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Carl Hill

**1<sup>st</sup>. Vice President**

Robert Schnuriger

**2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice President**

Robert Gindratt

**Secretary**

Clark Wright

**Treasurer**

Jess Colwell

**Registrar**

Steve Nicol

**Quartermaster**

Larry Armstrong

## Sidney Sherman Chapter #2

### Minutes

March 19, 2024

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 5:30 PM on February 20 in the banquet room behind the cashier. President Carl Hill called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Robert Schnuriger gave the opening prayer. Steve Nicol led us in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States and Ron Schoolcraft led us in the pledge to the Texas Flag.

**Attending:** Larry\* and George\* Armstrong , Jeff Colwell, Robyn@ Davis (SRT Executive Committeeman), Robert\* (Second Vice-President) Gindratt, Albert\* Seguin Gonzales, Carl\* (President) Hill, J.B.\* Kline, Steve\* Manis, Mike\* Mitchell, Steve\* (Historian) Nicol, Shawn\* Rainey, Tim\* Rainey, Robert\* (SRT District V Vice-President and Vice-President) Schnuriger, Ron\* (Immediate Past-President) Schoolcraft, Eron! Tyne, and Clark\*(Secretary) Wright. We had 15 Chapter members, 2 honorary member and 2 guests attending this meeting with a total of 19 in attendance.

**Installation:** President Hill announced an unusual situation occurred in that our newest member: Bernard Rapp had died of cancer. Carl proceeded to induct Compatriot Rapp, with the membership answering for Bernard. President Hill said that the transition of the treasury from Billy Mayo to Jess Colwell is complete.

**Business:** Minutes of the January meeting are posted in the web site. President Hill asked for comment. Tim Rainey moved to accept the minutes as posted, the motion passed without descent. Steve Nicol announced that several applications are in the works. President Hill indicated that chapter participated in the activities of Independence Day (March 2) at the Houston Monument in Houston and then at Washington on the Brazos. Steve Manis indicated that he had met with Henry (Hank) Hall who said he regretted not being able to make our meetings, but gave Steve two (2) checks totaling \$500 donation to the chapter. Carl led the color guard at the latter. We also had members participate in the activities of Dawn at the Alamo, our wreath being delivered by our President and First Vice-President. Carl indicated that is was a special occasion in that the Travis letter to Texas as on display. Robert and Carl reported on the Annual Meeting where our scrapbook won first place. Most of this work was done by Mike Wilson. Steve called Hank Hall next and the membership gave Hank a rousing "Thank You" for his generosity. President Hall then discussed the San Jacinto Activity to occur this Thursday at the Battleground. They expect some 60 students to attend and need guidance through the various points of interest in the Park. Carl then went over the April activities at San Jacinto. The 19<sup>th</sup> is School Day, the 20<sup>th</sup> being the Festival, and

the 21<sup>st</sup> Celebration at 2pm with Paul Spellman being the keynote speaker. Tim Rainey moved to offer \$200 toward these activities, and Robert Schnuriger indicated that he would sufficient to give \$300.

**Program:** Nancy Potter discussed her novel "Barbour's Cut: Beyond the Rivers Reach" which encompasses the life of Captain Clyde Barbour who had the idea and began dredging Barbour's Cut in 1928. Captain Clyde A. Barbour was a young and ambitious steamboat captain who helped shape the city of Houston and transform Port Houston into the fastest growing container port in the United States and the first in overall tonnage. A resident of Houston for 20 years in the early 1900s, Barbour recognized the potential for expanding the waterborne commerce in the Houston Ship Channel. He envisioned and undertook a bold endeavor to cut the five-hour trip from ships traveling from the Gulf of Mexico to Port Houston in half by dredging an inlet that included a turning basin off the Houston Ship Channel only two and a half hours from the Gulf of Mexico. He named the inlet and terminal Barbour's Cut and Barbour's Terminal, respectively. His ambitious project catapulted Port Houston to the forefront of container activity in the Gulf Coast. Barbour owned the Galveston, Harrisburg and Houston Transportation Company, as well as other companies, and was awarded the contract in 1910 to supply concrete for the first great causeway over Galveston Bay between Galveston Island and the mainland, making building materials one of the largest branches of trade in Houston.

**Note:** Chapter Members are denoted by a star (\*), Honorary Members are denoted with an exclamation point (!), other SRT members are denoted by a at-sign (@), Lafitte Society (#), Texas Navy (\$) and Daily News (%) in the list of attendees.

**Executive Board Meeting:** Officers of the chapter met at noon on April 10 at the Pacific Seafood in San Leon. All officers attended except our Quartermaster. We discussed the malicious email that several of our officers have received. We now have in hand the award money from the Annual Meeting for our Scrapbook. The primary business of this meeting was to address the shortfall we are incurring for the monthly meetings. This situation will be aggravated by the directive from the SRT home office that we have to pay taxes on our meals. A motion was presented to begin using separate bills for meals, the motion was approved by acclamation. The change will not begin until the May meeting. Next we discussed the upcoming activities at the San Jacinto Battleground. On that Saturday we will have a tent and table set up with a portrait of Sidney Sherman to advertise our chapter. These will not be necessary for Sunday. We plan to celebrate the anniversary of Sidney Sherman's birth on July 27 at Pacific Seafood, and hold the price for that event at \$35 per person. The officers then discussed speakers for our future meetings. Seve Nicol reported that several applications continue in work.

Prepared by Clark P. Wright, Secretary