



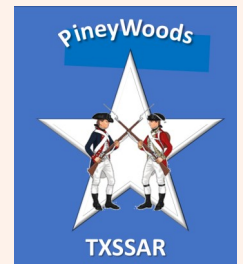
**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
September 16, 2023 Issue 7**



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.



SAR NEWS FROM LOUISVILLE

***NSSAR SHORT
\$200,000 + 2023***

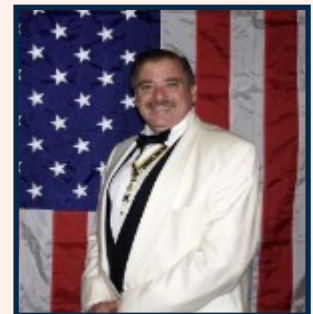
SAR Finance Committee Chairman submitted his report at the Trustees Meeting in Louisville on September 24th and reported a short fall of over \$200,000 to pay the bills, pay the employees Benefits, Salaries and Wages. This is after laying off one new Genealogist.

The Finance Chairman stated is directly attributed to two causes. First, inflation and interested interest has affected all to some extent or another. A MAJOR attribute is **NSSAR Membership has not increased since 2019 or 4 years** which caused our budgeting projections based on 3 percent growth each year to be far off target.

Further he stated the \$15 dues increase passed due this forecast will not make any impact until 2024. Meeting this year's cash needs will require borrowing the money.

President General John Dodd reiterated the dire need to increase our membership and contact members who have dropped to reinstate their member-

ship. He challenged Officers, District VPGs, Trustees, and State Presidents to make this a number one priority for the rest of this year and during the upcoming dues collection process. He said we are taking steps to work smarter due to the lack of cash flow.



When asked about using other funds, such as Headquarter buildout, he stated these funds were dedicated to specific projects and can not be used to shore up our budget needs.

Lunch Program
**“Western Expansion -
In North America”**
By
Barbara Ann Stevens
Saturday, October 14th

ATTN: Chapter Meeting is at Los Cucos Mexican Café Kingwood - OCTOBER 14th 2023 11:30 AM

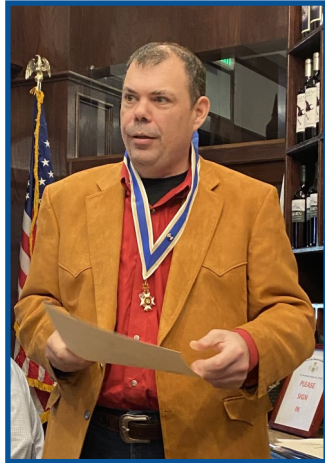
From the President:

We will have our October Monthly meeting at Los Cusos Mexican Cafe in Kingwood on October 14th. Social time is 11:00 and the meeting starts at 11:30.

The following Saturday October 21st is the BOM meeting in College Station.

A famous American born in October was John Adams, in Braintree, Massachusetts on October 30, 1735.

Many important battles of the American Revolution took place in the month of October.



Battle of Kings Mountain in South Carolina on Oct 7, 1780

Battle of White Plains in New York & New Jersey on Oct 28, 1776

Affair at Little Egg Harbor in Southern New Jersey on Oct 15, 1778

Royalton Raid: 1780 along the White River Valley in the Vermont Republic

Battle of Valcour Island on October 11, 1776, on Lake Champlain, New York

Battle of Shallow Ford on Oct 14, 1780, in Huntsville, NC

Ben Baskin
President
PineyWoods Chapter 51

ROYALTON RAID

During the Revolutionary War, Native Americans who were allied with the British raided the settlement of Royalton. The raiders took captured prisoners north to Canada. Zaddock Steele related his experience in "The Indian Captive: A Narrative of the Captivity and Sufferings of Zaddock Steele."

The early morning hours of October 16, 1780, found British Lt. Richard Houghton of the 53rd Foot and a single Grenadier, along with 300 Mohawk warriors from the British Province of Quebec, attacking and burning the towns of Royalton, Sharon, and Tunbridge along the White River in Eastern Vermont. The raid was launched in conjunction with two other raids led by Major Christopher Carleton at Lake Champlain and Lake George, and by Sir John Johnson of New York and the Mohawk Valley. Four Vermont settlers were killed and twenty-six were taken prisoner to Quebec.



By the time the local militia could gather, Houghton and his Mohawks were already on their way to Canada. The militia caught up with Houghton near Randolph, Vermont. A few volleys were fired, but Houghton said the captive could be killed if shooting continued, the militia stopped firing and Houghton slipped away.

At the South Royalton Town Green, there is a Arch Monument erected honoring Hannah Handy, who had lost a son in the raid. She had crossed the river, caught up Houghton and successful begged to release the young boys being help saying they would surely die on the trek north. The names of the boys returned were Michael Handee, Roswell Parkhurst the son of Ebenezer Parkhurst, Andrew and Sheldon Durkee, Joseph Rix, Rufus and an unknown Fish, Nathaniel Evans, and Daniel Downer.

Steele, Zaddock (1908). *The Indian Captive; Or, A Narrative of the Captivity and Sufferings of Zaddock Steele*, H.R. Hunting Company

Lovejoy, Mary Evelyn Wood (1911). *History of Royalton, Vermont, with family genealogies, 1769-1911*, New York Public Library. Burlington, Vt., Free press printing company

FROM THE EDITOR

The Leadership/Trustee meeting in Louisville, Kentucky was fairly well attended by Texans. I was the only one from PineyWoods. I am currently serving as the SAR Chief Compliance Officer. Both Jim Jones and John Beard service in this position.

One important fact is that membership in the SAR has not increased since 2019 with COVID impacting us because we quit meeting. A number of members chose not to pay dues; and, new member application declined through out the 50 states.

This is occurring at a time when our presence is needed most.

The 250th Anniversary on the Declaration of Independence is approaching. As a matter of fact, the 250th Anniversary of the BOSTON TEA PARTY is this December 16, 2023, We have an event scheduled at Lone Star College in the Woodlands. Our chapter, and others, the DAR, Revolution Education 1776 Inc., will be joining Dr. Criag Livingston, professor and founder and leader of Lord Sterling's Drum and Fife corps will be putting on programs and events. Ray Cox is a fifer in the corps. I will be there talking about Colonial Life in America. If you have a colonial uniform or civilian or militia outfit come help. If you don't have these. COME JOIN US. LARRY



Larry G. Stevens Editor.

Los Cuco's Mexican Cafe

Kingwood Texas

11am-1pm

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PineyWoods Chapter Officers

2023 - 2025

President - Ben Baskin
1st Vice President - Abe Abdmoulaie
2nd Vice President - Harry Salisbury
Secretary - Jim Pinkerton
Treasurer - B. Ray Mize
Historian - Roland Skelton
Chaplain - Alan Bowman
Chancellor - Allan Henshaw
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

Fall Leadership/Trustee, Sept 21, 2023 to Sept 24, 2023 Louisville, Kentucky



TXSSAR

Texas Society BOM— Wyndham College Station—
2829 Texas Ave
October 20-22, 2023

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER 51

Los Cucos 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

October 14, 2023

November 18, 2023
December 16, 2023
January 20, 2023

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

PineyWoods Chapter

Membership: a/o 9 Aug 2023

TOTAL 112

Current Regular Members— 94 New -3 Dual— 3

Youth—6 Reinstated 6

Official Newsletter Piney-
Woods Chapter #51 Tex-
as Society, SAR

Kingwood, TX 77325

www.txssar.org/
PineyWoods

October 2023 Issue 8

Youth Programs

One, the Chapter needs and JROTC Medal Coordinator. The JROTC Instructors want our Broze ROTC Medals to recognize above and beyond performance of a Cadet in their Junior or 11th Year.

It is time to talk about our Youth Programs to our schools, teachers and students. The programs can be found on our Websites.

The Elementary School Teachers Award Program has been discontinued by SAR. Texas currently has an Elementary School Teacher program and will be discussing at the BOM in College Station October 21st, 2023.

Upcoming School Programs (Register as a volunteer in your school district-online)

Other Events

Humble Christmas Parade December 5

BOSTON TEA PARTY Woodlands Dec 9th

Humble Museum January 20, 2024

Houston Christian Univ. April 6, 2024

Atascocita Middle October 13th

Katy Classical Academy October 26 (or 27)

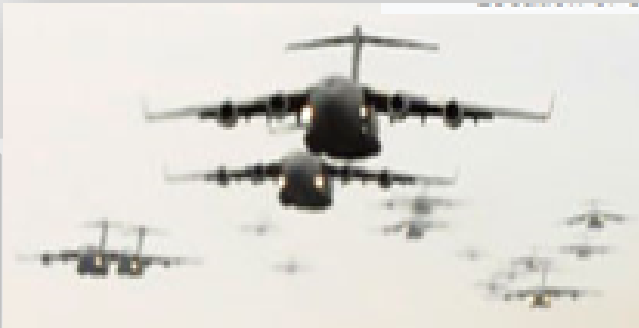
Beard Branch Elementary November 3rd

Greentree Elementary November 16th

Willow Creek Elementary November 30th

Deerwood Elementary January 31, 2024

Contact Larry Stevens for details on these events at wardtracker@aol.com



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.

Piney Woods Chapter #51 Business Meeting

September 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Los Cuco's Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

PineyWoods Chapter 51

Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution -Chapter Meeting Minutes

President Ben Baskin called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. Chaplin Alan Bowman gave the invocation. President Baskin led members and guests in the pledges to the U.S. and Texas flag. He also led the assembly in the SAR pledge.

Members Present: (11) Jim Pinkerton, John Beard, William King, B. Ray Mize, Richard Payne, Skip Hawley, Bernie Kent, Larry Stevens, Ben Baskin, Alan Bowman, Merv Hartwick.

Guests Present: (9) Sarah Wursche, Mary Claire Beard, Sharon Mize, Barbara Stevens, Larry's daughter Samantha Ballard, Darrel and Nancy Radford, Jeannie Hartwick, Mike Allard.

Program: Larry Stevens presented an interesting program on "14 Colonies" Larry directed members and guests to look at Florida as a potential 14th colony, Patriots tried to make a move to have Florida a part of the Revolution.

Treasury Report: B. Ray Mize, chapter treasurer, made a recommendation to move \$22,500 from the J.P. Morgan checking account to a C.D. at the same institution. This would be interest bearing for 6 months. Membership approved this recommendation.

Registrars Report: Kermit Breed stated he was working on a potential new member Darrel Radford. Kermit just finished three new member application. Registrar Larry Stevens said he has one on hold and is working on another new member application.

JROTC Report; Randy Hall, our current

JROTC representative has accepted a position at the SAR State level. This leaves us with an opening in our current slate of officers.

Old Business: A motion was made by Larry Stevens to resend a check for an Eagle Scout recipient. We have been unable to locate him. Motion was accepted.

New Business: There was a discussion about potential usage with the Kim Morton Memorial Fund. Scholarships for students will be the route taken. John Beard gave the coupon report. \$30,000 worth of coupons have currently been collected for military bases in the far east. There was a discussion on the Liberty Tree fund for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. The patriot programs will be starting shortly in the local elementary schools. The BOM will be held in the month of October.

Closing: President Baskin led members in our SAR closing at 12:55 p.m.

Jim Pinkerton
Chapter Secretary



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 Cuco's Mexican Cafe

October 14, 2023

11:00 AM—1:00 PM

INVOCATION

PLEDGES; USA & Texas Flag and SAR Pledge

Introductions

Officer Reports

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Chaplain

Historian

Genealogist

Registrars

Webmaster

Old and New Business

Lunch

BENEDICTION

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.”

Patrick Ferguson

Major Patrick Ferguson (1744 – 7 October 1780) was a Scottish officer in the British Army, an early advocate of light infantry and the designer of the Ferguson rifle. He is best known for his service in the 1780 military campaign of Charles Cornwallis during the American Revolutionary War in the Carolinas. There he aggressively recruited Loyalists and harshly treated Patriot sympathizers. Some dispute this characterization of Ferguson as showing pro-Patriot bias, however, and other accounts praise him for his humanity and unwillingness to follow orders he considered barbaric. It is clear that he was no Tarleton.



The Patriot militia killed him in the Battle of Kings Mountain, at the border between the colonies of North and South Carolina. Leading a group of Loyalists whom he had recruited, he was the only regular army officer participating on either side of the conflict. It is reported that the victorious Patriot forces desecrated his body in the aftermath of the battle.

Patrick Ferguson was born at High Street Edinburgh on 25 May 1744. Some accounts incorrectly identify his birthplace as on his father's estate in Pitfour in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. He was the second son and fourth child of attorney James Ferguson of Pitfour (who was raised to the judges' bench as a Senator of the College of Justice, so known as Lord Pitfour after 1764) and his wife Anne Murray, a sister of the literary patron Patrick Murray, 5th Lord Elibank.

Ferguson began his military career in his teens, encouraged by his maternal uncle James Murray. He served briefly in the Holy Roman Empire with the Scots Greys during the Seven Years' War, until a leg ailment forced him to return home. After recovering, now in peacetime, he served with his regiment on garrison duty. In 1768, he purchased a command of a company in 70th Regiment of Foot, under the his cousin Colonel Alexander Johnstone. He served with this regiment in the West Indies until his lame leg again began to trouble him.

At home in 1772, he took part in light infantry training. During this time he came to the attention of General Howe. It was also at this time that he developed the Ferguson rifle, a breechloading flintlock weapon based

on Chaumette's earlier system. This weapon would have changed the course of the war if the British had developed it, which fortunately, it never did.

In 1777, Ferguson went to the colonies to serve in the American War of Independence with his experimental rifle corps. However, after initial success, he was shot through the right elbow joint at the Battle of Brandywine on 11 September 1777 in Pennsylvania. Shortly before, he had had the chance

to shoot a prominent American officer, accompanied by another in distinctive hussar dress, but decided not to do so, as the man had his back to him (Ferguson) and was unaware of his presence. A surgeon told Ferguson in the hospital that some American casualties had said that General Washington had been in the area at the time. Ferguson wrote that, even if the officer were the general, he did not regret his decision. The officer's identity remains uncertain; historians suggest that the aide in hussar dress might indicate the senior officer was Count Casimir Pulaski.

For some months after being wounded, Ferguson was at risk for amputation of his arm. During this time, he received news of his father's death. Ferguson eventually recovered, although his right arm was permanently crippled. He resumed his career in May 1778, under the command of Sir Henry Clinton.

In October 1778, Ferguson was assigned to lead a raid in southern New Jersey to suppress privateers who had been seizing British ships. They were based around the Little Egg Harbor River, which empties into the Great Bay. Ferguson attacked their base in what is known as the Battle of Chestnut Neck.

About a week later, Ferguson was notified by a Hessian defector, Lieutenant Carl Wilhelm Juliat, who had returned to the British side after a furious argument with the American Lieutenant Colonel Carl Von Bose that a detachment of Count Pułaski's troops, under Von Bose's command, was located nearby. Ferguson

(Continued on page 8)

marched his troops to the site of Bose's infantry outpost, which comprised fifty men and was a short distance from Pulaski's main encampment. At first light on October 15, 1778, Ferguson ordered his men to use bayonets to attack the sleeping men of the American force. Pulaski reported that Ferguson's Tories killed, wounded or took prisoner about 30 of his men in what the Americans called the Little Egg Harbor massacre.

Ferguson's account, under the pen-name Egg-Shell, expresses his dismay at Pulaski's lack of preparations and failure to post look-outs. He said in his official report that little quarter could be given, and his men took only five prisoners. Ferguson reported that he did not destroy the three houses which sheltered the Americans because they were the dwellings of inoffensive Quakers, who were innocent civilians. Pulaski eventually led his mounted troops (Pulaski's Legion) forward, causing Ferguson to retreat to his boats, minus a few men who had been captured. Ferguson reported his losses as two killed, three wounded, and one missing.

Ferguson was commissioned on October 25, 1779 as a Major in the 71st Foot. In 1780, the British Army sent General Lord Cornwallis to invade South Carolina and North Carolina. His mission was to defeat all American forces in the Carolinas and keep the two colonies within the British Empire. A key part of Cornwallis's plan was to recruit soldiers from local Loyalists. To achieve this goal, General Clinton appointed Major Ferguson as Inspector of Militia in South Carolina. Ferguson's mission was to recruit Loyalist militia in the Carolinas and Georgia and to intimidate any colonists who favored American independence.

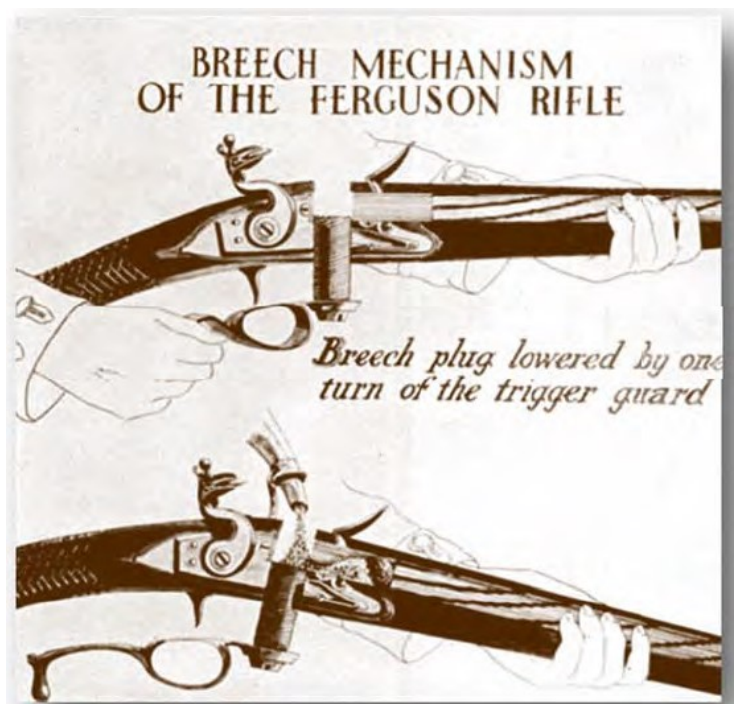
After winning several victories over American forces, Cornwallis occupied Charlotte, North Carolina in the summer of 1780. He divided his army and gave command of one section to Ferguson. Ferguson's wing consisted of Loyalists he had recruited to fight for the British cause. Ferguson may have ensured his defeat at King's Mountain when he publicly threatened to invade the mountains beyond the legal limit on westward settlement unless the colonists there abandoned the cause of American independence. Infuriated by this pronouncement over-mountaineers organized a militia to fight him and his Loyalists at King's Pinnacle, an isolated ridge on the border between the Carolinas. On 7 October 1780, the two armies met in the famous Battle of Kings Mountain. The battle went badly for the Loyalists, and during the fighting, Ferguson was shot from his

horse. With his foot still in the stirrup, he was dragged to the rebel side. According to Rebel accounts, when a Patriot approached the major for his surrender, Ferguson drew his pistol and shot him as a last act of defiance. Other soldiers retaliated, and Ferguson's body was found with eight musket holes in it. Patriot accounts said their militia stripped his body of clothing and urinated on him before burial. They buried him in an ox hide near the site of his fall.

One of Ferguson's two mistresses, 'Virginia Sal', was also killed in the battle and was buried with the officer. In the 1920s, the U.S. government erected a marker at Ferguson's gravesite, which today is a part of the Kings Mountain National Military Park, administered by the National Park Service.

Ferguson's personal correspondence reveals a man of intelligence, humor and charm. He also wrote several articles, satirical in tone, for publication in Rivington's Royal Gazette, under the pseudonyms Egg-Shell, Memento Mori and John Bull.

He was survived by his mother, his brothers James and George, and sisters Annie, Elizabeth (Betty) (Mrs. Scrymgeour-Wedderburn of Birkhill), and Jean.



Sources:

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Ferguson
2. <http://www.ushistory.org/brandywine/special/art09.htm>
3. <http://www.nps.gov/kimo/historyculture/ferguson-rifle.htm>
4. <http://www.queensroyalsurreys.org.uk/personalities/ferguson/ferguson.shtml>