The Man Behind the Flag
The Bust of Dr. Charles B. Stewart

Charles B. Stewart is recognized as the designer of The Lone Star flag of Texas and the state seal. Born in South Carolina, he moved to Texas in 1830, where he married Julia Sheppard of Montgomery. He served as interpreter between General Houston and General Santa Anna at the battle of San Jacinto, signed the Texas Declaration of Independence, and was Texas’s first Secretary of State. He was a medical doctor and pharmacist and one of the first doctors in the United States to study the effects of the sun’s rays on man.

The Lone Star Flag (1839)

The flag is known as the Third Flag of the Republic and designed by Dr. Charles B. Stewart. The flag was approved and accepted as the flag of the Republic of Texas by Texas President Mirabeau B. Lamar on February 25, 1839 and became the State Flag of Texas when it entered the union in 1845. Today, the flag is one of the most recognizable icons in the world.

A Five Year Journey to become a Landmark

In December of 2005, Craig Campobella envisioned the flag park while passing the Montgomery County Library. This beautiful and unique vision was soon in the planning stages as Campobella sketched and researched early Texas History. After approaching the city with his idea of a park celebrating Montgomery County as the birthplace of the Lone Star Flag, Campobella asked Dave Clements, a well-known photographer, to get involved. Campobella designed the concept of the park, complete with the flags and a maquette of the statue that would be named the, “Texian,” while Clements began researching sources for funding. Between the two men, two different City Councils, two Mayors, hundreds of dedicated volunteers, and a five year planning process, the groundbreaking finally occurred in 2010 with the grand opening on April 21, 2011.

Become a Friend of the Flag

Any individual or business that would like to help replace the flags and keep them in pristine condition at The Lone Star Monument and Historical Flag Park can make a donation to the Friends of the Flag Foundation, Inc. Make checks payable to Conroe Live and mail to The Friends of the Flag Foundation, P.O. Box 1482 Conroe, TX 77305. For more information, go to www.texasflagpark.org.

To learn more about the Lone Star State, visit Conroe, a beautiful blend of history, nature and recreation nestled in the Piney Woods of East Texas.
Twelve Flags that Echo Texas’ Fight for Independence

COAHUILA Y TEJAS FLAG (1821-1836)

In 1825, Green DeWitt received an “Empresario,” contract from Mexico to settle, “Four hundred industrious Catholic families,” in the northern area of Mexico in what is now Texas and included Mexican nationals, “as equally respectable.” The Coahuila y Tejas flag was created to show Mexico that the colonists wanted the Mexican state of Coahuila and the northern area of Tejas to co-exist. It is one of at least three flags believed to have flown over the Alamo.

NEW ORLEANS GREYS (1835-1836)

This flag states, “First Company of Texan Volunteers from New Orleans”, They were one of the first to join the Texians in their fight for liberty. It was presented to Captain Breece’s company when they arrived at the Gaines Ferry on the Sabine River. The flag features an American Eagle with wings spread above, “God and Liberty.” This flag was at the Alamo and saw the battle. After the fall of the Alamo, the flag was sent to the Mexican capital where it has remained since 1836. No attempt has been made to return it.

GOLIAD FLAG SEVERED ARM, BLOODY SWORD (1836)

The first Declaration of Independence from Mexico was signed on the altar of Our Lady of Loreto Chapel at Presidio La Bahia. To celebrate the signing, the volunteers made this flag. Three months later, Col. James Fannin and approximately 400 volunteers found themselves imprisoned at Goliad. On March 27, 1836, the captured Texians were divided into three groups, marched outside the walls and were massacred. Their bodies were piled up, set ablaze and left to rot.

1824 TRI-COLOR FLAG ALAMO FLAG (1835-1836)

November 1835, the Texas settlements met and swore allegiance to the 1824 Mexican Constitution that severely limited the powers of the Mexican President. In 1835 General and President Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna abolished the Constitution of 1824. The Mexican colonists in Texas, still loyal to Mexico, removed the eagle from the Mexican National flag and replaced it with, “1824,” to remind Mexico of its contract. Some accounts show this flag flying at the Alamo.

SAN JACINTO LIBERTY FLAG (1836)

Created by the ladies of Newport, Kentucky for Sidney Sherman’s Newport volunteers. Outnumbered again and shouting the battle cry, “Remember Goliad! Remember the Alamo!” 930 Texians rushed into Santa Anna’s army of 1500 and won the battle in 18 minutes. Santa Anna was captured, surrendered and the Texas Revolution was over. Measured by its results, the Battle of San Jacinto is considered one of the most important battles in the history of the world.

FLAG OF THE TEXAS NAVY (1835-1845)

Before the Republic and during the revolution it was flown over land as well as at sea. Some historians believe that William Barret Travis was speaking of this when he wrote, “…our flag still waves proudly from the walls.” In his famous Alamo letter. Piracy was rampant in the Gulf of Mexico and it so resembled the USA flag that pirates as well as the Mexican Navy would avoid vessels flying it. It was flown by The Republic of Texas Navy until 1846 when Texas joined the Union.

FIRST FLAG OF THE REPUBLIC DE ZAVALA FLAG (1836)

This flag has become known as the first official Flag of the Republic of Texas. It was accepted during the March, 1836 convention. Some argue this flag never existed and that someone romantically made it up. However, the flag is shown as it appears here, in an 1836 political cartoon depicting Sam Houston and his rag-tag army. The flag is named in honor of patriot and statesman, Manuel Lorenzo Justiniano de Zavala, a native Mexican involved in Texas’ struggle.

ALABAMA RED ROVERS (1835-1836)

Although volunteers from Kentucky, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia and Tennessee poured into Texas to assist the Texians, the Alabama Red Rovers came marching under this red banner. Nicknamed “Red Rovers” because of their red pants, and fringed bright red, green and brown check hunting shirts, they fought at The Siege of Bexar, and then were captured at the Battle of Coleto Creek. The majority were massacred at Goliad. Few survived.

TROUTMAN LONE STAR (1836)

Joanna Troutman, from Crawford County, Georgia, created this flag bearing a blue five pointed star with the words, “Liberty or Death,” on one side and, “Where Liberty Dwells there is my country,” in Latin on the other. Originally unfurled in Velasco on January 8, 1836 above the American Hotel, it was then carried to Goliad, where Fannin raised it when he heard of the Texas Declaration of Independence being signed. The flag was torn to shreds and only its remnants flew above the battle.

SECOND FLAG OF THE REPUBLIC BURNET FLAG (1836-1839)

March 2, 1836 Texas declared independence from Mexico. David G. Burnet immediately served as interim president for the newly formed Republic of Texas, followed by Sam Houston as first president. The Republic of Texas became known as a sovereign and independent nation under the Burnet Flag, a simple gold star on a field of blue. Texas Legations (embassies) were maintained in Washington, D.C., London and Paris; historical markers indicate the original location of those in London and Paris today.

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