



The Cradle of Texas Crier

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33
Sons of the American Revolution



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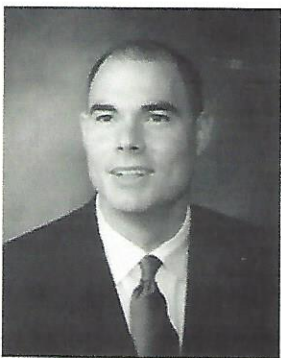
Dr, Don Pugh, Editor

A Celebration of Citizenship and Heroism

State Representative Dennis Bonnen to Speak

The Cradle of Texas Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will have their regular meeting at the On the River Restaurant in Freeport, Texas on Saturday, October 9, 2004 at 11:30 a.m. This will feature several awards and recognitions and the regular speaker, State Representative Dennis Bonnen who will feature Public Service in his address.

Representative Dennis Bonnen represents the 25th Legislative District in the Texas House of Representatives, which includes most of the southern area of Brazoria County. Elected to the Legislature in 1996, he is now in his fourth term of office.



Bonnen serves as Chairman of the Environmental Regulation Committee, where he has the tremendous responsibility of overseeing both state environmental issues and

implementation of the Federal Clear Air Act in Texas.

Bonnen also serves on the Insurance Committee of the House where he brings specialized knowledge as a licensed insurance agent. He was very active in the passage of the homeowners' insurance reform legislation during the last session. During the interim, he served on the Select Committee on Public School Finance, which took a comprehensive look at our public school system.

In Brazoria County, he serves on the Board of Directors for Junior Achievement, the Advisory Boards for Youth & Family Counseling and the Salvation Army. He is an active supporter of many community programs including the Boys and Girls Club, BACH, Boy Scouts and

Girl Scouts. He is a charter member of the Angleton Exchange Club and the Brazoria Heritage Foundation.

Bonnen graduated from Angleton High School and *cum laude* from St. Edwards University in Austin where he was honored with an Alumni Achievement Award in 2000. He is a senior vice president for business development for First Community Bank. He is married to Kim Martin Bonnen, an attorney practicing in Houston. The Bonnens make their home in Angleton with their son Jackson.

Several medals and certificates will be presented to members of the community for their outstanding work and heroism. Justin Senkyrik, son of Daniel and Leann Senkyrik, will be presented the SAR Heroism medal for his acts in saving a fellow scout from drowning at their last summer's camp. Chief Sheriff's Deputy and Sheriff to be in Brazoria County, Charles Wagner will be presented the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal for his long and effective service to Brazoria County, and former Brazoria Fire Chief Marvin Setzer will be presented the Fire Safety Commendation Medal for his long service in fire safety in the county and his home city. In addition there will be a Bronze Good Citizenship medal presented.

It is important that our members make a special effort to attend this meeting to show our appreciation to these honored guests and their families. If you need directions please contact President Faulkner at 979-265-9525.

Minutes September 11 Meeting

The Cradle of Texas Chapter #33, Sons of the American Revolution met at "Columbia Lakes" near West Columbia, Texas on Saturday, September 11, 2004, at 11:30 A.M. . There were 20 SAR Cradle of Texas Chapter members present. The DAR members and wives of members present were Sue Dart, Dorothy Salisbury,

Frances Faulkner, Elizabeth Melton, Jerry Singletary, Earlene Pugh, Kathy Beard, Janice Seidule, Coryne Choate, Lee Slonek and Mary Sechrest. The SAR members present were: Russell Dart, John Salisbury, Luther Singletary, George Easterling, Don Pugh, Greg Beard, Arnold Seidule, Clell Sechrest, Mike Rees, C. R. Faulkner, Tillman Daniel, Roger Byler, Thomas Mayerle, Albert Herreth, John Beard, Robert Beard, and Julian Taylor III.

Other guests and prospective members were Alton Rogers, Donald Mudd, Kay Mudd, Ladene Rogers, Murl Hoffpauir, and Dottie Hoffpauir.

President Bob Faulkner called the meeting to order. Roger Byler gave the Invocation. Tillman Daniel led pledges to the Flags and SAR, then the Chapter recessed for lunch.

After lunch the members of the SAR, DAR, guests and prospective members were introduced, each giving the name of their revolutionary ancestor(s).

President Faulkner reminded us of importance of September 11, 2001. He read an allegory of the terrorists to mosquitoes. President Faulkner commemorated the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America on September 17, 1787, and Constitution week throughout our country.

Tillman Daniel introduced the speaker, Dortha Pekar who gave a wonderful soliloquy as Dr. Sophie Herzog, a pioneer physician of Brazoria County. She was assisted by her twin sister, Billye Riggs Downing.

Arnold Seidule and Luther Singletary were presented certificates for supplementary ancestors; George Easterling introduced a new member, Gregory S. Beard, who was inducted and given an SAR membership certificate and rosette.

Instructions were given to access the TSSAR Archives, which needs documentations for Volume II of the Archives, as were biography information forms for completion and mailing.

Registration forms were given for the November Board of Managers' Meeting in Galveston, and the SAR Ladies' Auxiliary handed out membership applications.

A call was made for volunteers to encourage schools to promote the Oration, Essay and Poster Contests. Russell Dart discussed the 4th and 5th grade poster contests, broaching the idea that the Chapter give some savings bonds and prize(s).

The membership had an opportunity to view the exhibit prepared by Compatriot Arnold Seidule and later was introduced to the idea of submitting Arnold Seidule's SAR exhibit in a booth at the Brazoria County Fair and at the Brazos Mall.

George Easterling discussed SAR members visits to convalescent homes in the County to honor our veterans. He called for volunteers to visit veterans Wednesday the 15th of September at Cypress Woods Convalescent Center in Angleton. Officers and committee heads then made reports and comments. Arnold Seidule publicized the Alexander Hodge Gala to be held on the 28th of September

Don Pugh discussed the October 23 event in Montgomery, Texas, a grave marking of Zachariah Landrum, a Revolutionary Patriot. Russell Dart called for help at local high schools in publicizing the oration, essay and poster contests.

The minutes of the previous meeting and the financial statement as published in the last Crier were approved.

President Faulkner made a closing statement. He discussed the history of the "Star Spangled Banner" written by Francis Scott Key, yet waving over Fort McHenry; the Chapter then sang "God Bless America."

Comments were made by Roger Byler and Mary Sechrest. Attention was brought to the Battle of 1812 documentary to be presented on the History Channel on the next Sunday. Clell Sechrest talked about "First Responder's Day". President Faulkner brought our attention to Patriot's Day.

Tillman Daniel announced the next meeting to be held on October 9, 2004, "On the River" in Freeport, at which Texas State Representative Dennis Bonnen will be the guest speaker.

A Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion passed.

President Faulkner led the membership in the SAR closing. Chaplain Roger Byler led the membership in the Benediction. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

President's Corner

October is the month when the 2005 dues statements will be sent out. I encourage each of you to promptly mail your dues as soon as possible. I also encourage you to include an additional contribution for the Patriot's Fund and for Preserving America's Heritage Project. Both funds are greatly in need of additional funds to continue the goals of the Sons of the American Revolution.

October is not only the month when Columbus discovered America, but October 19th is when the victory at Yorktown took place ending the American Revolution. At the end of August General George Washington began moving his allied American and French forces from New York to Virginia. By the end of September, Washington's army of 17,600 had surrounded Cornwallis' 8,300 troops and laid siege to Yorktown leading to the surrender of Cornwallis on October 19, 1781. Upon hearing of their defeat, British Prime Minister Frederick Lord North is reputed to have said, "Oh God, it's all over." And it was. The Allied victory at Yorktown effectively ended the war.

I want to encourage as many of our members as possible to attend our meeting this month. Our speaker is Dennis Bonnen, the state representative for our area and there will also be several awards presented to prominent people from our area.

Yorktown, October 19

The Battle of Yorktown began after the Battle of Guilford Court House on March 15, 1781. At that time, British General Cornwallis moved his battered army to the North Carolina coast, then disobeying orders from General Clinton to protect the British position in the Carolinas, he marched north to Virginia and took command from Loyalist (Tory) General Benedict Arnold. During this same time Washington was planning to attack New York, with the help of the French.

Washington sent his French aide, the Marquis de Lafayette, to Virginia in the spring of 1781 with a few Continental troops, and these were reinforced from time to time until in June when Cornwallis pulled back down the Yorktown Peninsula. Henry Clinton told Cornwallis to send all his men to New York to help attack Philadelphia. However, Cornwallis kept all of his troops, which was about 7,500, and began fortifying Yorktown and Gloucester, across the York River.



Within five days Washington's plans were abandoned and Washington and French General Rochambeau with 2,500 Continental and 4,000 French troops started their march to Philadelphia when Clinton realized they hadn't planned on attacking New York. Admiral de Grasse with the French fleet arrived at the Chesapeake Bay on August 30, and the British fleet from New York arrived off the bay on September 5.

Following this was a decisive naval battle with the French navy driving off the British fleet. After waiting a few days while the British admirals Graves and Hood went back to New York, Cornwallis was then besieged by a Franco-American force of 16,000 troops. Back in New York the British admirals were deciding on how and when to rescue Cornwallis. Then on October 17th a British fleet finally set out of New York to rescue Cornwallis, but it was too late. Cornwallis was outnumbered, outgunned and was running out of food. He surrendered his army of 7,157 on October 19, 1781.

The surrender of Yorktown ended the fighting in the War for American Independence in the Americas except for some minor fights in the south. But other battles still went on overseas.

Losses on both sides were light: British and Hessian 156 killed and 326 wounded; French, 52 killed and 134 wounded; American, 20 killed and 56 wounded.

Board of Managers Meet

November 5 – 7 Galveston, Texas

Since the Board of Managers meeting in November is so close to all of us, the officers of the chapter are strongly encouraging all of our members that can, attend some or all of the meeting in Galveston. Please go to the TXSSAR Website, <http://www.txssar.org> where you can find a copy or the registration form to download, fill out and send it with your money to the person listed.

To attend one of our TXSSAR meeting will provide each of our members with a better understanding of how the Society works. Also the camaraderie of our fellow compatriots is very refreshing. See you there.

Seidule, Pugh attend SAR Trustees Meet

Past Presidents Arnold Seidule and Don Pugh attended the Sons of the American Revolution Trustees Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky September 23-25, 2004. Seidule in his new role as the chairman of the Patriot Fund Committee was interested in getting ideas how to increase the corpus of the Patriot Fund. There is an article in this newsletter concerning the work of the TXSSAR Patriot's Fund.

Don Pugh's responsibility to be there was that he has been appointed to serve on the National Rumbaugh Committee, the committee that develops and oversees the Oratorical Contests in the various States and conducts the National Oratorical contest in conjunction with the annual Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution.

The trip provided both an opportunity to visit the National Headquarters and to see the proposed location of the new Center for the Advancement of America's Heritage which will be located across the street from the present headquarters building. Both Seidule and Pugh attended other committee meetings also.

Other Texas representatives included current State President Roy Adams, Treasurer General Nathan White, Genealogist General Edward Butler, State President Elect James Heath, Past President and Trustee Dick Robinett, and Robert Truitt, alternate trustee.

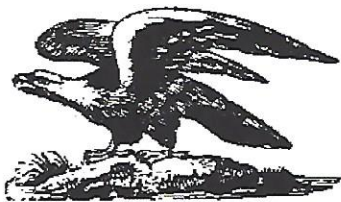
There were several amendments to the By-Laws approved for publication and vote at the next Congress.

The Patriot's Fund

There are two calls for gifts to the Sons of the American Revolution that are being pressed at this time: The building fund for the Center for Advancing America's Heritage from the National Society, and the Patriot's Fund from the Texas Society. This article will provide you information about the Patriot's Fund.

The Patriot's Fund is a Trust Fund maintained by the Texas Society to fund all of the Youth and Patriotic Programs that are conducted by the society. Income from the interest on the fund is used to carry on all of these programs. Since we all know that interest rates have been at an all time low that most of us can remember, the money in the fund is not able to meet the needs to satisfactorily fund the programs that we conduct. Some of the programs that derive all of their funds from the Patriot Fund are the Rumbaugh Oration Contest, the Essay Contest, the Eagle Scout Award Contest, the JROTC Awards program, the public school Teacher Americanism Award, the Elementary School Poster Contest, and many others. These funds provide the prize money, some travel stipends to the National Contest, Medals, awards of various kinds. Many of us believe that these programs are one of the main reasons that we are in business.

This time of year is a good time to make a substantial gift to the corpus of this fund. This money will pay dividends in perpetuity to guarantee that programs like these will be available for students and teachers to promote the ideals of our Society. You can add an amount to your dues and the State Treasurer will take the excess and apply it the way that you designate – either to the Patriot's Fund or send it to the National Office for the Center for the Advancement of America's Heritage. These are tax deductible contributions if you so desire. Your gifts are particularly needed at this time.



Dues Notices

Our notices of dues should be in the mail within just a few days. We hope that you will promptly send in your dues. Our chapter exists almost exclusively on the \$9.50 which is the chapter portion of the dues that you pay. The State organization receives \$12.50 of your dues and the National Organization receives the remainder, \$25.00. All

of our chapter and State Officers serve on a volunteer basis, no salaries are paid from this amount. The National Organization has a small, paid, staff and in addition must run and maintain the National Office Building in Louisville, Kentucky.

If you are prompt to send your check immediately it saves the postage required to follow up on those that do not take care of this obligation promptly, and in addition puts extra pressure on your local officers to follow up on all those that are not current with their dues. Mark this on your calendar and take care of this obligation promptly.

FINANCIAL REPORT August 31, 2004

General Fund Balance July 31, 2004	\$1270.67
Income:	\$0.00
Disbursements:	
Stamps	\$37.00
Total Disbursements:	\$37.00
General Fund Balance August 31, 2004	\$1233.67

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