



The Cradle of Texas Crier

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 11, Number 5

September, 2008

Mr Milt Wing, Editor

September Meeting in Lake Jackson

Michael Bailey to be Guest Speaker

Michael Bailey will be our guest speaker for the upcoming meeting of The Cradle of Texas SAR on September 13, 2008.

The meeting will be held at the Cactus Grill Restaurant in Lake Jackson. It is located just off of Hiway 332 in Lake Jackson immediately past Luby's in the strip center located there.

Michael Bailey is the Brazoria County Museum Curator. He holds the Bachelor's Degree in both Anthropology and History from Indiana State University. He previously attended the University of Maryland, Central Texas College and Fort Stellicom Community College in Tacoma, Washington. Prior to be appointed Curator of the local museum, he had served library positions at Pembina, North Dakota and Terre Haute, Indiana. He has also held curator positions at the Eugene V. Debs Museum, the Ernie Pyle Historical Site and the Pembina State Museum. He has received professional development certification in Collections Management and Exhibit Preparation. He is a member of the North Dakato, Brazosport and Houston Archaeological Association, the Jean Lafitte Society, the Texas Museum Society and the Texian Legacy Association. In October of 2006 he was the featured speaker at our monthly luncheon. His topic for this meeting will be "the rockets red glare" from Francis Scott Key's "Star Spangled Banner". This is fitting on the birth date of our nation's national anthem.

May Meeting Minutes

The Cradle of Texas Chapter #33, Sons of the American Revolution met at the Windswept Restaurant in

Oyster Creek on Saturday, May 10, 2008 at 11:30 a.m. The SAR members in attendance were Garvin Germany, Michael Rees, George Easterling, Russell Dart, Roger Byler, Arnold Seidule, Clell Sechrest, Don Pugh, Frank Seidule, W. Barton Griffith, Tillman Daniel, Donald Mudd, Jim Salisbury, Julian Taylor, Tim Hall and Milt Wing.

Guests present were Elizabeth Melton, Earlene Pugh, Kay Mudd, Janice Seidule, Coryne Choate, Sue Dart, Mary Nita Wing, Maurene Burkett, Mary Sechrest, Dorothy Salisbury, Deborah Cobbs, Ladene Rogers, Alton Rogers, Katherine Davis, and Darren Marin.

Vice-President Germany convened the meeting. The Color Guard, Russell Dart, Frank Seidule and Mike Rees, presented the colors. George Easterling led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag, Don Pugh led the pledge to the Texas Flag and Arnold Seidule then led the SAR pledge. Rev. Roger Byler gave the Invocation.

Lunch was served. After lunch, Milt Wing presented the SAR Law Enforcement Medal to Assistant Chief of Police Katherine Davis of the Angleton Police Department. Wing recognized Davis' accomplishments and rise to this position of authority in the department. Asst. Chief Davis shared with us the public education and outreach program that involves the community which leads to better community relations and police work as the public is encouraged to get involve.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as they appeared in the May newsletter.

There was no old business.

Under New Business, Russell Dart reported that our JROTC Medalist, Brittney Gordon from Alvin High School had been recognized as our winner and was presented at the State Convention. Russell also explained a Share program being run by Krogers Grocery that will allow a % donation to go to a local organization. It was motion was made and adopted that our Chapter be involved in this program.

Jim Salisbury explained about a trip that will allow WWII vets to travel to Washington, DC for a day. Dow in Midland has sponsored such a trip and a future trip is being planned by the Texas Dow group.

Don Pugh reported that Veteran's Day Celebration will be at the Lake Jackson Civic Center this year and he will preside. More plans will be forthcoming at our next meeting.

Mike Rees, our president then asked Garvin Germany to introduce our speaker, Darren Marin. Darrin was from Family Tree DNA, a company pioneering DNA testing for genetic purposes. Many genealogical societies are asking their members to participate in a yDNA project to help others in that family to trace their heritage back to a common ancestor. Darren gave a good technical presentation as to what is involved and how these projects can re-inforce paper trails and fill in gaps as well as tie various branches of families together. He recommended that persons who have a scarcity of information be candidates for testing. If you have a good paper trail and an established genealogy then DNA testing might hold some unwelcome surprises. These unwelcome surprises are classed as NPEs (non-parental events) which means a break in the biological chain. The talk was well received and Darren answered many interesting questions.

The colors were retired by the color guard. Chaplain Roger Byler then gave the Benediction. President Mike Rees declared the meeting adjourned.

Report of Summer Board of Managers Meeting in Tyler, Texas, Aug. 1-3.

By: Don Pugh

The Cradle of Texas Chapter was well represented at the Board of Managers Meeting held in Tyler, Texas on August 1-3 at the Holiday Select Hotel. Russell Dart served in the color guard and also serves as chair of the Awards section of the Contest Medals and Awards Committee and also serves on the Finance Committee. He was recently appointed as Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee. Russell was accompanied by his wife, Sue. Judge Garvin Germany and his wife, Joyce also attended and he was an active participant in the President's Council meeting and serves also on the JROTC Subcommittee of the Contest Medals and Awards Committee. Arnold Seidule and his wife, Janice were in attendance. Arnold serves as Chairman of the Patriot Fund Projects Committee. Dr. Don Pugh and his wife, Earlene also attended where Don serves as TXSSAR Staff Secretary, and serves on several other committees.

This was one of the more productive meetings in several years. This year for the first time all Officer Reports were submitted in writing in advance. These were

sent to all committee members, officers and Chapter presidents by e-mail prior to the meeting. These reports will eventually reside on the internet at <http://www.txssar.org>. This left more time for the actions of the committees and they responded with a very busy agenda. The reports of their meetings will be published also and distributed to the persons listed above as well as the website.

There were several actions taken at the meeting. There had been some discussion about only having one Board of Managers Meeting annually and the State Convention but by common consent the number of meetings will continue to be two Board of Manager Meetings and one State Convention annually. There is a new committee, The Patriot Fund Endowment Committee, that has been formed to endeavor to raise one million dollars to endow the Patriot Fund to provide better prizes and handle the expenses of the Student Contest and Scholarships. This committee is set to assist chapters to conduct fundraising for their chapter purposes as well as contacting various foundations to get gifts for this purpose.

The TXSSAR is concentrating on using the internet and the website to better advantage for the membership. One way is to begin using the website to distribute the quarterly publication, The Compatriot. This will be done gradually as it can be implemented. This will save the State Society several thousand dollars each year that can be used for other purposes. Also the State Society has offered to host the websites for each chapter at no charge. Our chapter is looking to it according to our webmaster, Arnold Seidule.

The next Board of Managers Meeting will be held in Temple October 24-26 and the registration forms and hotel information is on the website under the tab, TXSSAR Events. The Cradle of Texas Chapter is preparing to host this meeting next August. More about this later.

President's Corner

By Mike Rees

Call To Action: Three steps to success in our SAR contests.

We are beginning a new fiscal year.

Deadlines for the Rumbaugh Oratorical, Knight Essay and Outstanding American History Teacher Contest are the end of December.

The Texas Society and our Chapter need your help.

I am mailing letters with packets with letter size posters on each of these three contests to superintendents of local independent School Districts.

I am asking each of you: 1. to contact the superintendent of the independent School District where you live to identify a faculty contact person for each of the three contests. 2. to follow through by personal phone call or meeting to make sure that the faculty contact has received the packet that applies to them, 3. to make sure that the posters for each of the three contests gets posted on student and faculty bulletin boards.

It is my experience that unless: 1. the superintendent approves by designating a responsible faculty contact, 2. an SAR member contact the local responsible faculty member, and 3. an SAR member voting in the school district makes sure that the posters are posted on bulletin boards for the students to see, the packets get lost between bureaucratic cracks.

As local *liaison* with your ISD you have the power to influence action: 1. to have your superintendent identify a responsible faculty member, 2. to make sure these packets get into the hands of a responsible local faculty member, 3. to make sure the contests are publicized by posting of the posters on student and faculty bulletin boards.

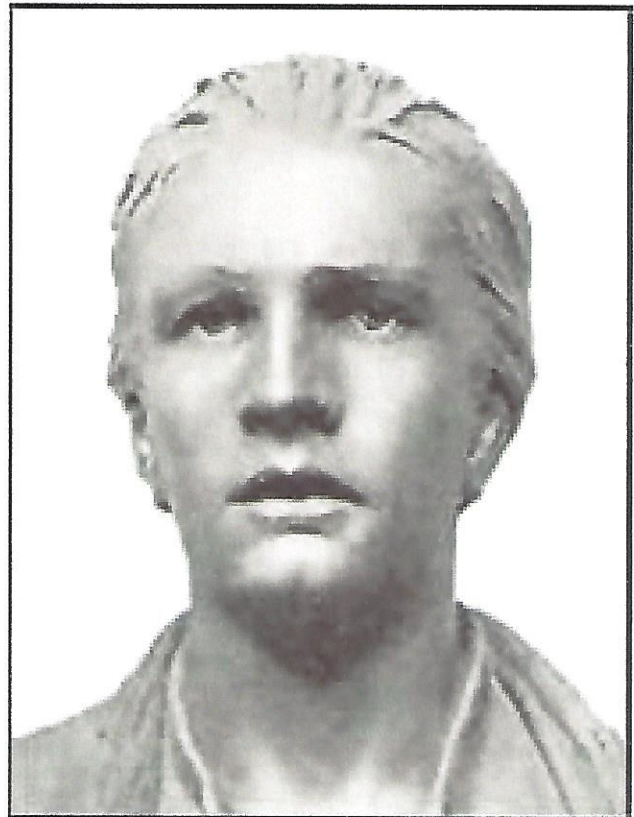
After I have mailed the packets with information about the three contests next week I will be calling each of you to ask you to do these three steps.

Please feel free to communicate with me about this request at 800 244 5492 ext. 2526 or mrees@post.harvard.edu.

Thank you, Mike Rees.



September 13 is the Birth of our National Anthem, proudly salute the flag.



Nathan Hale—"But One life To Lose...."

On September 21, 1776 was captured and on the next day was executed without a trial. His last words were "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country". These timeless words have echoed down the centuries.

Nathan Hale graduated from Yale in 1773. He excelled in sports and for a time taught school in Connecticut. He enlisted in the Continental Army of July 1, 1775, a year before independence was declared. The war went badly for the Continental Army at this time. Washington suffered a crushing defeat on Long Island and realized that better intelligence was imperative if the British were to be defeated. The officers of Knowlton's Rangers were asked to volunteer for spying behind British lines, none answered, and a second call was made, only Nathan Hale stepped forward.

He set out from Norwalk, Connecticut dressed in a plain suit of brown clothes, with a broad brimmed hat, and assumed the role of a Dutch school master. He went over to New York by ferry boat and made notes of the fortifications and began his return to the American lines. As he was about to pass the last of the British guard, his cousin Samuel Hale, a Harvard man and a Tory, stepped forward and pointed him out as a rebel sympathizer. The last guard stopped Nathan and drawings with Latin descriptions of the British fortifications were found upon him.

Upon being discovered, Hale gave his name, rank in the American army, and freely admitted that he had crossed the British line to spy upon them. Sir William Howe, without a trial, ordered him hanged the next morning. Hale asked for a clergyman but his jailer refused. He then asked for a Bible, again his jailer refused; the jailer was a hard man who believed in treating rebels harshly. In the morning he was allowed to write two letters, one to his favorite brother, Enoch, and one to his military commander, and then he was summoned to the gallows. From the gallows he addressed the spectators, It was, he said the duty of every good soldier to obey any order from his commander-in-chief. He urged the British soldiers gathered around him to be ready to meet death in whatever shape it may appear. His last words were: "I regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

Hale's letters were destroyed, but the next day, British Captain John Montresor approached the American lines under a flag of truce to report Hale's capture, demeanor and his final words from the gallows.

Important Dates

Chapter Meetings, September 13, 2008
TXSSAR Board of Managers, Temple, TX, October 24-26, 2008

Patriotic Days Reminders

These are some special days to fly your flag.

Constitution Day	Sept. 17th
Victory at Yorktown	Oct 19th

FINANCIAL REPORT

April 26, 2008

General Fund Balance April 26, 2008	\$3,026.69
Deposits Membership Dues (64)	\$644.00
Balance	\$3,670.69
Disbursement	\$72.81
Guest Meals \$36.81	
Refund Membership Dues \$36.00	
Balance August 22, 2008	\$3,597.88
Barbara McAlexander Fund	
Deposit- February 2007	\$1000.00
Disbursement	
SARUniformForRussell Dart (25%)	\$117.00
Balance McAlexander Fund	\$883.00
Total Bank Balance August 22, 2008	\$4,480.88

Officers of the Cradle of Texas Chapter #33

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

VicePresident---Judge Garvin Germany- Ph.(979) 849-4614 Email address ggermany@earth-comm.com

Secretary---Milt Wing, Ph. (979) 265-5351 Email address thetwowing@sbcbglobal.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

8 New Members to Be Inducted

A special event at our meeting this week will be the induction of one of the largest classes of new members in some time. We have eight new members slated for induction. They are:

Scott Leopold from Sweeny and West Columbia, whose ancestor is Jesse Ray.

Michael Bailey from Angleton, whose ancestor is Johnathan Pitts.

Two family groups are included as well: William Charles Sanders from Louise, his son, William Charles Sanders, Jr. and a grandson, William Turner Sanders from Cypress. Their ancestor is Matthias Brandenburg.

Arthur O. Evans, III from Wharton and his two sons, Arthur O. Evans, IV from Freeport
Lance B. Evans from Houston.
Their ancestor is Daniel Blodgett.

We welcome these members and wish them well in our chapter.