



*Daughters of the Republic of Texas
San Jacinto Chapter, Houston*



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Eron Brimberry Tynes, President

March 2008

Linda Beverlin, Editor

**Texas Independence Day Celebration with
Mayor Bill White and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett**



Tom Green, Mayor Bill White, Dick Reese



Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, Gina Bouchard

Hats off to Tom Green, Knights of San Jacinto, for organizing the March 3, Texas Independence Day Celebration held in the lobby of Houston City Hall.

Since March 2 was on a Sunday, it was decided to commemorate the 172nd anniversary of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence on Monday, March 3. The San Jacinto and Sam Houston Chapters of the Sons of the Republic of Texas and the San Jacinto Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas co-sponsored the ceremony with the City of Houston. Members of other DRT and SRT chapters and the Texian Army were also in attendance.

Tom Green was the Master of Ceremonies with the Mayor of Houston, Bill White, beginning the program by welcoming everyone and reading a proclamation. Harris County Judge Ed Emmett also gave an entertaining welcome. Eron Brimberry Tynes, President, San Jacinto Chapter, DRT and Will Haddock, President, San Jacinto Chapter, SRT spoke about the impact the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence had in shaping modern day Texas. Jan DeVault, President, Friends of the San Jacinto Battleground and Gina Bouchard, President, San Jacinto Descendants, also spoke. Sam Houston IV read the famous letter from the Alamo by Col. William Barrett Travis calling for reinforcements. President General of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, J. Richard Reese, KSJ, concluded the ceremony by leading everyone in a toast, with good ol' Texas water, to all those brave men who signed the Texas Declaration of Independence.



DRT Ladies at City Hall

San Jacinto Battleground Field Trip

What a wonderful day we had on our field trip, March 6th as we toured the San Jacinto Battleground and museum! The DRT founders had great foresight with their original purposes, one of which was "to acquire and mark the Battlegrounds of San Jacinto where our Republic was born." Our chapter is rich in its history preservation regarding the San Jacinto Battleground. We marveled at marker after marker that had been placed by the San Jacinto Chapter in conjunction with the Texas Veterans. These boulders had been placed in 1912 by our chapter in place of the original iron markers. The state of Texas is fortunate to have this site because of the perseverance of our chapter's founders who petitioned the Legislature in the 1890's and early 1900's to purchase so much of the land that is part of the San Jacinto Battleground today. In addition, when the State Treasury was \$400.00 short, our chapter gave the necessary amount to the State.

We were joined by Mr. David Pomeroy, a noted Texas historian and our tour guide. He accompanied us to Santa Anna's capture site and the site of Vince's Bridge. With his interesting comments, he added to the day. We visited the library, saw a movie, and the special exhibit of Early Texas Maps guided by Lisa Struthers and her assistants. Larry Spasic, Museum Director, gave a brief talk where he proudly displayed his 7th grade History Teacher of the Year Award presented to him at the State DRT Convention years ago. Our chapter has given and loaned to the San Jacinto Museum many documents which were on exhibit for us, including the Dilue Rose Harris Diary.

A marvelous lunch was served at the Monument Inn. During the lunch, Eron Tynes presented to the museum on behalf of the San Jacinto Chapter, Volumes 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the DRT Founders and Patriots. In addition, we also gave a number of State DRT Annual Proceedings to the museum. It was an insightful day!

Ann Bevil, Second Vice-President



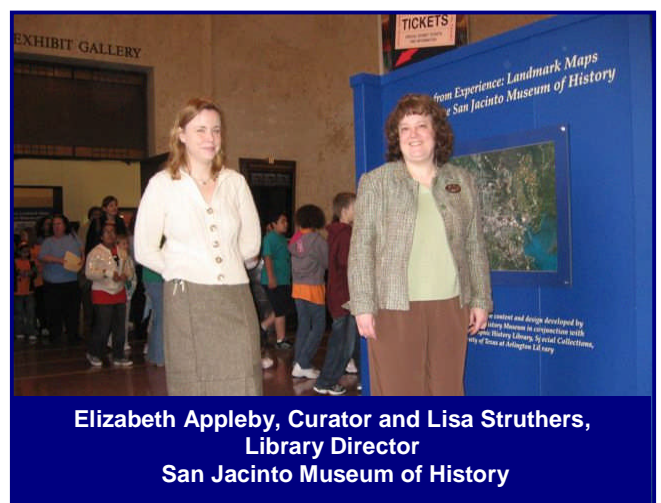
Santa Anna's Capture Site Marker



The Twin Sisters Cannons Site Marker



Vince's Bridge Site Marker



**Elizabeth Appleby, Curator and Lisa Struthers, Library Director
San Jacinto Museum of History**



SJC Greets New Friends at Genealogy Fair

SJC participated in the Sugar Land Genealogy Fair on February 24, 2008. Eleven ladies were registered that showed interest in becoming members of our chapter.

Worksheets and instructions for preparation of the DRT application were handed out to many persons attending the genealogy fair. The DRT software was available for purchase, also.

Sally Whittington set up the "country store" next to the registrar's table. Sally offered several of the items for sale which you see in the log house. Overall, it was a profitable day for the "country store."

Our own president, Eron B. Tynes, presented one of the afternoon programs, where she spoke to an audience of 40+ persons interested in Texas history. Eron's topic was "From the Alamo to San Jacinto."

Over 200 attendees enjoyed meeting and visiting with 41 different groups which set up tables with literature about their historical/genealogical organization. This genealogy fair was certainly deemed a success, and we look forward to participating again next year.

Many thanks to members who worked both tables: Mary Jo Brice, Jan Dunham, Tamara Kittleson, Marje Harris, Anita Cooper, and Kay Martin.



Anita, Eron, Sally, Phyllis, and Marje at the Fair



Eron Tynes at the Fair Podium



Texas Independence Day Dinner



Thirty members of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the Sons of the Republic of Texas, the Texian Army and their friends and families gathered on March 1 at the Steamboat House Restaurant to commemorate Texas Independence Day. This event was sponsored by the San Jacinto Chapter, Sons of the Republic of Texas and the San Jacinto Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. According to our archive records, years ago, our two chapters annually held a luncheon to commemorate Texas Independence Day. Since Texas Independence Day was on a Sunday this year, Saturday evening, March 1, was selected as the time to renew our annual event.

Will Haddock, President, San Jacinto Chapter, SRT was the Master of Ceremonies and Eron Brimberry Tynes, President, San Jacinto Chapter, DRT gave a talk about the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence and the impact of the Texas Revolution on all Texans. A champagne toast was held to commemorate this significant Texas Honor Day. A special thanks goes to Charlie and Senie Fogarty for assisting us with this event.

Museum Educators Open House

On March 8, 2008 the Log House Museum sponsored a table at the Health Museum during the Museum Educators Open House. Artifacts from our Log House and the Alamo Trunk were displayed along with information about various programs offered. Anita Cooper and Maxine Brimberry were on hand to share information with the teachers about the Log House Museum and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

Eron Tynes gave two presentations on "Pioneer Life and Texas History" with emphasis on the Texas Revolution and the Runaway Scrape.



Eron Tynes presenting Pioneer Life

Celebrate Texas Independence!

By Loretta M. Williams



A Texas Independence Day Champagne Brunch was held at the historic Houston Club, 811 Rusk, on Sunday, March 2, 2008 from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. This event marked the first time the Houston Club has celebrated this important day in Texas history.

Over 140 attendees consisting of the SRT, DRT, CRT, Friends of the San Jacinto Battleground, members of the Harris County Historical Commission, and members of the Houston Club enjoyed the festivities. The sponsor of this event was the Friends of the San Jacinto Battleground.

After guests served themselves from the plethora of food, the program ensued with a review and recitation of the Pledge to the Texas flag led by Mr. Tom Green. A skit was performed featuring George Donnelly, former President of the San Jacinto Museum of History and former President of the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as Antonio López de Santa Anna, and Jim Lynch as the wounded Sam Houston. General Sam Houston eloquently led the audience in toasts to “Texas ...”, “to the memory of Travis”, and to the “Lone Star of Texas – a beacon light of the path of liberty.”

This event successfully celebrated Texas’ 172nd anniversary of independence by teaching Texas history and fostering camaraderie among its many attendees. Hopefully, this event will be the first of many to come.



Skit Members



Texas Honor Days ~ Fly Your Flag



March 27 ~ Goliad Heroes Day



Historical Dates



1687	March 20	La Salle, a French explorer, landed in Texas instead of finding the mouth of the Mississippi.
1836	March 19	James Walker Fannin and his men lost the Battle of Coleto Creek.
1836	March 27	The Texas prisoners from Coleto Creek were massacred at Goliad.
1836	March 29	San Felipe was burned to prevent its falling into the hands of the Mexican army.
1843	March 25	Seventeen Texans were executed in what became known as the Black Bean Episode, which resulted from the Mier Expedition, one of several raids by the Texans into Mexico.
1870	March 30	After the Civil War, the United States Congress readmitted Texas into the Union.



Independence Hall at Washington-on-the Brazos





Chaplain's Report

CAROLYN BROOKS WHITSON

Carolyn was born in Beaumont, Texas on January 27, 1933 and passed away on February 13, 2008 at the age of 75. Carolyn is survived by her husband Robert E. Whitson, son Charles Douglas Whitson and wife Linda, daughter Laura Whitson Forsythe and husband Brad, grandsons Davis, Douglas and Thomas Whitson, sister Marinell and Bill Traylor, brother John and Carol Brooks, brother-in-law Jim and Paula Whitson and numerous nieces and nephews. Carolyn grew up in Hempstead and attended Southern Methodist University in Dallas where she received her BS in Education. She taught school in Houston and Ft. Bend County. She was also a personal assistant to a real estate developer in Houston.

Carolyn was a member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, San Jacinto Chapter. She also was a member of the Junior Current Literature Club of Houston. While teaching in Houston she met and married her lifelong partner Bob. They were married for 51 years. Carolyn had an enthusiasm for life and enjoyed every moment with her family and friends. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her. A memorial service was held on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at St. John the Divine Episcopal Church.



The Country Store

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers:
How a First Lady Changed America



is the newest addition to our Texas children's book collection. In this warm engaging look at the life of a great First Lady, Kathi Appelt tells the story behind Lady Bird Johnson's environmental vision. Joy Fisher Hein's colorful wildflowers burst from every page inviting us to share in Lady Bird's love for natural beauty and the beauty of Texas. The book is \$18 and one you will want to add to your collection.

See you at the country store...

Luanne Zacek, Co-chair, Country Store



Sally Whittington, Marje Harris, & Phyllis Moody manning the Country Store at the Genealogy Fair

Raffle to Raise Funds for Brooks Cottage



A new, commissioned, quilted table runner along with matching dinner napkins have been donated to the chapter for a raffle package. This professionally quilted table runner and 12 napkins are made from different fabrics in the Texas theme. The table runner is 20 inches wide x 58 inches long. Beautiful colors of red, white, blue, and yellow are seen throughout the pieces. Proceeds from this raffle will be used to start a special designated fund which will benefit the renovation of Brooks Cottage.

Jill, of Sunflower Quilts, having a deep love for quilting and creating something beautiful each time she quilts, did an excellent job on the table runner and napkins. Make sure you have the opportunity to see this lovely addition to any dining table at the April, May or June meetings. This raffle package will be taken to DRT state convention where chances will be sold also. Surely you will want to purchase a chance. Tickets are now being sold. The drawing for this package will be during the luncheon at our last chapter meeting on June 5, 2008. Winners need not be present to win !

1 chance for \$ 5.00, or 3 chances for \$10.00. Tickets are also available by contacting Phyllis Moody. Don't miss the opportunity to have this stunning item on your dining table.



CRT Convention



The Children of the Republic of Texas 48th annual convention hosted by District IX DRT/CRT chapters will be held on June 20 & 21, 2008. The Hilton Houston Hobby Airport Hotel, 8181 Airport Blvd., Houston, Texas 77061, will be the location for the convention. Please contact Loretta Williams for information and/or a registration form.

Email: latejana@comcast.net or call 713 673-1418

April 3rd Meeting

Dr. John Boles, William Pettus Hobby Professor of History at Rice University, will speak on "Education for a Presidency: Edgar Odell Lovett and the Creation of Rice University".



He is a noted historian on the United States South with an emphasis on religion, culture, and slavery, in addition to the creation of Rice University.

Join us to discover the young professor of astronomy at Princeton University, Edgar Odell Lovett's journey as president of the proposed Rice Institute in 1907. He explored higher practices in education to create a vision for Rice Institute. Join us on April 3, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. as we should encounter a truly fascinating story of Rice University's development.

San Jacinto Day Ceremony Commemorating the 172nd Anniversary Battle of San Jacinto

The official State of Texas, Battle of San Jacinto Commemorative Ceremony will be Monday, April 21, 2008 at the San Jacinto Monument. The program begins at 11:00 a.m. and will include a musical prelude.

The keynote speaker will be Jesus F. de la Teja, PhD., Texas State Historian. The Master of Ceremonies will be Ron Stone Jr. The San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, assisted by Madge Roberts, President General, State DRT will present the Thelma Maresh Scholarship. The Sons of the Republic of Texas will also present scholarship awards. The San Jacinto Chapter, SRT will present the enlisted sailor of the year award for the USS San Jacinto. The Sam Houston Chapter, SRT will present the enlisted sailor of the year award for the USS Texas. There will be the reading of General Houston's Battle Report and the laying of the Memorial Wreath.

A bus has been reserved and will leave St Luke's Methodist Church, 3471 Westheimer Rd., on April 21, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. Please call Ann Bevil by April 15, to reserve your place. After the ceremony, we will have a *Dutch Treat* lunch at the Monument Inn.



San Jacinto Symposium Expanding the Horizons of Texas History



This year's San Jacinto Symposium will be on Saturday, April 19, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the University Hilton and the University of Houston campus.

This year's program will feature:

Steve Harrington, author of *The Gates of the Alamo*; **Drenna Belden**, University of North Texas, who will "Explore the Texas Revolution Online Through the Portal to Texas History"; **Betsy Davis**, "Making History Personal"; **Stuart Reid**, author of *The Secret War for Texas*; and **Miguel Angel Gonzales Quiroga**, U.A. De Nuevo Leon in Monterrey, Mexico, who will discuss "Commonality and Conflict: Northeast Mexico and the Texas Revolution and Republic, 1835-1845."

The cost of the symposium is \$45, which includes lunch and free parking in the Hilton garage. Registrations may be made by mailing a check to Friends of the San Jacinto Battleground, P.O. Box 940536, Houston, TX 77094-7536. Payments should be made by April 11. After April 11, the registration fee will be \$50, based on availability.



Texas Essay Contest

Every year, the Daughters sponsor an essay contest for 4th and 7th graders. Each chapter sends out information on the essay contest to local schools. The essay topic this year for 4th graders was "The Austins", and for 7th graders, the topic was "The Texas Rangers".

Our chapter received eight (8) 4th grade entries and one (1) 7th grade entry. Our winning entries were sent to District. The winners for 4th grade are: 1st place: Jes Chauviere, 2nd place: Ryan Lancaster, both students at Hamilton Elementary in Cy-Fair ISD, and 3rd place, Amy Shum, a student at McFee Elementary, also a CFISD student. The 7th grade winner was Aljay Tan from Kahla Middle School in CFISD.

We will award the four winners from the San Jacinto Chapter with a check, trophy, and a certificate. All entries will receive participation certificates. The 4th grade winners will receive a check for \$50, \$25, or \$10. Our 7th grade winner will receive a check for \$100.

Our chapter will honor all of the winners, their parents, and teachers on Saturday, May 3 at 2:00 p.m. at the Log House during the Reception for the Texas History Essay Winners and Parents.

The San Jacinto Chapter, DRT also offers an award of \$1000 to a 7th grade Texas history teacher. This year it will go to Linda Brownlee from Kahla Middle School.

**DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS
117TH STATE CONVENTION**

“GATEWAY TO TEXAS”

DATE: May 14-17, 2008

LOCATION: HARVEY HALL CONVENTION CENTER,
2000 W. Front Street, Tyler, Texas

HOTELS:

- (1) Holiday Inn Select, 5701 S. Broadway, Tyler 903-561-5800 (\$84.00 per night + tax)
- (2) Best Western Southpark Inn & Suites, 120 West Rieck Road, Tyler 75703 903-534-8800 or 1-800-665-8850 (\$84.00 per night +tax)
- (3) Wingate Inn, 2421 ESE Loop 323, Tyler, 903-566-0600 ext 657 (\$90.00 per night +tax)

Forms are on the members only website:

<http://drt-inc.org/members/>

User name: *Alamo*

Password: *100YearS* (case sensitive).

Forms will also be sent in the *Daughters Reflections*



“Texas in Spring”
Bluebonnets Gallery

<http://www.danbrownart.com/gallery-bluebonnets.htm>

If you have an article for the newsletter, you may send it to me by email by the 8th of the month.

(Please reference SJC DRT.)



Email: lbeverlin@comcast.net

Linda Beverlin



President's Message



The last messenger leaves the Alamo on March 3, 1836 bearing several letters from Travis. Travis not knowing that Independence has been declared writes;

“If independence is not declared, I shall lay down my arms and so will the men under my command. But under the flag of independence we are ready to peril our lives a hundred times a day and to drive away the monster who is fighting us under a blood-red flag, threatening to murder all prisoners and make Texas a waste desert.”

The Alamo falls on March 6 and General Houston arrives in Gonzales on his way to assist those at the Alamo. Susanna Dickinson arrives on March 13 and tells General Houston about the fall and how 187 men died during the final battle. All the bodies with the exception of one are burned the afternoon of March 6.

General Houston orders the town of Gonzales burned and both the Texian Army and the civilians retreat east. As we reflect back 172 years ago on the struggles of our pioneer ancestors and their courage, we are reminded of the men who were meeting at Washington-on-the Brazos. They not only declared Independence for Texas on March 2, but continued to meet, to form a new government for the Republic of Texas.

It was truly heartwarming to see so many of you and your families at our own Texas Independence Day Celebration and Chili Cook-off. I know it has been an extremely busy time for a number of us with so many events over the past two weeks. Special thanks to those of you who have done triple and quadruple duty by attending the Genealogy Fair, our Chili Cook-off, March 3 - Texas Independence Day Celebration and our recent field trip to the San Jacinto Battleground. While it has been a hectic time, I have enjoyed being with so many of you as we work together to promote our Texas History.

Mid March -1836. The Alamo has fallen. Santa Anna is beginning to move his troops toward Washington-on-the Brazos, Goliad, find General Houston and end the rebellion once and for all. The Texian Army is in retreat and the people are fleeing east, burning their houses and taking their few possessions with them. It is a cold, wet, muddy, spring with all those swollen rivers to cross. It rains and rains.

“To the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the Independence of Texas”



“Texas, One and Indivisible”

Eron Tynes, President

Thelma Maresh Scholarship

The goal of the San Jacinto Thelma Maresh Scholarship is to recognize and award scholarships to outstanding graduating students who are extraordinary leaders, scholars and citizens in the Greater Metropolitan Area of Houston. First place winner will receive \$3,000, second place winner will receive \$2,000 and third place winner will receive \$1,000. Awards will be presented during the ceremonies at the San Jacinto Battleground on April 21st.

Criteria For Selection

The scholarship committee will seek the most promising student leaders with potential for providing exceptional contributions to the college or university to which he/she will attend and to the world at large. The selection will be based on:

1. Leadership
2. Scholarship
3. Responsible citizenship

Eligibility

1. Must be a high school senior who will graduate before June 30th of the current school year.
2. Must be qualified, upon graduation, to enroll at an accredited four year college or university.
3. Must be a citizen of the United States.
4. Must have a minimum GPA of 3.0
5. Must exemplify achievement, leadership, and college and career potential.
6. Must provide 2 letters of recommendation, one recommendation of academic and one of nonacademic, supporting academic achievement, leadership skill and college potential.
7. Must write an essay (500 words or less double spaced and typed).

The essay should include the following: a personal description, family life, interests, goals and plans for accomplishing them.

8. Must provide a transcript from the current high school and SAT scores.
9. Complete the application with a photograph attached, and return on or before March 23.
10. Enclose a self-addressed post card to be notified of scholarship winners.

Interview

Members of the Scholarship Committee may interview candidates.

Scholarship Awards

Scholarship awards will be sent to the Financial Aid Office of the college or university of the winner's choice.

Mail Application to:

Shirley Lightfoot
15109 Lakeview Drive
Houston, Texas 77040-1328
Telephone: (713) 466-8242

Contact Persons:

Shirley Lightfoot
15109 Lakeview Drive
Houston, Texas 77040-1328

Telephone: (713) 466-8242

Marian Beckham
6518 Rutgers St.
Houston, Texas 77005-3851

Telephone: (713) 665-4473

*** Applications available upon request**