

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 people of all ages.

Now booking for

**Charles
Dickens
Reads
A
Christmas
Carol**

(November-December)

Contents

Legends of History 2
April performances 3

Reality

Reality can be chosen by the teacher or the storyteller or the writer. Really. The Teller decides which parts of reality they will discuss. Depending on the morals, race, religion, gender, national origin, personal abilities and ethics of the Teller, what the Teller tells as fact will vary from Teller to Teller.

You might say if read from a script the story has to be told exactly the same way by each Teller. However, when reading, each of us can place a different meaning on many sentences depending on the words we emphasize. Also, when verbally telling, no two people can tell the same story the same way because body language and voice intonation change the meanings of words.

Why am I going here? As a Teller, I must decide which pieces of the story to tell. I must make that decision but I have the same liabilities as everyone else. I am restricted by my background and heritage.

Which raises the question: What if I am asked to answer questions from students that would lead to "embarrassing" facts about our heroes? Should I side-step the issues, should I answer them straight-on, or.....?

I was recently warned by a 7th grade Texas history teacher that I could expect some very direct questions from her students because she does not hide the facts about heroes. My response

was, "If you can handle the answers, I will be straight with the students." I then gave her some examples of answers. She told me to go for it; I did.

The students asked questions about Travis' personal life and I gave them straight answers. No hedging. The students did an unspoken "wow" not about the facts (which were just facts) but the fact that I had actually told them the truth and nothing but the truth. They appreciated the honesty.

People might argue it is better not to bring up "unfortunate" facts about our heroes, but the bottom line is that heroes are human, not deities.

Miscellaneous Stuff

GRAND OPENING

The **Joseph and Susanna Dickinson Hannig Museum** opened in Austin on Texas Independence Day, March 2, 2010. In case you don't recognize that name, Susanna Dickinson, during her first marriage, was the only adult Anglo survivor of the battle at The Alamo in 1836. Her last name has also been spelled Dickenson. Susanna's daughter, Angelina, was the only Anglo child survivor of The Alamo.

The museum, owned by the City of Austin, is on Fifth Street in downtown Austin. One of the themes of the museum is telling the story of the women who lost their husbands and children who lost their fathers at the battle.

The widows and children had to survive in a frontier world. Their lives were not easy and their stories virtually untold until now.

When in Austin, pay a visit to this wonderful new museum.

GOT KIDS THIS SUMMER?

Summer schools
Summer camps
Libraries
Museum programs
Scout camps
Day care
Field trips

All of the above are perfect occasions for a **Heroes Of History** program.

JOHN WAYNE A HERO?

I have been receiving rave reviews on Jack Edmondson's program portraying John Wayne. One question has been raised: *Is John Wayne a true hero of history that fits under the **Heroes Of History** banner? And why?*

What are your thoughts?

"Our loyalties must transcend our race, our tribe, our class, and our nation; and this means we must develop a world perspective."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

CURRICULUM GUIDES

We are again updating and upgrading our **Curriculum Guides** and we need your input. As you may already know, when we do a school program, we send out a **Curriculum Guide** for the specific character which gives teachers ideas for pre- and post-performance activities to help multiply the impact of the program.

For teachers who have already used our **Guides**, we need your input. If you would just like to see what one looks like and would consider offering your comments, just let me know and I will e-mail you one for a specific character.

Updating and upgrading our programs is an on-going process to keep our programs up-to-date with both current scholarly thinking and teaching techniques. We need the input of the people who actually use them plus historical scholars.

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: Counting the number of citizens in the United States (a census) every ten years is required by law

What We Know Now:

The Constitution of the United States of America consisted of seven articles which were adopted by the Constitutional Convention (or Grand Convention) in Philadelphia on September 17, 1787...more than eleven years after the Declaration of Independence. The Congress of the Confederation, the existing government of the United States Of America at the time, then approved the new Constitution and passed it on to the states for ratification. Article Seven of the new Constitution specified that "*The Constitution would not take effect until at least **nine states** had ratified the Constitution in state conventions specially convened for that purpose, and it would only apply to those states that ratified it.*" The ninth state to ratify the Constitution was New Hampshire on June 21, 1788; Virginia ratified it four days later.

*The facts
and nothing
but the facts*

The new government of the United States Of America began operation on March 4, 1789.

Article 1 Section 2 of the Constitution says: "*Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, **according to their respective Numbers**, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. **The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct.***"

The first Enumeration (census), which occurred in 1790, counted 3,929,214 residents of the United States; 4.5 residents per square mile in 13 states.

Sixty years later, during the first census in which Texas participated as a state (Texas entered the Union at the end of 1845), the census recorded 23,191,876 U. S. residents in 30 states averaging 7.9 residents per square mile.

The last U.S. census in 2000 recorded 281,421,906 U.S. residents in 50 states averaging 79.6 residents per square mile.

<u>Year</u>	<u>U.S. Population</u>	<u>per Sq Mile</u>
1790	3,929,214	4.5
1850	23,191,876	7.9
1900	76,212,168	21.5
1950	151,325,798	42.6
2000	281,421,906	79.6



Most of the above information is from U. S. government websites including www.census.gov

Heroes Of History

574 Altwein Road, Blanco, TX 78606

www.HeroesOfHistory.net

April Performances

Day Organization

*The Battle
Of
San Jacinto
on April 21*

- 1 Meadowlakes Retirement Community, North Richland Hills
- 1 Presbyterian Village North, Dallas
- 5 Williams Elementary School, Georgetown
- 5 The Summit at Westlake Hills, Austin
- 6 St. Mary's Hall, San Antonio
- 7 Fern Bluff Elementary School, Round Rock
- 8 Bryan First United Methodist Church, Bryan
- 8 Chambrel at Club Hill, Garland
- 12 Franklin Park Hometown, North Richland Hills
- 19 The Meadows Retirement Community, San Antonio
- 20 Christ The King Catholic School, Dallas
- 22 Old Town Elementary School, Round Rock
- 23 The Inn at Los Patios, San Antonio
- 23 Texas Historical Foundation, Dallas
- 24 Town Village North, Dallas
- 28 Blair Elementary School, Dallas
- 29 Spicewood Elementary School, Round Rock
- 30 Longhorn Village, Austin

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)