

Daughters of the Republic of Texas
San Jacinto Chapter, Houston

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Carolyn Lightfoot, President
(713) 978-6527

Sara Parr, Editor

March 2006

Please note: This Newsletter is a combination for March and April containing information thru May 2006.

April Meeting

Our April 6 speaker will be Rick Barongi, director of the Houston Zoo. He will talk to us about the history of the zoo, which as some of you know, was once headquartered on the grounds of the Kellam Noble House, now Sam Houston Park. The zoo has been a good neighbor to San Jacinto DRT, assisting us in various ways with the care of the Log House. Rick has attended several events at the Log House and is a strong supporter.

May Meeting

On May 4, Barry Ward, ship manager for the Battleship Texas, will discuss the history of the *US Texas* or BB-35, as its known in naval terminology. The *Texas* is the last survivor of its class of battleships, and is an important part of American history, having seen service in both world wars and in both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans during World War II. It provided cover for the Normandy landings on D-Day and a few days later, sustained a hit off the coast of Cherbourg. Barry also will update us on the plans for repairs and eventual permanent dry docking of the ship at San Jacinto.

Proposed By-Law Changes

Since the last By-Laws were reviewed, there have been numerous changes at the State level, necessitating the proposed changes to our Chapter By-Laws. It should be noted that the State DRT has By-Law changes every two years and our Chapter By-Laws should be consistent with the State DRT Manual of Proceedings. Other proposed By-Law Changes specific to the San Jacinto Chapter are the addition of a CRT Registrar, Web-Site Committee, Associate members and numerous other proposed changes as our Chapter continues to evolve.

The proposed By-Law Changes have been approved by the Executive Board and were presented to the Chapter for the first reading at the February meeting. As per our By-Laws:

". . . These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds

vote of members present. Proposed changes must be read at two Chapter meetings, after being approved by the Executive Board, before they are voted upon by the Chapter."

The second reading and voting will be conducted on April 6, 2006 since our March meeting was a Field Trip.

SJC Registrar Report

SJC Welcomes the following four New Members + One Associate Member:

Mary Sue Westmoreland, DRT # 25659, and her two daughters, Susan McConkey, DRT # 25660, and Laura DeVega, DRT # 25661, approved February 23. This family's ancestor is Pleasant Cicero Jenkins.

Our most recent new member is Jane Curtin Reed, DRT # 25684, approved on March 3rd. Jane's ancestor is Phillip Singleton. Additionally, two supplementals were submitted at the same time, and was approved on ancestors, James W. Singleton, and Margaret Ryan.

Patti Kobitz Brown has completed her application and has been approved to be a new Associate Member. Her certificate has been mailed directly to her.

Please join me in making these ladies feel welcome when you see them at the meetings. Chapter Registrar, Phyllis Vaughan Moody

Heartfelt Condolences

Alice Pearl Stephenson Moyer, DRT #007133, passed away March 1, 2006. She joined SJC February 8, 1971. Her ancestor was John Allen Stephenson. Alice is survived by her husband Reverend Osburne Moyer. They lived in Jackson, Mississippi.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION AND CHILI COOK-OFF

On Sunday, February 26, 2006 over a 100 Texians gathered at the Log House Museum to commemorate Texas Independence Day. The event was sponsored by the San Jacinto Chapter DRT and CRT. The Texian Army was in attendance along with the Dulcimer Society. Tom Green/SRT filled the yard with his Flags. Children received Republic of Texas money and were able to obtain a Land Grant written by Edwin Erwin. There was a Blacksmith, Larry Hoff and authentic Republic of Texas documents including currency and an original Bond signed by Stephen F. Austin that were provided by Mike Powell.

The Band played and there was a program to commemorate this most significant Texas Honor Day. During the program Carolyn Lightfoot, President, San Jacinto Chapter, welcomed everyone and led in singing "Texas our Texas". Julia Andrews led the Pledge of Allegiance and Kayla, Kary, John, and Jennifer Searle led the pledge to the Texas Flag. The Texian Army commanded by Col. John Baker read Travis' Famous letter and Randy Pollard, San Jacinto/SRT read one of Travis's last letters.

A Flag Retirement Ceremony was then held with the Girls Scouts and CRT retiring the Texas Flag. Participants in the Flag Retirement ceremony were Helen and Katrina Williams, Julia Andrews, CRT and Anais Saenz and Katy Broussard, Troop 718 Pearland/South Texas Council. Col. Baker assisted by using his Bowie knife to separate the Lone Star and the colors. If you have never seen a Flag Retirement Ceremony, it is truly something special to see. We will definitely have another one next year at our Texas Independence Day Celebration.

Lanelle Killebrew, sold the bowls and spoons along with drinks and chips. We had about 10 different types of Chili to be sampled, Venison, Turkey, Chocolate, Roadkill, Buffalo Meat, etc. Awards presented to the Chili Teams:

Best Buffalo Meat Chili	Jim and Bonnie Hodges
Best Authentic Texan Chili	Lone Star Kids Chili Team – Kayla, Kary, John, and Jennifer Searle assisted by their parents, Kameron and Marissa
Best Texas Cowgirl Chili	Loretta, David, Helen and Katrina Williams
Best Texas Cowboy Chili	Noah and Becky Lee
Best Texas Trailriders Chili	Col. John Baker
Best Authentic Texian Chili	Marilyn Chapman
Best Road-Kill Chili	"Road Kill Rattlers ... our chili has a bite" served "Texican Red" Members: Jan and Gary Denham and the Erwins

Others providing Chili were Esther Simon, Larry Hoff and Eron Tynes. Desserts were provided by the San Jacinto Chapter/DRT.

We were blessed with good weather. Along with a wonderful group of true Texian friends whose contributions and participation made our Texas Independence Day Celebration a truly memorable one. There is not a more appropriate tribute to our Texas Independence than a group of Texians gathered together outdoors with our marvelous winter weather, eating delicious food, listening to good music and enjoying the company of our friends. A perfect

example was our SJC emeritus member, Mrs. Anne Ross Lackner, age 92, enjoying chili and desert with several members of her family at the Log House. Her ancestor was Jose Antonio Navarro.

Thanks to all of you who came and supported our event - Eron Brimberry Tynes,

Bits and Pieces

Ladies, I have exciting news!!!!

Yesterday I received a check for \$6,420.00 from the License Plate Fund designated for chinking the logs! This gives us enough to start the project. We will continue to pursue funds, of course, to completely refurbish our Log House.

If you do not have your license plate, please consider getting one.
Carolyn Lightfoot, SJC President

Did you know that our web-site is up and running? Have a look for yourself at <http://www.sanjacintodrt.org/> . Please send all additions, corrections and compliments/complaints to Anita Cooper at ajcooper@cybergal.com.

+++++

We will not have a Newsletter for the month of April.

Planned Events and Activities

French Legation Museum 50th Anniversary Celebration

The French Legation Committee of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas invites you to attend the **April 8, 2006** 50-year Celebration. The Daughters opened the newly-restored French Legation Museum for the first time in April 1956. The restoration and custodianship of the French Legation is an accomplishment that all DRT members can be proud of.

50th Anniversary Celebration
April 8, 2006
On the grounds of
The French Legation Museum
802 San Marcos Street, Austin, Texas

The schedule of events is as follows:

4:00 p.m. Tours of Museum

5:30 p.m. Introduction of Speakers
Patricia Horridge, Chair DRT French Legation Committee

Welcome Address

Nelma T. Wilkinson, President General DRT

Liz Carpenter
Author and Journalist

6:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Entertainment and Dancing

Tickets for the 50-year Celebration are **\$25**. Please contact Brenda Auld at 281-497-0528 for tickets and information on the event.

+++++

San Jacinto Day is **April 21**. Plan to attend the ceremonies at the San Jacinto Monument. No admission fee will be charged on that day. A chartered bus from Precinct 3 will leave from Westminster Methodist Church, 5801 San Felipe, Houston, 77057 on April 21, 2006 for the San Jacinto Day ceremonies at the San Jacinto Monument. The buses will depart at 9:15 a.m. promptly and return by 3:00 p.m. There is no charge for the trip.

Please make your reservations soon, as only 39 seats are available. It will be a grand event! Reservations: Pat Craig 713-974-2729 or pcraig@ev1.net

+++++

Author James Haley has agreed to review his new history of Texas (due out in April) for us tentatively on **Sunday, May 7th** at the Log House. For those of you that remember when he reviewed his biography of Sam Houston. Watch for more information in the mail.

+++++

115th State Convention

District II Chapters will be hosting the DRT State Convention, "Texas, Land of New Beginnings" at the Wyndham Arlington, **May 17-20, 2006**. The room rate is \$99.00 per night plus tax and the phone number for the Wyndham is 817-261-8200. The next Daughters Reflections will have the Convention Registration Forms or you may access the forms and more information through the Convention Website" - <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txdrt2/index.htm> . Additionally, you can get the registration form and tentative calendar, proposed bylaw changes, member supplies and chapter sales all on the Members Only site at <http://drt-inc.org/members/>;

TEXAS HONOR DAYS~~~~FLY YOUR TEXAS FLAG

MARCH 27~~~~GOLIAD HEROES DAY

On a Palm Sunday, nearly 400 Texians captured at Coletto Creek were slain by the Mexican Forces at Goliad under orders from Santa Anna.

APRIL 21~~~~SAN JACINTO DAY

General Sam Houston and the Texian Army won one of the most decisive battles in history, when they routed Santa Anna and the Mexican Army at the San Jacinto River and Buffalo Bayou.

The Texian forces attacked Santa Anna and his men at 3:00 in the afternoon advancing to the tune of "Will you come to the Bower?"

Historical Dates

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| March 17 | David G. Burnett and Lorenzo de Zavala were named the President and Vice President of the ad-interim government of the Republic of Texas. |
| March 19 | Fannin and his men are surrounded and defeated at the Battle of Coletto Creek. An honorable surrender is sought, but dawn brings an unconditional surrender. |
| March 25 | In 1843, the prisoners of the ill fated Meir Expedition draw white and black beans from a pot; the seventeen who draw balck beans are executed by the Mexicans. |
| March 29 | The town of San Felipe was burned to the ground in order to prevent its falling into the hands of the Mexican Army. |
| March 30 | In 1870, after the Civil War, the United States Congress readmitted Texas into the Union. |
| April 12 and 13 | Using the steamship "Yellowstone", Gen. Houston ferried his troops across the swollen Brazos River and marched to the site of present day Hempstead. Two cannons awaited them. The cannons would become known as the "Twin Sisters" and were donated by the people of Cincinnati. |
| April 15 | General Houston turns his army towards San Jacinto. |
| May 1 | In 1718, the Mission San Antonio de Valero, the Alamo, was founded by the Spanish Government of Texas. |
-

CRT

On Saturday, **April 22, 2006** at the San Jacinto Festival and Battle Re-enactment the CRT San Jacinto Chapter will have a coloring table. Please call Loretta Williams at 713-673-1418 if you are interested in volunteering.

+++++

Mrs. Jan DeVault, past DRT San Jacinto Chapter President, has arranged a VIP tour for the CRT children on **April 30, 2006** at 2:00 p.m of the Battleship Texas State Historic Site. Additionally, once the repairs of the San Jacinto Museum are complete she is also going to organize a VIP tour of the museum for the CRT. Please let Loretta Williams know if you would like to attend the tour of the Battleship Texas State Historic Site.

+++++

CRT Flag Retirement Ceremony along with a picnic was held on March 11, 2006 at Jesse H. Jones Park and Wildlife Center in the picnic area from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Anita Cooper, District VI Representative, and Sandra Meier of the Seth Hurin Bates Chapter, DRT organized the event that was well attended by numerous DRT and CRT members.

A U.S. and Texas Flag Retirement Ceremony was conducted by the CRT members and led by Chancey Westfall, President General CRT. This event was held in the Redbud Hill Homestead and Akokisa Indian Village. The Redbud Hill Homestead is a replica of an 1820 -1830's pioneer settlement. The Homestead has a log cabin, smokehouse, root cellar, kitchen garden, bread oven, corral, barn, woodworking shop, chicken house and a black smith shop. The event was enjoyed by all and represented a patriotic and unifying act in the retirement of the U.S. and Texas Flag. Mike Howell, Parks Personnel also presented a Harris County Commissioner's Court proclamation designating March 11, 2006 CRT District VI Day.

CRT Board Officers President General, Chancey Westfall, Silver Hawks CRT (drove all the way in from Odessa with his mother and grandmother), Mary Helen Townsend, 1st Vice President General, Miss Ima Hogg Chapter, Ambyr Wallace, Recording Secretary General, Sarah Ward Chapter, and Helen Maria Williams, Parliamentarian General. The San Jacinto Chapter also attended and took part in the flag retirement ceremony. Anita Cooper