



Texas Sons of the American Revolution

Cradle of Texas Crier

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33

www.cradletxsar.org



Volume 25 Number 07

November 2024

Michael J. Bailey, Editor

November

Next Meeting

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33
Sons of the American Revolution

November 16, 2024

11:30 a.m.

Fat Grass

**1717 7th Street
Bay City, TX 77414**

William Sekel, Jr.

The Continental Marines.



A retired United States Marine Corps Sergeant Major, William Sekel also has ten years in law enforcement. He belongs to six SAR Chapters and is an officer of three of them. He is also SAR District 10 Vice-president. Sekel serves as the Texas Vice-President General Military Awards of the General Society of the War of 1812 and has an honorary membership in the Sons of the Republic of Texas.

MEETING MINUTES

Sons of the American
Revolution

Cradle of Texas Chapter #33

October 12, 2024

The Sons of the American Revolution met October 12, 2024, at Mikeska's BBQ in El Campo, Texas. Chapter President Dr. William Griffiths called the meeting to order at 11:40 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:

Special guests were the recipient of the SAR Life Saving Award Laura Staude and Guest Speaker Larry Janik.

Minutes: The minutes were approved on a motion by VP David Garza and a second by Chaplin Jim Lynch.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Chris Wendel reviewed the chapter finances as follows:

September 30, 2024 -

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| General Fund | \$2,858.30 |
| JROTC Awards Fund | 558.33 |
| McAlexander Fund for uniforms | 905.14 |

Awards: Ms. Laura Staude, Wharton County Sheriffs Officer, was presented the SAR Live Saving Medal and

Certificate in recognition for her assistance in resuscitating a Wharton County Emergency Medical Technician at his home. While on patrol she received a call to his home between Magnet and Lane City. She assisted his wife that was onsite until an EMT unit arrived.



Program:

Mr. Larry Janik, owner and operator of Janik Alligators, LLC (<https://janikalligators.com>) of El



Campo told fascinating stories about how he went from commercially hunting 10,000 - 12,000 feral hogs a year as a side business in addition to a fulltime job at Lyondell to developing his alligator

business. The business is subject to Texas Parks & Wildlife regulations. Mr. Janik has a license for nuisance control, egg collection in coastal marshes, and his operation is a certified alligator processing facility. He rents a helicopter service to search coastal marshes for alligator nests, document their locations via GPS, and reports them to TP&W before collecting the eggs and incubating them. Although he is required to pay \$65 for each nest reported, not all nest contain eggs. The incubation temperature determines the sex of the hatchlings; 90° yields males, 86° yields females. Alligators are raised to 4' lengths and sold to Louisiana farms to grow to 6' lengths. The hides are then sold to European buyers for making high-end alligator accessories and shoes. At his farm, Janik processes alligator meat for sale to restaurants as well as processing hides of larger alligators for taxidermy mounting. His farm is 20 acres including ponds containing 650 alligators that are enclosed with chain-link fences above and below ground because alligators live below ground. Above ground the lower fence is high and stretched tight. A second level is installed on top of the first but is loose and floppy. The top section is designed to throw the alligator off the fence. Cattle auction barns dispose of their dead animals by taking them to the Janik farm. Mr. Janik said that alligators will not eat a dead cow or horse until they have bloated and rotted, or their bellies have been split open. However, they ferociously go after dead hogs immediately.

Janik Alligators is primarily a family business with four (4) full-time

employees plus 30 skimmers during the season.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

Registrar Bill Sanders reported that five (5) supplemental applications are in Louisville, KY awaiting approval, and an additional four (4) applications are in progress. Carl Wiggins is working on one (1) more.

Webmaster Carl Wiggins updated the website's Americanism Awards page with new data.

Upcoming Events:

Veterans Day - November 11th

Other Business:

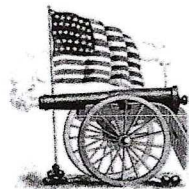
Eagle Scout Awards were earned by Trace Mathews, Nicholas Benavidez, Michael Roddy, and Camdyn Phillips of El Campo. Chris Wendel (L) and Chris Barbee (R) presented Eagle Scout Awards to Michael (L) and Camdyn (R).



SAR Recessional: VP David Garza

Adjournment: Chris Wendel moved to adjourn at 1:24 p.m. It was seconded by Jim Leach and passed.

Benediction: Jim Leach



Attendance:

Members present were William Griffiths, David Garza, Bill Sanders, Carl Wiggins, Jim Leach, Chris Wendel, Daniel Dittrich, Sandy Weems, Winston Avera.

Guests were Carroll Griffiths, Connie Avera, Elaine Dittrich, Larry Janik, Laura Staude and her companion.

THIS MONTH DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

In November of 1779 General George Washington picked Morristown, New Jersey as the winter encampment for the main part of his army. This is where Washington began the process of inoculation of soldiers and local civilians against small-pox.



1940 NPS Guide Book

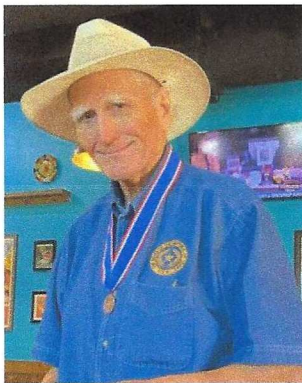
A reconstructed cabin similar to those used by Continental Soldiers while encamped in Morristown, New Jersey. Ten to twelve soldiers would sleep together in such buildings. There were around 1000 such huts.



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Bay City, TX 77414
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<https://www.thefatgrass.com>



**PLEASE REMEMBER THE FAMILY OF
 COMPATRIOT WILLIAM YATES**



MARCH 1, 1948 – OCTOBER 22, 2024

**Thanks to everyone who made
 the time to attend the memorial and
 burial ceremony. His family
 appreciated your compassion.**

www.palmsfuneralhome.com/obituaries/william-yates

**2024
 Officers of the
 Cradle of Texas Chapter #33**

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**Educational Programs and Community
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 Rodney Weems
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**Your attendance at this year's
 Veterans Day Parade was special to
 those who served and their families.**