



# The Cradle of Texas Crier

Texas Cradle of Chapter # 33  
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 12, Number 2

February, 2009

Mr. Milt Wing, Editor

## February Meeting in West Columbia

### Neal Morton to be Guest Speaker

Neal Morton, President of Brazoria County Firefighters Association, will be our speaker for the upcoming meeting of The Cradle of Texas SAR on February 14, 2009 at 11:30 a. m.

The meeting will be held at the Scott's BBQ Place in West Columbia. Scott's is located on State Hiway 35 in the downtown area between 17<sup>th</sup> street and Broad Street. Parking is located on the west side of the restaurant;

Neal has been a volunteer firefighter for seventeen years. He served for eight years in Lake Jackson, one year in Brazoria and has been in Angleton for eight years. Mr Morton has previously served in various officer capacities in these departments, ranging from Lieutenant to Assistant Chief. He has been President of Brazoria County Firefighters Association for the past six years. BCFFA is an organization of Emergency Response Organizations including EMS, Fire and Fire Marshals.

In 2008, Neal was appointed by Brazoria County Commissioners Court to serve as one of the Commissioners for Emergency Services District #3. He currently holds the position of Secretary for the district.

Neal is married to Lois Morton and they have four children. Two sons are: Darwin, 19 is a sophomore in college and Dylan, who is a junior in high school. Danielle and Devyn, twin daughters who are almost 20 months old.

Neal will give us an insight into the operation of various Emergency Response operations in the county.

### January Minutes

The Cradle of Texas Chapter #33, Sons of the American Revolution met for their regular meeting at the

WurstHaus Restaurant in Lake Jackson, Saturday, January 10, 2009.

President Garvin Germany called the meeting to order. The colors were presented by the Color Guard, Russell Dart and Mike Rees. Rev. Roger Byler gave the invocation. Pledges to the Flags and the SAR were recited by the group.

Members in attendance included Garvin Germany, Milt Wing, Barton Griffith, Arnold Seidule, George Easterling, Roger Byler, Russell Dart, Jim Salisbury, Ryan Neel, Mike Rees, Robert Seidule, Thomas Mayerle, Mike Bailey, Clell Sechrest, Tom Green and Don Pugh, Guests included Margie Griffith, Elizabeth Melton, Dot Salisbury, Mary Nita Wing, Mary Sechrest, Janice Seidule, Speakere "Dude" Payne and his secretary, Nelli Smith.

The minutes of the December 2008 Meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

President Garvin Germany introduced Donald "Dude" Payne, County Commissioner of Brazoria County. Mr. Payne presented a slide show and personal commentary of the severe damage done by Hurricane Ike. The extensive damage to the "Bluewater Highway" homes and business establishments is estimated at 100 million dollars. The bridges at each end of the highway were undamaged, but access is very limited. Residents are hopeful they will be able to rebuild.

President Germany presented "Dude" with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Chapter.

Announcements were as follows:

A re-enactment of the Battle of Galveston was being presented on January 10, 2009, in Galveston.

A grave marker is being placed on the headstone of Henry Greenwood on February 1, 2009.

We have a JROTC candidate from Pearland High School as an entry in the State Contest.

We have no entry in either the Essay contest or the Oration Contest.

Sixty five members have paid their dues.

The next meeting will be February 14, 2009 in West Columbia and we will try for Baytown Seafood as the meeting place.

The benediction was given by Rev. Byler and the colors were retired. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by President Garvin Germany.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm by Garvin Germany.



**President's  
Corner.**  
By Garvin  
Germany

We are all eminently familiar with the Presidential importance, for today on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January , 2009 we have seen all the respect given that office. Today as your President of the Sons of the American Revolution, I can not claim any such aura or presence; but I have looked at our membership with thoughts about what it is that brings us together. Of course it is our HERITAGE. Unfortunately we do not “bond together” out of that “bringing together” in the Sons of the Revolution that we are each involved in. We must remember that we each have descended from persons who fought with faith and vigor for an ideal that is celebrated today with the inauguration of our 44<sup>th</sup> President.

Sometime ago I registered my dna with a thought that I might know more about who and why I am today. Amazingly I have learned littler from that registration except that out of the persons who likewise have registered their dna, that, so far there are only four that register kinship. Of that Kinship only one seemed relevant and that was that his forbearers were residents of North Carolina at the same time my residents were in South Carolina in the 1740's. This is kinship, not “HERITAGE”.

We each, in our meetings, celebrate the having of the kinship in that we gather and renew our common avows relative to our HERITAGE. Hopefully our regular meetings together will sharpen and renew our memory of the HERITAGE we share.

As a matter or curiosity I reviewed the list of membership listing the person with whom I share this most important HERITAGE and at the same time the kinship in the “Cradle of Texas” Chapter #33 the Sons of the

American Revolution. I was amazed at the variety of persons presented.

It was amazing to see such varieties of compatriots as I sought information about each one listed on the membership list. Being wary of my skills in maneuvering the internet, I felt that a personal contact by phone would be more satisfying to me. Of all seventy-five members listed, only two numbers were no longer in service. Many answered mechanically, so my message was delivered mechanically to them.

On some of the calls I was privileged to share a few moments with members, sometime with their wives, and on one occasion with a mother of a member. One call, answered by a wife, immediately accosted me upon my identifying myself, saying “have you seen the internet piece on Van Zandt County?” Gosh, somebody knows my early past lives.

Some members were too far away to visit; one was ill and unable to attend; one had conflicts always on Saturday and asked about night meetings. One was that of a mother who paid her son's application and dues and said that was only in the hope that he might someday be interested. At this time he was too busy practicing law in Austin. Boy, I would like to tell him some tales about his long deceased father. There might be some good laughs.

How interested are each of you? Are you eager to support your fellow compatriots to share in the perpetuation of you HERITAGE by discussing your kinship in our meetings? Sometime back we were asked to submit a summary of your forbearer's history. I don't know how many of you complied, but here could be some fun comparing notes. It doesn't have to be like a college thesis, but only a few noted memories of data could form the base of a good many discussions.

Let's keep in touch for we are kin with the same desire to share sentiments of Freedom and Liberty that each of us as citizens share. With care and love for each of you I will list the varied membership locations summary below. Garvin.

### **Membership Listing by Town and Number.**

Sweeny-4	Angleton-5
Houston-4	Alvin-2
Clute-1	Brownsville-1
Manvel-1	Bay City-5
Pearland-2	Austin-2
Washington D.C.-1	Wharton-1
Freeport-2	Lake Jackson-7
Littleton, Col.-2	Louise-1
Waukegan, Ill.-1	Keller-1
Spring-2	Friendswood-1
Rosharon-1	Edna-1
Cypress-2	West Columbia-2
San Francisco, Cal.-1	Denham Springs, La.-1
Kaufman-1	Borger-1

## Important Dates

SAR Chapter Meeting Feb. 14, 2009  
 State Convention Nacogdoches, Tx. Mar. 19-22, 2009  
 BOM Lake Jackson July 31- Aug. 2, 2009

## Patriotic Days Reminders

These are some special days to fly your flag.  
 Presidents' Day Feb. 18, 2009  
 Easter Sunday April 12, 2009

## FINANCIAL REPORT Year End 2008

Bank Balance January 1, 2008	\$4,369.38
Income	\$ 1,567.69
Dues	\$653.50
Newsletter Gift	6.00
Gala	784.00
Sander's Donation	50.00
Kroger's Share CD.	74.19
Disbursements	\$1,629.34
Guest Lunches	\$126.24
Award, Medals, etc.	558.65
SAR uniform	117.00
Gala Meals	756.00
Genealogy Meeting	15.00
SAR application Aid	21.45
Refund of excess dues	36.00
Balance General Fund Jan. 1, 2009	\$3,424. 73
Balance McAlexander Fund	\$883.00
Total Bank Balance January 1, 2009	\$4,307.67

## Officers Cradle of Texas Chapter #33

**President**-- Judge Garvin Germany- Ph. (979) 849-4614  
 Email Address [ggermany@earth-comm.com](mailto:ggermany@earth-comm.com)

**VicePresident**--Milt Wing, Ph. (979) 265-5351 Email  
[addresssthetwowings@sbcglobal.net](mailto:addresssthetwowings@sbcglobal.net)

**Treasurer** -- -- Russell Dart - Ph. (713) 436-1039  
 Email address [rmdart@comcast.net](mailto:rmdart@comcast.net)

**Secretary**-- -- Barton Griffith --Ph. (979) 245-5669  
 Email address [wbriffith@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wbriffith@sbcglobal.net)

**Genealogist** -- --Tim Hall -- Ph. (979) 245-2217  
 Email address [timotheushall@hotmail.com](mailto:timotheushall@hotmail.com)

**Chaplain** -- -- Roger L. Byler - Ph. (979) 647-4222  
 Email address [rbyler@brazoriainet.com](mailto:rbyler@brazoriainet.com)

**Executive Committeemen:** ----Donald Mudd -- Ph. (281)  
 369-2654 Email Address [donmudd@peoplepc.com](mailto:donmudd@peoplepc.com)

Arnold Seidule---Ph. (979) 299-1935  
 Email address [aseidule@hotmail.com](mailto:aseidule@hotmail.com)

**Color Commander**-- --Frank Seidule-Ph.(979) 848 2957  
 Email address [seidule3@yahoo.com](mailto:seidule3@yahoo.com)

## Special Announcements

Please be on the lookout for recognition awards for citizens for outstanding performance in displaying the FLAG, LAW enforcement, FIRE duty and EMS duty and other meritorious service to the community. Please bring your nominations to the attention of any of the officers for consideration.

### Annual Dues(repeat)

You probably have received your dues notice by now and we urge you to attend to this matter soon (if you haven't already taken care of it) as we would like to avoid additional billing and reminders.

### Color Guard

We could still have more participation in the Color Guard. If interested, see Frank Seidule, the newly appointed Color Guard Commander.

### Important State Meetings coming up soon!!! Plan to attend, you will enjoy them.

The Texas SAR convention will be held at Nacogdoches on **March 19-22, 2009**. Detailed information is available to you in your TEXAS COMPATRIOT that you recently received. (on page 15). Also Don Pugh sent you an email copy of this most recent issue. Remember make hotel reservations early directly with the Fredonia Hotel.

As you know we are hosting the Summer Board of Managers Meeting here in Lake Jackson at the Cherotel Hotel. Dates are **July 31, Aug. 1 2, 2009**. Don will be holding a planning meeting at Scott's BBQ after our regular monthly meeting. Please plan to attend so you will know what is going to be going on. We really need a good turn out of the local members to make this meeting a success. Registration information may be also found in the TEXAS COMPATRIOT as well as information about the Historical Tour. (on pages 13-14).

### Trans-Appalachian Activity during the Revolutionary War

After the French and Indian Wars, the British controlled the territory west of the Ohio River and maintained alliances with the local Indian tribes. The Proclamation of

1763 forbade the settlement of lands west of the Appalachian Mountains. From their posts north of the Ohio River, the British sent Indian war parties against those settlers who ignored the proclamation, including those in Kentucky.

George Rogers Clark, a Virginian, organized the Kentucky militia to defend against these raids. Clark was not content to wait for these raids. He decided that a major offensive campaign was needed. He took his plan to Patrick Henry, governor of Virginia, and gained his approval. Clark's plan was to lead a force of frontiersmen into the Illinois Territory and strike at the source of the Indian raids.

Several months of back and forth battles ensued where the French switched sides as was convenient for them. Hamilton commanded the British and seemed to hold the upper hand when winter set upon them. At that time it was fitting and proper to reduce the action and let the men go home for the winter and keep just a minimum force together.

Capitalizing on this Clark marched his men on the British stronghold at Vincennes, Illinois in early Feb. 1797.



March to Vincennes by George Rogers Clark and his men.

One hundred and seventy men, American and French made an epic 18 day trek from Kaskaskia through the freezing flood waters of the Illinois country. At times in icy waters up to their shoulders, it was Clark's determined leadership that brought them through the incredible mid-winter journey. He felt it was the thing to execute as he felt the British were going to launch an offensive in the spring with his garrison at full strength and this would be the time to strike. They arrived on Feb. 23, 1797.

Clark's men were victorious in the ensuing battle which lasted 2 days and on February 25, the British with their Indian comrades surrendered. Clark in retaliation for the raids incurred by the settlers earlier by the abetting Indians had 5 of the captive Indians put to death as retaliation for the massacres committed by their Indian allies.

As a result of the action of the young Virginian, the British were defeated and lost control of the Trans-Appalachian Territory and as that result the British ceded all the land that now comprise the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and the eastern portion of Minnesota.

