



**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
October 2022 Issue 8**



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 Union Kitchen Kingwood Texas.



“BRITISH DEFEATED AT SARATOGA”

October 7, 1777, General Benedict Arnold leading his Continental Force, smashes through Breyman Redoubt which aided in trapping British General John Burgoyne’s army in front of the fortifications of Bemis Heights . The general surrendered to the Continental Army commanded by General Horatio Gates . (Story Page 8)

OCTOBER PROGRAM—Better Together

Long time Greentree Elementary teachers Dani Galiano and Kelly Abdmoulaie will present our October program. It is entitled “Better Together.” Both these 5th grade teachers have been instrumental in promoting Patriots Day at Greentree. Patriots Day is close to the students completing their history study of late colonial America and the Revolutionary War. AND, Veterans Day.



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From the President:

Members and Friends,

We have finally started to cool off as we enjoy some autumn days. Now if we could just get a little rain. We had a very dry June and July followed by some good rain in August. We are now back to a dry weather pattern. As this month progresses, we will see a deluge of political advertisements in advance of the general election on November 8th. I strongly urge everyone to get out to vote and make your voices heard. If you do not vote, you should not complain.



I want to make sure all our veterans, especially those who served in Vietnam, the Gulf War, and post 9/11 service, know about the PACT Act, a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history and brings about the following changes in VA benefits:

- ✦ Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- ✦ Adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures
- ✦ Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- ✦ Requires the VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care
- ◆ Helps improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

I want to make sure everyone who is possibly impacted by the new law receives information about it so I will send an email with a link to learn more, and it will be mentioned at our October 15th meeting. We owe our veterans tremendously, and their health and well-being are so important.

Speaking of our veterans, if you did not do so last year, email *Pine Shavings* Editor Larry Stevens a photo in your military uniform and identify your branch and rank for publication in next month's issue. We received several last year and had a newsletter page dedicated to our chapter veterans. Happy 247th Birthday to the Navy on October 13th, and I apologize for not recognizing the 75th birthday of the Air Force on September 18th.

The James Tull DAR Chapter will again be working on cleaning up the Old Humble Cemetery on October 22nd and November 19th. I was not able to make it out in September but will attend one of the upcoming sessions. I was out with them last year and it was fulfilling and interesting. I encourage you to come out if you can. They start at 8:00 am. I will email out a reminder with additional information a week or so in advance.

(Continued on page 3)

Our next chapter meeting will be on October 15th at the usual time and place, Union Kitchen. Our presenters will be longtime Greentree Elementary teachers Dani Galiano and Kelly Abdmoulaie, wife of Chapter Com-patriot Abe Abdmoulaie. Both have been instrumental in promoting Patriot Days at their school. Their presentation is titled “Better Together.” Unfortunately, I will miss the meeting because I have an out-of-town commitment. I was recently elected as National Corporate Secretary and Executive Board Member of the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI, Inc., an organization representing and advocating for former and retired agents. I will formally be sworn into the position at the Society’s annual conference that runs from October 14 – 16. My position is the equivalent of the secretary general of the SAR. Have a great meeting on

PineyWoods Chapter 51 has been supporting Projects other Lineage Societies



Sharon Mize, Oakley Elementary Principal Jennifer Andjelic, Lady Houston DAR Regent Julie Sivia, Lanell Smesney

PW members have been active with Lady Houston Chapter, the James Tull Chapter, the Seth Hurin Bates DRT and SRT. This cooperation includes cemetery cleaning, 911, Constitution Day and Veterans Day activities, providing school supplies in the past two years. A month ago we were asked to support providing new USA and Texas flags to area schools. We did this for Oakley Elementary in New Caney by providing the money to purchase the USA flag. We were not able to attend the ceremony at the school but we did get a picture of the ladies with the school principal who was pleased with the replacements.

PineyWoods Chapter Officers

2021-2023

President—Michael Anderson

1st VP—Abe Abdmoulaie

2nd VP—Bernie Kent

Secretary—Jim Pinkerton

Treasurer - B Ray Mize

Chancellor - Allan Henshaw

Parliamentarian-Mark Anthony

Genealogist –Kermit Breed

Registrar - Larry Stevens

Registrar - Joe Potter

Historian - Kermit Breed

Chaplain -Alan Bowman

Sgt. at Arms—Randy Hall

Newsletter Editor- Larry Stevens

Web Master - Ray Cox

Events Calendar



NSSAR

Spring Leadership/Trustee, March 2, 2023 to March 4, 2023
Louisville, Kentucky

133rd Annual SAR Congress Orlando, Florida

July 14-21, 2023



TXSSAR

BOM Hilton Plano Granite Park–
October 21-23, 2022

TXSSAR Annual Convention March 30 to

April 2, 2023 - Spring, Texas

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER 51



Meetings at Union Kitchen

October 15, 2022

November 19, 2022

December 10, 2022 (Stevens)



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Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution
Kingwood, TX 77325
www.txssar.org/PineyWoods
2022 Issue 8 Editor—Larry Stevens

Louisville Kentucky Fall Leadership



Texas had thirteen members and five spouses in attendance. Pictures, back row from the left— Micky Jo Lawrence - DAR, and PG Thomas Lawrence - Paul Carrington , Bob Cohen - Independence, Jane Cohen - DAR, Frank Rohrbough -San Antonio, Sam Massey - Paul Carrington, Tom Jackson - Robert Rankin, Bottom from left - David Temple –Dallas, Larry Stevens –PineyWoods, Diane Rohrbough -DAR, Catherine Massey -DAR, Barbara Stevens –DAR, Drake Peddie, Plano Not Pictured, TXSSAR Pres. Jim Kuykendall—Freedom, Mel Oller—Freedom, Past PG Nathan White - McKenney.

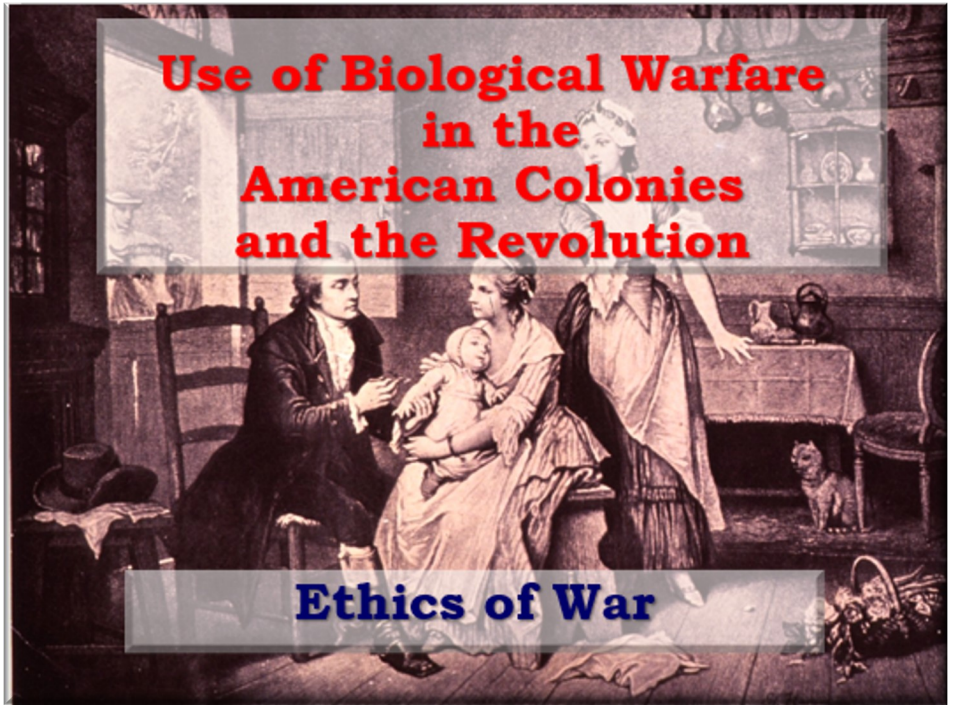
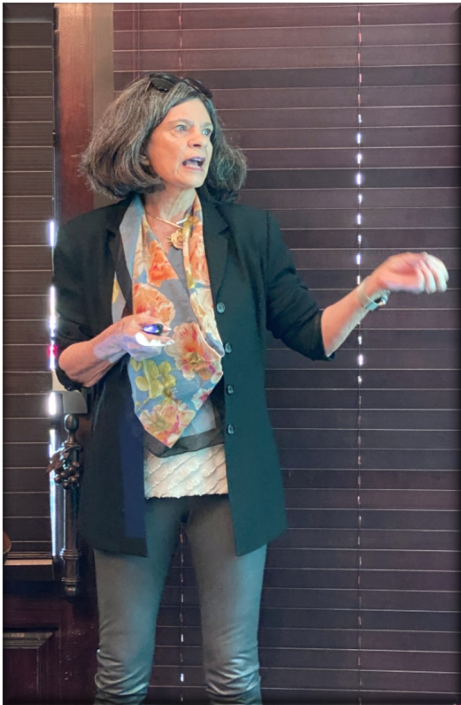


The two ships models were accepted as donations in a ceremony at SAR Headquarters by National Society President Bruce Pickette on September 29, 2022. Both are exact models of real Rev War Ships. On the left is a manned sloop and on the right is a gun boat used in Philadelphia. The hulls are nearly 2 feet in length The detail is just amazing. Both were built by a Model Company in Orange County California. These are a very nice



additions to the growing NSSAR Museum Collection. Some colonial era artifacts are on display in the SAR Genealogy Library. The Library its self is a standout and a modern research center.

Larry Stevens—Editor





Small Pox—A Weapon of War

George Washington's military genius is undisputed. Yet American independence must be partially attributed to a strategy for which history has given the infamous general little credit: his controversial medical actions. Traditionally, the Battle of Saratoga is credited with tipping the revolutionary scales. Yet the health of the Continental regulars involved in battle was a product of the ambitious initiative Washington began earlier that year at Morristown, close on the heels of the victorious Battle of Princeton. Among the Continental regulars in the American Revolution, 90 percent of deaths were caused by disease, and Variola the small pox virus was the most vicious of them all. (Gabriel and Metz 1992, 107) On the 6th of January 1777, George Washington wrote to Dr. William Shippen Jr., ordering him to inoculate all of the forces that came through Philadelphia. He explained that: "Necessity not only authorizes but seems to require the measure, for should the disorder infect the Army . . . we should have more to dread from it, than from the Sword of the Enemy." The urgency was real. Troops were scarce and encampments had turned into nomadic hospitals of festering disease, deterring further recruitment. Both Benedict Arnold and Benjamin Franklin, after surveying the havoc wreaked by Variola in the Canadian campaign, expressed fears that the virus would be the army's ultimate downfall. (Fenn 2001, 69)

At the time, the practice of infecting the individual with a less-deadly form of the disease was widespread throughout Europe. Most British troops were immune to Variola, giving them an enormous advantage against the vulnerable colonists. (Fenn 2001, 131) Conversely, the history of inoculation in America (beginning with the efforts of the Reverend Cotton Mather in 1720) was pocked by the fear of the contamination potential of the process. Such fears led the Continental Congress to issue a proclamation in 1776 prohibiting Surgeons of the Army to inoculate.

Washington suspected the only available recourse was inoculation, yet contagion risks aside, he knew that a mass inoculation put the entire army in a precarious position should the British hear of his plans. Moreover, Historians estimate that less than a quarter of the Continental Army had ever had the virus; inoculating the remaining three quarters and every new recruit must have seemed daunting. Yet the high prevalence of disease among the army regulars was a significant deterrent to desperately needed recruits, and a dramatic reform was needed to allay their fears.

Weighing the risks, on February 5th of 1777, Washington finally committed to the unpopular policy of mass inoculation by writing to inform Congress of his plan. Throughout February, Washington, with no precedent for the operation he was about to undertake, covertly communicated to his commanding officers orders to oversee mass inoculations of their troops in the model of Morristown and Philadelphia (Dr. Shippen's Hospital). At least eleven hospitals had been constructed by the year's end.

Variola raged throughout the war, devastating the Native American population and slaves who had chosen to fight for the British in exchange for freedom. Yet the isolated infections that sprung up among Continental regulars during the southern campaign failed to incapacitate a single regiment. With few surgeons, fewer medical supplies, and no experience, Washington conducted the first mass inoculation of an army at the height of a war that immeasurably transformed the international system. Defeating the British was impressive, but simultaneously taking on Variola was a risky stroke of genius.

References: Fenn, Elizabeth. *Pox Americana: the Great Smallpox Epidemic of 1775-82*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2001. 370 p.

Gabriel, Richard, and Karen Metz. *A History of Military Medicine*. New York: Greenwood Press, 1992. 2 v.

The American Revolution

October 28, 1776 - White Plains, New Jersey. After Washington pulls the Continental Army out of New York, British commander General Howe crosses the Hudson in hot pursuit. Washington had camped on a hill near White Plains, but the area was not secure, so he was forced to retreat marching further North.

October 17, 1777 - Saratoga - General John Burgoyne signs the "Convention of Saratoga" after having to surrender to Horatio Gates at Saratoga, New York.

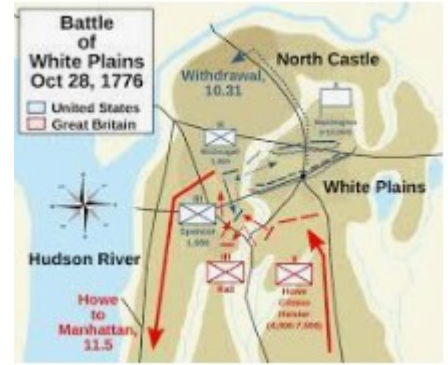
October 22, 1777 - The Battle of Red Bank - A British and Hessian force was sent to take Fort Mercer, on the left bank of the Delaware River (New Jersey) and just south of Philadelphia. They were defeated by a smaller and inferior force of Continentals.

October 16, 1779 - The Battle of San Fernando de Omoa (Honduras) in the Captaincy General of Guatemala. Shortly after the Spanish declare war on Britain, joining the Americans and the French, a small force of 150 seaman and British soldiers, under the command of Capt. Dalrymple and Commodore Luttrell, laid siege and then attacked on October 20, 1779, capturing the Spanish Fortress at San Fernando de Omoa over whelming 365 Spaniards. However, the British abandoned the fort due to tropical diseases in November 1779.



October 7, 1780 - Kings Mountain - The Battle of a Militia of Loyalists against a Militia of Whigs ended in an utter defeat for the British in South Carolina.

October 19, 1781 - Yorktown - Travel worn, out of supplies, surrounded, Lord General Cornwallis surrendered to a large force of Continentals and French commanded by General George Washington at Yorktown.



BRITISH DEFEATED AT SARATOGA

October 7, 1777

American victory. One of the most decisive American battles of the Revolutionary War, Saratoga ended British general John Burgoyne's attempt to control the Hudson River Valley. The outcome convinced the Court of King Louis XVI that the Americans could hold their own against the British Army, sealing the alliance between America and France.

The failure of the American invasion of Canada in 1775–76 had left a large surplus of British troops along the St. Lawrence River, so in 1777, the British planned to attack the Continentals at Albany. The strategy was to approach Albany, New York, from three directions.

General John Burgoyne, would march from Quebec, Canada to Lake Champlain and then to Lake George, and there he was to meet at Albany a much smaller British force under Col. Barry St. Leger. St Leger was to advance from the west from Fort Oswego along the Mohawk Valley. The third prong was to march up the Hudson from the south, under General Sir William Howe. This was complex offensive campaign. If it succeeded Albany and the Hudson Valley would be in British hands, and the patriot hotbed of New England would be effectively severed from the mid-Atlantic colonies.



In June, Burgoyne marched south from Canada. The size of his army varies by accounts stating he may have had 9,000 regulars and 3,000 Germans. His role was critical in the success of the invasion. His advance south was not easy in that he had to improve the roads and build bridges for his wagons of provisions, tents, munitions, and cannon. On July 1, 1777, he reached and occupied the abandoned Fort Ticonderoga on July 5, 1777, and then on July 31, 1777, occupied Fort Edwards on the edge of the Hudson River. [Ft. Ticonderoga had been evacuated by the American commander, Gen. Philip Schuyler. Schuyler had retreated across the Hudson to Stillwater. General Schuyler was dismissed for his actions and replaced by General Horatio Gates. Burgoyne stayed at Fort Edwards resting his army for a few days.]



John Stark—Bennington

In August, Burgoyne dispatched a small force of Germans to Bennington, Vermont, to steal horses and provisions. But on August 16, 1777, these Germans were surrounded and almost completely annihilated by a force under Gen. John Stark and Col. Seth Warner.

Burgoyne desperately needed Clinton's support, but he learned of Clinton's decision to abandon the plan to march on Albany and instead attack Pennsylvania. Burgoyne was on his own with no supply lines. He

decided he had enough supplies and men to follow the original orders and take Albany.

Locating Gates near Saratoga, Burgoyne divided his army into three columns. Each column was to probe American defenses. On September 19th, Col. Daniel Morgan's light infantry engaged the center column near Freeman's Farm. It is a hotly contested fight, with the field changing hands several times. By evening, the British, reinforced by five hundred German Hessians, held the field, but the action blunted their forward motion and Burgoyne lost almost six hundred men.



Bemis Heights

Burgoyne tried a second attack on Bemis Heights on October 7th by sending a reconnaissance probe toward Bemis Heights. The Americans learned of the plan and General Gates with 8,500 men and growing, and he was supported by troops under General Benedict Arnold and Daniel Morgan, attacked. The battle was fierce, with lines ebbing and flowing when Benedict Arnold led a smashing blow, overrunning a German force at Breymann Redoubt, and charging into the British stopping their attack. At this point it is believed that Gates Army had grown to close to 20,000.



On October 8th Burgoyne began to retreat but Gates had him surrounded. A Saratoga, on October 17th he signed a surrender document called the "Convention of Saratoga" under which Burgoyne's men would be allowed to return home under the condition they would not serve in North America again.

The news of the defeat shook Britain and caused the French to openly support the American revolt. General Gates' popularity soared to the point where some in congress wanted him to replace Washington as Commander of the Continental Forces.



Gen Burgoyne presenting Sword to Gen Horatio Gates

NEW MEMBERS 2021

Welcome new members.

We continue to get inquiries for Membership. These are referred to our Registrar (s) - Larry Stevens, Kermit Breed, Joe Potter. If other members would like to help, please let me know. Helping someone PROVE their PATRIOT Ancestor can be challenging but fun researching.

President Mike Anderson



NEW APPLICATIONS: New Members 2022

Love, Anthony R. SAR# 222328 Anc. Buchanan, John 2nd Lt NC Margaret Kennedy 5/19/2022

Kallina, Cameron SAR# 222517 Anc. Hinds, John Capt. NC unknown 5/20/2022

PineyWoods Chapter Membership: a/o 21 Feb 2022

Regular– 83 New - 5 Dual– 4 Youth—4 Reinstated 11 Total 107

FOUR YOUTH MEMBERS reinstated at the end of August will bring PineyWoods Membership to 111.
(Not posted a/o 9 Oct 2022)

Youth Members now current on Dues will no longer have to pay \$5 and will not receive a Dues notices!

VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY

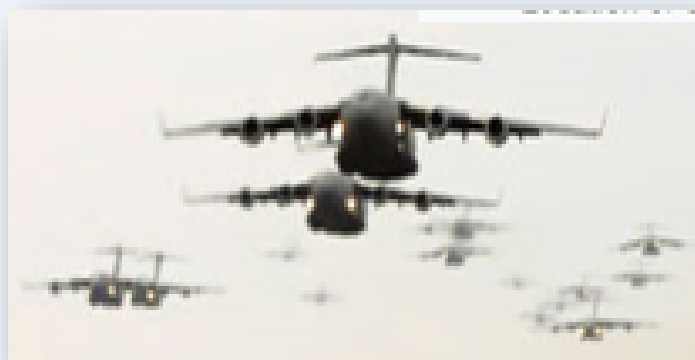
SERVICE MEMBERS

CHAPTER PROJECTS

Chapter Coupon Project

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

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



Please cut out the individual coupons before your mail them or bring them to the meeting. Thank you in advance.

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.



AGENDA— October 15, 2022 — 11:00 AM

INVOCATION

PLEDGES; USA & Texas Flag and SAR Pledge

OFFICERS 2021-2023

President Mike Anderson

Introductions

1st Vice President—Abe Abdmoulaie

2nd VP --- Bernie Kent

Secretary—Jim Pinkerton

Treasurer — B. Ray Mize

Genealogist — Kermit Breed

Chaplain—Alan Bowman

Chancellor—Allan Henshaw

Parliamentarian—Mark Anthony

Registrars—Larry Stevens, Joe Potter

Historian—Kermit Breed

Sgt. At Arms—Randy Hall

Newsletter Report—Larry Stevens

Webmasters Report -- Ray Cox

NEW BUSINESS

BENEDICTION

SAR CLOSING—Abe Abdmoulaie

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

Union Kitchen Restaurant

September 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes

President Michael Anderson called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. Chaplin Alan Bowman gave the invocation. This was followed by President Anderson leading members and guests in the pledges of the U.S. and Texas flags.

Attendance: (12) Compatriots present: Abe Abdmoulaie, Michael Anderson, Ben Baskin, John Beard, Kermit Breed, Alan Bowman, Merv Hartwick, Jeffrey LaRochelle, Jim Pinkerton, Keith Schoonover, Roland Skelton, Larry Stevens.

Attendance: (5) Guests present: Mary Claire Beard, Carolyn Bowman, Jeannie Hartwick, Richard Payne, Barbara Stevens.

Program: Barbara Stevens, past state president, Daughters of the Texas Republic and professional biologist presented a most interesting program titled Biological Warfare during the American Revolution. The British Army used smallpox, the scourge of the 18th century, against the colonists and native Americans. This was an eyeopener that our members had no idea occurred and potentially relevant today.



Secretary's Report: The report will appear in the October newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: The current account balance is \$6,852.00. The inventory of medals and awards is valued at \$3442.00.

Registrar's Report: Kermit Breed has one application pending in Louisville. Larry Stevens is in contact with a new prospective member. Stevens asked of the chapter was receiving the \$17, which is the chapter's share of each new application, that is in the total fee charged of \$196.00. The Treasurer's report lists nothing received from the state last or this year. After discussion, President Anderson said he would question the Texas Treasurer.

Old and New Business: John Beard stated that he had collected \$27,000 worth of coupons for distribution to our active-duty troops in the Pacific. Abe Abdmoulaie reminded members of the Fallen Hero's Golf Tournament October 29th at the Oakhurst Golf Club. Kermit Breed informed members of a special foundation set up in memory of deceased Compatriot Kim Morton, a charter member of this chapter.

Adjournment: The closing prayer was given by Alan Bowman. Michael Anderson gave the recessional, and the meeting was closed at 1:25 p.m.

