



The Cradle of Texas Crier

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 7, Number 5

September, 2004

Dr. Don Pugh, Editor

Dr. Sofie Herzog Lives Again!

Dortha Pekar Portrays Famous Local Doctor

The Cradle of Texas Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will have their regular meeting in the Savannah Room at the Columbia Lakes Conference Center in West Columbia on Saturday, September 11 at 11:30 a.m. The principal speaker will be Dortha Pekar of Sweeny, Texas who will portray the historical local Railroad Surgeon, Dr. Sophie Herzog.

Dr. Sofie Herzog, who was born in Vienna on February 4, 1846 was married to a doctor Moritz Herzog in Vienna and gave birth to 15 children before she left Vienna to come to the United States. After Moritz died Sofie came to Brazoria about 1895 and developed a reputation for removing bullets from patients and wearing the bullets as a necklace around her neck. Through the story telling of Pekar, Dr. Sofie will come to life at our monthly meeting.

To get to the Columbia Lakes Conference Center from the Houston area, you turn off of Highway 288 onto Highway 35 at Angleton toward West Columbia. Just before you get to West Columbia you will see a large sign on the right side of the road. Turn right and continue until you see the gates of Columbia Lakes. Follow the road around the golf course until you get to the main building. The meeting will be held in the Conference Center.

The meal will be a buffet for \$15 per person which includes the meal, beverage, dessert and gratuity. There will be no ordering from the menu. This is a lovely site for our meeting.

Minutes May 8 Meeting

The Cradle of Texas Chapter, Sons of American Revolution met at Columbia Lakes Country Club May 8, 2004. The meeting was called to order by President Bob

Faulkner at 11.37 AM. The invocation was given by Chaplain Roger Byerly. The pledges were recited to the United States and Texas flags and the SAR led by Vice President Dr. Tillman Daniel. President Faulkner had all members and guests introduce themselves and give their ancestor's name. Members present were Russell Dart, George Easterling, C.R. Faulkner, Tillman Daniel, Roger Byler, Don Pugh, Clell Sechrest, Arnold Seidule and Julian Taylor III.

DAR ladies present were Sue Dart, Frances Faulkner, Janice Seidule and Earlene Pugh.

Guests were Murl and Dottie Hoffpauir, Beverly Cowen, Anton Rogers and Donald Mudd.

President Faulkner asked for approval of the minutes and the financial report as they appeared in the Newsletter. Both reports were approved.

The meeting recessed for lunch.

President Faulkner announced the upcoming patriotic holidays. Memorial Day originally called Decoration Day will be on May 30, 2004. President Faulkner remarked that Memorial Day is much more than a three day weekend that marks the beginning of summer. To many people, especially the nation's thousands of combat veterans, this day, which has a history stretching back all the way to the Civil War is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service.

Before our next meeting we have two other patriotic holidays to remember - Flag Day on June 14 and Independence Day on July 4.

Arnold Seidule announced there would be a joint Memorial Day Celebration with the VFW chapter in Lake Jackson on May 29th. He also asked for members to join him at the Lake Jackson city council meeting on May 17 when a proclamation for the World War II veterans will be read.

President Faulkner introduced Don Pugh, former chapter President, to give the program entitled "How to Double the Size of the Chapter in One Year: or Slaying the Dragons of Document Preparation".

Dr. Pugh had several suggestions on ways to increase our membership. He said that we should start at home, make a list of all of your children and grandchildren, then list all of your siblings and their children and grandchildren and identify all of the siblings of your father or mother that are in your line for the SAR and list their children and grandchildren. Schedule an appointment to talk to one of the prospects.

He said that you might want to review the objectives of the Society before the meeting so you will be prepared to present the reasons that you are a member. He gave tips on filling out the application and stated that we have computer programs located in all areas of our chapter to assist in the document preparation. The program had many informative tips and was very well received.

Arnold Seidule presented Dr. Don W. Pugh with the Meritorious Service Medal for all the service he has performed for the chapter and for the State Society.

Russell Dart announced that George Easterling will be presenting the Certificate for winning the State Oration contest to Michelle Nguyen at the Awards Ceremony for the Pearland High School on May 17, 2004.

Don Pugh announced that we are almost to \$100.00 threshold to receive a check from Kroger share card. He distributed several more cards at the meeting.

President Faulkner made an announcement concerning the American Revolutionary Uniforms and offered a price list to anyone interested. Arnold Seidule stated that we had one person with a uniform, another committed to buying a uniform and couple more that are interested.

Russell Dart gave the Treasurer's report that stated that we have \$1,270.67 in the bank.

Committee Reports: Arnold Seidule that he hopes to have the display for SAR promotion ready by September. Don Pugh reported that he is working on designing a Chapter flag. Russell Dart reported that he had attended the Wharton High School JROTC award ceremony in April. He will be attending the Pearland High School JROTC award ceremony on May 18th. He is scheduled to present an award at the Alvin High School in the near future.

Tillman Daniel announced that he had not selected a site for our September meeting. This information will be published in our Newsletter.

President Faulkner's closing statement is as follows: "Our next meeting will be in September which is three months away, but several events will take place between now and then that are very important and I urge everyone who is able to attend. The first event is the 114th Annual Congress in Pittsburgh, PA at the Pittsburgh Hilton July 3 through July 7. Following the Annual Congress on July 10 will be the grave marking ceremony at the grave of Founding TXSSAR President, Ira Hobart Evans, in Berlin Corners, Vermont. Then on August 7-8 the next TXSSAR BOM meeting will be held at the Southfork Hotel in Plano, Texas. The final meeting this summer, before our local

Cradle of Texas meeting in September, will be the South Central District Meeting on August 27 & 28 at the Holiday Inn Select DFW South, 4440 Airport Freeway, Irving, Texas. This means that some of us will have a very busy schedule this summer. It is my wish that everyone has a wonderful, fulfilling and enjoyable time between now and our next meeting in September."

The SAR Closing Admonition was spoken by the members and the benediction was pronounced by Chaplain Byler.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.

President's Corner

This has been a very busy summer for my wife, and me but it has been wonderful and lots of fun. In May we left the last Cradle of Texas meeting at Columbia Lakes and headed for Odessa, Texas for the annual Daughters of the Republic of Texas Convention. After the convention, we visited the Big Bend National Park before returning home. It had changed a lot since the last time I visited the park in 1956. In June, I met with the auditor for TXSSAR in Austin about our tax returns and about ten days later with the TXSSAR audit committee in Dallas. Then on July 1, Frances and I headed for Pittsburgh, PA for the National Convention. The convention was very interesting; since it was the first national convention I have attended. The new national officers are as follows:

President General: Henry N. McCarl (MA)
Secretary General: Roland G. Downing (DE)
Treasurer General: Nathan E. White, Jr. (TX)
Registrar General: Bruce A. Wilcox (VA)
Historian General: Richard W. Sage (NJ)
Chancellor General: David N. Appleby (MO)
Chaplain General: H. Leroy Stewart (SC)
Genealogist General: Edward F. Butler (TX)
Librarian General: Richard Austin (VA)
Surgeon General: Dan Heller, M. D. (AZ)

Executive Committee Appointees

J. Philip London (DC)
Walter F. Baker (NM)
Raymond G. Musgrave (WV)
Larry J. Magerkurth (CA)
Ralph D. Nelson, Jr. (DE)

Vice Presidents General

These general officers serve as intermediaries between the national society and the state societies, grouped into fifteen Districts (geographic regions, two of which are outside the United States):

New England - David A. Hockensmith: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut

North Atlantic - Harry P. Folger, III: New York and New Jersey

Mid-Atlantic - Darryl S. Jeffries: Delaware, Maryland, The District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, and Virginia

South Atlantic - Renaldo J. Hamilton: North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida

Southern - Andrew M. Jones: Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana

Central - James D. Sympton: Ohio, Indiana, West Virginia, and Kentucky

Great Lakes - Richard A. Steele: Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin

North Central - John J. Scarpino: Minnesota, The Dakota Society, Iowa, and Nebraska

Inter-mountain - Eric D. Richhart: Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming

Pacific - John C. Ellingson, Sr.: Washington, Oregon, and Alaska

South Central - Peter V. Keltch: Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas

Rocky Mountain - Frank C. O'Bannon, Jr.: Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico

Western, Garrett F. Jackson: California, Nevada, and Hawaii

Europe - TBA: United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, Germany, and the remainder of the Continent of Europe

International - Douglas H. Stansberry: all territory outside of the other districts.

Texas received more awards than any other state. The only disappointment was that Michael Nguyen did not win the oration contest. She did make it to the top six finalists, but did not place in the finals. I thought she had the best topic and gave the best speech, but I guess I was prejudiced, since she represented our chapter and state society.

There were quite a few By-Law changes made at the convention. If you are interested in what the changes involved, they can be found on the National Sons of the American Revolution web page. There was lots of discussion over the changes that took up quite a bit of the convention time. Mostly about wording, not the actual changes, but it turned out well. I was a member of the

color guard at the memorial service, the opening and closing ceremonies and the banquets. It was fun.

After the convention, we went to Vermont for the Grave marking ceremony for our Texas SAR founder, Major Ira Hobart Evans. More than 80 people including about 30 Texans as well as 5 of Evans' descendants attended the ceremony. Prior to the Memorial and Grave Marking Ceremony, which took place at 2:00 pm on Saturday July; 10, 2004, we met for lunch at Sean and Nora's Restaurant in Barre, Vermont. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed every minute we were there. Those from Texas who attended the luncheon are as follows: Judge Nathan E. White & Wanda, Treasurer General NSSAR; Judge Edward F. Butler & Robin, Genealogist General NSSAR; Richard L. Robinett & Jo Ann, Former State President TXSSAR; C. Robert Faulkner & Frances, State Treasurer TXSSAR; Thomas B. Green III, Staff Secretary TXSSAR; Michael J. Radcliff & Carol, Inland Registrar TXSSAR; Clifford V. Slagle & Henrietta, Former State Treasurer TXSSAR; Dr. James J. Johnson & Dr. Mary Lynn, Former Historian TXSSAR; Cannon H. Pritchard, Historian, former President Piney Woods Chapter, TXSSAR; Peter Rowley & Sandi Craig, President, Plano Chapter, TXSSAR

After the Memorial and Grave Marking Ceremony, Frances and I drove up to Montreal and then toured the back roads of Vermont. On our way home we stopped at Valley Forge and Gettysburg. Then we toured the Shenandoah Valley and continued home through Virginia, Tennessee and Arkansas, a total of 5100 miles. It was Great! As State Treasurer I will be attending the State BOM meeting in Plano, August 6-8 and the Central District Meeting in Irving, August 27-29. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our next chapter meeting on September 11.

Salute to Founder of TXSSAR

Following the National Congress in Pittsburgh in July about 30 members of the Texas Society and other guests from the National Society traveled to Berlin Corners Cemetery in Vermont to mark the grave and honor the founder and first President of the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution, Major Ira Hobart Evans.

Two of our chapter members, Compatriot Tom Green and President Bob Faulkner were among those that attended the ceremony that honored Major Evans who founded the Texas Society 108 years ago in Galveston, Texas.

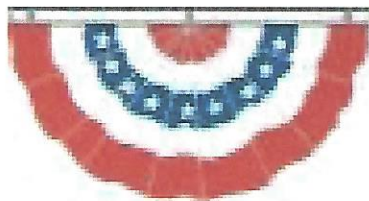
Major Evans, who was part of the Union Army group that occupied Galveston after the hostilities of the Civil War, later became the youngest Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Texas Legislature, and during his army service was awarded the Congressional Medal of

Honor, the only person in the TXSSAR to have ever earned this high award. Evans died in 1922 in California where he had moved for his health and later was interred in the family cemetery in Berlin Corners, Vermont. This program was the culmination of a long search by Compatriot Tom Pritchard who did some real detective work to find the grave of Hobart Evans.

Another Summer Travel Story

On May 29 Compatriots George Easterling and his grandson, Ryan Thornton and Don Pugh and his wife, Earlene, debarked from Seattle, Washington on a 7 day cruise to Alaska on the Holland America Ship, the Oosterdam. Since May 29 was the special day that had been set aside by the SAR and the American Legion to honor all veterans and celebrate the dedication of the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., a letter was written to the President of the Holland America Cruise Lines calling his attention to the special day and suggesting that the ship might want to take part in this particular patriotic celebration. About a week later a telephone call was received from an executive of the Holland America Lines, who was a retired Captain in the U. S. Coast Guard, and a veteran of the Korean Conflict. He confirmed that the recognition was a very good idea, and suggested that since the May 29 date was "sail-away day" it may not be a good time for the special recognition, however, he stated instead there would be a special recognition on Memorial Day which followed only two days later. He further said that he was going to convey this to other ships in their fleet to do the same.

On Memorial Day a special memorial service was held on the ship in one of the larger lounge rooms by the Ships Chaplain. This was a very fitting service which included a scripture reading, prayers and hymns and a time for sharing by members of the audience. Immediately following this in the same space was a special program conducted by the Cruise Director for which he contributed several reading suggested by his father, and then he opened it up with an "open mike" for anyone that wanted to participate. This was a very moving program. It was fairly well attended and many of the audiences who were veterans, or family of veterans, contributed to the occasion. Compatriot Easterling contributed to both programs.



Constitution Day September 17

September 17 is the date that the United States celebrates the ratification of the Constitution. This document, one of the most powerful and unique documents in the history of the world, is a statement regulating the powers of the various arms of government and is based on giving to the people of the various States the majority of the power of government. This is a good date to re-read this powerful document and enjoy again the freedom that it gives each one of us.

FINANCIAL REPORT June 30, 2004

General Fund Balance May 31, 2004	\$1270.67
Income:	\$0.00
Disbursements:	\$0.00
General Fund Balance June 30, 2004	\$1270.67

Cradle of Texas Officers for 2004

President -- -- Bob Faulkner - Ph. (979) 265-9525
Email address - cfaulkner3@houston.rr.com

Vice-President -- -- Dr. Tillman Daniel
Ph. (979) 245-6211 Email address - ftdan2@sbcglobal.net

Secretary -- -- Dr. Michael Rees -- Ph. (979) 848-2493
Email Address - mrrees@gclf.org

Treasurer -- -- Russell Dart - Ph. (713) 436-1039
Email address - rdart@houston.rr.com

Genealogist -- -- Harry Fitzgibbon -- Ph. 979 239-2222
Email address - harryfitzgibbon@mms.gov

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

Historian -- -- Maxwell Salisbury, Jr. - Ph. (979) 265-3579 - Email address - dsalisbury@brazosport.edu