

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

December 2011

Lines from Luanne

San Jacinto Chapter DRT President



What a wonderful time members had at the Christmas Luncheon. The Log House looked gorgeous with the decorating help of several of our chapter members. Esther Simon donated the magnificent Christmas tree and all of the lovely poinsettias. Also, thanks to Maxine Brimberry for donating her time to make the candy cane party favors for the luncheon. Fifty four members and guests enjoyed the Gloryland 4 and their beautiful voices singing Christmas carols. Three lovely ladies, Josephine Rodgers, Elizabeth Leifeste and Julia Hogan were honored at the new member ceremony. Brenda Stover was the coordinator for the event and did an amazing job. A good time was had by all.

Santa Claus, (Bob Gruetzmacher-honorary member), made a visit to the Christmas Open House to the joy and excitement of the children. There were cookies galore and red hot cinnamon drinks to enjoy. Guitars played by Steve Beverlin, Cindie and Bob Gruetzmacher, and Martha Haydel filled the house with Christmas carols and singing. Phyllis Moody turned the dining room into a Christmas wonderland for guests to shop in the Country Store. Her elf, Sally Whittington, assisted shoppers with their purchases. A special thanks to the members who made dozens of homemade cookies for our guests, and helped serve and clean up. Thank you to honorary member, Rick Whittington, who provided our security and to the men who helped load boxes and tables. I know I have missed some important members but just know that everything was appreciated and made the day the success it was.



Several bags of toys were delivered to Ben Taub Hospital to bring joy to the children hospitalized during the holidays. Thank you for your donations.

On a personal note, the luncheon and open house required a lot of time, planning and work, but being with the special ladies who volunteered their time and expertise was a special joy to me. The best thing was that it was FUN and that is something I am striving for as president.

Luanne Zacek, President



SJC Raffle Winner



The SJC raffle of a set of steak knives and stand was a wonderful success. The winning ticket was drawn on Sunday, December 11 at the PMLHM Open House. Our own chapter member, Marilyn Van Way, was the winner. She was elated to have her ticket drawn. Marilyn, we hope you will serve up a big prime rib to your family and they enjoy using the knives alongside you. Merry Christmas to you and your family, and congratulations on being the raffle winner!



Welcome SJC New Members!



At the Christmas Luncheon, a ceremony was conducted to welcome new members that have been approved within the last 6 months. The new members who attended were Jo Rodgers, Liz Leifeste, and Julia Hogan. At the conclusion of the ceremony, our Registrar, Marje Harris, presented each new member with a state flag of Texas and the state flower, the bluebonnet, to commemorate the occasion. Assisting with the ceremony were Luanne Zacek, President, and Kae Theilen, Chaplain.



Marje, Liz, Jo, Julia, Kae, Luanne

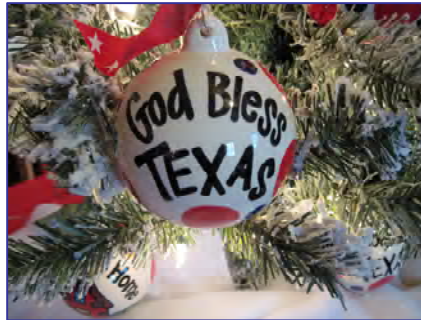
Inside This Issue

P. 2	Country Store, January Program, Friends Of the Log House
P. 3 - 5	Christmas Pictures

Country Store, A Special Place



Guests and members were amazed upon entering the Log House this last week. The San Jacinto Chapter country store was transformed into a holiday shopping exhibition on the two occasions of the chapter December luncheon and the PMLHM Open House. The country store was pulled from its usual tiny corner and moved into the dining room of the Log House. This room was transformed into the country store where many great items were displayed in a festive setting. Flocked and beaded Christmas trees adorned the tables of the dining room. Texas flags made of metal and tin hung with care on the walls of the log house. Tables of books for children, as well as adults, were meticulously presented for shoppers to open and read before buying a book for their giving or their own pleasure. Silver bracelets were displayed on black velvet for all to try on while deciding on the exact silver pattern they wanted to purchase. New items depicting Houston and Texas were set out in such an array as to not miss them. Men's neck ties and ladies scarves were draped over tall, prominent display racks which easily caught the eye of the shopper. The center of attraction was the flocked Christmas tree which was lit and embellished with new large beaded ceramic ball ornaments stating "God Bless Texas" and "Bless This House." Shoppers came to the store before and after the luncheon, then all during the hours of the Open House. Sally Whittington and Phyllis Moody were managers of the store and the check out system was done in an efficient way. And did we sell anything? Yes, we did. We sold out of at least 3 different ornaments displayed on the center table. We sold out of "Texas" note cards, and small children's books. We took orders for jackets and other items which we ran out of. We were overwhelmed with lookers, joyous buyers, and persons happy with the ease in which they did their shopping in a festive mood and in a large room of great gifts. Special thanks go to Luanne Zacek and Brenda Stover for allowing the dining room to be used as a store, thus meaning that all food was served in the main room for the Thursday luncheon. The dining room has never looked so stunning.



January 5th Meeting

10:00 a.m.



Virginia Bernhard, professor emerita at the University of St. Thomas, will speak on her book, "Ima Hogg: The Governor's Daughter." Dr. Bernhard served on the UST faculty from 1971 to 2006 and was director of the History Department for many years. She also was the director of the Women, Culture and Society Program from 2005-2006. She is a graduate of Rice University, where she also earned her PhD in history. She received a Master of Arts degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Nancy Burch, Second Vice President

Friends of the Log House

There's still time to make you tax-deductible gift to the Log House!

Make your check payable to the *Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum*, and mail to:



Gwen Kunz
SJC Assistant Treasurer
2001 Holcombe Blvd. #2901
Houston, TX 77030.