



The Carrington Chronicles

A quarterly update with important news and items of interest for the Paul Carrington chapter membership

A Quick Thought On This Independence Day 2021

Happy Birthday America! This year we are celebrating 245 years of the Great Experiment of our Constitutional Republic. Our form of government and its citizens has created and sustained the most prosperous and generous nation in the history of mankind. Is it perfect? No, but where man is involved, nothing can be perfect.

Let's take this opportunity to remember our patriot ancestors who sacrificed much to win our liberty. Let's also take this opportunity to celebrate our heritage and our nation's accomplishments, and pray for our country and form of government to flourish for at least another 245 years!

God Bless America and we wish you all a safe and happy Independence Day!

Veterans Affairs Committee

Stephen Veigel has graciously volunteered to serve as the chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee. This committee will be tasked with re-invigorating our veterans outreach, support and recognition. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Stephen at 832-421-7543, or at his email address, stephenvigel@yahoo.com.

Covid-19 has prevented us from personal interaction with the veterans in our community, but with things now opening up, we will be able to visit personally with veterans and support them in various ways.

I encourage you to consider serving on this committee as it promises a rewarding and uplifting experience.

Member Survey - Please Complete

The Chapter wants to make sure we have the most current mailing address for members, so we have created a survey web page for that purpose. It is also a great way for you to indicate your interest in working with a committee, of which there are several that need

support - including the Veterans Affairs Committee, the Social Committee, the Finance Committee, the Flag Committee and others.

Please take the time to complete the survey and indicate your preference for committee work.

Thank you.

[Click here for Member Survey!](#)

August Social at Karbach Brewery

We have planned a chapter social for 6 PM Thursday, August 12th at Karbach Brewery, located at 2032 Karbach Street, Houston 77092. This is an excellent opportunity to bring a friend or relative that might be interested in joining SAR. Spouses and significant others are also welcome to attend. Beverages and food are courtesy of the Paul Carrington Chapter!

Please RSVP to Dan Robinson, Chapter Treasurer, no later than July 20th so that we can provide the brewery with our numbers and secure a good spot for our group!

RSVP Email Address

2021 - 2022 Schedule of Events

August 12 - Social at Karbach Brewery

September 18 - Breakfast Meeting and Speaker

October 16 - Breakfast Meeting and Speaker

November 4 - Social at TBD

November 20 - Breakfast Meeting and Speaker

December 11 - Breakfast Meeting and Speaker

December 18 - Veterans Affairs Event - Wreaths Across America

January 15 - Breakfast Meeting and Speaker

February 9 - George Washington's Birthday and Distinguished Service Award Ceremony, Brennan's Restaurant in Midtown

March 19 - Breakfast Meeting and Speaker; election of Officers

April 28 - Social at TBD

April 9 - Breakfast Meeting and Speaker; Officer Installation

May 21 - Final Breakfast Meeting and Speaker before summer break

Breakfast meetings will continue to be held at Arnaldo Richard's Picos Restaurant at 3601 Kirby Drive in Houston. We will also continue with Zoom meetings at least until December 2021 and perhaps beyond that time, depending on the situation with Covid-19. Breakfasts will begin at 9 AM.

Approximately two weeks in advance of each meeting, the chapter will send the members an email notification using Constant Contact for registration to attend. Through the process of registration, we can see who would like to attend the meeting.

Sharing Family Heritage and Stories

The Story of Patriot Jean Pierre Gaspard Normand in Louisiana

Courtesy of David Peavy

Jean Pierre Gaspard Normand was born to Jean Joseph Gaspard Normand and Marie-Josphe Chenier on 27 March 1742 in Montreal, Quebec. While his surname was Normand, many later transactions list him as Jean Pierre or Pierre Gaspard. His other brothers later used the surname of Gaspard, almost exclusively.

Jean Pierre's family left Montreal in 1761. For the next three and a half years, they travelled down the Mississippi until they finally arrived at St. Charles Parish in Louisiana, also referred to as the First German Coast. His parents bought several pieces of land in 1765 there, one of which was Jean Pierre's home. Around this time, Jean married Marie Marguerite Wichner (b. 5 Feb 1751 in St. Charles Parish).

Jean Pierre and his brother Daniel, as members of the St. Charles settlement, were members of the St. Charles militia, as evidenced by their names on a 1770 militia roster. The settlement's need for the militia was for protection from English interests, as well as raids by the local Choctaw Indians.

By September 1772, Jean Pierre had moved his family, following his in-laws upriver, to what is now St. John the Baptist parish (the Second German Coast). The June 1778 militia roster for St. John the Baptist parish, lists Jean Pierre as a fusilier.

When Spain declared war on Britain, in support of the American Colonies, the Spanish governor, Bernardo de Galvez, called on the colony's militias. Jean Pierre was one of the militiamen who joined Galvez in the campaign to capture New Fort Richmond (current-day Baton Rouge) and other British forts, in 1779-81.

In 1787, Jean Pierre sold his home in St. John the Baptist and moved his family to the Avoyelles Post the following year. Because of his service in the American Revolutionary War, he received a land grant from the Spanish King of 640 acres on the Red River. He established a landing/portage on the Red River (referred to as the "Port of Jean Normand" in colonial records), yet had his home built seven miles distance. By 1791, he purchased a 302-acre farm that was closer to the landing on the river for his residence.

On 31 August 1800, Jean Pierre awoke, not as a subject of Spain, but as a French citizen. He was not aware of this at the time, as Spain continued to govern the colony on behalf of France, until France sold the colony to the United States in 1803, via the Louisiana Purchase. Jean Pierre and his family were now American citizens.

On 20 October 1824, Jean Pierre died at Avoyelles Parish at the age of 82 years. Just short of two years later, his wife, Marguerite Wichner, died on 14 October 1826. While Jean Pierre's grave has been located, his service has been recognized the Sons of the American Revolution.

The Enenomd Meullion SAR Chapter dedicated a plaque on 29 October 2011, at the St. Paul the Apostle Cemetery in Mansura, Louisiana. The plaque is a memorial to those soldiers who served in the militias of Pointe Coupée, Attakapas, Natchitoches, New Orleans, Mobile, and the German Coast, during the American Revolutionary War.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE STORIES ABOUT YOUR FAMILY AND ANCESTRY, PLEASE SUBMIT TO ME AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.

THANK YOU, RICHARD ZDUNKEWICZ