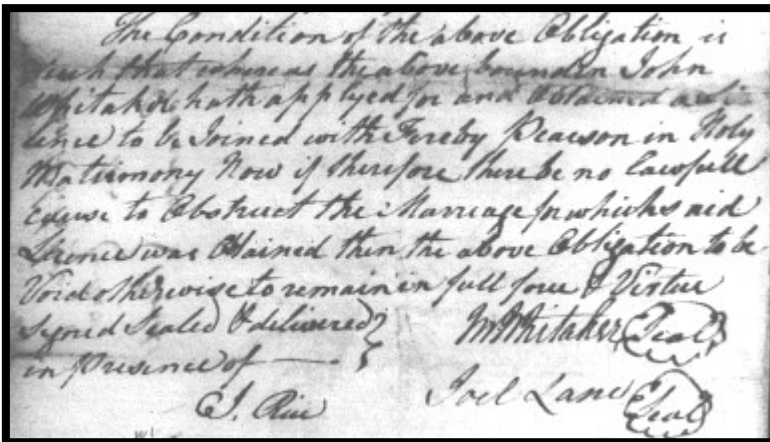
It has been reported that some old letters held by a Wake County descendant of Col. John disclose that Gov. Tryon, the royal governor, and members of his staff visited Col. Johns home during the Governors expedition in Wake County, recruiting troops to quell the western North Carolina Regulator uprising against unjust taxes (and fees) and treatment from eastern Royal Officials. One of the Whitaker women (believed to be Johns widowed mother, Sarah, who lived at Echo Manor) threw a pan of biscuits in the face of one of Gov. Tryon's chief officers when he insulted the ignorant Colonists.



Henry Clay and Adele Whitaker Family of Nacogdoches Texas 1907

Larry's Grandmother Elsie is the little girl on the left.

Colonel Whitaker married secondly, Ferebee Pearson, daughter of Capt. Samuel Pearson, builder of Yates mill. To this marriage seven



children were born. One of their sons, Col. Willis Whitaker (1791 - 1880), served as paymaster for the American forces in the War of 1812. Lastly, John married the widow, Elizabeth Walton.

Col John died 22 Nov 1823 and was buried in the Whitaker Cemetery on his plantation a short distance west of Manor House. (Cemetery no longer exists). His death was reported in the Raleigh Register on 25 Nov 1823: "One of the oldest and most respectable inhabitants of the country." He was survived by Elizabeth, his 3rd wife, and by all thirteen children. John's estate was administered, but there was no will. The 1824 Estate Papers are maintained in the North Carolina State Archives.

State of North-Carolina.
Wake County.
Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, August Sessions, 1824.

Elizabeth Whitaker, widow and relict of John Whitaker, senr. dec'd. vs. Hugh H. Whitaker, Lucy Fowler, wife of John Fowler, Sarah Perry, wife of Isaac Perry, Robert Whitaker, Samuel Whitaker, John Whitaker, Wesley Whitaker, Elizabeth Crowder, wife of George Crowder, Willis Whitaker, Maria Crowder, wife of Hardy Crowder, Angelina Sanders, wife of Theophilus Sanders, David Whitaker, and Thomas G. Whitaker.—Petition for Dower in the Lands of John Whitaker, senr. dec'd.

IT having been made appear to the Court, that the Defendants, Hugh H. Whitaker, Lucy Fowler, wife of John Fowler, Sarah Perry, wife of Isaac Perry, Angelina Sanders, wife of Theophilus Sanders, reside beyond the li-

Patriot Colonel John Whitaker

Echo Manor Plantation, Wake County, North Carolina



The Whitaker Family Cemetery is located in the Forest about a half mile southwest of Echo Manor.



Revolutionary War Timeline

1771 May 16 – The pre-revolutionary war, The Battle of Alamance, was fought between the North Carolina Loyalist Militia and a group of rebels called the Regulators in Alamance County North Carolina. In the Spring of 1771, Governor Tyron marched approximately 1,000 North Carolina Militia Men into the western counties to quell unrest that had been occurring for several years by men refusing to pay fees and taxes, disrupting court proceedings, and harassing local officials since 1765. The first of May 1771, around 2,000 men calling themselves the regulators had gathered hoping to gain concessions from the governor with a show of force. The regulators were mainly from the middle or western counties of Rowan, Anson, Granville, Cumberland, and Orange, and were from the lower classes of society numbering around 9,000.



1775 May 4 – The Pennsylvania Assembly rejected Lord North's proposal for reconciliation that declared that a colony that contributed to the common defense and provided support for the civil government and the administration of justice, ostensibly against and anti-Crown rebellion, would be relieved of paying taxes or duties except those necessary for the regulation of commerce. The proposal had been sent to the colonies and not to the Continental Congress possibly to separate the colonies. The proposal was looked at a *little too late*...



1775 May 11 – Patriots seize the Royal Gun Powder magazines in Savannah Georgia. Learning of Lexington and Concord, the Savannah Patriots celebrations included the seizure of 600 Pounds of much needed black powder. Over the years, the crown had been closing powder mills in American to the point where black powder could only be imported.

1780 May 29—Colonel Buford Troops Massacred - British Banastre Tarleton over took Colonel Abraham Buford's Virginia Continental force near Lancaster South Carolina May 29th, 1780. Colonel Buford refused to surrender. However, when his men on foot were attacked by British and Loyalists Cavalry; most of his men threw down their arms in surrender. Little quarter was given. One-hundred thirteen were slain outright, one-hundred fifty so badly wounded they could not be moved, and fifty-three captured.



Buford with his largely Virginia continental force had been dispatched by General Washington to Charleston with 350 soldiers and artillery to aid Americans against the attack by Lord Cornwallis. About 40 miles out on May 12 he learned Charleston fell to Cornwallis and immediately began a retreat to Virginia. Further, he learned Cornwallis sent armies out from Charleston. Buford had been ordered to retreat and escort SC Gov. Rutledge, and his party, to Hillsborough NC, and out of danger. Lord Cornwallis dispatched Lt. Colonel Tarleton with 130 Legion Dragoons and 100 mounted British Legion infantry to overtake Buford and capture Rutledge.

On May 29th, Tarleton caught up with Buford in the Waxhaws at a crossroads near Lancaster. Governor Rutledge, alerted to Tarleton's advance, had already separated from Buford's army. While waiting for his reserves to move up, Tarleton sent Capt. David Kinlock forward to the rebel column, carrying a white flag, demanding that Buford surrender. Buford refused, but instead of preparing for battle, he continued to march. With the bugler sounding the charge, Tarleton attacked with his entire loyalist force. Buford waiting until the charging horsemen were just ten yards away gave order to fire. This had minimal effect and resulted in a rout. The American forces began laying down their arms in surrender. Tarleton's horse took a musket ball and went down throwing Tarleton to the earth. His men believed he was dead and tore viciously through Buford's force carrying out indiscriminate carnage. Tarleton's men stabbed the wounded where they lay.

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The American colonials had one of the best of courier networks. Almost overnight report of this atrocity reached General Washington and Philadelphia. Word even reached the Watauga settlers in the newly formed Washington County North Carolina. Buford’s Massacre became the cement that bonded continental forces in the Carolinas.



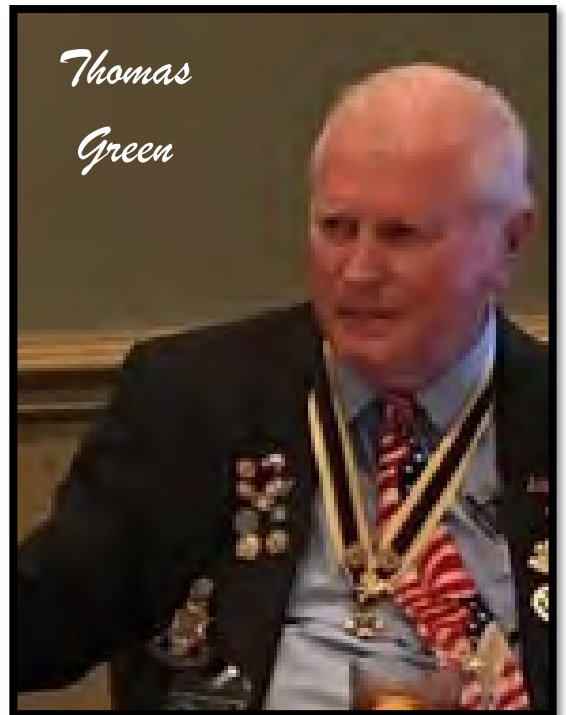
Calendar of Events

National Events

127th NSSAR Congress at Knoxville TN July 7-12, 2017

Chapter Meetings

Members/Guests – Social Studies	May 20, 2017
Members/Guests Meeting – SAR Congress	August 19, 2017
Members/Guests – TBA	September 16, 2017
Members/Guests – TBA	October 21, 2017
Members/Guests	November 18, 2017
December – TBA	December 16, 2017



George Washington—Facts and Myths

Our April Speaker, Past Texas Society President “Tom” Thomas B. Green asked, "What do you know about George Washington?"

What was the name of his horse?

- 1. Nelson 2. Blueskin 3. Traveller

Where did he live when he purportedly “tossed the coin” across the river according to his family?

- 1. Potomac 2. Rappahannock 3. James?

How old was he when his father died?

- 1. Eleven 2. Ten. 3. Twelve

What was his mother name?

- 1. Mary Ball 2. Jane Butler. 3. Mildred Warner

What were his teeth made of?

- 1. Wood 2. Bone 3. Ivory

What color was George Washington hair?

- 1. He wore a wig 2. Brown 3. Red

Circle your answers and bring to the meeting on Saturday.

