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Sidney Sherman Chapter #2**Minutes**

February 21, 2023

The members of the Sidney Sherman Chapter #2, Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT) gathered at Kelley's Family Restaurant in Texas City before 6 PM on February 21 in the banquet room behind the cashier. At 6:10 PM President Carl Hill called the meeting to order. Robert Schnuriger gave the opening prayer. Gordon Blocker led us in the pledges to the United States and Texas Flags. President Hill recognized Steve Manis being our only Knight of San Jacinto and Treasurer General of the SRT. He then recognized Ivan Langford as our newest transfer member. President Hill then swore in Robert Schnuriger as our Chaplain. Secretary Wright called for a motion to approve the minutes as posted online. It was so moved and passed by acclamation. Treasurer Mayo announced that the chapter has over \$4500 in our bank account.

Attending: Larry* and George* Armstrong, Gordon Blocker*, Hugh Ferguson*, Robert Gindratt* (Second Vice-President), Albert Seguin Gonzales*, Carl Hill* (President), J.B. Kline, Ivan Langford III, Steve Manis* (Treasurer General of the SRT and Knight of San Jacinto), Billy Mayo* (Treasurer), Mike Mitchell* with Carol, Steve Nicol* (Historian), Robert Schnuriger* (Chaplain), Ron Schoolcraft* (Past President), Eron Tyne! and Clark Wright*(Secretary) We had 16 Chapter members attending this meeting with a total of 21 in attendance. Steve Manis pointed out that we were pleased to four soth these members present have been President of the Chapter.

Business: President Hill announced that the tickets donated by Christy Erickson to the Houston Fat Stock Show would be given at the end of our meeting, so buy the tickets while you can. He then indicated that chapter participation in the Anson Jones Ceremony in Houston was superb.

Program: Joe Holley of the Houston Chronicle provided us with a fascinating story of how the town of "Bigfoot" obtained its name. Joe told of an entangled web in which John C.C. (Christopher Columbus) Hill of Virginia and William A. A. (Alexander Anderson) Wallace. The latter was called "Bigfoot" and both volunteered for the Somerville Expedition to plunder Mexico. As history relates this group of about 700 rans into trouble near Laredo in December 1842. Somerville ordered all to go home through Gonzales, but the 200 some odd soldiers including Hill and Wallace pressed on to the town of Meir. The expedition failed and both were carted off into Mexico, which was in a state of revolution itself. Hill was befriended by Santa Anna who favored him and during his stay in Mexico became an expert in mining. Having family in Texas and the United States he eventually returned where he died in Monterrey Nuevo León February 16, 1904 where he is buried. Our hero, Wallace was anative of Georgia, was 6 foot 4 inches weighing 240 pounds, hence the nickname "Bigfoot". After the Meir Expedition, Bigfoot rode with John Coffee (Jack)

Hayes of the Rangers. Bigfoot was "as honest a daylight" but was known for his embellishments of his stories. He settled near the Medina River, and the location he settled became know as "Bigfoot". He died in early 1899 and is interred in the State Cemetery in Austin.

Up-coming:

On February 28 at 5 p.m. veterans will have a ceremony at the Gold Star Family Memorial Monument at Five Points Park, 100 south Broadway in La Porte.

On March 2, we expect to repeat attendance of the ceremony in Sam Houston Park off Main Avenue in Houston in the morning. You need to be on site before 10 AM. After that ceremony some members will proceed to the state park at Washington on the Brazos where there will be a re-enactment beginning at 1 p.m.

March 6 Some of our members will attend the "Alamo Heroes Day", Dawn at the Alamo in San Antonio where they will lay a wreath along side a portrait of our patron General Sidney Sherman. This event begins before Sun Rise, so plan to be early. Erin Tyne is planning a dinner, contact President@ss2srt.org!

March 17-19 will be the Annual Meeting of the SRT at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio. See the SRT Texas web site for more information.

The next Chapter meeting will be at Kelley's on March 21.

Billy Mayo moved to adjourn at 7:12 PM, Hugh Ferguson seconded the motion which passed without decent. The group photo can be viewed in the current gallery of this web site.

Note: Chapter Members are denoted by a star (*) and Honorary Members are denoted with an exclamation point (!) in the list of attendees.

Prepared by Clark P. Wright, Secretary