



*Daughters of the Republic of Texas
San Jacinto Chapter, Houston
The San Jacinto Dispatch
November 2008*

Founders' Day

On November 11, over 30 members of the Sidney Sherman Chapter and the San Jacinto Chapter DRT gathered for a Founders' Day luncheon at Gaido's Restaurant in Galveston. Linda Cooper, First Vice President, Sidney Sherman Chapter, planned a lovely Founders' Day ceremony in which the founding members of each chapter were honored. During the ceremony, a candle was lit for each chapter, Sidney Sherman, No. 1, and San Jacinto, No. 2, and then another candle was lit to honor all DRT chapters. As each of the founders' names were read, a yellow rose was placed in a vase in their memory.



Lauren Lanigan, President, Sidney Sherman Chapter DRT & Eron Tynes, President, San Jacinto Chapter DRT

Patti Atkins, District IX representative, and Linda Cooper presented information on Betty Ballinger and Hally Bryan Perry. Eron Tynes, President, San Jacinto Chapter, commented briefly about Mrs. Anson Jones. Ann Tanner, Advisor, talked about Mary Jane Briscoe and her daughter, Adele Looscan. Luanne Zacek, Fourth Vice President, San Jacinto Chapter, presented information about Mrs. J. R Fenn and her daughters, Mrs. J. J. Mc Keever and Belle Fenn.

During the luncheon, Eron Tynes spoke about our DRT history and Lauren Lanigan, President, Sidney Sherman Chapter, gave a report on the Cradle. Margaret Meek, Chaplain, Sidney Sherman Chapter, gave the invocation and Marilyn Chapman, CRT Registrar, gave the closing prayer.

Prior to the luncheon, the San Jacinto Chapter members and guests went to Lakeview Cemetery to visit the first monument placed by the Daughters in honor of Sidney Sherman and David Burnet. We also took a driving tour of Galveston which included the Seawall, the Strand and Texas Heroes Monument. After the luncheon, we then toured the Cradle which survived Hurricane Ike with minimal damage.

Eron Tynes, President



San Jacinto Chapter ladies at the monument to David Burnet...



... and to Sidney Sherman – unveiled March 2, 1894. This was the first monument erected by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.



Registrar's Report 06 Nov 2008



Prospective Members

Katherine Lea Griffith	Ancestor: Sponsors:	Thomas Jefferson Sweeny Kay Martin Marje Harris
Rebecca Lynn Hubert	Ancestor: Sponsors:	Pleasant Kitrell Goree Marje Harris Phyllis Moody
Angela Cochran Mahmarian Dr John Joseph Mahmarian	Ancestor: Sponsors:	Richard E. Hooper Marje Harris Phyllis V. Moody
Kristin Lea Griffith Richter Mrs. Chad Michael Richter	Ancestor: Sponsors:	Thomas Jefferson Sweeny Kay Martin Marje Harris
Mary Frances Townsend	Ancestor: Sponsors:	Auton Ocker Marje Harris Phyllis Moody

Membership Changes

Request for Transfer OUT OF San Jacinto Chapter ~ 1 ~

#025684 Reed, Lula Jane Curtin Street to Stephen F. Austin Chapter 17 Oct 2008

New Member

#26951 Shelton, Jordan Lynn Ancestor: William Turner Sadler
Sponsor:

Application Approved 29 October 2008

Pending Applications

From CRT to DRT
Dabaghi, Camille Elizabet Ancestor: George Washington Keefer
Sponsors: Marje Harris
Phyllis V. Moody

Neuhaus, Lindsey Elizabeth Fatheree Ancestor: Thomas McClure Rice
Mrs. Edward Kessler Neuhaus Sponsors: Allison Moody Ball
Phyllis V. Moody

Spencer, Mary Ann McNeel Ancestor: D. S. McNeel
Sponsors: Phyllis V. Moody
Karen M. Penley

To Date: Total Membership 358



November Speaker - Nina Hendee

What an inspiration Nina Hendee was with her Texian Legacy! Because of her fourth grade teacher's ability to inspire in Nina a love of Texas history, she named her restaurant, Taste of Texas. Her teacher, Suzanne Gilson, would be so pleased to see Nina teaching students about Texas history when they visit the restaurant, Taste of Texas.

Nina Hendee recounted what she had learned from that wonderful woman of the six flags flying over this amazing land. The first flag was the one that flew the longest. It flew for 297 years for Texas had belonged to Spain. Most of our traditions and most of our laws are Spanish-based because of this 300 years of belonging to Spain. For five years right in the middle of that time, Texas belonged to France. La Salle's men landed, and were shipwrecked and starving to death. La Salle's sailing ship was brought out of Matagorda Bay. In Texas museums, one million artifacts can be found from when we were part of France.

Just about the time Mexico won its independence from Spain, the world was in one of the largest financial crises it had ever seen, the Panic of 1819. Did you know that Moses Austin who was known as the father of lead mining lost his fortune in that panic? Did you know that?

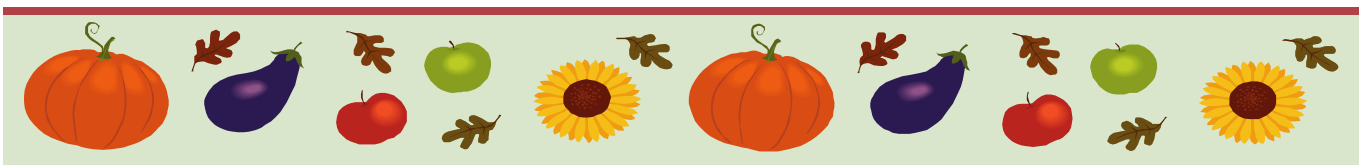
The Spanish had been trying to settle Texas for 300 years, but Moses Austin with the help of the Baron of Bastrop (discover whether or not he was a Baron) was able to receive permission from Governor Martinez to settle Texas. On his return trip to Missouri, he encountered a March snowstorm in Fredericksburg, TX. He caught pneumonia. By the time he arrived in Missouri, he had pneumonia and shortly thereafter, died. On his deathbed, he asked his son, Stephen, to take settlers to claim land in Texas.

We have Stephen F. Austin, the Father of Texas. He went to the new president of Mexico and received permission to settle Texas. Mexico political turmoil was unbelievable. When the Texians came, they came from all over the world. They were seeking freedom. These settlers were promised a lot as they expected to receive 50 to 100 acres of land. When they arrived at San Felipe and received their land grants, they were granted a league and sometimes a labor of land. The "Old 300" received 4429 acres of land each. They had been told this land was free, but guess what? It was not because the government lied about property taxes. Each landowner now owed \$32.60 per league of land. This \$32.60 was exorbitant at the time!

As taxes and governments go, this was just the beginning of taxation for the Texians. How did the Texians counter more taxes from the Mexican government? Thought: Read and study parallels between our early Texas financial period and our own present American financial period in American history.

Yes, you missed a wonderful presentation with many insightful moments of Texas history in addition to Nina telling about her collection of Texas historical documents. Superb!

Ann Bevil, Second Vice President





The Country Store

The holidays are right around the corner, and what better way to celebrate than to give gifts with a Texas theme! Better yet, treat yourself to one of the many selections available in the Country Store!

Of course, this is the season for ornaments, and we have so many to choose from! The new 2008 Capitol ornament is a big seller, so get yours while they last! The colors of the terrazzo floor of the capitol building make it one of the most beautiful ornaments. Many others from past years are available to add to your collection. The new *Keep Texas Beautiful* ornament is a big hit and a *must have* for each household. And, the new DRT ornament can be ordered now, just in time for the holiday decorations! All ornaments are \$25.00, so stock up now!

New 2008 Capitol Ornament



Attendance Award

The San Jacinto Chapter Board will award one year complimentary dues to a chapter member for 2009-2010.

How to enter - Attend every chapter meeting and sign the book. Those members who attend the most meetings will have their names entered in a drawing. The drawing will take place at our June Luncheon, 2009. Nancy Burch has volunteered to coordinate the drawing.

Many other unique gifts are available in the Country Store from the gorgeous crystals that light up for eye-catching delight or for use as paperweights, to the large selection of jewelry such as bracelets uniquely made of flatware quarters or a pin from one of the largest of Texas DRT pin collections! Texas children's books are in great demand as our children and grandchildren wait to see what Santa brought them!

Come by and buy! We'll be in our cozy corner.

Sally Whittington, Co-chair, Country Store

New DRT-SJC Ornament



Christmas Open House



Come join the San Jacinto Chapter, the CRT, and the Texian Army for a Christmas Open House in the Republic of Texas. The Open House will be Sunday, December 14, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum. Our Log House will be decorated in period style, with fresh greenery and a beautiful Christmas tree. There will be hot apple cider and plenty of cookies baked by the ladies of the San Jacinto Chapter.

The CRT will have their annual toy drive to deliver gifts in the spirit of Christmas to our neighbor, Ben Taub Pediatric Unit. We plan to collect toys at the Christmas Open House. Please do not gift wrap them so the staff at Ben Taub can properly distribute the gifts to the children.

December Christmas Luncheon



We will have our San Jacinto Chapter Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, ***December 11, 2008, at 11:30 a.m.** at the Log House. Please make your reservation for our December Christmas Luncheon today by sending your check to Pat Craig.

Your check is your reservation so don't delay. Pat needs to have your money for the luncheon by December 4. The cost is \$25 per person and guests are welcome. Come and enjoy a delicious catered lunch by Sedeko along with some wonderful Christmas music in our beautifully restored Log House. Back by popular demand, Becky Lee (on keyboard) and Noah Lee (on saxophone) will entertain us with many of our favorite Christmas songs.

***Please note date change – Second Thursday**

Mail checks to:

**Pat Craig
845 Augusta #17
Houston, Texas 77057**



The CRT will have their annual toy drive to deliver gifts in the spirit of Christmas to our neighbor, Ben Taub Pediatric Unit. Even though the CRT usually collects toys at the Christmas Open House, they also plan to collect toys during our Christmas Luncheon. So if you are unable to attend the Christmas Open House, don't miss this opportunity to support our CRT in this worthwhile project. Please do not gift wrap the toys so the staff at Ben Taub can properly distribute the gifts to the children.

Friends of the Log House



The recent chilly days remind us that the holidays are fast approaching. Everyone is making her list and checking it twice to make sure that no one is left out in the cold. Please remember to put our dear Pioneer Memorial Log House on your list, along with all your other recipients.

As you have heard so many times, the house needs a constant supply of funds to keep the doors open and the lights turned on. We enjoy the warm ambience of this chapter home of ours, so we must all work together to support the house in order for us to have access to its gracious hospitality.

Many of our members have contributed to the *Friends of the Log House* in honor or in memory of friends and family. What a wonderful way to mark an occasion and to help the Log House at the same time! Keep the pioneer spirit alive as you make your tax-free donations. What more can I say?

Although we accept and appreciate all donations, the levels for Friends are as follows:

Texas Star \$25
Silver Star \$50
Shining Star \$100
Gold Star \$250
Lone Star \$500
Platinum Star \$1000 and higher



MERRY CHRISTMAS YA'LL!

Martha Haydel, Chair, Friends of the Log House

Nina Hendee's Recommended Book List



Mary Austin Holley: The Texas diary, 1835-1838

Davy Crockett: His Own Story by David Crockett and Davy Crockett

A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett of the State of Tennessee by David Crockett and Paul Andrew Hutton

With Santa Anna in Texas: A Personal Narrative of the Revolution

by Jose Enrique De LA Pena (Author), Carmen Perry (Translator)

The Evolution Of A State: Or Recollections Of Old Texas Days by Noah Smithwick and Smithwick N

Donaldson (Paperback - Aug 6, 2008)

The Eagle: The Autobiography of Santa Anna by Antonio Santa Anna and Ann Fears Crawford (Hardcover - Dec 1988)

Gail Borden, Pioneer by Clarence R Wharton (Unknown Binding - 1941)

A Revolution Remembered: The Memoirs and Selected Correspondence of Juan N. Seguin (The Fred H. and Ella Mae Moore Texas History Reprint Series) (Paperback)

by Juan Nepomuceno Seguin (Author), Jesus F. De LA Teja (Author), Jesus F. De LA Teja (Editor)

Eyewitness To The Alamo, Revised Edition (Paperback) by Bill Groneman (Author)

Indian Depredations in Texas (Hardcover) by J. W. Wilbarger (Author)



President's Message

What a wonderful time we had in Galveston as we honored our founders with the Sidney Sherman Chapter. As all of you know, of the 17 ladies who gathered on November 6, 1891 at the home of Mary Jane Briscoe, approximately half came from Galveston. The Sidney Sherman Chapter was chartered on November 8, and the San Jacinto Chapter was chartered on November 9.

During the ceremony, we recited our pledge and reaffirmed our commitment to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. We remembered 117 years ago the ladies from Galveston and Houston, the founders of both of our chapters who met together and formed our organization that is so unique in its heritage and its responsibilities to the people of Texas. They had the foresight and the vision to define the mission of perpetuating the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the independence of Texas.

We are so fortunate to be the beneficiaries of this heritage and this legacy that was bequeathed to us by our pioneer ancestors.

Texas, One and Indivisible



May each of you and your family have a Happy Thanksgiving – See you at the Christmas Luncheon and Open House ~~~ Eron Tynes



Editor:

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