



Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Rankin Register



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Our January Meeting

by David Jones, President (2009-2010)
(5thsfga@att.net)

Our January meeting is very full as we meet to make our final selections on our youth contests as well as have our slate of officers announced. Many thanks to Past President Jackson, shown below tieless, but now awake while announcing the list, for taking care of this important task.

(Editor's note: The immediate Past- President has this responsibility.)



President David Jones, shown above, has assumed the role of professor as the essay evaluations are reported by members of the essay committee. The George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest was originally established and named in honor of President Calvin Coolidge, who won a local SAR essay contest while a student at Amherst. The Rankin Chapter essay contest was established by Ed Raines and this is the second year for David Jones, who also serves on the state essay committee.

Compatriot Jones, a former high school advanced placement teacher prepared a handout for students to enhance their essay style and writing and also prepared a grading criteria for essay committee members to ensure consistent grading.

Proposed Officer Slate:

President	Bob Smith
VP/Treasurer	Steve Tanner
Secretary	Open
Chaplain	David Crum
Sgt at Arms	Ed Raines
Registrar	Fred Jackson
Chancellor	Allan Henshaw
Historian	Open

David's goal for his committee was to achieve a first place finish in state. Mr. President, our eyes are upon you. Good luck!

The results of the essay contest are as follows:

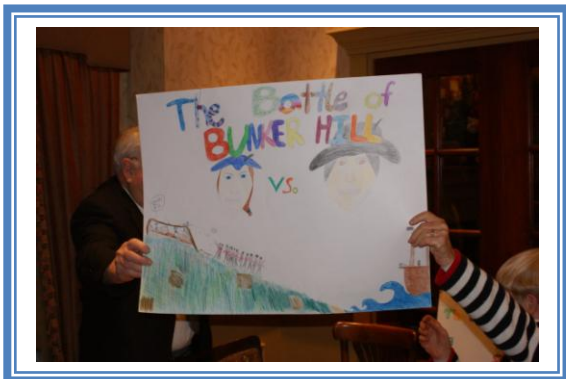
The winners, all from Mayde Creek, are:

- 1st Place: Joseph Chou
- 2nd Place: Adam Harvey
- 3rd Place: James Yang
- 4th Place: Stephanie Soewito

Posters, posters, and more posters is really what our January meeting is all about... or at least that is what our Poster Prince would say.



Shown above and somewhere below is Ed Raines, our Poster Prince, with posters to be judged. Ed noted that the number of schools participating is down again this year as standards are tightened at the state educational level and principals and teachers who have been supportive of the program retire or move.



The winning posters that were selected to proceed to the state convention, replete with publicity release forms, were:

- 1st Place: Louis Cantu, Stanley Elem.
- 2nd Place: Lauren Rodríguez, Cimarron E.
- 3rd Place: Jody Shebchuk, Cimarron E.
- 4th Place: Kieryn Ota, Stanley Elementary

The chapter conducted the 2010 Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest. Ms. Lina Meghji and Ms. Alzibedeh Farhat gave their presentations before the chapter members. The young ladies represented Cypress Falls High School. Ms. Debbie Waddell, the Speech and Debate Coach, was present as well. Ms. Lina Meghji was voted the oratory winner. This was the first oratory contest by the Rankin Chapter. Special kudos goes to Sylvia Kerr and Tom Jackson. In attendance were State Veterans Committee Chairman Ronald Barker and Region Oratory Chairman James Mitchell.

From the Registrar

*by Fred Jackson,
(2009-2010)
f293@att.net*



Fred Jackson, our hard working registrar, played a major part in the meeting. He introduced new member Theron McLaren and his wife Olga. Theron told the chapter some of the background of his ancestor, Baylis Earle, who was from South Carolina.

David Jones administered the Oath of Membership to Compatriot McLaren. In the photo below, Compatriot Fred Jackson on the right presents Theron, on the left, with his Certificate of Membership.



Registrar Jackson noted that new member James Davidson was not able to attend, but should be here next month.

New member Randy Pearson and his wife Jill, shown below, were introduced by Compatriot Fred Jackson. Randy transferred from the Hill Country Chapter. His patriot ancestor was Colonel Charles McDowell, a member of the North Carolina Militia.



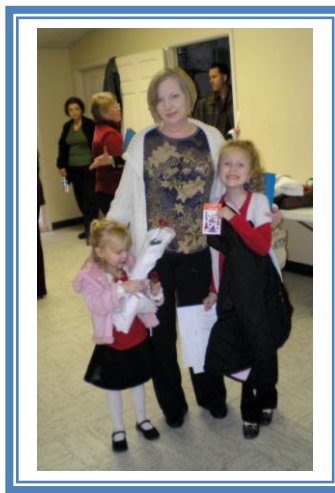
Registrar news from Fred Jackson

Grandfathering based on a DAR application shall be limited to two degrees of kinship, as currently recognized by the SAR, to include the following relationships of SAR applicants to DAR members: sons, grandsons, fathers, grandfathers, brothers, nephews, grandnephews, uncles, granduncles. There are other limitations to grandfathering including closing of the line until all lineages are proved. If you have any questions about this approach, please contact me at my email address f293@att.net

News from about town



Karen Tanner, wife of Compatriot Stephen Tanner, recently became a member of the Tejas Chapter of the DAR. Stephen was there for support and this DAR-SAR couple are shown on the right.



Steve and Karen also attended a meeting of the James Bates Society of the Children of the American Revolution. Tejas Chapter of the DAR sponsors the Bates Society.

Karen is standing with granddaughters Samara (left) and Sienna (right) Wight.



Color Guard Commander Patrick Kerr and Sea Cadet Chairman Tom Jackson present a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to Tyler Daniel Meyer (center) with Lt. Commander Borgstedt USNSCC, far right. The Rankin Chapter is one of the few chapters in Texas that participates in the Sea Cadet program. Cadet Meyer is an academic honor student and a member of the Texas All-State Choir.



Compatriot Ash Jackson attended the Wings of Freedom Society Inaugural Meeting. He gave an educational presentation on the origins of the Sons of the American Revolution as well as a patriotic presentation when he discussed the role of his ancestors in the revolution.

Compatriot Jackson also spoke to 5 classes at Watkins Middle School and 6 classes at Langham Creek High School. Although the thrust of each of his class period length presentations was architecture, he managed

to weave a tale about his ancestors and their participation in the revolution. Good job!



Compatriot Jackson is shown above with his eyes closed after having put himself to sleep during a three part lecture series at Lone Star Community College in The Woodlands. Contrary to popular rumor Compatriot Jackson did not need to buy a latte for everyone in the class to keep them awake.

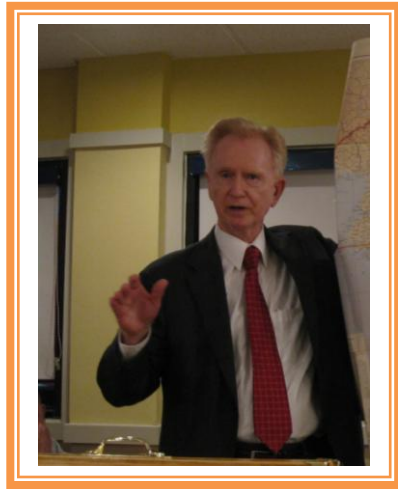
Upcoming Events:
Feb 10th Chapter Meeting, Election of Officers
Mar 10th Annual Chapter Meeting
President-General Judge Butler will attend!

State Convention. in Houston,
Check State Website

Editor: Thomas Jackson
Contact: longhorntij@yahoo.com

From the pen of "Doc" Rice...
 "Washington's Crossing" is a gem set during a few days in the winter of '76 - '77, when the war turned our way. It won a Pulitzer Prize and deserves it on readability alone. Author David Hackett Fischer is a master of words. You're holding a page-turner when a history begins with: "Washington's crossing!" the stranger said with a bright smile of recognition. Then a dark frown passed across his face. "Was it like the painting?" he said. "Did it really happen that way?"

Member Spotlight



*Ralph Aniol
Historian, Robert Rankin Chapter*

I was born at a very early age.

Arrived in San Antonio back in 1930. A Depression baby. Was heartbroken later when my dad, who was with the Southern Pacific Railroad as an official, had to transfer to the Cajun country of Louisiana. New Iberia, to be exact. I had to leave my first girl friend – a babe in elementary school, though she didn't know I loved her.

We were transferred back to San Antonio in late 30's. Eventually, I entered Thomas Jefferson High School and had the honor of graduating in the same class as Kyle Rote, who eventually played for the New York Giants.

Entered UT-Austin in 1947, pledged Phi Gamma Delta fraternity (Fijis) and became an officer in the fraternity. Also, tried to help out financially by waiting tables, but had an inauspicious beginning by dropping a tray of tartar sauce on a former B-17 pilot and his date my first day out. Later organized the only country-western band on the University of Texas Campus at the time.

Became second in command of the Corps of Cadets at UT, a Distinguished Military grad and was funneled in the pipeline to Korea for the war in 1952. I served as a First Lieutenant, and completed tours in Japan, Okinawa and Korea. Eventually wrote a book on the experiences, "High Forties Low Fifties".

After the war, returned to San Antonio and became Secretary-Treasurer and a senior account supervisor with an important advertising agency. Got married and then Houston beckoned and packed up the family and moved to H Town. Arrived with five people, somehow qualified for a home with only two clients who paid me fifty dollars a month retainers. Had my office in one of my daughters' bedrooms and within three and a half months my advertising agency occupied a suite on the 20th floor of the American General Building on Allen Parkway.

The next twenty or so years was able to educate three and send them on to UT. Handled two of the Top 250 companies in Texas as their ad agency, though, being a head coach in youth baseball and football was almost as important. Served on the official boards of two churches, and taught Sunday school.

Have been a committee chairman of one of the largest Rotary Clubs, president of the San Antonio Toastmasters Club.

Hobbies include philately, music, golf, and American history.

Editor's notes: In the member spotlight we request information about our members from categories such as personal, educational, military and professional, volunteer, and genealogical.

Thanks Ralph.