

Brazoria Heritage Foundation

December 2011

ANNUAL MEETING OF BHF ON FEBRUARY 7TH, 2012

**Please join us for a
powerful presentation on
“The First Texas Navy,
1835-1837”
by James P. Bevill**

What: 2012 Annual meeting of the
Brazoria Heritage Foundation

When: Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at
6:00 pm. To be followed with
a presentation by James P.
Bevill, author of *The Paper
Republic: The Struggle for
Money, Credit and
Independence in the Republic
of Texas*

Where: 1933 Brazoria Elementary
School auditorium, 202 W. Smith St.
Brazoria

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GOINGS ON IN 2011

This was an eventful year for BHF. In January, Tommy Worrell presented his Western show and BBQ dinner in the cafeteria and on stage. Tommy and his trained longhorn “Doc Stanger” did tricks for the crowd and local singer, Reece Cadenhead sang. He attends Texas A & M University.

Our Annual Board/Membership meeting included authors, Raymond Burroughs and Ginny McNeil Raska. One of the big events in Brazoria is the annual Heritage Celebration and Cattle Drive held on the first Saturday in March. Rain and cold dampened the day, but a very successful Stampede 5K Run and Gun Show in the Gymnasium. The parade included Southern Methodist University mascot, Peruna, the Shetland pony. Each year BHF selects a group to honor during the day. This year Jefferson Lake Sulfur families were honored along with the Wilson and Ducroz families

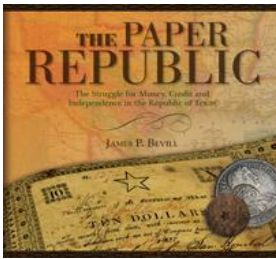
The Gospel Fest in May featured Linda Bell. In June the grounds of the Brazoria Civic Center was alive with the Brazoria Chamber of Commerce’s “No Name Festival”.

Our annual fund raiser is the Santa Anna Ball held at the KC Hall in Brazoria where we had a gourmet meal, Live and Silent Auctions and dancing to “Southern Echo”. This event is reminiscent of the historic balls that took place in Brazoria between 1832 and 1836, guests attend in period costume. The profit from this event helps maintain and repair the buildings of the old Elementary School. We also cashed in a C/D to pay off a \$17,000 note for air conditioning electrical expense on the gymnasium and buying tables and chairs for events in the gymnasium.

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James Bevill is the first writer to tell the epic – and frequently quite strange – story of the struggle for money, credit, and independence in the Republic of Texas in his beautiful new book *The Paper Republic*. This powerful presentation which takes place in the throes of the Texas Revolution, as the provisional government of Texas scrambled to put together a naval force to wreak havoc upon the Mexican supply lines. Having first resorted to the use of privateers (state sponsored pirates), Texas was able to borrow money in New Orleans in early 1836, to secure the warships *Liberty*, *Invincible*, *Independence* and the *Brutus*. This is the story of those four ships, and the role which was played by McKinney & Williams, the Allen Brothers, Captains' Hawkins, Hurd, Thompson and Brown – and the significant contributions these aggressive men made on the high seas in the fight for Texas independence. This remarkable story of the first Texian Navy is triumphant, tragic and highly entertaining. It's not to be missed. Mr. Bevill's presentation will be approximately 35 minutes. Autographed copies of his book will be available for purchase.



James P. Bevill is a First Vice President – Investments in the River Oaks office of UBS Financial Services. His book, *The Paper Republic: The Struggle for Money, Credit and Independence in the Republic of Texas*, a non-fiction work on the social and economic history of Texas from the colonial period through the annexation by the United States in 1845 was named as the 2010 winner of the Summerfield G. Roberts literary award by the Sons of the Republic of Texas, and as the Best Specialized book on U.S. Paper Money by the Numismatic Literary Guild at the ANA World's Fair on Money in Boston. James is a past President of the Texas Numismatic Association and has been elected as an honorary member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas for his preservation of the history of the money and the economy of the Republic of Texas.

MARCH 3 CELEBRATION.

One reason the Brazoria Heritage Celebration was started is because of our great history in Brazoria County. This day is Texas Independence Day and many celebrations take place over the state i.e., Washington-on-the-Brazos. We invite individuals and historical groups to show case their talents. One in particular, has been Ray Olachia. Ray passed away this year, but his spectacular Indian display lives on with friends and scouts bringing his American Indian talent for people to learn. His exhibit will be on display at 2012 Heritage Day.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

To honor someone special on their birthday or anniversary, you can send a donation to Brazoria Heritage Foundation, PO Box 1728, Brazoria, Texas 77422. Their name will be placed in a special book on display in the Brazoria Museum.

FAMOUS PEOPLE FROM BRAZORIA

Stephen F. Austin – the Father of Texas spent a great deal of time in Brazoria. He signed the “Turtle Creek Accords” with General Santa Anna in Jane Long's Inn in Brazoria.

John Austin -- Assistant of S.F.Austin. One of the “original 300 settlers”. He planned Old Brazoria.

Henry Smith -- A Statue honoring the first Governor of the provisional state of Texas under Mexico constitution of 1824 is located at the Civic Center. Mr. Smith taught school in Brazoria, was the first Secretary of the Treasury for the Republic of Texas.

Jane Long -- “The Mother of Texas” and operated a boarding house/inn in Old Town Brazoria. She is buried in Richmond, Texas.

James Fannin – Led a group of Texas Militia and was massacred with them at Goliad. He lived a few miles outside Brazoria on the San Bernard River, Hwy 521.

Anson Jones – Last President of the Republic of Texas. He was a Physician in Brazoria.

Dr. Sofie Herzog – First female doctor in Texas. Dr. Sofie cared for the people of Brazoria around the turn of the century and until her death in 1925.

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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You can buy a brick or chair
at the Brazoria Civic Center
Call Paula Jacobs, Board Member,
at 979-236-2570



The Brazos Valley Railroad Museum, 208 W. Smith Street, Brazoria, Tx. is open each Saturday of the month. For information about tours and times, please call Jim Williams 979-417-1521

Refreshments will be served at the BHF Annual meeting All members are invited to attend.

Check out our website: www.brazoriahf.org

The Brazoria Historical Museum, Brazoria Chamber of Commerce, Civic Center & Theater.
202 W. Smith Street 979-236-1154



CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN BRAZORIA

JANUARY 28	PARANORMAL GHOST TOUR AT MUSEUM
FEBRUARY 11,18,25	BLACK HISTORY MONTH & JOHN WAYNE MOVIES
MARCH 3	HERITAGE CELEBRATION & CATTLE DRIVE – GUN SHOW AND JEWELRY SHOW
	PRESERVATION CELEBRATION AND OPENING CEREMONY FOR LEVI JORDAN PLANTATION
MARCH 31	PLAY - MASTER ACADEMY OF ARTS, LAKE JACKSON
APRIL 28	PLAY – MASTER ACADEMY OF ARTS, LAKE JACKSON
MAY 12	BRAZORIA CLEANUP DAY
JUNE 9	“NO NAME FESTIVAL”
JUNE 30	CELEBRATE AMERICA FIREWORKS
JULY 14	SANTA ANNA BALL
SEPTEMBER 15	BRAZORIA’S GOT TALENT
OCTOBER 31	SCARE CROW YARD CONTEST HALLOWEEN COSTUMES
NOVEMBER 12	DEDICATE WAR MEMORIAL
DECEMBER 1	CHRISTMAS IN BRAZORIA

Call 979-236-0241 for times and more information

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In September, we held the first "Brazoria Has Talent" Contest. This was our take on the TV Show, "America's Got Talent". The Halloween Costume & Movie and a Fall Scarecrow Yard Decorating Contest was also a success. We hope to continue these events.

In December, The Brazoria Chamber of Commerce held "Christmas in Brazoria" at the Civic Center. BHF was the food vendor in the Cafeteria with Sausage on a Stick, Frito Pie, BBQ Buns, Soup and Cookies. The Lions Club held their Gun Raffle at the end of the day.

Hardin-Simmons University Mascots
To lead the parade on March 3, 2012



Thanks to our Sponsors this year for the Santa Anna Ball & Brazoria Heritage Day:

Wells Fargo Advisors, Brazoria Telephone, BASF, Chevron-Phillips, Lone Star Bank, Dr. Ron Paul, Rep. Dennis Bonnen, Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh, Road ID, Sweeny Hospital, Reifel Feed Store, Custom T-Shirts & Graphics, T.D.E.C.U, Ravi Singhanian, Sammie Dingle, Bobby James, Texas New Mexico Power, Mac Barrow, Brazoria Lions Club, Smoote/Von Rosenberg Trust, B.T.E., Lucyx Plumbing, Brevard Co., Stewarts Grocery, Computer M.D.'s & Engineering, First National Bank, Brazoria Insurance, Coast Pest Control, Dude Payne, Conoco-Phillips, A.W. Davis Auto, Sonic of Brazoria, Buchanan House Moving, Rocky's Feed & Supply, Brazoria Veterinary Clinic, Louie & Chinna Yaklin

OLD SCHOOL REUNION CLASSES OF 1933 TO 2001

Reunion will be at the Civic Center Theater on March 3, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh is chair person. Tell your classmates about this event. Call for more information: 979-798-7005 or 979-236-0241

THE BRAZORIA HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.
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BRAZORIA, TEXAS 77422

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