

# Holland Lodge

April 21, 2004

## San Jacinto Day Observation

Holland Lodge observed San Jacinto Day, the Birth of The Republic of Texas and later, The State of Texas with an open meeting on April 21, 2004. The open meeting was well attended by many family, friends and Masons.



**Bro. Duncan Chapman, wife Linda, daughter Contesa, Granddaughters and Son-in-Law with 'Sam Houston' (Richard Reese & Tom Houston)**

Presenting a program about the Battleground site was Mr. Richard Reese, Vice Commander of The Sons of The Republic of Texas, in the 'persona of Sam Houston'. Sam Houston was a Member of Holland Lodge and our record books show Brother Houston was in regular attendance in Lodge while serving as President of The Republic of Texas. Many of the earlier Texans were Masons and the history of Texas and Houston were greatly influenced by Masons and Members of Holland Lodge.

**Richard Reese as 'Sam Houston' looks to the General for instruction.**



**The San Jacinto Battleground is being re shaped to reflect the natural vegetation and land contours at the time of The Battle of San Jacinto. Mr. Reese, 'Sam Houston' explained when the battleground was being filled in to compensate for 15+ feet of subsidence along the ship channel. The many unrelated historical markers will be moved to a site close to new Park Headquarters and Visitors Center. Many of the trees which are not indigenous will be removed and field grasses planted to the visitor can better understand and see the lay of the battlefield as did Sam Houston and the Army of The Republic of Texas.**

**Gen. Houston urged all to visit the Battleground and Museum explaining the many historical and significant exhibits on display. The view from the top of Monument is spectacular, particularly as it is 6 feet higher than the Washington Monument.**

**The evening was enjoyable by all in attendance. Following are a few of the photos taken with Gen. Sam and his riding companion, Tom Houston.**



**Bro. Earl Thompson and Bro. Henry Gonzales with the General.**



**Bro. Tom Behrman extends to the General (Richard Reese) welcome to Holland Lodge.**