



The Hightower Recorder

Newsletter of the William Hightower Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution



January 2022

Patriotic - Historical - Educational

2020 Texas SAR Americanism Award Chapter

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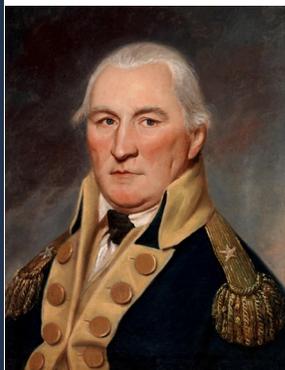
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This Month in the American Revolution

The Battle of Cowpens

By Stu Hoyt

Why anyone would fight over a cow pen is beyond me but one occurred during the American Revolution that became critical in bringing that war to a close. The early part of that war was fought in the northern colonies and instigated by “Yankee-Rebels” which sounds like an oxymoron. The British government spent all their time attempting to corral these renegades to the crown. They could not understand how General John Burgoyne could lose an entire army to this group of misfits.



General Daniel Morgan

This loss had severe repercussions. The French has secretly been supporting the American cause but needed some assurance before they would openly commit to a war with Britain. The British loss at Saratoga was sufficient to allow King Louie to commit to an engagement with their long time foe. This declaration of war caused the British government to rethink their battle plan in the Americas. In order to protect their possessions in the West Indies, they needed to pull troops and ship from that effort to contain the colonies. Their new scheme included efforts to separate the southern colonies from those in the north with the help of Southern Loyalists.

British Commanding General Howe had implemented his plan of capturing the south in the summer of 1777 when he left Burgoyne high and dry with his plan to attack Philadelphia. Burgoyne had hoped that an element of the British Army would come up the Hudson and meet him in Albany. This never happened.



Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton

General Howe’s plan was working well. They captured Charleston and Savannah then set up series of fort to contain the south. Continental General Benjamin Lincoln’s army fell with the loss of Charleston.

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krisk96@gmail.com

Message from Chapter President Tom Jones



As we all know, 2021 is now behind us and we are looking forward to 2022.

In spite of the virus and all the problems that it brought, our Chapter had a very successful year in being able to continue our obligations to our Patriots by fulfilling our Chapter's goals in several areas. Our Chapter Officers, Committee Chairs and several members are to be complemented for our Chapter's accomplishments.

Unfortunately, as we start the new year we are continuing to face the health issues of the virus and its variants as they come and go. In order to continue our programs and to safe guard the health of our members we must be aware of the various issues with the virus and adjust accordingly.

The current virus status is causing a lot of problems to our daily schedules. Also, they have a direct influence on the activities of our Chapter to continue our objectives. We must be flexible and adjust accordingly.

Therefore, after considering the current status of the virus and the confusion surrounding it, I have decided to switch our January meeting from Granzins Bar-B-Q to a Zoom computer meeting. Hopefully, we will be able to go back to our regular meetings at Granzins in February.

I encourage everyone to join us since we have a very important issue that you as members have to vote on. That issue is the determination of the Nomination of Officers for our next year. Joe Cox is our Nomination Committee Chair who will present a list of prospective members for your consideration. You will be able to accept his recommendations or request changes. Once this is completed, Joe will present the Nominations Committee's slate in our February meeting for your approval. We will then have our Chapter vote in March. This is very important and your advice and participation is very helpful.

Please join us on the Zoom at 6:30 pm, on Thursday, January 13, 2022. If you have any questions concerning the Zoom procedures please contact Kris Krueger, our Zoom specialist, at 830-237-4257.

I hope to see you at our meeting and I appreciate your support for our Chapter's activities. 🌟

Happy New Year,
Tom

Important Meeting Notice!

William Hightower Chapter's January 13 meeting will be on Zoom. We will not be at Granzin Bar-B-Q. Due to a recent increase in COVID-19, we are moving our meeting to a virtual one. Here is the information to join the meeting virtually:

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83884754518>

Date and Time: Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting ID: 838 8475 4518

Dial in by telephone: (346) 248-7799

George Washington



"The turning points of lives are not the great moments. The real crises are often concealed in occurrences so trivial in appearance that they pass unobserved."

Hey Compatriot,
Got your Chapter shirt yet?
Yes! Great, hope to see you in it at our next meeting!
No? What are you waiting for? Contact Tom today.
Shirts get us recognized and support our scholarships!

A New Tradition is Made: William Hightower Chapter Christmas Dinner

On Thursday, December 9, the William Hightower Chapter made a new tradition. The Chapter had a Christmas Dinner.

The Chapter began planning for the event in June. Compatriot Blair Rudy volunteered to take on the project. He quickly enlisted the help of his wife, Candy. Candy stepped up to chair the event. She found our spectacular venue, including weeks of visits to different hotels and restaurants, lots of meal tastings, and plenty of negotiations. And, when it all was said and done, she found us the perfect spot.

Our evening at the Gruene Door was filled with fellowship, family, laughter, and a little Christmas magic. The food was amazing, the staff top notch, and the company: divine.

For all of her work, dedication, and effort spanning six months, the Chapter awarded Candy Rudy the Martha Washington Medal. Candy was also presented with a dozen red roses and a Chapter coin to commemorate her work for the evening.

The evening was a complete success. There is no finer testament to that than the Chapter committing itself to have another holiday dinner in 2022.

Candy and Blair, from all the Compatriots, families, and friends of the William Hightower Chapter, thank you both for all the effort you put into making a perfect evening. We had an amazing time and it would not have been possible without your dedication to the William Hightower Chapter and the Sons of the American Revolution. 🇺🇸

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year!
From the Compatriots, Families, and Friends of the William Hightower Chapter!



Fellowship, Laughs, and Christmas Cheer!



The Battle of Cowpens

Continued from page 1

The hero of Saratoga, Horatio Gates was sent south to pick up the pieces but he fell on his sword at Camden. He actually left the battle and never stopped until his horse was 200 miles away.

When the dust settled, Congress had nowhere to turn and allowed Washington to select the replacement Commander of the Southern Army. He wanted his trusted Nathaniel Greene all along and sent him south with the remaining rag-tag army. He also sent General Daniel Morgan to assist.

After surveying the land and his possibilities, General Greene elected to divide his army and establish a defensive harassment action. They were so successful that British Commanding General Cornwallis directed his bulldog, Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton to track Morgan down and take him out.

Tarleton was getting close so Morgan knew that he must make a stand. In addition to his Continental Regulars he acquired some militia and mountain men. Close by was a grazing pasture called Cowpens, which had some rolling hills and surrounded by a river on three sides. The bad feature militarily was that the army had nowhere to retreat. The good was that the feigned of heart had nowhere to run.

General Morgan set his plan into action with the militia in the first line, the mountain men in the second and the Continentals in the third. Each line was in a depression between the hills. Anyone approaching the first line could not see the others. He spent the night encouraging militia units and asking them to give him two rounds and vacate the field in order. He also told them that the enemy was before them, the Continentals behind them and the Calvary at their sides to help them to be strong.

On Jan 17, 1781, Lt. Col. Tarleton felt that he had his enemy trapped and it was a matter of time. Morgan moved about the lines encouraging his men to stick to the plan. It was not Morgan that was trapped but Tarleton. Morgan could see the plan folding out before him and everything worked in his favor. Tarleton was blindsided and caught in a trap. Only he and a very few of his men were able to escape. Morgan knew the Cornwallis would be coming to Tarleton's rescue and he must act quickly. He sent some of his men one way with the prisoners and devised an ingenious deception to stay ahead of Cornwallis all the way to the Virginia border where he would join up with General Greene. Cornwallis destroyed his army chasing Morgan and had to retreat to Yorktown to be resupplied. The rest is history. 🇺🇸

Blanco County EMS Chief to Receive SAR EMS Commendation Medal



Chief Ben Oakley
Blanco County EMS

On Tuesday, January 11, 2022, the William Hightower Chapter will be awarding the SAR EMS Commendation Medal to Blanco County EMS Chief Ben Oakley.

Please join the William Hightower Chapter at 9:00 a.m. at the Blanco County Courthouse located at 101 East Pecan Street in Johnson City, where the award will be presented during the Blanco County Commissioners Court Meeting.

Chief Oakley has served Blanco County EMS since 2006. He rose through the ranks and has become an instrumental leader in Blanco County's EMS and emergency management community.

Help us honor Chief Oakley's service to his community. Continental uniform is not required but is always a welcomed part of the ceremony. 🇺🇸

Where did the Fifers go?

By Eric D. Mowles



The picture *The Spirit of '76* by Archibald M. Willard (aka *Yankee Doodle*) portrays two men and a boy marching through the battlefield with their drums and fife, the Betsy Ross flag in the background, men fighting and dying around them. If you look closely, the boy looks concerned. Is it because he is marching through a battle or because he is trying to match the more experienced drummer beside him? Regardless, this picture points to the fact that music was a very real and important part of the American Revolution.

The fife is an instrument that is largely forgotten in today's society. The fife has six finger holes and a mouth hole, with ferrules on each end. They can consist of one or two pieces, constructed of wood or metal, with an extremely high pitch. The fifes of the American Revolution were commonly made of rosewood or hard woods and were black or dark brown in color. The ends contained two brass ferrules (that were shorter than those utilized during the Civil War). While there were fifes that came from England, there were also numerous fife makers in the colonies. A major difference between the fife makers were that those in the colonies were wood turners that not only focused on fifes but also other wood turned items, such as umbrellas sold by fife maker Isaac Greenwood (see figure

The Spirit of '76 (aka *Yankee Doodle*), by Archibald Willard, 1876

2).¹ While an extremely common instrument for its time, most Americans are at a loss when you ask them something as simple as "what is a fife?"

If I asked you for the average age for a fifer, what would you say? Not sure, how about the average age of a drummer boy? Eight? Ten? Fourteen? The average age for a drummer during the American Revolution was nineteen and that of a fifer was seventeen. By today's standards, many of us would not refer to these as boys. Now these numbers may be a bit off as the data that I am using is from an article titled, "The music of the Army..." An abbreviated Study of the Ages of Musicians in the Continental Army by John U. Rees. Rees gathered his data from actual military service records.² Other sources, such as the Colonial Williamsburg website highlight that "two boys, generally aged between 10 and 18, marched along with each company."³ An interesting aspect that Rees also notes is that boys would enlist as fifers and then transition over to the drums (fifers could enlist and when strong enough to carry the drums, they could transition).⁴ On January 22, 1782, a General Order was issued indicating that fifers and drummers could no longer enlist but instead be taken from the ranks. With the enlistment age of 16, this ensured that the average age of fifers and drummers after 1782 was greater than the averages described above. Thus, when we think of boys as drummers and fifers during the American Revolution (and there were a few), the vast majority were slightly older than boys.

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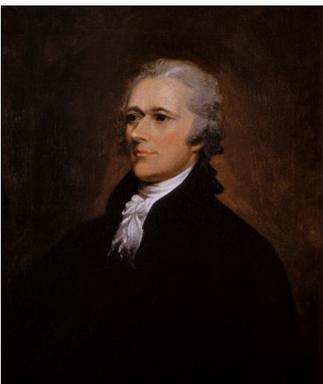
The fifers and drummers were extremely important in the war effort. Drums and fifes were key to many activities. They indicated all aspects of a soldier's day. The day began with reveille, ended with retreat, and had numerous other calls throughout the day. Everything from calling soldiers to meals to ensuring proper troop movements highlight why music was so important during the American Revolution. Beyond the everyday calls, the fife and drum could be heard over the sounds of fighting with the fife's high pitch and the drums low beating. General Washington even commented on the state of his fifers and drummers through the General Order (G.O.) of June 4, 1777. In this G.O. he commented that "the music of the army being in general very bad; it is expected, that the drum and fife Majors exert themselves to improve it, or they will be reduced, and their extraordinary pay taken from them: Stated hours to be assigned, for all the drums and fifes, of each regiment, to attend them, and practice—**Nothing is more agreeable, and ornamental, than good music; every officer, for the credit of his corps, should take care to provide it.**"⁵ For something that brings credit to his corps, music should be recognized and remembered. So, the next time that you look at Yankee Doodle, think about the musicians, the age of the men playing, and the utility that they bring to the fight. 🌟

Endnotes

1. <https://www.fifemuseum.com/revolutionary-war-fifes.html>
2. Originally published in *The Brigade Dispatch* Vol. XXIV, No. 4, Autumn 1993, 2-8.(accessed at <http://www.revwar75.com/library/rees/musician1.htm> on 22 Dec 2021)
3. <https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.org/explore/fifes-and-drums/?from=navexplore>
4. Originally published in *The Brigade Dispatch* Vol. XXIV, No. 4, Autumn 1993, 2-8.(accessed at <http://www.revwar75.com/library/rees/musician1.htm> on 22 Dec 2021)
5. "General Orders, 4 June 1777," *Founders Online*, National Archives, <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/03-09-02-0600>. [Original source: *The Papers of George Washington*, Revolutionary War Series, vol. 9, 28 March 1777–10 June 1777, ed. Philander D. Chase. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1999, pp. 602–603.]

It is Time for Chapter Awards Recommendations

Be sure to check out this month's newsletter supplement. The supplement has all the information you need to recommend your fellow Compatriots for awards. Chapter awards are coming up and we need your recommendations now! 🌟



It's Time to Pay Dues for 2022!

Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton wants to make sure you take care of your dues for 2022! Your dues help support our scholarship programs and keep the Chapter running. You can pay safely online. Just go to <https://www.txssar.org/dues.htm>.

Help us accomplish our patriotic, educational, and historical missions of keeping the ideals of the American Revolution that gave birth to this Great Nation alive!

*Happy Birthday to our Compatriots
And Remembering our Patriot Ancestors*

Happy Birthday, Compatriots

Rayburn Hickman, January 8
Kason Krueger, January 12
Patrick Hollis, January 15
Thomas Browne, January 19
Michael Mark, January 22
Steve Polk, January 25
Evan Blauvelt, January 27
Tom Jones, January 29

Remembering our Patriot Ancestors

Amos Nunnery, ancestor of Stan Trull,
born 1/17/1742
Matthew Ramsey, ancestor of Joseph
Ramsay, born 1/21/1748
Thomas Hardemann, ancestor of Terry
Hardemann, born 1/8/1750
Antoine Patin, ancestor of Dana Gunter,
born 1/12/1754
Noah Taft, Jr., ancestor of Joseph Scott,
born 1/14/1758
See [page 8](#) for Patriot Ancestors whose
exact birthdate we do not know.

**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!
Compatriot Society Anniversaries
January**

Lewis Corbell, 11 years
Richard Johnson, 2 years
William Spaitzer, 2 years
Andres Luna, Sr., 1 year

Thank you for your continued service to
our Society and your dedication to
promoting patriotism, preserving
American history, and promoting
education to future generations

From the Awards Committee...

The Sons of the American Revolution offers several recognitions you may qualify for. The Chapter is unable to budget for these awards, but they can still be earned by qualifying Compatriots. They include a medal or pin and a certificate. Here is a look at several awards you may qualify for.

1. War Service Medal. Awarded to Compatriots for honorable service with the Armed Forces or an ally against a common enemy in a recognized war or action.
2. Military Service Medal. Awarded to Compatriots for military service that does not qualify for the War Service Medal.
3. Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. Awarded to Compatriots for noteworthy achievements to their community in at least 4 leadership capacities, or by some outstanding achievement in the community.
4. Service Awards. Lapel pins awarded for years of service to the SAR in 5-year increments, beginning with 5 years. If you have an anniversary in one of these years, you qualify for a service award.

Please see Chapter Secretary Kris Krueger who can help you process the award and assist with your recognition at a Chapter meeting. ⚙️

**Compatriot, You earned it!
Get Recognized Today!**



Remembering our Patriot Ancestors

We recognize Patriot Ancestors whose exact birthdates we do not know in our January edition each year.

William Powell, ancestor of Tom and Tim Jones, born in 1715
Robert Slaughter, ancestor of Jerry Bullock, born in 1724
Kittrell Munden, ancestor of William Spaitzer, born in 1725
Johannes Roller, ancestor of Travis Tate, Jr., born in 1725
James Hollis, ancestor of Patrick Hollis, born in 1730
John McCoy, ancestor of Cleburne Matthies III, born in 1735
Solomon Cox, ancestor of David Elkins, born 1738
John Polk, ancestor of Steve Polk, born in 1739
William Turner, ancestor of Stu Hoyt and Raymond Sanford, born in 1739
John Caskey, ancestor of Cliff Caskey, born between 1750 and 1760
Hugh Coffey, Sr., ancestor of Cliff Caskey, born in 1750
John Gladden, ancestor of Patrick Hollis, born in 1750
Francis Cummings, ancestor of Robert Duckworth, born in 1752
Henry Zinn, ancestor of Robert Duckworth, born in 1752
Elijah Hooten, ancestor of Russell Hooten, born in 1753
Thomas Hardwick, ancestor of Michael England, born in 1755
James Burns, ancestor of Sean Newlin, born in 1757
Jeremiah Robinson, ancestor of Cliff Caskey, born in 1757
David Porter, ancestor of Robert Howard, born in 1760
Abner Quarles, ancestor of Cliff Caskey, born in 1760
Jacob Stallings, ancestor of Mike Pryor, born in 1761
Reuben Blankenship, ancestor of Chance Farmer, born in 1765

SAR Awards to the Community

The William Hightower Chapter offers a number of community awards throughout the year.

Flag Certificate. The Flag Certificate is awarded to any individuals, companies, or government agencies that fly the United States flag for patriotic purposes. It is not awarded for flying the flag for advertising. Send your nominations any time to our Flag Committee Chairman, Tom Jones, at tomandbet@aol.com.

Public Service Awards. Five awards are available for public service to our communities. The Heroism Medal, SAR Life Saving Medal, Law Enforcement Commendation Medal, Fire Safety Commendation Medal, EMS Commendation Medal, and the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal are available to qualifying individuals. Send your nominations any time to our Public Service Awards Chairman, Will Moravits, at sushathrill2000@yahoo.com.



SAR Flag Certificate



Left to Right: Heroism Medal, SAR Life Saving Medal, Law Enforcement Commendation Medal, Fire Safety Commendation Medal, EMS Commendation Medal

January in the William Hightower Chapter

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 New Years Day
2	3 Battle of Princeton	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 EMS Medal Presentation	12	13 Chapter Meeting	14	15
16	17 Cowpens & MLK Day	18	19 Common Sense	20 Peace with France & Spain	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 British Occupy Augusta, GA
30	31					

Happening this Month

January 1: New Years Day

January 11: EMS Commendation Medal Presentation, Blanco County Commissioners Court, 101 East Pecan Street, Johnson City, 9:00 a.m.

January 13: Chapter Meeting, Granzins BBQ, New Braunfels, Social Hour: 5:30 p.m., Business: 6:30 p.m.

January 17: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Historical Anniversaries

January 3, 1777: Washington's victory at the Battle of Princeton, New Jersey.

January 17, 1781: Daniel Morgan wins one-sided victory against British at the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina.

January 19, 1776: Thomas Paine publishes Common Sense.

January 20, 1783: Britain signs preliminary peace articles with France and Spain

January 29, 1779: British occupy Augusta, Georgia

February in the William Hightower Chapter

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 French Alliance	7	8	9	10 Chapter Meeting	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Financier of the Revolution	21 President's Day	22	23 Baron von Steuben	24	25 Vincennes	26
27 Moores Creek Bridge	28					

Happening this Month

February 10: Chapter Meeting, Granzins BBQ, New Braunfels, Social Hour: 5:30 p.m., Business: 6:30 p.m.

Historical Anniversaries

February 1778: Rhode Island Assembly enacts temporary law granting freedom to slaves who enlist in the predominately African American First Rhode Island regiment

February 6, 1778: French Alliance treaties signed in Europe.

February 10, 1763: Treaty of Paris ends Seven Year's War (French and Indian War).

February 20, 1781: Congress appoints Robert Morris, "The Financier of the Revolution" as Superintendent of Finances. During trying financial period, Morris astutely manipulates accounts to keep the war effort funded

February 23, 1778: Former Prussian officer Baron von Steuben arrives at Valley Forge to begin training program

February 25, 1779: George Rogers Clark recaptures Vincennes

February 27, 1776: Patriots defeat a loyalist force at Battle of Moores Creek Bridge near Wilmington, North Carolina

William Hightower Chapter Leadership

2021-2022

Officers

President Tom Jones
Vice President Ed Blauvelt
Secretary Kris Krueger
Treasurer Stan Trull
Registrar Robert Duckworth
Chaplain Don Chandler
Historian Open
Parliamentarian Joe Cox
Sergeant at Arms Robert Duckworth
Past President Steve Polk
Webmaster Will Moravits
Newsletter Editor Kris Krueger

Committee Chairs

Color Guard: Blair Rudy
Flag Awards: Tom Jones
Finance & Budget: Stan Trull
Fund Raising: Steve Polk
George Washington Proclamations: Joe Cox
Grave Marking: Open
Medals, Awards & Citations: Kris Krueger
Public Events: Patrick Hollis
Public Service Awards: Will Moravits
Publicity & Media: Will Moravits
ROTC & CAP: Tom Jones
Scouting: Kris Krueger
Youth Awards & Contests: Will Moravits

About Us

The William Hightower Chapter is the New Braunfels-based chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. We are a male genealogical society dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education to our future generations. Please feel free to join us the 2nd Thursday of each month September through May at Granzin Bar-B-Q, 660 West San Antonio Street, New Braunfels. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and business at 6:30 p.m. Come join us for social hour at 5:30 p.m.!

