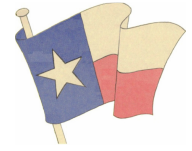




Lone Star



Messenger

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A New Newsletter!!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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In an effort to keep the communications line open, we have developed a newsletter - and we called it the "Lone Star Messenger" - and now (just like everything else your board does) this is for YOU!

We have experienced a remarkable growth over six months, taken on a new project, added community awards events, and website changes. Many people were looking for another venue to try to keep the all important lines of communication open. The goal of your board is to make this newsletter happen once every other month. We intend to include meeting notes (in case you miss one), project status updates, award updates, and of course tons of events from the Sons of the Republic of Texas!

Since we are beginning with this, we would love to have feedback! If you would like to see something listed in the newsletter in specific, please drop us a line. Ideas and suggestions are definitely welcome!

God Bless Texas!

Dr. Stewart Project Update

By John Homman

As most of you know, the annual project for 2008 was selected at our May meeting. The chapter voted to take on the Dr. Charles Stewart project which initially consisted of his burial site clean up, new historical marker, and new memorial monument (Cenotaph). Most of you are aware of Dr. Stewart's contributions to the Republic of Texas, but in case you only knew as much as me when I started this, we added a section on Page 2 to cover his accomplishments. Suffice it to say, that Dr. Stewart was a legend in both the Republic of Texas and Montgomery County.

The project started off with a very small scope and budget - which was what I felt was the best for the first project we took on as a chapter. What I totally failed to consider is WHO we were taking on! Dr. Stewart is a very popular man in Montgomery County and we have drawn a great amount of attention from many people concerning this project, just

Please see *Dr. Stewart Project* on page 3

"Suffice it to say, that Dr. Stewart was a legend in both the Republic of Texas and Montgomery County."

Accomplishments of a Hero

Dr. Charles Bellinger Tate Stewart

How about this for a résumé?

1. Assisted with penning the Texas Declaration of Independence;
2. First signer of the document;
3. a Pharmacist;
4. Served as a Sergeant at the Battle of San Jacinto;
5. Was bi-lingual, and served as interpreter for Sam Houston when he negotiated with General Santa Anna;
6. District Attorney;
7. Credited with BOTH the creation of the State Seal **AND** the Lone Star Flag;
8. Served in three separate Republic of Texas Legislatures representing Montgomery County;
9. Participated in the Constitutional Conventions of 1836 and 1845;
10. Book author "How to hunt for a deed or Record in Montgomery County";
11. Postmaster;
12. Notary Public;
13. First "de-facto" Secretary of State

"Wow! And I thought having three children was enough accomplishments!"

Wow! And I thought having three children was enough accomplishments!

More information can be obtained at this web link:

<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/tslac/40041/40041-P.html> or
<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/SS/fst53.html>

Awards from our Chapter

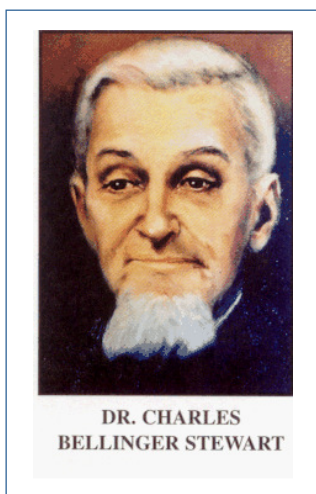
At our May meeting, the Lone Star Chapter voted to add the following awards (the board added another), which are up on our website:

1. "Order of the Lone Star" (members only)
2. "A True Texian" (open to the public)
3. "Outstanding Texas History Educator of the Year - CISD" -
Sponsored in part by HEB

We also added a link for a flag certificate from the LSSRT or an Eagle Scout Certificate from the LSSRT.

Check the link and website out!!

<http://www.lonestarsrt.org/Community%20Works.htm>



Dr. Stewart Project (continued)

because of the subject matter.

Since we started, we have been joined by the local Chapter for The Daughters of the Republic of Texas (Nathaniel Hart Chapter), the Children of the Republic of Texas (Charles Stewart Chapter), the Montgomery Historical Society, the Marine Corp League #779 of Montgomery County, the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Heritage Museum of Montgomery County. We appeared before the Montgomery County City Council for a question and answer session and have secured the support of several direct descendants of Dr. Stewart.

And the project grew...

While pursuing details for the initial scope, we came across Mr. Dick Seeger of the Marine Corp League #779. At his own expense, Mr. Seeger had hired two college students to prepare architectural drawings for a memorial to Dr. Stewart to be placed on the land where he used to live on the corner of FM 2854 and Highway 105 in Montgomery. After he got into the project, he had some serious health problems which forced a delay. Since it seemed to go hand in hand with what we were doing, I was very happy to volunteer to pick up his dream and attempt to make it a reality. As a result, the project got a second phase - the Memorial. **And the project grew...**

While doing further research, the curator of the Texas State Cemetery informed me of another descendant of Dr. Stewart who was working on a Cenotaph memorial marker for Dr. Stewart at the Texas State Cemetery. James Alvarez had started the ground work to add this memorial, secured the plot location (behind Governor John Connolly's grave), and has a conceptual idea of the markers appearance, but needed one very important thing...funding! Again, this only appeared to be a natural fit for our project, so I felt it only right to help. Thus, the project now has a phase three. It seems not a single week goes by without something popping up, but NO MORE PHASES!

I have spent a great deal of time researching grants, preparing Request for Proposals (RFP's), and basically I'm looking to sell my shorts for money! We will need to raise about \$55,000.00 to make all three of these phases happen.

We have grabbed the attention of the Houston Chronicle (which wants to do a feature story on this early next year), the Conroe Courier (which also wants a lead story), and the Montgomery Courier. I have already secured letters of support from Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, US Representative Chet Edwards, and US Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson. The Governors' office is working with us to assist with grants where possible. They also had the executive leadership of the Texas Historical Commission contact me to see if we needed any help in application process for the Historical Marker at Dr. Stewart's gravesite (phase I). Oh...did I mention that US Representative Kevin Brady called to say he had placed the dedication date for Phase I (October 18, 2008) on his calendar to attend!!

The saga goes on...stand by for more updates!



"Oh...did I mention that US Representative Kevin Brady called to say he had placed the dedication date for Phase I (October 18, 2008) on his calendar to attend."

Our Next Meeting

The NEXT MEETING IS JULY 14TH at ALAMO JOES!

11:30 a.m. for lunch - \$20 at the door or you can prepay on the website and save \$2.00!

Our speaker will be Jean Smoorenberg. Jean has an extensive knowledge and 30+ years of experience in genealogy researching primarily in Ontario and Quebec Canada, The Netherlands, and New England. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts and former teacher, she was past genealogy SIG (Special Interest Group) Leader at Houston Area League of PC Users; she is a member of Clayton Library Friends, The Dallas Genealogy Society, and the Montgomery County Genealogical and Historical Society (MCG&HS) former editor of their publication, The Herald and served as VP of membership and publicity for several years. She currently teaches four genealogy classes at Montgomery College for ALL (Adult Leisure Learning): Beginning Genealogy, Genealogy in the 21st Century, and Introduction to Researching across the Pond and Genealogy Software for their spring and Fall Semester along with Phyllis Stehm.

She was responsible for the research that gained her stepdaughter an Early Settlers Certificate from MCG&HS and admittance to the DRT.

Jean will be specifically speaking on research tactics and techniques.



Lone Star Chapter of The Sons of the Republic of Texas

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Texas Saying---

I would gladly lay down my life defending my country...but for Texas, I would attack!!”



DON'T FORGET THE RIFLE RAFFLE - The Winner will be drawn at our next meeting!

Chapter News and Events

Be sure to check out the on-line calendar on the website for details, dates, and times!

Huntsville Prison Tour (old Walls Unit) is June 30th

Lone Star Chapter Meeting is July 14th

San Jacinto Chapter Meeting is July 5th

Pioneer Days at the Heritage Museum of Montgomery County - going on for two weeks July 9th through the 20th

Texian Navy Day is September 15th at the Texas State Cemetery

Executive Board Meeting in Salado - September 7th and 8th

DID YOU KNOW?

The LSSRT is a 501 C3 non-profit charity? All donations are tax deductible. There are many ways to help protect, preserve, and promote Texas history. You can donate to us straight out, bequeath a gift to us, or donate property - all with a receipt from us for your tax records! Consult a tax attorney for council and other ways you can help us.