



**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
May 17, 2025 Issue 5**



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR or NSSAR) is an American congressionally chartered organization, founded in 1889 and headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky.



The PineyWoods Chapter #51 was chartered on February 3, 1994, and is named for its geographic location in the state. We draw members from Houston (S) to Livingston (N) and from The Woodlands (W) to Liberty (E). PineyWoods meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month except June and July at Los Cuco's Mexican Restaurant, Kingwood Texas.



**Linda and Abe
Abdmoulaie intro-
duce and read the
“Concord Hymn”
sang at the Minute-
man Monument in
July 4, 1837**



“Concord Hymn”

by Ralph Waldo Emerson

*By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
And fired the shot heard round the world.*

*The foe long since in silence slept;
Alike the conqueror silent sleeps;
And Time the ruined bridge has swept
Down the dark stream which seaward creeps.*

*On this green bank, by this soft stream,
We set to-day a votive stone;
That memory may their deed redeem,
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.*

*Spirit, that made those heroes dare
To die, and leave their children free,
Bid Time and Nature gently spare
The shaft we raise to them and thee.*

Chapter Meeting- Los Cucos Mexican Café, Kingwood May 17, 2025 11:15 AM to 1:00

Chapter Members and Friends,

Thanks for attending the April 26th Piney Woods #51 Chapter meeting and appreciate all the positive engagement throughout the meeting. One of my aims as Chapter President each month is to follow the historical path of the American Revolution up to the 250th Anniversary of America and align to SAR's mission. That was one of our motivations of reading the Concord Hymn written by Ralph Waldo Emerson with my Mom, Linda Abdmoulaie, member and former Regent of the Lady Houston DAR Chapter to honor the importance of remembering the "The Shots heard around the world" which became the start of America's fight for Independence. We also thought it would be important to honor William Emerson who was Ralph's American Revolutionary Patriot Grandfather.



The program was designed to honor the contributions of Reverend William Emerson, a pivotal figure in the early days of the American Revolution. Reverend Emerson, a passionate patriot and minister, played a crucial role in the events at Lexington and Concord, which ignited the flames of independence.

Reverend Emerson's unwavering dedication to the cause of liberty was evident in his actions and words. As the minister of the First Parish Church in Concord, he inspired his congregation with sermons that emphasized the importance of freedom and resistance against tyranny. His home, the Old Manse, became a hub for revolutionary activity, where leaders like Samuel Adams and John Hancock met to strategize and plan their next moves.

On April 19, 1775, the battles of Lexington and Concord marked the beginning of the American Revolution. Reverend Emerson's courage and leadership were instrumental during these critical moments. He not only provided spiritual support to the militia but also actively participated in the defense of his community. His bravery and commitment to the cause of independence left an indelible mark on the hearts of those who fought alongside him.

Years later, Reverend Emerson's grandson, Ralph Waldo Emerson, immortalized these historic events in his poem, "Concord Hymn." Written for the dedication of the Battle Monument in Concord in 1837, the hymn captures the essence of the revolutionary spirit, and the sacrifices made by those who fought for freedom. The famous lines, "By the rude bridge that arched the flood, their flag to April's breeze unfurled," serve as a poignant reminder of the bravery and resilience of the American patriots. This first stanza of the hymn is inscribed at the base of "The Minute Man, an 1874 statue by Daniel Chester to commemorate the Battle of Concord and the American Revolution. The Statue served as a visual representation of the citizen-soldiers who fought at the battle and as a symbol of patriotism and the defense of liberty.

Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Concord Hymn" not only honors the memory of his grandfather but also celebrates the enduring legacy of the American Revolution. It reminds us that the fight for liberty is a timeless endeavor, and the courage of those who stood at Lexington and Concord continues to inspire generations.

Let us remember and celebrate the contributions of Reverend William Emerson and the powerful words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, as we strive to uphold the values of freedom and justice in our own lives.

Thank you.

Abe

WHO WERE THESE MINUTEMEN?"

Abe and Linda Abdmoulaie talk on Concord and the Minutemen does leave a question though, "Who were these Minutemen?" and why were they prepared?

Research by Larry Stevens added answers to this from Historians. "Drums Among The Mohawk" a film in 1939, gave me a glimpse of militia training in the frontier communities. After Court or some public event, the men, boys to older fellows, met in a green field with muskets, powder horns, drilled in formations and fired their weapons. Not much longer in the film, a warning of marauding spread through the farms and in to village . The alarm bells were wrung bringing the militia running in from farms with families to the village where they formed defense lines.



If you go back to early American History to the North American Atlantic Colonies, you will find these Europeans forming groups of men to practice drilling and firing black powder muskets and cannon due to the many small groups of indigenous people sharing their borders, which were even in 1660, not far inland.

"In the Massachusetts Bay Colony, all able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60 were required to participate in their local militia company." (Gross). "As early as 1645 in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, some men were selected from the general ranks of "town-based training band" to be ready for rapid deployment. Men so selected were designated as minutemen. Their companies were organized by town, so it was very common for their counterpart militia company to contain relatives and friends. (Gavin) Some towns in Massachusetts had a long history of designating a portion of their militia as minutemen, with "minute companies" constituting special units within the militia system whose members underwent additional training and held themselves ready to respond at a minute's notice to emergencies, which gave rise to their name as Minutemen.

Members of the minutemen, in contrast to the regular militia, were no more than 30 years old, and were chosen for their enthusiasm, political reliability, and strength. They were the first armed militia to arrive at or await a battle. Officers were elected by popular vote, as in the rest of the militia, and each unit drafted a formal written covenant to be signed upon enlistment.

The militia in the New England colonies were organized in regiments by county. The militia and minutemen companies still were organized by town and trained typically as an entire unit in each town two to four times a year with the Minutemen receiving extra training. From the end of the French and Indian War, this was normal during peacetime but, in the 1770s, as friction with The Crown increased and the possibility of war became apparent, the militia trained three to four times a week.

In conclusion, Minutemen were survival part of the early colonies from the very first and this continued throughout Early American History. The Minutemen of Massachusetts Bay were ready for the fight. LGS

Some references:

Gross, Robert A. (1976). *"The Minutemen and Their World "* (Kindle) (25th Anniversary, Farrar, Straus and Giroux eBook . ed.). New York: Hill and Wang. p. 258

Galvin, John R. (1989). *"The Minute Men: The First Fight : Myths and Realities of the American Revolution "* (1st ed.) Washington, DC: Pergamon-Brassey's International Defense Publisher.

FROM THE EDITOR

First, every year, Texas Chapters submit three Annual Reports.

The STARK Report reports veterans activities, the 2025 National SAR Report with Instructions, and the 2025 TXSSAR Annual Reports chapter activities, and there is a Texas Report. These reports are on our Private Site. Please read them.

All three reports are all due right after the first of 2026.

President Mel Oller announced in his address to the PineyWoods Chapter during our last meeting that for the first time, all 50 chapters in The Texas Society submitted the reports.

Populating these reports is a CHAPTER effort because members need to report visits and donations to Veterans, participation in Educational and Historical Programs at schools and at other events such as giving a historical talks for the DAR, Civic Groups.

Some of our members just helped at the Humble Museum, at Jesse Jones Park, Humble ISD Multi-school events and will at Splendora. Members presented JROTC Medals. Members attended our Texas BOM and Convention. Members made donations to Headquarters Projects and to our Patriot Fund.

All these need to be reported to the chapter secretary and president.

Second, if you make changes in your address, e-mail, telephone contact, there is a form on the Private site to update your information. I get some "bounces" on e-mail address when sending out the newsletter. There is no way for me to correct addresses or contact information.

Third, if you learn of a member passing, please report this. There is a form on the Private Site you can fill out or you can contact a chapter officer who will process the report. We have lost three members recently that were reported to me because of the e-mail Newsletter. My contact is in the newsletter.

We are beginning a new year, with a new team of officers and I hope you will join us. **Kermit Breed** will talk about **BREEDS HILL** not **BUNKER**. LGS



Larry G. Stevens
Editor

PineyWoods Chapter Officers

2025 - 2027

President - Abe Abdmoulaie
1st Vice President - Jim Pinkerton
2nd Vice President - Louis Skip Hawley
Secretary - William Bill King
Treasurer - B. Ray Mize
Historian - Kermit Breed
Chaplain - Alan Bowman
Chancellor - Jim Pinkerton
Parliamentarian - Mike Anderson
Registrars - Larry Stevens, Kermit Breed, Joe Potter
Genealogist - Kermit Breed
Sargant at Arms—Merv Hartwick

Chapter Non - Officers Roles

Newsletter - Larry Stevens
wardtracker.aol.com
Web Master - Ray Cox

Events Calendar



NSSAR

National Congress
July 12-18, 2025
Mohegan Sun, CT.



TXSSAR
Sugarland TBA

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER 51

Los Cucos
May 17, 2025
August 16, 2025
September 20, 2025

250th ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



May 10, 1775, in a surprise attack by the Green Mountain Boys led by Ethan Allan and Benedict Arnold Fort Ticonderoga was captured. Later the artillery was taken from the fort to Boston by Henry Knox.

May 25, 1775, General John Burgoyne, General Henry Clinton, and General William Howe arrive in Boston with reinforcements increasing the force in the Boston area to 6,500. Governor and **General Thomas Gage** was reassigned to England and was promoted to a full general in 1782. He was replaced primarily

for his underestimating the ground swell of discontent that led to a Civil War in America. Gage served the Bay of Massachusetts Governor in 1774-1775. He was first posted to the American Colonies in 1763 as the commander of all British forces in North America including Newfoundland and the rest of Canada.

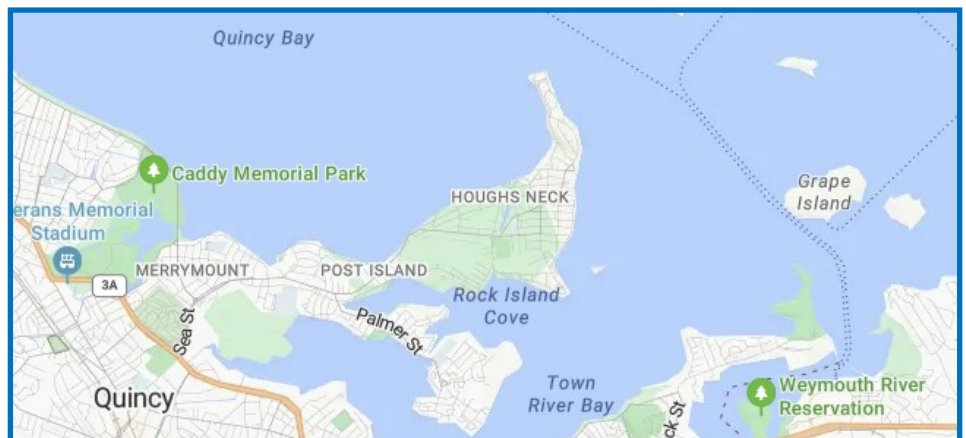
May 17-21, 1775, The first skirmish of Boston Harbor. May 17, 1775, the America Ship Franklin, commanded by Captain James Mugford surprised and captured the British ordnance ship Hope which was headed for Nantasket Roads in Boston Harbo carrying 1,500 barrels of gun powder, 1,000 muskets, and other arms. Mugford ran the Hope ashore near Boston to offload the cargo. On May 19th Mugford again set sail accompanied by the privateer Lady Washington commanded by Captain Cunningham. Due to the tide, they anchored near Nantasket for the night. In the early morning thirteen launches from the British fleet them and they manage to sink five as the launches approached. Mugford was killed in the ensuing close combat by a musket ball. The Franklin was ran ashore to set up defenses. The launches were then repelled. The British last around 200. Mugford was the only American killed.



May 21, 1775, Battle of Grape Island. (Near Quincy and Weymouth, MA)

Abigail Adams described the alarm in the provincial towns south of Grape Island in a letter to her husband **John Adams** dated May 25, 1775;

‘Suppose you have had a formidable account of the alarm we had last Sunday morning. When I rose about six oclock I was told that the Drums had been some time beating and that 3 allarm Guns were fired, that Weymouth [meeting] Bell had been ringing,



(cont 6) and Mr. Welds was then ringing.

'I immediatly sent of an express to know the occasion, and found the whole Town in confusion. 3 Sloops and one cutter had come out, and droped anchor just below Great Hill. It was difficult to tell their design, some supposed they were co-meing to Germantown [in Braintree] others to Weymouth.

'People women children from the Iron Works flocking down this Way—every woman and child above or from below my Fathers. My Fathers family flying, the Drs. [Dr. Cotton Tufts's] in great distress, as you may well immagine for my Aunt had her Bed thrown into a cart, into which she got herself, and orderd the boy to drive her of to Bridgwater which he did.

'The report was to them, that 300 hundred had landed, and were upon their march into Town. The allarm flew lightning, and men from all parts came flocking down till 2000 were collected—but it seems their [i.e., the British military's] expedition was to Grape Island for Levet's hay. There it was impossible to reach them for want of Boats, but the sight of so many persons, and the firing at them prevented their getting more than 3 ton of Hay, tho they had carted much more down to the water.

At last they [i.e., the local militiamen] musterd a Lighter, and a Sloop from Hingham which had six port holes. Our men eagerly jumpt on board, and put of for the Island. As soon as they [the army] perceived it, they decamped. Our people landed upon Island, and in an instant set fire to the Hay which with the Barn was soon consumed, about 80 ton tis said. We expect soon to be in continual alarms, till something decisive takes place'.

The BOSTON from a work of J. L. BELL 21 May 2007. (boston1775blogspot)

May 26-27, 1775, General Artemas Ward sent Captain John Nixon and thirty men to Hog

Island and **Noddle's Island** in Boston Harbor to remove livestock. The next day, May 27th, he then sent Colonel John Stark of New Hampshire, to remove supplies from Noddle's Island. The Americans successfully removed provisions and livestock from Noddle's Island but drew attention when they set fire to hay on Hog Island. Admiral Samuel Graves sent ships, including the HMS Diana, carrying Marines, to drive the Americans away. Stark and his men withdrew when the Diana approached, but the ship, commanded by Lieutenant Thomas Graves, ran aground. After American reinforcements arrived, led by General Israel Putnam, the Americans attacked the ship, forcing the crew to evacuate. The Americans proceeded to loot the Diana and burn it. This action is known as the Battle of Chelsea Creek.



PINEYWOOD CHAPTER YOUTH OUTREACH

"Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it."

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War Patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country. Our founding fathers set in place the structure for what has become the greatest country in the world. While they were not perfect they were able to develop a government that after 250 years is still the best in the world. Our patriots were honorable men that put everything at risk to escape the tyranny of King George III of Great Britain.

If SAR compatriots are able to plant a seed in the next generation through our educational programs and contests, the next generation will have the patriotism and honor to protect the development of our country. Hopefully leading to another 250 years of the American dream.

Ray Cox and Larry Stevens have two more school programs scheduled for this school period with Revolution Education 1776.

First, on May 8th, multi-school programs with 5th graders from six elementary schools with around 600 students.

The first three schools; Lake Land Elementary, Park Lake Elementary, and North Bend, arrived at 8:30 am and the second wave about 11:00 am; Whispering Pines, Woodland Hills, and Maple Brook, Larry Stevens and I were there by 7:00 am and set up Larry's Artifacts Table displaying several items but importantly, items highlighting the Stamp, Sugar and Tea Acts. Skip and Larry talked to twelve groups with an average of about twenty students in each class or about 400 of the more than 600 5th grade students.

Revolutionary Education had set up ten stations; a Printshop with Ben Franklin, a fire bucket brigade contest, tin lid punching for crafts, an apothecary with herbs and tools, a military camp, Tavern, Artifacts (SAR), Celtaire Band, Fife and Drum, and a kitchen cooking exhibition with a fire pit.

Second, May 16th and the Splendora Junior High School. Middle school students will be rotating through beginning at 7:30 am, 7th and 8th grades and then Elementary from 10: am to 2:30 pm. The event schedule will be similar to the Humble program.

At Splendora Junior High, Revolution Education will have musket volley demonstration from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Larry is expecting several other inventions in the fall for the school Patriot Day events, these are usually in October and November. Ray Cox and Larry have made presentation at the Humble elementary schools for many years.

SAR has 10 educational contests. Americanism Poster Contest (grades 3-5), Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial brochure (grades 6-9), George and Stella M. Knight Essay (grades 9-12), Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration (Grades 9-12), C.A.R. Essay contest (Grades 10- College Freshman), Dr Robert S. and Jane Watkins Cohen 4-H award (4-H members), Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Award (all Eagle Scouts 17 and younger), Outstanding Junior ROTC Contest (11 grade Junior ROTC members), Jos. Plumb Martin Video Contest (Middle School and High School), Dr. Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher (Middle and High School History Teachers). Texas SAR has an Elementary History Teacher contest also.

To get complete information on these contests go to the Texas SAR Public website and click on Contests/Programs tab. Each program is listed along with any required entry forms required.

Larry has delivered 20 JROTC metals to 20 high school JROTC programs for the Piney Woods Chapter this Spring and has one more medal presentation at Splendora on Saturday, 17 May, 5:30 pm, at Splendora Junior High School, 23411 FM 2090, Splendora. Skip Hawley

**CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP
PineyWoods Chapter
Membership:**

TOTAL 98

**Current Regular Members 62 New 1
Dual 3 Youth 8 Reinstated 24**

**Official Newsletter PineyWoods
Chapter #51 Texas Society SAR**

Kingwood, TX 77325

www.txssar.org/PineyWoods

May 2025 Issue 5

**REGISTRAR Report—The following is the current Fee Schedule for New
Member Applications and Member Supplementals**

New Member Application Fee
for PineyWoods Chapter 51

NSSAR \$200.00

TXSSAR 47.50

PineyWoods 17.00

TOTAL \$264.50

Supplemental PineyWoods

NSSAR \$150.00

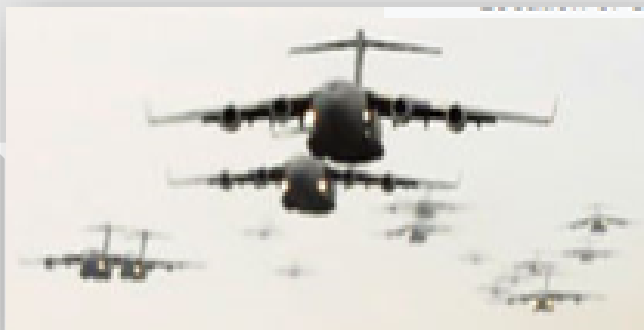
TXSSAR 32.00

PineyWoods 6.00

TOTAL \$188.00

PINEYWOODS YOUTH

□ Splendor ISD Multi-School Event: May 16



**VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE
MEMBERS**

CHAPTER COUPON PROJECT

Coupons for Overseas Military Families program. All that is required is for you to CLIP the manufacturer's coupons out that appear in the newspapers, and mail them to:

**John Beard
3738 Palmetto Creek Dr
Kingwood, Texas 77339**

Please cut the coupons from the pages and bring to the PineyWoods Lunch meetings. The coupons are very helpful to the service members and families and about 90% are used of purchase items in the exchanges.

Pledge to the United State of America

I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.



Texas Pledge

Honor the Texas flag, I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.



PineyWoods Chapter 51 TXSSAR

Lunch Meeting

Los Cucos Mexican Cafe

Kingwood Texas

May 17, 2025

11:15 AM—1:00 PM

INVOCATION

PLEDGES; USA & Texas Flag and SAR Pledge

Introductions

Officer Reports

President

1st Viced President

Youth Report (Stevens)

Secretary Report

Treasurer

Chaplain

Registrar

Historian

Nomination Committee Chair Report

New Business

SAR PLEDGE

"We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe."

SAR CLOSING

"Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of rights, an Independent Supreme Court, and a nation of free men."

Piney Woods Chapter #51 Business Meeting

April 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Los Cuco's Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

Chapter President Abe Abdmoulaie called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM. He led the members and guests in pledges to the U.S. and Texas Flags. Chaplin Jim Pinkerton led the invocation.

Members Present (15): Louis (Skip) Hawley, Ben Baskin, Joe Potter, Merv Hartwick, Larry Stevens, Dennis Brunson, Ski Grumboski, Richard Payne, Jim Pinkerton, Kermit Breed, B Ray Mize, Mel Oller, Bernie Kent, Bill King, Abe Abdmoulaie

Guests Present (6): Samantha Ballard, Susan Grumboski, Sharon Mize, Linda Abdmoulaie, Mary Beth Brunson



Texas SAR President Mel Oller discussed a special state meeting called SAR University to train national, State, and local chapter officers of their duties, and communications, delegation of duties. This meeting will be held via Zoom on

May 5th at 7: 00 P.M. Mel also noted the required Americanism reports due from each chapter to National SAR and reported that Texas chapters had 100% of reports submitted.

Mel reported that the first phase of construction on the Louisville Museum is now complete. The remaining budget from first phase amounting to \$100,000 was transferred to the next phase of construction. Budget of \$600,000 for the education section in the basement is now fully funded.

President Abdmoulaie said there is an officer training Zoom by President Oller on Monday evening and that there are officer training modules on the Texas Website for new officers. He asked Stevens to speak of upcoming Youth Programs.

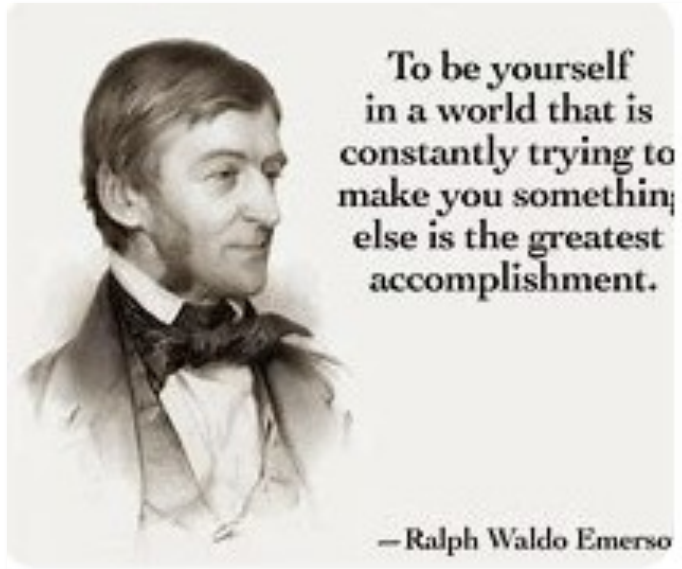
Larry Stevens asked for volunteers for the Humble ISD awards ceremony Scheduled for May 8 by Turner Stadium. On May 16th there is a Patriot Day event at Splendora Junior High School for both elementary and middle school activities. Larry made a motion to fund the Splendora Social Studies American History Fair project again this Fall and Jim Pinkerton 2nd the motion. During discussion, the motion was tabled until the treasurer's report.

Larry also reported that our chapter had not recognized any public servants since Covid. Larry requested that this program be restarted by our chapter members. Recognition by presenting these awards for any Public Servant who has a long working history of public service, including special actions. The Public Servants include law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS health professionals, etc.

Dennis Brunson reported that the Texas State monument cost is \$6000.

Chapter President Abe Abdmoulaie thanked the volunteers at Jesse Jones Park where around 450 people watched the reenactment of the April 19,1775 Lexington and Concord battles which started the American Revolution. Linda

Abdmoulaie, mother of our chapter president and Abe then recited the Concord Hymn. A copy is included in the minutes. The words were written in 1837 by Ralph Waldo Emerson whose fa-



ther was Rev William Emerson. William Emerson was a patriot who was the Pastor of a Concord church. His words inspired the congregation to fight for individual freedom and a revolt against tyranny. That same church was a meeting place for patriot meetings planning activities supporting the American revolution.

Officer Reports:

Larry Stevens thanked Michael Anderson for contacting members encouraging them to become active by paying the yearly SAR dues. Our membership is now ninety-nine and is listed in the newsletter.

2nd VP reported that he was learning his roles and responsibilities. He stated that he is the planning stage, reviewing several contests to encourage more participants in chapter activities. He is looking for ideas.

Outgoing Secretary Jim Pinkerton reported that last month's meeting minutes were included in the monthly newsletter.

Treasurer B Ray Mize presented the yearly budget, which is attached in the minutes. Two issues requiring resolution: Money in the budget includes supporting Ski Grumboski's veteran activities, Social Studies Fair project, JROTC programs, wreaths for veteran graves at our national cemetery, State monument, and other ac-

tivities as included in the treasurer's report. Larry Stevens proposed a motion to approve the treasurer's proposed 2026 budget. Joe Potter 2nd the motion. Members unanimously approved the budget.

The essay contest was again noted.

Kermit Breed reported that he has two applications at State level, Thomas and James Weston. Kermit is working on applications for Adam Kuhnley and son. Kermit also reported that the Kim Morton Foundation no longer exists. As a result, our chapter will not receive any further money from the dissolved foundation.

Two requests for funding member projects. The first request was for funding a mural on the wall of a Humble bank building for \$2000. Bill King requested \$500 funding a memorial bench at the Akron, Colorado cemetery where Bill's family members are interred. Both chapter members unanimously approved requests.

Members were reminded to fly the colors on Flag Day, June 14th. Another reminder to propose teacher awards for History and Social Studies.

Ski Grumboski reminded members to observe Memorial Day activities at the National cemetery.

President Abe Abdmoulaie led the members in the closing. Jim Pinkerton read the closing prayer.

Faithfully submitted by Bill King.



The siege of Boston was the opening phase of the American Revolutionary War. It lasted from April 19, 1775 to March 17, 1776. New England militiamen surrounded the town of Boston, Massachusetts, to prevent movement by the British Army garrisoned within. Both sides had to deal with resource, supply, and personnel issues over the course of the siege.



**TEXAS SAR DIST 8 VP Dennis Brunson
and wife Mary Beth**



**President Abe Abdmoulaie and his
mother Linda wearing her SAR DAR
Medal**



**Mel Oller Texas SAR President, Sharon and B Ray Mize, Linda Abdmoulaie,
Richard Payne, Merv Hartwick, Dist. 8 VP Dennis Brunson**

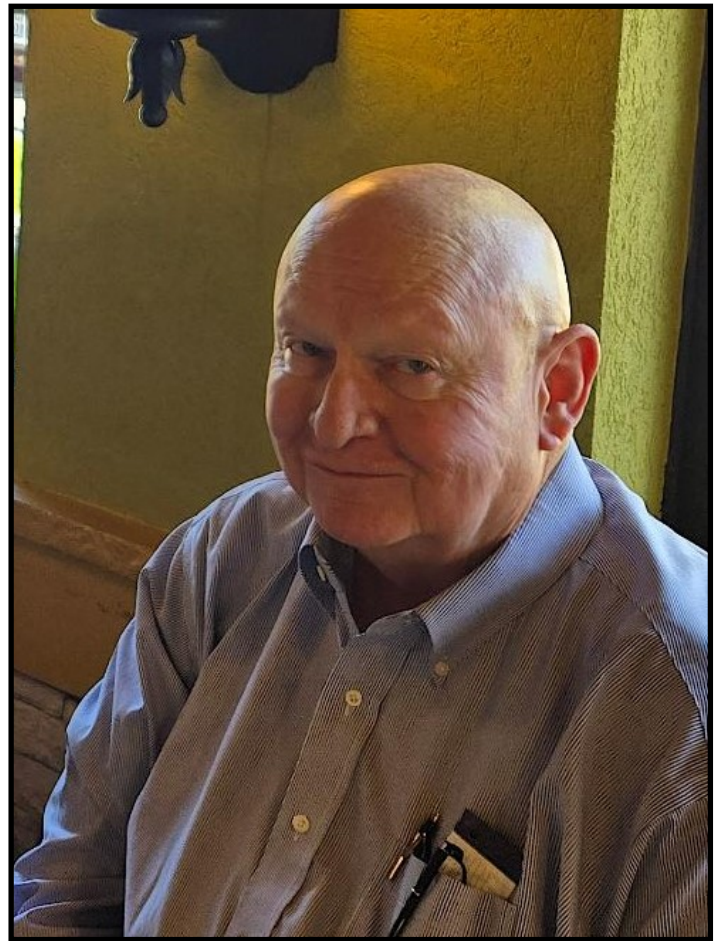
Past VP Bernie Kent



1st VP Jim Pinkerton Susan and Ski Grumboski



Immediate Past President Ben Baskin



Chapter 2nd VP Louis 'Skip' Hawley