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Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Rankin Register

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May 2011

The President's Corner

by Stephen Tanner, President (2011-2012)
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My second meeting is under my belt as Rankin President. Two of our most active members, Patrick Kerr and David Jones decided to become inactive. I have requested our editor, Tom Jackson, to draft a vignette recounting the contributions of each. David decided to stop his membership altogether and not renew while Patrick has moved, but kept his dues current. I have assumed the duties of Patrick as it relates to JROTC and during April & May, we distributed thirteen medals and certificates, which I hand, delivered to each school. Additionally I attended eight of the banquets/ceremonies.

I also requested our editor to rename the section devoted to the comments of the sitting president, as it is simply more descriptive.

The Rankin Chapter is one of the most active of the chapters in the state with its involvement with Children of the American Revolution Societies and we were pleased to have held a Joint Meeting with the James Bates Society at our May meeting. Our goal is to hold a joint meeting each year with each of our CAR Societies, which we support and try to visit at least one of their meetings each year.

We have no meetings in June, but we will celebrate Flag Day and remember our veterans with planting an American Flag on the graves of one-hundred of our veterans. Come on out. It will be more fun than it is hot!

Our May Meeting



Greg Hall, shown above, is explaining the rescue of the Chilean miners.

On August 4, 2010, miners were at work in the San Jose gold and copper mine situated in the Atacama Desert of northern Chile about twenty-eight miles north of Copiapó. The next day, a minor earthquake struck the region causing a tunnel collapse and trapped 33 miners underground. They were believed to be between 500 and 800 meters (1640' to 2300') below the surface. The complexities were enormous. Local drilling equipment could reach a depth of 400 meters, food and water for the miners would not be adequate, and the structure through which drilling was required was rock hard enough it caused the drilling bit to move.

Greg Hall, owner of Drillers Supply International, was contacted directly by a representative of the Chilean government

after problems were encountered with the initial operations. Thus began the rescue operation known as Plan B.

The best estimate was that the miners had perhaps five days of food and water. After fifteen days of drilling Hall noted that, the mood had become more somber as most thought they were conducting a recovery operation instead of a rescue. On day 17, the drill entered a void and soon there was beating on the pipe, meaning at least one person lived. The operation was eventually concluded after sixty-nine days with all of the miners saved!



Greg Hall (left), a proud Aggie receives from Rankin Vice President Allen Greene a speaker's Certificate of Appreciation and an SAR coffee mug.



President Tanner (left) has just awarded Compatriot David Crum (right) his five year membership pin and certificate.



From left to right are Stephen Tanner, Ash Jackson, Theron McClaren, and Gus Mistrot. They have just received their Certificates of Appreciation for invaluable service rendered at the Rankin Board of Managers Meeting.



**Flag
Certificates
Issued**



In the photo, from left to right, are Melinda Simms, Compatriot Theron McClaren, and Mitzy Wright. Theron has awarded both women the coveted Rankin Flag Certificate.

Earlier in the evening, Rankin President Stephen Tanner awarded Melinda Simms a Certificate of Appreciation for her support of the Robert Rankin Chapter.

Children of the American Revolution



Presenting an SAR Certificate of Appreciation to the officers of the Wings of Freedom Chapter is Stephen Tanner (left). Senior Society President Melinda Simms is seated.

On May 21, members of the Robert Rankin Chapter attended a meeting of the Wings of Freedom Chapter at Husky's restaurant. Compatriots in attendance were Bobby Smith, President Stephen Tanner, and Tom Jackson. The purpose of the meeting was the installation of officers.



A Flag certificate has just been presented to The Wings of Freedom Society. The Society President is holding the certificate and shielding his eyes from the blazing sun while Melinda Simms attempts to persuade him to lower the certificate.



Immediate Past President Bobby R. Smith is shown in the picture above videotaping the proceeding. He has been an exceptionally strong supporter of the CAR and was given an award by the Wings of Freedom Society. Melinsa Simms is in the center of the picture.

Bobby Smith is the Chairman of the CAR Committee and he is in the second year in that position. Compatriot Jackson who served four years in that post preceded him. Ed Raines previously held that position. The purpose of the Committee is to encourage participation in the TXSSAR-CAR Essay Contest and to foster good working relations with CAR Societies. The Rankin Chapter has led the state in participation in the TXSSAR-CAR Essay Contest for five years and has been named the Outstanding Chapter of its size in the state for activities involving the CAR every year the award has been in existence.



Karen Tanner accompanied Stephen Tanner to the meeting. Thanks Karen!

JROTC



Stephen Tanner, (shown at left) Color Guard Commander and Chairmn of the ROTC Committee, announced that JROTC medal presentations were made at 13 area high schools.

Flag Certificates were presented to each of the schools again this year.

The JROTC Committee was initiated by Richard Shanks who was its first Chairman. He was followed by Patrick Kerr who completed three years at the helm and nearly tripled the number of schools where JROTC Cadets are honored. Stephen Tanner is the third Chairman of this committee amd is in his first year. Pat Kerr and Tom Jackson started the tradition of presenting a flag certificate to every school where a JROTC presentation was made and it was followed again this year.



From left to right, Stephen Tanner, Mayde Creek Cadet, Tom Jackson. Rankin Compatriots have just made the NSSAR JROTC medal and certificate.

Compatriot Bobby Smith has just received from the Wings of Freedom Society a CAR Award and Certificate for his support of their Society! Well done Bobby!



Your State Officers:

Vice President, District 1 William H. Holcombe,
Vice President, District 2 William G. Harper
Vice President, District 3 Patrick Hollis
Vice President, District 4 Ronald J. Walcik
Vice President, District 5 James Alderman
Vice President, District 6 Harmon L. Adair, Jr.
Vice President, District 7 George W. Dersheimer
Vice President, District 8 John K. Thompson
Vice President, District 9 Arthur G. Munford
Vice President, District 10 Michael J. Everheart
Vice President, District 11 Peter H. Rowley

Upcoming Events:

Sep 14th Chapter Meeting
 Oct 12th Chapter Meeting
 Nov 9th Chapter Meeting

Board of Managers Meeting

July 31st-Aug 1st Conroe
 Oct 28th -30th Galveston

Check State Website

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