



## Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

# The Rankin Register



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Tenth Year Celebration

March 2012

### *The President's Corner*

by Stephen Tanner, President (2011-2012)  
(swtanner@sbcglobal.net)

I look back upon our past year and it went by fast. Our Chapter continues to set a high bar, and I am confident that we will be recognized at the state convention for our efforts.

I would like to thank our committee chairmen and those of you who served on the committees. This is where the real work of the chapter takes place. The Chapter and the Community owes you a debt of appreciation for the devotion you have shown. I am

pleased to report that I have been notified that our entrants for the essay contest and the extended JROTC contest have been invited to attend the state convention. Surely this means good things will happen, and we wish them well. As your President and Color Guard Commander, I attended the National Convention and the State conventions, visited other chapters and schools, marched in three parades, and in general, just had a great time. My advice is "get involved" and you will have fun while sowing the seeds of patriotism.

At the March meeting of the Rankin Chapter: Installation of Rankin Officers, from l to r: TXSSAR President-elect Robert (Bob) Clark, Gustave Mistrot, Fred Jackson, Randy Pearson (Secretary), Stephen Tanner (Immediate Past President), Allen Greene (President), Tom Jackson, Allan Henshaw, and Terry Richardson (Vice Pres. & Treas.).



## *Out with the Old & In with the New!*



In the photo on the left, TXSSAR President-Elect Bob Clark awards Stephen Tanner, the coveted Past President's pin and certificate. In the photo on the right, Allen Green has to close his eyes as Bob Clark tries to place the neck ribbon denoting the office of President around his neck while Allan Henshaw looks on with a bit of amusement.



**Gustave Mistrot** (left) receives the **Chapter Meritorious Service Medal** from TXSSAR Pres. Elect Bob Clark (middle) and District VP John Thompson (right) (Editor note: John does appear to be sleeping while standing!) The Chapter Meritorious Service Medal may be awarded after a Compatriot has received four chapter level medals. Gus has previously received the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal with an oak leaf cluster and the Bronze Chapter Service Medal with an oak leaf cluster. Well Done Gus!



New member Bruce C. Alfredson, right, has just been sworn in by TXSSAR President-Elect Bob Clark.

*Comments from President-Elect  
Robert Clark.*



Bob Clark noted that he has been a member of the SAR for thirty-six years. He was sponsored by the illustrious Lloyd Bockstruck, formerly National Society SAR Librarian General and head of the Dallas Genealogical Library in the Bicentennial year of our country's independence. He joked that he holds the record as the slowest promoted member in TXSSAR.

Last month he attended the Laredo George Washington Birthday Celebration and marched in that city's great parade. Bob noted that he donated his flag strap to Tom Jackson and hope he puts it to good use in many parades. He also attended the George Washington Ball and noted that National Society President General Larry J. Magerkurth was not introduced. He hopes to have this matter remedied by next year's celebration.

Bob invited Rankin compatriots to attend the National Congress in Phoenix, Arizona from July 7 to 11 for the 2012 SAR National Congress. One of his favorite events is when the Texas contingent as a group goes to dinner on Saturday evening after the host state's reception.



Quarterback Bob Clark is sandwiched by defensive tackles Ed Raines on the left and John Thompson on the right. These aren't really football players, these Compatriots do function as a team! Ed Raines is receiving some long overdue recognition as he receives his Bronze Chapter Service Medal Oak Leaf Cluster for three years' service as the Chairman of the Looney In Poster Contest. Ed started this contest in the Katy schools.



From left to right in the photo above, Stephen Tanner, wearing his checkerboard kilt, Tom Jackson, and Bob Clark. Compatriot Tom Jackson is receiving the National Society SAR Carl F. Besset Award for Best Single Page Newsletter for issues published in 2010 and also the Bronze Chapter Service Medal for three years of service as the newsletter editor of the *Rankin Register*.

## Compatriot Spotlight



# John Kenton Thompson District 8 Vice President

### PERSONAL

John Kenton Thompson is the son of Forrest Arnold Thompson Sr. and Virginia Womeldorf. FA Thompson Sr. was the Army / Air Force flight gunnery instructor, Harlingen, Texas, in P-40, P-39, and P-63 Bell Kingcobra aircraft. John K. is married to Mary Elizabeth White and they will celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this year. Mary Elizabeth is the daughter of Marion Allen White and Dr. John Allen White of Huntsville, Texas. The children of John K and Mary are Kathleen Ann (Thompson) Eschbach of Scottsdale, Arizona & John Allen (BJ) Thompson, student at Liberty University - Virginia. Their two grandchildren are Sweet Baby J (Julia) & Nate the Great (Nathaniel). John and Mary currently reside in The Woodlands, Texas.

### Education, Professional

John earned his B.S., Natural Gas Engineering from Texas A&M University – Kingsville (formerly Texas A&I) in Kingsville, Texas, 1972. He is a Registered Professional Engineer – State of Texas. He is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers - Gulf Coast Region since August 1992 and has been a Board Member, Gas Processors Association – Houston, 2007 - 2010.

### Business

2006–September 2010, Vice President of Engineering and Member Owner in Zephyr Gas Services in Houston, Texas. Acquired by Regency Energy of Dallas / principal under

Energy Transfer of San Antonio on September 1, 2010. 1999 – 2006, Director Processing & Treating with the Hanover Compressor Company in Houston, TX and Products Manager in the Turnkey & Treating Division, HT2 Products Group. 1992–1999, Employed by Mitchell Energy & Development Corp. in The Woodlands, TX as its Manager, Joint Venture Plants and Pipelines following acquisition of Oryx Energy Company division. 1980-1992, served with Sun Oil Company / Oryx Energy Company in various roles including Chief Division Engineer, District Gas Engineer, and Joint Venture Asset Manager in Natural Gas Processing division.

### Organizations and Activities

W.H.Hightower Prison Ministry, Dayton, Texas; 2009-2011. President, Kiwanis Service Club, 1998-2000, The Woodlands, Texas. Class Instructor in Gas Processing, North Harris College, Houston; 1996 / 2005. Special Olympics, Invitational Track & Field, Region 6, 2004/2010. Texas Society, San Jacinto Chapter; Sons of Republic of Texas, 2010-2011.

### TXSSAR & Genealogical

District 8 Vice President, 2011-2012; TXSSAR ROTC Chair 2010-2012; Adjutant, Southern Area Color Guard 2011-2012; TXSSAR History Committee Chairman 2009; Freedom Chapter President, Conroe/The Woodlands, 2000-2004; TXSSAR Color Guard, 1999 – 2012. SAR Patriots: Captain John DeJarnette of North Carolina. Private Hezekiah Brown of Virginia. 1812 / SRT Family of: John O Bracken of Houston, Texas, boy courier under General Duncan McArthur during the Battle of Elliott Mills, War of 1812. Family established in Texas, 1839; cousin of John O'Reilly 1<sup>st</sup> Ambassador of Texas to US.

Editor Note: John Thompson is the third District 8 Vice President the Rankin Chapter has known. The first was Allan Henshaw and the second was Ray Cox. Both Allan and Ray continue as members of the Rankin Chapter.

### Upcoming Events:

Apr 11th Chapter Meeting  
State Convention in San Antonio. Check State Website

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