



THE EAST TEXAS PATRIOT

Sons of the American Revolution

Chapter # 57 Longview, Texas



Volume 10, Number 4

August 4, 2016

President's Message

"If it is HOT—it must be August! Come on Fall"

I am writing this on our Nation's birthday, July 4, 2016. Feeling very patriotic as I am watching and listening to various celebrations for our country's birth. Which brings a question as to the actual date of birth, John Adams declared that the vote took place on July 2 and therefore, that is the one we should celebrate. I like July 4th, it sounds better—and it was signed at that time.

One of my questions is "Why can't the vocalist sing the songs the way they are written by the composer? Of course most people would not recognize our national anthem if played by the original bar room tune. Maybe that is why America is America.

What has happened to our country? I just saw on TV a beautiful rendition of the Star Spangled Banner to open the special show for the fourth. As the cameras panned the audience, there were several men with hats and caps on as well as both sexes not saluting with hand over heart. I learned this in grade school at Kilgore Heights. Thank you Mr. Mc David, school principal.

We leave today on a "ghost-busting" vacation, part of which is a revolutionary search. Born November 27, 1758 in Baltimore County, Maryland, John Chilcoat served in the Pennsylvania militia for several years during the American Revolution as a scout (spy). He resided in Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee before moving to Cooper County, Missouri before 1820. He received a pension for his military service. His farm was intact in 2002 near Florence, Missouri. John died at the age of 92 on July 10, 1851. The Eldon Chapter DAR and the Christopher Casey Chapter SAR marked his memorial gravestone on April 27, 2002.

William Chilcoat, a son of John Chilcoat, had a son named Comodore C. Chilcoat buried in Dollahite Cemetery, Harrison County, Texas. The family came to Texas in 1843. C.C. Chilcoat's daughter, Martha Elizabeth married Henry Clay Kimberling producing a son Elmer Alton Kimberling. Elmer Alton married Mary Elizabeth Grimes and they had three daughters, Lola Lea, Dottye Mae, and Bertie Belle. Dottye Mae married Cline Brooks Rector and had one child, Elizabeth Ann Rector.

Liz and I hope to locate the gravestone with our granddaughters Sarah Elizabeth and Abigail Mae Funderburk

God Bless America! We will see you at Casa Ole on Thursday, August 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Later, Carl

Madison Johnson

Madison Johnson, son of Nancy and Gary Fletcher and the brother of Page Johnson, our past Registrar, will present the program on August 4. The program will be concerning the United States Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Madison is currently the Fire Chief in Whitehouse where he has been employed since 2013. He was a paramedic and a fire fighter in Jacksonville, Texas, for 12 years before going to Whitehouse. He is a member of East Texas Chapter # 57 SAR.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report for June 2, 2016

The East Texas Chapter #57, TXSSAR met on June 2, 2016 at the Casa Ole' Restaurant in Longview. The meeting was called to order by President, Carl Hedges. The opening prayer was given by John Bolton, Registrar. The pledges to the United States Flag, the Texas Flag, and the SAR Flag were given. President Hedges welcomed all guests. Guests, Bennie and Suzie Haire were introduced and welcomed. Bennie's application to SAR has been sent in for approval. After dinner, the meeting resumed with the Secretary and Treasurer's reports being accepted as printed in the Newsletter.

President Hedges asked the membership to consider businesses or individuals that fly the U.S. Flag the correct way and explained that they are eligible for a flag certificate. A committee has been formed consisting of Mickey Cole, Harry Douglas (Kilgore), J.D. Denton (Longview) and Carl Hedges (Carthage) to begin selecting these individuals or businesses. To be eligible for a certificate, the flag must be kept in good condition and, if it is flown 24/7, it must be lighted.

President Hedges thanked the members for their "pocket change" from the last meeting to help support the chapter. President Hedges reminded everyone of the Carthage sculpture of Footprints in the Sand. Members were reminded to go to the website for information concerning Chapter #57.

The speaker, Sarah Funderburk, was introduced by the President. She spoke about her experiences as President General of the Children of the Republic of Texas.

The meeting was adjourned with the SAR Closing and a Benediction by John Bolton.

Those attending were: Carl & Liz Hedges, J.D. & Rosanna Denton, John Harrison & Betty Hurst, Leon & Ruby Dodgen, David Conner & Kathy Goodwin, Mickey & Carolyn Cole, Harry & Mary Douglas, John & Carroll Bolton, Sarah Funderburk and Bennie & Suzie Haire.

<u>Treasurer's report</u>	The current balance as of June 2016:	\$1,837.28
	Expenses (envelopes/postage)	29.82
	Balance as of August 2016:	\$1,807.46



Gary Fletcher
Secretary/Treasurer



The Legend of the Swamp Fox



Francis Marion

Francis Marion, one of the great partisan leaders of the American Revolutionary War, was known as the "Swamp Fox" because of his craftiness in eluding pursuers in the Carolina swamps and his brilliant guerrilla operations.

Francis Marion was born in Berkeley County, S.C. He had little education and remained semiliterate to the end of his life. As a boy of 15, he went to sea for a year. After that, he turned to farming on the family land. In 1761 he took part in the war against the Cherokee Indians as a lieutenant of militia. He made something of a reputation by leading a successful attack against a strong Indian position. More importantly, he became familiar with the special tactics of guerrilla warfare—using small forces, hitting and running, dispersing troops in one place and reforming them in another, and employing the element of surprise. When the campaign ended, he returned to farming, at first on leased land and then, in 1773, on a plantation of his own, Pond Bluff, near Eutaw Springs, S.C. Two years later he was elected to the provincial legislature and also accepted appointment as a captain in the second of two infantry regiments South Carolina raised at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War.

In the first several years of the war, Marion saw service in and around Charleston, S.C. In September 1775 he led his company in capturing the forts in Charleston harbor from the British. He was promoted to major in February 1776 and to lieutenant colonel in November 1776. In 1778 he took command of the 2nd Regiment. In November 1779 he led the regiment in an unsuccessful attack on Savannah. In May 1780 British Forces retook Charleston, and in August they shattered the American army under General Horatio Gates at the battle of Camden. This ended organized resistance by the Americans in South Carolina.

Marion now took to the swamps and to guerrilla warfare. With a small force of 20-70 men, he embarked upon harassing operations, hitting British supply lines and cutting communications between posts. Moving like a phantom, he roamed the area between Charleston and Camden and along the Santee and Peedee Rivers. In 1780 he rescued 150 American prisoners being transported by the British. Every effort to capture him failed. In the fall of 1780 Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton, one of England's ablest cavalry men, pursued Marion relentlessly but could not catch him. After a 7-hour chase through 26 miles of swamp he said, "But as for this damn old fox, the devil himself could not catch him." Another pursuer, Lt. Col. John W.T. Watson, who searched for Marion in March 1781, explained his failure by concluding that Marion "would not fight like a gentleman or a Christian."

In 1780 Brigadier General Marion began recruiting a brigade and establishing a base at Snow's Island at the joining of the Peedee and Lynches Rivers. From here he operated in support of Gen. Nathanael Greene. In 1781 he reached the peak of his career at the Battle of Eutaw Springs which ended with British forces in retreat to N.C. After this battle, Marion went to the S.C. Legislature as an elected representative. He was reelected in 1782 and 1784. At the end of the war he settled down at Pond Bluff, where he died on February 26, 1795.

(Editor Bolton's notes: *My patriot grandfather, Capt. John Norwood, rode with the Swamp Fox. Three other grandfathers, Isaac DuBose, John DuBose, and John Warren were all privates in Isaac DuBose company under the Swamp Fox.*)

SAR Chapter 57 Officers

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Remember—We meet at Casa Ole' (Spur 63) on June 2, 2016!!