



Cradle of Texas Crier
Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 17, Number 2

February 2014

Michael J. Bailey, Editor

February

Next Meeting
08 February, 2014

Smithhart's Texas Grill
2440 N Velasco St,
Angleton, Texas
11:30 a.m.

Program
James Wedell
By Stan Murray



James Wedell was a prop plane designer and pilot that during the 1930's engineered and built planes that went faster and won more races during the early 1930's than any other pilot of propeller driven planes. He was born in Texas City, Texas, spent most of his summers with his mother's family in West Columbia and lived and worked most of his life in Patterson, Louisiana. He died in a plane crash in 1934 and is buried in West Columbia next to his mother and sister.

Stan Murray was born in Denver, Colorado in 1940; he graduated from Abilene Christian College in 1964, and married Jamie Giesecke in Colorado in 1971, who was originally from Angleton, Texas. They moved here in 1973 and he worked as a Contracts Administrator for a local heavy industrial construction company in Clute (U.S. Contractors) for 32 years, retiring in May, 2006. Stan was an American History major in college and soon after coming to Texas became involved with Texas History mainly through Jamie who is a social studies education major and is currently employed at the Brazoria County Historical Museum, and Dr. McAlexander, who was head of the History Department at Brazosport College. Stan Murray has appeared in a number of documentaries of the Texas colonial period and became interested in Stephen F. Austin because his wife said that he looks like Austin. The Brazoria County Historical Museum started an historical festival called "Austin Town" in 1997 and Stan has portrayed Stephen each year through 2012. He has also appeared before a number of historical groups including the Alamo in San Antonio and various SRT and DRT groups. Stan Murray's goal is to help others to come to a better understanding of the beginnings of Texas, 1821-1836, a heritage of which everyone should know and be proud.



MEETING MINUTES

Sons of the American Revolution Cradle of Texas Chapter #33 January 11, 2014

President Michael Bailey called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. at Wayside Pub in Lake Jackson. Russell Dart led the chapter in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance, Texas Pledge and SAR Pledge. George Easterling gave the blessing for our meal.

The December 2013 Minutes were approved with one (1) correction.

Treasurer Arthur Evans' financial report showed no activity in December:

Beginning Balance	\$4,950.84
General Fund	\$4,067.84
McAlexander Fund ¹	\$833.00
Ending Balance	\$4,950.84

The financial report was approved on motion by Bill Sanders and George Easterling's second.

Genealogist Bill Sanders reported that the application of Ted Bates of Palacios is currently being reviewed by NSSAR. Bill has five (5) applications that he is currently working.

Bill Sanders elaborated on our April 12th meeting in Wharton at Los Cucos Restaurant, followed by our Color Guard presenting the Colors for the Comfort Woods DAR Chapter's 100th Anniversary meeting at the Wharton County Historical Museum.

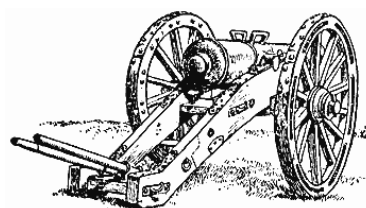
Also, Sanders reported that material, labor and equipment have been donated to put a road into the Louise cemetery. And, Bill has been in contact with folks at Rice

University who have equipment that to find unmarked graves.

Judy Bernard introduced our speaker, Col. Sandy Weems (retired) of the Mattson-Ringgold American Legion Post 503 in West



Columbia. Col. Weems has been leading the Legion's efforts to provide a community based facility that can be used for transitional housing, sustenance and counseling to homeless veterans who want help. He explained that many homeless veterans have post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and physical brain injuries from road-side bomb explosions during their combat service. He pointed out that PTSD is not new, just called by different names; i.e., cowardice for Civil War veterans, shellshock for WWI and neurosis for WWII veterans. A non-profit corporation, Brazoria County Transitional Housing, Inc., has been created and charitable deduction 501(c)3 tax status approval is pending. The corporation's funding comes from grants, donations and fund-raisers like the one on March 22nd at the West Columbia Heritage Hall were an ATV, rifle, shotgun, premier fishing poles and a patriotic quilt will be raffled.



¹ Available for purchase of uniforms

President Bailey handed out a list of upcoming events which included the following:

- January 25th - Pilgrims' Camp and Swap Meet in Columbus
- January 25th - President Lamar Ceremony at Morton Cemetery in Richmond beginning at 10 a.m., but you should arrive about 9:30.
- February 8th - Reenactors annual gathering at Jesse Jones Park - Humboldt
- February 22nd - George Washington Birthday Celebration and parade in Laredo. Michael Bailey and Frank Seidule plan to attend.
- March 1st - Heritage Festival at Brazoria Heritage Center. Russell Dart volunteered to help man a SAR booth.
- March 2nd - Texas Independence Day Celebration at the Stephen F. Austin statue in Angleton
- July 4th - American Independence Day
- August 16 - Battle of Medina remembrance
- September 17th - Constitution Day remembrance in West Columbia and Angleton



Casey, Bernard, Bailey, Avera, Sanders, Evans

Texas SAR District 7 Vice President Lawrence Casey installed the following officers and directors for 2014:

President	Michael Bailey
Vice-President	Chuck Bernard
Secretary	Winston Avera
Treasurer	Arthur Evans, III
Chaplain	Rev. L.L. Stevens
Genealogist	Bill Sanders
Color Guard Captain	Frank Seidule
Executive Committee	Tim Hall
Executive Committee	Dr. Tillman Daniel

The next meeting will be February 8th at Smithhart's in Angleton.

George Easterling gave the benediction and led the SAR Recessional.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m. on motion by George Easterling and second by Thomas Mayerle.

Michael Bailey led the SAR recessional.

Members Present - Bill Sanders, Michael Bailey, Russell Dart, George Easterling, Chuck Bernard, Thomas Mayerle, Arthur Evans, Lawrence Casey and Winston Avera.

Guests present were Sue Dart, Judy Bernard, Sandy Weems and Connie Avera.

This Month During The American Revolution

February 23, 1778

Baron Steuben Arrives at Valley Forge



February 23, Baron Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Augustin Steuben, a volunteer from Germany, arrives at Valley Forge with a letter of introduction from the President of

Congress, Henry Laurens. Congress publishes his military training manual, which he has had translated into English. He trains a model company of forty-seven men at Valley Forge and then proceeds to the general training of the army. Congress commissions Steuben a major general and makes him an inspector general of the Continental Army. Steuben becomes an American citizen after the war.

The George Washington Papers at the Library of Congress
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/1778.html>

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Smithhart's Texas Grill
2440 N Velasco St,
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