



Texas Sons of the American Revolution

Cradle of Texas Crier

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33

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Michael J. Bailey, Editor

April

Next Meeting

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33
Sons of the American Revolution

April 13 , 2024

11:30 a.m.

Wharton County Junior College
Board Room

911 Boling Highway
Wharton, TX 77488

Program

Active Shooter

Ben Guanajuato



The Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas
Leadership Command College



Class 87
2020



Biographical Summary

Ben Guanajuato

Wharton Police Department –
Lieutenant- Emergency Management
Coordinator

40 Years of Law Enforcement
Experience

Graduated from the Wharton County
Junior College Police Academy in 1983
1983 West Columbia Police Department
(8 Years.)

- Officer of the Year (1988) – Brazoria
County 100 Club

1991 Matagorda County Sheriff's
Department (3 Years.)

- Traffic Enforcement and Drug
Interdiction

- Field Training Officer (1991)

- Matagorda County Search and Rescue
Team (1992 Dive Team)

1994 Wharton Police Department (30
Years.)

- Patrol Sergeant (16 Years)

- Patrol Lieutenant (7 years)

- SWAT Certified (2002)

- Emergency Response Team
Commander (6 Years ERT)

- Emergency Response Team (18 Years.
ERT) (10 Years. Team Leader)

- Field Training Officer (1994)

- ALERRT Training (Active Shooter)
(2002, 2010 & 2013, 2022, 2023)

- Less Than Lethal Instructor (2006)

- Defensive Tactics Certification

- Swift Water Rescue (1995)

- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Certification (1995)
- Advanced Accident Investigation Certification
- Management/Supervision Training
 - Crisis Communications Training
 - FEMA Advance ICS Command Training (2009)
- Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate – (1987 TCLOSE)
- Advanced Peace Officer Certificate – (1992 TCLOSE)
- Master Peace Officer Certificate – (2002 TCLOSE)
- Officer of the Year (2006) – Wharton County 100 Club
- Child Passenger Safety Technician (Certified 2016)
- Court Security Officer Certification (2018)
 - LEMIT (Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas) 2020, Class of 87
- Employee of the Year 1996, 2017, 2019, 2020 & 2021
 - Basic Instructor Certification (2019)
 - Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events Train-the Trainer (2019)
 - FBI- LEEDA (FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association) 2021
- Emergency Management Coordinator (1/2022)
 - ALERRT Level I Train-the Trainer (2023)
 - Law Enforcement Commendation Medal (SAR 2023)
- Department Head of the Year (2023)
 - School Safety Response Train-the Trainer (2024)

David Hayward will receive a Good Citizenship Award this Saturday.

David Hayward graduated from Weimar High in '85. Graduated from SWTSU in '91 with a BS in Ag. Production. Taught high school science and Ag. for one year and then took a job as ranch manager and biologist of the Que Pasa Ranch in Anderson, Texas in 1993. We received the Lone Star Land Steward Award from Tx. Parks and Wildlife in 1997 for the Post Oak Savannah ecoregion of Texas, as well as numerous forage awards over the years. When starting the management program, the average weight of the bucks was 160-pound live weight and 125 inches of antler. When I left, the weights were averaging 200 pounds and the antlers averaging over 160 inches, with the ranch record being 229 inches. In 2008 I left the *Que Pasa* to be the biologist and manager for a ranch in Columbus.

In 2011 I walked back into the classroom at a residential treatment facility for emotionally disturbed youth, as a Special Education teacher. After that year, I spent 3 years teaching 5th grade math and science for Columbus Elementary during which time I earned my Masters in Educational Leadership. I then accepted a position as Elementary Principal with Moulton ISD in 2015. While at Moulton ISD I earned my Superintendent certification through Sol Ross University, which led to my next career change into the superintendent and principal of Damon ISD. Damon ISD received a 49 for their academics and had a 72 in finance when I stepped into the role of superintendent, with no fund balance in the bank. The Texas Education

Agency began monitoring the district in 2019, with the intention of taking over in 2021. Covid helped us by giving us an extra year to correct the problems. In 2022 we scored an 86 for academics. In 2023 we were removed from all lists of schools being monitored for poor academics on the state and federal level, as well as a 94 in finance.”

Meeting Minutes Sons of the American Revolution Cradle of Texas Chapter #33 March 9, 2024

The Sons of the American Revolution met March 9, 2024, at Fat Grass Restaurant in Bay City, Texas. Chapter President Dr. William Griffiths called the meeting to order at 11:35 A.M. Chaplain Jim Leach delivered the invocation and blessing for the meal. Vice President David Garza led the Chapter in the U.S., Texas, and SAR pledges.

Introduction of Guests and Special Comments:

President Griffiths introduced Merle Hudgins, a research writer who focuses on the history of Wharton County, the Gulf Coast of Texas, and the state of Texas. She is also a trustee of Wharton County Junior College. She has written about topics such as the Boling Dome, the Civil War, and the Texas Historical Commission. She is widely known as “Wharton County’s Official Historian” by the Wharton County Commissioners Court. Ms. Hudgins is the wife of rancher and breeder of registered Brahma cattle, Compatriot Joe Hudgins. Ms. Hudgins introduced her

guest, Eric Trochta who is a neighboring rancher.

Compatriot Rodney Weems introduced Beau Johnson and her mother Lee Ann Johnson. Beau won our chapter’s Knight Essay contest.

Program: Ms. Hudgins talked about the origin of Brahma cattle in Texas.

The Brahma breed began with Zebu cattle, a type of humped cattle that originated in South and Southwest Asia. They are well adapted to hot and humid climates, and resistant to parasites and diseases. They were first brought to the United States from India, Brazil, and the United Kingdom in the mid-1800s. The first crossbreeding of zebu cattle with local cattle occurred in Texas in 1885, using four breeds of zebu cattle: Nelore, Gir, Guzerat, and Krishna Valley. J. D. Hudgins (1848 - 1928) played a pivotal role in the development of the Brahman cattle breed in the United States. Under his leadership, the J. D. Hudgins Ranch became renowned for its registered Gray Brahman cattle. The ranch, established by his family in 1882, continues to be a testament to his legacy, operating to this day and maintaining its reputation for quality Brahman cattle.

The Brahman cattle have two distinct types: the Red Brahman and the Gray Brahman, which differ in the breeds of Indian cattle. They have been exported to many countries and have been used to create many hybrid breeds, such as the Brangus and Santa Gertrudis.

Zebu and Brahman have had a significant impact on the beef industry in Texas and other parts of the United States. They have improved the productivity, profitability, and

sustainability of cattle ranching in harsh environments. They have also contributed to the genetic diversity and adaptability of cattle breeds.

The American Braham Breeders Association was begun in 1924 and celebrated its 100th anniversary this month.



President Griffiths presented Ms. Hudgins the SAR Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate for all she has contributed to Texas history.



Compatriot Rodney Weems presented the Knight Essay Medal, Certificate, and \$100 award to Beau Johnson for her winning essay about Deborah Sampson. Deborah dressed as a man in order to fight in the American Revolution. She was born in

Massachusetts in 1760 and enlisted in the 4th Massachusetts Regiment under the name Robert Shurtleff in 1782. She fought in several battles and was wounded twice, but managed to conceal her gender until she contracted a fever and was discovered by a doctor in 1783. She was honorably discharged and later married and had children.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

Registrar Garza reported that Kenneth Williams' application has been approved at National, but he is still waiting for certification to arrive.

Bill Sanders thanked Carl Wiggins for nominating him for DAR's Hannah White Arnett Award.

This award is a medal that the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) presented to Bill on February 10th. It is for a member of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) or Sons of the Revolution (S.R.) for their unselfish devotion, tireless efforts, and assistance to the DAR. The medal was created to promote the relationship between the SAR and S.R. and the DAR mission of historic preservation, education, and patriotism. Compatriot Wiggins recommended Bill to the Comfort Wood DAR chapter because of his attendance at chapter meetings in support of his Lady Compatriot wife, Pat. Using his skills as our SAR chapter registrar, he helped 25 Lady Compatriots successfully complete their applications for membership in the DAR. Bill completed 16 of those applications completely lacking only the applicants' signatures.

Community Outreach & Education Chairman Rodney Weems reported that Beau Johnson's Knight

Essay and Everett Humber's poster were submitted to TXSSAR for State competition.

Upcoming Events: Carl Wiggins reminded compatriots that March 18th is the deadline for booking discounted rooms for the annual TXSSAR Conference at the Doubletree Hotel in San Antonio.

SAR Recessional: Jim Leach

Adjournment: Bill Sanders moved to adjourn at 12:55. It was seconded by Rodney Weems and passed.

Benediction: Jim Leach

Attendance:

Members present were William Griffiths, Sandy Weems, David Garza, Bill Sanders, Carl Wiggins, Jim Leach, Rodney Weems, and Russell Dart.

Guests were Carroll Griffiths, Merle Hudgins, Connie Avera, Caroline Wiggins, Lee Ann Johnson, Beau Johnson, Sheryl Henderson, Eric Trochta.

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Wharton, TX 77488**



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