



# Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

## *The Rankin Register*



Issue 23

September, 2008

### *Our September Meeting*

by Thomas Jackson, President (2008-2009)

Our September meeting was full of good content from our speakers as well as full quarters with little space. All present were gracious and the meeting went well. This was the kickoff of our youth programs with posters at the elementary level and essays at the high school level. We planted seeds for essay expansion to other high schools as well as initiation of the oratory program. We had 33 compatriots and guests in attendance at Ciro's. The pictures provide a highlight.



Shown standing to the right is John P. Irish. His talk was on "Art and the American Revolution." The images he discussed were 1. Copley's *Paul Revere*, 2. West's *Franklin Drawing Lightning from the Sky*, and 3. Stuart's *George Washington*. His informative presentation contrasted styles, but also identified political presentations of the artists.

The ancestor presentation was by Stephen Tanner. Check out the back of the newsletter!



BGCM's were awarded by Ed Raines (L) and Tom Green (R) to Malissa Childress above and Ginny Garvic below for their support of the SAR poster program.



During our meeting we heard from Past Texas President Tom Green and State Poster Chairman Tom McCormick. We awarded BGCM's to Tom & Bonnie McCormick for their involvement with the poster program for the State of Texas. The Chapter also awarded 10 flag certificates and also a BGCM to Charlie Power of the James Bates Society CAR.

## *Member Spotlight*

**Stephen Tanner**

**Member, Robert Rankin Chapter**



### ***Personal:***

Stephen W. Tanner (Steve) was born March 19, 1948 in Omaha, Nebraska. Steve spent most of his early life in Youngstown, Ohio. Steve is married to Karen Pullin, a native of San Antonio, Texas. Steve has two daughters from a previous marriage and 2 step-daughters. Laura (Tanner) Abbott is the Assistant Director of Special Education in Conroe ISD. Melissa (Tanner) Bjørdal is a customer representative for Broadwing Communications in Austin, Texas. Shannon (James) Wight is an English teacher at Langham Creek High School in Cy-Fair. Serenity James will graduate from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville in May with a degree in Music Therapy. Steve and Karen have six grandchildren. Steve moved from Youngstown to Houston in 1982.

### ***Educational:***

Steve graduated from Youngstown State University (The Penguins) in Ohio with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a major in accounting.

### ***Military:***

Steve served in the United States Air Force from 1967 to 1971. He was an aircraft weapons load team member. He served honorably in Vietnam and served a year at RAF Upper Heyford in England. He

attained the rank of Staff Sergeant. He is Treasurer and Reunion Planner for the 510<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron Association.

Steve is a member of Katy Post 9182 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chapter 343 of the Vietnam Veterans of America and the Edward Lea Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He volunteers at the Katy VFW "GI Joe" Museum.

### ***Professional:***

Steve, a Certified Public Accountant, spent most of his career in public accounting with various local accounting firms. He spent the last eight years of his career as Assistant Controller for Pappas Restaurants in Houston.

### ***Geneological:***

Steve joined the Rankin Chapter of the SAR in 2008. His ancestor is John Conrad Gilbert who served as a private in the Pennsylvania Navy. He was a Taylor and father of nine children when he enlisted in the Pennsylvania Navy. After his enlistment he returned to Schuylkill County and became a Schoolmaster. He was also a Fraktur artist. He is given credit for the earliest rendition of the Easter Rabbit in America.



### ***Upcoming Events:***

Oct 8th Regular Chapter Meeting  
Nov 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Chapter Meeting  
Oct 12<sup>th</sup> Hodge Dedication  
Oct 24<sup>th</sup> – Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Temple BOM