

# The Sherman Sentinel

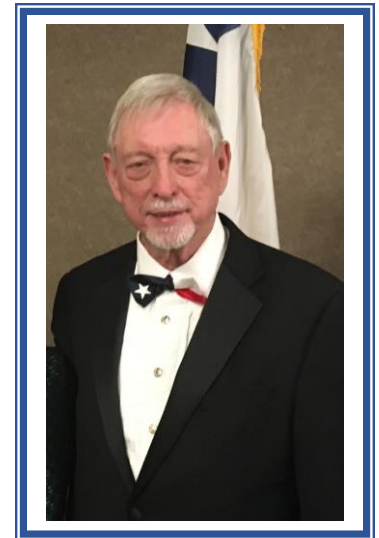
SEPTEMBER  
2023

SIDNEY SHERMAN CHAPTER, NO. 2 – GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Even for us Texans who are used to the heat, it has been one hot brutal summer and the second hottest one on record. As we look towards Fall and hopefully cooler weather soon, we are ready for our favorite sport, Texas football – Little League, Middle School, High School, College and Professional. There is something about Fall and Texas Football.

Coming up this weekend is Texian Navy Day - A Texas Honor Day, which is celebrated the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September. At the time of the Texas Revolution there were four ships in the Texian Navy – The Independence, Flagship of the Texas Navy; The Liberty, the Brutus and the Invincible. The Texian Navy was tasked with protecting the Gulf Coast, the shipping lanes and disrupting communications from Mexico to Santa Anna. During the Spring of 1836, Captain William Brown of the *Liberty* was on its way to the Yucatan when it captured the armed merchant ship, the *Pelican*. The *Liberty* also captured the *Durango*.



Captain's Brown's brother Jeremiah Brown who commanded the *Invincible* captured the *Pocket* and the *Montezuma*. Because of the efforts of the Texian Navy, over 300 kegs of gunpowder, other military supplies and reinforcements were on board the ships destined for the Mexican Army. Thus, General Houston and his Texas Army benefitted from the flour, rice, lard, biscuits and 300 kegs of powder shortly before San Jacinto. So, if we had not had the Texas Navy – the Mexican Army might not have been deprived of supplies and the reinforcements it so desperately needed.



The Texas Navy Flag was created by Charles Hawkins for the Texas Navy in April 1836. The Lone Star and Stripes Flag was adopted and continued unchanged for the life of the Republic. At the time this flag was created the Republic of Texas did not have its own flag. It carried a single white star in the blue canton and seven red stripes and six white stripes alternating in color. The flag was deliberately designed to resemble the national flag of the U. S. When the flag hung limp, it could be mistaken for the US Flag which gave the underdog Texas fleet the advantage of surprise and it worked.

The next few weeks promises to be a busy time as there are several events. First is Texian Navy Day sponsored by The Sons of the Republic of Texas this Saturday, September 16. The ceremony will be held at the Monument at 10:00 a.m. The next Honor Day will be Gonzales Day, October 2. In addition, there will be the Come and Take It Celebration, October 6, 7 and 8. For more info go to <https://gonzalestexas.com/come-and-take-it/>

The San Jacinto Museum will be sponsoring its Lecture Series, History under the Star on September 30, 2023 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. The speaker will be Lora-Marie Bernard and her topic is *The Yellow Rose of Texas: The Song, Emily West and the Great Texas Myth*.

In addition, **Albert Seguin** and the Seguin family will be honoring their ancestor, Colonel Juan Seguin's lifetime service to the land of his birth: Texas. The event will be October 7, 2023 at 11:00a.m. at Juan Seguin Historical Park, 4407 Independence Parkway, La Porte, Texas. Three memorial medallions from the DRT, SRT and San Jacinto Descendants will be unveiled.

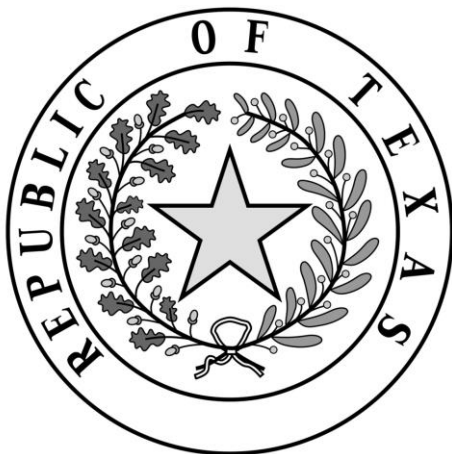
I hope that each of you will be able to attend some of these events as we continue our mission:

*perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the Independence of Texas.*



*God Bless Texas*

*Carl V. Hill,  
President*



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# Sidney Sherman Chapter August Meeting

Amy Rogers, CEO, San Jacinto Battleground gave a very informative presentation on the upcoming improvements to the Battleground.. The Museum will be going under major renovations in the near future with a new visitor’s center and considerable landscape upgrades. The facility will include two theaters, and accommodation for weddings and receptions. The THC will be adding signage to allow visitors to hear and sense what happened in 1836 in their walks around the Battleground.

President Hill discussed the repair of the Sidney Sherman statue which is located in Galveston. The Statue is missing the sheath that held the sword. It has broken off and the piece is missing. President Hill will contact the City of Galveston about the repair process.



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
REAL PLACES TELLING REAL STORIES

## Reestablish relationships

- Working with the community
- Reconnecting with local schools
- Closer relationships with professional groups
- Better communication
- Offering engaging programs
- Appeal to various and diverse groups






# New Member Installation



GALVESTON COUNTY

## The Daily News.

TEXAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER • PUBLISHING SINCE 1842 • CELEBRATING 181 YEARS

### BULLETIN BOARD

Contact Michael A. Smith, michael.smith@galnews.com

CELEBRATING 181 YEARS

Special thanks to our Treasurer Billy Mayo for sending the picture and information to the Galveston Daily News for our two new members.

Welcome Tim Rainey and Shane Gay to the Sidney Sherman Chapter.

In addition, Billy has also been successful in placing our upcoming meeting notices in the Galveston Daily News.



During the August meeting of the Sidney Sherman Chapter of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, chapter president Carl Hill swore in two new members to the Sons of the Republic of Texas, Tim Rainey and Shane Gay. During the past five years, the membership has more than doubled to over a hundred members.



# Upcoming Event

## Sidney Sherman Chapter Meeting September 19, 2023

Jodi Wright-Gidley  
Director/Curator

Galveston County Museum  
Will speak on

*“Galveston: A city on Stilts”*



Jodi Wright-Gidley was born and raised in Conroe, Texas. Her love of history began in her early childhood when she would visit museums with her family. Deciding this would be the career path she would take, Jodi attended Baylor University as a first-generation college student and received a Bachelor's degree in Museum Studies and Archeology, Cum Laude in 1995. She continued her education at Sam Houston State University and received a Master's degree in History, with a focus on Women and Family History in 2006. One of the highlights of her education was an internship at the Smithsonian in Washington D.C.

In 2007 she became the Director of the Galveston County Historical Museum and managed operations until 2011, through the museum's closure in 2008 due to Hurricane Ike. Until her later return, she was Executive Director of the Santa Fe Texas Education Foundation, then a Major Gifts Officer for College of the Mainland's Institutional Advancement Foundation. In 2022 the Galveston County Museum reopened in its new location inside of the Galveston County Courthouse and Jodi resumed her role as director.

## Welcome New Member

**William Farrow Nicol**  
**Houston, Texas**

Ancestor

John Madison Farrow

### Sidney Sherman Chapter Meeting

Third Tuesday  
Of the Month

**Kelly's Restaurant**  
4604 Gulf Freeway  
LaMarque, Texas  
(Intersection of FM-765 and I-45)

Meet and greet at 5:30 p.m.  
Meeting begins at 6:00p.m.

# Keeping Texas History Alive

## Battle of Medina Observance with the Medicine Wheel Four Direction Ceremony.

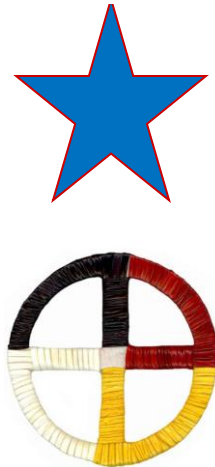


Tejanos and Texians firing a Salute for the Observance of the bloodiest battle in Texas



Flag of The Republican Army of the North

**Medicine Wheel Four Directions Ceremony** - *It is the contract to live in harmony with nature, self, community, and spirit. The Medicine Wheel is represented by the Four Directions. It symbolizes the cycle of life without beginning or end, and provides guidance for living. It universally honors the core belief that all things on earth are living and all things are interconnected.*



### Medina Symposium

Left picture

Steve Manis, Robert Schnuriger & Tim Rainey

Right picture

Steve Manis





Lovell Aldrich, Alexander Hodge Chapter, SAR, Tom Green, KSJ and Carl Hill visiting Tom Green at the Anderson Veterans Home.



John Thompson, Art Bynum, Ed Sellers, David Hamaker and Carl Hill for Tom Houston, KSJ, Memorial Service

# Road to Independence

## Celebrate our Heritage



Please join the Children of the Republic of Texas, Daughters of the Republic of Texas and The Sons of the Republic on October 22, 2023 at the Pioneer Memorial Log House (owned by the San Jacinto Chapter, DRT).

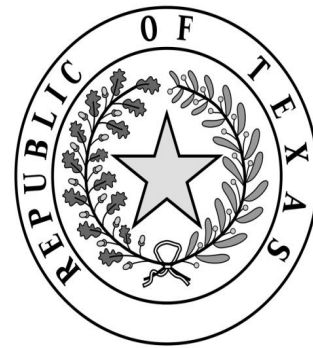
The event will be from 2:00p.m. – 5:00p.m. and the location is 1510 Cambridge, Houston, Tx. Complimentary parking will be available in the Log House parking lot or Ben Taub Hospital Parking Garage.

There will be a Flag Retirement Ceremony, Rolling Thunder, Texas Music, Re-enactors, and a Chili Cook-off. In addition, we will have Texas themed coloring pages, Land Grants and children's games from the 1830's. There will also be a Silent Auction with all proceeds benefitting the Pioneer Memorial Log House and the SRT Scholarship Fund.

Admission will be \$10.00 per person and \$5.00 per child (3-16). Price includes chili, soft drink, chips and dessert. Please feel free to come in period dress or your favorite Texana. The Sidney Sherman Chapter will be sponsoring a booth. If you would like to assist, please contact Carl Hill at [easygoal1@hotmail.com](mailto:easygoal1@hotmail.com)



# Texas Patriot Corner



My name is Tim W. Rainey. This is a brief history of my qualifying Republic of Texas Ancestors.

My great great great great grandfather was Dr. Charles W. Rice. He was born in 1804, died in 1838. He was from New York, and first came to Texas in 1837. He applied for 1,280 acres of land and then brought his family to Texas in 1838. Dr. Rice was one of the signors of the petition for the first Masonic Lodge for Matagorda, Tx on June 24, 1838. Records show that Dr. Rice served as a surgeon in the Texas Navy during the War for Independence.



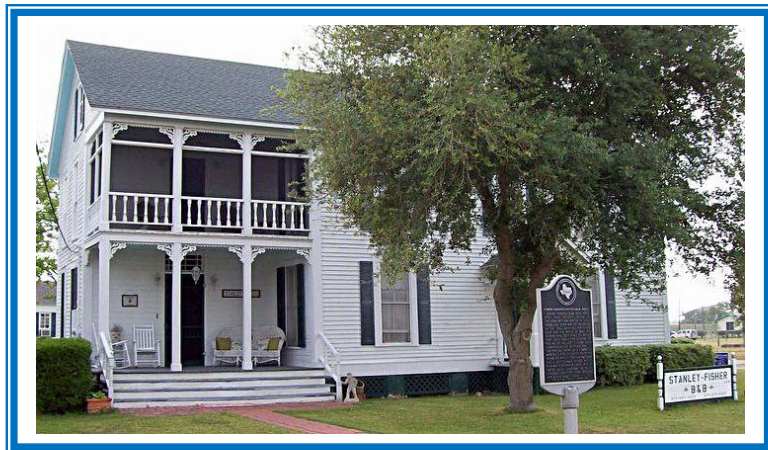
**Tim Rainey, Sr. above and Tim Rainey, Jr. - below.**

Eleanor Madden Rice was born on December 30, 1827. She married Elsy Harrison in 1857. He was born in 1810 in Kentucky. Elsy participated in the Battle of Velasco on July 25, 1832. Records show that he owned land near Cedar Lake (Matagorda County), Texas – he was a planter. Elsy bought the Samuel Rhodes Fisher home in Matagorda on June 2, 1860, for \$1,600 from Samuel's widow. The home was completed in 1832. After Elsy died, his brother-in-law, Hugh S. Stapp was made administrator of his estate and sold the home in 1872 at the courthouse steps for \$200 to Samuel Williams Fisher, son of Samuel Rhodes Fisher (past Secretary of the Navy).



Dr. Rice had twin daughters, Eleanor Madden Rice and Elizabeth Mars Rice. When the Rice twins were 8 yrs. old, they were on the boat bringing the Twin Sisters Cannons (unnamed at that time) from New Orleans. They were donated by Cincinnati, Ohio to the Liberty of Texas, destination – Brazoria, Texas. There, an admirer said “look, two sets of twins” referring to the cannons and the Rice twins. The name stuck for the cannons.

**Samuel Rhoades  
Fisher Home  
Built 1832**

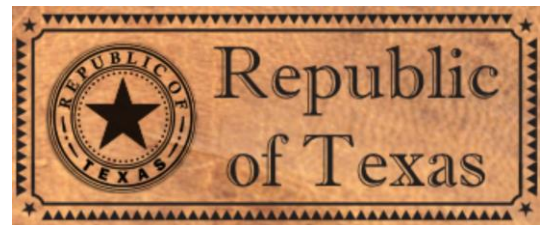




Eleanor's twin, Elizabeth Mars Rice was the first born – born in 1827, died in 1909. She married Hugh S. Stapp on November 10, 1850. Hugh S. Stapp was born in 1822 in Kentucky. He fought in the Texas Republic Army in 1836, at the young age of 15. The couple had 7 children, one of which was Elsie Harrison Stapp. She was born on January 5, 1864. She married James H. Rainey in Brazoria County; he was my great grandfather. They had 10 children, one of which was my grandfather, Archie Campbell Rainey.

### Going back to the Twin Sister Cannons

1. They were first used in the battle of San Jacinto; it was a great surprise to Santa Anna. He thought we did not have any cannons.
2. In 1840, the cannons were moved to Austin. They were used to celebrate San Jacinto Day.
3. After Texas joined the union, the twin sister cannons were sent to Louisiana by General Zachery Taylor to be sold as old iron. One went to the foundry, the other went to a private individual.
4. On March 4, 1861, instead of being scrapped, the cannons were reconditioned and returned to Texas for protection during the war between the states.
5. During the Civil war struggle for Galveston, the Island Confederates wanted the sister cannons back. General Magruder was sent by the South to take them back. He did and held them until the end of the war in 1865. Sidney Sherman's son, Sidney A. Sherman was killed and fell beside his gun (one of the twin sister cannons).
6. It was reported that in August 1865, General Magruder's soldiers came upon the twin sister cannons on a dock, where they were being sent North for scrap. They buried the cannons near Harrisburg, and they have never been found.



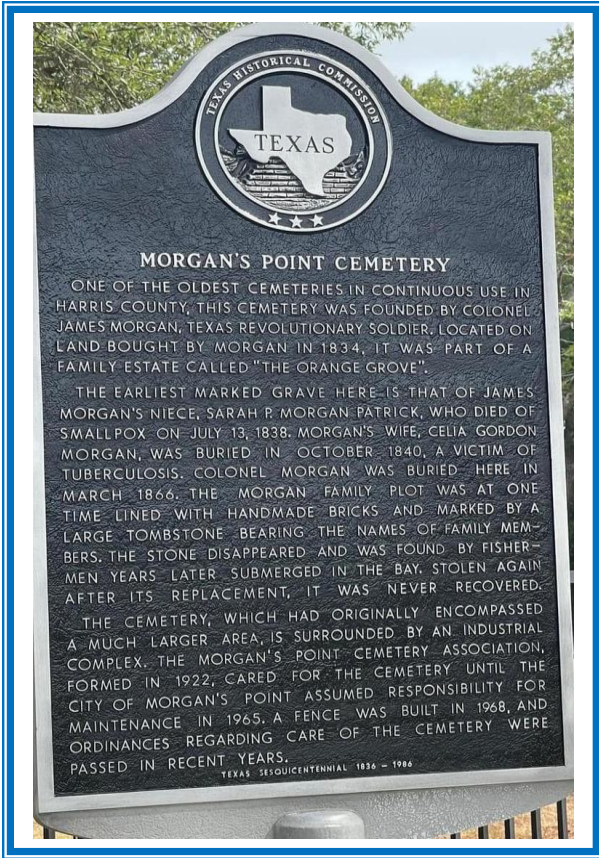
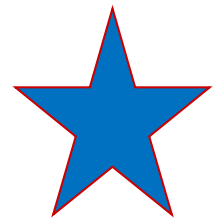
## *Texas Patriot Corner*

### **A new section for the newsletter**

Please honor your Texas ancestor by submitting an article. Articles need to be submitted by the first of each month in Word to be included in that month's newsletter. Please feel free to include a picture of your ancestors. Pictures need to be sent as JPG's. Please note minor corrections for grammar and punctuation may occur.

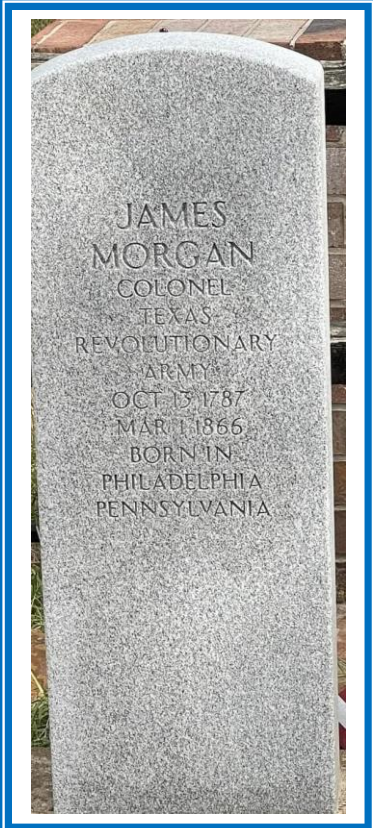
# Preserving Texas History

## Morgan's Point Cemetery



Robert Gindratt, Steve Manis, Robert Schnuriger & Robyn Davis

**Below** – Robert Schnuriger  
**Right** – Robert Gindratt  
**Below Right** – Steve Manis, Robert Schnuriger and Robyn Davis



# SRT Quarterly Meeting Brazoria County Museum



**LEFT**

**Randy Pollard,  
KSJ  
President General,**



**RIGHT**

**Ken Pfeiffer, KSJ  
and Randy  
Pollard, KSJ**



**Sidney Sherman  
Chapter members  
attending**

Robert Schnuriger, Steve  
Manis, KSJ and Carl Hill



**LEFT** - The Sidney Sherman Chapter and the Stephen F. Austin co-hosted the BBQ lunch. Robert Schnuriger made the Beans and Potato Salad and Carl Hill provided the drinks.

**RIGHT** - Ray Beall, District Representative organized the meeting.



# ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2023

September 19, 2023 Chapter Meeting Speaker – Jodi Wright-Gidley  
Director/Curator  
Galveston County Historical Museum

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2023**                      **TEXIAN NAVY DAY**  
**San Jacinto Battleground**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**                      **TEXAS HEROES DAY**

**OCTOBER 2, 2023**                              **GONZALES DAY**

**October 17, 2023**                              **Burnet-Sherman Marker Ceremony**

October 17, 2023 Chapter Meeting Speaker – Charles Herbert,  
Author “On The Run”

**NOVEMBER 3, 2023**                              **STEPHEN F. AUSTIN’S BIRTHDAY**

November 21, 2023 Chapter Meeting Speaker - TBD

**DECEMBER 9, 2023**                              **SEIGE OF BEXAR**

**December 12, 2023**                              **Third Annual Christmas Party**  
Antiques Pavilion, Galveston  
Hosted by Jim Noonus

## Upcoming Dates of Interest

**October 7, 2023**                              **Honoring Juan Seguin**  
**11:00a.m.**                                      **Memorial Medallions (DRT, SRT and SJD)**  
Juan Seguin Historical Park,  
4407 Independence Parkway, La Porte, Texas.

**October 22, 2023**                              **Road to Independence, Celebrating our Heritage**  
**2:00p.m.-5:00p.m.**                              **Pioneer Memorial Log House**  
(owned by the San Jacinto Chapter, DRT)

# Sidney Sherman Chapter Executive Committee

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Sons of the Republic of  
Texas – National Office

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Sidney Sherman  
Chapter, No. 2

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then Contacts and click on the email link.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit newsletter articles  
by the **First of each month** to  
Carl Hill, President

[Easygoal1@hotmail.com](mailto:Easygoal1@hotmail.com)



*God Bless  
Texas*