

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Daughters of the Republic of Texas From the President



June/July 2024

Dear San Jacinto Chapter,

It is hot as a firecracker!!! I hope you are staying cool and enjoying lazy days. And hopefully enjoying the rain from Beryl but no damage or flooding.

Your Executive Board and Committees continue to meet during the summer and are planning a wonderful year of activities and meetings beginning October 3; the Chili Cookoff Celebrating Stephen F. Austin's birthday on November 3; a DRT Medallion marking for SJC past president and past President General Thelma Maresh, the donor for our scholarship fund; our Holiday luncheon and Open House in December; Spring Field Trip in March; San Jacinto Day Ceremony in April; Chapter Memorial Service in May and close out the year with our Spring Luncheon.

Our June 6 luncheon at Lakeside Country Club was beautiful. We installed 15 new members, with 10 of them present or represented by a family member. President General Carol Steakley attended as well as BOM members Marilyn Wade District VIII Rep and Kathleen Townzen Republic of Texas Museum chair. I presented Trudi Becht, our chapter Registrar, yellow roses and the Registrar Growth Award certificate from the DRT convention for increasing San Jacinto's membership last year. Congratulations Trudi! Director Martha Jorgensen played Texas Our Texas on her keyboard and Carla Brown led us in song. I presented bouquets of yellow roses to our Chaplain Luanne Zacek for all that she does for our chapter behind the scenes; and to Susan Schaeffer our newsletter editor who has a full-time job so she cannot attend meetings, an unsung hero. Much to my surprise, I was presented with a beautiful arrangement of yellow roses - thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Tish Wolter, 3rd VP (CRT), Vanessa Flores and I attended the CRT Convention along with our CRT members/officers Lorien and Morgan Wolter, and our president Anthony Klementich. See the CRT page for more details, and plan to take your CRT family members next year. Gayla Sonderegger and the Education Committee have been working on their strategy to get the word out for students to participate in the 4th and 7th grade Essay contests.

The board made follow up calls to over 100 members who hadn't paid their dues, most of them have now paid and were grateful for the call. Carla Brown, treasurer, has been working hard to collect dues, and preparing the Reconciliation Report for General as it relates to our membership. We hate for members to miss General's deadline of July 1 to have to pay a reinstatement fee for being late. Not our rule but General's.

Sharolyn Wood, 5th VP (log house) has been busy with a roof leak in Brooks Cottage, alarm problems and having dead trees and limbs removed from the grounds, just to name a few items. Kudos to Sharolyn for ALL she does to take care of the Pioneer Memorial Log House, Brooks Cottage and the grounds. See photos of downed trees from Hurricane Beryl later in the newsletter.

Roni Thelen, 1st VP, is working on the yearbook supplement which should be mailed around Labor Day. Hopefully you submitted your information form with your dues payment. This is the information we use in the directory. We can't correct information we don't know.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

From the President (Cont'd)

Jaimie Moran, 2nd VP, is scheduling our programs for the coming year. If you have suggestions or contacts for future meetings, let Jaimie know. She keeps a file for possible speakers. Susan Stormer, Corresponding Secretary, has been busy sending acknowledgements for donations. Keep those donations coming! Chapter Historian Gwen Kunz has been organizing and filing chapter archival materials. She and Eron Tynes, chair of the Relics & Preservation of Historic Sites Committee presented copies of DRT Annual Proceedings for 2022 and 2023 to the San Jacinto Museum of History. They maintain information about our chapter in their library.

Debra Grisby, 4th VP, is always looking for donors to help with major projects. Our next large fundraising need will be for the grounds, including drainage improvements, fencing, landscape, etc. If you know someone who can help with this, contact Debra, Sharolyn Wood or me.

It is with a heavy heart that I share with you that Grant Braly, MD, husband of Director Lisa Braly passed away June 4; Patti Livingston, sister of Chaplain Luanne Zacek passed away June 13; Debra Grigsby's husband Richard suffered a heart attack on their annual trip to Colorado and is recovering there; and Beth McCarty's daughter Rachel is in the hospital with a severe infection. Please keep these families in your prayers.

I am happy to announce the birth of Charles "Charlie" Thomas Baird weighing in at 7lb. 13 oz. on July 2, beautiful grandson of past president Beth McCarty.

We have many members helping our chapter throughout the year. I have mentioned just a few. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact me, I can find a volunteer activity for you. Read the San Jacinto Dispatch to keep up with what is going on with our chapter and how you can help. We get back to our monthly issues in September. I hope to see you in person or on ZOOM at our first meeting of the year on October 3.

Have fun this summer with your family and friends!

God Bless Texas and you!

Gwen Sorsby Koch

President, San Jacinto Chapter DRT



Happy travels, be safe, enjoy family and God Bless Texas!

Gwen Sorsby Koch, President,
San Jacinto Chapter DRT

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Calendar August 3rd – September 14th

June - July

Summer Break

August

- August 3** District II Workshop - Fort Worth - drinfo.org/members
August 10 District VII Workshop - San Antonio - drinfo.org/members
August 17 District IV Workshop - Mabank - drinfo.org/members
August 24 District V Workshop - Lampasas - drinfo.org/members

September

- September 7** District X Workshop - Lubbock - drinfo.org/members
September 14 District IX Workshop - Galveston - drinfo.org/members

October

- October 3** First San Jacinto Chapter Meeting of the Year 10:00 am social, Pioneer Memorial Log House

November

- November 3** 2nd Annual Chili Cook Off, joint event San Jacinto Chapter DRT, SRT and CRT, Pioneer Memorial Log House

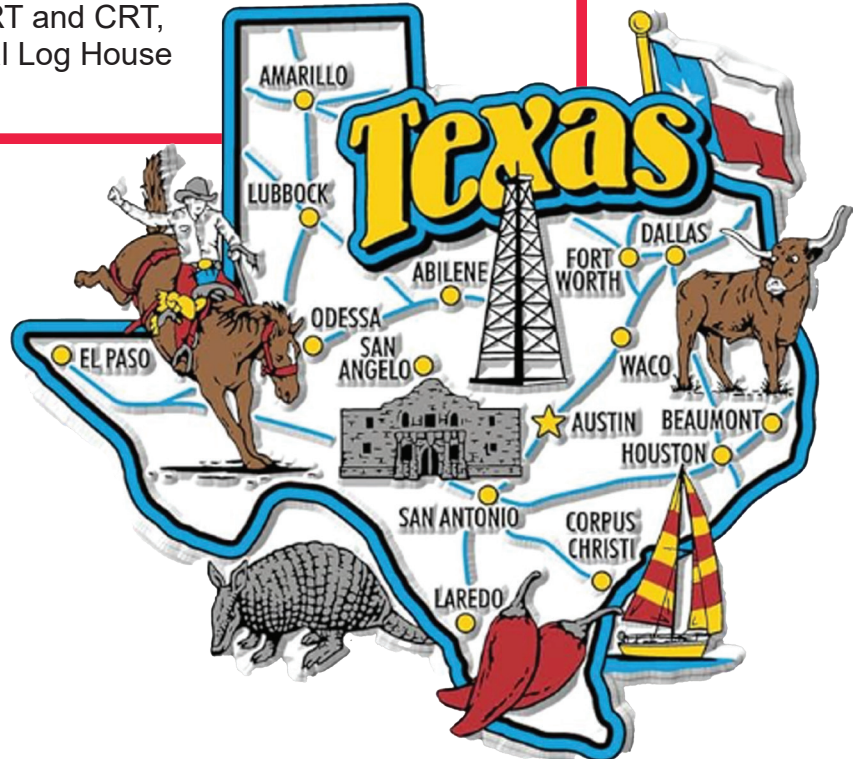
Save The Date

Save The Date

*Texas State Flower -
Bluebonnet*



*Texas State
Bird - Mocking
Bird*





The San Jacinto Dispatch

June 2024 Luncheon

Luncheon- 2024

June, 2024 Luncheon Program

WELCOME

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

Texas Our Texas

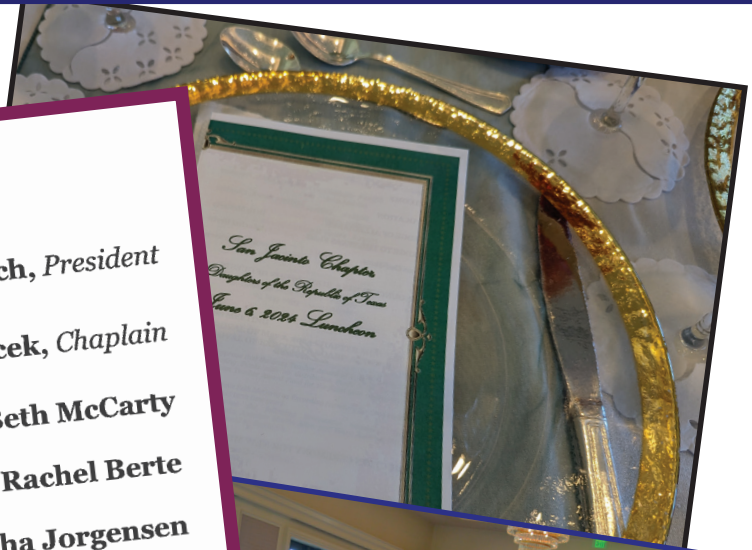
Gwen Koch, President

Luanne Zacek, Chaplain

Beth McCarty

Rachel Berte

Martha Jorgensen





The San Jacinto Dispatch

June Luncheon 2024 (cont'd)



ANNOUNCEMENTS & RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Lunch



RECOGNITION OF 25 YEAR MEMBERS

Gwen Koch, President

Sharon Rives Cunningham #22378
10 Feb 1999 Anton Lockmar

Lana Helton Hirtz #22568
04 May 1999 Samuel Ira Milliman

Netha Burnaman O'Meara #22071
18 Jun 1998 Mary T. Briley Wooten

Candace Battenfield Sawyer #22558
03 May 1999 Josiah O'Daniel

Caroline Elizabeth Sawyer #22560
03 May 1999 Josiah O'Daniel

Sarah Ruth Sawyer #22559
03 May 1999 Josiah O'Daniel





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June Luncheon 2024 (cont'd)



INDUCTION CEREMONY FOR NEW MEMBERS
Gwen Koch, President
Trudi Becht, Registrar
Luanne Zacek, Chaplain



Welcome New Members!

Member

Morgan Bartley
Rachel Berte
Elizabeth Christian
Diana Compton
Katherine Currie
Elizabeth Decker
Tamara Griep
Helen Hemphill
Sydney Hemphill
Christa Lueders
Christine Morenz
Janet Pierson
Anna Pinchas
Cynthia Proler
Lorien Wolter

Ancestor

John W. Litle
Martin Palmer/Parmer
Robert Mosby Eastland
Jacob Jackson Humphries
Robert Hugh Henry
Robert Hugh Henry
Samuel Gates
Samuel Johnson
Samuel Johnson
Peter Swanson
Ezekiel Cullen
John Goodloe Warren Pierson
Joseph Mancil Coker
Martin Guest
Sarah Burleson Howard

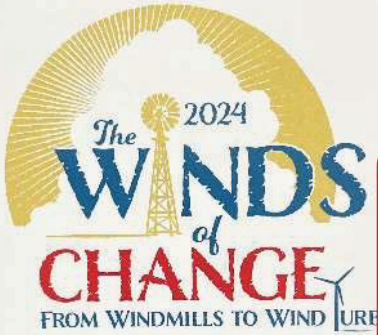




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2024 DRT Convention

DAUGHTERS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TEXAS



133RD STATE CONVENTION

MAY 23-25, 2024
OVERTON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENT
LUBBOCK, TEXAS



2024 LUBBOCK DRT CONVENTION

Hosted by District X and District I Chapters
May 23 – 25, 2024

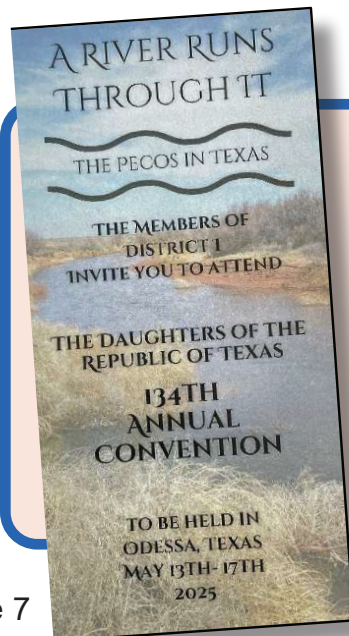
Attending

SJC members attending: Gwen Kunz, Diedre Vick and Miki Norton. With limited representation at this convention, the chapter elected to support the convention with a full-page ad in the Convention program.



Awards

- **Registrar Award:** SJC Registrar Trudi Becht was one of 23 Registrars to receive Registrar's 10% Growth Award for 2024
- **Chapter Awards:** 1st Achievement, 2nd Attendance, 1st Texas History, 1st Volunteer, 1st Membership and 1st President General's Project Award



Keynote Speaker

Stephen Hardin, Ph.D., newly retired professor of history, McMurray University in Abilene, was the keynote speaker. He read excerpts from his new book *"Texian Exodus: The Runaway Scrape and Its Enduring Legacy"* to be released in December, 2024.





The San Jacinto Dispatch

DRT Log House & Country Store

**Come shop our
Country Store!
We have
“All Things Texas”!**

If you can't wait until our October 3 meeting for a perfect gift, call Gwen Koch or Carla Brown to have them meet you at the log house for your shopping purchase.

All purchases support our Pioneer Memorial Log House.



Pioneer Memorial Log House

*Pretty flowers at log house,
with our new resident – the
Texas Jackrabbit!*





The San Jacinto Dispatch

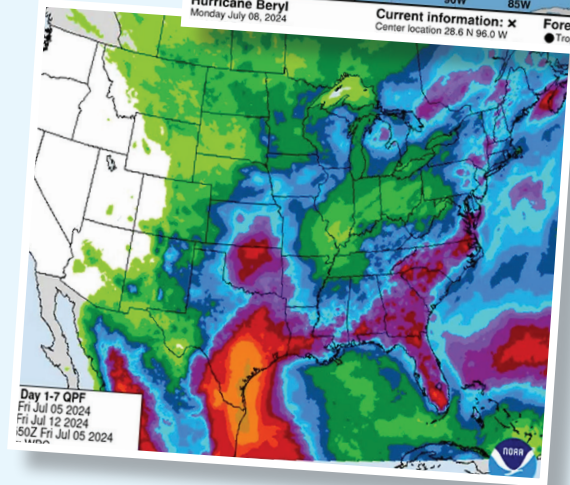
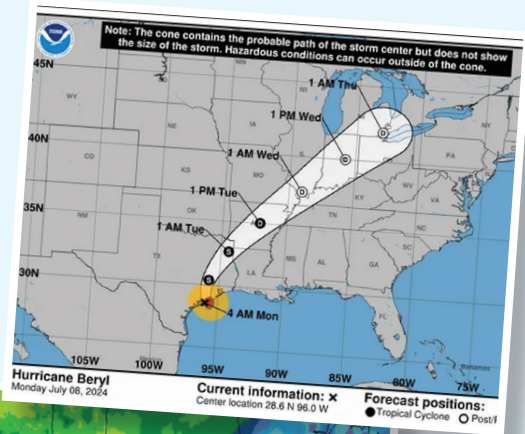
Hurricane Beryl and the DRT Log House

Hurricane Beryl, July 8, 2024 Landfall

Hurricane Beryl made landfall in the early hours of Monday, July 8th. Houston took a hard hit. CenterPoint Energy reported more than 2 million homes and businesses without power.

It wasn't enough that Houstonians were left without power, but the National Weather Services continued to issue heat advisories reaching over 105 degrees Fahrenheit.

Hurricane Beryl was classified as a Category 1, but had the strength to deliver heavy rain, knock-down transmission lines, snap electrical poles and uproot trees.



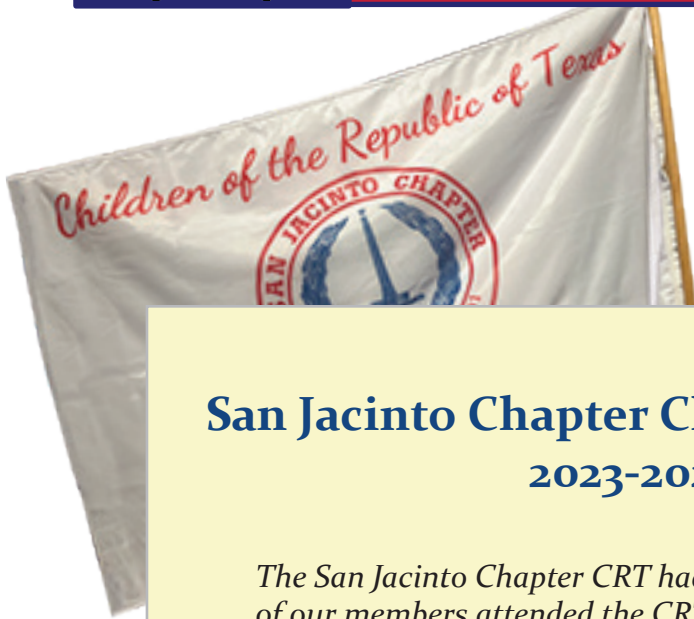
The San Jacinto Chapter DRT was lucky as our Log House came through Hurricane Beryl without structural damage. We did have a few trees uprooted.





The San Jacinto Dispatch

SJC CRT Annual Report June 1, 2023 – May 30, 2024



San Jacinto Chapter Children of the Republic of Texas 2023-2024 Annual Report

The San Jacinto Chapter CRT had an eventful and productive year! Three of our members attended the CRT Convention in Center, TX, where we were recognized as a 4-Star chapter. Members participated in many of the National Officers General Projects, including donating a basket for the silent auction filled with items furnished by San Jacinto DRT members. After Convention, we started our CRT year off with a field trip to San Felipe de Austin. Everyone had a good time learning how our ancestors lived.

In October we participated in the "Road to Independence" chili cook-off. Our team, The CRT Lone Star Chili Crew, was awarded a certificate for "Best Bison Chili". Members learned about decommissioning the Texas flag from SRT members.

Our chapter joined the San Jacinto DRT in December for our Holiday Open House at the Pioneer Memorial Log House. Members enjoyed a craft project and met Santa & Mrs. Claus.

In February, our CRT Chapter Chaplain participated in the Texas Statehood Day Ceremony, presenting a wreath furnished by the San Jacinto DRT at the graves of Anson and Mary Jones.

Our CRT will be participating in the San Jacinto Day Celebration on April 20th and the San Jacinto Day Ceremony on April 21st.

Respectfully submitted,

*Tish Wolter
3rd VP / CRT Sponsor,
San Jacinto Chapter DRT*





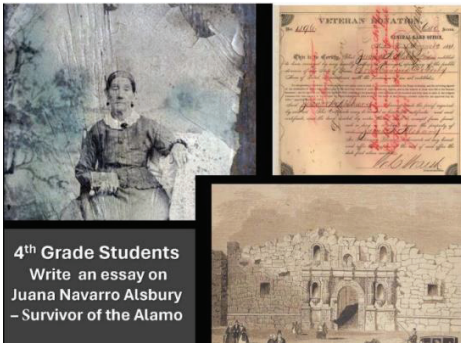
The San Jacinto Dispatch

CRT Grade 4 Essay Contest



ESSAY CONTEST FOR 4TH GRADE STUDENTS

*SPONSORED BY THE SAN JACINTO CHAPTER
OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS*



ESSAY TOPIC

**WRITE AN ESSAY ON JUANA NAVARRO ALSBURY-
SURVIVOR OF THE ALAMO**

COVER PAGE MUST INCLUDE:

Student's Name – Title of Essay – Name of school and address – Daughters of the Republic of Texas – San Jacinto Chapter, Houston, Texas – Gayla Sonderegger, 713-417-6048 – Patti Johnson, District VI – Parent's Name, phone, and mailing address.

ESSAY GUIDELINES:

The most important part of the essay should be historical accuracy. The essay should be original, interesting, and well organized. Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are considered in judging.

Typed essays: 1" margins top and bottom, 1.25" margins on sides, minimum 1.5 pages

"New Times Roman" font, size 12, double spaced

Handwritten essays: Word count between 500-525 words

BIBLIOGRAPHY REQUIREMENTS:

Four references are needed with no more than two internet references. Bibliography should include author's name, title of book, article, or newspaper, city of publication, publisher, date of publication.

Attach and submit essay including cover sheet and bibliography to sjcdrteducation@gmail.com on or before FEBRUARY 1, 2025. Essays may be mailed to SJC Pioneer Memorial Log House, 1510 Cambridge, Houston, Texas 77030-1732. Please contact Gayla Sonderegger at 713-417-6048 with any questions.

The winners will be awarded a \$100 check and honored at an awards reception by the San Jacinto Chapter at the SJC Pioneer Memorial Log House in May, 2025. The winning essays are then submitted to District VI for a chance to win \$50. At the state level, the winning district essays will be considered for \$500, a certificate, and a plaque. The state winners will be honored at the DRT Convention Luncheon.



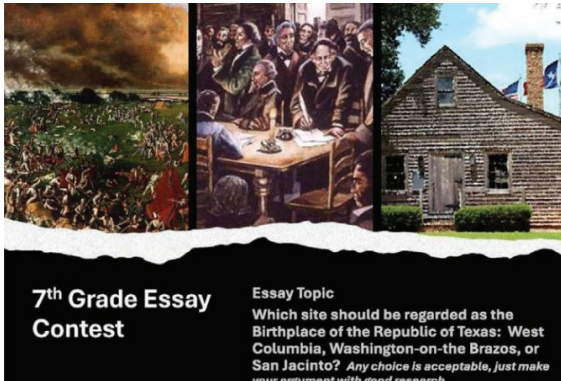
The San Jacinto Dispatch

CRT Grade7 Essay Contest



ESSAY CONTEST FOR 7TH GRADE STUDENTS

*SPONSORED BY THE SAN JACINTO CHAPTER
OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS*



ESSAY TOPIC

WHICH SITE SHOULD BE REGARDED AS THE BIRTHPLACE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS: SAN JACINTO,
WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS, OR WEST COLUMBIA?

COVER PAGE MUST INCLUDE:

Student's Name – Title of Essay – Name of school and address – Daughters of the Republic of Texas – San Jacinto Chapter, Houston, Texas – Gayla Sonderegger, 713-417-6048 – Patti Johnson, District VI – Parent's Name, phone, and mailing address.

ESSAY GUIDELINES:

The most important part of the essay should be historical accuracy. The essay should be original, interesting, and well organized. Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are considered in judging.

Typed essays: 1" margins top and bottom, 1.25" margins sides on 8 ½ " x 11" paper, minimum 2.5 pages

"New Times Roman" font, size 12, double spaced

Handwritten essays: Word count between 800-825 words

BIBLIOGRAPHY REQUIREMENTS:

Four references are needed with no more than two internet references. Bibliography should include author's name, title of book, article, or newspaper, city of publication, publisher, date of publication.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Effective with this newsletter, five of our Chapter's 2024-2025 Executive Officers will be using new Outlook email addresses. Please update your contact lists with this information and add them to your "safe senders":

President

president@sjcdrt.org
Gwen Koch

Registrar

registrar@sjcdrt.org
Trudi Becht

Treasurer

treasurer@sjcdrt.org
Carla Brown

Corresponding Secretary & Database Administrator

secretary@sjcdrt.org
Susan Stormer

First Vice-President

firstvp@sjcdrt.org
Roni Thelen

As Officer's names change with each election cycle, the Office email to contact remains the same. As an example, if you want to inquire if your dues are paid, it does not matter who the treasurer is, you just want to use the *treasurer@sjcdrt.org* email to ask your question.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Galveston Historical Foundation and Elissa



The Elissa, sailing in the Galveston Harbor

Elissa is a three (3) masted, square-rigged iron barque ship. She was built in Aberdeen, Scotland in 1877 and has sailed under several flags, including Norway and Sweden. In 1930 she was sold to Finland. Sadly, Elissa was eventually abandoned in Greece's Piraeus Harbor scrap yard. It was there in 1978 that the Galveston Historical Foundation (GHF) found and rescued her. The GHF purchased Elissa and brought her to Galveston for restoration.



It was not until 1982 that the staff and volunteers completed the restoration in 1982, transforming this extremely rare vessel into a floating museum -- *that sails too*.

Elissa is one of only three ships of her kind in the world that actually still sails. She welcomes over 40,000 visitors annually and serves as the official Tall Ship of Texas, a National Historic Landmark, and a symbol of the Texas Navy.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

SJC Lecture Series

The Texas Navy and San Jacinto

The Victory of the Texian Navy on the plain of San Jacinto in April 1836 was built on many factors, including the leadership of Sam Houston, the grim determination of his troops, and the vagaries of weather that brought the two armies together. But there was another factor that shaped the victory, one that wasn't anywhere near San Jacinto that day: the officers and crews of the Texian Navy. This presentation will follow step-by-step how captures of Mexican ships by the Texian Navy helped simultaneously to provide for Houston's army and deny Santa Anna the supplies his soldados desperately needed.

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2024

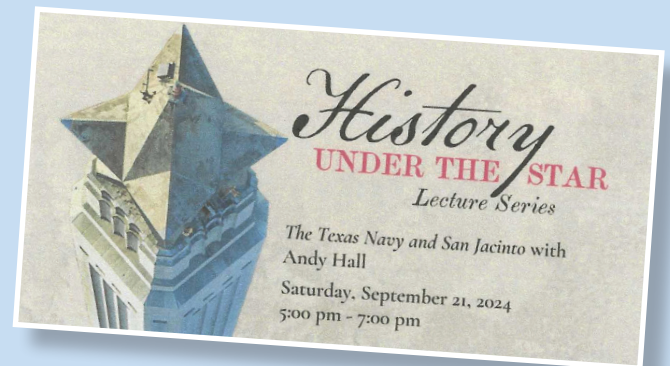
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Talk: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Q & A: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Reception: 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: San Jacinto Museum



Cost: \$5 per person/\$3 for Museum members; students are free.

Buy Your Tickets Today!

Andy Hall holds a bachelor's degree in Historical Studies from the University of Houston – Clear Lake, and a master's degree in Museum Science from Texas Tech University. Since 1990 Hall has volunteered with the office of the State Marine Archaeologist at the Texas Historical Commission to help document historic shipwrecks in Texas waters. Hall was part of the inaugural group of volunteer marine archaeological stewards appointed by the Texas Historical Commission, the first group of its kind in the nation. From 1997 to 2002, Hall served as Co-Principal Investigator for the Denbigh Project, the most extensive archaeological investigation of a Civil War blockade runner to date in the Gulf of Mexico. In 2009 Hall helped identify the wreck of Will-o'-the-Wisp, one of the most famous blockade runners of the war. Hall has written two books on Texas maritime history, *The Galveston-Houston Packet: Steamboats on Buffalo Bayou* and *Civil War Blockade Running on the Texas Coast*, both published by the History Press of Charleston, South Carolina. Hall writes and speaks frequently on the subjects of Texas' maritime history and its military conflicts in the 19th century. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Texas Navy Association, a non-profit educational organization that promotes the history and legacy of the naval forces of the Republic of Texas.



The History Under the Stars lecture series is made possible by a generous grant from the George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation. Videography and Video Production made possible by Humanities Texas.



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Tidbits

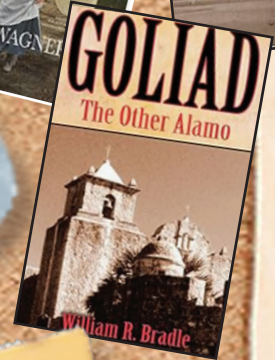
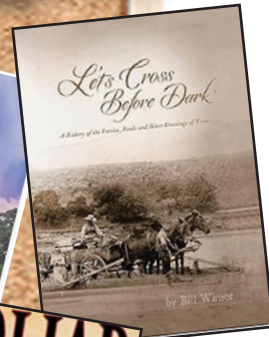
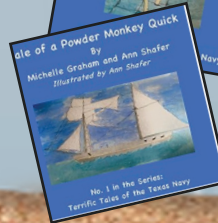
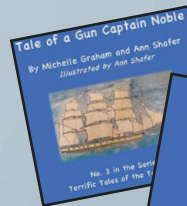
If you have a Native Texan License Plate, take your picture with it, and send to me. We can showcase you in our newsletter and show DRT General our support for the program.



2024 DRT Convention "Winds of Change", Lubbock, Texas
Attended by 345 members and guests with 35 sales tables
Convention Chair Ronda Helton, District X

DRT Library Collection Award Books San Jacinto Chapter donated to schools attended by our essay winners and Texas History Teacher (FYI, copies are for sale in our Country Store):

- *Spirit of Gonzales* by Betsy Wagner
- *Let's Cross Before Dark* by Bill Winsor
- *Terrific Tales of the Texas Navy* Series No. 1, 2, 3 by Michelle Graham and Ann Shafer
- *Crosswire* by Dotti Enderle
- *Goliad the Other Alamo* by William R. Bradle



How Can You Help!!!

We need you to encourage others with Republic of Texas ancestors to apply for DRT membership!

We need Volunteers!

We need Docents!

We need you to serve on a committee!

We need you to shop at the Country Store!

Contact Gwen Koch at 713/826-9061 or sjcdrtpres@gmail.com

Texian Navy Day
Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024,
11:00 AM

Birthplace of the Texas
Navy – Matagorda
VIPs

* Boy-Scout Honor Guard *
High School Band
Box Lunch from Antone's
For more info:
admtxnavy@aol.com
or 713-202-2045



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Friends of the Loghouse Donations

Donations

Friends of the Log House & San Jacinto Chapter

June 1, 2023 – May 31, 2024

Thank you to everyone who made gifts to Friends of the Log House and the San Jacinto Chapter this past year. Your gifts help us to continue chapter activities and to keep our Pioneer Memorial Log House in proper shape for members and the public to enjoy. Your chapter dues go toward activities and upkeep, however, dues alone do not cover all annual expenses. We appreciate all that you do to support our San Jacinto Chapter.

Platinum Star:

Debra Grigsby
Carol Haddock
Carolyn Lightfoot
Michaelene Norton
Penny Remick
The Anne & Edgar Lackner Charitable Foundation
Carol Theilen and Shell Oil Corporation (*matching gifts*)
Lois & Brad Wright

Lone Star:

JoLee Haddock
Gwen Kunz *In Honor of Lisa Braly*
Dianna Patterson
Amelia Sopchak *In Memory of Margaret Standard*
Luanne Zacek

Gold Star:

Catherine Fitch and Shell Oil Corporation (*matching gift*)
Donna Haas
Laura Kaplan *In Memory of Bootsie Pierce*
Grace Kelly
Gwen Koch *In Honor of Beth McCarty*
Gwen & Joe Koch
In Honor of the Executive Board of our Chapter
Candace Sawyer

Shining Star:

Sharon Adams
Brenda Auld
Anne Baring
Mary Baring
Charlotte Anne Brent
Carla Brown
Nancy Burch Walnut Tree Marker
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
Candlelighters SS Class *In Honor of Gwen Kunz*
Adelaide Christensen
Laura Cox
Sherry Dailey
Catherine Doxtater
Sheryl Falk
Luisa Feagin
Jane Fieldcamp
Vanessa Flores
Mary Henderson
Mary Lois Johnson
Rachel Kaplan *In Memory of Bootsie Pierce*
Sarah Kaplan *In Memory of Bootsie Pierce*
Angela Mahmarian *In Honor of Gwen Kunz*
Margaret McGinty
Miss Ima Hogg Chapter, DRT
In Honor of the Log House Committee
Martha "Tica" Perwien
in Memory of Delphine Chance Berry
Kenney Pickens *In Memory of Emma Kessler Dixon*
Caroline Prince
Teal Reamer



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Friends of the Loghouse Donations (Cont'd)

Shining Star (cont'd):

Candace Sawyer

Susan Sheeren

Diana Stachowiak

Lindsy Toomey

Deidre Vick *In Honor of Helen Billings Brite*
In Memory of Flay Vaughan Brite Schueler

Sharlet Warner *In Memory of Joan Fowler Manges*

Sharolyn Wood *In Honor of Nancy Burch & Carolyn Gilbert*

Silver Star:

Nancy Barton

Trudi Becht

Linda Beverlin

Angela Brohammer

Bette Burkett

Laurie Carl *In Honor of Dana Stover*

Kathy Carpenter

Helen Crichton

Charlene Dwyer

Janie Harris

Naomi Joyner *In Memory of Kenneth Pierce Swann*

Anne Kennett

Liz Leifeste *In Memory of Dorothy Cochran*

Lorena Maher

Beverly McMahan

Mary Montgomery

Amanda Patyk

Peggy Payne

Brenda Puckett *In Memory of Marilyn Chapman*

Carolyn Shimek

Barbara Short

Dianne Stool

Martha Strang

Sarah Bob Taylor

Loretta Williams

Jacqueline Michelle Williamson

Tish Wolter

Texas Star:

Sharyn Baker

Sarah Bay *In Memory of Alice Hill Smith*

Brigitte Becker

Joni Becker

Bana Caskey

Sharon Cunningham

Sarah Dikeman *In Memory of Sally Woolrich*

Robert Franks *In Honor of our CRT*

Carolyn Gilbert

Shelley Gottschalk

Imogene Hill *In Memory of Ann Gibson*

Martha Hirsch

Amy Lueders *In Memory of Peter Swanson*

Chelsea Nicholas *In Memory of Beverly Huggins*

Nancy Peebles *In Memory of Julia Aguilar*

Jennifer Pollard

Josephine Rodgers

Martha Rogers

Julia Stockstill-Cobb *In Memory of Mary Dell Palmer Rosier*

Nancy Stokes

Charlotte Taylor *In Honor of Anne Kennett*

Georganna Tonnesen

Ashley Williamson

Lois Wright

Lynn Young *In Memory of Bana Caskey*

Claire Younkin



San Jacinto Chapter District VI Annual Report , April 16, 2023 – April 15, 2024 Sent to DRT General For their Annual Proceedings Book

Attended 2023 Convention with 15 members, and our Country Store. Our June 1, 2023-May 31, 2025 board was installed at our annual luncheon at Braeburn Country Club, with President General Carol Steakley in attendance, and presenting our new 50 year member Gwen Kunz with her 50 year pin. We increased our membership by adding 30 new members this year, and 2 members passed away. Several supplemental applications were also approved. New lighting in our Pioneer Memorial Log House Assembly Room was installed in June, completing our multiyear lighting project for the log house. The 1861 Vose & Sons square piano donated to our chapter many years ago by Erette Red, past San Jacinto president and past President General 1973-1975, has been successfully converted to hold an electric keyboard making this beautiful piano usable again. Headquarters has a similar piano in its lobby. We have had several acts of vandalism to windows in recent months. We are investigating what else we can do to ensure the safety of our log house.

San Jacinto Chapter CRT officers attended the CRT Convention in Center and received many certificates for CRT projects and the Four-Star Award. They contributed a Bluebonnet themed basket for the CRT auction. Our CRT chapter had a great field trip to San Felipe de Austin in September. They met again at the joint DRT, SRT and CRT Chili Cookoff at the log house in October and participated in a meaningful flag retirement ceremony. DRT President General Carol Steakley and District VI Rep Coyla Holmes attended, as well as SRT President General Randy Pollard, Jerry Patterson, Rolling Thunder, and Admirals from the Texas Navy.

San Jacinto Chapter continues to have artifacts on loan to the San Jacinto Museum and supports the museum at Fall Fandango, San Jacinto Museum Annual Member luncheon, school day, festival day and the Official San Jacinto Day Ceremony as chair and providing the laying of the wreath for the battle's fallen heroes. Our chapter presented 4 Thelma Maresh Scholarships at the San Jacinto Day Ceremony. We have donated DRT Award books to the schools of our essay winners; held Medallion Ceremonies for 3 Citizens, 1 Defender and a DRT member with Lanell Smesny from the Historic Sites committee attending and 2 CRT General officers participating; donated Texas Flag pledge cards to students; several members have given talks on Texas history; took our Country Store to the Texas State Historical Association Annual Meeting.

Our meetings have had speakers on the Texian Navy, our ancestors, "Our Chapter Beginning", Texas Native Plants, San Jacinto Battlefield history, field trip to Varner-Hogg Plantation, Chandler Wahrmond from the Texas Historical Commission, spring and holiday luncheons to install new members, Holiday Open House with Santa and Mrs. Claus, reception for our essay contest and Scholarship winners to present certificates and awards, and our chapter memorial service.

Members have attended the joint SRT, DRT and CRT medallion marking for Juan Seguin at his namesake park; Goliad's Presidio la Bahia fundraising luncheon at Taste of Texas; took our Country Store to 5 district workshops; Alamo activities and Travis letter; and Sidney Sherman Chapter SRT Birthday dinner. We celebrated all Texas Honor Days by flying our Texas flags, printed information in our monthly newsletter, the dates printed in our chapter yearbook calendar and stated at chapter meetings. We participated in the joint DRT, SRT & CRT Texas Statehood Day Ceremony at the gravesites of Anson and Mary Jones in Glenwood Cemetery. We have invited chapters in District VI to visit or hold a meeting in the log house at no charge.

Many members have given service to other historical preservation groups. University of Houston Libraries has accepted our donation of 70 DRT Annual Proceedings to add to their collection. We have donated 100% to the President General Project, sent a 4th and 7th grade essay to District VI, contributed to the Laura Lanigan Texas History Award Fund, purchased a brick at The Cradle, donated to The Republic of Texas Museum. Our chapter continues to be active and supportive of the mission of DRT. God Bless Texas!

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen Sorsby Koch
President San Jacinto Chapter



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Double Your Donation

Double Your Donation (at no cost to you)

Ladies, does your employer have a matching gift program? You can double your donation to our Chapter or the *Friends of the Log House* through Employer's Matching Gifts. And retirees can often do the same through their previous Employer's Matching Gifts. Help our chapter and the loghouse increase our donations through this free program. Please contact Carla Brown, Treasurer at treasurer.sjcdrt@gmail.com for assistance in setting up your matching gift.

Did You Know???

Kroger and Randall's both offer a 1% Rebate to us for all money you spend on groceries. Simply sign up to link your account to us; here's how:

Kroger:

Go to HKrogerCommunityRewards@kroger.com. Our account is DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, PIONEER MEMORIAL LOG HOUSE, Account number is RF149. Ask them in the email to link your Kroger Rewards Account to us. You will need to provide your Kroger Rewards number *OR* go to the courtesy counter and ask them to help you. Kroger has a number of affiliate stores including City Market, Dillon's, King Super and Fry's (grocery).

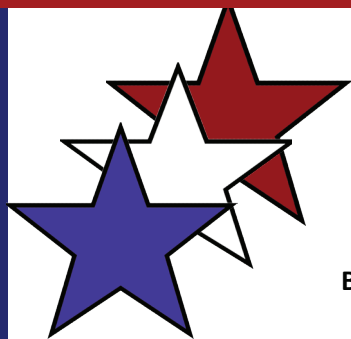
Randall's:

Set up a Randalls for U account through the smart phone app or the website at www.randalls.com. Then, send an email to Good.Neighbor@Randalls.com and ask them to link your account to the non-profit by providing the organization's Good Neighbor number in your message, along with the phone number used to set up your Randalls for U account. (This is the same phone number you use at the register when shopping.) Our Good Neighbor account number is 14197. Affiliates include Albertsons, Safeway, Vons, Jewel-Osco, Shaw's, Acme, Tom Thumb, United Supermarkets, Pavilions, Star Market, Haggen, Carrs, Kings Food Markets, and Balducci's Food Lovers Market. Be sure to ask the courtesy booth if you need other help.

If you are aware of other stores that offer rebates to non-profits please let me know so that we can apply. My email is dgrig1@comcast.net.

Thanks,
Debra Grigsby, 4th VP Ways and Means





Pioneer Memorial Log House

Become a "Friend of the Log House" for 2023-2024



To help preserve the Log house and grounds

Texas Star	\$ 25
Silver Star	\$ 50
Shining Star	\$ 100
Gold Star	\$ 250
Lone Star	\$ 500
Platinum Star	\$1,000 and higher

A gift of any amount is appreciated, and you will be recognized as a *Friend of the Log House*

Name _____
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Address _____
Street City, State, Zip

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General Contribution \$ _____

Contribution in *Memory of / Honor of* _____ \$ _____
(circle one)

Send card to: _____

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San Jacinto Chapter DRT

You can make your donations by check, credit card, or Venmo:

To pay by check, make your check payable to San Jacinto Chapter, DRT,
note *Log House* in the memo line of your check, and mail donations to:

Pioneer Memorial Log House
1510 Cambridge Street
Houston, Texas 77030-1732



To pay with credit card, please access and complete our online form by clicking [here](#)
or scanning the QR code.

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