



The Hightower Recorder



President's Notes

The Stamp Act of 1765 - the acts that brought the curtain down. In the early 1600's most Englishmen saw little opportunity to advance. Those that had were

landholders who lorded over those who had not. When the opportunity was made available to seek a new life in the New World, those that could took advantage of it. The King of England contracted with businessmen to establish colonies in the New World, which were overseen by Governors



appointed by the King. For the most part they were left to fend for themselves. They had to provide their own food, housing, protection, and govern themselves. They struggled at first but prospered as they adjusted to this new life. When of age, all men, were responsible to be part of the local militia and attend public meetings to maintain their community. By 1700 the thirteen colonies expanded to 250,000 people and 2.5 million by the time of the Revolution. In 1750, the French were building forts down the Mississippi River. Militia forced, under George Washington, were not able to stop them. The Gov. of Virginia called on the King for assistance, which lead to the French and Indian War until 1757 and the Seven Year war in Europe. These wars dug deep into the Kings coffer, so in the 1760's Parliament changed from indirect taxing to direct taxing of the colonies with the Stamp Act of 1765. The colonists interpreted this Act as a "Tax without Representation" and refused to pay. This tax was withdrawn in 1766 only to be replaced by others resulting in hostilities between the colonies and the Mother country. It was only a matter of time before the fuse was lit and the "First shot was heard around the World".

G. Washington's Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior

#8 At play and at fire it is good manners to give place to the last comer, and affect not to speak louder than ordinary.

#72 Speak not in an unknown tongue in company, but in your own language and that as those of quality do and not as the vulgar. Sublime matters treat seriously.

Poor Richard's Almanac

1. A child thinks 20 shillings and 20 years can scarce ever be spent,

14. Adult belly makes a dull brain.

During the Spring!

Our next meeting is on 12 Mar and our main event will be awards and installation of new officers. April brings ROTC awards and May our scholarship. Don't forget the state conf. 26-29 March.



We Need You!

Uncle SAR needs you! It's time to step forward. In the last few months we still need:

- All Chairman Positions
- A place in the Color Guard
- A Voice at the chapter meetings

Others are covering these positions and fresh blood is always encouraged. The goals of the SAR are Patriotic, Historical, and Educational. The voice of freedom is growing weaker because the other guy is wearing out. The time to step up is now. If the team ever needed a 12th man, the time is now. Thank you!

We could use your help to enhance this newsletter. What would you like to see? If you have an article or an item of interest, send it to the chapter president or the newsletter editor. We are attempting to redesign our outreach. Our goal is to make the chapter interesting and keep you informed.

In order for a team to function, as such, each member must be part of the motion.

WH#35 Chapter Committees - What is a Chapter Committee worth? Not much if it does not have a goal and work to accomplish that goal.

Committees always seem to work best when they include anyone but you. Why is that? Is promoting the goals of SAR worth a few minutes of your time? The history of our forefather is being erased an inch at a time. Join the email team. Get involved!

Hello! President Steve Polk

Greetings!

My these two years have passed quickly. As I turn over the reins to our fine compatriot, Tom Jones, I can't help but to reflect on how wise our founders were. If we had been a democracy, instead of a republic, our country probably would not exist today. While many may cry for abolishing the electoral college and for having sanctuary cities and states, most American people believe we are a nation of laws and believe the constitution is the basis for those laws.

As compatriots, we must continue to work to remind our families and friends of the brilliance of our founding fathers. Thank you for your strong support, for the privilege of being a compatriot in the William Hightower Chapter, and a proud American!

Warmest regards, Steve

What can you do to support your chapter!

There are a number of things that you can do to support your chapter without a lot of effort. The first is to recruit new members. Do you have family, relatives or friends that may be eligible? Have you researched your family line to find a supplemental. These are blood line patriots other than your initial Patriot Ancestor. Can you put together a bio of your patriot? It helps the chapter to get their bio on the SAR web site. Are you a vet? We can honor you with a veterans medal. Do you know a vet who is ill. Visit a sick vet and get credit. Attend or officiate at a vets funeral and get credit. See how you can help.

What happened at the February Meeting



Top Left: Tom Jones opened the meeting in the absence of President Steve Polk, who was out of town. Tom introduced Joe Cox Chairman of the Essay and Orations Committee, who explained what the chapter goes through to arrive at the finalists. Joe introduced James Kemter, winner of the George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest, who shared his essay of the U.S. Marshall's Service in 1790 under President George Washington. (center) and the winner of the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest, Malya Breen, who shared her talk on Abigail Adams (right). Both students were from Steele High School, in Cibolo. They were recruited by Compatriot and teacher Will Moravits. In the lower left photo Joe Cox presented the winners with an olympics sized medal to wear around their necks, a certificate, and a check. Tom Jones presented each student with an Outstanding Citizenship Pin and Certificate. Each year, in Feb. we honor our fallen compatriots by performing a "Broken Arrow" Ceremony, initiated by Dr. Patrick Hollis. On this Honor Roll are the names of 46 former members (Bottom Right).



February is George Washington Proclamation Month



Each February, the chapter attempts to acquire as many as 15 proclamations from the municipalities of the five surrounding counties. At the time of this publication we had eight photos of the nine known proclamations. Clockwise starting above are San Marcos, Buda, Wimberley, Dripping Springs, Cibolo, Blanco, plus Blanco and Hays Counties. Thank you Tom Jones, Blair Rudy, Stu Hoyt, Joe and Helen Cox and the Thomas Moore Chapter DAR of San Marcos.



Eulogy of a Hero!

I can't believe it but the Federal Government, which was founded almost singlehandedly by George Washington, has erased his birthdate from the calendar, then they attempt to soften the blow by telling us that it is combined into a long weekend. Do you care to know the truth? George Washington actually born on Feb. 11, 1731 under the Julian calendar, acknowledged the revised date of Feb. 22, 1732 when the British Empire converted to the Gregorian calendar, in 1752.

Throughout his life he enjoyed celebrating his birthday and except for the year 1776, when he spent the day in his office strategizing how to get the British Army out of Boston, his officer always made sure that the Commander in Chief was honored on his birthday. As President, people would stand in line just to shake his hand on his birthday. He looked forward to the last person in line so he could dance with the ladies.

Even after his death, in 1799, cities and towns across the nation revered him on his birthday. On his 100th birthday anniversary, Congress closed to honor this special man. On the 130th anniversary of George Washington's Birthday, Congress met in joint session to hear the Secretary of State read Washington's Farewell Address, which became a tradition.

It was not until January 31, 1879, that Washington's Birthday was made a federal holiday. It remained a federal holiday until the "Unified Monday Holiday Act" was made law by Congress, in June of 1968. It took effect on January 1, 1971. From this date on this long weekend holiday would never fall on Washington's Birthday. It was intended to include both Washington and Lincoln but never falls on either of their birthdays.

Now almost 50 years later, the average student and their parents cannot tell you on what date George Washington's Birthday falls. The stroke of a pen has erased one of the most important men, "the Father of our Nation", from history. There are four states, which still celebrate George Washington's Birthday, but Texas is not one of them. If there is just one federal holiday, which honors a person's birthday, by name, it should be George Washington. Oh! there is, but it isn't George Washington.

List of Vendors for Uniforms and Equipment

Clothing

C & D Jarnagin	http://www.jarnaginco.com/
G. Gedney Godwin	http://gggodwin.com/
James Townsend	http://jas-townsend.com/ or www.townsend.us
Smoke & Fire	http://www.smoke-fire.com/Default.htm
Smiling Fox Forge	http://www.smilingfoxforgellc.com/index.asp
American Heritage Clothing	http://www.colonialuniforms.com/
Quartermaster General	http://www.thequartermastergeneral.com/
Village Green Clothier	http://villagegreenclothier.com/welcome.html
Cooperstown Trading Post	http://cooperstowntradingpost.com/
Thread Bare Stitchery	http://threadbarestitchery.com/
Crazy Cow Trading Co.	http://www.crazycrow.com/onlinestore
Avalon Forge	http://home.comcast.net/~avalonforge/index.html
C&C Sutlery	http://www.ccsutlery.com/store/ccsutlery.html
Mill Creek Mercantile	http://www.milkcreek.com/shop/
Colonial Williamsburg	https://www.williamsburgmarketplace.com/

Patterns

Harper House	http://www.longago.com/
J. P. Ryan	http://jpryan.com/
Rocking Horse Farm	http://rockinghorse-farm.com/?mainURL=/store/category/&n20/Colonial.html
Old Time Patterns	http://www.oldtimepatterns.com/PP041.html
Burnley & Trowbridge	http://www.burnleyandtrowbridge.com/index.aspx

Fabric

Carolina Calicoes	http://www.carolinacalicoes.com/
Trim Fabric	http://www.trimfabric.com/index.html
Wm. Booth Draper	http://www.wmboothdraper.com/

Fur Hat

F & T Fur Trading Post	http://www.fntpost.com/index.php?page=62
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Buttons and other things

Roy and Debra Najecki	http://www.najecki.com/repro/reproindex.html
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Weapons

Veteran Arms	http://www.veteranarms.com/ReproductionMuzzleloadersandFlintlocks/Veteran-Arms-LLC.html
Middlesex Village Trading	http://www.middlesexvillagetrading.com/
Guns and Swords	http://www.gunsandswords.com/
The Possible Shop	http://possibleshop.com/rifle-kit.html
Cash Manufacturing Co.	http://www.tdcmfg.com/about.php
Cherry's	http://www.cherrys.com/ped_prep.htm

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