

# Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

## *The Rankin Register*

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### *Outgoing words*

*by Kelly McBride, President (2006-2007)*

With officer elections of this month my tenure as the Fourth President of the Robert Rankin Chapter is coming to an end.

Our goals that we set out were in many cases surpassed and in others we fell short. The greatest success was realized in program enhancement which is best summarized by our annual report with over 19,000 points or a 90% increase from the prior year when the Chapter was cited as outstanding chapter by the State Society. Thanks and appreciation go to Gus Mistrot for laying such a good foundation for us to build upon!

Not only did we award our first ever flag certificate in the past year, we awarded 22, unofficially the highest total in the state! Program content was enhanced to ensure that we satisfied at least two if not three of the goals by category: Educational, Historical, and Patriotic. *Every program had a speaker and we were certain to honor our ancestors at every meeting.* We started a Veterans program which included hospital visitation, recognizing our members with the SAR War Service Medal, and having veterans speak at six of our meetings.

On the communication front we started a newsletter and created a web site. Our goal of sending out two emails for every meeting was achieved and every member was contacted by phone at least once during the year as well. Our Treasurer prepared our first annual budget and we performed our first annual review of the Secretary/Treasurer position.

The youth programs are still the heart and backbone of this Chapter. The Ed Raines programs, Flags, Posters, and Essays continued to sparkle and amaze. We started efforts in other youth categories and noted a degree of success. We recognized our first ever Chapter designees in the Eagle Scout contest, the CAR essay contest, and the Enhanced JROTC contest.

In membership we did not meet our goal of five new members, we added only two, but we did convince several members to renew for one more year. In attaining increased participation by members and greater attendance we were only marginally better than the year before.

On balance, I can say that I have been thoroughly delighted with the activities and performance of our Chapter and its members. Many thanks for permitting me to serve as your President.

### *Our February Meeting*



State Car President Catharine Clayton informs the Chapter on the purpose of the CAR and its current project. She is awarded a BGCM by the chapter.

Bryan J. Dyck, Voluntary Service Program Manager at the De Bakey VA Medical Center, gave a Patriotic presentation on volunteer opportunities with the Veterans Hospital. He noted that during November/December the Hospital patients often have visitors from numerous groups, but that later in the spring visitations often become sparse.

### *Officer Elections* by Richard Shanks,

I am pleased to report that the proposed slate of officers were elected unanimously at our February meeting. Officers for the coming year of March 2007 to February 2008 are as follows:

President	Patrick Kerr
President-Elect	Thomas Jackson
Secretary/Treasurer	Richard Shanks
Historian	
Chancellor	Allan Henshaw
Chaplain	Gus Mistrot
Registrar	Ed Raines

## Member Spotlight



**Patrick Kerr, Fifth President  
Robert Rankin Chapter  
March 2007 to February 2008**

**Personal:** Patrick was born in 1953 in Wellington, Kansas and relocated to Kemah Texas with his family. He married Sylvia Fuentes in 1978 and they are the proud parents of three children, Aaron, Dustin, and Mariah (deceased). Aaron and Amy Kerr have presented Pat and Sylvia with two grandchildren, Lillian Elisabeth and Rainer Jackson. Dustin is a recent graduate of UT-SA with a B.S. in Geology.

**Educational:** Patrick graduated from Clear Creek High School in 1971. While there he was a Cadet Major in the JROTC and was a member of the ROTC Drill Team. He attended Sam Houston State University from 1974 through 1976

**Military:** Patrick enlisted in the U.S. Army in June 1971 and was honorably discharged in June 1974. He was a member of Alpha Company 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry, commonly known as the Airborne Rangers. While stationed in Germany he participated in Operation Gallant Hand which was a joint exercise involving German, French, and American Rangers. Senior German jump wings were earned by Patrick. In 1973 He participated in desert training in White Sands, New Mexico. Even then the Department of the Army anticipated problems in the Middle East.

**Professional and other:** Patrick was employed by the Kroger Co. in Houston Texas for 26 years, in a variety of manager position. He is currently employed as the Operations Manager of Hose and Accessory Sales. He has spent ten years on the Rolling Green Homeowners Association Board, eight years as President. Patrick has been active with school functions and committees and is an active blood donor, approaching his 13<sup>th</sup> gallon donation! His hobbies include fishing, principally salt water, wood-working, raising of tropical plants, and reading.

**Genealogical:** Patrick has just been elected as President of the Robert Rankin Chapter. He has previously served as Secretary-Treasurer and President-elect. He became a member in 2004.

Patrick's ancestor is Samuel Heizer, who was born in 1749 in Staunton, Augusta County, Virginia. Both Samuel and his brother served as a militiaman in Buchanan's Company of the Virginia Militia. This company participated in several battles during the revolutionary war included Cowpens in January 1781, Hot Water in June 1781, and were present at Yorktown for the Surrender. After the war, both men served with the militia in skirmishes involving the Indians. Samuel Heizer died June 14, 1812 in Augusta County Virginia after being kicked in the head by a horse.

### *Upcoming Events*

*March 14, Rankin Chapter Meeting  
at Denis' Seafood House*

*March 15-19 State DAR Convention*

*March 22-25 State SAR Convention  
in San Antonio*

*March 23-25 State CAR Convention*

*April 11 Rankin Chapter Meeting  
at IHOP*

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