



The Daughters of the Republic of Texas
San Jacinto Chapter, Houston
The San Jacinto Dispatch
Special Edition – Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum

BUILT IN HONOR OF THE TEXAS CENTENNIAL

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



April 2, 1936

First regular meeting of the San Jacinto Chapter at the Log House.

The Log House was built by the San Jacinto Chapter as a memorial to the pioneers of Texas.

On February 27, 2011, the ladies of the San Jacinto Chapter gathered to pay tribute and celebrate 75 years of the Pioneer Memorial Log House. As the members before us, we too, took a picture in front of the Log House.





PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Pioneer Memorial Log House was built in honor of the Texas Centennial and will celebrate its 75th anniversary as a Houston landmark on March 2, 2011; and

Whereas, the Pioneer Memorial Log House was conceived by the San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas and in February 1935, with the support of Mayor Oscar Holcomb, Houston City Council members approved their proposal to construct a pioneer shrine, "as a landmark for all time and a Mecca for Texas Centennial visitors and celebrants in 1936;" and

Whereas, the city donated land in Hermann Park in honor of the founders of Houston, brothers, John K. and Augustus C. Allen, the Chapter members raised almost the entire amount required for construction of the house, designed by architect Harry Weaver to reflect the rustic style of early Houston buildings; and

Whereas, the Log House was built with more than 250 pine logs that were cut, peeled and saddle-notched and the large fireplace that spans one end of the building was built with stones and bricks from the ruins of historic Texas buildings and gathered by Chapter members; and


Whereas, the Pioneer Memorial Log House was dedicated on March 2, 1936, today, 75 years later, it sits in the shadow of the Texas Medical Center where it continues to host historical organizations and events and provides schoolchildren and other visitors a glimpse of pioneer life in early Texas and 19th century pioneer Houston: now, therefore

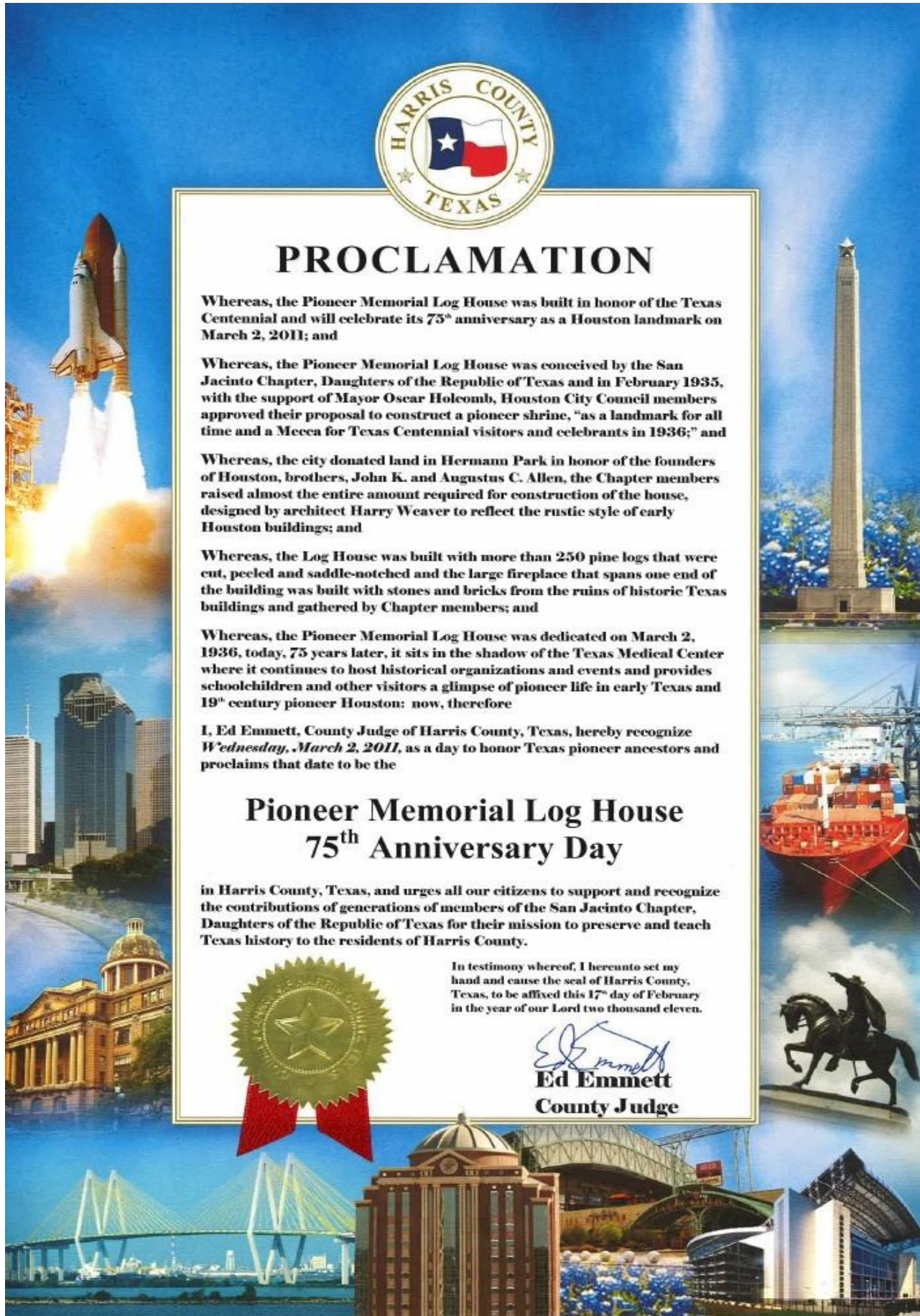
I, Ed Emmett, County Judge of Harris County, Texas, hereby recognize *Wednesday, March 2, 2011*, as a day to honor Texas pioneer ancestors and proclaims that date to be the

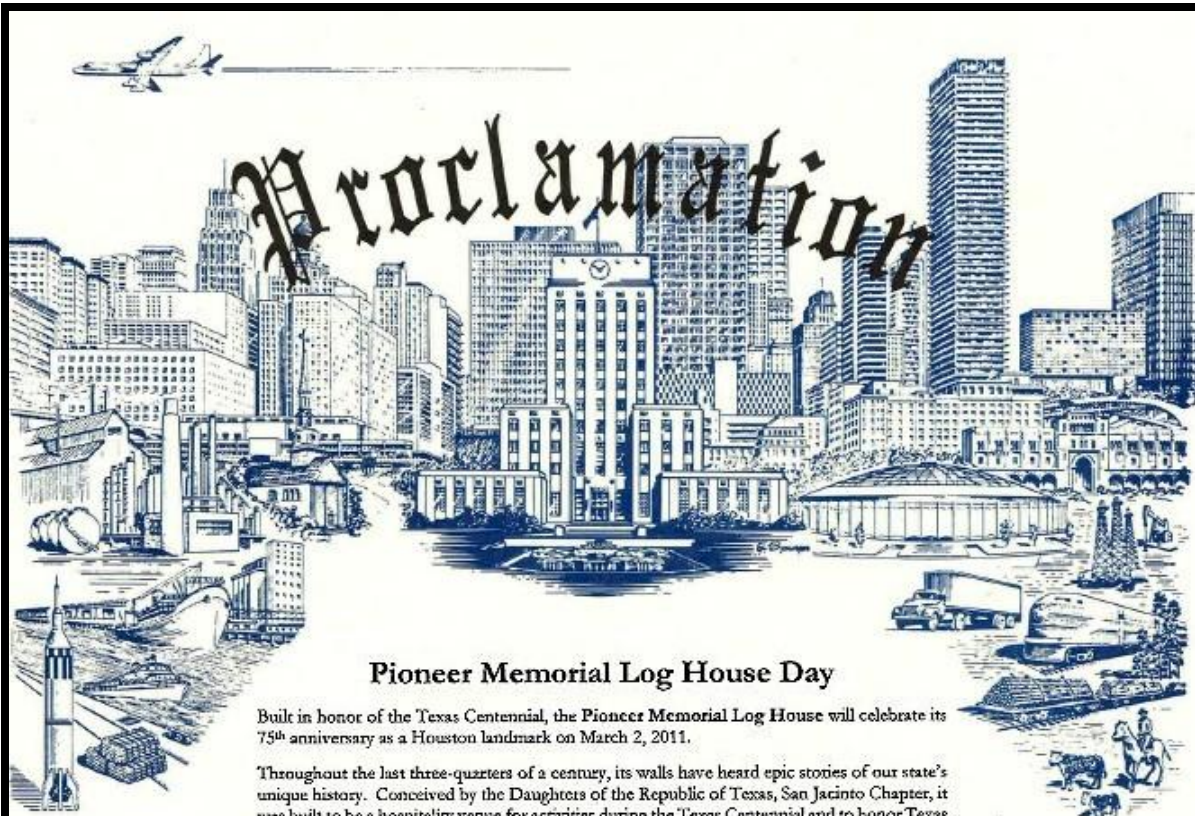
Pioneer Memorial Log House 75th Anniversary Day

in Harris County, Texas, and urges all our citizens to support and recognize the contributions of generations of members of the San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas for their mission to preserve and teach Texas history to the residents of Harris County.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of Harris County, Texas, to be affixed this 17th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven.


Ed Emmett
County Judge





Pioneer Memorial Log House Day

Built in honor of the Texas Centennial, the Pioneer Memorial Log House will celebrate its 75th anniversary as a Houston landmark on March 2, 2011.

Throughout the last three-quarters of a century, its walls have heard epic stories of our state's unique history. Conceived by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, San Jacinto Chapter, it was built to be a hospitality venue for activities during the Texas Centennial and to honor Texas pioneer ancestors.

Although the nation was in the midst of the Great Depression, determined chapter members raised almost the entire amount required for construction of the house. Designed by architect Harry Weaver, the structure was to reflect the rustic style of early Houston buildings. More than 250 pine logs were cut, peeled and saddle-notched. Stones and bricks from the ruins of historic Texas buildings were gathered by members to use for the large fireplace that spans one end of the building.

The Log House was officially dedicated on March 2, 1936—the 100th anniversary of the day Texas declared its independence from Mexico. Throughout the year-long observance of the Texas Centennial, it was the site of numerous events celebrating the birth of the new republic.

Today, 75 years later, the Log House sits in the shadow of the Texas Medical Center where it continues to host historical organizations and events. It provides schoolchildren and other visitors with a glimpse of pioneer life in early Texas and Houston's 19th century origin as a muddy, backwoods town. The Log House also continues as the home of the San Jacinto Chapter and supports the mission of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to preserve and teach Texas history.

The City of Houston congratulates and commends the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, San Jacinto Chapter and the Pioneer Memorial Log House on this auspicious occasion, and extends best wishes to all for a successful and rewarding observance.

Therefore, I, Annise D. Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim March 2, 2011, as

Pioneer Memorial Log House Day

in Houston, Texas.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 24th day of February, 2011.

Annise D. Parker

Annise D. Parker
Mayor of the City of Houston

75th Anniversary Tea

February 27, 2011

Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum



TEXAS EVENTS

A VERY SPECIAL WEEK FOR THE LOG HOUSE

It started with much planning and ended with two special events. Sunday afternoon, February 27, found members, guests, and friends of the Log House gathered to honor those who had the vision to fund and build this house as a testament to our ancestors. We were fortunate to have four ladies whose grandmothers and one great-grandmother had served on the Log House Building Committee.

During the program, Dorothy Cagle, granddaughter of Carrie Kemp read the Log House Poem, written in 1935 for the Log House. Marje Harris, granddaughter of Mrs. Eugene T. Harris read the Proclamation and Beth McCarthy, great-granddaughter of Virginia Baldwin gave the benediction. Nancy Burch, granddaughter of Madge Hearne, re-christened the Log House along with her granddaughter, Emma Ward.

Brenda Stover and Luanne Zacek co-chaired this event and a delicious tea was served.

75th Anniversary Tea Committee



Brenda Stover and Luanne Zacek, Co-Chairs

Back Row: Dana Stover, Brenda Stover, Beth McCarty, Linda Beverlin, Luanne Zacek, Eron Tynes and Cindie Gruetzmacher

Front Row: Kae Theilen, Margaret Standard, Betty Petty, Ann Tanner, Esther Simon, Marje Harris and Gwen Kunz

(Not pictured) Phyllis Moody and Jennifer Pesek



Descendants of the Original Pioneer Memorial Log House Building Committee Present the Program



Dorothy Cagle
Reading Log House Poem



Beth McCarty gave the Benediction
with Great-grandmother's portrait



Nancy Burch and Emma Ward
Re-christened Log House



Marje Harris
Reading Proclamation



Brenda Stover and Luanne Zacek-Co Chairs, were presented with yellow roses by Eron Tynes.



San Jacinto Chapter members and guests enjoying the 75th Anniversary Tea



Rose Slatten and Candace Sawyer



Sharolyn Wood, Martha Haydel and Cindie Gruetzmacher



Ann Tanner and Esther Simon



Linda Beverlin, Ann Bevil and Candace Sawyer



Neal and Terry Stover with Gwen Kunz



Brenda Auld, Charlotte Taylor and Dana Stover



Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum Board

Back Row: Gwen Kunz, Luanne Zacek, and Eron Tynes

Front Row: Kae Theilen, Nancy Burch, Brenda Auld, Esther Simon and Martha Haydel.



San Jacinto Chapter Executive Board

Back Row: Luanne Zacek, Anita Cooper, Tamara Kittleson, Sally Whittington, and Martha Haydel.

Front Row: Nancy Burch, Brenda Auld, Esther Simon, Marje Harris, Eron Tynes, Carolyn Lightfoot and Ann Tanner.

Not Pictured: Marilyn Chapman, Loretta Williams, Mary Jane Harmon and Phyllis Moody.



Eliza Rasch and Reid Richter manning Rolling Thunder under the supervision of Fred Mead



Betty Petty and Margaret Standard



Kae Theilen, Carolyn Lightfoot, Marje Harris, Brenda Stover



Tom Green and Anita Cooper



Maxine Brimberry, Eliza and Cindie Rasch



Rick Whittington and Eron Tynes



Mike Wilson, Fred Mead, John Homman, and John Meredith with Rolling Thunder



Members gathering to take the pictures

Gala Evening at the Log House

March 2, 2011



A Full House



Stars of Texas



Nancy Burch and Charlotte Taylor, receive yellow roses from Eron Tynes

Wednesday evening was an elegant affair with candles flickering from tin cut-out stars in the center of sunflowers and magnolia leaves. The event brought out a houseful of Texans dedicated to preservation for the future of the Log House. This is the place where we endeavor to preserve and further the history of the great state of Texas. The committee was co-chaired by Nancy Burch and Charlotte Taylor and included Carolyn Hamilton, Nina Hendee, Dorothy Knox Houghton, Anne Kennett and Francita Ulmer.

Our speaker for the evening was James L. Haley, an award winning author for his books Sam Houston and Passionate Nation. During his presentation, Mr. Haley gave many facts about “The Texas Centennial.” A delicious dinner catered by Taste of Texas was served. Guests also received the Log House Ornament specifically designed for the 75th Anniversary.



Past Presidents attend the Gala
Marilyn Chapman, Esther Simon, Gina Bouchard,
Carolyn Lightfoot and Eron Tynes

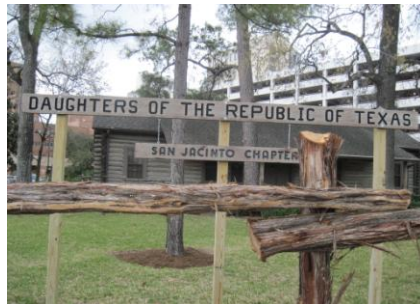
Preparing the Log House for the 75th Anniversary



All Roads Lead to the Log House



The New Sidewalk



The San Jacinto Chapter Home



The New Fence

In preparation for the upcoming anniversary events, many hours were spent to ensure the Log House would look her best for her 75th birthday. In January, a new sidewalk was laid and Rick Deweiss, Hermann Park Manager oversaw a major tree trimming and general sprucing of the yard. The new fence and a new handicap rail were built in February. Bob Gruetzmacher, pressure washed the sidewalks and the front porch on the Log House. In addition, he swept all the pine needles off the roof.

In the Log House itself, rugs were rolled up, floors were waxed and a general spring cleaning was conducted. Many members assisted with this project, Sally Whittington, Brenda Stover, Anita Cooper, Shannon Work, Martha Haydel, Charlotte Taylor, Luanne Zacek, Ann Tanner, Marje Harris, Ann Bevil, Marilyn Chapman and Maxine Brimberry (Honorary Member). In addition to working in the Log House, Esther Simon, Gwen Kunz, Eron Tynes and Dana Stover also spent many hours in the yard.



Sally Whittington and Brenda Stover



Martha Haydel



Bob Gruetzmacher pressure washing



Bob Gruetzmacher cleaning the handicap rail



The A- Team – Bob and Cindie Gruetzmacher



The B-Team – Luanne Zacek, Esther Simon, Gwen Kunz, Eron Tynes, Cindie Gruetzmacher, and Maxine Brimberry



Reid Richter, CRT, collecting Brazos River water to christen The Log House

*Tampering with Trifles**By Judd Mortimer Lewis*

*The pioneers of Texas,
Those mighty men of old,
They watched her forests burgeon
Her prairies turn to gold,
Erected their log cabins
By field and wood and stream,
And toiled and fought and suffered
To hold their splendid dream.*

*The pioneers of Texas,
Grim was the toil they knew;
Their foemen were a legion,
Scattered were they, and few,
And oftentimes their loved ones
When the days were sped
Crouched in their little cabins
Through nights of watchful dread.*

*The pioneers of Texas,
They put all pleasure by,
Toiled bravely for existence
Went bravely forth to die
Whenever duty called them
“Gainst the invading foe;
They died at Goliad; they
Died at the Alamo*

*The pioneers of Texas
Died to make Texas free;
They had the splendid vision
Of ages yet to be;
To keep their mem’ry splendid
Is our unending pledge;
Their courage is our glory,
Our lasting heritage*

