



The Hightower Recorder



President's Notes

After the skirmish at Lexington and Concord and the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775, success for the American cause turned stale as the weather turned cold and the Americans

took it on the chin in a number of coastal towns and the attempt to take over British control of Canada. Local sentiment for the cause was running with mixed emotions and the desire to resolve the disagreement with the mother country ran high. Then a not so educated man, embittered by his treatment in



England and a tour in their paupers prison, set foot in Philadelphia to start a new life. He was late on the scene to understand the movement of the "Cause" but he sided with their concepts and was willing to do what was necessary to get back at the country that had shunned him and his ideas. He began to put his views on paper and on January 9, 1776 published a 47-page pamphlet called "Common Sense", but was it really common sense? He left the opinion up to his readers and after 50,000 copies were printed, his views were gaining attention. He wanted to expand the cause to include all Europe. He said, "Europe and not England, is the parent country of America. This new world hath been the asylum for the persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty from every part of Europe. Hither they have fled, not from the cruelty of the mother, but from the cruelty of the monster; as it is so far true of England, that the same tyranny which drove the first emigrants from home, pursues their descendants still". George Washington thought that it made common sense and had Thomas Paine's work read to all in his army. This little pamphlet became a binding inspiration in uniting the cause for American Independence.

G. Washington's Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior

#1 Every action done in company ought to be with some sign of respect to those that are present.

#45 Being to advise or reprehend anyone, consider whether it ought to be in public or private, presently or at some other time, in what terms to do it; and in reproving show no sign of cholar, but do it with all sweetness and mildness.

Poor Richard's Almanac

599. Virtue and happiness are mother and daughter.

607. Weighty questions ask for deliberate answers

During the Winter.

Our next meeting is on 14 Feb and our main event will be the essay contest. Feb will be the Geo. Washington Proclamations and Parade in Laredo. Mar. is our 35th anniversary.



We Need You!

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

- The Orations Chairman
- The Essay Chairman
- The Publicity Chairman

Others are covering these positions temporarily in addition to their other responsibilities. In short, we need you to come along side and take up the slack. Stand proud that you stepped up to serve your chapter in a time of need. Some have, what about you. Every little bit helps. Thank you!

We also need your help to enhance this newsletter. If you have an article or an item of interest to the chapter, send it to the chapter president or the newsletter editor. We are attempting to redesign our newsletter. Our goal is to make it interesting and keep you informed.

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

SAR Chapter Scouting Program needs you!

We have monies to support our scouting program. Even if you weren't a scout in your youth, you can understand the importance of this program. Join in and assist Kris Krueger build our Scout Merit Badge and Eagle Scout scholarship program.

Hello! President Steve Polk

Greetings!

We have a busy month ahead. Our monthly meeting will be on Valentine's Day so bring your bride. We will have the essay contest winners read their essays and we will present their awards. Later this month, many city and county officials will issue Washington Birthday Proclamations and the GW Birthday Parade in Laredo will feature our own color guard. All are encouraged to attend the parade on February 23rd at 9:00am. The Washington Birthday Celebration Association (WBCA) in Laredo has events throughout February each year. The parade is the country's biggest and has been an annual event since 1898. Look forward to seeing you and your brides on Thursday the 14th at Granzin's.

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 January Meeting



In January finished up the two Public Service awardees that were not available in Nov. They posed with the Color guard. From left to right are John Booth, Stan Trull, Tom Jones, Steve Polk (Pres.), Jacob Garcia (EMS Awardee), Tallen Swanzy (Life Saving Awardee), Stu Hoyt, Mike Pryor, Patrick Hollis, Don Chandler, and Blair Rudy. Top right: one new member was sworn in. Left to right) Steve Polk (Pres.) Harold "Shell" Storer, Jr., Mike Pryor (Registrar, and Stu Hoyt (Historian). Bottom left. Four members received Certificates of Appreciation for their work at the Fall BOM. Left to right: Steve Polk (Pres.). Ed Blauvelt, Terry Hardeman, Cliff Caskey, and Don Chandler. Bottom Right: the Chapter President poses with the William Hightower Color Guard for a press release to announce the 35th anniversary of the chapter. Left to right are Tom Jones, Mike Pryor, Steve Polk (Pres.) Stu Hoyt, Don Chandler, Patrick Hollis, John Booth, Stan Trull, and (kneeling) Blair Rudy.



A Little Education Outside the Chapter

Four years ago, Stu Hoyt was invited to his grandchildren's history class to share the American Revolution after their study of that period of history. It went over so well that the Meridian Charter School, in Round Rock, TX has invited him back. This year he invited Don Chandler, a WWII veteran of the Pacific, to join him. They set up their display and met with six 5th grade classes in the Cafeteria. Don Chandler and Stu Hoyt posed with each of the six classes. They are clockwise from top left Ms Doersam's Class, Mr. Kugler's Class, Ms. Gutierrez' s Class, Ms. Turner's Class, Ms. Tresler's Class and Mr. Zollner's Class.



More Activities Outside the Chapter



Each year that we visit the fifth grades at Meridian Charter School, we provide them with a Certificate of Appreciation and a special gift. This year we presented each with our new Chapter Challenge coin. Left to right are Mr. Zollner, Ms. Gutierrez, Ms. Turner, Don Chandler, Stu Hoyt, Ms. Doersam, Mr. Kugler, and Ms. Tresler. Lower Left, Stu Hoyt as District #3 VP was invited to the Boerne Chapter to administer the oath of office to the new chapter officers at their January meeting at the Fairview Country Club. Left to right are Chaplain, David Semrad, Registrar Pat Paterson, Secretary/Treasurer John Weir, VPres. Jim Westermeier, President Pat Blackman and Stu Hoyt. Lower right, President Pat Blackman presented Dist. #3 VP Stu Hoyt with a Certificate of Appreciation.

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.millcreek.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/8n20/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/
Reproduction Muzzleloaders and Flintlocks/Veteran-Arms-LLC	http://www.veteran-arms-llc.com/
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.tdcmf.com/about.php
Cherry's	http://www.cherrys.com/ped_prep.htm

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