



Pine Shavings



**Piney Woods Chapter #51
Texas Society of Sons of the American Revolution**

FEBRUARY 2015



Welcome to all PineyWoods#51 Members and especially our newest members. We are fully into a very busy early year event calendar and we look forward to all of your help. Our meeting in Houston is upcoming with details in the newsletter. Compatriot Larry Blackburn is getting organized for the JROTC season, and we have our Chapter elections at our Members Meeting February 19th. We have an all-stars cast of officers slated for approval who are ready to lead our Chapter. Please be sure to attend the Members meeting as we will be voting on the new offices and officers.

We are hosting the 120th Texas Conference at the Greenspoint Marriott, with the help our friends, the Freedom and Robert Rankin Chapter, and our chapter will take the lead in preparing Registration Packages, Member and Guest ID Badges;

plus a silent auction, helping usher our youth contest contestants and the American History Award winner. We will need every member of the chapter to help so one or two members will not have to handle one element by themselves.

Our own past Chapter President Larry G. Stevens will be inducted as the 101 Texas Society President. He has served in the Texas society as President of the Council of Chapter Presidents, Historian for two years, Staff Secretary for two years, and this past year as the President Elect. Larry has been an SAR Member for 28 years this summer.

National Society President General Lindsey Brock will lead the induction ceremony and swear in the Texas Officers for 2015-2016. We have had two earlier Texas Society Presidents that were members of the Piney-Woods Chapter 51; the Honorable Thomas "Tom" Lawrence and James "Jim" Tillman Jones.

Larry Blackburn will become our District 8 Vice President at the March Meeting replacing John Thompson who did an outstanding job. Larry will step right in and not miss a beat. Congratulations Compatriot Blackburn.

We did receive 13 Essay entries for the Chapter Essay Contest. One was selected by our chapter essay committee, headed by myself, and this contestant's essay was forward to the State Essay Contest Chairman Doc Rice to compete with others for the top Texas Prize. Our essay winner will receive our chapter contest First Place Award of \$200.

I will be out of town again this week, and again Past President Larry Stevens will step in for me. Some of us still are working.

God Bless America,

**Meeting
February 19th
Member**

**Jimmy G's
307 N. Sam Houston E. Parkway,
Greenspoint
6:30 p.m.**

RSVP for the Meeting

Please respond with the number of people attending and names by Wednesday before the meeting date.

ASAP to Larry Stevens wardtracker@aol.com or 281 361-2061

This Month in the Revolution

February 5 1776 – Major General Charles Lee writes to George Washington that he and Clinton both arrived on February 4th.

Lee writes that Clinton said he was there to visit his friend William Tyrone the former Royal Governor of New York. Clinton tells Washington “If it is really so, it is the most whimsical piece on civility I ever heard.” Lee said Clinton claimed he was heading south where he would receive British reinforcements to which Lee says, ‘to communicate his plan to the enemy is too novel to be credited’.



February 6, 1778 – American Colonies and France Alliance.



Benjamin Franklin's first audience before King Louis XVI at Versailles to arrange the Treaty of Amity.

Benjamin Franklin and Silas Deane conclude negotiations with France. The Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Treaty of Alliance is signed. The first, the Treaty of Amity and Commerce recognized the colonies as an independent nation, the United States, and promoted trade between the two. The second made France and the United States allies against Great Britain.

February 18, 1778 – Washington writes to New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia requesting cattle for the army for the months of May and June.

Washington writes, “...States have contended, not unsuccessfully, with one of the most powerful Kingdoms upon earth.” And after several years at war, “we now find ourselves at least upon a level with our opponents”.

February 23, 1778 – Wilhelm Steuben arrives at Valley Forge with a letter of introduction from the President of the Continental Congress.

February 1775 – Parliament declared Massachusetts to be in a state of rebellion. Lt. Gen. Thomas Gage, the British North American commander was commanding four regiments of British Regulars, about 4,000 men, from Boston. On April 14, he received orders to disarm the rebels and arrest their leaders beginning the **Boston Campaign**.



Die helden der revolution

[between 1850-1890] 1 print. Girsch, Frederick, 1821-1895, artist.

General Washington standing with Johann De Kalb, Baron von Steuban, Kazimierz Pulaski, Tadeusz, Lafayette, John Mullenberg, and other officers during the Revolutionary War.

January 2015 Meeting

PineyWoods Officer Nominations.
December 18, 2015

President	Joe Potter
1 st VP	Karl Falken*
2 nd VP	Todd Simmons
Secretary	Kermit Breed
Treasurer	Jim Pinkerton
Chancellor	Alan Henshaw
Chaplain	Cannon Pritchard**
Registrar	Kermit Breed
	Larry Stevens
	Todd Simmons
Sgt at Arms	Larry Blackburn
Webmaster	Ray Cox
Newsletter	Larry Stevens

*Must Establish Chapter Membership First

**Ray Cox Interim until Cannon can return



At the PineyWoods Chapter meeting we enjoyed a film on the 96 District of South Carolina during the Revolutionary War.

Pictured above President Ben Stallings presents Dr. Larry Blackburn with the chapter Distinguished Service Medal for his service as chapter president and JROTC service to the chapter and the state society.

Pictured at left new member Clifford "Marty" Landry receives his membership certificate. Pictured with Curtis Breed, registrar, and chapter president Ben Stallings.



Calendar of Events National Society

George Washington Parade – Laredo, Texas – 21 February 2015
Spring Leadership – Friday, 6 Mar 2015 – Saturday, 7 March 2015 –
Brown Hotel, Louisville

125th NSSAR Congress – Friday, 26 June 2015 – 1 July 2015 – Galt Hotel, Louisville
Fall Leadership – Friday, 25 September 2015 – Saturday, 26 September 2015

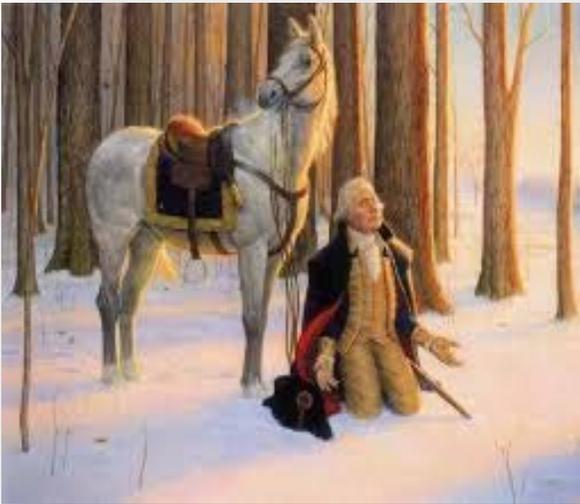


Texas Society

120th TXSSAR Convention – 26 March 2015 – 29 March 2015
Greenspoint Marriott, Houston, Texas

George Washington on Chaplains for his Army

By Larry Stevens



Many Professors of History in the 1970's wrote lengthy dissertations espousing the Deism beliefs of our founding fathers. They listed those that definitely were Deists and listed those who probably were based on their research of Letters and other papers written during the Revolution and after. In the last few years other Religious Historians wrote finding that contrary to the themes published by those who claimed the founders of America were in fact mainly Deist.

Recently, I learned of letters written by George Washington concerning the needs of all Regiments to have at least one Chaplain. George Washington firmly believed that chaplains played a very important role in discipline and morality of both the officers and soldiers in the Continental Army. And, as a matter of record, in letters he wrote during the French

and Indian War to Governor Robert Dinwiddie of Virginia in 1756, George Washington shows early in his career how strongly he felt soldiers needed chaplains. This is a belief that he maintained throughout his service to the Continental Congress during the Revolution. The following are just a sample excerpted from his letters and general orders of the many reference you can find.

"A Chaplain for the Regiment ought to be provided; that we may at least have the show, if we are said to want the substance of Godliness!... 11 September 1756,

"...The want of a chaplain does, I humbly conceive, reflect dishonor upon the regiment, as all other officers are allowed..... The gentlemen of the corps are sensible of this, and did propose to support one at their private expense.....But I think it would have a more graceful appearance were he appointed as others are.... 23 September 1756

"When I spoke of a Chaplain, it was in answer to yours. I had no person in view, tho' many have offered; and only said, if the country would provide a subsistence, we could procure a Chaplain, without thinking there was offence in the expression. 24 November 1756

In 1775, after asking for and receiving money to pay Chaplains for their service, George again wrote to the Continental Congress

"I have long had it on my mind to mention to Congress, that frequent applications had been made to me respecting the Chaplain's pay, which is too small to encourage men of Abilities.....Some of them who have left their Flocks, are Obligated to pay the parson acting for them more than they receive.....I need not point out the great utility of Gentlemen whose lives and conversation are unexceptionable, being employed for that service in this Army. George Washington to the President of Congress, 12/31/1775

"There are two ways of making it worth the Attention of such; one is, an advancement of their pay, the other, that one Chaplain be appointed to two regiments; this last I think may be done without Inconvenience, I beg leave to recommend this matter to Congress, whose sentiments thereon I shall impatiently expect. George Washington to the President of Congress, 12/31/1775

"The Continental Congress having been pleased to order, and direct, that there shall be one Chaplain to

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The Revolutionary War Chaplain the Reverend John Caldwell-Battle of Springfield

(Continued from page 4)

two Regiments, and that the pay of each Chaplain shall be Thirty-three dollars and one third, pr Kalendar Month—The Revd. Abiel Leonard is appointed Chaplain to the Regiment of Artillery, under the command of Col Knox, and to the 20th. Regiment, at present commanded by Lt. Col Durke

As there can be but fourteen Chaplains under this establishment, to the 28 Regiments (including the Artillery, and Riffle [sic] Regiments) and as preference will be given to those Chaplains who served last Year, provided their conduct, and attendance, have been unexceptionable: The Brigadiers are to enquire [sic] into this matter and with the Colonels, and commanding Officers of the several Regiments, arrange them agreeable to the above direction, and make report thereof that orders, may issue accordingly. General Orders, 2/7/1776, The Writings of George Washington “All Officers, non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers are positively forbid playing at Cards, and other Games of Chance. At this time of public distress, men may find enough to do in the service of their God, and their Country, without abandoning themselves to vice and immorality.”

George Washington General Orders, 2/26/1776,



Declaration of Independence by John Trumbull – Committee of Five June 28, 1776





L R - John Meredith (F); Lord Sterling Fifer, Pat Kerr (RR), Larry Blackburn (P), Ray Cox (P-Lord Sterling), Joe Potter (P), John Thompson (F- Dist. 8 VP), Gene Shaner (G), Larry Stevens (P), Larry Templeton (G)
 Kneeling – Fife – Lord Sterling; Young Man who joined us, Dr. Craig Livingston – Director Lord Sterling Drum and Fife Corps Not Pictured – Pete Lenes

