

Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution
The Newsletter

Vol. 1, Issue 1

January 2006

From the editor:

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter of the Robert Rankin Chapter. It is perhaps appropriate that this is started in the fifth year of the Chapter as the organization continues to expand and grow.

The principal purpose of the newsletter is to keep all members informed of both upcoming events as well as those that have occurred. We hope that this will be of particular benefit to those members who are unable to be present for the meetings.

Regular sections will include a Member Spotlight. Showcased will be new members, but we will also highlight some of our members with more experience. In addition, we plan to note a bit of background information regarding each of our patriotic holidays as well as a recap of our meetings and our upcoming events. We hope to have a section with missives from either our current Chapter President, our just retired Chapter President, or any of our prior Presidents. Not exactly a Revolutionary War era Christmas Carol, but I think you get the point. *(TIJ)*

Suggestion Box:

All thoughts & input for the newsletter are welcome! For example, do you want a dash of color? (Remember printing costs) Would you like photos? What about a name other than Newsletter? Artwork? A new editor? (This would be most welcome!)

Contact your officers with questions:

Gus Mistrot gmist@juno.com
President 281-531-1956

Kelly McBride (no email)
President-Elect 281 497-3811

Pat Kerr woodpckerr@yahoo.com
Secretary-Treasurer 281 492-6948

Upcoming Events

January 11th Meeting at King Fish Market

February 8th Meeting at King Fish Market, Elect new Officers

January Flag Programs, Ed Raines, Richard Shanks, & Tom Green would like your help!

Jan 5	10:00am	DRT	San Jacinto Chapter
Jan 10	1:30pm	AARP	Bayland Community Center
Jan 17	10:00am	DRT	Check with Ed
Jan 21	11:00am	DAR	Galveston
Jan 30	9:00am	Elementary	Second Baptist

For more details, please contact Ed Raines at 281 693-7203

Big News: Our State convention is in the Houston area this year! Plan to attend!

Member Spotlight

Richard Shanks
Second President
Robert Rankin Chapter
March 2004 to February 2005



Personal: Born 1925 in rural Jasper County, Missouri, with three brothers and one sister. He married Vionna Pauline Fee in 1952 at the Church of God Church, Columbus, Kansas. They have two children, Galen and Diana and four grandchildren. He has been active in the Christian Church serving as Deacon and Elder.

Educational: He attended grade school in a one room country school house with all eight grades in the same building. Attended Riverton High School in Cherokee Co. Kansas graduating in 1942. Richard attended Kansas State Teachers College in Pittsburg, Kansas. and completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1951 from Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas.

Military: He entered the army in June 1944 at Fort Riley, Kansas followed by basic training at Fort Bliss, Texas in the Antiaircraft section. Subsequently he was assigned to the 123rd Antiaircraft Headquarters in Hawaii. After the war he managed the demobilizations of the 123rd Antiaircraft Headquarters and the 70th Brigade Headquarters. He was awarded the WWII service medal, Asiatic Pacific award,

Good Conduct award, and rifle sharpshooter medal. He attained the rank of Staff Sergeant and was discharged in March 1946.

Professional: After college Richard started as an engineer with Empire District Electrical Company in Joplin, Missouri. Subsequently, he worked for Boeing Co. in Wichita, Kansas. He followed this with a stint with Rockwell International as a Rocket Test Engineer in Neosho, Missouri. This was followed by a stay at Cape Kennedy on the Apollo Space Program. The aircraft projects were completed in 1970 and Richard entered the oil and gas industry. In 1971 he earned his Professional Engineer License in Texas.

Genealogical: Richard joined the NSSAR in 1996 and has his Patriot and 16 supplements. He has held various positions with the Robert Rankin Chapter and is active in the flag presentations, the ROTC recognition, chairs the nominating committee and is chaplain.



Ed Raines and Tom Green with Flag Ceremony with the Daughters of the Republic of Texas

Robert Rankin Chapter, # 62
c/o Tom Jackson
7811 Spruce Cove
Houston, Texas 77095