



# Pine Shavings



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

## SAR Monthly Reporter

An Illustrated Publication of the PineyWoods Chapter

### September Meeting and Member Information:

The September 15, 2016 meeting at Jimmy G's will feature our Genealogist Kim Morton. Kim will make a presentation using a DVD, a short book featuring documents and pictures, on his Uncle Clyde who was killed in WWII. You need to see this; our WWII troops were all heroes.

This issue of Pine Shavings is being mailed to all current members of PineyWoods Chapter #51 this year. We have encountered some wrong addresses and problems with e-mail addresses and telephone numbers. E-mailing meeting notices and newsletters costs our chapter nothing, while US Mail costs about \$1.20 each. Changes in contact information can be made. All members are encouraged to update their information on the Texas website. And, at the same time please mail your updated information to editor Larry Stevens, or let him know you have updated your information on the website.

There is a form on the Private Texas Website under the Members Tab. If you do not have access to the Private Site, send you changes to our Newsletter Editor Larry Stevens and he will make the changes for you. If you have an e-mail account and the chapter editor does not have this address, please send this address and any other changes or additions to our editor at [wardtracker@aol.com](mailto:wardtracker@aol.com). Larry can not only add your email address to the Texas Website but can add it to the chapter's mail list.

There is a "Meeting Location" and "Preferred Date" for meetings included in the newsletter, please go to our PineyWoods Chapter 51 TXSSAR web page. The Survey can be completed on line, or you can send your response by mail to the editor at 1706 Chestnut Grove Lane, Kingwood, Texas 77345 or call on 281-361-2061 or 832-814-7132,



# **Piney Woods Chapter 51 Texas Society SAR**

## **Meeting at Jimmy G's at Greenspoint, Houston, TX 18 August 2016**

President Joe Potter welcomed all to the meeting at 6:30 PM. After invocation by Ray Cox members recited the pledge to the United States and Texas flags followed by the SAR pledge.

COMPATRIOTS PRESENT: Kermit Breed, Joe Potter, Larry Stevens, Larry Blackburn, Marty Landry, Ray Cox, Walter Baily and Karl Falken

GUEST: John Hamlin, VP ACMA and Galvez Chapter Member, Galveston

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Pinkerton was not present. No report.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Kermit Breed is working on applications for Sidney Babcock, Richard Fork and Christopher Fork. Applications for Ben Baskin, Jerry Linzinger and Andrew Kodak are at national. Larry Stevens is working on applications for Jeff Brumboski and his two sons, Charles Jones and Alan Raymond.

NEWSLETTER: The August newsletter to be sent by US Mail to all members to verify addresses. Larry again encourages all members to send articles and stories on your ancestor to be used in the newsletter. Be sure to read write up on the NSSAR 126<sup>TH</sup> Congress in Boston, Piney Woods was well represented.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Larry Blackburn reported we awarded 33 JROTC medals. Thanks to all who helped.

GUEST SPEAKER: John Hamlin member of Bernardo de Galvez / # 1, acting in his State office as Vice President of Medals and Awards gave an informative talk. John encouraging members to contact Schools and youth groups to precipiate in the scholarships and essay contest SAR has available.

#### **FUTURE EVENTS:**

Sept. 29-Oct. 1st, 2016 Fall Leadership – The Brown Hotel, Louisville, KY

October 14-16, 2016 Fall BOM at Holiday Inn Midtown Austin

February 18, 2017 George Washington Parade, Laredo, Texas

Mar. 30-April 2, 2017 123rd Texas Annual Conference El Tropicana Riverwalk Hotel

OLD BUSINESS: More discussion about moving meeting time of monthly meeting to Saturday around 11:30 AM. at Jimmy G or some place in Humble.

Karl was asked to create the application and drawing for the proposed Civil Air Patrol medal.

NEW BUSINESS: Walter Bailey was sworn in as a new Compatriot and gave a short history of his ancestor Michael Sword

Motion was made by Kermit Breed and seconded by Larry Blackburn to make all Piney Woods meetings member/guest. Motion carried.

A drawing of the medal set and pin for the SAR 128<sup>th</sup> Congress to be held in Houston was shown and are

*(Continued on page 3)*

# Piney Woods Chapter 51 Texas Society SAR Meeting at Jimmy G's at Greenspoint, Houston, TX 18 August 2016

*(Continued from page 2)*

available now. Contact John Beard.

WEB MASTER: It was suggested that Ray Cox set up a system for polling members by e-mail about meeting changes. As well as using the US Mail.

After the benediction by Ray Cox members joined together in the SAR closing. President Potter adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM

Piney Wood #51 Secretary Kermit Breed



John Hamlin, TXSSAR Awards and Medals Vice President, discussed the many youth programs and the importance of just one chapter's participation.

Karl Falken discussed the possibility of adding an award for Civil Air Patrol. VP Hamlin suggested the form be submitted to his committee for further consideration and processing.

*Pictured: Karl Falken, Ray Cox, and John Hamlin*

Pictured at right New member Walter Bailey proudly displays his membership certificate. His ancestor was Michael Sword, and Com-patriot Baily gave a short talk on the service of his ancestor.

*Pictured: President Joe Potter, Walter Bailey, and Larry Stevens*



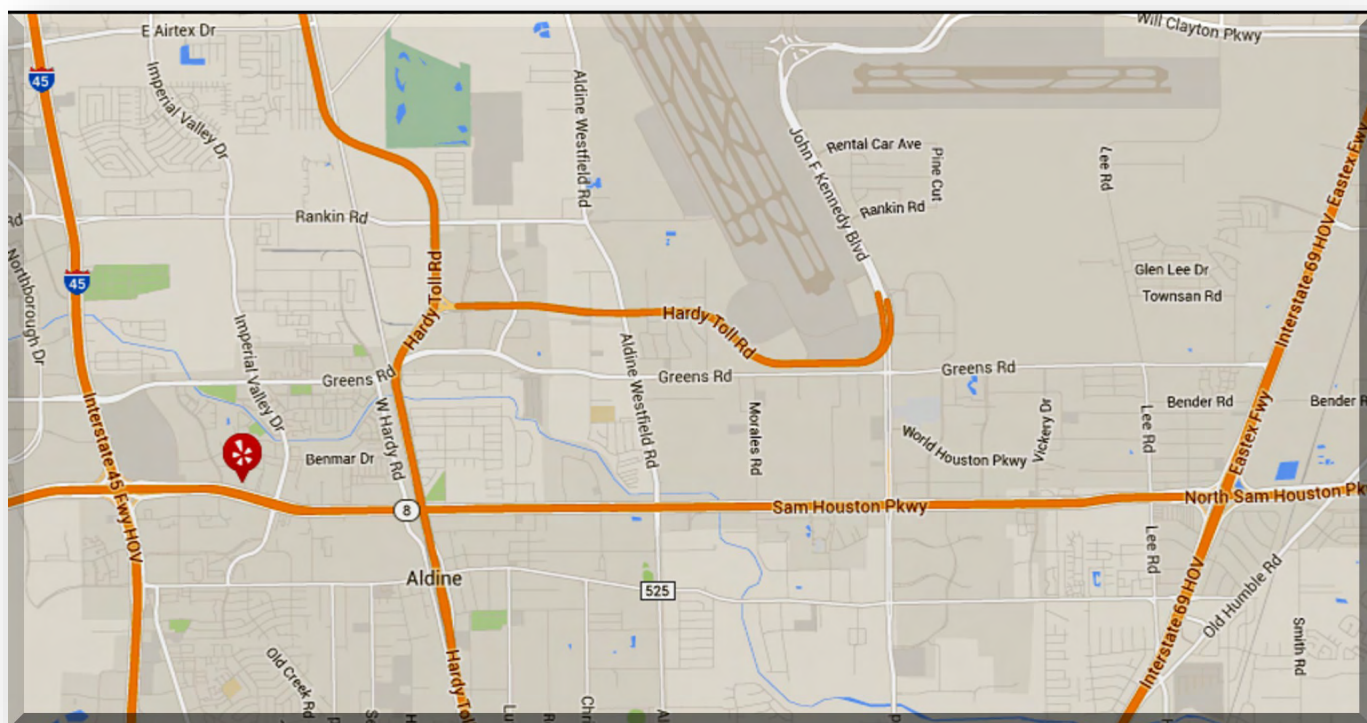


# PineWoods Meetings

PineWoods Chapter 51 of the Texas Society SAR meets at **6:30 pm** at **Jimmy G's Cajun Restaurant** located at Greenspoint at Beltway 8 and I 45 in Houston on the **3rd Thursday** of each month except for the months of June and July. The December meeting subject to change due to the Christmas Holidays. Guests are welcome to attend all meetings. **We are currently surveying chapter members of their preference of Meeting days; Thursday Evening or Late Saturday Morning and Lunch; and the Location. The Survey Form is posted on the PineWoods Website and you can make your selections and submit on line.** It is important to vote on this subject. You can also contact Chapter President Joe Potter at or Larry Stevens on 832-814-7132 or wardtracker@aol.com.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULE—ALL MEMBER/GUEST

September 15, 2016  
 October 20, 2016  
 November 17, 2016  
 December 2016 TBA



### Calendar of Events and Meeting Dates

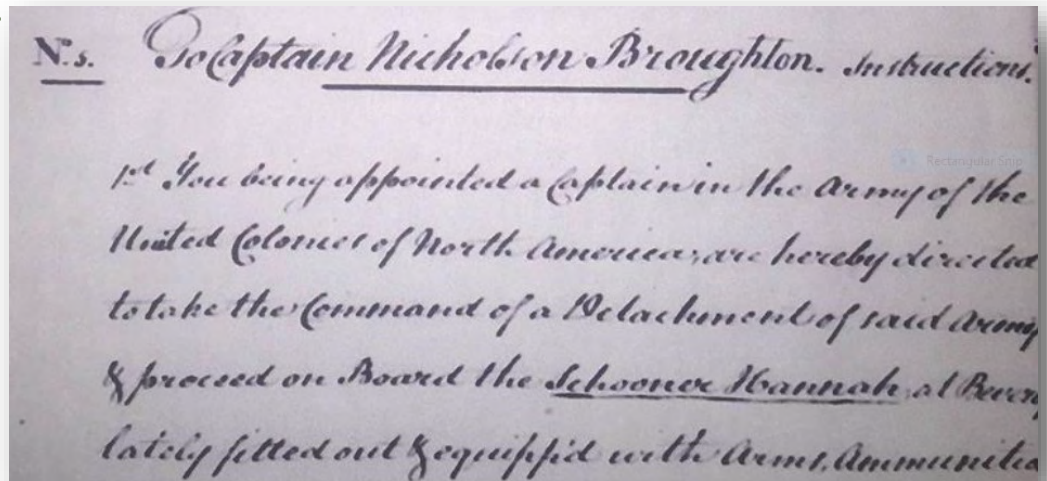
<b>Sept. 29-Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016</b>	Fall Leadership – The Brown Hotel, Louisville, KY
<b>October 14-16, 2016</b>	Fall BOM at Holiday Inn Midtown Austin
<b>February 18, 2017</b>	George Washington Parade, Laredo, Texas
<b>Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 2017</b>	Spring Leadership/Trustees Meeting – Louisville Kentucky
<b>Mar. 30-April 2, 2017</b>	123 <sup>rd</sup> Texas Annual Conference El Tropicana Riverwalk Hotel San Antonio
<b>July 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2017</b>	127 <sup>th</sup> NSSAR Congress – Knoxville, Tennessee



# September in the Revolution



**September 2, 1775 – Captain Nickolas Broughton, of Marblehead**, is appointed by George Washington to take command of the Schooner Hannah to seize vessels carrying soldiers, ammunition, arms, and supplies to and from Boston. The Hannah was the first American built ship in Washington's "Made Up Navy" that he began organizing in August 1775. The Hannah was the first vessel in the new American Navy. There was no money available to support a Navy.



**September 3, 1775 – Continental Congress** announces the adoption of the **Grand Union Flag** also called the **Continental Flag**. It was the first true US Flag. The flag combined the British Kings color and the thirteen strips to signify Colonial Unity. George Washington loved this flag. On New Years Day 1776 Washington had it posted on Prospect Hill near his headquarters in Cambridge Massachusetts.



**September 7, 1775 – New York, New York**, the Provincial Government orders Quakers, or the Religious Society of Friends, to submit a list of all male members 16 to 60 years of age living in the City or County. The Quakers refused saying this would be a violation of their religious beliefs.

**September 12, 1775 – British Lord Dartmouth, William Legge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Dartmouth, 1731-1801**, announces that 10,000 "stand of arms" and six light artillery pieces was being sent to North Carolina to aid the Loyalist at the request of Governor Josiah Martin. Governor Martin had been forced to leave North Carolina on July 20<sup>th</sup> but continued his efforts to raise and arm Loyalist companies offshore.





# The Revolution



## Washington's Life Guard

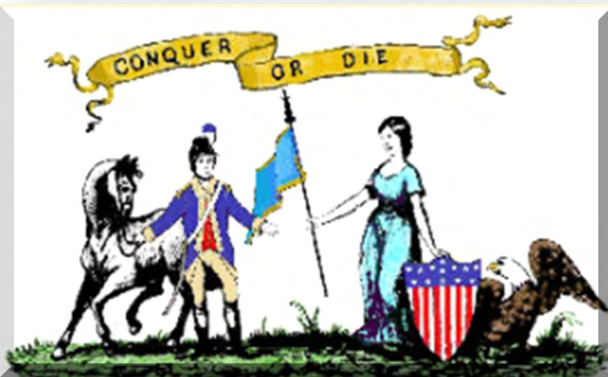
In the last PineShavings Summer Issue, there were two short articles on General George Washington. Washington's Life Guard (his Secret Service) is a follow-up for those articles.

General George Washington selected Caleb Gibbs, 14<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Continental Regiment to command the



On March 11, 1776, from his headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, overseeing the siege of Boston, General George Washington issued a General Order to Colonels or Commanding Officers of regiments of the Continental Army. Washington's order directed these officers to select four men from each regiment who would form his personal guard.

General Washington had a clear idea of the type of men he was seeking and the qualifications were laid out in the General Order. Washington wrote, "His Excellency depends upon the Colonels for good Men; such as they can recommend for their **sobriety, honesty and good behavior**; he wishes them to be from **five feet eight Inches high, to five feet ten Inches**; handsomely and well made, and as there is nothing in his eyes more desirable than **Cleanliness** in a Soldier, he desires that particular attention be made in the choice of such men as are clean and spruce."



Life Guard and promoted him the Major. George Washington's nephew George Lewis was appointed a staff Officer.

George Washington's Guard adopted the motto "**Conquer Or Die**". This illustration of the banner of the Commander-in-Chief's Guard is from Benson J. Lossing, *The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, Vol. 2. (New York: Harper, 1852), 120.

*(Continued on page 7)*



# The Revolution



(Continued from page 6)

Within two months of the Lifeguards' formation, several enlisted men and Non-Commissioned Officers were at the center of what became known as the Hickey mutiny. A group of New York Tories had established a secret organization whose possible goal was to assassinate General Washington while he was encamped with units of the Continental Army on Manhattan Island. The plot was uncovered and resulted in the arrest of a number of New York Tories.

Several members of the Lifeguards, including Sergeant Thomas Hickey, were also arrested. Hickey was an Irish migrant who had deserted from the British Army and reenlisted in the Continental Army. The court martial testimony against Hickey was sufficient to convict him. He was sentenced to death and hanged on June 28, 1776 and became the first member of the Continental Army executed following a court martial.

The number of soldiers in the Life Guard ranged between 50 to 70 for the rest of 1776. They did serve in regular units during battles such as the Battle of White Plains and in Washington's retreat to New Jersey. Many of the enlistments of the life guard were up at the end of 1776. Some were allowed to resign from their posts if they promised to join another unit; a small group who were very loyal volunteered to remain and fought at Trenton at the end of the year. In early January 1777, at Morristown, George Washington began retooling the Guard using the few volunteers who had remained. Caleb Gibbs remain the commander of this special corps. In the spring of 1777, correspondence refers

*"22 April 1777 Headquarters*

*Capt. Caleb Gibbs,*

*Dear Sir;*

*I forgot before you left this place to desire you to provide clothing for the men that are to compose my Guard, but now desire that you will apply to the Clothier-General, and have them forwarded to this place, or headquarters as soon as possible.*

*Provide for four Sergeants, four Corporals, a drum and fife, and fifty rank and file. If blue and buff can be had, I should prefer that uniform, as it is the one I wear myself, if it cannot, Mr. Mease and you may fix upon any other, red excepted...*  
*George Washington"*



1777-82 Continental Army Enlisted Man's Pattern

The uniform buttons stated "USA" and is the first known buttons in the revolution to use USA as the regimental number.

Gibbs was successful in securing blue and buff uniforms, but contrary to General Washington's expressed orders, Gibbs, for some unknown reason, probably the lack of an alternative, chose red waistcoats (vests). These waistcoats became symbolic of the C-in-C Guard for the duration of the war. He also procured leather helmets with a bear skin crest, in lieu of the traditional tricorne hats. These apparently were captured by a privateer and were bound for the British 17th Dragoons. He had the red cloth binding removed and replaced with medium blue, and a white plume, tipped in blue placed on the left side....." Excerpt for "A Brief History of the Commander-in-Chief Guards with Roster" by Donald N. Moran, CASSAR.

(Continued on page 8)





# The Revolution



(Continued from page 7)

### Example

The Lifeguards performed their duties through 1777 and wintered in Valley Forge in the spring of 1778. As a testament to the units' professionalism, Baron Frederick von Steuben selected the Lifeguards as his "demonstration unit" for the Continental Army. After being trained by von Steuben, the Guards were assigned to different units of the army as trainers and demonstrated von Steuben's methods.

Until the end of the revolution the Lifeguards served both as guards and in Light Infantry attached to larger units during engagements. In all cases they served with valor and were regarded throughout the army as an elite unit.

Note: Lists of the Men who served as Lifeguards can be found searching on-line, Sources cited include the Mt. Vernon Digital Encyclopedia  
Donald N. Moran, Sons of Liberty Chapter, California Society SAR



## JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Many of you may be familiar and subscribe to this on-line journal. One can find many very interesting articles, with information not covered in the normal history courses. The British and their Indian allies committed many scalplings during the war. This wonderful article even cites British claims that the Americans scalped four of their men at Lexington and Concord. Highly recommend you read this article. <https://allthingsliberty.com/2016/09/rhetoric-practice-scalping/>

