



Robert Rankin Chapter #62
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Our State Meeting

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The State Convention here in Houston was a grand event attended by many Rankin members including the Jackson lads, Tom, Ash, and Fred, Raymond Cox, Allan Henshaw, Ed Raines, David Jones, Patrick Kerr, Stephen Tanner, and Ralph Aniol. I have asked Tom to load our newsletter with photos once again. The days were full of informative meetings and the evenings full of good fellowship, entertainment, and plenty of atta boys for the Robert Rankin Chapter!

Friday night

Perhaps the grandest Friday night event for a State Convention occurred in Houston this year. Alexander Hamilton spoke to Compatriots who gathered “in the Caribbean” to listen to a steel drum band and dine on delicacies from the sea!



Dr. Charles Baker wins the costume award dressed as Howard Stern from Bermuda (left) while TXSSAR President Tom Lawrence is nattily attired in his orange and whites beneath his Panama.

Debbie and Allan Henshaw (left) converse with President Tom Lawrence. Allan is the Chancellor for the Rankin Chapter.



In the photo below, TXSSAR VP Steve Rohrbough (left) discusses changes in Contest, Medals, and Awards with Rankin Past President Tom Jackson wearing his dinner jacket in the guise of an island attorney.



In the bottom photo, TXSSAR Treasurer Peter McClaren chats with Rankin Compatriot Fred Jackson regarding the pros and cons of Caribbean Clarets!



For the second consecutive year, Robert Rankin sponsored each of the seven Americanism contest 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 (with the Committee Chairman noted in parenthesis) include the Looney Poster Contest (Ed Raines), Knight Essay Contest (David Jones), CAR Essay Contest (Tom Jackson), Eagle Scout Contest (Ash Jackson), American History Teacher Contest (David Jones), Extended JROTC Contest (Patrick Kerr) and the Oratory Contest (Tom Jackson). The Chapter sent entries to state in five of the seven contests for the second year in a row.



Immediate Past President David Jones (left) has just received certificates for the Rankin Chapter sponsoring Gregory Thorne (third place) and Tara Powers (fourth place) in the CAR Essay Contest. Both Gregory and Tara are from the James Bates Society. This is the fourth year in a row that Rankin sponsored youth have been recognized at the state level in this contest. To the right of David are Tom McCormick, David Temple, and Steve Rohrbough.



In the photo above, Drake Peddy (L) David Jones (M) have received from Steve Rohrbough (R) the certificate for Rankin Chapter sponsoring the 1st place winner in the essay contest while below he has received the certificate for Rankin Chapter sponsoring the 1st place winner in the American History Teacher contest with Penny Rosas in the middle.

*TXSSAR Outstanding Chapter Award:
The TXSSAR Americanism Awards:*

The Rankin Chapter received the Outstanding Small Chapter Award for the fifth consecutive year and was awarded the Americanism Award for the third consecutive year. Steve Tanner is shown below accepting both awards on behalf of the chapter. The Chapter not only earned the most points in its size category, but also the most points in the state in all size categories.



From left to right: Steve Rohrbough, David Temple, Peter Baron, James Alderman, Steve Tanner, and Tom Lawrence.

The Chapter received the **The John K. Harrell CAR Activities Award**, named for Compatriot Harrell of the San Antonio Chapter, and intended to recognize those chapters who support strong relationships between the SAR and the Children of the American Revolution.

The Chapter also won the **John K. Harrell CAR Competition Award** and received a monetary award of \$50. The Rankin Chapter had the most points of any chapter in the state for these activities as well.

The Chapter received the **Flag furlong award** and for the fourth year in a row led the state in the issuance of flag certificates!

For the fourth year in a row, the Historian for Robert Rankin has been honored as having submitted the **Outstanding Yearbook** in its size category for Texas. Steve Tanner submitted a remarkable yearbook and received accolades for creativity and organization. The chapter yearbook takes between 100 and 200 hours to compile.



From left to right in the photo are Steve Tanner, Jim Johnson, Tom Lawrence, and Don Stone

Individual Compatriot Awards

As you might expect in a chapter such as ours, the State decided to recognize individuals for their contributions of time and talent. The first to be so recognized was Patrick Kerr, shown in the photo at the top of the next column, for his service to Veterans.



From left to right: Pat Kerr, Ray Cox, David Temple, Charles Luna, Robert Seidule, and Steve Rohrbough

The next Rankin Compatriot to be individually recognized was David Jones, wearing his trademark green vest and appearing on the right in the photo below, who has just received the **Alexander Hamilton Medal** and Certificate. Previously in the evening, he received the **State Bronze Chapter Service Medal** for his service as State Subcommittee Chairman of the American History Teacher Contest.



The third Rankin Compatriot to be singled out was Edwin Raines who was awarded the **Patriot Medal!**

The Patriot Medal is awarded only by a state society. It is the highest award given for service at the state or chapter level. This medal is presented only to individuals and may be received only once.

The Patriot Medal represents long, faithful and outstanding service and must ignore service at the national level.

Award – 2008 for working with the VFW in recognition of Sea Cadets.

Other thoughts



(From left to right) George West has just awarded the Patriot Medal to recipients Larry Stevens, Winston Scott, Robert Rankin Compatriot Ed Raines, George Harcourt, and Russell Dart.

Ed is perhaps the first Compatriot in Texas to receive the Patriot's Medal solely for service at the Chapter level. At the Rankin Chapter where he was a founding member, he served two terms as President, two terms as Historian, five terms as Registrar and two as Sergeant at Arms. He has twice been awarded the Liberty Medal, for being the first line sponsor for new members.

He started the Chapter's Knight Essay Contest program and served 6 years as its chairman, with entries garnering a 1st and 3rd at the state level. He chaired the Looney Poster Contest, which he started, for eight years and from his 1,708 entries three earned a 3rd place finish at state. Each contestant received a certificate of appreciation, prepared and often personally presented by Ed, for participation. In his six years as Chairman of the Flag Show he has gone to 122 locations where he presented 669 programs to an estimated 17,081 people.

For good measure he worked with Tom Jackson to receive the Partners in Patriotism



President General Ed Butler, TXSSAR President Jim Jones, and immediate Past President Tom Lawrence are wearing the smile of leadership.



Rankin Compatriot Ash Jackson (left) helps Mark Worthen (right) at the Registration Table.



Ladies Auxiliary President Linda Edwards (left) congratulates Tom Jackson on his winning the Ladies Raffle.