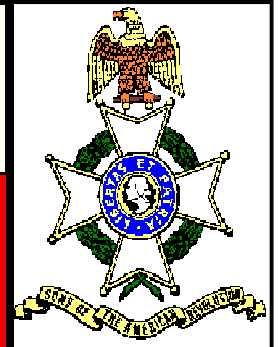




Pine Shavings



**PineyWoods Chapter #51
Texas Society of Sons of the American Revolution**

January 2013

Volume 23, Issue 1



Larry H. Blackburn, PhD

President

Compatriots, Happy New Year to everyone! We in the Blackburn household had a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year shared with kids, grandkids and other family and friends. We are blessed and thankful everyday, and this includes being part of the TXSSAR PineyWoods Chapter 51 out of Kingwood, Texas. I really did not understand what becoming a Compatriot member would be about; and who we are and what we do far exceeds my initial expectations.

Chapter 51 Chancellor Allan Henshaw will be our speaker. He will provide us with some history of Chapter 51 By-Laws and the correct way to introduce and make changes to the rules. We will also touch on the fact that some members have not paid their dues for 2013 and we request everyone do so as soon as possible. Also, Chapter Officers have been busy collecting data for the State and National Annual Reports. We will share this information at the meeting.

I always look forward to receiving the Pine Shavings Newsletter which I describe as simply outstanding. I like to keep my message short and to the point as there are always many very informative and entertaining articles to read and enjoy. Thanks go to Larry and Barbara Stevens for producing, editing and circulating the newsletter.

Finally, once again, I encourage all who can to attend our monthly meeting and remember to bring your wife and family.

Thanks and best regards to everyone,

Larry Blackburn, PhD
President, TXSSAR PineyWoods Chapter 51

We had an informal December 2012 members meeting breakfast at the Kingwood CC Tin Cup café and the discussions were visionary with a focus on the upcoming year. Our Chapter had an exciting 2012 and we enter 2013 with some interesting potential changes. I encourage everyone to attend our first meeting of 2013 on Thursday evening January 17 at Jimmy Gs. Items on the agenda include: formal nomination of Chapter 51 Officers for 2013; updates on our JROTC, Eagle Scout and American History Student programs; discussions on the Spring 2013 State BOM in Dallas and the Fall 2013 State BOM in Houston in which Chapter 51 will have an active role producing and supporting; and our

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Editor's Note

This edition of the Pine Shaving is somewhat abbreviated. The December issue contained the minutes and information from the December meeting so there is little chapter information to report between that meeting and this one. The upcoming meeting on Thursday is an important meeting as we discuss our governance documents and changes that need to be made. Some of those issues were discussed in the last issue. Please review them for the meeting.

Revolutionary Timeline

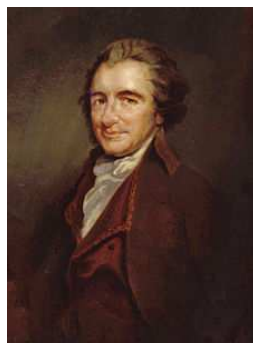
January 4, 1776 - Washington promised Congress that he would attack Boston.

January 5, 1776—New Hampshire, in compliance with a request from Congress, established a Colonial government.

January 6, 1776—British warships left South Carolina heading south. The Council of Safety in SC quickly sent word to patriots in Georgia to expect an attack on Savannah. They also requested the return of their Colonial Governor, Lord Campbell, if the ships showed up there.



January 8, 1776—British encourage local merchants in Glasgow who have close ties with Colonial tobacco planters to “stimulate correspondents and agents to side with the King.”



Thomas Paine

January 10, 1776—Common Sense, the pamphlet by Thomas Paine, is circulated in Congress.

January 21, 1776— Because many of the recruits coming to Washington’s army did not have arms, he sends out two officers to purchase weapons. Soldiers enlisting with weapons were promised \$1 for their use and replacement of the weapon if it was lost.

January 23, 1776—Washington writes in a letter to Joseph Reed, "I have often thought how much happier I should have been if, instead of accepting of a command under such circumstances, I had taken my musket upon my shoulder, and entered the ranks . . ."

January 29, 1776 — Congress agrees to Washington's request that regiments be raised in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Connecticut for service in Canada, the cost to be underwritten by the Continental Congress.

January 30, 1776 — The Continental Congress directs that no apprentices be enlisted for military service without the written consent of their master or mistress. Persons under the age of 21 could secure a discharge from service within twenty-four hours of enlisting by refunding any money or supplies received from the recruiting officer.

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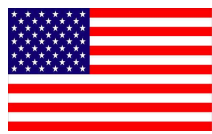
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EVENTS



National : www.sar.org

March 1-2 , 2013

Spring Leadership Meeting held in Louisville, KY

July 5-10, 2013

NSSAR National Congress—Kansas City, MO



State: www.txssar.org

April 4-7

TXSSAR Annual Meeting

Wyndam Hotel, Dallas, TX

Slate of Officers for 2013-2014

President - Ben Stallings

1st Vice President - Greg Goulas

2nd Vice President - Gordon Severance

Secretary - Vacant (acting Larry Blackburn)

Treasurer - John Beard

Historian – Jim Mitchell

Registrar – Larry Stevens

Genealogist – Kim Morton

Chancellor and Parliamentarian – Allan Henshaw

Chaplain – Cannon Prichard

Sergeant-At-Arms and Quartermaster (flags & stands) – Larry Stevens

Webmaster - Ray Cox

The nominating committee approved this list of officers for March 2013 – March 2014.

The proposed for 2013-2014 Officers will be announced at our upcoming meeting on Thursday.

**PineyWoods -
Meetings - 2013**

Jan 17th—Member/Guest

MEETING LOCATION

6:30 p. m. at Jimmy G's,
307 N. Sam Houston Parkway,
Houston TX 77060

RSVP FOR THE MEETING

Please respond with the number of people attending and their names by Tuesday before the meeting date. You can send an RSVP email to John Beard at johnbeard@suddenlink.net or call John at 281-358-2970 OR Kim Morton at Genmorton@usa.net. OR Larry Stevens wardtracker@aol.com (281-361-2061) Please RSVP to one person only.

The Burning of Norfolk

January 1, 1776 The Burning of Norfolk – Norfolk at this time was occupied by Whig forces from Virginia and North Carolina. On New Year's Day, British warships in the harbor began shelling the town. Then, landing parties swept through the town burning the homes of the specific patriots. The Whigs tried to repel the British but could not stop the flames as the city burned. They instead began to burn and loot the homes and businesses of the absent Tories. After three days, the town was mostly destroyed. By February the Whigs had destroyed the rest of the town to keep it from the British. This loss, hastened the departure of the last Royal Governor, Lord Dunmore, in August of 1776.

Midshipman' Letter from aboard His Majesties' *Otter* commanded by Captain Squire January 9th ...

“The town of Norfolk, in Virginia, which was lately burnt by the Liverpool, man-of-war, and her attendants, was the largest town in the whole Province. It contained near four times the number of houses in Williamsburgh, the capital, and might be compared to Reading, in Berkshire, with regard to the extent of its site, and the scale of its population. The Rebels, therefore, have sustained a very severe loss in its destruction; and we are very well assured, that this loss has already not a little cooled the favor of Virginian patriotism.”



The Fiscal Cliff of 1791

All we heard on the news this past December was the US was facing the Fiscal Cliff if our elected leaders could not come to terms on how to spend our money this next year and exactly how much debt this would incur. Examining the Public Debt of the United States is relatively easy. Just type Public Debt into your internet server. You will be able to see how we began with a publicized debt of about 71.1 million dollars and by end of Fiscal Year 2008 it had reached \$10.1 Trillion, about 10 times the debt posted in 1980. This year as of Jan 13, 2013, our latest report is \$16.4 trillion. Only during the administration of Andrew Jackson was the debt reduced to nearly Zero. Although not an economist, I did take economics at collage and considered it my “3 head banging class”, where my head banged 3 times on my desk to awaken me during lectures. But as an historian, I believe if you follow the history of the national debt from its beginnings in 1775 until today, you will see where our greatest debt was incurred; namely the Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War, WWI and WWII, Korea, Vietnam, our peace keeping efforts in SE Europe, the Near East, and other parts of the world. Although these conflicts are not the only reason for the great explosion of debt during our history; especially recently; it has not made it easier to fund the many programs we enjoy as Americans.

Public Debt of the United States of America was first reported by Alexander Hamilton in 1790, and he reported the Revolutionary War plus government had incurred debt amounting to \$75,463,476.52 by January 1, 1791. Alexander Hamilton wrote,

“The United States debt, foreign and domestic, was the price of liberty. The faith of America has been repeatedly pledged for it... Among ourselves, the most enlightened friends of good government are those whose expectations of prompt payment are the highest. To justify and preserve their confidence; to promote the increasing respectability of the American name; to answer the calls of justice; to restore landed property to its due value; to furnish new resources, both to agriculture and commerce; to cement more closely the Union of the States; to add to their security against foreign attack; to establish public order on the basis of an up-

right and liberal policy; these are the great and invaluable ends to be secured by a proper and adequate provision, at the present period, for the support of public credit.”

In a 1793 message to the House of Representatives, George Washington wrote,

“No pecuniary consideration is more urgent than the regular redemption and discharge of the public debt: on none can delay be more injurious, or an economy of the time more valuable.”

Raising money to fund the Revolutionary War began in 1775 when our American leaders authorized the “issuing of cash” in the form of redeemable “bills of credit”. The continental Congress attempted to control or govern spending by forming a group of ten founders in 1776 that took charge of what would become of the U. S. Treasury. Neither this move by congress to reign in the economy or the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 5, 1776, that allowed borrowing money from foreign powers, France and the Netherlands, proved affective. Debt continued to increase and the “bills of credit” or “loan certificates” rapidly deflated in value.

On September 11, 1789 Alexander Hamilton was appointed the first Secretary of the Treasury by George Washington. Hamilton, who was an economist, political philosopher, and one of the first Constitutional lawyers and had, co-wrote the Federalist Papers, a friend a confident of President Washington, was very influential in the policy decisions of the new government. Hamilton, a great admirer of British political systems, emphasized a strong central government, with implied powers, under his guidance the new U. S. Congress funded the National Debt, assumed state debts, created a national bank, and established tariffs and taxes. Hamilton argued *“A national debt, if not excessive, will be to us a national blessing.”*

Hamilton in 1790 developed a strategy of a “sinking fund” and an act was passed by Congress on August 4, 1790 where the national debt was to be gradually retired. New federal bonds were issued to cover the debt. By assuming the obligation to pay this debt, the government firmly established its good credit. By

Notice of Proposed Constitution/Bylaw Changes

PineyWoods Chapter 51 Members:

At the December 15, 2012, Nominating Committee Meeting and Members Business Meeting at Kingwood Country Club, there was a proposal expressed to change PineyWoods Officers Terms from one (1) year to two (2) years. Officer induction would still take place at the March meeting, but each officer would serve until replaced not the next year but the one following. (An example would be: officers would serve from induction in March 2014 to, when relieved, March 2016). Our Chapter Constitution and Bylaws may/will need some revisions to change our officer terms to the proposed two (2) years. This requires a fifteen (15) days notification to all Chapter Members by the Chapter Secretary before any proposed changes can be made at a chapter meeting as stated in PineyWoods Chapter 51 Constitution Article XV.

This notice from the PineyWoods Chapter serves as the notification of the chapter members.

A Bylaws Committee chaired by our Chapter Chancellor will write the proposed revisions and these will be presented in an upcoming chapter meeting for approval.

Respectfully Submitted,
John C. Beard
 Secretary
 PineyWoods Chapter 51

(Continued from page 5)

February 1792, interest bearing government bonds were selling for \$1.20 on a dollar. An investor buying \$100 in bonds in 1786 would have sold the replacement bonds issued by the new government for \$121.00 in 1792.’ The system of debt management instituted by Hamilton worked well to consolidate the debt and permit the government to make interest payments as they came due. The first Bank of the United States was organized in 1791 under the leadership of Hamilton and greatly opposed by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison because they did not trust such institutions. Ten years later it reported a total capital of \$10 million. However, Jefferson’s Secretary, Albert Gallatin, a chief critic of Hamilton, made it his priority to reduce the debt. During his reign he reduced it the \$45 million by 1811. This was somewhat derailed by Jefferson’s Louisiana Purchase in 1803.



1798 Bond

In 1783, Congress was given the power to raise taxes which help with the normal operating expenses. But by 1785, it was realize that this was not enough. Hamilton rallied congress and others to have the government assume some debt and help meet expenses. Procedures were put in place by the framers of the constitution to provide assurance that the debt would be paid increasing the confidence in the new government. Many of Hamilton procedures are still used today.

History always seems to teach us lessons. Studying the past sometimes helps us predict the future. Ignoring our history and that of our ancestors who helped write this history only dishonors their contributions and the lessons they learned.

Larry Stevens

Registrars Report for January 2013

Discovering our Ancestors and how they lived may have been one reason many of us chose to join lineage organizations like the Sons of the American Revolution. Currently, I belong to several others, the Sons of the Republic of Texas, the War of 1812, and a new organization, "The Order of the Founders of North America 1492-1692". Many of you belong to more than one of these lineage societies. Curiosity of our past leads us to study family history. In doing so, we do learn much, perhaps like year our ancestors arrived in the North American Colonies or North America. Some of our members have ancestors who first settled in Canada and then migrated into the USA or its territories. And, some of our members can trace their roots to the Magna Carta 1215 and beyond. I find it amazing to find paths to the past I did not know existed.

Counting all new applications processed by the chapter, we a record of 19 new applications approved. Not since the mid 1990's have we enjoyed this much activity. There is still one to finish processing.

At the end of the year, there was an influx of Supplemental Applications. A Supplemental application is filed by a member on an additional ancestor who served in the military or provided a service during the Revolutionary War. When researching your family, you will see others who may have served in the Revolutionary War. Members who find additional ancestors may want to recognize their service by filling out a Supplemental Application. The current Fee for a Supplemental is \$78; although, rumor says this fee amount may be changed. A proposal may be introduced at the next National Congress to increase the fee.

Supplemental applications have been sent to our State Registrar Gerald Irion and a 6th is just waiting for a

record to arrive from the North Carolina Archives. John Beard submitted 3, Larry Blackburn 1, and I have 2.



Each member of good standing can prepare and submit their own Supplemental Applications. I use Ray Cox's program to fill in the required data. There is a form available on the SAR Website you could use; I just find Ray's more user friendly. PineyWoods members can obtain a software copy from Ray. The completed application must be submitted with two legal size copies of the form typed on both sides; one on SAR watermarked paper and one on regular paper. A "record copy" of your original approved SAR application should be included. This copy may be used as proof for common generations with proofs already submitted (you type this on the Generation 1 Proof space as SAR your number, such as 111111). All generations must be proved for the spousal ancestor in the lineage either by reference to the document in earlier applications or by submission of the documents. Approved DAR record copies can be used if the individual facts are check and the documentation is in the DAR application. In this event, the supplement will list the documents in the DAR application in the proofs section and then the DAR number.

I have the legal size official SAR watermarked paper and will help you prepare and print these forms. Remember, many of your ancestors are not in any of the ancestor data bases. If you submit SAR Supplemental Applications, it could help someone else find their ancestors. Four of my ancestors were to new to the DAR and the SAR.

Larry Stevens PineyWoods Registrar

For a new and improved application preparation guide please check out the following guidance document:

TXSSAR.org, then go to information tab and select [NSSAR Application Preparation Manual 20 Oct 2012](#)

Color Guard—Join Us

Why would one join a group of men who dress up like pirates and march around or go to schools and talk to kids? Well, there are lots of reasons. Below are some of those reasons:

- Well, to have a uniform that represents the branch of service or militia that your ancestor may have served helps preserve the memory of that service. Larry Blackburn dresses as a Revolutionary War marine and does a wonderful program on the history of the Marines. Jim Mitchell dresses in his Culpeper Militia.
- The uniform brings attention to SAR, and gives one the opportunity to describe our goals and programs. You would be surprised how many time people stop you on the streets and then offer the comment, “I think I could be a member.”
- The uniforms and militia help bring history home to school children. There is more attention to the

topic when in uniform, than if you are just lecturing about the time.

How do you do it? Well, that depends on the talents in your family. Robert Rankin member Steven Tanner and Dr. Jim Johnson of Denton have both sewn their own uniforms. But trust me, this is not a task for the weak at heart. There is also a uniform maker from Fort Worth, I believe, who has attended State SAR meetings that will make a uniform for you. Uniforms can be ordered from several different companies. Some of these companies are listed below:

- James Townsend & Sons
[jas-townsend.com]
- C & D Jarnagin Co.
[www.jarnaginco.com]
- The Quartermaster General
[www.thequartermastergeneral.com]

Some Uniform Facts

Speaking of uniforms, did you ever wonder why there are just officers in SAR color guards. Well, that is not really true, Jim Jones, Ray Cox and I have spent years as the only privates in a sea of generals, with Jim Mitchell as the lone militia man. In truth the militia outnumbered the Continental troops and officers, well we know that score. It might be interesting to explain what that epaulette means. Though it changed at times below is the general scheme early in the war:

- Corporal - green epaulette or stripe of fabric on right shoulder
- Sergeant - red epaulette or strip of fabric on right shoulder
- Subaltern - green cockade in hat no epaulette
- Captain - yellow or buff cockade in hat no epaulette
- Aide-de-camp - green ribbon across the heart between coat and vest
- Major - red (or pink) cockade no epaulette or ribbon
- Brigade Major—red (or pink) cockade no epaulette or green ribbon
- Colonel—red (or pink) cockade no epaulette or ribbon
- Brigadier General—Pink ribbon across heart no epaulette or cockade
- Major General—Pink ribbon across heart and purple arm bands
- Commander-in-Chief — Light blue ribbon worn across the heart

By 1779 things had changed. An important change was the introduction of colored lapels and cuff to indicate the state from which the Continental soldiers served. This changed over time a bit also.

- White - NH, MA, RI and CT
- Gold - NY, NJ
- Red - PA, DE, MD and VA
- Blue - NC, SC and GA

ORDER OF THE FOUNDERS OF NORTH AMERICA 1492-1692



HONOR YOUR ANCESTOR WHO FOUNDED NORTH AMERICA

Become a Charter Member of the Order of the Founders of North America, 1492-1692. The Order is open to men and women who can prove lineal descent from an ancestor in North America before 1692 or from royalty who contributed to the exploration and settlement of the New World.

See our website at www.o-f-n-a.org
for membership details