

## CLUB & ORGANIZATION NEWS

### DRT holds District Workshop

The DRT District VIII Workshop for 1999 was held Sept. 18 at the First Protestant Church in New Braunfels, hosted by the Ferdinand Lindheimer (FL) Chapter.

Rosemary Gregory, District VIII Representative, called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. She expressed her pleasure and appreciation for the presence of many of the DRT Board of Management, including the president general and vice president general, committee chairs, and representatives of most of the 17 chapters that make up District VIII. In total 156 DRT members were registered.

Monument Hill chapter was well represented by DRT members, Dorothy Albrecht, Elizabeth "Bessie" Bean, Betty Hill, Carolyn Marble, Marilyn Miller, Lillian Stuesser, Imogene Williams; CRT members Susan Hill and Neal Kocurek; and former member, Eileen Kamau, guest of Marilyn Miller.

The invocation was asked by Edith Gott White, Chaplain of the FL Chapter of New Braunfels. The pledge to the United States flag was led by Marydean Motz of the FL Chapter, and the Texas pledge was led by Hill of the Monument Hill Chapter's Children of the Republic of Texas (CRT); Hill currently President General of CRT. The Honorable Edmund Kuempe, State Representative, welcomed the group to New Braunfels.

District VIII Representative Gregory introduced President General Helen Burleson Kelso who expressed her pleasure at being in New Braunfels. Gregory next presented the Board of Management and chairs of the Administrative Committees. First Vice-President Nicki Phillips spoke

of her duties organizing chapters and making sure existing chapters are operating in accordance with DRT guidelines. She suggested that DRT members contact their cousins and make them aware that they have done the research and have the documentation for them to join the organization, either their local chapter or as a member at large.

Other Vice Presidents General followed, each outlined her responsibilities and activities of her office.

French Legation Chair "Pete" Wehmeyer introduced her committee. She spoke of the success of the Bastille Day celebration and the "Texas" Christmas to be celebrated on Sunday, Dec. 5, from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. to which the public is invited. She told of the improvements that had been made, including outside lighting which makes this a beautiful setting for weddings. Also, the French Consulate is planning to use a picture of the Legation on their Christmas cards.

Mary Carmack, chairman of the Alamo Committee, reminded us that the DRT receives no funds from the Alamo—that the State receives it all. The Alamo web page address is [www.alamo.org](http://www.alamo.org); the 1999 History Forum will be held on Oct. 29 and the fall of the Alamo will be observed on Oct. 30.

Laura Beavers spoke of Volunteer Hours and the Wish List. Hours must be submitted by April 15, 2000. Jeanette Felger briefed us on recognition awards that are available in several categories for chapter performance. Hours must be submitted by May 1, 2000.

Bennie Altom, publicity chair, was absent, but at her request, Imo-

gene Williams provided printed guidelines and reminded all of the importance of publicity to our organization and that there is a recognition award for this effort.

Lois Douglas and Marie Ford were elected to be District VIII Nominating Committee members.

An entertaining and highly interesting program on "REMINISCING" or remembering how it used to be" was presented by Felger of New Braunfels. She spoke at times as her mother and then as herself as she remembered everyday life when she was a child.

The meeting was closed with a benediction by Edith White. A delicious cold buffet luncheon of chicken/ham salad, German potato salad, turkey sandwich on homemade bread, and cranberry salad and cheese cake with cherry topping was enjoyed. An assortment of numerous beautiful and useful handmade items were awarded as door prizes during the dessert time.

### Nada-Garwood FCE

Nada-Garwood FCE Club met Monday, Oct. 18, for their monthly meeting at the home of Helen Berger.

Betty Leopold, president, called the meeting to order with the club prayer. Then a joint prayer was said for: Jerry Janish, Greg Buzek and Ruby Korenek who were in the hospital and for Lucille Till who will have eye surgery.

Get well cards were sent to Elizabeth Schoellman, Ruby Korenek and Bill and Mary Kacal.

Eleven members answered the roll with, "My favorite tree in the fall." Secretary, Lalaun Braden read the minutes and treasurer, Lucille Till gave her report. Those having a birthday in Oct. were Leona Burrea and

The Shropshire-Upton Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy met Sept. 9 at the Nesbitt Memorial Library at 2 p.m.

The Ritual was led by President, Jennie Sue Muggli followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and salutes to the Texas and Confederate flags.

Milly Cranek gave the Children of the Confederacy report, and accepted congratulations for her work in getting a student from St. Anthony to write the fourth place essay in the state competition.

A reminder of the cut-off date for scholarship applications was mentioned (Feb. 20, 2000), and likely student relatives were urged to sign up for the paper work.

There are apparently no members able to attend this year's Division Convention in Dallas. This is a by-laws year and there are possible changes for making the by-laws easier to understand.

### Shropshire-Upton UDC

The minutes were then read by the recording secretary for the May meeting. They were approved as read.

The treasurer's report was then given. Sarah Uzzi, Recorder of Crosses, asked that members try to get information to her for possible awarding of Crosses at the April meeting.

It was announced that Millycent Cranek is now the Museum Curator, and will have a meeting of the Museum Committee following the program today.

We welcomed Sonya Saul as our newest member, and awarded her the certificate. Sonya's ancestor is Simon Peter Dickert.

We agreed as a chapter to do some special project this year. Buddy Rau has been trying to get us to sponsor a Historical marker for Columbus, and we voted to do so.

President Muggli appointed Ernest Mae Seaholm as chairperson of a committee to try to find a worthy individual's home or other significant

place for such a marker.

A discussion was held about paying for deceased members UDC grave markers. We were instructed to think about the situation and be prepared to vote next meeting.

The speaker was Pet Crawford, son of one of our members, Mrs. Lelia Wehner. His topic was "A first time experience at Gettysburg and Sharpsburg."

It was a very interesting program. Instead of giving us a bunch of numbers and dates, he talked about how it must have felt to be one of the soldiers facing the other American side, and the horrible carnage that was wrought, and how the healing of our nation was begun there.

He left a couple of exceptionally well illustrated books for us to pursue.

Following the program, we held a Memorial Service for our recently departed member, Laura S. Glithero. Katherine Benson took the part of our chaplain, who was unable to be at the meeting.

### Outdoor Nature Club to visit waterfowl reserve

Migratory wetlands bird life will be the featured attraction for the final trip of the year for the Tom Waddell Outdoor Nature Club (TWONC).

This will be a return trip, according to TWONC President T Lang of Eagle Lake, to the J.R. Thomas celebrated "Duck House" on the Lissie Prairie. This event will begin at 4 p.m. and continue until the final bird flocks arrive at dusk on Thursday, Nov. 11.

Club members, friends, visitors, potential new Club members are cordially invited to view ducks, geese, wading birds, hawks, newly-arrived

song birds at this sanctuary. Binoculars, spotting scopes and cameras equipped with telephoto lenses will be useful from a vantage point on a grassy knoll. Outdoor clothing is recommended, but waders will be unnecessary at the well-landscaped facility at the end of the well-graded road and in the midst of fallow rice fields, marshes, a small lake and assorted ground cover along field borders.

To get to the J.R. Thomas Duck House, drive south out of Eagle Lake on 3013 toward Wharton for 1.7 miles; turn left (east) on a black-topped road for 1.4 miles; turn left (north) through a double gate and follow the graded road past a house trailer to adequate parking space next to the two-story "beach-type" house.

Club members will congregate on the high, well-positioned knoll beyond.

Aside from nature-watching, Club members will find time to finalize the place and exact date for the Club's Annual Winter Covered-Dish Banquet to be held in Dec.

### 21st annual Schmidt reunion held Oct. 9

The descendents of the eight children of George J. and Bertha (Findeisen) Schmidt gathered at the New Beileu Hall on Saturday, Oct. 9, for the 21st year with a delicious barbecue supper with all the trimmings.

The deceased, eldest son of George & Bertha Schmidt, Johnnie Sr.'s widow, Mary attended from Cat Spring, along with their son, Johnnie Schmidt Jr. and his wife, Alice of Junction and Lissie, and grandson, J.J. Schmidt with wife, Susan and their son, Charles Tanner of Chesterville.

The children of deceased daughter, Thilda (Schmidt) Birdwell, in attendance were George Birdwell of Eagle Lake with son, Ryman and friend, Meredith Vogfman of Houston, and Emily (Birdwell) & David Frank of Columbus.

The grandchildren of deceased daughter, Mary (Schmidt) Zahradnick, in attendance were Denise Newsom of Rosenberg, Donna (Newsom) Seaholm, Debra (Newsom) Cook and her daughter, Mandelyn of Houston, and Barbara (Zahradnick) Weisel and her children, Justin & Makayla of San Antonio.

The children of deceased son, Arthur Schmitt Sr., in attendance were Edwin and wife, Janet of Glidden and their daughter, Brenda (Schmitt) Zahradnick and husband, Troy with their two daughters, Amber & Shelby Lee of Wharton. The widow of Arthur Jr., Patsy Schmitt of Weimar and her daughters, Dianne (Schmitt) and hus-

band, Marvin Ulrich with their daughter, Abby Lynn of La Grange, and Sandra (Schmitt) and husband, James Lednick with their daughters, Cindy & Jesslyn, and Arthur Sr.'s widow, Georgia Schmitt attended from Weimar. Daughter, Shirley (Schmitt) Hull attended with her son, Jacob and daughter, Sheila (Hull) and Christopher Lacourse and their son, Stanton attended from Columbus. Lillie Mae (Schmitt) and husband, Roger Hairrell with their son, Faron Hairrell and his wife, Sandra attended from Houston.

The children of deceased son, Henry Schmidt Sr. in attendance were daughter, Delores (Schmidt) and husband, Kenneth Vasina of Houston, and son, Henry Schmidt Jr. and Karyn Frayard with Henry Sr.'s widow, Annie May Schmidt of Eagle Lake, and grandson, Jared Schmidt of Ruston, Louisiana.

Deceased son, August Schmidt's widow, Elizabeth attended with son, Bennie Ray, granddaughters, Anna Schmidt with their children, Destiny & Benjamin, and Michelle Schmidt with her son, Kieran from Eagle Lake.

The youngest and only surviving child of George & Bertha Schmidt, Alena (Schmidt) Richter and husband, Hugo Richter Sr. and their son, Hugo Richter Jr., and wife, Deena and granddaughters, Vicki & Angela attended from Weimar. Special guests of the Richters were Hallie & Wilbert Lucko.

### Sealy Assembly holding Kids' Rally

Area schools will be treated to special assemblies Nov. 22 and 23. The program, presented by Kids' Rally USA, is a program designed for elementary age children that teaches Making Right Choices.

The children are motivated to use critical thinking skills when faced with serious choices such as drugs, alcohol, violence, self worth and peer-pressure.

The program features the hilarious comedy of "The Right Brothers." This duo has entertained thousands of children all across the U.S.

Using illusions, music, comedy and drama, along with audience participation, "The Right Brothers" effectively communicate the message of right choice making to children.

Many teachers, principals and district officials have named the school program the "best show of the year," and as a principal in Oklahoma stated, "...it is a new, fresh and direct approach to dealing with the issue of drugs."

The tour includes a Kids' Rally being held at Sealy Assembly Word and Worship Center on Nov. 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. each night.

This series of performances is free and includes an elaborate 30-foot theatrical set, illusions, rap, puppets,

drama, light/sound effects and comedy.

The rally deals with issues facing young people in today's world and continues with its message of Making Right Choices. The entire family is invited to attend.

Kids' Rally USA is based in

Scottsdale, Ariz. They take their message of Making Right Choices around the country.

For more information about this event that you won't want your family to miss, please call the church office at 409-885-3113.

### Eight recognized for furthering County's economic development

Eight local leaders in Colorado County received awards for their role in facilitating economic development in 1998 and 1999 from Colorado County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC).

The First Annual Awards for Economic Development Excellence were presented Saturday, Oct. 23, to individuals in four different Colorado County communities.

Awards were granted to H.O. "Butch" Strunk and Henry Beken in the Colorado County Category. Other awards were granted to Tom Hancher, M.D. and Dwain Dungen of Columbus, Bill Harrison and Ron Holland of Eagle Lake and James Bibee and Vince Slominski of Weimar.

Ed Ellis, President of CCEDC, stated, "These awards are reserved for those outstanding individuals who provided the leadership and support that resulted in tangible, economic development results that make a difference in their community."

H.O. "Butch" Strunk, rancher, livestock auction partner and economic development consultant, is credited with having the vision to establish a county-wide economic development organization while serving as Colorado County Judge from 1991 to 1994.

Henry Beken, Chair of the Colorado County Ag Complex and owner of numerous business ventures in

Colorado and Fayette Counties, is credited with successfully developed agriculture-based businesses and community projects.

Tom Hancher, M.D. and former mayor of Columbus, was instrumental in the passage of the 4B Economic Development Sales Tax referendum and the acquisition of the land being developed as Texas Crossroads Business and Industrial Park in Columbus.

Dwain Dungen, also a former mayor of Columbus and certified financial planner with Prudential, has served as a volunteer President of the Columbus Community and Industrial Development Corporation during the acquisition, development and marketing of Texas Crossroads Business and Industrial Park since its inception.

Bill Harrison of Eagle Lake (CEO of First National Bank of Eagle Lake, Board Member of CenTex Community Finance Corporation, President of Colorado County Industrial Development Board and Treasurer of Colorado County Economic Development Corp.) has provided financial expertise to industrial and commercial development in communities throughout Colorado County and central Texas since the mid 1980s.

Ron Holland, City Manager of Eagle Lake, President of CenTex Community Finance Corporation and Board Member of CCEDC, has successfully recruited numerous correc-

tion institutions to Eagle Lake in addition to facilitating community-based development of housing and enhancements to the eco tourism of Eagle Lake's natural habitat.

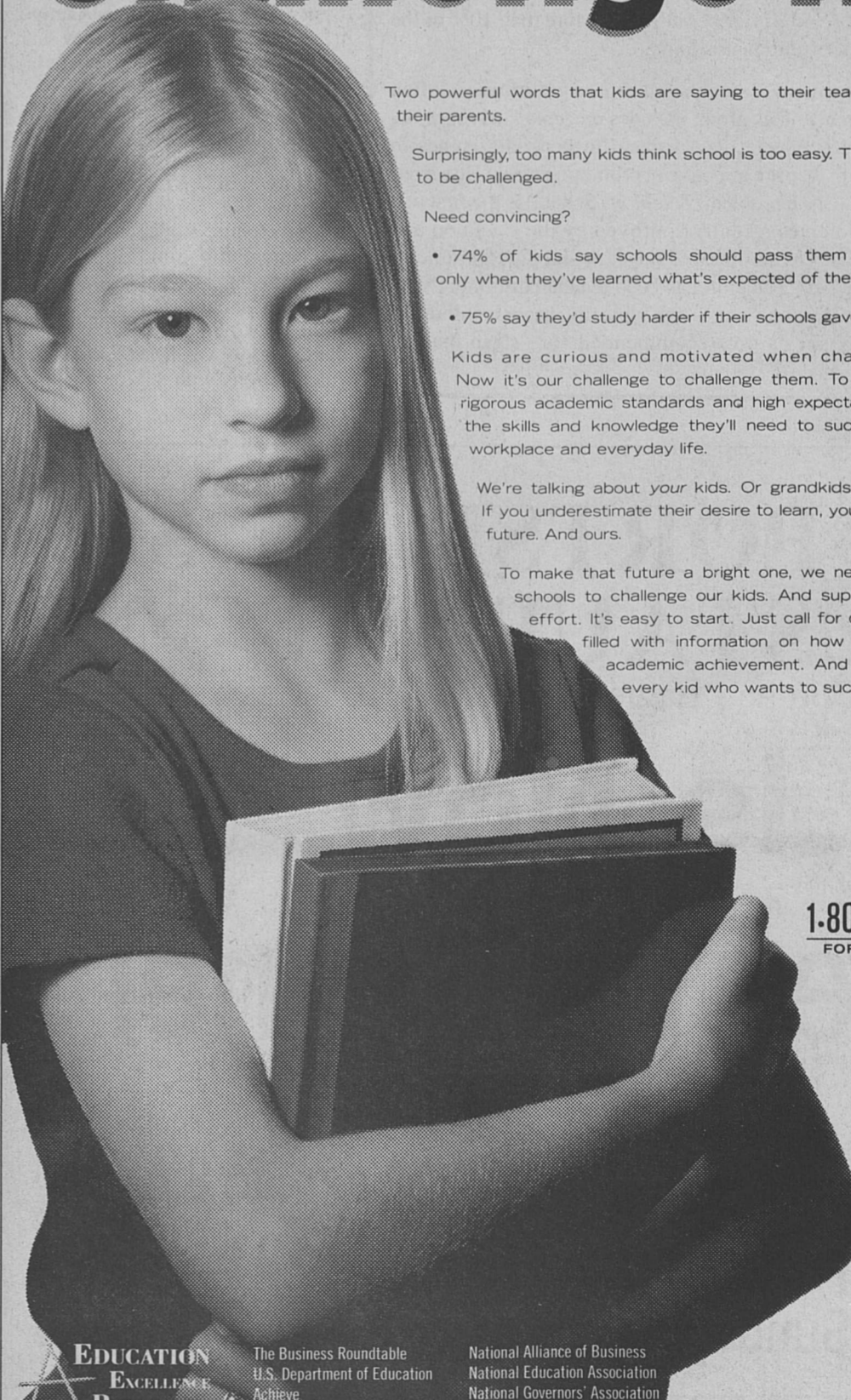
Vince Slominski, City Manager of Weimar and former Colorado County Judge from 1995 to 1998, provided leadership as CEO of the CCEDC in acquiring capital funds for infrastructure. Assuming the role of City Manager of Weimar, he has provided leadership to Weimar Chamber of Commerce and City Council while successfully recruiting a motel chain to the community.

James Bibee of Weimar, business consultant, retired geologist and president of Weimar Industrial Foundation, was instrumental in putting together a local government group which provided the community-based, private investment necessary to attract a motel chain and obtain municipal support for the development project.

"Without the efforts of community volunteers with development experience, the majority of significantly-sized, industrial and commercial projects would not have materialized," says Lennie Brown, Executive Director of the CCEDC.

"It was time to stop and recognize these achievements and those exceptional individuals who helped make it happen."

# Challenge me.



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