



*Daughters of the Republic of Texas
San Jacinto Chapter, Houston
The San Jacinto Dispatch
February 2009*



President's Message

As we reflect back 173 years, we are reminded of the approach of Santa Anna towards San Antonio and the siege that began February 23. On February 24, Colonel William Travis penned his famous letter “. . . To the people of Texas and all Americans in the world.” Travis wrote “. . .” Then I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism and everything dear to the American character to come to our aid, with all dispatch, . . .”

Revolution was in the air and the people of Texas began to prepare for war. The men headed towards San Antonio to defend the Alamo, to Goliad to assist Fannin, or to join the Texian Army. A convention was called at Washington-on-the-Brazos and delegates from all over Texas began to plan to travel there.

We are in the final preparations for our own annual Texas Independence Day Celebration and Chili Cook-off to be held on February 22. The Weather Channel is promising us another marvelous Texas winter day. The chili teams are preparing to cook their chili, the band is tuned, and the Texian Army will provide the salutes, as the children conduct the Flag Retirement Ceremony.

We are honored this year to host the Children of the Republic of Texas as they celebrate their 80th anniversary. I was reading the CRT history and noted that the CRT motto is “Not for self, but for Texas”. What a wonderful tribute to our ancestors, that our children, their descendants, adhere to this principle. Our ancestors - those pioneer men and women of the Texas Revolution, sacrificed so much for Texas and her independence.

As we gather this coming Sunday to commemorate our Texas independence, we are reminded of the bravery and courage of our ancestors. As sons and daughters of these men and women, it is the tie that binds us together. We are Texans.

Please join us this Sunday as we perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the independence of Texas. Our ancestors truly lived by the principle:

“Not for self, but for Texas”

In the *immortal* words of Colonel William Barrett Travis,

“I shall never surrender or retreat”
“Victory or Death”

“Texas, One and Indivisible”



Eron Brimberry Tynes, President

Friends of the Log House



We are looking forward to another great year here at the Log House. Last time I mentioned a number of contributors from the month of December. Since then, I have a few more to thank. The Candlelighters Class of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Esther Simon, and Eron Tynes all helped to end the old year on a positive note. We are so lucky to have these faithful friends to keep us going! Let's hope that the new year will see us adding to our list of boosters.

Martha L. Haydel, Chair FLH



Children of the Republic of Texas Brief History



All CRT members are invited to participate in the Texas Independence Day Celebration & Chili Cook-off. If you and your family would like to enter a chili cooking team, please contact our DRT President, Eron Brimberry Tynes, at 281-820-0676.

The CRT members will be participating in the reciting of the U.S. and Texas Pledges. Once again, there will be a flag retirement ceremony and the CRT members will also be participating in that ceremony. Our CRT San Jacinto President, Miss Kelly Fisher, will read the City of Houston Proclamation, recognizing March 1, 2009, as the 80th anniversary of CRT.

The proclamation request that has been submitted to the city reads as follows:

During the 1928 General Convention for the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Mrs. Clara Driscoll Sevier, President General, asked the Daughters assembled to bring young people into the organization to take an active part. A committee was set up to make plans to organize the children into chapters. Members of this DRT Committee were Mrs. Joseph Carnal, San Antonio; Mrs. J.T. Cox, Austin; and Miss Bess Ferguson, Palestine.

During the DRT General Convention one year later, the minutes of the meeting read:

...“On March 1, 1929, a motion was made by Mrs. Joseph Carnal that the Daughters of the Republic of Texas foster the organization of a society to be called the Children of the Republic of Texas, to be composed of children and grandchildren.”...

...“On March 2, 1929, motion be amended that the Daughters of the Republic of Texas sponsor an organization to be known as the Children of the Republic of Texas, such members to be subject to the Bylaws of our organization pertaining to membership and objectives and that a committee be appointed to further the same. The motion was submitted by Susan K. Carnal and was carried.”...

The Alamo Mission was the first CRT chapter formed on May 11, 1934 with 34 members. A highlight for Houston was the forming of the San Jacinto Chapter, CRT, chartered May 6, 1936 at the Pioneer Memorial Log House, Hermann Park, under the sponsorship of Miss Norm Bemus. One charter member was Madge Houston Thornall Roberts, current President General, Daughters of the Republic of Texas. The Pioneer Memorial Log House is owned by the San Jacinto Chapter, DRT.

San Jacinto Chapter CRT members annually participate in the Texas Independence Day Celebration and Chili Cook-off, along with the annual Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Pioneer Memorial Log House. Also, in December, for the past five years, the San Jacinto Chapter CRT has assisted with the collection of toys for the Ben Taub Pediatric Clinic.

The CRT has undertaken projects all over the state such as cleaning cemeteries, restoring monuments, raising funds to update computers at the DRT Library, marking the graves of the Real Daughters, and raising funds for the restoration of windows and doors at the French Legation. Also, the CRT has participated annually as re-enactors in the *Fall of the Alamo*, assisted with the auctions at the annual gala of the Alamo, and served as pages for the DRT Conventions. Lastly, CRT members assist with historical ceremonies and parades when requested.

Today the Children of the Republic of Texas has 70 Chapters and over 1,530 members residing across the great state of Texas, the nation, and some live abroad. Over 15,000 children have been members of the CRT and aged out to become members of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Sons of the Republic of Texas. The CRT official flower is the Indian Paintbrush and their colors are red and green. The CRT Motto is, “Not for self, but for Texas.”

Please join us in this Living History Celebration as we come together to recognize the 80th anniversary of the Children of the Republic of Texas.

District VI Workshop

The District VI workshop was held on February 14, 2009 at the Cypress Creek Christian Church and Community Center. New Kentucky was the host chapter. During the invocation, Billie Beth Moore, Chaplain General, read a prayer written by our recently departed member, Beth Dabaghi.

Sandra Meier, Seth Hurin Bates Chapter, was elected District VI representative and Marsha Richards, also from Seth Hurin Bates Chapter, was elected as the alternate. Reports were given by the various Board of Management members and Committee Chairs in attendance. Also, the chapter presidents reported on the activities of their chapter.

Betty Edwards, District VI representative, reminded everyone of the deadlines for the Texas History Essay contest. She also announced that the William Cochran Chapter, Coldspring, was being disbanded. Plans for the 2010 DRT State Convention which will be held in Houston and hosted by District VI, were also discussed and a committee is already in place and hard at work. The next District VI workshop will be held in Fall, 2009 with the Bluebonnet Branch as the host chapter.



Martha, Eron, Linda, Anita, Phyllis, and Luanne attended the workshop



Luanne at the Country Store sales table, District VI Workshop

Texas Independence Day Houston City Hall

On **March 2, 2009** at 11:00 a.m., 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 are co-sponsoring a ceremony on the steps of the Houston City Hall (901 Bagby, Houston, Texas) with the City of Houston, to commemorate the 173rd anniversary of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

The Mayor of Houston, Bill White, will begin the program by welcoming everyone and reading a proclamation. Officials of the Sons and Daughters of The Republic of Texas will be speaking about the impact the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence had in shaping modern day Texas. We will conclude the ceremony by toasting those brave men who signed the Texas Declaration of Independence with good old Texas water. Recognized by statute as an official state holiday, Texas Independence Day originally began with the signing of the Declaration of Independence by the 54 delegates to the Convention that met at Washington-on-the-Brazos beginning on March 1, 1836.



Fanthorp Inn Field Trip March 5, 2009

Join us on March 5, 2009 to tour the Fanthorp Inn in Anderson, TX! We will have lunch at Martha's Bloomers, which many members have said is a "delight". We will leave the St. Luke's Methodist Church parking lot (far back parking lot) at 9:00 A. M. Hurry to make your reservation as the bus is filling up. Hope to see you on March 5th for a little adventure to the Fanthorp Inn.

Complete the attached registration form and make your check payable to San Jacinto Chapter DRT. Mail your registration form and check to:

**Ann Bevil
1237-C Post Oak Park Drive
Houston, TX 77027**

Checks should be received by February 26, 2009, or an extra \$5.00 late fee will be charged.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Ann Bevil, Third Vice-President

Sharing Family History

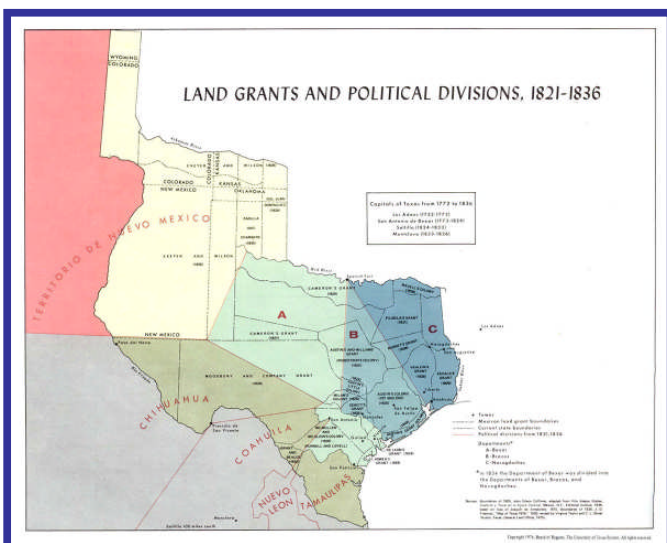
On February 7, Martha Haydel was a guest speaker at the Margaret Montgomery Chapter of DAR in Conroe. The group met at the West Branch of the Montgomery County Library in Montgomery, TX for an afternoon of history-sharing and celebrating Abraham Lincoln's birthday.

The theme of Martha's presentation was her favorite subject--the Canary Islands-Texas Connection, in which her family played a significant part. She focused on the contribution of the Spanish Texans to the American Revolution, since that era is near and dear to the heart of every DAR member.

As a token of appreciation, Virginia Murray, First Vice Regent, presented Martha with two young adult history books which will be donated to the Montgomery County Library in Martha's name.



Martha Haydel and Virginia Murray



“Spanish, Mexican, Republic of Texas Land Grants”

What an interesting and informative presentation on Texas land grants! Nedra Foster and Darrell Shine explained beautifully the differences between the different headrights and symbols on our historic Texas maps. Members might want to peruse their Texas documents again to determine if they have one of these documents.

Headright land grants were issued to individuals by Boards of Land Commissioners in each county. A first class headright was issued to those who arrived before March 2, 1836. Heads of families received one league (4,428 acres) and one labor (177.1 acres), while single men received 1/3 league (1,476.1 acres).

A second class headright was issued to those who arrived between March 2, 1836 and October 1, 1837. Heads of families received 1,280 acres, while single men received 640 acres. If a family arrived between October 1, 1837 and January 1, 1840, third class headrights were issued to those who arrived. Heads of families received 640 acres and single men received 320 acres.

Issued to families who arrived between January 1, 1840 and January 1, 1842 was the fourth class headright. The amounts issued were the same as for third class headrights, plus the requirements of cultivation of 10 acres.

In addition, grants were awarded for military service during the Texas Revolution and bounty grants for guarding the frontier. For specific battles of the revolution, soldiers were awarded grants and heirs of those who fell at the Alamo and Goliad were eligible for 640 acres.

Varas were originally used by the Spanish and are continuing to be used by Texas surveyors as a unit of land measurement. To see a photo of varas, actual steel link chains which were used for measurement, was quite unusual.

Look over your old Texas documents! Have fun! If you were not at this presentation, you missed a wonderful morning of land grant history come alive!

Ann Bevil, Third Vice-President



The Country Store



There are new Texas items in the store. Texas flag aprons are here just in time for the chili cook-off-\$15. Texas flag wine bottle covers make a perfect gift for \$10. *Texas Born Texas Proud* bumper stickers are a must have for only \$1.50 and new luggage tags are \$5. The store will be at many events in the next few months so if you haven't bought your DRT ornament, we may sell out. This will surely be a collector's item so purchase it soon. We have new items coming in all the time so meet me in the corner...

Luanne Zacek, Chair, Country Store



Historical Dates



February 19--Texas Statehood Day
March 2--Texas Independence Day
March 6~ ~ Alamo Heroes Day

February 23	The 13 day siege of the Alamo begins.
February 24	Col.Travis writes his famous letter asking for aid for the Alamo.
March 1	Thirty-two men from Gonzales fight their way into the Alamo. No other volunteers come.
March 2	The <u>Texas Declaration of Independence</u> is adopted at Washington-on-the-Brazos.
March 4	Sam Houston is elected commander-in-chief of the Texas army.
March 6	The <u>Alamo</u> falls.
March 11	Sam Houston assumes command of the army at Gonzales.
March 13	Gonzales is burned as the Runaway Scrape begins.

KTBU-TV to Debut Regional History Series



KTBU-TV, Channel 55 in Houston, is unveiling **Postcards from Texas**, an ambitious new weekly series that is a first-of-its-kind project for the Houston region. The program debuts on **Sunday March 1 at 4PM**. Episodes will rerun the following Saturday at 7PM.

Each half-hour episode contains four mini-documentaries about places, people and events from the varied history of our area. The stories cover twelve counties with one goal in mind: To make history fun.

Topics on **Postcards from Texas** range from those which mirror current events like the 1940s campaign to save the Battleship Texas or the story of Mexican immigration to Houston, to pure nostalgia like browsing Main Street's department store windows or all you can eat seafood at the San Jacinto Inn.

Postcards from Texas has actively sought the involvement of every museum, archive and historical society in the area. Show producer, Mike Vance, „elaborates: “We've done a huge amount of pre-production and outreach to make sure that the show reflects the diversity of our area: ethnically, economically and geographically. We want everyone to find something of interest in each episode. We truly think this will be both educational and fun.”



Independence Hall, 1893



Debra Lynn Hoyt Shelton

Debra Lynn Hoyt Shelton, DRT #025393 passed away on February 7, 2009. She became a member of the San Jacinto Chapter in August, 2005. Both her mother, Doris Hoyt, and Debra's daughter, Jordan Shelton, are also members of our chapter.

Services were held on February 12, 2009 at Davis-Greenlawn, Rosenberg, Texas. Phyllis Moody and Eron Tynes attended the memorial service. In lieu of remembrance flowers, the family requests donations be made to The [American Cancer Society](#).



Corabeth "Beth" Powers Dabaghi

Corabeth, "Beth" Powers Dabaghi, DRT #04469 passed away February 9, 2009. Beth first joined the Daughters in October, 1955 and was re-instated in the early 1990's.

As a member of the San Jacinto Chapter, Beth served for many years as a docent to the Log House. She was also chair and then co-chair of the Patriotic Education Committee. In 1997, Beth was elected Chaplain of the San Jacinto Chapter. For the 1999-2001 term, she served as Recording Secretary and again in 2001-2003. In 2003, she was once again elected as Chaplain.

Services were held Thursday, February 12, 2009. Members in attendance were Carolyn Lightfoot, Jan DeVault, Tina Shelton, Samantha Shelton, Shirley Lightfoot, Marilyn Chapman, Brenda Auld, Phyllis Moody and Eron Tynes. Burial was held later that afternoon in Huntsville at Oakwood Cemetery.

The family has requested that memorials may be sent to the San Jacinto Chapter or the Log House Museum in honor of Beth Dabaghi.

lbeverlin@comcast.net

Linda Beverlin, Newsletter Editor



CRT Convention

**Come Join Us in Celebrating 80 Years of CRT!
1929 - 2009**

***"Not for Self, but for TEXAS!
Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"***

Date: June 12- 13, 2009
Friday - Silent Auction, Reception,
BOM Meeting,
Pizza and Swim Party
Saturday – Business meeting, awards,
and lunch

Location: MCM GRANDE HOTEL
6201 East Business 20
Odessa, Texas 79762
Phone (432) 362-2311
Fax (432) 368-0093

Host: District X Chapters

DRT 118th State Convention

***"DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS"
SALUTING HEROES OF YESTERDAY TODAY
AND TOMORROW***

Date: May 13-17, 2009
Wednesday - BOM,
Thursday Tour & Reception,
Friday & Saturday - Business Meetings

**Location: KILLEEN CIVIC & CONVENTION
CENTER**
3601 South W.S. Young Drive
Killeen, Texas

Host: District V Chapters

***If you are planning to attend the convention,
please notify Eron Tynes.***

