



## Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

# The Rankin Register



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### Our State Meeting

by Tom Jackson, Past President (08-09)

The state meeting in Nacogdoches was a wonderful event attended by Rankin members Raymond Cox, Thomas Ash Jackson, Thomas I. Jackson, and Allan Henshaw (shown in the photo below from left to right). The days were full of informative meetings and the evenings full of good fellowship, entertainment, and plenty of attaboys for the Robert Rankin Chapter! Let there be no doubt, the Rankin Chapter has emerged from the shadows!



Texas President Harry Fife (right) awards Thomas Jackson (left) the **Outstanding Chapter** Award for the Robert Rankin Chapter, which recorded over 23,000 points in the state contest!



Rankin Past President Tom Jackson, left, receives on behalf of the Robert Rankin chapter the **Americanism Award** from Texas Society President Harry Fife. This is the second straight year that the Rankin Chapter has won this award. The Americanism Award is largely based upon participation in youth contests (section 7 of the annual report), but also includes patriotic holidays and special events (section 4 of the annual report). Rankin Chairmen in these areas include Ed Raines, David Jones, Patrick Kerr, John Davis, and Tom Jackson. *Well done Compatriots!*



Editor's note: Did you know that the Rankin Chapter has been awarded Outstanding Chapter in the small chapter category for calendar years 2003,2005,2006,2007 and now 2008? In 2008 the Chapter totaled almost twice as many points as the other Outstanding Chapters!

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## *Americanism Contests and Awards*

For the first time in Chapter History, Robert Rankin sponsored each of the seven youth programs. A chapter has sponsored a program when a reasonable effort has been made to initiate that program, whether or not successful. (Reasonable effort does not include mail contact.) These programs include the Looney Poster Contest, Knight Essay Contest, CAR Essay Contest, Eagle Scout Contest, American History Teacher Contest, Extended JROTC Contest and the Oratory Contest. The Chapter sent entries in five of the seven contests to state; once again a chapter high water mark.



In the photo above Tom McCormick(left), State Poster Chairman, gives to Tom Jackson the **3<sup>rd</sup> place in state** poster certificate while Compatriot Jackson holds the winning Rankin poster. Ed Raines is our Poster Chairman.



Texas President Harry Fife (left) presents Thomas Jackson (right) the Sponsoring Chapter Award for Usama Kahn finishing **2<sup>nd</sup> in state** in the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Scholarship Contest. David Jones is our Essay Contest Chairman.

In the following photo Texas President Harry Fife (left) presents Thomas Jackson (right) the Sponsoring Chapter Award for Charlie Power finishing **3<sup>rd</sup> in state** in the TXSSAR CAR Essay Scholarship Contest. Rankin nominee Greg Thorne just finished out of the money in **4<sup>th</sup> place in state**. Compatriot Jackson is our CAR Liaison Chairman.

At the head table, from left to right is Russell Dart, Chairman of the Americanism Contests and Awards Committees, Texas State DAR Regent Lynn Forney Young, and Judge Ed Butler, Texas Secretary General and sole nominee for President General. On the far right, taking the photograph is Willie Walker, VP District 11.



Mayde Creek High School teacher Penny Rosas finished as the **runner-up** in the Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award and Greg Thorne made a strong showing in the Eagle Scout Contest. David Jones and John Davis are Committee Chairman for these two programs, respectively.

2008 marked the sixth straight year that the Rankin Chapter has had a state entry in both the Poster and Knight Essay Contests and the third year that we had a state award winner. This was our third year in a row to have CAR essay contestants and the third year that we have had state finalists. In addition this was the third straight year that we have had an Eagle Scout nominee while Ms. Rosas was our first History Teacher nominated to State. In 2006 we had our only extended JROTC contestant and we are still searching for our first Oratory entry.

★ *More Rankin Chapter Awards* ★

The Rankin Chapter was one of only three chapters in the State to receive the coveted **Texas SAR John Harrell CAR Award** for excellence in participation with CAR Societies. To earn the award each chapter must report activity in seven of nine areas. The Rankin Chapter reported activity in all nine areas. In the photo below CAR Liaison Chairman Tom Jackson, on the left, receives the streamer and a \$50 cash award from State CAR Committee Chairman and State VP Steve Rohrbough.



For the third consecutive year the Rankin Chapter qualified for the **Texas Furlong Award** for the issuance of at least one flag certificate. Also for the third year in a row the Rankin Chapter unofficially awarded the most flag certificates in the State Society with 43!



In the photo above, Texas President Harry Fife, front left, awards Rankin Flag Chairman Tom Jackson, front right, a white star to be affixed to its Furlong Streamer. At the head table, from left

to right are, Judge Ed Butler, Texas Secretary General, Russell Dart, Americanism Contests Chairman, President General David N. Appleby, and Compatriot Robert Grover Vice-President General, South Central District NSSAR.

Also awarded to the Rankin Chapter was the **Galveston Award Honorable Mention** for placing second in chapters having the highest percentage of increase of donations to the Col. Joe M. Hill Patriots Fund in addition to the white star to be affixed to the Patriot's Fund Streamer. Historian Jackson was awarded the **2<sup>nd</sup> place Yearbook** award.

*Individual Compatriot Awards*



In the photo above State President Harry Fife, left, presents Compatriot Ray Cox, right, the State of **Texas Meritorious Service Medal!** Ray is the first Rankin member to receive this honor.

In the blurry photo below Compatriot Ash Jackson receives the **Alexander Hamilton Medal** from Compatriot Tom Whitelock. Ash is the second Rankin member to receive this award.



The third Rankin Compatriot to receive an award was Tom Jackson, right, who has just received the **State Silver Chapter Service Medal** and Certificate from Compatriot Harry Fife on the left.



### *State Convention News*

If you didn't make the convention you might think that it was all centered on our little chapter. Obviously, that wasn't the case. Some of the highlights from a casual observer's perspective and delivered in no particular order of importance are the following.



Sarbanes Oxley comes to the SAR! The National Society has to comply for 2008 while Texas is in the 2010 time frame. Most local chapters are exempt, but must still fill the 990 n. Shown above is Inspector General Magerkurth and Dr. Wendell Edwards, Chairman of the Audit Committee.



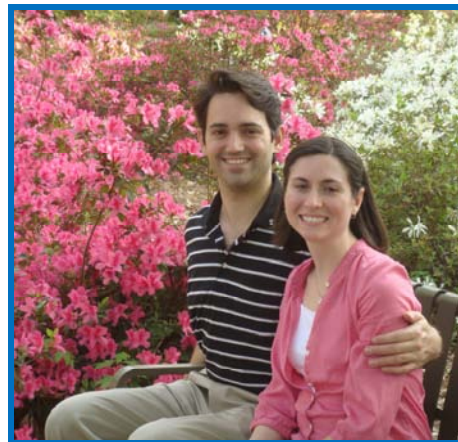
Past TX Pres. Tom Green presents Compatriots Ralph Aniol's proposal to place a statue of George Washington on the Mall in Washington D.C.



Newly elected and sworn in TXSSAR President Thomas Lawrence addresses the State Convention for the first time as President. He encourages the Chapters to focus on youth programs as well as Awards to Civilians!



Compatriot Peter Baron, Public Safety Chairman, discusses the plans for a Galvez medal to be provided to members of the Texas Color Guard. The medal will be cast in Bronze, Silver & Gold with the Burgundy cross and traditional Spanish banner colors for the drape. This will be presented to National.



Side trips to the Arboretum, shopping, as well as organized tours of historic Nacogdoches and an archeological dig were available. Compatriot Ash Jackson and Jen Moses relax at the Arboretum.

#### Editor's note:

In the first three years of our newsletter we confined ourselves to just one page, front and back. This approach will be continued this year, however, for events that refused to be compressed an experiment with additional pages will be used. This year, hard copies will be provided only to those that are internet impaired! Best regards, Tom Jackson, editor, longhortnij@yahoo.com.