

Heroes Of History (830)833-0809 E-mail: Bob.Heinonen@HeroesOfHistory.net



What are we?

Autobiographical actors?
Impersonators?
Re-enactors?
First person interpreters?
Storytellers?
Actors?

The answer is "Yes!".....
We teach accurate history while we entertain audiences of all ages.

Spring
2010
is
here...
really!

Sons Of The Republic

I am very proud, appreciative and touched to have been made an Honorary Member of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sons Of The Republic Of Texas. Fred Mead had asked me if I would accept the honorary membership and I immediately told him I would. How could a man say "no" to such an honor?

Full membership in the Sons Of The Republic Of Texas requires that you be a male who is a direct lineal descendent of a resident of the Republic Of Texas prior to February 19, 1846. I do not qualify.

I was asked to attend the chapter's monthly meeting on October 19th to be inducted. When I arrived at the Steamboat House Restaurant in Houston, I

was very surprised to see that many of the members were dressed in 1830's attire; I had been specifically told it would be a casual affair. You could have seen the grin on my face for a mile.

If you have not been to the Steamboat House Restaurant, you need to make it a destination. The restaurant is like a Texas history museum and the meals are top quality. I had a dessert they call the "Cannon Ball" that was incredible.

As guest of honor, I was seated at the head of the table with President David Martin. It is not often I get to just sit and talk with people of such knowledge on Texas history. Normally I am the "expert" and people pick my

brain, but here I had the chance to learn from others.

At the appropriate time, David Martin, President of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sons Of The Republic Of Texas, presented me with a plaque naming me an Honorary Member of the Lone Star Chapter. It hangs proudly on my office wall over my desk. There are few honors higher for a man than to be called a Texan.



Miscellaneous Stuff

TEXAS HISTORY LECTURE SERIES

The Lone Star College System, a community college system in the Houston area, has inaugurated a series of lectures on Texas history as a part of its Academy For Lifelong Living. The Academy For Lifelong Living offers non-credit courses, lectures and social activities for active adults 50 years of age or older.

This fall's offering was a 7-lecture series given by volunteer speakers representing the Sons Of The Republic Of Texas. Lectures were two hours in length with two topics covered at each lecture. The report I received is that the attendance was almost overwhelming.

Wouldn't it be great if other school systems around the state, at any level, put together a series like this for their community.

As I understand it, another series will be offered this coming spring. When I hear more, I will let you know. In the mean time, stay tuned to www.lonestar.org

BATTLE OF BEXAR

In early December, 1835, The Army Of The People (Texians) began a siege of San Antonio de Bexar, the headquarters of the Mexican Army in Texas. Initially, Stephen F. Austin was the commander of the Texian army but he received orders to go to the United States to raise men and money for the revolution.

No one was able to take control of the independent volunteers, so finally Ben Milam asked, "Who would follow Old Ben Milam into San Antonio?" and the battle really began. Five days later, on

December 10, after house to house fighting, Mexican General Cos surrendered his men, the town and the Alamo.

As with many things of the Texas Revolution, estimates of casualties have wide ranges. Anywhere from 14 to 35 Texians were wounded and 4-6 killed. Mexican casualties are estimated at about 150 killed or wounded.

A COWBOY AT CHRISTMAS



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LEGENDS OF HISTORY

Legends are topics we love and hate. Legends are those parts of history that may not be proven, but people want to believe they are true. Here is one you will want to remember:

Legend: The only time an American President used the U. S. Army to control U. S. citizens within the borders of the U. S. was President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War

What We Know Now:

This is not at all true.

The **Calling Forth Act** of 1795 allowed the President to unilaterally call out state militias "to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions." The **Insurrection Act of 1807** restricted the ability of the President to deploy federal troops within the United States to put down lawlessness, insurrection and rebellion that cannot be handled by the individual states. The intent was to limit the power of the President and to allow the states to govern the actions of its citizens. The **Posse Comitatus Act of 1878** further defined the restrictions on use of the U. S. military against U. S. citizens. These acts do not apply, however, to the use of the Coast Guard or to the National Guard when under state command. The intent of the acts are to prevent the federal military forces of the United States from becoming a national police force; the acts are intended to prohibit the use of the federal military to enforce laws. Enforcement of laws is a civilian issue.

...execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions.

What are some of the instances where American Presidents used the U. S. military to put down "lawlessness, insurrection and rebellion" that could not be handled by the individual states?

1. During the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794, President George Washington personally led 13,000 troops against a secessionist insurgency in western Pennsylvania that was provoked by the first Federal tax (which was, of course, on whiskey.)
2. President Abraham Lincoln ordered the U. S. military to suppress the rebellion of the southern states from 1861 to 1865 with military occupation of some states lasting into the early 1870's
3. In 1957, President Dwight Eisenhower took control of the Arkansas National Guard from the governor and dispatched Army paratroopers to Little Rock, Arkansas, based on a request by the mayor to maintain order during integration of the public schools
4. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy sent 3,000 Army soldiers to restore order at the University of Mississippi at Oxford during integration of the school
5. The 1992 Los Angeles Riots saw President George H. W. Bush send 4,000 Army and Marine personnel to bring order to the city after a request from the California governor for assistance
6. During the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, President William Clinton sent over ten thousand U.S. troops to guard against terrorism
7. In 1997, President William Clinton mobilized 2,500 Army and National Guard troops to patrol the University of Mississippi at Oxford during a class of 1962 reunion
8. In 2002, President George Bush used federal troops to guard against terrorism at the Olympic Winter Games in Utah

Although the acts of Congress still prevail, the wording of each act is vague enough to let the President decide what situations require military involvement. Almost anything can be defined as involving federal law and almost anything can be defined as an emergency. The Supreme Court, in its rulings, has taken a fairly broad view of what falls within federal authority. The military is not prevented from providing any kind of support to civilian law enforcement.

Heroes Of History

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December Performances

Day Organization

*Have a great
holiday season!*

- 1 Forum at Lincoln Heights, San Antonio
- 2 The Court at Round Rock, Austin
- 3 Horizon Bay at San Antonio, San Antonio
- 4 The Continental, Austin
- 5 The Inn at Los Patios, San Antonio
- 6 Chandler Retirement Apartments, San Antonio
- 8 Highland Springs, Dallas
- 9 Parkway Place, Houston
- 10 The Terrace at Clear Lake, Webster
- 10 Forum at Memorial Woods, Houston
- 11 Paradise Springs, Spring
- 11 Atria Collier Park, Beaumont
- 12 Baytown Historical Preservation Association, Baytown
- 14 Three Fountains, Dallas
- 14 Franklin Park at Hometown, North Richland Hills
- 15 Medallion Senior Living, Dallas
- 16 St. Joseph Village, Coppell
- 17 Trinity Terrace, Fort Worth
- 17 Lakeview at Josey Lane, Carrollton
- 18 Sewell Elementary School, Sachse
- 18 Town Village North, Dallas
- 21 The Towers on Park Lane, San Antonio
- 21 Independence Hill, San Antonio
- 21 Patriot Heights, San Antonio
- 21 The Renaissance – Austin, Austin
- 22 Elderhaven of Austin, Austin
- 22 Westminster Manor, Austin
- 23 The Meadows Retirement Community, San Antonio

This is the reservation list as of the issuance of this newsletter. For an up-to-date list, check our website calendar at:

http://www.TexasHeroes.net/Texas_Heroes_calendar.htm

For a list of all clients, go to <http://www.TexasHeroes.net/ThePast.html>