



Texas Sons of the American Revolution

## Cradle of Texas Crier

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33

[www.cradletxsar.org](http://www.cradletxsar.org)



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November 2020

Michael J. Bailey, Editor

### November

Next Meeting

10:30 a.m.

November 7, 2020

Virtual Meeting by Zoom

Contact Carl M Wiggins

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For Details.

**Program: Tom Jackson**



**REMEMBER THE LADIES:**

**ROLES OF WOMEN**

**IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

Tom Jackson is the Texas Trustee (2019-2021) to the SAR having previously served as Texas SAR President (2018-2019), President (2018-2019) of the Council of State Presidents at the National Level, Chair of the Host

Society of the 2018-2019 National SAR Congress, which was held in Houston.

He has been a member of the SAR since 2004. He has 12 proved patriots, proved a total of 41 for his son, and is a first line signer on over 40 SAR applications.

He is an avid amateur genealogist, belongs to over twenty other lineage societies, including SRT and First Families of Bexar County.

He is President (2020-2022) of the Sons of the Revolution in Texas and President-Elect (2020-2021) of the Texas Genealogical College.

Professionally he is a CPA, CGMA, and a CISA. Both his undergraduate and graduate studies were at The University of Texas at Austin. The majority of his career has been employed as a Chief Financial Officer of companies public and private. He is published in his two primary areas of study, including the textbook Theory and Practice. He has been an adjunct professor at Houston Baptist University, an instructor at the University of Texas at Austin and a national lecturer for the American Management Association and Conviser Miller in his two primary fields.

He is in his 31st year of elected public service and serving his 9<sup>th</sup> year as a Trustee with Cypress Fairbanks ISD. He was one of 42 trustees who served

the state of Texas. He has attained Master Trustee status, a distinction reserved for 3% of trustees. He has presented at state conventions on Pre-K education and Implications of Fast Growth.

He has three children and three grandchildren.

### Meeting Minutes

Sons of the American Revolution  
Cradle of Texas Chapter #33  
October 10, 2020

The Sons of the American Revolution met virtually October 10, 2020 via ZOOM.

**CALL TO ORDER** - President Rodney Weems called the meeting to order at 10:35 A.M.

**INVOCATION:** Bill Sanders

**PLEDGES** - Vice President Carl Wiggins led the pledges to the flags of the United States of America, Texas and the Sons of the American Revolution.

**Introduction of Guests:** Vice President Wiggins introduced Chris Kneupper, today's speaker. Mr. Kneupper is a retired chemical engineer, master naturalist, and longtime Brazoria resident. He is a member of the Brazosport Archaeological Society and the Sons of Texas.

**Program:** Chris Kneupper presented on the Chronological and Archaeological History of the Forts Velasco.

Mr. Kneupper gave a rather detailed account of the background history of the Velasco area relative to the forts established there and their significant role in Texas history. His complete talk is available online at

<https://velascohistoryarcheology.weebly.com>.

Briefly:

In 1828, General Teran led a boundary expedition to Texas, ostensibly to establish the East Texas border, secretly to evaluate the extent of Anglo invasion of Texas. He planned a fort and customs post at the mouth of the Brazos River, and appointed Jorge Fisher as customs agent. The fort/customs house was not built, and Fisher was later suspended, although he continued to plan for a customs post. In 1830, Fort Anahuac was established in NE Galveston Bay by Teran, as well as a customs post (no fort) at the Brazos. Attempts by ships 'Sabine' and 'Nelson' to evade customs resulted in "shots fired" -- the first anti-government battle in Texas. In 1832 the first fort was built in Velasco at the Brazos. It was manned by Col. Ugartechea, 100 soldiers and 17 artillery men from Fort Anahuac. It was a circular palisade fort with one 8-9 lb. cannon. On 26 October 1832, the schooner 'Brazoria', John Austin aboard, attempted to pass the fort. The Battle of Velasco ensued, and men were killed. The Mexicans surrendered when they ran out of ammunition. Issues later raised included the precise location of the original (Mexican) Fort Velasco, and the location of graves of those killed.

In 1835, Mexicans in the ship *Correo Mexicano* blockaded the Brazos. Texans in the *San Felipe* and the *Laura* with S. F. Austin aboard attacked and captured the *Correo Mexicano*, marking the first major event of the Texas Revolution. Between 1835-37, Velasco became the home port of the Texas Navy (ships the *ROT Independence* and the *ROT Invincible*). In 1836 a second Fort Velasco (Republic of Texas Battery) was built at the mouth of the Brazos. The Brown-Hoskins Hotel in Velasco became the first capitol of Texas (May-October, 1836). The Treaty of Velasco with Santa Ana was signed there. Thus, the Texas Revolution began and ended at Velasco.

During the Civil War, several forts were built at Velasco, on both sides of the mouth of the Brazos. In modern times (1960's-70's) plans were made for a reconstruction of the first Fort Velasco, which was never done. In 1980, a formal archeological survey of Velasco, Quintana, and Surfside placed the first fort location in Monument Square (which may be incorrect). In 1999, a German engineer's journal was discovered, which included a scale drawing of the original (Mexican) Fort Velasco and the town of Velasco. The fort was noted to be circular, 100 feet in diameter. Currently archeological work continues in the form of remote-sensing projects using ground-penetrating radar to locate the exact locations of these early forts and the graves from the battle of Velasco.

**Certificate of Appreciation:** President Weems, having previously mailed the Certificate expressed the Chapter's appreciation to Mr. Kneupper, and asked him to hold the Certificate to allow its recordation on the video of the Chapter's meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Bill Griffiths with second by Russell Dart. All approved.

**Awards Presentation:**

- 15-year Membership Certificate - Timothy E. Hall



**Treasurer's Report:**

For Nelson Leopold, Rodney Weems

**General Fund**

Beginning Balance	
9/01/2020	2837.06
Deposits -	
Interest	.05
Ending Balance: --	
9/30/2020	\$2837.11
Mc Alexander Fund <sup>(1)</sup>	
Beginning Balance	
9/01/2020	\$901.43
Deposits - Interest	.07
Ending Balance: --	
9/30/2020	<b>\$901.50</b>
Total Bank Balance -	
9/30/2020	<b>\$3,738.61</b>

**Reports of Officers and Committees:**

**Registrar:** Bill Sanders

- Applications Approved: 3
- Applications Awaiting National Approval: 3
- Applications Actively Working: 31
- Supplemental Applications Pending: 1

**Webmaster:** Carl Wiggins

**Chairman, Education/Community**

**Outreach:** Rodney Weems, no update to report.

**New Business:** None

**Old Business:** President Weems reported, relative to Article V of the constitution, the question of allowing the president to serve more than two years is moot, since a volunteer has stepped forward. There is need to proceed with a nominating committee for next year's officers.

**Members Present:** Rodney Weems, Carl Wiggins, Russell Dart, Win Avera, Bill Sanders, and Bill Griffiths

<sup>1</sup> Available for purchase of uniforms for SAR Color Guard Members

**Guests:** Chris Kneupper

**Next Chapter Meeting:** 10:30 A.M., November 7, 2020 via ZOOM. Guest speaker will be Past President, Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Tom Jackson presenting on "Remember the Ladies".

**SAR Recessional:** Vice President Carl Wiggins

**Benediction:** Bill Sanders

**Motion for Adjournment:** Motion by Winston Avera with second by Bill Griffiths. All approved.

### **Veteran's Day Flag Retirement**

November 11, 2020

Begins at 11:00 a.m. and will continue till closing of the event.

## **Remember Veterans Day**



**Willie and Joe  
By Bill Mauldin**



2020

### **Officers of the Cradle of Texas Chapter #33**

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