



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



**State Winner - Fourth Grade Texas History
 Teacher Contest**

The state winner of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Fourth Grade Texas History Teacher contest is the San Jacinto Chapter - DRT nominee. Mrs. Sherry Bowersock, a fourth grade social studies teacher at Mittelstadt Elementary in Klein ISD is this year's recipient of the award. We are thrilled that she was selected as the state winner. What a great honor this is for our chapter!

Sherry will be honored at the Historical Evening Dinner on May 15 in Killeen, Texas. She will receive a monetary award of \$700, a plaque, dinner for two, and her school will receive \$1000.

Here is an excerpt from Sherry's perspective on teaching Texas history:

"When I started teaching Texas history, my goal was to have my students enjoy learning the history of their state as much as I love teaching it. I am proud to say that I am a native Texan and love my state. I wanted to have an ongoing project that they would work on for the year. I decided to make a Texas themed quilt. The first year I wasn't sure that the students would be able to learn the stitches, or if they would enjoy the project. I chose plastic canvas for the backing because it would be easier to hold and sew. To my pleasant surprise, the children loved sewing. The boys enjoyed it as much as the girls and many times did a better job. Each child has their own square to sew. When complete, I sew the squares together. Then they research the topic of their square and give an oral presentation to the class. My first students to sew a quilt are now 26 years old. Whenever I see any of my former students, they always ask if still make a quilt and ask about their quilt. When they come to the school to visit me, the first thing they do is to look for their quilt and their square. All the time and work I put into this project is worth it when I see how much my students love it and how much they learn. . . . We just completed this year's quilt. The theme this year was Texas Seashore Life. As soon as they take a picture, I'd like to send it to you. It's as beautiful as the other 17 that adorn the halls. The kids are so proud of it and believe it was their quilt that helped me win the award. I told them it was a very important part of my winning, as well as the other 17."



**Sherry Bowersock
 and her Texas quilts**



Real Daughters Ceremony

Sunday, May 3, 2 p.m.
Glenwood Cemetery
2525 Washington Ave., Houston

Aaron Noack, President General, Children of the Republic of Texas, has selected as his President's Project the marking of the Real Daughters graves with DRT Medallions. The San Jacinto Chapter, the second oldest chapter in DRT, will mark 21 Real Daughters. The short ceremony will be at Glenwood Cemetery, 2525 Washington Ave., Houston at 2:00 p.m., Sunday May 3, 2009. Light refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

Our CRT chapter will place Texas flags on the graves of the Real Daughters that we are honoring on that day. Aaron Noack will help conduct the ceremony. Please bring your children and grandchildren. They do not have to be CRT members to attend. For further information, call Anita Cooper, 281-286-4433.

Friends of the Log House



In Memoriam

As we reflect back over the past few months, we realize that San Jacinto Chapter has lost many of our dear members. We shall miss their presence and involvement in our activities. A donation to Friends of the Log House is a wonderful way to memorialize these lovely ladies. Many of them were faithful supporters of the Log House when they were still with us and actively engaged in events here. Several of you have already made a contribution in their honor, and I know that they would appreciate the gesture.

We would also like to remind you that an honorarium for your family and friends serves a dual purpose in recognizing special occasions and helping our Log House at the same time. Please keep the Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum in mind as you celebrate upcoming events in your life and in the lives of your family and friends.
Happy spring!

Martha Haydel, Chair, FLH



Texas History Essay Contest Winners' Reception

Our chapter will honor all of the winners, their parents, and teachers on Saturday, May 2, at 2:00 p.m. at the Log House during the Texas History Essay Awards Reception. San Jacinto Chapter members are invited to attend this event. Please make a special effort to attend this reception as we honor these Texas students who have displayed such an interest in Texas history.



The Country Store

I am stocking the store in anticipation of the DRT State Convention 2009. L is for Lonestar is a new children's book that uses Texas things for each letter of the alphabet. The drawings are wonderful and it is a great book to add to your Texas collection.

Orders are being taken for Texas flag windbreakers. Each one is lined and water repellent; they really look smart. The price on these is \$35. Come to my corner and browse.

Luanne Zacek, Chair, Country Store



SJC Scrapbook

Kay Martin has done a wonderful job gathering all the pictures, programs, and newsletters for the scrapbook. We would like to have a picture and short bio on new members who have joined since May 2007. Please take the time to let us know about you and your ancestor.

San Jacinto Descendants, our scrapbook theme is "The Road to San Jacinto" and we need to hear from you if you have an ancestor who fought at the battle. Please write a short bio on your ancestor and send a picture of you and your family to go with it. Please identify persons in the pictures.

We have an April 25th deadline so it will be complete for convention. Thank you for helping us get this done

Please email to lzacek@hotmail.com or send to:
San Jacinto Chapter DRT
1510 N. MacGregor Dr.
Houston, TX 77030-1723



Registrar's Report 02 April 2009

Prospective Members:

Charlene McCall

Ancestor: Joseph French

Sponsors: Phyllis V. Moody & Allison Moody Ball

Sarah Bigelow Molina

Ancestor: John Jackson Tumlinson, Sr

Sponsors: Jill Brooks & Lynn Young

Miki Norton

Ancestor: Robert O. Lusk

Sponsors: Dorothy Knox Houghton
Marje Harris

Reinstatement:

Sullivan, Katherine Cox

Ancestor: Cornelius Cox

Sponsors: Eron Tynes & Marje Harris

New Members:

#27169 Danielle Elizabeth Cagle

Approved: 02 March 2009

Ancestor: Benjamin Cromwell Franklin

Sponsors: Caroline Kemp Gregory
Beverly Kemp Kraft

#27168 Francia Susan Cagle

Approved: 02 March 2009

Ancestor: Benjamin Cromwell Franklin

Sponsors: Caroline Kemp Gregory
Beverly Kemp Kraft

#27171 Carolyn Yvonne Krog Gilbert

Approved: 02 March 2009

Ancestor: John F. Martin, Sr.

Sponsors: Marje Harris & Ann Tanner

#27167 Cynthia Marie Cagle Hawkins

Approved: 02 March 2009

Ancestor: Benjamin Cromwell Franklin

Sponsors: Caroline Kemp Gregory
Beverly Kemp Kraft

Registrar's Report 02 April 2009 continued...

Death of Members of SJC-DRT:

#0875 Emory Kelley Bunting

Ancestor: Daniel McLean

Date of Death: March 2, 2009

Member of SJC-DRT since Nov. 18, 1978

#10256 Mary Dell Palmer Rosier

Ancestor: William Cochran

Date of Death: March 24, 2009

Joined the William Cochran Chapter-DRT
on Nov. 1, 1979 before transferring into
SJC-DRT

Pending Applications:

Sharolyn Wood

Ancestor: Zack Hassell

Sponsors: Claire Jean Clapp
Marje Harris

Laura Elizabeth Wood

Ancestor: Zack Hassell

Sponsors: Claire Jean Clapp
Marje Harris

To Date: Total Membership 345

Marje Harris, Registrar



Thelma Maresh Scholarship Report



The committee has selected the winners of the THELMA MARESH SCHOLARSHIP for this year. There were 49 outstanding applications submitted. The amounts \$3,000, \$2,000, and \$1,000 respectively will be awarded as follows:

First Place - Yo Li
Cinco Ranch High School

Second Place - Andrew Petry
Cinco Ranch High School

Third Place - Jennifer Nguyen
Mayde Creek High School

The Board has generously approved the committee's request that two Honorable Mention Scholarships be granted this year. These two students tied for Fourth Place. The amount of \$ 500 each will be awarded as follows:

Honorable Mention - Walker Young
Second Baptist High School

Honorable Mention - Brenda Tran
J. Frank Dobie High School

Awards will be presented on April 21, 2009 during the San Jacinto Day Commemorative Ceremony.

Mary Jo Brice
Scholarship Awards Chairman



Texas Honor Day
~~~ Fly Your Flag ~~~

April 21st
San Jacinto Day

June 4th Luncheon

Please join us for our end of the year luncheon and chapter meeting at **Bells & Whistles Café** on Thursday, **June 4**, at **11:00 a.m.** The restaurant is located one block west of Minute Maid Park at 1501 Texas Ave.

During the business meeting, we will have our installation of officers, a ceremony for new members, and present our newest "honorary" member, Commissioner Sylvia Garcia.

Bus transportation will be provided to the restaurant from St. Luke's Methodist Church, 3471 Westheimer. If you are planning on riding the bus, you must reserve your seat.

The bus will leave promptly at **10:30 a.m.** and will be parked at the back of St. Luke's parking lot, on church property, near the corner of Edloe and Alabama.

Make checks payable to: **SJC-DRT**
Cost: **\$23** per person.

Mail the reservation form and your check to:

Ann Bevil
1237-C Post Oak Park Drive
Houston, TX 77027- 9209

Your reservation form and check must be received no later than May 30, 2009.

* Any reservation made after May 30 will incur a \$5 late fee.





**April 2nd Meeting
“Rough Road to Justice:
Journey of Women Lawyers
in Texas”**

Betty Chapman enlightened us on early Texas women lawyers as they did not have to have formal training; their training was conducted under an attorney. The new attorney was then examined on her experiences with the law. The University of Texas did not prohibit women from attending the College of Law, but did prohibit their graduating from it.

Hortense Sparks Ward, champion of women's rights, suffrage leader, became the first woman admitted to the Texas Bar. In 1914, the first two women to graduate from the University of Texas Law School opened the doors for other women to follow in their footsteps. The first female to become state judge was Sarah Hughes in 1935 who swore in President Lyndon Johnson aboard Air Force One. These are but a few of the enriching jewels Betty imparted to us.

Ann Bevil, Third Vice-President



Ann Bevil, Betty Chapman, Eron Tynes



**May 7th Meeting
“James Bowie and the
Famous Bowie Knife”**

Denton Bryant will present on May 7, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. “James Bowie and the Famous Bowie Knife” at the Pioneer Log House. Denton’s research on James Bowie and the Bowie knife has been ongoing for many years. Learn the latest research through discovering more about the life and times of James Bowie including his successes and disappointments. We will learn the designer, manufacturer, and the features of the Bowie knife. Did you know Bowie knives are made today? Discover where. View a collection of historic Bowie knives on display. Refreshments will be served at 10:00 a.m.

Ann Bevil, Third Vice-President



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

Forms are on the members only website:
<http://drt-inc.org/members/>

Forms will also be sent in the *Daughters Reflections*

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

San Jacinto Battle Flag



The flag is believed to have been painted by artist James Henry Beard in late 1835 as a gift for the Newport Rifles, a 52-man company of Kentucky volunteers led by Captain Sidney Sherman. The rifle company was formed to help Texans battle the Mexican Army. This banner is thought to be the only Texas battle flag at the April 21, 1836, confrontation where the Republic of Texas army surprised Mexico's General Santa Anna and won the War of Independence. The tattered silk flag was given to the State of Texas by Sherman descendants in 1896. Representative Anderson secured funds in 1931 to have it restored in 1932-33 by flag conservator Katherine F. Richey. In 1933, the flag was hung in the Texas House of Representatives Chamber. The off-white flag with yellow silk fringe on three sides was conserved again in 1989-1990 by renowned flag conservator Fonda Thomsen of Maryland. Ms. Thomsen's analysis of the previous restoration treatment found that the flag was backed with a linen fabric and the silk fly attached to the linen with a four-sided stitch, forming a series of squares that resembled a netting. The painted silk fragments were arranged then attached first to a thick silk gauze, then to a heavier linen fabric with shellac. It appears that when the figure was being assembled, an attempt was made to fill in the missing areas of the skirt by painting a similar image on another piece of fabric with an oil-based medium, then cutting up the image and inserting pieces in the missing area. This must not have been considered to be successful because it appears to have been abandoned and the entire background and parts of the skirt over-painted with the oil based paints. The completed painting was placed in the center of the linen and attached with horizontal, parallel rows of couching stitch using a silk embroidery thread.

This was either carried out before the paint underneath was dry or affected by the exhibit environment because the stitching threads were stuck to the fragments. The silk thread used for couching had been dyed to match but had faded and no longer matched the color of the painting underneath. The gauze holding the painting fragments was brittle and broke when touched. The stress produced by the sewing threads badly fractured the painting into smaller fragments. About 10% of the silk fly remained in 1989 before treatment, but it was in fragments. The silk was so degraded the fibers crumbled when touched. They were dark from having been coated with shellac. The remnants of seams in the flag fabric were not aligned in their original positions. There was a section of vertical seam under the painting and sections of horizontal seam in the painting. Mrs. Richey had removed the fringe from the silk fly and re-attached it to the perimeter of the linen. During the 1989-1990 conservation, it was discovered that the same image is painted on both sides of the flag. Prior to this most recent conservation treatment, the center female image faced to the right. During this conservation treatment, the stitching through the remaining painted silk fragments, shellac, new pieces of fabric painted to look like old fragments and non-archival framing were removed (all done in the 1930s) and the flag was turned over to the other identical side (figure facing left) for display because that side had not been over-painted. An elaborate and time-consuming method was designed to hold each flag fragment within a stabiltex netting by sewing the netting around each fragment. This made it possible to secure the pieces without putting holes in the fragments. In order to present a "complete" image, the conservator filled in the missing gaps with matching colored fabrics that meet archival standards. The flag was then archivally framed to the strictest possible standards.

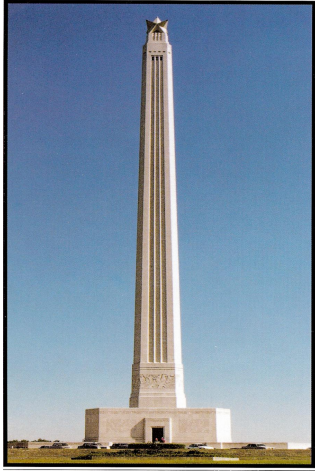
This information is taken from the State Preservation Board, Online Gallery, Historic Artifacts

URL: <http://www.tspb.state.tx.us/spb/gallery/HisArt/04.htm>

lbeverlin@comcast.net

Linda Beverlin, Newsletter Editor
Phyllis Moody, Co-editor

San Jacinto Day Commemorative Ceremony



The Official State of Texas, Battle of San Jacinto Commemorative Ceremony, will be Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at the San Jacinto Monument. The keynote speaker will be Archie P. McDonald, Regent's Professor, Stephen F. Austin State University. The Master of Ceremonies will be Ron Stone, Jr.

Madge Roberts, President General, will join Eron Brimberry Tynes, President, San Jacinto Chapter in presenting the Thelma Maresh Scholarship Winners. 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 for USS San Jacinto and the Sam Houston Chapter, SRT will present the enlisted sailor of the year for the USS Texas. There will be a laying of the Memorial Wreath honoring the heroes of San Jacinto. After the ceremony, we will have a *Dutch Treat* lunch at the Monument Inn.

I encourage each of you to participate in this ceremony and increase our DRT attendance. Last year I continued the tradition begun by Carolyn Lightfoot, Past President, SJC and requested that all DRT members present stand. Approximately half the audience who stood were our DRT. Won't it be wonderful to have over half the audience present this year as we celebrate this most significant of Texas Honor Days. After all, what would the Battlefield be today were it not for the San Jacinto Chapter. And where would we be today, were it not for the men and women of the Texas Revolution and the Victory at San Jacinto.

-- San Jacinto--

The most decisive battle of the Western Hemisphere

Come join us as we celebrate this most significant Honor Day. Victory at San Jacinto – A New Republic of Texas.

Eron Tynes, President

San Jacinto Battle Re-enactment

On April 25, 2009 from 10-6, will be the San Jacinto Festival and Battle Reenactment. The festival is a full day of music, entertainment, food, games, and fun set amidst living history. The reenactment of the battle takes place on the San Jacinto Battleground at 3:00 p.m.

San Jacinto Symposium



This year's San Jacinto Symposium will be on Saturday, April 18, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the University of Houston Hilton Hotel and Conference Center.

This year's program will feature a panel of speakers who will discuss the more than 1,000 newly discovered battle artifacts. The cost of the symposium is \$50, 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 10. After April 10, the registration fee will be \$55, based on availability.

For additional information, call (281) 558-5876, email sjba@usa.net, or visit the website at www.friendsofsanjacinto.org



Important Information

1. Mark your calendar now to attend the District VI Fall Workshop on September 19, 2009. The host chapter is Dr. Richard Fox, Brenham.
2. Volunteer Hours due - by April 22 (e-mail to 54texasn@peoplepc.com) or print the attached form and mail it to:

6626 Inwood West Drive, Houston, Texas,
77088 – postmarked by April 21, 2009.



President's Message

It was early April, 1836 – The Alamo had fallen, Goliad had fallen. The Texian Army had also been defeated at other battles, San Patricio, Agua Dolce Creek and Refugio. Over 800 men had given their lives in the struggle for liberty and independence.

The people fled east towards the Sabine River and the safety of Louisiana. Homes and towns were burned. It was a cold, wet, muddy spring. Crossing the Brazos was treacherous as the rivers were so swollen. Thousands of people with their wagons, cattle, and oxen waited several days to cross the San Jacinto River at the Lynchburg Ferry crossing.

General Sam Houston and the Texian Army were in retreat. Most of the men in the Texian Army were volunteers, raw recruits, stockmen and adventurers. They were unused to discipline and not used to taking orders from officers. During the nearly two weeks that they were encamped at Groce's plantation, T. R. Fehnrebach noted the lack of formal training.

At Groce's, Houston worked desperately to bring some order and discipline to the motley crew of 1400 which made up his army. With the exception of Houston and a few officers, none had ever fought in formal warfare; they knew nothing of taking orders from commanding officers, of forming columns, of fighting in line.

On April 14 and 15, General Houston and the Texian Army camped at the Donoho plantation. On April 16, the army marched to the famous "fork" in the road and turned south in the direction of Harrisburg. They continued their march towards that swampy prairie where Buffalo Bayou and the San Jacinto River converge. The Texian Army arrived outside of Harrisburg on April 18, while Texian and Mexican patrols clashed at Morgan's Point. On April 20, Houston moved his army to Buffalo Bayou and a cavalry attack led by Sidney Sherman engaged the Mexican Army.

We will gather together on April 21 at San Jacinto to commemorate the most significant battle of the Western Hemisphere and to pay tribute to our ancestors. As descendants of these courageous men and women, we must always remember that our heritage is a sacred honor to be cherished. It is the tie that binds us together as we focus on our objective to:

Perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the independence of Texas.

"Texas, One and Indivisible"



Eron Brimberry Tynes, President