

Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Rankin Register

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Enhanced Recognitions

by Kelly McBride, President (2006-2007)

For any chapter in its brief five year history to have been awarded the outstanding chapter award twice its members must be doing something right. You might not know it based upon recognition awarded by this chapter to its members and spouses. One of the goals of the Chapter this year is to rectify this problem by devoting a significant portion of both our budget and program time to this area. We are well on our way in this regard!

We are quite proud to recognize Richard Shanks, Vionna Shanks, and Gail Raines for their contributions to the flag program. Each of these individuals have participated in over one hundred programs given at over sixty locations in over eight different cities in over four different counties over a three year period of time! What an accomplishment and a great way of explaining the history of American in captivating schoolchildren.



Richard Shanks receives the Bronze Good Citizenship medal from Tom Jackson. Richard is only the second recipient of this medal by a member of the Chapter.



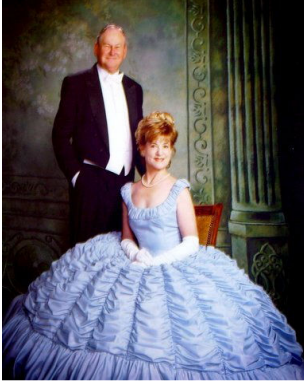
Ed Raines receives his Oak Leaf Clusters for his Liberty Medal from District Vice President Allan Henshaw. The Liberty Medal is awarded for the recruitment of 10 new members.



DAR Tejas Chapter Regent Marti Thorne congratulates Tejas members Gail Raines and Vionna Shanks on their receipt of the Martha Washington Medal.

Did you know: Gus & Bernice edit the minutes and newsletters? Compatriot Kerr reminded us that Constitution Week is Sept. 17 through Sept. 23 by a 1956 joint resolution of Congress? Or that on September 17, 1787, the constitution was ratified by delegates to the Constitution?

Member Spotlight



Bobby Ray Smith, Member, Robert Rankin Chapter

Personal: Bob was born in San Antonio in 1936. He and his wife, Nita Wolfe, have been married for forty-six years and they have two children, Dr. Cindy Smith-Adams of Dallas and Sandra Petta of Corpus Christi. There are four grandchildren: Sarah (14), Aaron (10), Addie (6), and Paige (5).

Educational: Bob was an honor graduate of Harlandale High School of San Antonio in 1954. While there, he was a member of the National Honor Society, a Life Scout, lettered in golf and tennis, and was a member of the cast in both the Junior and Senior plays. He was a graduate of Texas A&M University in 1958 with a BS in Engineering. He was selected as a Distinguished Student, Distinguished Military Student, and also selected as a member of the Ross Volunteers. This unit serves as Honor Guard for the Governor of Texas and also serves as guard for King Rex in New Orleans Carnival week.

Military: Bob was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army and chose to serve as a Reserve Officer. He attended Infantry Officers Training School, Ft. Benning, GA. where he served as Company Commander. His transfer to Camp Chaffee, AK. led him to become a Platoon Leader training basic trainees.

Professional: The Ceco Corporation of Chicago, IL employed Bob in 1958 as a Management Trainee. It was the start of a real education in construction. He worked in the Houston office and learned all of the products the company sold. And he was soon promoted to sales engineer and transferred to New Orleans. As the job required, Bob was soon well versed in the concrete formwork phase of the

business for the Ceco Corporation. He sold the supervised the formwork for the International Trade Mart, the John Hancock Building and many LSU building on the Baton Rouge campus. His work effort was noticed and at 27 years of age offered the position of Manager of the St. Petersburg, Fl. office. It was accepted and Bob worked on the formwork for many of the Cape Kennedy buildings and many for Florida's schools. The first building built at Central Florida University in Orlando had Bob design the concrete formwork. Bob worked for 6 years in St. Pete.

Now ready for a return to Texas, Bob was promoted to Asst. District Manager of the Houston Office. He also was given the job of Regional Concrete Formwork Manager. Bob's formwork crews worked on many of the high-rise buildings in Houston, including the Smith Towers, St Luke's Towers, MD Anderson Cancer Clinic, and the Texas Children's Hospital among others.

The Steelform Contracting Co. of CA hired Bob as Southwest Regional Manager, in 1980. He became President and Chairman of the Board of Southern Form Co. as it was formed several years later. He retired from this position in 1996.

Post Retirement: Bob still plays tennis and golf and still loves to hunt. The family ranch in South Texas near Poth remains a welcome place to spend time with family and friends.

Genealogical: Colonel Daniel Smith, prominent in the Battle of King's Mountain, is Bob's SAR ancestor. Bob is a Past President of the Piney Woods SAR Chapter.

Nita and Bob were Co-Chairs of the Southern Heritage Ball and Bob also been a Past President of the Sam Houston Chapter of the SRT. He remains active in the SRT and the SCV.

Upcoming Events:

- Sept 8th Chapter Meeting
- Oct 6th Flag Program, Nottingham
- Oct 11th Chapter Meeting
- Oct 13th Flag Program, Wolfe
- Oct 27th Flag Program, Nottingham
- Oct 28th Veteran's Visit w/ Hodge #49
- Nov 4-5 Board of Managers Meeting
- Nov 8th Chapter Meeting
- Dec 9th Joint Mtg with DAR/CAR