



Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

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The President's View

by Allen Greene, President (2012-2013)
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The State Convention here in San Antonio was a grand event attended by Compatriots, Raymond Cox, Allen Greene, Allan Henshaw, Tom Jackson, and Stephen Tanner. I have asked Tom to load our newsletter full of photos. The days were full of informative meetings plenty of attaboys for the Robert Rankin Chapter while the evenings held good fellowship and entertainment. The Rankin honors haul was dramatic even by our lofty standards.

The Youth Luncheon



Rankin Candidate Jared Reese wins the Outstanding JROTC Cadet award for Texas. In the photo, from left to right, Jared Reese, TXSSAR President Bill Marrs, Tom Jackson, Lt. Col.(Ret.) Porfirio Munoz, and TXSSAR JROTC Chairman John Thompson. Stephen Tanner is the Chairman of the Rankin JROTC Committee.



Rankin compatriots pictured attending the convention from left to right in the photo above: Ray Cox, Tom Jackson, and Allen Greene.



Rankin Candidate Alexander Scheel wins the Outstanding Essay Contest award for Texas. In the photo, from left to right, John P. Gulley Jr., Texas SAR Knight Essay Contest State Chairman, Alexander Scheel, Rankin President Allen Greene, and Tom Jackson. Gus Mistrot is the Chairman of the Ranking Essay Committee.

In the photo to the left, Web Master Ray Cox receives the most prestigious Bronze Chapter Service Medal for three years of faithful webmaster duties from Immediate Past President Stephen Tanner. Later that night, Ray Cox would receive the TXSSAR State Distinguished Service Medal, the highest award that a state may award! Ray's biography is on page four.



CHAPTER RECOGNITIONS

TXSSAR Chapter Awards

Outstanding Chapter

Outstanding Americanism

The Rankin Chapter received the Outstanding Chapter Award for the seventh consecutive year and was awarded the Americanism Award for the fifth consecutive year. This year the Chapter moved up a notch and competed in Group 3. **Steve Tanner** is shown below accepting both awards on behalf of the chapter. Kudos for the various Committee Chairmen and their members for these high achievements.



Stephen Tanner, left, receives the certificate proclaiming the Robert Rankin Chapter as the Outstanding Chapter in Texas from TXSSAR President Bill Marrs. Looking on in the background with approval is Russell Dart, TXSSAR V.P. Americanism.



Stephen Tanner, Immediate Past President of the Rankin Chapter, receives from TXSSAR President Bill Marrs the Certificate for the most outstanding chapter in Americanism in Texas for their size category.

In the background from left to right in the photo appear Sam Massey, Robert Cohen, and John Beard.

TXSSAR Silver Galvez Medals

For the sixth year in a row, the Historian for Robert Rankin has been honored as having submitted an **Outstanding Yearbook** in its size category for Texas. This year, **Tom Jackson and Stephen Tanner** submitted a remarkable yearbook and received accolades for creativity and organization. The chapter yearbook takes between 100 and 200 hours to compile. *Both Compatriots were awarded the prestigious Texas SAR Silver Galvez Medals.*



Steve Tanner, left, and Tom Jackson hold both Volumes of the Rankin award winning Yearbook.

TXSSAR Supplementals

For the second time in Chapter history, the E.A. Limmer award in group two (membership between twenty-six and thirty-nine) was given to the Rankin Chapter. This award is given to the chapter that has the highest percentage of approved supplemental awards. This award was earned largely upon supplementals submitted by Tom and Ash Jackson.



Tom Jackson, left, receives the Limmer award from Bill Marrs, right. Fred Jackson is the Rankin Registrar.

Children of the American Revolution

There are three different types of recognitions available to encourage participation with the CAR. The first is participation in the CAR Essay Contest. The Rankin Chapter did not field an entry this year. This broke a string of five consecutive years of having a Chapter submission noted at the state level. All was not lost as the Chapter hit pay dirt in two other areas.

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

The Chapter also won the **John K. Harrell CAR Competition Award** for the third straight year and received a monetary award of \$50. Compatriot **Bobby Smith** has taken the reins from Tom Jackson on these two important CAR activities. Steve Tanner (left) receives both awards from VP Russell Dart (right) below.



Other Awards

The Chapter was also awarded the NSSAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage Capital Campaign based upon a Chapter Contribution to the national fund. The Chapter contributed \$500.

For the third time in the history of the chapter, Rankin was awarded the Colonel Joe M. Hill Patriot Fund Award. This award is given to those chapters which increase the contribution to the Patriots Fund over the amount given the prior year.

The Chapter received the **Flag Furling award** and for the sixth year in a row led the state in the issuance of flag certificates! **Theron McLaren** is the Committee Chairman and has led this amazing effort with help from Steve Tanner, Ed Raines, and Tom Jackson.



Steve Tanner is on the far left in the Conga line which is forming to receive the Furling Awards.



The John Bruce Stuart Jr. Memorial Award, Group 3 (40 – 100) was awarded to the Rankin Chapter for excellence in Veterans Affairs. **Bobby Smith**, shown above, is the Committee Chair.

Member Spotlight

Raymond Cox

Web Master, TXSSAR, Robert Rankin

Member, Robert Rankin Chapter



Personal:

Raymond (Ray) Webster Cox was born October, 1947 in Silver City, New Mexico to Charles M. Cox and Ellen Jane (Logan) Cox. The Cox family moved to Biloxi, MS in 1952, where Ray grew up and attended school until his graduation from Biloxi High School.

Ray is married to Martha Marie (Wilson) Cox and has two children: Jennifer Lynne (Cox) Halling, and Kenneth Edwin Cox. Kenneth is a member of the SAR. Ray and Martha have five grand-children: Thomas Jeremy Halling, Jacob Logan Halling, Kaleb Logan Cox, Lenzi Grace Halling, and Kylah Grace Cox.

Educational:

Ray attended the Univ. of Southern Mississippi and received a double degree in Music Education and Applied Music. His performance major was French Horn, but between high school and college, he has played all of the lower brass instruments as well as alto and tenor saxophone. The saxophones were played in the high school stage band and a rock and roll band.

Military and Professional:

While in college, Ray enlisted in the US Navy AVROC program and after graduation he was commissioned as an officer in the Navy. After flight training he was assigned to Reconnaissance Attack Wing One flying the RA-5C Vigilante. He made deployments on the USS Independence and the USS Nimitz (maiden voyage). After 8 ½ years of military service, Ray separated from the Navy and flew for Continental Airlines for two years until being furloughed. He then went to work for the FAA

as an Air Traffic Controller, from which he recently retired with over 21 years of service.

Genealogical:

Ray joined the Robert Rankin Chapter when he became District VIII Vice President in 2007 and has remained a proud member. Ray is a primary member of the Piney Woods Chapter where he has served as Secretary, first VP, President, and Sgt. at Arms and he served as Editor for the Chapter's Lineage Book Vol. 2.

At the State level, Ray is the Web Master and was recognized for having the most outstanding state website! He has served on the Long Range Planning, State Meeting, Color Guard, and Information Technology committees. He has just finished serving a term as the president of the Council of Chapter Presidents. He has served as editor in producing the TXSSAR History Book Volumes I & II text and CDs.

[In 2008, Ray was awarded the Patriot's medal!](#)
[In 2011, Ray received the State Medal of Distinguished Service](#) and in 2010, he [received the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal.](#)

Ray was co-planner of the Zachariah Landrum and Henry Bailey Greenwood grave marking ceremonies and has received the Bronze Good Citizenship, War Service, Meritorious Service, Color guard, Baron von Steuben, and TXSSAR Chapter Service Medals and is a George Washington Fellow. He is the author of the SARApAid computer application program, which is the leading application program in use by the members of the NSSAR.

Ray's Patriot Ancestor is James Taylor from Ireland. Patriot Taylor emigrated from Ireland and settled in Virginia. He served as a private in Capt. Joseph Smith's Co. of the VA 4th during the revolution. James Taylor died in Rockbridge Co, VA, which is noteworthy because there is a natural bridge in that county that bears George Washington's signature which he placed there while he was surveying the area as a young man before his public career.

Upcoming Events:

Apr 11th Chapter Meeting

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