

MEETING MINUTES

William Joel Bryan Chapter #14-Sons of the Republic of Texas

Feb. 26, 2014

The William Joel Bryan Chapter #14 – Sons of the Republic of Texas met Feb. 26, 2014 at C&J's Barbecue in Bryan, Texas. President John Hicks called the meeting to order at noon and opened with an invocation. This was followed by the pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas flags by Secretary Blair Fannin.

Hicks then welcomed chapter members and special guests. They included Daughters of the Republic of Texas - Robert Henry Chapter members Anna Kellett, Linda Wernecke and Angela Farris-Fannin. Scott Pool, program coordinator with the Texas A&M Health Science Center-School of Rural Public Health, was also a special guest.

Total attendance was 22 individuals – 17 members and five guests.

Following the introduction of guests and the ancestor roll call, Hicks said the January 2014 meeting minutes stood as approved and had been posted to the chapter website.

Vice President Mervin Peters provided an update on the Dogtrot Log Cabin Project. Peters said Brazos County Commissioners conditionally approved for the cabin to be relocated to the Boonville Heritage Park site provided that was done in a timely manner. Peters said the structure was near ready for disassembly and restoration work to begin by contractors. Cost is estimated at \$109,000 and more than \$103,000 has been raised. The project is still accepting donations and Peters thanked the membership for their individual support. Past President George Nelson praised the individual efforts of Peters. Nelson encouraged chapter members to donate individually even though the project is not a chapter-supported effort financially.

Knight of San Jacinto and Past President General Charles Briggs provided the treasurer's report. As of Feb. 26 the checking balance was \$3,279.72. With no further business, chapter member Kyle Jones introduced Dr. Caroline Castillo Crimm, Sam Houston State University history professor, who presented an entertaining and informative program on Martin de León and family, founding members of Victoria,

Texas. Martin de León was a rancher and wealthy Mexican empresario who descended from Spanish aristocracy. Crimm provided a historical review of both liberal and conservative Spanish colonies that either supported the Anglos in their quest to establish Texas' independence or retreat to their ranches and let the battle play out. This caused friction among the de León family members who chose different sides, which ultimately forced some of the family to relocate to New Orleans while the Republic of Texas became part of the U.S.

Following the program, Nelson closed with a benediction. With no further business, Hicks adjourned the meeting at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Blair Fannin

Secretary, William Joel Bryan Chapter #14

Sons of the Republic of Texas

Feb. 28, 2014