



THE EAST TEXAS PATRIOT

Sons of the American Revolution

Chapter # 57 Longview, Texas



Volume 9, Number 3

June 4, 2015

President's Message

This is a beautiful day that the Lord has provided. I hope each of you are able to enjoy it. I would like to stress to each of you to take some time out of your busy daily life and write your life story for your family. Would it not be grand to read the story of our ancestors and their trials.

I just received a copy of "Panola Crossroads" a bi-monthly publication with interest to Panola County. In the May-June 2015 issue is an article "The Memoirs of Wesley Barnett". Wesley was a fourth generation Texan who lived his entire life in Panola County until his death on March 16, 2015. In 2003, a friend encouraged Barnett to write about his WWII war experiences to help him cope with some of his Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. It is a writing that his family cherishes today. If you would like to read the compelling story, visit the Panola Crossroads website at www.panolacrossroads.com.

This is an example of the kind of story each of us should write for our family. I had the privilege to know Wesley and sit next to him in our church choir for several years.

Another task is to write the stories of your parents, grandparents, and other relatives as you remember.

Don't forget our Fishless Fishing Tournament! This is our fund raiser for the chapter this year.

I hope all is well in your house and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Carl



Our speaker for the June meeting will be Professor Ann Boland of Panola College. She has been a part of the Art Department for over twenty years. Ms. Boland received her Masters Degree in Art from UT Tyler and her Bachelor's Degree in Education with a minor in Art from McMurry University in Abilene.

She is a member of Texas Association of School Arts, Pottery Council, Delta Kappa Gamma, Lausanne Arts Network and Mission America. With the addition of the Allison Gallery at Panola, she has chaired the exhibition of work from community artist through the Art Festival Exhibit and The Student Spotlight Exhibit. Her program will be *Art and Artists during the American Revolution*.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report for April 9, 2015

The East Texas Chapter #57, TXSSAR, met on April 9, 2015, at Casa Ole' Restaurant in Longview, Texas at 7 PM. The meeting was called to order by President, Carl Hedges. The Pledges and Ritual was led by the President and the Blessing was given by Vice President, John Bolton. Dinner followed with lots of visiting.

The meeting resumed with the acceptance of the Minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer's report as printed in the February newsletter. Old business and new business were discussed.

President Hedges conducted the SAR induction of new member John Claud Wallace of Kilgore. Mr. Wallace's patriot ancestor is Shadrack Rowe, Sr. of North Carolina. Virginia Wallace, wife of the new member, pinned the SAR Rosette on his lapel. Mr. Wallace's daughter, Carol Westbrook of Frisco, was on hand to support her father.

President Hedges presented a power point program on Fort Frederick of Maryland. Ft. Frederick is a Maryland State Park surrounding the restored Fort Frederick, a fort active in the French and Indian War and the American Revolutionary War. It was also used as a prison during the American Civil War.

Guests for the evening were Mickey Cole and Carol Westbrook. Members attending were: Carl and Elizabeth Hedges, Barney Jones, Harry and Mary Douglas, John and Carroll Bolton, Claud and Virginia Wallace.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 4, 2015 at CASA OLE' Restaurant, 280 Spur 63, Longview, Texas. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm. The speaker will be Ann Boland of Panola College. She will speak on "Art in the Revolutionary Period."

The meeting was adjourned by the President with the Closing Pledge to the SAR and the Benediction by Mr. Bolton..



The treasurer's report:

The current balance: \$1907.44

Gary Fletcher

Secretary/Treasurer



It is with great sadness that we announce the death of **Morgan "Barry" Henderson**. Barry was 85 and died April 20, 2015 in Longview. He was Sergeant-at-Arms for our SAR Chapter 57 for many years. He will be greatly missed.

On May 11, 2015, the Longview High School held their annual ceremony to honor ROTC students. At this time we presented the SAR honor medal and certificate to Cadet Private First Class Christian Mata.

CONGRATULATIONS PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MATA!!



July 4th



Variouly known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4th has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American Independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

When the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical. By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in Thomas Paine's pamphlet "Common Sense," published in 1776.

John Adams believed that July 2 was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence, and reportedly turned down invitations to appear at July 4 events in protest. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

What did happen on the 4th? The Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. They had been working on it since the draft had been submitted July 2.



Mark Your Calendars!!

Please mark your calendar for June 20, 2015. There will be a **War of 1812** Memorial for Pvt. William Cunyus. The memorial will be held at Peatown Cemetery, Lakeport, Gregg Co., Texas, where Pvt. Cunyus is buried. All SAR and DAR Chapters are invited to attend. The East Texas Color Guard will present the colors. Come join other lineage chapters in celebrating this 1812 Patriot.

Color Guard Reminder

The East Texas Color Guard is recruiting new members to support the East Texas heritage events. Contact: John Bolton for more information – 903-988-1591 or (cell) 903-399-4344



SAR Chapter 57 Officers

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John, Carol Westbrook, Claud & Virginia



Carl, Claud and Virginia Wallace, and John



East Texas Color Guard

Remember—We meet at Casa Ole' on June 4 !!

