The picture above is the famous painting The Battle of San Jacinto by Henry Arthur McArdle. It was completed in 1898 and hangs in the Senate Chamber in the Texas Capitol.

Surely gravity gripped a tear and pulled it down the cheek of the mother whose son was about to sally forth to war. On the 26th anniversary of the Fall of the Alamo, Margaret Lea Houston wrote in a Bible “Sam Houston, Jr., from his Mother, March 6, 1862.” General Houston carried the Bible, and some other items for Sam Jr.’s knapsack, down to Galveston where the Bayland Guards, now designated as Co. C of the 2nd Texas Infantry, were training. Within a month, those boys would have their baptism of fire on the battlefield of Shiloh. On this 150th anniversary of the Battle of Shiloh let us remember the connection of some of those men in grey to The Republic of Texas. (Continue with “Shiloh Shadows” below.)
Monthly Luncheon Meeting:
Held the First Thursday of Every Month at Noon

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, April 5, 2012**, at the **Post Oak Grill**, 1415 South Post Oak Lane, Houston, Texas at Noon. Many attendees arrive by 11:30; be there by 11:45 a.m. to ensure you get a good parking spot and a seat. The cost of lunch is **$22.00**, payable at the door by cash or check. Parking is free in the garage - enter restaurant from the rear door in the garage.

April’s Guest Speaker:

**Charlie Fogarty**

Charlie Fogarty is well known to us all. He is the proprietor of *Steamboat House, The Great Texas Steakhouse, A Tribute to Sam Houston & Texas Heroes*. He has immersed himself in all things Sam Houston. School children are regularly treated to personal tours of the virtual museum that is Steamboat House. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for saving and researching the origins of the large oil painting of Sam Houston that was created for the 1936 centennial celebration, and which hangs in the main dining room of the restaurant.

A native of Houston, Charlie is a 1957 graduate of Lamar High School. For 33 years he was in the custom picture frame business. You may remember the U-Frame-It chain, or Deck The Walls. His client list included Governor John Connally and Charlie can tell you what kind of cigar was the Governor’s favorite.

Last year the San Jacinto Descendants presented Charlie with their most prestigious award *The San Jacinto Award*. Charlie is also an honorary member of The Sons of the Republic of Texas and was recently in attendance at the 90th annual meeting. From there he was headed to Lago Vista, Texas to be Sam Houston for some local school children. It is likely that Charlie will give us some insight into the relationship between Sam Houston and Margaret Lea, or maybe he’ll relate some anecdotes about Jeff Hamilton, Sam Houston’s slave. This is a chapter meeting not to be missed!
Chapter President’s Report:

We have a busy month and I am honored to be the elected President of the San Jacinto Chapter of the SRT.

I hope everyone who can will come to the San Jacinto Monument on April 21 and honor all the brave people who fought, and the crew of the USS Texas.

Further, I want to welcome our latest member: Thomas Avery Jackson.

Lewis M. Chandler – President – San Jacinto Chapter #1

The Sons of the Republic of Texas
Recent Events of Interest:

SRT 90th Annual Meeting
Kerrville, Texas

The San Jacinto Chapter won the “Three Legged Willie” Award for a scrapbook for large chapters. The San Jacinto Chapter won the “Come and Take It” Award for having the most members at the annual meeting. Members present included: Jim Bevill, Ron Brown, Denton Bryant, Sam Clark, Leonard Cloud, Joe Davidson, Dodd Eastham, Clay Fisher, Tom Green, Tom Houston, Robert Kendall, Dick Lindley, Randy Pollard, Dick Reese, and Wendell Robbins.

Joe Davidson and Denton Bryant were elected to the Knights of the Order of San Jacinto.

The “Distinguished Service” Award was presented to Ron Brown.

An Honorary Membership was presented to Michael Bailey, curator of the Brazoria County Historical Museum in Angleton, Texas.

The “District Representative of the Year” was presented to John Homman, and Ron Brown was named the new San Jacinto District Representative.

David Hanover was invested as a Knight of the Order of San Jacinto.

The following were elected as General Officers:
  President General - David Hanover
  First Vice President General – Tom Houston
  Second Vice President General – Robert Kendall
  Secretary General – Bob Steakley
  Treasurer General – Ed Heath
  Historian General – Randy Pollard
  Chaplain General – David Stone
  Executive Committeeman – Joe Davidson
  Executive Committeeman – Sam Clark

Sam Clark was commissioned an Admiral in the Texas Navy. Ron Brown was named Chairman of the Texian Navy Committee with Will Haddock and Randy Pollard as committeemen.

The 91st Annual Meeting will be April 12-14, 2013 in Tyler, Texas
Shiloh Shadows

There were no less than three sons of former Presidents of the Republic of Texas in Co. C of the 2nd Texas Infantry: Sam Houston, Jr., son of General Sam Houston, and Sam Jones and Charles Jones, both sons of Dr. Anson Jones, last president of the Republic of Texas. Sam Jones had been named Sam Houston Jones at birth, but the animosity that Anson Jones had for Sam Houston after the "Vermilion Edict" had caused the doctor to note in his diary and inform his son that “henceforth his name was Samuel Edward Jones”.

Sam Houston’s former slave, Jeff Hamilton, in his recollections “My Master” tells us that on that day in March 1862, when General Houston delivered the Bible to his son, and had the opportunity to drill the regiment, General Houston “was as excited as a school-boy on circus day, and was ‘all dressed up’ for the occasion. He wore the same clothes and sword that he had worn at the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836. His ‘uniform’ was a pair of frayed-out, snuff-colored pants, a fur cap and high military boots, which looked much the worse for wear. He had on an old black coat and vest, with a United States army sabre hanging from his waist, tied on by buckskin thongs.” General Houston shared supper, served on a long board table, with Sam Jr., Sam Jones, and Dr. Ashbel Smith, who had been elected Captain of Co. C.

Dr. Smith had been a Minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Texas to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and France during President Houston’s second term. He had been Secretary of State during President Jones’ term. Dr. Smith was known as the “Sage of Evergreen” and the “Ben Franklin of Texas”.

It was about this time that Sam Houston, Jr. was offered a commission as a second lieutenant and instructor in tactics, but he refused to be left at home “even for the rank of general”. And so on April 6, 1862, privates Sam Houston, Jr., Sam Jones, Charles Jones, and Captain Ashbel Smith were at Shiloh under the command of General Albert Sidney Johnston.

Johnston had enlisted as a private in the Texas Army during the Texas War of Independence and within a month he was promoted to major and the position of aide-de-camp to General Houston. In August of 1836 he was named Adjutant General as a colonel in the Republic of Texas Army. On January 31, 1837 he became senior brigadier general in command of the Texas Army. Texas Brigadier General Felix Huston and Johnston challenged each other for the command of the Texas Army and on February 7, 1837 fought in a duel. Johnston refused to fire on Huston and lost command after he was wounded in the pelvis.

And so fate had brought these five men, each with strong ties to the Republic of Texas, to the same battlefield on April 6, 1862. At about 2:30 p.m. that afternoon, General Johnston was mortally wounded atop his horse “Fire Eater”. It is probable that numbness in his right leg, due to the 1837 duel, caused Johnston to believe that his wound was not serious. The next day, both Capt. Smith and Sam Jr. were seriously wounded and Sam Jr. was left on the field as dead. Charles Jones suffered a gunshot wound to the chest.

“Margaret Houston had probably never harbored any animosity against Mrs. Anson Jones. The mothers were united in their fears as rumors flew that young Sam Houston was dead and Charles Elliot Jones was injured. A letter from Jim Hageman to his mother reporting that Sam was a prisoner and that Charles had only a flesh wound in the arm was passed on to Mrs. Jones and from her to Mrs. Houston, who returned it with the note: ‘I heard on yesterday, that you had
received a letter from your son Charles. If it is true, I congratulate you and rejoice with you sincerely. My heart is still crushed with anguish and suspense”.

However, it was Charles that had perished. Sam Houston, Jr. was helped by a Union chaplain who discovered Sam’s identity by the inscription in the Bible that he carried. He was eventually imprisoned at Camp Douglas in Chicago, but was exchanged and sent home in the fall of 1862.

The Bible that Sam Houston, Jr. carried not only helped to identify him, but also saved his life by stopping a minie ball. The bullet stopped at the 70th Psalm (Make haste, O God, to deliver me, make haste to help me, O Lord.) and the entry hole is pointed out in this picture by Sam Houston, IV. The Bible is in the collection of the Sam Houston Memorial Museum in Huntsville, Texas.

Capt. Ashbel Smith was cited for gallantry, along with the rest of his company. For his bravery, Smith was brevetted a Colonel and was given command of the Second Texas Infantry. He then led the unit in engagements in Corinth and at the Tallahatchie River.

Samuel Jones survived the war and became a successful dentist in Houston. Sam Houston, Jr., after the war, wrote a series of sketches known as Shiloh Shadows. Some of these were published in The Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Vol 34, No 4 (Apr. 1931), pp 329-333.

Sources:

My Master, The Inside Story of Sam Houston and His Times, by His Former Slave Jeff Hamilton, as told to Lenoir Hunt, Copyright 1992, State House Press


Anson Jones, the Last President of Texas, by Herbert Pickens Gambrell, Copyright 1964, University of Texas Press

Picture of Sam Houston, Jr.’s Bible, Copyright 2009 The Sam Houston Project http://samhoustonmovie.com/index.php/samh/artifacts/

Dodd Eastham – San Jacinto Patriot Newsletter Editor
“One man’s Oral History is another man’s Aural History”
Send comments to: newsletter editor
You are invited to attend the Official
San Jacinto Day Ceremony
Commemorating the 176th Anniversary
of the Battle of San Jacinto
Saturday, April 21, 2012
10:00 a.m.
San Jacinto Monument
San Jacinto Battleground

Principal Speaker
Honorable Bill White
Former Mayor of Houston

Ron Stone, Jr., Master of Ceremonies
Deer Park High School Orchestra
DRT/SRT Scholarship Winners
USS Texas Sailor Awards
Reading of Battle Analysis
The Texas Army Star Laying of Wreath

Important! - Please RSVP (accepts only) to help us plan
alfred_davis1946@yahoo.com or (713) 516-3429.
San Jacinto Symposium 2012
Saturday, April 14, 2012
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
The Houston Club, 811 Rusk, Houston, TX 77002

$55 covers speakers, lunch, valet parking in The Houston Club Building, exhibits, book dealers and fellowship with Texas history buffs.


Panel Discussion: Jan DeVault, C. David Pomeroy, Jr., and Dr. Gregg J. Dimmick

Register online:  www.sanjacintoconservancy.org

April at a Glance:

April 05 – San Jacinto Chapter monthly meeting 11:45 a.m. Speaker: Charlie Fogarty.

April 10 – Lone Star Chapter monthly luncheon 11:30 a.m. at Pappadeaux’s, 18165 I45 S, Shenandoah, Texas.  (map)

April 14 – San Jacinto Symposium at The Houston Club 9:00 a.m.

April 21 – San Jacinto Day.  10:00 a.m. ceremony at the monument and reenactment at 1:30 p.m.

April 27, 28 – General Sam Houston Folk Festival 9:00 a.m. Sam Houston Memorial Museum, 1402 19th St, Huntsville, Texas.  (map)
San Jacinto Chapter #1 – April 2012

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Click here to view the San Jacinto Chapter website calendar.
San Jacinto Chapter #1 Officers 2012 - 2013:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Lewis M. Chandler</td>
<td>713-228-8508</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lmchandlersrt@gmail.com">lmchandlersrt@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Vice-President</td>
<td>Curt Osborne</td>
<td>281-242-4972</td>
<td><a href="mailto:curtosborne@windstream.net">curtosborne@windstream.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Vice-President</td>
<td>Dodd Eastham</td>
<td>713-758-3810</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deastham@velaw.com">deastham@velaw.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Bill Cathriner</td>
<td>713-302-5286</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bcathriner@salientpartners.com">bcathriner@salientpartners.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>James “Jim” L. Fatheree, Jr.</td>
<td>281-797-3344</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jimfatheree@gmail.com">jimfatheree@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>James Mitchell</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jemitch46@gmail.com">jemitch46@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>Joe R. Davidson</td>
<td>713-623-2700</td>
<td><a href="mailto:joerdavidson@yahoo.com">joerdavidson@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Men</td>
<td>Bruce Arendale</td>
<td>713-961-3033</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bruce@arendale.net">bruce@arendale.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doak McBryde</td>
<td>832-372-6078</td>
<td><a href="mailto:doakm@comcast.net">doakm@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maurice Nassar</td>
<td>713-993-2525</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mgnassar@sbcglobal.net">mgnassar@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wendell Robbins, Jr.</td>
<td>713-857-8122</td>
<td><a href="mailto:warobbbr@aol.com">warobbbr@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Larry Stevens</td>
<td>281-361-2061</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wardtracker@aol.com">wardtracker@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jim Westmoreland</td>
<td>713-759-1188</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jim@jhwlaw.com">jim@jhwlaw.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>Ronald W. “Ron” Brown</td>
<td>713-621-5660</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ron@ronwbrown.com">ron@ronwbrown.com</a></td>
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Visit our chapter website for more information: [www.sanjacintosrt.org](http://www.sanjacintosrt.org)

If you have information or news to include in the *San Jacinto Patriot* or on the web page, or if you need to update your e-mail address, please contact:

San Jacinto Chapter President - **Lewis Chandler** ([lmchandlersrt@gmail.com](mailto:lmchandlersrt@gmail.com))

or San Jacinto Patriot Newsletter Editor - **Dodd Eastham** ([newsletter@sanjacintosrt.org](mailto:newsletter@sanjacintosrt.org))