



SAN JACINTO PATRIOT

Dedicated to the memory of those who fought at the Battle of San Jacinto

November 2009

Publisher – San Jacinto Chapter No. 1 of The Sons of the Republic of Texas

Monthly Luncheon Meeting Held the First Thursday of Every Month at Noon

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, November 5, 2009** at the **Post Oak Grill**, 1415 South Post Oak Lane, Houston, Texas at Noon. Many attendees arrive by 11:30; be there by 11:45 a.m. to ensure you get a good parking spot and a seat. The cost of lunch is **\$22.00**, payable at the door by cash or check. Parking is free in the garage - enter restaurant from the rear door in the garage.

About This Month's Guest Speaker:

Our Guest Speaker for the November luncheon meeting will be Mr. J.P. Bryan, who is a relative of Moses Austin and Stephen F. Austin. Mr. Bryan is a native of Houston and is CEO of Torch Energy Advisors. J.P. has served on the advisory board for the Brazoria County Historical Museum, and has held the position of Chairman of the Board of the Institute of Texan Cultures. Also, he has served as President for both the Texas Historical Foundation and Texas State Historical Association, and as a Commissioner for the Texas Historical Commission. He has written numerous articles and given speeches on various subjects, mainly pertaining to Texas history and its preservation. He is a well-known collector of Texana.

Upcoming Events and Items of Interest:

Dedication of the Texas Historic Cemetery Marker for Shiloh-McCutcheon Cemetery off F.M. 1660 near Hutto will take place on Saturday, November 7, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. The event will also include a dedication of Republic of Texas Memorial Medallions for William and Elizabeth Jane Harrell McCutcheon. If you plan to attend and need directions to the cemetery, contact Chapter President Clay Fisher, clay@LCFisher.com.

On Saturday, November 7, 2009, from 4-6 p.m. at Sterling Bank, 414 W. 19th Street, Houston, Texas 77008, The Friends of the San Jacinto Battleground will host an event benefitting the 2010 San Jacinto Symposium. SRT's own Honorary Member James P. Bevill will conduct an intimate conversation about Texas money. Admission is \$75.00 per person, and will include an autographed copy of Bevill's newly-published book *The Paper Republic; The Struggle for Money, Credit, and Independence In the Republic of Texas* (Bright Sky Press, 2009). Enjoy award-winning wines from Messina Hof Vineyards, hors d'oeuvres from Shade Restaurant, and chances to win other interesting door prizes. For more information contact Ms. Barbara Eaves, 713-521-0768 or Barbara.eaves@att.net

P.S., for those of you who will be unable to attend the Friends event at Sterling Bank (see above), Mr. Bevill has indicated that he will have copies of the book for sale at the November 5th chapter meeting at a cost of \$60 per copy.

The 44th Annual Tomball Holiday Parade will take place on Saturday November 21, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. SRT members will take part as always. If interested in taking part in the parade, contact Chapter 1st Vice-President Ron W. Brown, ron@ronwbrown.com

The Texas Heritage Society and the Harris County Historical Commission have extended a warm invitation to the members of San Jacinto Chapter #1, SRT to attend a dedication ceremony for an Official Texas Historical Marker to be placed at the gravesite of Anson Jones, last president of the Republic of Texas. This event will take place on November 21, Saturday, at 2:00 p.m. at Glenwood Cemetery in Houston, Texas. Texas Heritage Society president, Kameron K. Searle, a member of SRT, researched Jones' life and wrote the text for the marker which was approved by the Texas Historical Commission earlier this year. Attached to this message is the invitation. Please contact Melinda Cagle (texashistory@mac.com) or Kameron Searle (ksearle1@pdq.net) with any questions.

SRT's Winter Quarterly Executive Committee Meeting will be held on December 4-5, 2009, in Victoria, Texas, at the Hampton Inn, 7006 N. Navarro Street (361) 573-9911, in conjunction with the 2009 Presidio La Bahia Award Ceremonies. More & better info will be posted before then at www.srttexas.org, but for now, save the date.

San Jacinto Chapter - Daughters of the Republic of Texas, invites you to a Christmas Open House, honoring the Friends of the Log House, on Sunday, December 13, 2009, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Open House will be at the Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum, 1510 North MacGregor, in Hermann Park. Come see the beautiful Christmas Tree, along with re-enactors in Republic of Texas period dress. There will be wassail, lemonade and holiday cheer. The CRT (Children of the Republic of Texas) are collecting and donating toys to the Ben Taub Pediatric Center, so please bring a small toy (unwrapped). For additional information, contact Eron Brimberry Tynes, 54texan@peoplepc.com

Chapter #1's Elizabeth Powell Tavern marker repair project is now underway. Replacement bronze parts have been ordered from the Texas Historical Commission, and local support has been identified. In fact, the landowner of the site - Mr. Jack Wendt - has reported that his crews have already lifted the marker and cemented it onto a new base! Watch for updates as we work toward repair and re-dedication of this important 1936 historical marker located in Fort Bend County.

The SRT Texian – 34 Years Ago

Courtesy of Mr. Tom Houston, SRT's Secretary General & Chapter #1 Past President, we've attached an Adobe pdf copy of the SRT's The Texian newsletter, from November 1975. It's interesting to see how the SRT fulfills its mission year after year, as time marches on.

October Days in Texas History:

1822, October 21: First bank in Texas founded On this day in 1822, the Banco Nacional de Texas, or Texas National Bank, was established as a bank of issue--the first in Texas--by Governor José Félix Trespalacios in San Antonio. Shortly after arriving in Texas in August, Trespalacios hit upon the idea of issuing paper money, to be backed by the specie due from the central government, as wages to the province's demoralized soldiers. Members of the city council were made officers in the bank, and four soldiers were given the task of hand-producing the notes. Just under 12,000 pesos was issued in two installments on November 1 and December 1, 1822, before the bank was suspended. The short-lived experiment in emergency financing proved costly to most noteholders, who had to wait until 1830 for redemption of the Texas money by the Mexican government. Despite its failure, this institution claims the title of the "first chartered bank west of the Mississippi."

1835, October 2: Texas Revolution begins at Gonzales On this day in 1835, fighting broke out at Gonzales between Mexican soldiers and Texas militiamen. When Domingo de Ugartechea, military commander in Texas, received word that the American colonists of Gonzales refused to surrender a small cannon that had been given that settlement in

1831 as a defense against the Indians, he dispatched Francisco de Castañeda and 100 dragoons to retrieve it on September 27. Though Castañeda attempted to avoid conflict, on the morning of October 2 his force clashed with local Texan militia led by John Henry Moore in the first battle of the Texas Revolution. The struggle for the "Come and Take It" cannon was only a brief skirmish that ended with the retreat of Castañeda and his force, but it also marked a clear break between the American colonists and the Mexican government.

1835, October 10: First Issue of Telegraph and Texas Register Published On this day in 1835, the *Telegraph and Texas Register* published its first issue at San Felipe de Austin. The earliest Texas newspaper to achieve a degree of permanence, it was founded by Gail Borden Jr., Thomas H. Borden, and Joseph Baker and became the official organ of the Republic of Texas. By December 14 the paper claimed a circulation of 500. The advance of Antonio López de Santa Anna's force compelled the publishers to retire after issuing their paper on March 24, 1836. The press was removed to Harrisburg, and the issue for April 14 was being readied when publication was again interrupted by the Mexicans, who captured the printers and threw the press into Buffalo Bayou. During the summer of 1836 Gail Borden obtained a new press in Cincinnati and resumed publication of the *Telegraph* at Columbia, to which place the Congress of the Republic was summoned. The first Columbia number contained a copy of the Constitution of the Republic of Texas. In 1837 the *Telegraph* was removed on board the *Yellow Stone* to Houston, the new capital. The paper continued under a variety of names and a series of editors until its final demise in 1877.

1835, October 13: New Orleans Greys assemble in historic meeting On this day in 1835, the New Orleans Greys, two companies of United States volunteers that served together in the Texas Revolution, were organized at a meeting held in the grand coffee room of Banks's Arcade in New Orleans. Although the disasters at the Alamo and Goliad destroyed the Greys as military units, at least seven of them were present at the battle of San Jacinto. The Greys were one of the few volunteer units able to claim Bexar, the Alamo, San Patricio, Refugio, Coleto, Goliad, and San Jacinto as battle honors.

1835, October 28: Battle of Concepción ignites siege of Bexar On this day in 1835, Texans and Mexicans skirmished near San Antonio at the battle of Concepción, the opening engagement in the siege of Bexar. Some ninety Texans under the command of James Bowie and James W. Fannin, Jr., defeated a force of 275 Mexican soldiers and two cannons. Mexican losses included fourteen killed and thirty-nine wounded, some of whom died later. Texas losses included one killed and one wounded.

1845, October 13: Voters overwhelmingly approve annexation On this day in 1845, the voters of the Republic of Texas approved an ordinance to accept annexation by a vote of 4,245 to 257. They also adopted the proposed state constitution by a vote of 4,174 to 312. The annexation of Texas to the United States had been a topic of political and diplomatic discussions since the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Although most Texans had been in favor of annexation and had voted for it as early as 1836,

constitutional scruples, fear of war with Mexico, and the controversy of adding another slave state to the union prevented the acceptance of annexation by the United States until 1845.

Most facts courtesy of Texas State Historical Association's "Texas Day-by-Day".

Visit our chapter website for more information –
<http://www.sanjacintosrt.org>

If anyone has any information or news to include in the *San Jacinto Patriot* or on the web page, please contact:

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If you would like to be removed from the mailing list or would like to update your e-mail address, please contact **L. Clay Fisher** (clay@LCFisher.com)