



Sons of the American Revolution Independence Chapter March 2014



March 25 - 6:00 pm, Outback Steak House, 2102 Texas Ave S, College Station. The private dining room is to the right as you enter. Order from a special menu, with prices now posted on the menu - 6 oz steak, chicken or fish. Order and pay individually. We will order, eat, then have our meeting. Prospective members, guests, and spouses are welcome.

Program will be "Surveying in the American Colonies" by Henry Mayo, a Registered Professional Land Surveyor. He currently serves as Brazos County Historical Commission Chair.

2014-2015 Officers - President Jim Boone, Vice President & Registrar James T. Jones, Jr., Sec. George Nelson, Treas. Martin Ranck, Chancellor Rick Davis, Chaplain Mervin Peters.



L-R: Boone, Jones, Nelson, Ranck, Davis.

Feb Mtg - President Bob Cohen welcomed 23 attendees. Jim Jones installed Jim Boone and Rick Davis. Speaker was Bobbi Rodriguez, A&M Consolidated High School US History, Honors & AP Teacher, on "When Were We Americans."



President's Letter - Howdy, Compatriots. It is good to be back on my feet again and to be able to belatedly assume the office to which you elected me. First and foremost, I want to thank the Cohens and Jim Jones for so ably carrying out my duties while I was sidelined. Secondly, I want to thank all of our Compatriots who have supported Independence Chapter through their attendance at our meetings.

I have selected as our theme for the coming year: "Growth." Physicists tell us that, for a nuclear explosion to occur, the nuclear materials must reach a "critical mass." I think the same can be said for organizations. If the organization is too small, the burden of carrying out the organization's mission is too great for the members to sustain, and it fails. Once the organization achieves its critical mass, the burden on individual members is reduced and success becomes possible.

I don't know what magic number would give Independence Chapter its critical mass, but, thanks to our recent growth, we may be getting close. How will we know that we have achieved critical mass? 1. When our membership is great enough that we have no difficulty finding people to serve as officers, and these positions can be rotated so that no one has to serve too long. 2. When our membership is great enough that there are always enough Compatriots to serve on the committees that carry out the important work of the SAR. 3. When attendance at meetings is sufficient that our program presenters will feel that it was worth their efforts to prepare the program. I think we are close - with just a bit more effort we can achieve critical mass.

Finally, how do we grow our numbers? I think we begin by having good programs at our

meetings. We have had some excellent programs this year (as well as in previous years). We just need to continue this good work. Compatriot Cohen has secured excellent presenters to fill our program schedule until the September meeting. Now we need to seek program presenters for September, October, November, January, February and March. You can help us find good programs. When you see a good program elsewhere that would be appropriate for an SAR meeting, write down the topic, presenter, and his or her phone number and pass it on to me or to one of our officers.

Probably the most important tool for growth is outreach. Each of us should always be on the lookout for prospective Compatriots. Ask them to attend a meeting - and ask them to submit a membership application.

Jim Boone, President 2014-2015

George Washington - Contacts about the GW portrait from the Mount Vernon Ladies Association will be made by Jim Jones with College Station HS and George Nelson and Rodger Smith with Rudder HS.

Youth Activities - Matthew Cohen entered the Oration contest "American Free". Chris Welch entered the Essay contest "James Madison's US Constitution and Its Magna Carte Heritage".

Elevator Speech - How would you briefly explain SAR to a friend or prospective member?

This is the DAR Past President's "elevator" speech - "The DAR is a volunteer service organization based on lineage to someone who fought or gave aid to the American Revolution. We preserve historic buildings and artifacts; provide contests, awards and scholarships; support schools and develop good citizens, while celebrating the exceptional events in our American history." If more queries follow, engage the person in a dialogue about the importance of membership.

Audit Committee - Rodger Smith, George Nelson and Jim Jones, with Martin Ranck as advisor, will audit the Treasurer's records.

Naturalization Ceremony - Bob Cohen, in colonial uniform, posted the US Flag at the March 6 ceremony in the 85th District Court, with the Honorable Presiding Judge J. D. Langley. SAR helped greet 33 new citizens. Next naturalization ceremony - May 8.

ROTC - Medals will be presented by the following Independence Chapter Compatriots to the following schools. Other members are invited to attend as your schedule permits.
Bob Middleton - 4 TAMU, April 12 - ROTC
Jim Jones - 1 Brenham HS, April 22 - JROTC
Jim Jones - 3 PV, April 23 - ROTC
Jim Jones - 1 Bryan, TBA - JROTC

Calendar -

March 17 **St Patrick's Day**

March 27-30 SAR State Meeting, San Antonio
Info - TXSSAR.org, under "Events"

April 22 Regular Independence Meeting

Program Connie Moss "8th Grade History"

May 8 Naturalization Ceremony

May 26 Memorial Day Flags, College Station

June 14 Flag Day

June 23 Independence #40 chartered 1986

SAR Membership - American history is kept alive by the efforts of organizations such as the Sons of American Revolution (SAR). Members are direct descendants of patriots who supported the American Revolution.

Texas SAR was organized on December 8, 1896 as a membership organization whose fundamental purposes are patriotic, educational, and historical.

An all-volunteer organization, the Texas SAR has dedicated itself to serving as a guardian and interpreter of history.

Invite a prospective member to the meeting.

