



SAN JACINTO PATRIOT

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

July 2010

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, July 1, 2010**, 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:

Tom Martin Davis

The guest speaker for our July luncheon meeting is Mr. Tom Martin Davis. Mr. Davis attended VMI his first [freshman] year and transferred to the University of Texas receiving a BA degree in 1959. He then attended UT law school and graduated in 1962 then went with Butler, Binion, Rice, Cook & Knapp in Houston from 1962 to 1987, as a trial and labor attorney. In 1987 he started his own law firm, Davis & Shank, handling law suits only and then he retired from the law practice in 2007.

Mr. Davis is a director of the Texas Map Society; a member of the board of trustees of the San Jacinto Museum of History; a member of the board of the Huffington Center on Aging at Baylor College of Medicine; and a member of the board of the Houston Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Mr. Davis relates that "My grandfather, Dewitt C. Dunn, was a member of The Sons of the Republic of Texas and I will try to find his application to better inform me of the factual basis for the application. I recall that it told of one of his predecessors supplying the Texian troops with food shortly before the battle of San Jacinto. My great-great-grandfather, Thomas Hogan, was sheriff of Harris County from 1854-58".

Last Month's Meeting:

Unfortunately, there was a scheduling glitch last month and we had no speaker for the meeting. Never the less, there was plenty to talk about. Dick Reese once again touted the success of the SRT members' book lending library. Tom Green gave a short report on May's program at the Bush Library, "Authentic Stories of Texas History" and also mentioned the upcoming Battle of Medina Ceremony on August, 21 (more below). And Clay Fisher described a possible project aimed at preserving county court records.

Chapter President's Report:

This month's meeting should be a great one. Tom Davis is coming and is this month's speaker.

The Battle of Medina Ceremony is Saturday, August 21st at 10:00a.m. near Leming, Texas. This is always a great event. The press release, with more information, is included below. Also mark your calendar for a Texian Navy Day ceremony on Saturday, September 18th in Matagorda this year. It will honor Secretary of the Navy Samuel Rhoads Fisher and the Republic of Texas Navy. The ceremony will begin at 11:00a.m. Saturday, September 18th at the Matagorda Cemetery, Matagorda, Texas. Bring lawn chairs, hats, umbrella, and be prepared for hot weather or light rain. If storming with lightning, the ceremony will be held at the Stanley-Fisher Bed & Breakfast, the historic home of Samuel Rhoads Fisher. For additional details contact David Hanover at 903-509-2206 or dhanover@suddenlink.net, or www.srttexas.org.

This coming year is the 175th Anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto. It will be a great event and everybody needs to turnout. We are beginning to plan for an Historic Medal in remembrance.

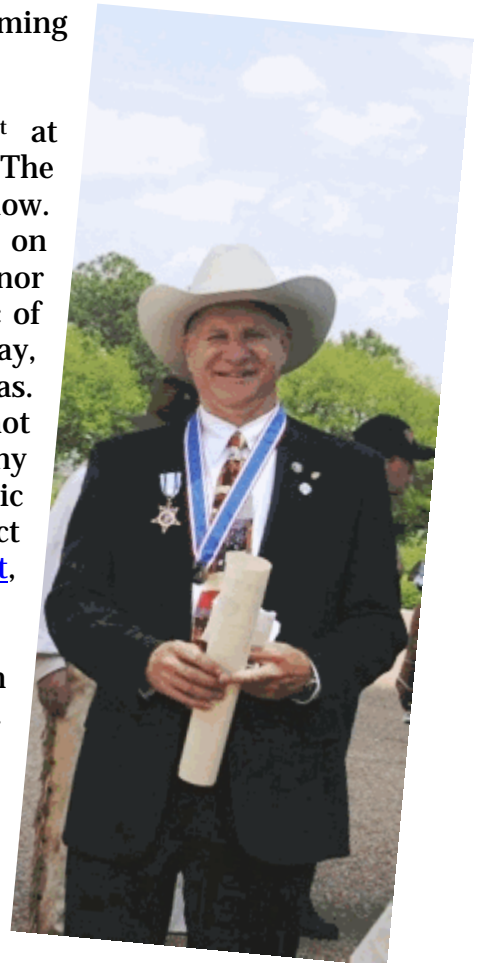
Ted Westmoreland is working on updating the membership list and he will have a report for the August meeting. James Hudson is preparing a report on the nametag progress and we will probably vote on it this month.

New Members for this month are: Mr. Danny Ellis, Mr. Thomas Ingle Jackson, and Mr. Milton Horace West, III.

The Quarterly Meeting was held in Liberty, Texas on June 3rd and 4th. It was held at the Price Daniel House at the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center.

Bad news as I heard Sam Houston IV was having heart problems Here is his communication with me:

Thanks for the E-mail. The best part of this is it was a new stress test that gives more definition for the Doctor. It picked up the abnormality in an artery that I already had two stints. In fact it was between them which kept me on the table an extra hour. I now have five stints, The artery they put it in was approx 90% blocked which as my cardiologist said "We dodged a bullet". I have two more minor blocks which will be addressed later on. But I'm like a hog that finds a acorn. I'm blessed. Again thanks and give all the guys in the San Jac chapter my best wishes. When I can I will make some meetings with you. Just keep Reese quiet.
Sam



Chapter President's Report Continued:

Don't forget we are on the Honor system when you pay for lunch. We don't give tickets at the door.

The Texas History quiz will be answered this month, so come and find out the answers.

The next Annual Meeting is March 10 and 11, 2011 in Galveston. Make your reservations right away at the Tremont House on the Strand. (1-409-515-2127).

I hope everyone has a great and safe 4th of July.

Ronald W. Brown

2010 President

San Jacinto Chapter #1

The Sons of the Republic of Texas

Upcoming Events and Items of Interest:

Click on calendar events for more information:

San Jacinto Chapter #1 - July 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 SJC Meeting - Noon Speaker: Tom Martin Davis	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Lone Star Chapter Annual Meeting
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

[Click here to view the San Jacinto Chapter website calendar.](#)

197th Anniversary of the Bloodiest Battle in Texas History

The public is invited to attend the 197th anniversary of the Battle of Medina, at a site in Atascosa County overlooking the Galvan Creek, where we believe between 800 and 1,300 men died August 18, 1813. This was the bloodiest and largest loss of life of any battle in Texas history, and it occurred about 20 miles south of San Antonio, Texas. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 21, 2010, and everyone interested in Texas history is invited. Due to the heat, we will only be at the battle site for about one hour for each Society to rededicate their marker to American Revolutionary Patriot Peter Sides, and the Sons of The Republic of Texas marker for Benjamin Allen and all the other men who fought and died in this battle. The SAR, DAR, SRT, DRT, The Daughters of the War of 1812 Society, and the Mayflower Societies will all re-dedicate their markers, making this one of the most honored and dedicated historic sites in Texas. Members of the Mayflower Society will also re-dedicate their marker for a printer from Philadelphia, Samuel Alden, who is believed to have died after the Battle of Medina and descended from a Mayflower Pilgrim. Our combined Color Guard will present the Colors to begin the ceremony and fire a musket salute to all those who participated in this battle on both sides to conclude the event. Everyone will then retire to Pleasanton, Texas for lunch on your own, and then reconvene at the Pleasanton Church of Christ located at 1003 North Main Street for an air-conditioned history seminar from 1:00 p.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m. in the church meeting hall. The Atascosa County Historical Commission members will graciously providing us with refreshments in the afternoon at the church during the symposium again this year.

The afternoon history seminar will present the latest research on the First Republic of Texas and the Battle of Medina. Several speakers will be featured, including Robert Thonhoff, KSJ an award winning author, and Dr. Jesus de la Teja, PhD Chair of the History Department at Texas State University, in San Marcos, Texas. Frank, as Dr. de la Teja likes to be called, is also the former President of the Texas State Historical Association and was appointed the first Texas Historian by Governor Rick Perry. Norman Porter, Chairman of the Atascosa County Historical Commission will present a talk on research conducted in the area showing indications that the Battle of Medina may have occurred in a different location. Richard Santos, author of 34 books, over 3,000 articles and dozens of documentaries and former instructor at Our Lady of the Lake University, Trinity University and School of Aero Space Medicine, Professor at Steve Gonzales, Executive Director of the El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail and Al McGraw, Archeological Studies Program for TxDOT will also speak on various facets of this historic era. These are all great speakers and historians, so you don't want to miss this symposium.

To reach the site for the 10:00 a.m. outdoor ceremony, proceed south from San Antonio on Highway 281 some 15 miles from the intersection of Loop 410 South and Highway 281, to the community of Espey, Texas, and turn right (west) where signs will direct you to the ceremony. For additional details, contact Tom Green, at (281) 922-1118, or Cell Phone (832) 687-3474. Wear a hat and comfortable shoes and bring water and a lawn chair that will not easily sink into the sand!

The Battle of Medina was between the Republican Army of the North consisting of approximately a 1,400 men, called the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition by historians, and a Royal Spanish Army commanded by General Joaquin de Arredondo consisting of approximately 1,800 men. The Republican Army of the North was truly a diverse group, consisting of Tejanos, Native Americans, and adventurers from the U.S.A. with at least one African-American named Thomas. This was at a time in history when only about 2,000 people lived in San Antonio, called San Fernando de Bexar at the time. At least 5 Patriots of the American Revolution were involved in the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition, and at least one of these Patriots fought and died in the Battle of Medina. Peter Sides, is one of over 50 Patriots of the American Revolution believed to have been buried in Texas. Direct descendants of Peter Sides are eligible for membership in both the Sons and Daughter of the American Revolution and The Sons and Daughters of The Republic of Texas. Some of the descendants of Peter Sides will be in attendance for the re-dedication of a Sons of the American Revolutionary Patriot Grave Marker. A Grave Marker will also be re-dedicated by the Sons of the Republic of Texas, as descendants of all the approximately 3,200 men who fought on

both sides of this battle are possibly eligible for membership in the SRT and the DRT. The descendants of Benjamin Allen, who is also proven to have died in the battle, will re-dedicate the SRT marker. One of our objectives is to honor the many other participants on both sides of this battle, which is the land battle with the largest loss of life in Texas history. Toward that end, descendants of the Spanish soldiers, Native Americans and the native Tejano participants have also been invited to attend this commemorative ceremony.

Prior to the August 18, 1813 Battle of Medina, the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition formed the Republican Army of the North, and won all the preceding battles and declared Texas free from Spain, including a battle at Nacogdoches, a four month siege of the Presidio La Bahia, the Battle of Rosillo Creek, and the Battle of Alazan Creek. On April 6, 1813, Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara, and his junta, wrote and signed the First Texas Declaration of Independence. On April 17, 1813, the junta and Governor-Elect Bernardo Gutierrez approved the First Constitution of Texas in present day San Antonio. A ceremony was held last year in San Antonio commemorating these events.

Earlier in the expedition the Royal Spanish Army surrounded the Republican Army of the North for four months at the La Bahia Presidio near present day Goliad, Texas. This is believed to have been one of the longest sieges in American military history, and is the reason La Bahia today flies the Emerald Green flag of the Republican Army of the North as one of the nine flags flown over La Bahia. Come join us and learn about this all but forgotten part of our history.

San Jacinto Chapter #1 Officers 2010 - 2011:

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From the *Texas State Historical Association* "Texas Day by Day"

[July 01, 1850: Gillespie County records destroyed.](#)

[July 04, 1845: Convention considers annexation.](#)

[July 07, 1835: Gritten keeps Gonzales loyal to Mexico.](#)

[July 07, 1842: The Battle of Lipantitlán.](#)

[July 08, 1911: Alfonso Steele, one of the last remaining San Jacinto veterans, dies](#)

[July 09, 1839: Lamar expresses good will to Chief Colita](#)

[July 11, 1838: Presidential candidate drowns in Galveston Bay](#)

[July 15, 1839: Texans rout Cherokees in Battle of the Neches.](#)

[July 17, 1835: Disgruntled colonists meet to discuss government abuses.](#)

[July 19, 1843: Sam Houston relieves Edwin Moore of command of the Texas Navy.](#)

[July 21, 1821: Spanish flag lowered for last time at San Antonio.](#)

[July 26, 1845: United States flag raised on Texas island.](#)

[July 31, 1817: Pirate resigns as ruler of Galveston Island.](#)

Visit our chapter website for more information: www.sanjacintosrt.org

If anyone has any information or news to include in the *San Jacinto Patriot* or on the web page, or if you need to update your e-mail address, please contact:

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