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Robert Rankin Chapter #62

Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

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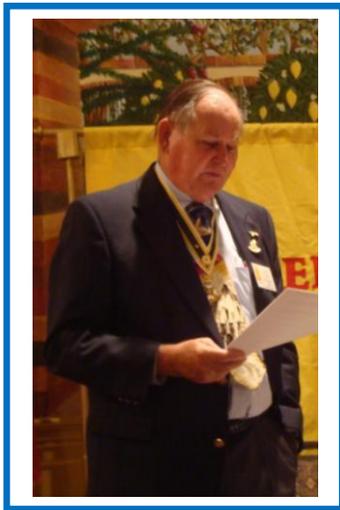
Our May Meeting

by Bobby Smith, President (2010-2011)
(pan_man2@hotmail.com)

This meeting was my second as Chapter President of the Rankin Chapter and my second stint as President of an SAR chapter.

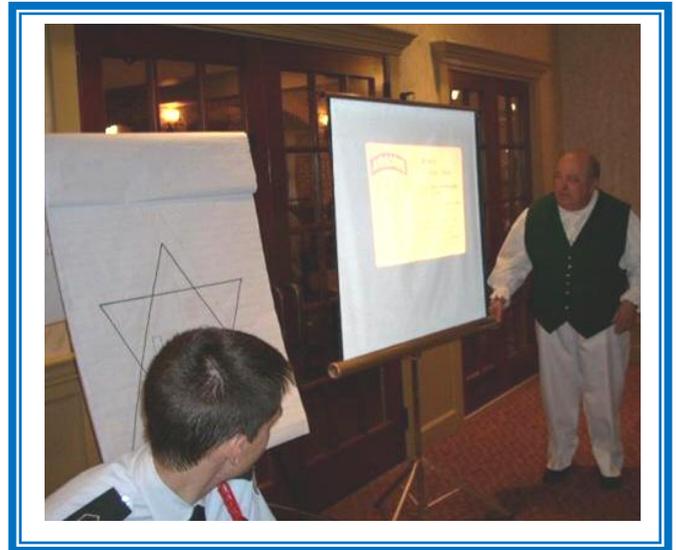
The Rankin meetings are full and complete with something to capture everyone's attention.

The Rankin Chapter is one of the most active of the chapters in the state with its involvement with Children of the American Revolution Societies and we are pleased to hold a Joint Meeting with the James Bates Society at our May meeting.



President Bob Smith, above, tells of his ancestor Captain William Paxton of Virginia. Captain Paxton was also a member of the Justice's Court and a church elder. Bobby also pointed out that he is a cousin of Sam Houston IV. Rankin members honor their ancestors at every meeting, a tradition started by former President Kelly McBride.

David Jones, a twenty-three year veteran of the U.S. Army retired with the rank of Major, was our speaker for the evening. His slide show presentation highlighted his service in the Special Forces and focused on one of his tours of duty in Vietnam.



David, shown in the photo above on the right, served three tours in Europe and two years in Vietnam and earned his jump wings in both Vietnam and Europe. He was four times decorated for Valor with the awarding of the Bronze Star.

This is David's second presentation to our Chapter. Whereas the first focused on his tour as a young Lieutenant and the humor that often accompanies a new position, this presentation was a bit more poignant. David, we thank you for your service to our country.

Children of the American Revolution



In the photo above, from left to right, are Greg Thorne, Tara Power, Compatriots Bobby Smith, and Tom Jackson. Greg and Tara are both members of the James Bates Society.

Greg Thorne finished first in the Chapter level CAR Essay Contest and third at the state contest. He received CAR Essay Certificates to recognize his performance at both levels as well as the Good Citizenship Lapel Pin with accompanying certificate. He also received a savings bond from the Rankin Chapter.

Tara Power finished second in the Chapter level CAR Essay Contest and fourth at the state contest. She also received CAR Essay Certificates at both levels as well as the Good Citizenship Lapel Pin with accompanying certificate; she also received a savings bond from the Rankin Chapter.

Bobby Smith is the new Chairman of the CAR Committee taking over from Compatriot Jackson after he served four years in that post. The purpose of the Committee is to encourage participation in the TXSSAR-CAR Essay Contest and to foster good working relations with CAR Societies. The Rankin Chapter has led the state in participation in the TXSSAR-CAR Essay Contest for the last four years and has been named the Outstanding Chapter of its size in the state for activities involving the CAR every year the award has been in existence.



In the photo above, from left to right, are Compatriot Stephen Tanner, Alex Thorne, Greg Thorne, Tara Power, Leslie Power, and Compatriot Tom Jackson.

The success that the Rankin Chapter has enjoyed with its involvement with the CAR does not happen without adult support from both organizations.

Tonight the Rankin Chapter recognized the adult leadership associated with the James Bates Society who have been most supportive of the joint efforts between the two organizations over the past four years.

Leslie Power received a Certificate of Appreciation and Alex Thorne received a COA on behalf of Marti Thorne. Both Marti and Leslie have served as Senior Presidents of the James Bates Society, and the Society has furnished an entry into the essay contest each of the last four years.

The National Society of the Children of the American Revolution, founded in 1895, is the oldest patriotic organization for youths in our country. Membership is open to descendents of patriots of the American Revolution. Harriett Lothrop, a prominent citizen and 19th century children's author presented the idea to the DAR Congress in 1895 and it was subsequently chartered by the United States Congress.

Eagle Scouts



In the photo above, from left to right, are Mrs. Cary Michelle Yeary (mother of Nick), Nick Yeary, Compatriots Bobby Smith, and Tom Jackson.

Nick Yeary has just been presented an Eagle Scout Medal and Certificate as well as an Eagle Scout Contest Certificate to recognize his first place finish in the Chapter Contest.

The Eagle Scout Committee was started by Richard Shanks and John Davis. John was the Eagle Scout Chairman for four years followed by Ash Jackson for one year. The current Chairman is Randy Pearson.

Eagle Scout Yeary is the fourth Rankin entry into the State contest; the Rankin entries have been a collaborative effort between John Davis and Tom Jackson.

Upcoming Events:

Sep 8th Chapter Meeting
 Oct 13th Chapter Meeting
 Nov 10th Chapter Meeting

Board of Managers Meeting

July 31st-Aug 1st Austin
 Oct 29th -31st Houston,
 Rankin Chapter Host

Check State Website

Editor: Thomas Jackson

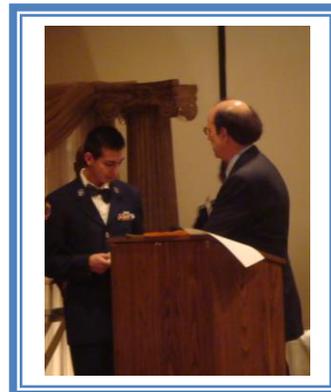
Contact: longhorntij@yahoo.com

JROTC



Patrick Kerr, Color Guard Commander and Chairman of the ROTC Committee, announced that JROTC medal presentations were made at 14 area high schools. Flag Certificates were presented to each of the schools again this year.

The JROTC Committee was initiated by Richard Shanks who was its first Chairman. This is Patrick's third year as Chairman and he has nearly tripled the number of schools where JROTC Cadets are honored.



In the picture at the left, Compatriot Tom Jackson on the right, is in the process of awarding the Extended Contest JROTC medal, certificate, and savings bond to Junior Cadet Yearly from Langham Creek HS.



Historian Ralph Aniol is shown here on the left with two of his grandsons, Ben (left) and Thomas (right), whom we hope to see as members of the CAR in the near future.

Thanks for being our Historian Ralph!

Member Spotlight



***Frederick Jackson, Jr.
Robert Rankin Chapter***

Personal:

At Garfield Hospital in Washington, DC, Frederick Monterey Jackson Jr. joined the human race with an emphatic use of his lungs. Later in October, 1934, Fred and his parents, Fred Sr. and Jo, moved to Colonial Village in Arlington, VA. Fred Sr. worked for Walworth Valves in Sales and moved the family to Newton Center, MA and then in 1940 to Old Greenwich, CT, along with a sister, Connie. At home Fred liked to build model airplanes and cities, construct train sets, read books from the library, collect postage stamps from around the world and work in the victory garden. He played sandlot sports and took his first golf lesson at age twelve. Dance lessons and boy-girl parties rounded out teen activities.

One particular girl, Brenda Heistad from Sarasota, FL, a gorgeous blonde airline flight attendant, knocked his socks off. A whirlwind romance ensued and Brenda and Fred got to the altar in Manhasset, NY in 1959. Their first house, purchased in 1961, produced two children born in Bronxville, NY, Lori and Rick. The third child, Kathi, was born in Houston, TX, where the family moved in 1966. Seven grandchildren have appeared, including two sets of twins. This entire family celebrated the 50th wedding anniversary in Gruene, TX floating on the Guadalupe River and kicker dancing at Gruene Hall.

Educational:

Elementary School in Old Greenwich segued to Greenwich High School and Fred graduated in 1952 with high honors and election to the National Honor Society. He was a member of the Thespian Society, served as president of the Key Club, and founded and captained the school golf team. Fred attended Lehigh University and graduated in 1956 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. While in Bethlehem, PA, he participated in the Inquisitors, intramural sports, belonged to Sigma Phi Society, worked on the Epitome year book, became a major in Air Force

ROTC and was inducted into the honorary journalism society.

Military:

January 1957 found Fred in San Antonio at Lackland Air Force Base, reporting for duty as a 2nd Lt. Soon the career moves began: Moody Air Field in Valdosta, GA to work as a Petroleum Officer and then as a Maintenance Officer in the 3551st Flight Line Squadron. Fred published articles for Air Force Maintenance Magazine and played on the base golf team. He returned to civilian life at the end of 1959 and was honorably discharged in 1971 as a Captain.

Professional:

Esso Standard Oil hired Fred as a sales trainee in June, 1956 where he returned in 1959 after his military stint. By 1962, Fred had moved from Esso to Humble Oil, and Fred had a new territory as an industrial salesman of wax, solvents and lube oils. Excellent retail sales results provided an award for "1965 Man of the Year", complete with a weekend at the Plaza Hotel in New York. In 1966 Fred moved to Humble Headquarters in Houston and joined the Aviation Sales Department. His primary focus was renegotiating jet fuel and aviation lube oil contracts. In 1969 Fred and his associates negotiated the largest jet fuel contract in the company's history with United Airlines. Humble became Exxon and Fred moved to the Retail Marketing Department. Working on the Car Care Center program, Fred wrote many of the technical specifications and marketing procedures. In 1974 Fred was hired by Kelley Manufacturing Company as National Accounts Manager where he developed successful sales programs for large chain stores such as Kmart, Handy Dan and Ace Hardware. By 1978, Kelley had become the free world's largest wheelbarrow manufacturer and Fred became the VP of Marketing. In 1986 Fred went into the marketing consulting business and founded Best Solutions. His clients were manufacturers, software developers and computer service companies.

Volunteer:

In the 1970s Fred was president of the Lehigh Club of Texas, led his son's BSA Troop as Committee Chairman, and marshaled at several national golf tournaments held at Champions Golf Club. In New Hampshire, Fred became a docent at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center in Holderness, NH, participating in activities such as Hawk Watch, Kirkwood Gardens Day and as a regular trail helper. In Houston Fred has served as a Smithsonian guide, teacher at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, a member of the Houston Genealogical Forum and the Houston Audubon Society. Fred helped found Timely Topics, a discussion group with 12 couples.

In 1999 Fred joined the Houston Chapter of the SAR and served as its Essay Committee Chair. He transferred to the Robert Rankin Chapter where he is the Membership Chair and Registrar.