



THE EAST TEXAS PATRIOT

Sons of the American Revolution

Chapter # 57 Longview, Texas



Volume 10, Number 1

February 4, 2016

President's Message

Happy New Year!!

I hope that it will be a glorious year for all of us. It is time to reflect on the past year and make plans with goals for the future. What would you like for us to accomplish as a chapter? Do you have any suggestions for programs or activities that we might pursue?

We must establish a positive attitude and being for ourselves and our country. We have studied our heritage and the workings and teachings of our forefathers and today we must reinforce their values and promote their intentions not allowing a few to change for their own personal wishes. The faith of our fathers is living still in spite of conflict, disrespect, and criticism. It is our task to promote our true history and help inform those younger what conflicts that our ancestors undertook to give them the life that they are presently enjoying.

It is time for us to stand and be counted as true American Patriots and address the conflicts that do exist. Voice your opinion and be steadfast in the work of our ancestors. Do not allow our ancestors' work to be trampled and destroyed. Stand tall, promote, and set an example of the true God believing American way of life; not only for you but your descendants as well. Remember the following hymn?

*Faith of our fathers, living still,
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword:
O how our hearts beat high with joy
When e'er we hear that glorious Word!
Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death.*

Hope to see you at the next meeting on Thursday, February 4.

Carl



“Instruments of the Revolution ” will be the program topic for our speaker, Dwaine Hubbard, Director of Bands and Professor of Instrumental Music at Panola College. Prior to Panola, Dwaine spent 17 years at Hallsville ISD and 23 years at Carthage ISD. He has a Bachelor of Music Education and a Master of Music degree from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, LA. Dwaine and his wife, Kay, also serve on the staff of the First United Methodist Church in Carthage. Dwaine is the minister of music and director of choirs. He is an accomplished musician, singing with the Panola College Chorale and in church. He also plays trombone with the big band “Sounds of Swing.”



Minutes and Treasurer’s Report for December 3, 2016

The East Texas Chapter #57, TXSSAR, met on December 3, 2015, at Casa Ole` Restaurant in Longview, Texas at 7 PM. The meeting was called to order by President, Carl Hedges. The opening prayer was given by Chaplain, Mack Bond. The pledges to the United States flag, the Texas flag and the SAR flag were given. Guests were introduced.

The meeting resumed with the acceptance of the Minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer’s report as printed in the newsletter . Old business and new business were discussed.

Under new business the slate of officers nominated in October were elected. The following have been elected as officers for the next two years. Pres: Carl Hedges; V. Pres; Page Johnson; 2nd V.Pres, Warren Hunt; Sec/Treasurer: Gary Fletcher; Registrar, John Bolton. These officers will be installed at the next meeting.

President Hedges conducted the induction of a new member, Phillip Thomas Pegues of Kilgore. Mr. Pegues’ sponsor, John Bolton, pinned the SAR rosette on Mr. Pegues. His ancestor, Claudius Pegues, Jr. was a Captain in the Pee Dee Militia at Cheraw District, SC.

New member, Mickey Cole, was introduced as the webmaster for our chapter. He has set up the site for Chapter 57 within the TXSSAR website. txssar.org

A call was issued for a new editor for the newsletter. If you are interested, please let an officer know.

Carl Hedges presented a very interesting program on one of his ancestors.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 4, 2016 at Casa Ole` Restaurant, 280 Spur 63, Longview, Texas. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

With no other announcements, the meeting was adjourned with the SAR Closing and a Benediction by the Chaplain.



The treasurer’s report:

The current balance: \$1,597.02

Gary Fletcher
Secretary/Treasurer



By George, IT IS Washington's Birthday!

When we were students in elementary school, we took great pride in enjoying the federal holiday dedicated to the “Father of Our Country,” George Washington. Federal offices, banks, schools, and most business closed to pay him homage. That the February 22 holiday could have occurred in the midst of potential foul weather did not discourage children across the land from enjoying a winter's holiday of play.

Actually, George Washington was born in Virginia on February 11, 1731, according to the then-used Julian calendar. In 1752, however, Britain and all its colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar which moved Washington's Birthday a year and 11 days to February 22, 1732.

Americans celebrated Washington's Birthday long before Congress declared it a federal holiday. The centennial of his birth prompted festivities nationally and Congress established a Joint Committee to arrange for the occasion. At the recommendation of the Committee, chaired by Henry Clay of the Senate and Philemon Thomas of the House, Congress adjourned on February 22, 1832 out of respect for Washington's memory and in commemoration of his birth.

Prompted by a memorial from the mayor and other citizens of Philadelphia, the House and Senate commemorated the 130th anniversary of Washington's birth by reading aloud his Farewell Address.

In a special joint session held in the House Chamber, the House and Senate, along with several cabinet officials, Justices of the Supreme Court and high-ranking officers of the Army and Navy, gathered to listen to the Secretary of State read the address aloud. Eventually the reading of George Washington's Farewell Address became an annual event for the Senate, a tradition that is still observed to this day.

Washington's Birthday was celebrated on February 22nd until well into the 20th Century. However, in 1968 Congress passed the Monday Holiday Law to “provide uniform annual observances of certain legal public holidays on Mondays.” By creating more 3-day weekends, Congress hoped to “bring substantial benefits to both the spiritual and economic life of the Nation.”

One of the provisions of this act changed the observance of Washington's Birthday from February 22 to the third Monday in February. Ironically, this guaranteed that the holiday would never be celebrated on Washington's actual birthday, as the third Monday in February cannot fall any later than Feb. 21.

Contrary to popular belief, neither Congress nor the President has ever stipulated that the name of the holiday observed as Washington's Birthday be changed to “President's Day.”



SAR Chapter 57 Officers

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**Carl Hedges****Phil Pegues****John Bolton****Color Guard Reminder**

The East Texas Color Guard is recruiting new members to support the East Texas heritage events.
 Contact: John Bolton for more information – 903-988-1591 or (cell) 903-399-4344



Remember—We meet at Casa Ole' on February 4, 2016!!