



The Cradle of Texas Crier

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 11, Number 3

March, 2008

Mr. Milt Wing, Editor

March Meeting in Lake Jackson

Milt Wing is Speaker

Milt Wing, a local member of the Wing Family of America (WFA) will be the featured speaker at the March 8, 2008 meeting of the Cradle of Texas Chapter, TXSSAR at the WursthHaus Restaurant which is located on This Way in Downtown Lake Jackson just off Oak Drive at 11:30 a.m.

Wing will discuss his Revolutionary Patriot, Dr. Moses Wing and the historical Wing Family of America which was formed in 1902. The family originally came to America in 1632 and the WFA is headquartered now on Cape Cod at Sandwich, Mass. Here the Wing Fort House is located and has continuously been in the Wing Family since it was built in 1641. The family has districts throughout the nation with a Texas District. Wing is the District Representative and is on the Board of the WFA.

Milt is not a native Texan but got here as fast as he could after being born in the State of Maine. He was raised in Beaumont and graduated from Lamar Tech with a B. S. degree in chemistry and worked for Dow for 31 years.

He was active in Research and Development and at the time of his retirement was Technical Director of Research for the Texas Location. During his career he received 17 patents for inventions and process and product improvements. After retirement he taught part-time at Lamar University in the Chemical Engineering Department and was employed as Industrial Liason for the Gulf Coast Hazardous Substance Research Center at the University. He also was President of Wing Associates, a consulting company specializing in Hydrocarbons. Milt has just recently been honored by Lamar University with the first Distinguished Alumnus Award for Service to the University. He has been an avid golfer, traveler and history buff. His roots in the Revolutionary War led him to the SAR. As a recent member of the local chapter, he has actively picked up responsibilities, currently serving as Secretary and Newsletter Editor.

He is married to the former Mary Nita Berwick of Beaumont and they have three children. Ginger Schmidt lives in Freeport, Phillip lives in Boerne and Clifton lives in Round Rock

February Meeting Minutes

The Cradle of Texas Chapter #33, Sons of the American Revolution met at the Windswept Restaurant on Saturday, February 9, 2008 at 11:30 a.m. The SAR Members in attendance were Garvin Germany, Michael Rees, George Easterling, Russell Dart, Thomas Mudd, Donald Mudd, Roger Byler, Arnold Seidule, Tim Hall, George Hall, Clell Sechrest, Don Pugh, Thomas Mayerle, Jim Salisbury and L. L. Stevens. Guests present were Alton G. Rogers, Ladene Rogers, David Ferguson, Elizabeth Melton, Janice Seidule, Kay Mudd, Earlene Pugh, Sue Dart, Dorothy Salisbury, Joyce Germany and Mary Sechrest.

Vice-President Germany convened the meeting. Russell Dart and Mike Rees advanced the colors. Reverend Roger Byler gave the invocation. Arnold Seidule led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. Rev. Stevens led the pledge to the Texas Flag. Tim Hall led the Chapter in the SAR Pledge.

Because some of the attendees had a funeral to attend at 2:00 PM, President Mike Rees asked the members to depart from the ordinary order of the day to begin eating during the presentation of the program. Mike then introduced Garvin Germany who gave an enlightening and entertaining presentation on George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette.

After the presentation, Mike Rees asked for old business and committee reports. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as read in the newsletter.

Arnold Seidule talked about the upcoming Brazoria Heritage celebration on March 1, where we will have a presence and the Color Guard agreed to participate. Dr. Don Pugh promoted the Genealogy Fair to be held in Sugarland on Feb. 23rd. Don also reminded the members that if 20% of the chapter membership made contributions

to the National, the Chapter's name would be inscribed on a plaque in National Headquarters. Arnold Seidule also spoke about the Eagle Scout Pathfinder Program. Arnold said that flyers about this SAR program would be distributed with Eagle Scout literature to publicize it among the Eagle Scout candidates.

Don Mudd introduced a guest, Dave Ferguson, a prospective member. Russell Dart amended the Treasurer's report as published in the Newsletter to reflect an omission of a disbursement for Medals and Certificates that brought the balance to \$3,912.68. Russell also asked for help with the Knight Essay Contest and the Rumbaugh Oration competitions. George Easterling announced that the Texas Legislature had finally made him an Honorary Native Texan after these many years.

President Mike Rees distributed a page containing the Goals and Objectives for the Chapter during the year 2008/09. Mike also asked the members to commit to participate or to chair informal committees to implement these projects.

Rev. Roger Byler led the group in the benediction. Russell Dart and Mike Rees presented the colors while the Chapter recited the SAR closing, and then the colors were retired. Vice-President Garvin Germany adjourned the group until March 8, 2008.

President's Corner

By Mike Rees

The Articles of Confederation: A Study in Contrast to the United States Constitution. Although they were written in 1777 The Articles were not ratified by all of the states until the first of March 1781. The Articles of Confederation were our first attempt to form a Union. Comparing them to the Constitution which was written twelve years later and ratified in 1791 is interesting as we will do next month.

In this Union as described by the Articles of Confederation each state retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence which is not expressly delegated to the federal government, which in principle is embodied in the tenth amendment to the later United States Constitution. The Article of Confederation did not establish the concept of a super-state government comprised of "we the people", nor did it establish a concept of citizenship of these United States except in relationship to foreign governments.

The Articles are rules about states' rights in relation to each other; free passage between state, return of felons, full faith and credit of each others' laws, Union in foreign relations, Indian relations and defense; no import duties in conflict with Union treaties; state militias but no state battleships; Union coinage, Union bonds (bills of credit); Union weights, but no Standing Union Army. The Articles even provided for the admission of Canada.

The big difference between our Articles of Confederation of 1777 and our 1789 Constitution was this---- our body politic had only one part! That was a Congress with protection from most arrests, annually appointed by the legislatures of each State; and one State one vote in a unicameral Congress; there was no executive other than the Great Ruler of the World. There was no Judiciary.

Though most Americans are familiar with the provisions of the Constitution, many have never read the Articles of Confederation to understand what the debate in the Federalist Papers concerned.

Rather than produce an entire copy of the Articles, (which I can provide) here are the summaries each Article:

1. Establishes the name of the confederation as "The United States of America."
2. Asserts the precedence of the separate states of the confederation government, i.e. "Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and right, which is not by this Confederation expressly delegated."
3. Establishes the United States as a league of states united ".....for their common defense, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to or attacks made upon them...."
4. Establishes freedom of movement-anyone can pass freely between states, excluding "paupers, vagabonds, and fugitives from justice." All people are entitled to the rights established by the state into which he travels. If a crime is committed in one state and the perpetrator flees to another state, he will be extradited to and tried in the state in which the crime was committed.
5. Allocates one vote in the Congress of the Confederation (United States Congress Assembled) to each state, which was entitled to a delegation of between two and seven members. Members of Congress were appointed by state legislatures; individuals could not serve more than three out of any six years.
6. Only the central government is allowed to conduct foreign relations and to declare war. No states may have navies or standing armies, or engage in war, without permission of Congress (although the state militias are encouraged).
7. When an army is raised for common defense, colonels and military ranks below colonel will be named by the state legislatures.
8. Expenditures by the United States will be paid by funds raised by the state legislatures, and apportioned to the states based on the real property values of each.
9. Defines the powers of the central government to declare war, to set weights and measures (including coins), and for Congress to serve as a final court for disputes between states.

10. Defines a Committee of the States to be a government when Congress is not in session.
11. Requires nine states to approve the admission of a new state into the confederacy; pre-approves Canada, if it applies for membership.
12. Reaffirms that the Confederation accepts war debt incurred by Congress before the Articles.
13. Declares that the Articles are perpetual, and can only be altered by approval of Congress with ratification of *all* the state legislatures.

Important Dates

TXSSAR State Convention, Arlington, March 27-30, 2008
 NSSAR Convention, Sacramento, CA. July 5-9, 2008
 TXSSAR Board of Managers, Tyler, August 1-3, 2008

Patriotic Days Reminders

Patriot's Day (Battle of Lexington and Concord)	April 19 th
Memorial Day	May 30 th
Flag Day	June 14 th
Independence Day	July 4 th
Constitution Day	Sept. 17 th
Victory at Yorktown	Oct. 19 th

Battle of Guilford Courthouse, N. C. *

March 15, 1781

General Nathaniel Greene assumed command of the remnants of the Southern Army after Horatio Gates' disastrous defeat at Camden. In his ensuing campaign against Lord Cornwallis he sought to gain strength while harassing British Forces and drawing them further from their bases on the coast. His position immensely strengthened by Daniel Morgan's victory at Cowpens (Jan. 17th, 1781), Greene skillfully retreated before Cornwallis' force and finally, his ranks swollen by militia, gave battle on the ground of his own choosing at Guilford Court House, N. C.

Greene deployed his forces in three lines. The first was composed of the North Carolina Militia whom he asked to fire several volley and retire; the second was made up of Virginia militia, the third, posted on a rise of ground, comprise Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware Continentals.

When Cornwallis' Regulars launched their first attack, the first line of militia fired their rounds and fled the battlefield, the second line offered stiffer resistance but also withdrew. Before the second line gave way, several British units broke through and charged the last line. Greene observed as the veteran First Maryland Continentals threw back a British attack and countered with a bayonet charge. As they reformed their line,

William Washington's Light Dragoons raced by to rescue raw troops of the Fifth Maryland who had buckled under a furious assault of British Grenadiers and Guards.

Finally, Greene ordered a retreat, since he was determined not to risk the loss of his army, For the British it was another Pyrrhic victory. (With a victory, an army loses it's capability to continue vigorously) Cornwallis, his force depleted, withdrew to the coast at Wilmington and then went on to his rendezvous with destiny at Yorktown. Greene while losing two more such battles, by October 1781 had forced the British to withdraw to their last enclaves in the South—Charlestown and Savannah.

(*Soldiers of the American Revolution)



Battle of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina March 15, 1781

FINANCIAL REPORT

February 25, 2008

General Fund Balance 23 Jan. 2008	\$3,029.68*
Total Income (Sanders donation)	\$50.00
Balance	\$3,079.68
Disbursements:	
Genealogy Fair Table Rental	\$15.00
Medals and Certificates	\$50.00
Total Disbursements	\$65.00
Balance Jan 27, 2007	\$3014.68
Barbara McAlexander Fund	
Deposit- February 2007	\$1000.00
Disbursement	
SARUniformForRussell Dart (25%)	\$117.00
Balance McAlexander Fund	\$883.00
Total Bank Balance February 25, 2008	\$3,897.68
* reflects correction of \$ 377.20 payout in Jan.	

Officers 2008 TXSSAR Cradle of Texas Chapter #33

President ----Dr. Michael Rees-Ph. (800) 244-5492 Email Address mrees@lonestarlegal.com

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Secretary---Milt Wing, Ph. (979) 265-5351 Email address Thetwowings@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer -- -- Russell Dart - Ph. (713) 436-1039 Email address rmdart@comcast.net

Genealogist -- --Tim Hall – Ph. 99790 245-2217 Email address timotheushall@hotmail.com

Chaplain -- -- Roger L. Byler - Ph. (979) 647-4222 Email address rlbyler@brazoriainet.com

Executive Committeemen: ----Donald Mudd – Ph. (281) 369-2654 Email Address donmudd@peoplepc.com
Arnold Seidule---Ph. (979) 299-1935 Email address aseidule@hotmail.com

President Michael Rees Presents Goals and Objectives

1. Continue the excellent programs started by compatriot Daniels.
2. Increase membership through the request that each member nominate at least one new member, through assistance of Tim Hall our genealogist.
- 3 Reach out to inactive members by incentives such as encouraging them to give programs on their revolutionary ancestors and asking them to commit to one of the projects listed below or suggesting new projects that they would be willing to chair.
- 4, Increase giving to SAR funds. As Don Pugh has pointed out, there is and opportunity to have our chapter's name listed on the honor roll on the wall of the National Office if we combine the funds with other substantial gifts by others and if we get 20% participation.
5. Increase the number of Eagle Scout entries (Arnold Seidule)
6. Continuing our work with the JROTC (Russell Dart, George Easterling, and Garvin Germany)
- 7, Ask each member to contact their local high school principal and superintendent with materials for the Knight Essay Contest and the Rumbaugh Oration contest and ask someone to help and ultimately relieve Russell Dart of his responsibilities for the Essay and Oration contests at his request.
8. Award 2 Flag Awards
9. Award at least two law enforcement Medals.
- 10 Get an entry in the Outstanding History Teacher contest (Mike Rees)

Retention of members and reinstatement of members (Don Pugh)

12. Encourage more members to attend State Meetings
- 13 Enlist the cooperation with Don Pugh in planning and supporting the State Board of Managers' meeting hosted by our chapter.
- 14, Develop leadership opportunities, especially with the younger members who must take charge so the Chapter will survive in the next score years.
15. Develop a better relationship with the DAR chapters and to get their help in enrolling new members.
16. Assist the Vice President in his "Speaker's Bureau" (Garvin Germany) by encouraging more "in house" programs by members presenting programs on their Revolutionary Ancestors.
- 17, Get the word out to the media through media coverage of our meetings, our awards and the participation of our new Color Guard of Frank Seidule, Russell Dart , Tom Mudd and anyone else who will avail themselves of partial assistance from the McAlexander Memorial uniform fund.
18. Begin a "Citizenship" Project in cooperation with the Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security by enlisting volunteers to give American History classes at local churches, schools and community colleges to help lawful permanent residents studying for their American history examination required for naturalization. (Mike Rees, Tom Mudd, Tillman Daniels)
19. Continue to visit the veterans who are in nursing homes. (George Easterling)
20. Working to locate archival records of our Chapter in the hands of past officers. (Jim Salisbury)
21. Continue the award-winning newsletter under the able leadership of Milt Wing.

Mike Rees asks the membership to volunteer to join or to head some committees associated with these projects or propose new projects to their liking by emailing him at mrees@lonestarlegal.org or by calling him at 800 244 5492 Extension 2526

State Conference
March 27-30, 2008
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Arlington
All Rooms are Suites, \$96 per night
Phone 817-394-5000

If you don't have a registration form and do not have one, call Don Pugh 979-265-6463
Those on the internet will receive a form by separate email