



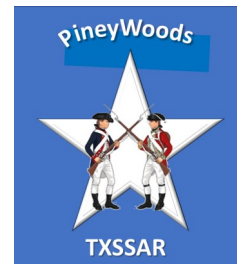
**Pine Shavings
PineyWoods chapter 51
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
September 20, 2025 Issue 6**



The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR or NSSAR) is an American congressionally chartered organization, founded in 1889 and headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky.



The PineyWoods Chapter #51 was chartered on February 3, 1994, and is named for its geographic location in the state. We draw members from Houston (S) to Livingston (N) and from The Woodlands (W) to Liberty (E). PineyWoods meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month except June and July at Los Cuco's Mexican Restaurant, Kingwood Texas.



**The Enlightenment Principles Behind the US
Constitution and the Importance of
Constitution Day
September 17, 2025**



Dear Piney Woods SAR Chapter Compatriots,

We warmly invite everyone to join our upcoming chapter meeting on September 20th, where we will hear updates from the Splendor ISD School District Education Foundation. They will share their insights on inspiring US history and the founding principles, fostering a genuine and authentic appreciation for our nation's heritage.

The United States Constitution, ratified in 1788, is a remarkable document that established the framework for American government and enshrined the principles of democracy and individual rights. Its creation was heavily influenced by Enlightenment thinkers, whose ideas about reason, liberty, and the social contract shaped the minds of the Founding Fathers.

One of the most important sentences in the Constitution is found in the Preamble: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." This powerful statement emphasizes the role of the people in governance and the purpose of the government to serve its citizens.

**Chapter Meeting- Los Cucos Mexican Café, Kingwood September 20, 2025
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM**

The Enlightenment principles of individual rights, equality, and the separation of powers are woven throughout the Constitution. Philosophers like John Locke and Montesquieu argued for the protection of natural rights and the need for checks and balances in government, ideas that are reflected in the Constitution's structure and Bill of Rights.

Celebrating Constitution Day on September 17 each year is vital for recognizing the significance of this foundational document. It serves as a reminder of the values of democracy, justice, and the rule of law that the Constitution embodies. Constitution Day encourages citizens to reflect on their rights and responsibilities and to engage in discussions about the importance of upholding the principles of the Constitution in contemporary society. By commemorating this day, we honor the legacy of the Founding Fathers and reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of liberty and justice for all.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meeting!

Abe Abdmoulaie

Piney Woods #51 Chapter President

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

STEPHEN TERNOIS

I became interested in my family history after my grandfather passed away in 2016. He left behind his SAR Certificate from the Arizona Chapter which sparked my interest in understanding what SAR was. (I had no idea this society existed).

I started researching and trying to tie my family tree line back to John Gregg, the patriot listed on his certificate. After contacting Texas SAR, this led me to connecting with Kermit Breed. Kermit and I worked together and were unable to tie back to John Gregg, he researched and found another patriot - Robert Mansfield that we COULD trace back.



In hindsight, the trace back to Robert Mansfield was pretty straight forward, but starting the genealogy process was very daunting due to the complexity of going back generations and looking for vital records.

Stephen said his Ancestor was born in Albemarle, Virginia (19 Dec 1762) and he died in Orange County, Virginia, at the age of seventy. (10 Jan 1833). Robert was granted a Pension for his service, under what officers and for how long. During his last enlistment, he was at the siege of Yorktown. His Pension No. was S7185. There is a DAR Approved Lineage and Robert is listed as Ancestor # A073571.

All members present welcomed Stephen to the chapter. Stephen was the first new chapter member this year.



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FROM THE EDITOR

*There are many Veterans Day Events upcoming, two just before are next chapter meeting on September 20th. **September 17th is US Constitution Day.** It would be great of some of those protesting in the streets would read this document and the Bill of Rights before their acts of ignorance.*

*Second is September 19th, **POW/MIA**, a day to remember, and honor men and women who were captured and suffered horrible tortures, mentally and physically; and then there were those not found; they were there but then they were gone.*

Also, Veterans Day, Tuesday November 11—Some Humble ISD Elementary Schools have their Patriots Days near this date; at or near the end of their History Unit that covers the Rev War.

Wreaths Across America December 13th –see page 9 Ski Grumboski is bringing the scan cards for individual donations to buy wreaths

HONOR FLIGHT HOUSTON OCT 11

October 11th is going to be a great night for those of you anywhere near the Houston area! Please come to the Honor Flight Houston (HFH) – Welcome Home event at Hobby Airport at 7:00 pm to help celebrate our U.S. Veterans. They deserve the best Welcome Home ever! We provide a surprise event and grateful thanks to our heroes returning from an overnight trip to Washington, D.C. to visit the monuments and memorials created in their honor! Bring your enthusiasm, friends and family, flags and signs of support to wave, and fun patriotic clothes. We meet at the Departures level, inside near the Delta ticket counters. Helpful staff and volunteers with signage are there to guide you. All you need to do is cheer! We are so excited to see so many of your faces at the Welcome Home events. We hope you are ready to kick off 2025. At past Arrivals, our Houston Area Color Guard Members from Freedom, Paul Carrington, Alexander Hodge and PineyWoods have been among those Welcoming these Veterans in Uniform with Fife and Drum.

LGS



Larry G. Stevens
Editor

PineyWoods Chapter Officers

2025 - 2027

President - Abe Abdmoulaie
1st Vice President - Jim Pinkerton
2nd Vice President - Louis Skip Hawley
Secretary - William Bill King
Treasurer - B. Ray Mize
Historian - Kermit Breed
Chaplain - Alan Bowman
Chancellor - Jim Pinkerton
Parliamentarian - Mike Anderson
Registrars - Larry Stevens, Kermit Breed, Joe Potter
Genealogist - Kermit Breed
Sargant at Arms—Merv Hartwick

Chapter Non - Officers Roles

Newsletter - Larry Stevens
wardtracker.aol.com
Web Master - Ray Cox

Events Calendar



NSSAR

National Trustees and Leadership
Galt Hotel
October 2-4, 2025



TXSSAR

Sugarland
October 17-19, 2025

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER 51

Los Cucos

September 20, 2025

October 25, 2025

SAR MEMBERSHIP

When someone asks you, “How Many Members are there in SAR?”, you probably do not know unless you attended the SAR Trustees/Leadership meetings in Louisville, Kentucky. The next meeting is October 3-4, 2025.



One of the officer reports will be from Gary Green, the SAR Registrar General, and this report will be in a reports binder. Many times, our officers will report in the meeting that their report is on file, and many times are not asked. The reports for the most part are lengthy but really should be read during the Trustees meeting. The Trustees are responsible for the governance of the National Society; reports on membership, Financial Statements, Building Projects and any other business of the body should be reported to the trustees and approved by the trustees.

The Genealogist General's report for the October 4th Trustees Meeting will include the following membership numbers, but this a very small part of his report.

Status of Applications: 1 Jan - 31 Aug 25, 2025 17 Weeks Approval Rate A/O 31 August

Membership count 31 Aug 25: **36,873 (- down 965 since 31 Dec 2024)**

Applications received

New: 2868

Supplemental: 523

Memorial: 31

Total: 3422 (428 per month) Applications Registered to date—1487

Important to note in this report is the decline in memberships from the end of 2024 to August 31, 2025.

Genealogist General Green expects, due to the number of applications, not reviewed and the expectation of more received and approved before the end of the year, that our number of members at the end of the year will be at 36,873 or higher. This is really an improvement since membership has remained relatively flat since COVID causing our budget forecast of 3% a year be much less than the actual amount of dues collected. SAR Operations is funded by National Dues. With the shortfall in income, it was necessary to reduce Headquarters Staff and borrow money to pay the staff, operations and building expenses, etc.

PineyWoods Chapter 51

PineyWoods membership has also decreased this year. In 2022, 2023 and 2024, our chapter remained the same about at 111 members a year. ***In 2025 through September 4, 2025, we have 100 members. We have dropped about 10% from 2024. If you compare our chapter to National, you will see that PineyWoods membership losses is below National membership losses percentages.*** This includes Stephen Ternois, our newest member, and Trevor Points who just transferred his membership from Iowa to PineyWoods. The Texas Chapter Members Reports has different lists: Members, New Members, Reinstated Members (paid dues after January 31st, 2025), Dual Memberships (members who primary Chapter is in a different state), Youth Members, and Not-Paid Members.

Each year PineyWoods has a number of members that have not paid Annual Dues, and these are sent reminders, with their invoices, by our chapter registrars and a past president. This year the attempt to have non-paid members reinstate was not nearly as successful as in past years.

POINT: DUES WILL BE MAILED SOON-Remittance Quickly is Important

TWO HUNDRED FIFTY YEARS AGO

September 1775

September 5, 1775 at Ile aux Noix, Quebec— British Victory

On September 5, having joined Brig. Gen. Richard Montgomery, Maj. Gen. Philip Schuyler ordered his force to continue its advance. Leaving behind supplies in order to facilitate their march, the American force embarked again on the Richelieu River. Going ashore for about 1 1/2 miles from the Americans attempted a flanking movement and were ambushed by 100 Indians, led by Capt. Tice, a New York Tory. The Americans finally drove off the Indians while suffering 8 killed themselves. During the night, warned by an informant that he cannot take the fort, Schuyler fell back to his encampment at Ile aux Noix.



September 5, 1775 at St. Johns, Quebec- American Victory

On September 5, an advanced detachment of Maj. Gen. Philip Schuyler's force was ambushed near St. Johns by an Indian force, commanded by New York loyalist. The Patriots managed to drive off the Indians in a bush fight. The Americans suffered 8 killed and 8 wounded.

September 15, 1775 at Fort Johnson, South Carolina American Victory

In fear of the patrolling British ships around Charlestown harbor, the Council of Safety ordered Col. William Moultrie of the SC 2nd Regiment to take Fort Johnson from the small British garrison there. The British were apparently tipped off and they removed all the guns from their platforms and hastily escaped.

Col. Moultrie ordered Capt. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Capt. Bernard Elliott, and Capt. Francis Marion – each with fifty men – to go take the fort. This detachment was commanded by Lt. Col. Isaac Motte. At around 11:00 PM., his forces gathered at Gadsden's Wharf, boarded the *Carolina & Georgia* packet, and sailed for James Island, landing a little above the fort. Although a short distance, the trip took more than an hour. The packet only had two small boats that could land only fifteen men at a time. The result was that the landing was only effected by the men wading through the water up to their waists, and September 15 dawned when only Capt. Pinckney's and Capt. Elliott's companies were ashore. It was determined not to wait upon Capt. Marion's men, but to move at once upon the fort. This was done with eagerness, but when the forlorn hope advanced up the glacis, the gates were found open and the cannon dismounted.

Of the British garrison, only the gunner Walker and four men were taken prisoner.

Col. Moultrie's orders to Lt. Col. Motte were "*to defend the fort from all parties that may attempt to land, but if the man-of-war [the HMS Tamar offshore] should attack the fort, and you find you cannot make a stand against her, you are to withdraw your men to some place of safety, out of reach of her guns; but you are to take care not to suffer any parties to land with the intent to damage the fort.*"



That same date, a detachment of the Charles Town Artillery under Capt. Thomas Heyward, Jr. moved to Fort Johnson with “*gin and tackles and had three cannon mounted immediately.*” Now, the fort could be defended against British vessels.

Soon, the British sloop-of-war *HMS Cherokee* arrived off Fort Johnson. The Council of Safety was determined



FT MOULTRIE FLAG SC

to have a way to signal the British, out of pride, that the Patriots were in fact in possession of Fort Sullivan. Since there was no specified national or state flag, Col. William Moultrie was given the assignment to design an appropriate flag for South Carolina. Both the troops of the SC 1st Regiment and SC 2nd Regiment wore blue uniforms with a silver crescent, therefore, Col. Moultrie’s flag was a field of blue with a silver crescent in the dexter corner. This was the first American flag ever displayed in South Carolina. When this flag was hoisted above Fort Sullivan the men were delighted but “*it gave some uneasiness to our timid friends who were looking forward to a reconciliation – they said it had the appearance of a declaration of war, and Capt. Thoroughbred, in the HMS Tamar lying in Re-*

bellion Road [Charlestown Harbor] would look upon it as an insult, and a flag of defiance, and would certainly attack the fort.” That attack never came.

When Lord Campbell (the last Royal Governor of the province of South Carolina), aboard the *HMS Tamar*, learned that the Patriots held Fort Johnson, he sent his secretary, Mr. Innis, by boat to the fort to demand “*by what authority we had taken possession of His Majesty’s fort.*” Lt. Col. Isaac Motte responded to Mr. Innis that it was taken under orders of the Council of Safety. Mr. Innis promptly made a bow, and returned to the *HMS Tamar*.

At dawn of September 17, FT Johnson; the *Tamar* and the *Cherokee* with the packet *Swallow* sailed up and presented themselves within point-blank range of the fort. An engagement was expected, but the vessels made only a demonstration and returned to their former anchorage off Charlestown harbor.

The Council of Safety felt that this small garrison would not be enough, so they again ordered Col. Moultrie to send additional forces to reinforce Fort Sullivan. Col. Moultrie sent Capt. Benjamin Cattel, Capt. Adam McDonald, and Capt. John Barnwell – all of the SC 1st Regiment and each with fifty men – this detachment was commanded by Maj. Owen Roberts. On September 17, Maj. Roberts loaded his troops aboard two schooners at Gadsden’s Wharf and sailed for James Island. He was ordered “*not to suffer any boats to obstruct your passage.*”

September 18, 1775 at Sullivan’s Island, South Carolina-American Victory

Patriot troops from Fort Moultrie attacked and seized a small vessel taking supplies from Charlestown to two British ships at anchor off Sullivan’s Island. The Patriots seized 21 casks of water, one case and two bottles of liquor, and some brown sugar.

In response to this action, the British vessels *Tamar* and *Scorpion* blockaded Charlestown harbor and five days later seized the Charlestown merchant vessel *Polly*, owned by Benjamin and Isaac Huger.

Sailors that had been captured earlier during the Patriot capture of Fort Johnson warned that a bomb ketch would be coming to Charlestown to attack Fort Johnson and then burn the town. This was a realistic threat since the British did burn Charlestown, Massachusetts. The Patriot government of South Carolina declared a state of emergency.



September 28, 1775 at Cumming’s Point, South Carolina-British Victory

When 30 Patriots attempted to go to Cumming’s Point in three canoes, the *HMS Tamar* moved to intercept them. However, the wind died and the *HMS Tamar* beached on a sandbar. Capt. Thornborough used the anchor and kedge to haul the ship into a better wind and came within range of the Patriots. He fired 6-pounders with round shot and the Patriots quickly reversed course.

**CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP
PineyWoods Chapter
Membership:
*TOTAL 100***

**Current Regular Members 74
New 1 Trans In 1 Dual 3
Youth 10 Reinstated 11
Not Paid—14 Regular Members
and 3 Dual
As of September 4, 2025**

**Official Newsletter
PineyWoods Chapter #51
Texas Society SAR**

**P. O. Box 6524
Kingwood, TX 77325
www.txssar.org/PineyWoods
September 2025 Issue 7**

EFFECTIVE JULY 2024

New Member Application Fee
for PineyWoods Chapter 51

NSSAR \$200.00

TXSSAR 47.50

PineyWoods 17.00

TOTAL \$264.50

**Check the FEE Schedule
For Junior and Family
Membership Costs**

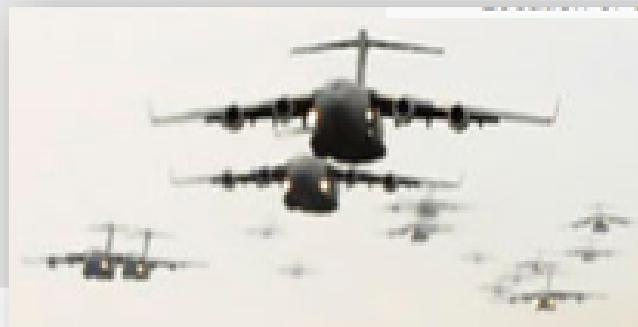
Supplemental PineyWoods

NSSAR \$150.00

TXSSAR 32.00

PineyWoods 6.00

TOTAL \$188.00



VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

CHAPTER COUPON PROJECT

Coupons for Overseas Military Families program. All that is required is for you to CLIP the manufacturer's coupons out that appear in the newspapers, and mail them to:

**John Beard
3738 Palmetto Creek Dr
Kingwood, Texas 77339**

Please cut the coupons from the pages and bring to the PineyWoods Lunch meetings. The coupons are very helpful to the service members and families and about 90% are used of purchase items in the exchanges.

PineyWoods Veterans Programs



PineyWoods Member Steve McIntyre, Grey Militia, Joins Texas President Mel Oller, 2nd from right, and Freedom Chapter For and Color Guard and a Musket Fire event.

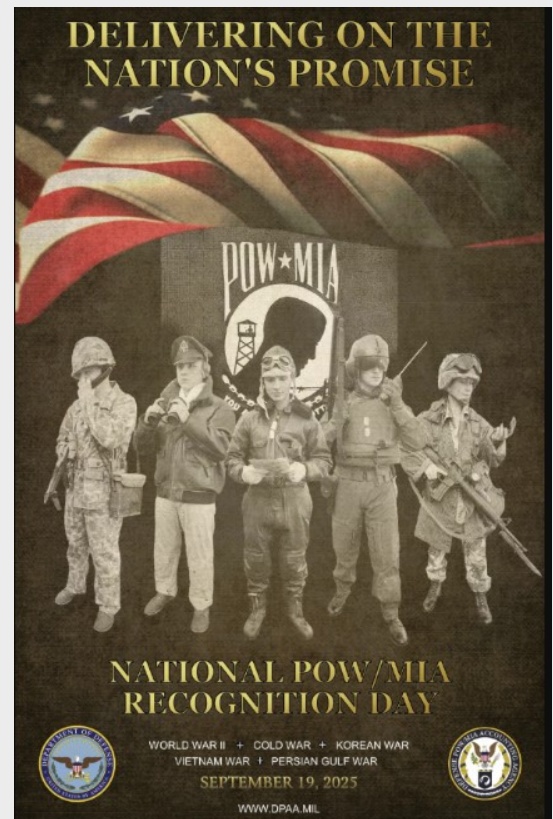


National POW/MIA Recognition Day

SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is an annual observance in the United States dedicated to honoring and remembering the sacrifices of American service members who were prisoners of war (POWs) and those who are still missing in action (MIA). This day serves as a reminder of the nation's commitment to accounting for every service member who has not returned home and to recognizing the courage and resilience of those who endured captivity. It is a time to reflect on the cost of war and to express gratitude for the bravery and dedication of those who have served and continue to serve the country.

Many of us have memories of those who did not return.





★ December 13, 2025 ★ National Wreaths Across America Day

**Help Sons of the American Revolution
Piney Woods #51 honor local heroes!**

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a
Veteran's grave this December at Houston
National Cemetery

Use the QR code to make a donation online or
www.wreathscrossamerica.org/TX1448




SKI Grumboski will give a brief presentation about this project and he will bring the small QR code cards to our next chapter meeting. The chapter has approved another donation for 2025 and we need to submit the check by November 30 to ensure the wreaths are delivered to the Houston National Cemetery for the December 13th event.

Help the Sons of the American Revolution PineyWoods #51 honor local heroes. Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a Veterans Grave this December at Houston National Cemetery.

GO TO www.wreathscrossamerica.org/TX1448

Pledge to the United State of America

I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.



Texas Pledge

Honor the Texas flag, I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.



PineyWoods Chapter 51 TXSSAR

Lunch Meeting

Los Cucos Mexican Cafe

Kingwood Texas

Sept 20 , 2025

11:15 AM—1:00 PM

INVOCATION

PLEDGES; USA & Texas Flag and SAR Pledge

Introductions

Guest Program-Splendora ISD

Officer Reports

President (Abdmoulaie)

1st VP Report (Pinkerton)

2nd VP Youth Report (Hawley)

Secretary Report (King)

Treasurer (Mize)

Chaplain (Pinkerton)

Registrar (Breed, Stevens)

Historian

New Business

SAR PLEDGE

"We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe."

SAR CLOSING

"Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of rights, an Independent Supreme Court, and a nation of free men."

Piney Woods Chapter #51 Business Meeting

August 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Los Cuco's Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

Piney Woods Chapter #51 Business Meeting August 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes Los Cuco's Restaurant, Kingwood, Texas

President Abe Abdmoulaie called the meeting to order at 11:30 A.M. Abe Abdmoulaie led Members and guests in pledges to U.S. and Texas flag. He also led members and guests in the SAR pledge. Jim Pinkerton led the invocation.

Members present (14): Merv Hartwick, Louis "Skip" Hawley, Ski Grumboski, Richard Payne, Michael Anderson, Kermit Breed, Bernie Kent, Ray Cox, Ben Barkin, B. Ray Mize, Larry Stevens, Abe Abdmoulaie, Jim Pinkerton, Stephen Ternois,

Guests (4): Sharon Mize, Jeannie Hartwick, Susan Grumboski, Samantha Ballard. Members and guests individually introduced themselves.

Abe presented on a quote from Thomas Jefferson on how education and awareness of our founding principles was vital in creating a more perfect Republic and how this is still relevant in today's current society, which connects directly with our SAR mission statement.

Abe led the new member induction for Stephen Ternois, who was formally inducted into our chapter at our meeting in August. Stephen gave a presentation on his family ties to SAR and his patriot ancestor. The Chapter members shook his hand welcoming him into our Chapter.



VP Report: Skip Hawley reported on how the chapter sponsors US History teachers and that the contests criteria are published on our website. Ben and Larry added that they know potential candidates for the History Teacher awards.

Secretary Report; Bill King is ill and could not attend but the minutes of the May 17, 2025 chapter meeting were published in the newsletter. Abe asked if there were any corrections and there were none.



Splendora Muti-School Event with 5tyh and 8th Grade Students by PineyWoods SAR, RevEdu, and Cadets from Splendora JROTC and Splendora ISD Administrators and Teachers

Treasurer: B Ray Mize did not have any recent updates on the treasurer's report for the August meeting. The stated that Margon County Memorials, Colorado, donated \$600.00 for the 250th Memorial Bench being placed at the Akron, Colorado cemetery. Bill King is heading up this chapter and family project.

Registrars; Kermit Breed, registrar, reported two application pending approval in Louisville, and he said he has one additional application to review. Larry Stevens said he is working on applications for a family of three and is nearly complete. He said Kermit sent him another application for his assistance.

Ray Cox reported the chapter should meet with RevEd on potential youth programs so he could update the website on future events. President Abdmoulaie said he would set up a

meeting. Stevens said representatives from Splendora ISD would make a presentation on Teaching US History in the September meeting. The chapter helped fund their 8th Grade Social Studies Fair last spring.

Abe led the closing of the business meeting with the SAR closing and ended the meeting with a closing prayer.



Faithfully submitted by President Abe Abdmoulaie and Larry Stevens for ***Secretary Bill King***

President Abdmoulaie—New Member Induction Ceremony with Sponsor Kermit Breed, New Member Stephen Ternois. Kermit Pins the Member Rosette on Stephen's collar.



The NSSAR ROSETTE can be worn by all members. Worn on the coat lapel or tropical shirt collar. NOT on an overcoat. The rosette is considered informal. Not appropriate for formal wear. I Rosette not to be worn if the SAR badge is.

