

The Sherman Sentinel

OCTOBER
2023

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Known as the “Lexington” of the Texas Revolution, the Battle of Gonzales is considered by most historians the beginning of the Texas Revolution. This Battle was fought 188 years ago on October 2nd. The town of Gonzales was established by Empresario Green DeWitt in 1825. It was the westernmost Anglo settlement until the close of the Texas Revolution and was named in honor of Don Rafael Gonzales, provisional governor of Coahuila, Mexico and Texas. In 1831 the Mexican government loaned the citizens of Gonzales a six-pound cannon for protection against the Indians.



In September of 1835, as political unrest grew, Mexican officials at San Antonio de Bexar demanded the cannon be returned. Refusing to return the cannon, Lieutenant Castaneda and 150 mounted soldiers were then sent to “take” the cannon. When the soldiers appeared on the west bank of the Guadalupe River, there were only 18 men in Gonzales, but these ‘**Old Eighteen**’ stood at the river in defiance, denied the Mexicans a crossing by hiding the ferry and sent out a call for volunteers to assist them. As the soldiers scouted the river for a place to cross, they moved upriver a short distance.

There, in the early-morning hours of October 2, 1835, the colonists crossed the river with their cannon, surprising the troops and waving their hastily fashioned flag, which proclaimed “**Come and Take It.**” As a symbol of defiance, Caroline Zumwalt and Eveline DeWitt, young women from Gonzales, made the “Flag” using a white bed sheet containing the phrase "Come and take it" along with a black star and a representation of the cannon.

Almost immediately the cannon was fired, killing one of Castaneda’s men and scattering the rest, forcing them to retreat to San Antonio de Bexar. Thus, was fired the shot that set off the struggle for Texas Independence from Mexico. When the smoke cleared, the Mexican troops had taken off and **The Texas Revolution had begun.**

Gonzales became known as “**The Lexington of Texas**”, where the first shot was fired, and where the first Texas Army of Volunteers gathered. A few months after the first shot, men and boys from the region would gather in Gonzales, sending the only reinforcements ever received at the Alamo.
The Immortal 32

October has been quite a busy month as we are preparing for the Burnet-Sherman Marker Ceremony. The ceremony will be Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at Lakeview Cemetery, 3015 57th Street, Galveston, Tx. David Martin will be the Keynote Speaker and the Sidney Sherman Chapter, DRT will be placing a ceremonial wreath.

I want to personally thank Robert Schnuriger, Steve Manis, Ron Schoolcraft and Robert Gindratt for cleaning the marker. Last week Robert Schnuriger and Steve Manis returned to give the marker a second cleaning in preparation for the Ceremony. In addition, our monthly chapter meeting will be that evening and our speaker will be Charles Herbert who will speak on his book - "On the Run".

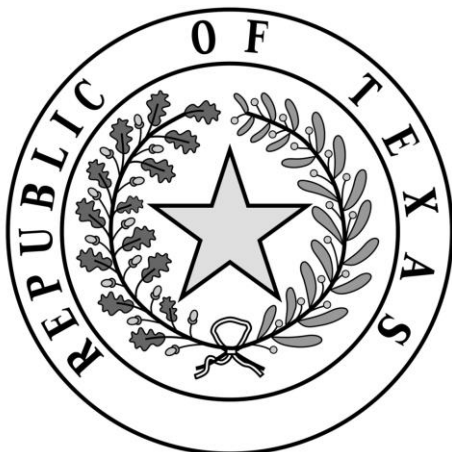
Then on Sunday, October 22, the Daughters and Sons of the Republic of Texas are hosting a "Road To Independence", Celebrating our Heritage event at the Pioneer Memorial Log House, owned by the San Jacinto Chapter. (See attached information). The Sidney Sherman Chapter will be hosting a Chili Team and Robert Schnuriger will be making the Chili, with the slogan "Twin Sisters Texas Best". Robert Gindratt will be hosting a table with children's games from the 1830's. I will also be having a Chili Team with my grandchildren - The AllStar Chili Team. Steve Manis will be providing the music. Jerry Patterson will be there with the Texas Navy Ship's Store and Ron Schoolcraft will be assisting him. It promises to be a wonderful afternoon as we gather with other Texians, enjoying our beautiful fall weather, good food, and kindred fellowship along with the mission that we all share as one to;

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*



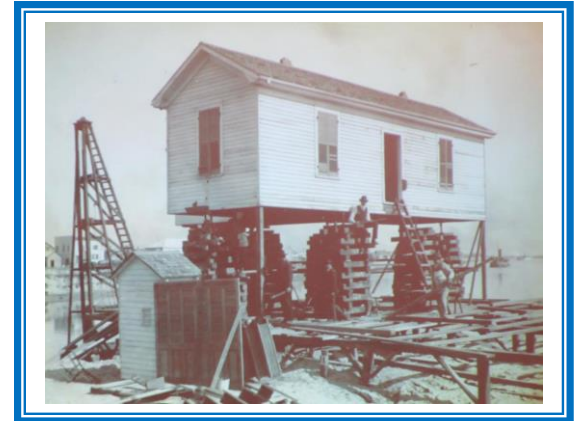
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Sidney Sherman Chapter September Meeting

Jodi Wright-Gidley, Director/Curator, Galveston County Historical Museum presented a most information program of “Galveston - A City on Stilts”. She compared the storm of that year with later ones in addition to the work to build the Seawall and raise a major portion of the island. A three-mile canal was dug behind the wall during the construction. It was a messy business. Even though later storms were more powerful than the 1900 storm, the Seawall had been built and saved many lives and property.

President Hill contacted the City of Galveston about the repair process for the Sidney Sherman Statute. The Facilities department is responsible for the stature and funds will be available to make the repair sometime in the Spring of next year. Plans are underway to clean the Burnett Sherman Marker at Lakeview Cemetery on October 7, in preparation for the upcoming ceremony on October 17.





GALVESTON COUNTY

The Daily News.

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



At the September meeting of the Sidney Sherman Chapter of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, Jodi Wright-Gidley, the Curator/Director of the Galveston County Museum, was the guest speaker. She provided a very informative program entitled "Galveston — A City on Stilts" with numerous photos of Galveston's recovery after the Great Flood. Chapter President Carl Hill is shown presenting her with a gift card in appreciation of her program.

Special thanks to our Treasurer Billy Mayo for sending the picture and information to the Galveston Daily News. We have been in the Bulletin Board section twice this month.

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



In September, members of the Sidney Sherman Chapter of the Sons of the Republic of Texas met at the Lakeview Cemetery in Galveston to clean the Burnet-Sherman Cemetery Marker in preparation for the annual chapter ceremony honoring Texas first interim President David G. Burnet and Texas General Sidney Sherman. This annual ceremony is held in conjunction with one the local Galveston Elementary Schools. Members participating the cleaning were Robert Schnuriger, Chapter President Carl Hill, Ronald Schoolcraft, Steven Manis and Robert Gindratt (not pictured).



Upcoming Event

Sidney Sherman Chapter Meeting October 17, 2023

Charles Hebert, Author
Presents

“On the Run”



Our speaker this month comes to us from La Grange, Texas an area where history seeps from the ground. Charles Hebert was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, a state steeped in history on a Friday the 13th. He grew up in a family that seemed to find history out the front door as far back as the Indians and the Puritans.

Always one to seek adventure and new horizons, Charles left his home state in the fall of 1968 to attend college at Sul Ross in Alpine, Texas. Culture shock soon set in and believing he knew more than the average man he returned home in the summer of 1969 and changed his draft classification to 1A and without telling his parents and was drafted into the U.S. Army.

He is quoted as saying “school was not for him.” Believing that with three years of college would land him a desk job, he soon found himself stationed in Germany in the infantry. Upon completion of his tour Charles returned to Sul Ross and completed his Bachelor’s Degree, followed by a Masters and doctoral work at Texas A&I in Kingsville along with advanced studies.

His keen interest in history and his knack for uncovering historical research has allowed him to pursue his dream of one day becoming an author. He is the published author of soon to be six books. However, he is best known for the story of the Kreische Family of Fayette County and still stays in weekly contact with the grandniece of Julia Kreische.

Charles and his wife Sylvia are both retired school administrators who moved to La Grange in 2015 from Livingston, TX. His interest in Fayette County and particularly the Kreische family began in 2016. He served as a docent at Monument Hill/Kreische Brewery; conducting numerous tours of the Kreische home and the Kreische Brewery. He has presented locally, at the state and national level, telling the stories that make history come alive. He engages all audiences both big and small.

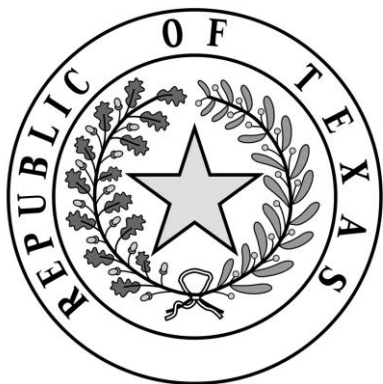
Not one to rest, he has developed a series of Podcasts entitled “Footprints Across Texas” in which he tells the stories of the people, the latest being the Kreisches and those that helped make our great state what it is today.

He is a member of the Fayette County Historical Commission, The Texas State Historical Commission, and a contributor to the “Footprints of Fayette” articles found in the area’s newspapers: The Fayette County Record, Weimar Mercury, Flatonia Argus and Schulenburg Sticker.



Keeping Texas History Alive

Honoring Juan Seguin, A Texas Hero



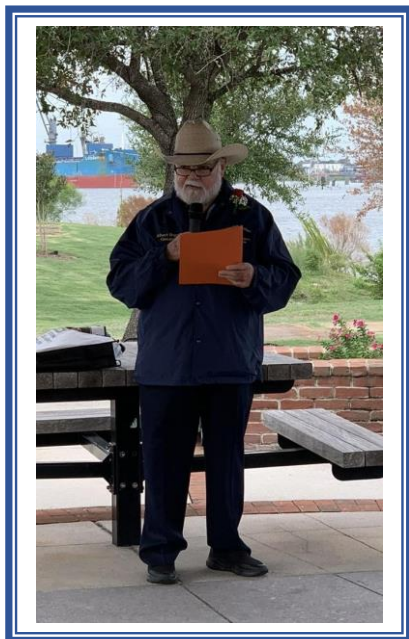
The Seguin Family Historical Society



October 7, 2023 11:00 a.m.

Juan Seguin Historic Park
(gathering under pavilion)

On Saturday, October 7, 2023, a Memorial Medallions Dedication was held honoring Juan Seguin. Three Medallions were placed by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, The Sons of the Republic of Texas and the San Jacinto Descendants. Albert Seguin, a direct descendant of Juan Seguin served as the Master of Ceremony. It was a beautiful day and the ceremony was attended by numerous Daughters and Sons.



Albert Seguin



Phyllis, Albert, Lupe & J.B.
All the work these folks accomplish.
A true labor of love

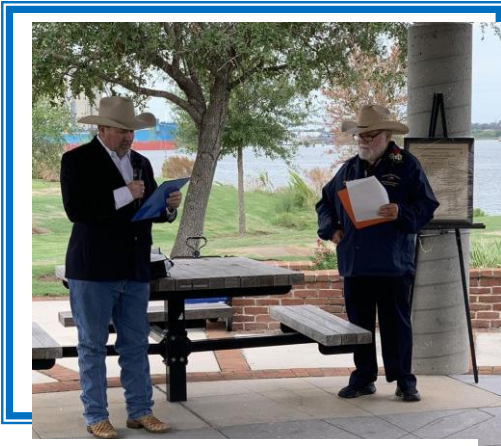


Martha Fleitas, DRT
Library Chair and
Albert Seguin

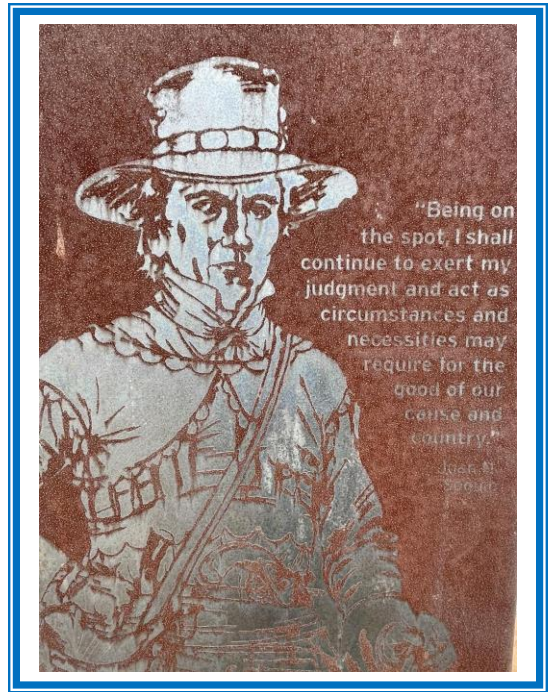
Juan Seguin Ceremony



Joe Tennant, President, San Jacinto Descendants and Albert Seguin.



Robyn Davis, SRT District Representative and Albert Seguin



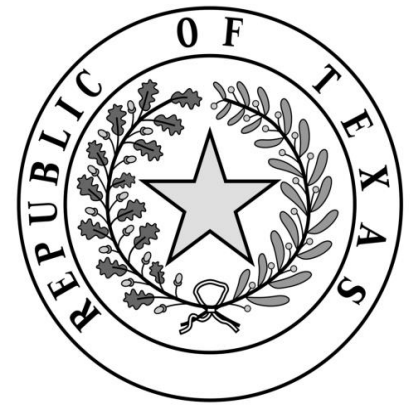
SRT members – Joe Tennant, Scotty Patrick, Bill Haddock, Robyn Davis, Unknown SRT Member, Carl Hill, Ron Schoolcraft, Steve Nicol, Robert Gindratt, Albert Seguin, Mike Mitchell, Robert Schnuriger, Larry Armstrong, J.B. Kline and Buddy Inman.



Enjoying lunch at the Monument Inn
Robert Schnuriger, Steve Manis, Christie Erickson, Carol and Mike Mitchell.



Texas Patriot Corner



This month our Texas Patriot is Juan Seguin. It is an honor to have a descendant of Juan Seguin in our chapter – Albert Seguin. Albert is a true Texan and works tirelessly to promote Texas History. He attends many events locally and throughout the State.

Who was Juan Seguin?

Juan Nepomuceño Seguin was a 19th-century political, military and social leader under the flags of Spain, Mexico and the Republic of Texas. He served Texas in many capacities i.e. Legislator, Texas Senator, Alcalde, Mayor, Judge, and Justice of the Peace and a prominent participant in the Texas Revolution and Defender at the Alamo.

Juan was born October 27, 1806 in Spanish Texas in the Villa de Bexar, San Antonio. He was a descendant of Spanish and French parents and great grandparents who arrived in New Spain before 1712.

He was the son of Don Erasmo Seguin who was of French ancestry and his mother Dona Maria Gertrudes Flores Seguin who was of Spanish ancestry whose family was part of the original Canary Islanders.

In 1834 Juan was granted the Head Right to 4,600 acres on the eastern end of Galveston Island. He later transferred that land title to Michel Menard and associates, thus the City of Galveston was born 1838.

Capt Juan Seguin and other Texan Volunteers attacked Gen. Cos troops in control of San Antonio in a crucial battle that signaled "No Turning Back" by the Texas Freedom Fighters. They ousted Gen. Cos and the Texans occupied the old Mission known as The Alamo. Seguin had been appointed Captain in the Texas Army by Stephen F. Austin. The Alamo fell and all the defenders were killed during the battle or executed shortly thereafter.

Capt. Seguin was the only Defender and Commissioned Officer who fought at the Alamo and survived to fight for Texas Independence at San Jacinto.

He fought in all Major Battles, from the Grass fight to fighting Shoulder to Shoulder with his brothers in arms; Bowie, Crockett and Travis culminating with the Battle of San Jacinto where Texas won its' independence.

After the fall of the Alamo, Seguin recruited a new company of Tejanos and joined with Sam Houston in Gonzales. Seguin and his men served as rear guard protecting the settlers from the Mexican Army during the Runaway Scrape. Seguin was a significant part of the Texan victory at San Jacinto, where he commanded the 9th Company, Second Regiment Texas Volunteers. A thoughtful and literate man, Seguin kept careful memoirs of the events at San Jacinto. In the personal memoirs of Juan N. Seguin, he recalled the gallantry and passion with which his unit fought. Indeed, the service of Tejano troops was indispensable throughout the revolution.

As Commandant of San Antonio Seguin and his men were charged with the task of vacating the remnants of the Mexican army still stationed in San Antonio.

They pursued them out of Texas following the battle of San Jacinto.

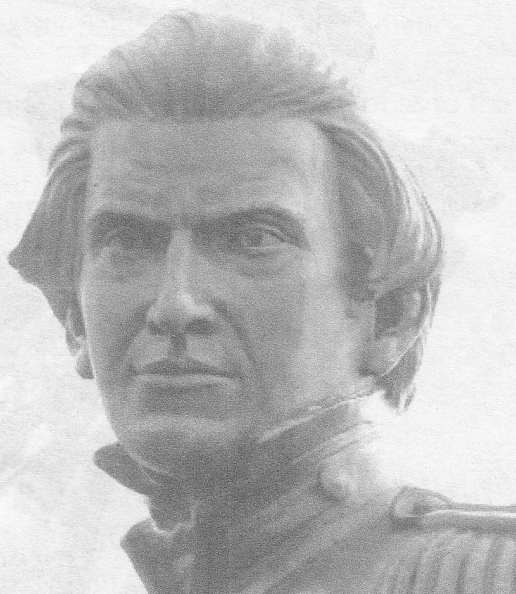
He was Commissioned Lt. Colonel by Interim Republic of Texas President David G. Burnet who expressed;
"A special trust in the courage, patriotism and ability of Lt. Col. Juan N. Seguin."



"Texas shall be Free and Independent or we shall all perish in glorious battle."

"I embraced the cause of Texas at the sound of the first cannon shot which foretold her liberty, filled an honorable role within the ranks of conquerors of San Jacinto and was a member of the legislative body of the Republic."

JUAN N. SEGUIN TEXAS HERO



Seguin later buried the remains of the Alamo Defenders with military honors and with a Christian burial. In a religious procession carried the remains of those heroes ashes and buried them at the San Fernando Cathedral. He is considered the Savior of San Antonio. He kept San Antonio from being burn to ground by order of Felix Huston of the Texan Army. Seguin successfully appealed to his Friend Sam Houston to rescind that order.

Juan was a Member of the Texas Rangers – Mounted Riflemen
Senator Seguin was elected to the Republic of Texas Senate, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Congress

Seguin was twice elected Mayor of San Antonio, elected two terms as Bexar County Justice of the Peace, served in the capacity of Election Precinct Chairman and was Co-Founder of the Democratic Party of Bexar County and was Voted Wilson County Judge

In 1839 the township of Walnut Springs was re-named in his honor by a majority vote of the citizens of Seguin for his service to Texas.
For his gallant and heroic Service to Texas, was awarded a pension for life by the State of Texas.

Juan Seguin was returning home to Texas from Saltillo and stopped in Nuevo Laredo because he had fallen ill. His son who was the Mayor of Nuevo Laredo insisted he remain there to regain his good health. There is a beautiful ballad that says; *“My body died in Mexico, but my spirit made it home to Texas.”*
Col. Juan N. Seguin as you know, Served His Beloved County, Texas, In many capacities.

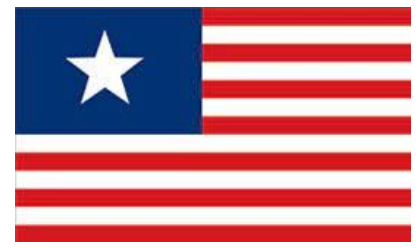
“ . . .in fulfillment of my duty, I always drew a distinction between my obligations, as a soldier on the battle-field, and as a civilized man.”

“Therefore, there should be no doubt as to the rights an individual enjoys and equally important, what his responsibilities are as a Citizen of Texas.”

Texas Patriot Corner

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.

Texian Navy Day



Robert Schnuriger, Robyn Davis & Steve Manis



Randy Pollard, KSJ, President General



Above – Carl Hill, Color Guard Commander with the Texas Navy Flag.

Below – Mike Wilson playing Taps



Steve Manis, Carl Hill, Christie Erickson & Robert Schnuriger

Texian Navy Day Matagorda Bay



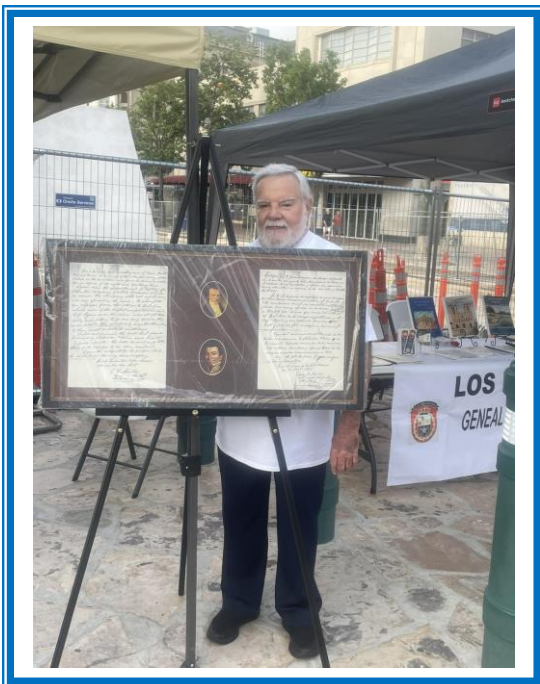
Albert Seguin, Ray Beall, Robert Gindratt, Ron Schoolcraft and J.B. Kline



Robert Gindratt and Ron Schoolcraft

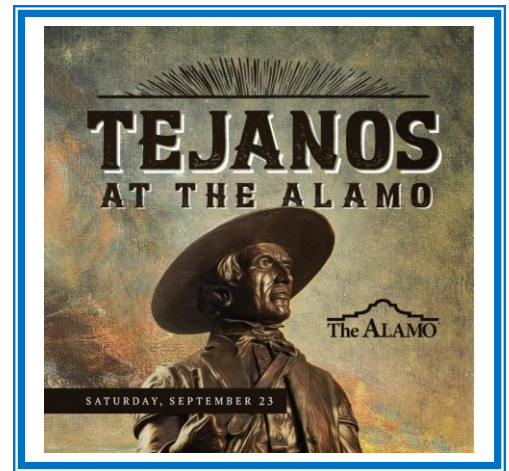


Tejano Day at the Alamo



Left – Albert Seguin

Below
J.B. Kline and Albert at the Juan Seguin booth.



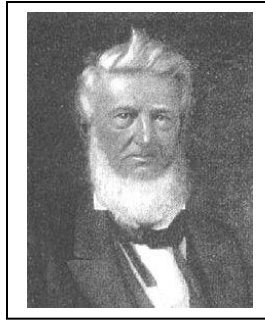
Preserving Texas History



Burnet-Sherman Marker



Robert Schnuriger, Carl Hill, Ron Schoolcraft and Steve Manis



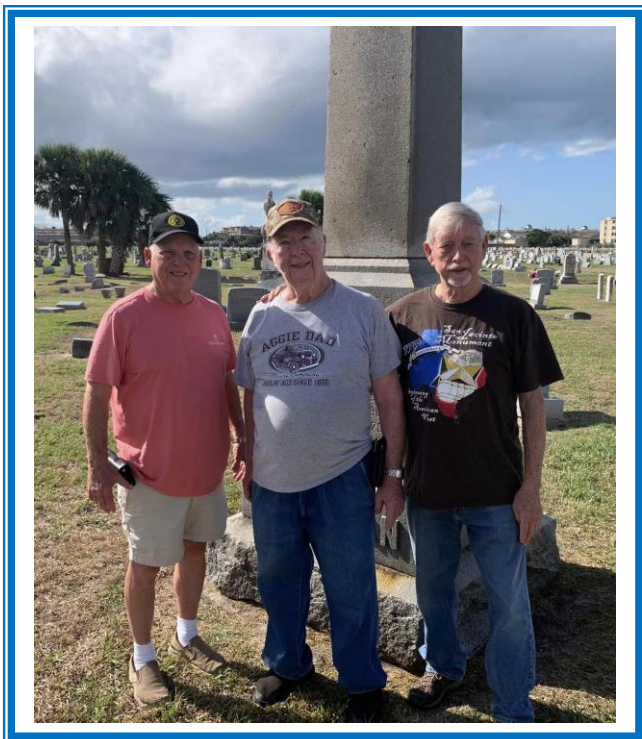
David G. Burnet
First President of the Republic of Texas

Born – April 4, 1799
Died – December 5, 1870

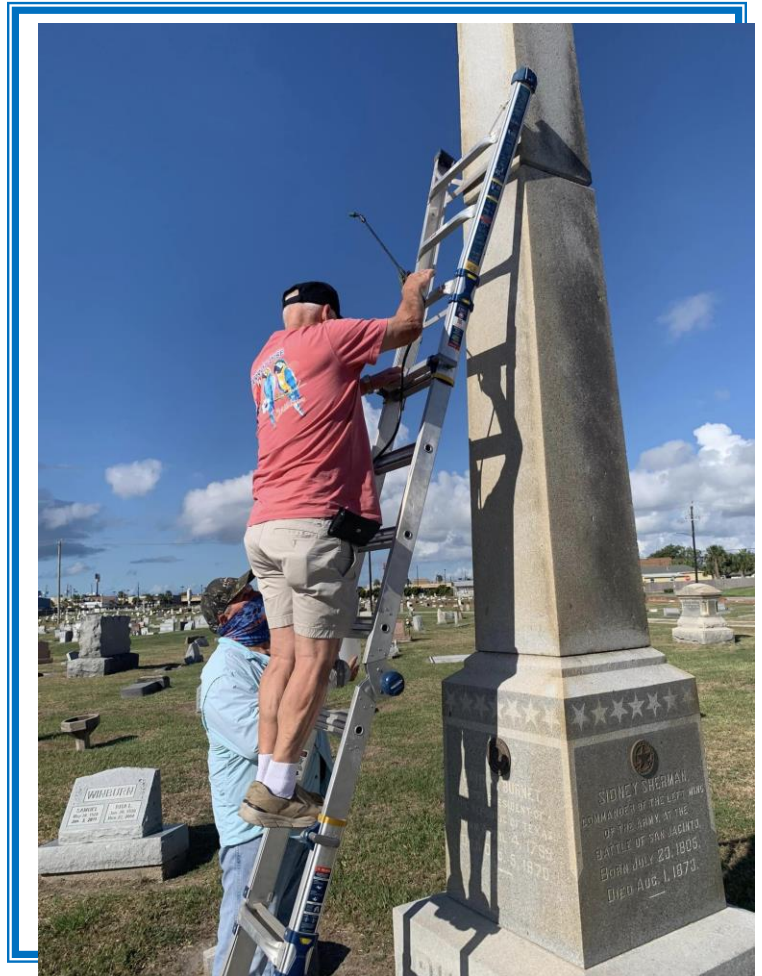


Sidney Sherman
Commander of the Left Wing of the Army at the Battle of San Jacinto

Born – July 23, 1805
Died – August 1, 1873



Steve Manis, Robert Gindratt and Carl Hill.



Robert Schnuriger and Steve Manis (on ladder) cleaning the Burnet – Sherman Marker in preparation for the Graveside Ceremony on October 17, 2023

ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2023

October 17, 2023

Burnet-Sherman Marker Ceremony

10:00 a.m., Lakeview Cemetery
3015 57th Street, Galveston, Tx.

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 – Flem Rogers
Period Weapons

DECEMBER 9, 2023

SEIGE OF BEXAR

December 12, 2023

Third Annual Christmas Party

Antiques Pavilion, Galveston
Hosted by Jim Noonus

January 16, 2023

Chapter Meeting

Judge Ken Wise
“Indian Raiders tried in Civilian Courts”
& TSHA Update

Upcoming Dates of Interest

October 22, 2023

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

Sidney Sherman Chapter Executive Committee

President: Carl V. Hill, Jr.
easygoal1@hotmail.com

Secretary: Clark Wright
cpwright2@verizon.net

First Vice President: Gene Wueste
cegw@aol.com

Registrar: Steve Nicol
stevenicol48@yahoo.com

Second Vice President: Robert Gindratt
rgindratt@comcast.net

Sergeant-at-Arms: Larry Armstrong
8325948259@vzwpix.com

Treasurer: Billy Mayo
bcmayo1@comcast.net

Chaplain: Robert Schnuriger
rschnuriger@gmail.com



Past President: Ron Schoolcraft
rettcpdcaptrws@aol.com



**Sons of the Republic of
Texas – National Office**

www.srttexas.org



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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



*God Bless
Texas*