

**The Cradle of Texas Crier**  
Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33  
Sons of the American Revolution



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Michael J. Bailey, Editor

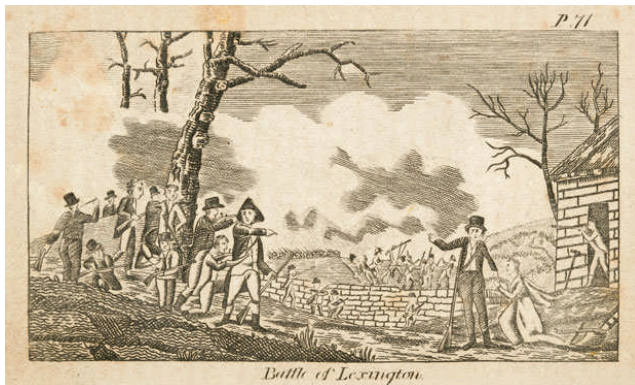
## Next Meeting

APRIL 14, 2012  
Red Snapper Inn  
402 Bluewater Hwy  
Surfside Beach, TX 77541

### Speaker

*Tome H. Green III*

Battle of Lexington and Concord



Tom Green was born July 17, 1939 in his grandfather's hospital in Athens, Texas. He completed high school in Mabank, Texas in 1957 and attended North Texas University in Denton, Texas graduating in 1961.

Upon graduation from North Texas State University in May of 1961 Tom married Margo Irene Oberkamp in New Braunfels on June of 1961, three weeks before reporting to the U.S. Navy Officer's Candidate School (OCS) in Newport, Rhode Island. After graduation from OCS, Tom attended the U.S. Navy Deep Sea Diving School in the Washington, DC for six months. Tom served on the U.S. S. Cree, a sea going salvage vessel, which served in the Viet Nam theatre when

## April

the U.S.A. was first getting involved, as well as patrolling the entrance to the Panama Canal during the Cuban missile crisis. Tom also served as Diving Repair Officer, First Lieutenant, Gunnery Officer and Navigator on the U.S.S. Piedmont, which was the oldest commissioned Navy ship in service at that time, and had been the Flag ship of Fleet Admiral "Bull" Halsey after WW-II ended. Tom completed six years of active duty in Key West, Florida as Training Officer of the U.S. Naval School for Underwater Swimmers, where most of the U.S. military divers were trained for duty in Viet Nam at that time, including some of the first S.E.A.L. team members. Margo and Tom's daughter Holly was born in the U.S. Navy Hospital in 1965 there in Key West.

Upon release from activity duty in the Navy in 1966, Tom joined the largest department store chain in Florida, became the Operating Manager for one of the Burdine's Department Stores in Miami, Florida, where he supervised the building, staffing, and stocking of three new department stores in three years. In 1972, Tom, Margo and Holly returned to Mabank, Texas where his father had operated a grocery store for 26 years, and assisted his father in operating the store until 1978 when Tom's father retired, and they sold the family store. Tom then returned to the department store business in Dallas, serving as Operating Manger of a Joskie's store in Dallas.

Tom moved his family to New Braunfels, Texas, the home of his wife, Margo, where

Tom became active in the insurance business, owning and operating an insurance agency, as well as an insurance company for several years. In 1987, Tom sold his insurance interest to one of his partners and went to work for the Texas Department of Insurance serving as a site manager for the Receiver and later the Conservator. In 1999, Tom retired from the State of Texas and in 2003 Tom and Margo moved to Pearland, Texas, located south of Houston, to be near their daughter Holly and her family.

Tom has been active in both the Sons of the Republic of Texas and the Sons of the American Revolution before retiring, and much of his time since retirement has been taken up with promoting these two societies. Tom was the founding chapter president of the Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels Chapter #50 of the Sons of the Republic of Texas and he has also served as Hill Country District Representative of the Sons of the Republic of Texas for the past four years, and was recently inducted as a Knight of San Jacinto at the annual convention, the highest award of the SRT, which was started in 1843 by President Sam Houston during the Republic of Texas days. Tom has participated in several historic events with the Texas Army at the San Jacinto Battlefield, and recently joined the group officially, and was just appointed Admiral in the Texas Navy by Governor Perry.

Tom also served as president of the William Hightower Chapter #35 of the Sons of the American Revolution, while living in New Braunfels. Tom has served at the State level of the SAR as Vice President for Promotion and Media Relations, as Staff Secretary, as President Elect, and recently completed a term as the President of the Texas Society. Tom now serves as the National Trustee of the Texas Society to the National Society SAR.

Tom is also a member of the American Legion and the North American Vexillological Association (the study of flags) and has collected or made over 60 historic flags of both the American Revolutionary and the Texas Revolutionary periods, and has given more than 250 Historic Flag Programs to SRT, DRT, SAR and DAR chapters, as well as historical societies, civic groups, family and professional associations, and more than 15,000 school children around the state of Texas. His knowledge of flag history is considerable; however, he always enjoys hearing a new story about the flags from the audience.

#### **Presidents Corner**

I would like to give you a report on the State Convention meeting in San Antonio a couple of weeks ago. Thanks to your generosity, the Chapter received honorable mention for the Frank Watkins Award which means that we had the second highest percentage of members that made contributions to the Patriots Fund. We had almost 18 percent of our members make a contribution. The Patriots Fund is where the money comes from to pay for the Youth Scholarships we give each year at the State Convention. We have contestants in Oration, Essay, CAR Essays, JROTC and Eagle Scouts. We also give money for the winners of the Poster Contest. All of these contests are about places and the history of the American Revolutionary War. I would like to challenge more of you to give to this fund this year and maybe we can be in First Place.

We also won an award for giving more money this year than we did last year to the Patriots Fund. I thank you for your generosity. We also won an award for giving Flag Certificates.

Arnold and Frank Seidule and I represented the Cradle of Texas at this

meeting. Next year it will be held in Dallas and I hope some of you will consider going to this meeting.

## Russell



### MEETING MINUTES

Sons of the American Revolution  
Cradle of Texas Chapter #33  
March 10, 2012

President Russell Dart called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. at Smithhart's Restaurant in Angleton. He led the Chapter in the pledges of allegiance to the American and Texas flags and the SAR pledge. Compatriot George Easterling gave the invocation.

Last meetings minutes were approved.

The treasury report had not changed from last meeting of \$5,535.95.

President Dart reported the following:

- He presented the Bronze *Good Citizenship Metal* to Master Sergeant Charles Settles on February 15<sup>th</sup> at the Alvin High School. Sgt. Settles and JROTC students led by Kyle Gaucher presented the Liverpool Food Pantry with \$5,000 worth of food items during the Christmas holidays. President

Dart, also, presented Cadet Gaucher with a *Good Citizenship* pin. Cadet Gaucher was the recipient of the SAR Bronze JROTC *Outstanding Cadet Award* last year. Our chapter has a story in the Alvin Sun/Advertiser about this presentation.

- Bill Sanders secured publication in Wharton County newspapers of our chapter's Color Guard presentation of the Colors at the Comfort Wood Chapter of the DAR meeting in February. These ladies presented Bill with a *Citizenship Award* for his outstanding assistance to the Comfort Wood Chapter and to the communities in Wharton County.
- Mary Sechrest, widow of compatriot Clell Sechrest, sent a thank-you note for our participation in Clell's funeral service.
- Several members have been dropped from our chapter's roll since they have not paid their dues for the year. If you know any of them, please, contact them and request them to reactivate. They are Martin Atwood, William Bryant, Gary Canion, Jack Hollister, Lane Hollister, Douglas Kincannon, Thomas Mudd, James Renfro, Wyatt Scott, and Harell Whitnell.

President Dart presented Arnold Seidule with his *15 Year Membership Certificate*.

Chapter #5 presented Tom Green (Thomas B. Green, III) the *George Washington Distinguished Service Award* at its 69<sup>th</sup> annual George Washington Birthday Dinner at The Briar Club in Houston on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Michael Bailey participated in Tom Green's Texas flag presentation at Washington-on-the-Brazos on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Michael and Frank Seidule marched in

uniform in Laredo's George Washington parade.

President Dart introduced Sonya Broadway, Brazoria County Veterans Service Officer, who enthusiastically told how she helps Brazoria County veterans pursue VA medical services and/or compensation for disabilities incurred while a veteran.

The next meeting will be April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Red Snapper Inn at Surfside.

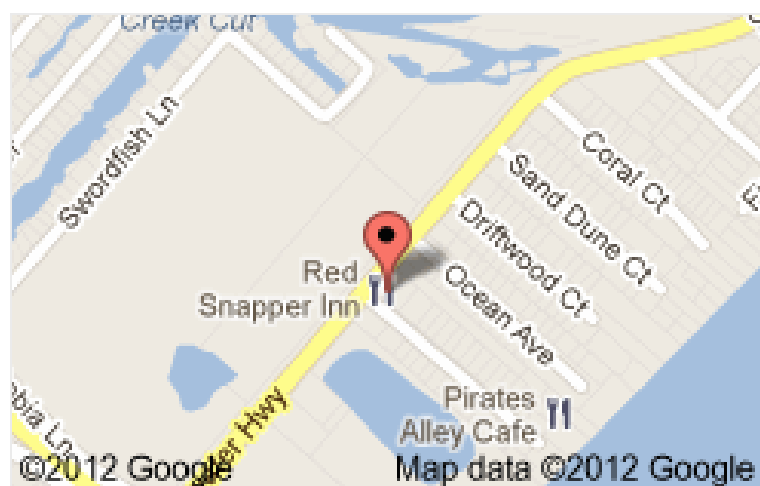
President Dart led the SAR closing and George Easterling gave the benediction.

**Members Present** - Russell Dart, George Easterling, Arnold Seidule, Tillman Daniel, Chuck Bernard, Bill Greenwood, Thomas Mayerle and Winston Avera.

**Guest** included Janice Seidule, Carolyn Choate, Sue Dart, Alton & Ladene Rogers, Judy Bernard and Connie Avera.

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<http://www.redsnapperinn.com>



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