



What are we?

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

The answer is "Yes!"

We teach accurate history while we entertain people of all ages.

**Time to finish
planning for
spring and get
on with
summer**

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Cellphones

During the last few months, I have had a big increase in cell-phone incidents while I am performing.

The first type of incident is when a phone in the audience rings and the owner is too embarrassed to admit it is their phone ringing. The whole audience gets to sit through at least eight rounds of someone's favorite song.

The second type of incident is when the person in the audience realizes their mistake, pulls out the phone and stops the call. Thank you.

It is the third type of incident that absolutely amazes me. The person in the audience actually answers the phone and then

carries on a conversation!

I had two incidents during the Christmas season in which ladies in the front row answered a call and carried on a conversation. Since I am in front I can see how irritated the rest of the people in the audience become. In the second incident, I stopped my performance and asked the lady to leave. Yes, I actually threw a little old lady out!

In this case, I had asked the hostess to announce before the program that all cell-phones be turned off; she assured me no one would cause a problem and she did not make the announcement.

Last week I had an incident involving a gentleman with an ear attached cell-phone. You couldn't hear the ring, but all of a sudden he would start talking.... right in the middle of my performance. The whole audience turned to look at him. The second time he did that, I stopped my performance and asked him to leave. This time I threw a little old man out. Some in the audience applauded and most showed agreement with my action.

I hate being put in that position. What is the protocol for these situations? What do you think I should do?

Miscellaneous Stuff

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

I will be performing for the public at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, Texas, on March 9 at 7:00PM as William Barret Travis. This is in conjunction with their exhibit on The Alamo.

When the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum opened its doors in 1933, it was a 12,500 square foot building. Since that time the museum has become the largest history museum in Texas with more than 285,000 square feet.

I was recently told by a number of people that my picture was on the front of the museum's newsletter. I had not seen it, so I looked it up on the internet. WOW! Now that is a picture.

Take a look at their website:
www.PanhandlePlains.org

and look for their winter newsletter.

WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS

This will be Elizabeth's and my 18th year performing at the Texas Independence Day Celebration at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park plus Jack Edmondson will be joining us again. We will be performing on Saturday, February 27th and Sunday, February 28th in the Star of The Republic Museum.

The event is sponsored by the Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park Association.



COMING UP

Last month I asked that, if you have a Texas history event this year, you let me know so I can let other people know about it. That offer still goes.

During the first part of February, I will send out a special newsletter listing the events I know about. I am considering setting up a page on my website that promotes the events.

If you know of an event you think others would like to know about, send me an e-mail with information and links that I can use. Even if you don't know the details or aren't personally involved, let me know anyway so I can investigate.

You don't have to send me anything fancy...just a clue. Send information to my e-mail address listed in the heading at the top of this page.

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 French And Indian War was a small, unimportant war in America

What We Know Now:

In late 1753, Major George Washington was directed by the English Governor of Virginia to take a message to French troops who had moved down from Canada to build forts on the Allegheny River in the Ohio territory. The message requested the French to leave the area immediately. The French refused. What was even worse – most Ohio Indians sided with the French.

In April, 1754, now Lieutenant Colonel George Washington of the Virginia Regiment, leading 159 untrained volunteers, marched west to begin building a fort on the Ohio River to oppose the French. In May, Washington was informed of French soldiers near him; he took some men to investigate. Washington's men caught the thirty-five French soldiers by surprise and fighting broke out; the French surrendered when their commander was wounded.

It was not a small affair

The young French commanding officer tried to explain that he had been sent on a diplomatic mission to deliver a letter to the British saying the British should leave the area. While the French officer was explaining his mission, one of Washington's Mingo Indian allies stepped up to the officer and smashed his head open with a hatchet; the other Indians began killing the rest of the prisoners. Just one of the prisoners was able to escape but he made it back to Canada to report the massacre.

England and France had been enemies for some time. This incident caused the spark that set off what is now known as the French And Indian War in America, and, in the rest of the world it became the Seven Years War.

The French and their American Indian allies went to war with the British and their colonists. Soon most other European countries were drawn into the conflict including all the major powers: Prussia, France, Great Britain, Austria, Sweden, Russia, Saxony and Spain. The battles occurred all over Europe plus in the Mediterranean Sea, India, the Philippines and the Caribbean Sea. Great Britain and her allies won the war through battle.

The conclusion of the Seven Years War had a dramatic effect on North America. Concessions made in the Treaty of Paris in 1763 ended France's position as a major colonial power in the North America. North America was now primarily British.

But the impact didn't stop there. Great Britain was now deeply in debt because of the war and its citizens were being heavily taxed. In order to help pay this debt, Parliament began to impose taxes on the American colonists. This "taxation without representation" led to the American Revolution and the founding of the United States Of America.

The Seven Years War, started by the French And Indian War, dramatically changed world history. What started out a small encounter in Ohio, turned into a small massacre caused by one Indian with a hatchet which evolved into the first true world war.

Heroes Of History

574 Altwein Road, Blanco, TX 78606

www.HeroesOfHistory.net

February Performances

Day Organization

- 8 Lakewood Village Book Review Club, Fort Worth
- 9 Blanton Elementary School, Argyle (3 performances)
- 9 San Jacinto Elementary School, Dallas
- 10 Medallion Senior Living, Dallas
- 12 Green Valley Elementary School, N. Richland Hills
- 15 The Meadows Retirement Community, San Antonio
- 16 Heritage Place, Fredericksburg
- 17 Elderhaven of Austin, Austin
- 19 Mills Elementary School, Austin
- 19 Seagoville Elementary School, Dallas
- 22 Franklin Park Hometown, N. Richland Hills
- 23 Westminster Manor, Austin
- 25 Krause Elementary School, Brenham
- 25 Atria Collier Park, Beaumont
- 26 Lakewood Yacht Club Ladies Association, Seabrook
- 26 Independence Hill, San Antonio
- 27 Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park, Washington (3 performances)
- 28 Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park, Washington (2 performances)

*Spring
is upon us*

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](http://www.TexasHeroes.net/Texas_Heroes_calendar.htm)