



THE EAST TEXAS PATRIOT

Sons of the American Revolution

Chapter # 57 Longview, Texas



Volume 9, Number 6

October 1, 2015

President's Message

Summer is over for this year. Labor Day has past, school has begun, and we have football. Plus, we have campaigns for the presidential elections. I do wish that the news media would take a look at the calendar and find out that the election is in November 2016 and not November 2015.

I really wonder how many people know the meaning and history of "Labor Day." Most believe that it is simply a holiday that ends summer vacation and heralds the start of school.

Watching the news on the television with the reporting of school security has become a major issue for those concerned. In most schools today a visitor or parent must check in at a central office, present proper identification, and receive an appropriate badge before entering the school halls. The students are now picked up by parents or approved persons when school is out for the day. I am glad that I attended school in "the good ole' days" when we walked to school or caught a ride with a friend. If something was left at home, we went to the office, called mom and asked her to bring it to us in Mrs. Teacher's room. No Red Tape!!

Football is here! As most of you know, I am involved with the Carthage Varsity Bulldogs and we hope to have a great season with a long run towards another state championship. In a game in the San Antonio area, two players upset with an official's call on a previous play, retaliated on the next play by both hitting the official from his blindside. This type of behavior should not be tolerated at any level of sports.

In myh reflections of the "Dark Ages in School" to the present, what is different in education?

Maybe we should put "God" and prayer back in our schools along with a proper "Board" of Education. Teachers were respected. If a student had a bad grade according to the parents it was the students fault and not the teacher's.

I look forward to seeing you at our October 2 meeting and the comments by Elizabeth Hedges.

Carl



“Colonial Superstitions” will be the program topic for our speaker, Elizabeth (Liz) Hedges of the Panola College Theater Department where she is the Director. This is her twentieth year at Panola College. Before coming to Panola, Liz taught at Carthage High School, Cy-Fair High School in Houston and Westchester High School also in Houston.

Liz attended Kilgore College and University of Texas in Austin. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts in Theatre from University of Texas at Austin and Masters from University of Texas, Tyler.

Minutes and Treasurer’s Report for August 6, 2015

The East Texas Chapter #57, TXSSAR, met on August 6, 2015, at Casa Ole’ Restaurant in Longview, Texas at 7 PM. The meeting was called to order by Ex-President, Gary Fletcher. The Pledges were given and a prayer was said. Guests were introduced. The guests were Roseannah and J.D. Denton, Brewer, Ann, and John Boland, and Kathy Goodwin. 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 newsletter. Old business and new business were discussed. Members were reminded about the fishing tournament.

The speaker, John Boland, was introduced. His topic for the evening was “Education During the Colonial Period”. It was a very “educational” program and presented with a slide show. The interest from the audience was good, with lots of comments and questions. We are hoping the Boland Family will return soon.

The next meeting will be on Thursday October 1, 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. .”

With no other announcements, the meeting was closed with the SAR Closing and a Benediction.

The treasurer’s report:

The current balance: \$1907.44

Gary Fletcher
Secretary/Treasurer



Chapter 57 will induct 4 new compatriots into our chapter at the October 1 meeting. These four men are:

George Mickey Cole, ancestor: Miles H. Gathright, 2nd Lt. in New Kent Co.
VA Militia

Charles David Conner, ancestor: Robert Curry, 1st Lt. 7th Co., 1st Battalion,
North Cumberland, PA

Rory Still Collum, ancestor: Benajah Doty, major in the Onslow Regiment,
NC Militia

Philip Thomas Pegues, ancestor: Claudius Pegues, Jr. Captain in the Pee Dee
Militia at Cheraw Dist. SC

Please make all of our new members welcome as they join us to support Chapter 57.



Battle of King's Mountain

October 7 is the 235th anniversary of the battle fought at Kings Mountain. This battle has been declared to be the turning point of the American Revolution in the South. The battle took place 9 miles south of the present-day town of Kings Mountain, North Carolina in rural Cherokee Co., S.C., where the Patriot militia defeated the Loyalist militia commanded by British Major Patrick Ferguson, **the only regular British soldier in his command.**

The battle began about 3 pm when the 900 Patriots (including John Crockett, father of Davy Crockett) approached the base of the western ridge. They formed eight detachments of 100-200 men each. The Patriots caught the Loyalists by surprise. As the screaming Patriots charged up the hill, Capt. DePeyster said to Ferguson "These things are ominous—these are damned yelling boys!"

After an hour of combat, Loyalist casualties were heavy. Ferguson rode back and forth across the hill, blowing a silver whistle he used to signal charges. Isaac Shelby, John Sevier, and William Campbell attacked Ferguson's rear. The Loyalists were driven back and they began to surrender. Ferguson gathered a few officers and tried to cut through the Patriot lines but Sevier's men fired a volley and Ferguson was shot dead from his horse. Seeing their leader fall, the Loyalist surrendered.

The battle lasted 65 minutes. The Loyalists suffered 290 killed, 163 wounded and 668 taken prisoner. The Patriot militia suffered 29 killed and 58 wounded.

*Some of our members and member's wives have family who served at King's Mountain. If you have an ancestor who fought at this battle, please come to the meeting prepared to share his name with us.



On Sept. 11, 2015, **Patriot Day**, the East Texas Color Guard posted the colors for the Grass Roots America-We the People in Tyler. The Keynote speaker was Kris "Tanto" Paronto. Tanto is a former Ranger, 2nd Battalion, 75th Regiment, Security and military Consultant, and hero of the Benghazi Attack. Mr. Paronto was part of the CIA annex security team that responded to the terrorist attack on the US Special Mission in Benghazi, Libya. His story is told in the book "13 Hours".

SAR Chapter 57 Officers

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On July 28, at the William Barron Chapter of SAR in Tyler, Chapter 57 member, John Bolton, was presented the Bronze color guard medal by the East Texas Color Guard Commander, Matthew Lee.



**From left: Rev. Don Majors, Britton Lee, Matthew Lee, Kris "Tanto" Paronto, Cliff Johnson
Michael Everheart, John Bolton**

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

Remember—We meet at Casa Ole' on October 1 !!