September Meeting
Celebration of our Constitution
September 16, 2020

Top Row (L-R): Allen Perkins, Tom Jackson, Guest Speaker John Thompson, and Mel Oller. Middle Row (L-R): Kevin Strange, Phillip Gutheridge, Billy Sorrels, and Terry Miller. Bottom Row (L-R): James Hoffman, Bruce McMordie, and Kevin Weber.

Robert Rankin, Texas SAR
Zoom
September Highlights

- ❖ John Thompson, Texas President of the General Society of the War of 1812 and frequent portrayer Ben Franklin, is our speaker for the evening. His presentation is "Benjamin Franklin & America's First Military Secret"
- ❖ Compatriot Tom Jackson gives a presentation in honor of Constitution Week
- ❖ President Bruce McMordie presents This Day in History on Samuel Adams
- ❖ Compatriot Kevin Strange provides a special presentation

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As an inventor, I am known for the lightning rod, bifocals, and the Franklin stove, among other inventions.

"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing."
— Benjamin Franklin

Our primary speaker was engineer John Thompson with his portrayal of all things Ben Franklin. He now registers 40 presentations a year at the elementary and middle school level for school children. Franklin is one of the few founding fathers who is required to be studied at all three levels.

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John has many similarities with Ben as both are inventors; John is crass enough to actually file for and obtain patents on his inventions, while Ben just wanted to donate them to the common good!
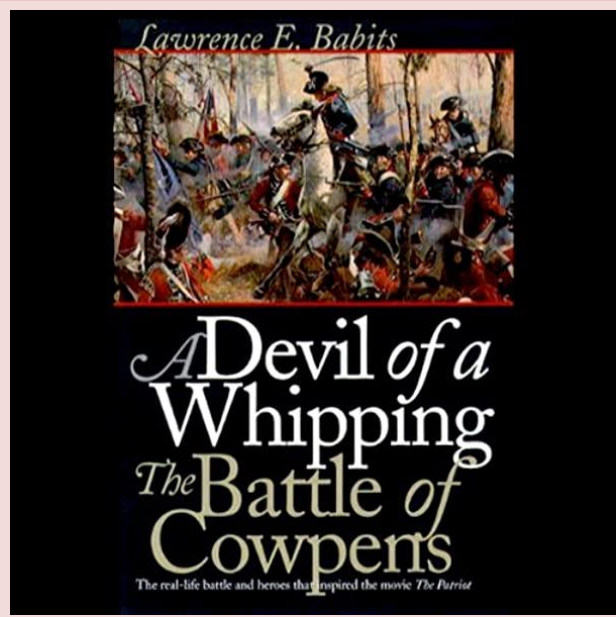
Guest Speaker John Thompson

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Kevin Strange presents Tom Jackson with an autographed copy of the book "Devil of a Whipping", about the Battle of Cowpens where Jackson's ancestor Jeremiah Dial fought.

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Compatriot Tom Jackson gives a presentation on the SAR and DAR influence on the creation of Constitution day, Constitution week, and the study of the Constitution in schools in every state of the union.

SAR Influence

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1917 Compatriot Elmer Wentworth (PG 1916-1918) prevailed upon the Iowa State Legislature to provide for the observance of Constitution Day and also in public schools.

1917-1918   American's Creed, written by SAR Compatriot William Tyler Page, submitted in a contest, judged to be the best entry, presented to the Speaker of the House, read to Congress and then printed in Congressional Record #102, April 13, 1918.

In 1917, the Sons of the American Revolution formed a committee to promote Constitution Day. The committee, chaired by future PG David Pierson would include Compatriots such as Calvin Coolidge, John D. Rockefeller, William Howard Taft, Henry Cabot Lodge and General John Pershing.

In 1917 the Kentucky SAR Society held a Constitution Day celebration with 65,000 in attendance.

In 1922 SAR Societies reported over 60,000 Constitution Day Celebrations.

Centennial History of the Natior
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