Magical Madrigal Singers at Christmas Luncheon

A festive mood greeted guests and members who gathered at our annual Christmas luncheon. The tree was colorfully decorated with old-fashioned ornaments true to another time. Red poinsettias accentuated the tables with a pop of Christmas ruby color. After a traditional fare of turkey and sweet potatoes, a tasty dessert of cheesecake was served up. Thanks to all who brought toys and books, which were donated to the Mission of Yahweh, a homeless shelter for women and children in crisis.

The high point of the luncheon was a performance by the Madrigal Group from High School for Performing and Visual Arts. Donned in authentic traditional Renaissance costumes, the group sang Christmas carols in Renaissance period style. Their magnificent blended singing was such a joy. What a top-notch performance by HSPVA Madrigal singers!

From the President

Dear Daughters,

It’s hard to believe the year is almost over. What a year it’s been! Hurricane Harvey, the Astros won the World Series, and then measurable snow in Houston!

I hope all impacted by Hurricane Harvey are progressing towards getting their lives back in order and are able to celebrate and enjoy the Holiday Season.

My wish for you all is that the light and spirit of this Christmas will fill your hearts and homes with joy and peace.

Merry Christmas!
Laura-Hill Taylor, President

New Members
Amanda Elizabeth Martin Lucas
Ancestor: Orceneth Fisher
Melinda Bowles McMahan
Ancestor: Franklin Jarvis Greenwood
Laura Lynn Wigley Smith
Ancestor: Aaron B Burleson
Sharron Ann Stephenson Wilson
Ancestor: Thomas Bell Stephenson

Transfer Members to SJC
Clare Elizabeth "Pam" Pittman
Ancestor: Joshua Parker
Barbara Scott Wyche
Ancestor: Samuel Ramsey
Our January 4th meeting brings us Chase Untermeyer. He will speak on "Broadening the base of power in Houston from 1900 to the Present. He'll describe how Houston has benefitted from leaders like Capt Baker and Jesse Jones who shared power with anyone who wanted to build the city. Today, no one person or group decides what happens in Houston, which accounts for our admirable civic comity.

Chase Untermeyer is the chairman of the Qatar-America Institute, which aims to increase understanding of the important Qatari-American relationship in security, education, and energy.

Born in New Jersey, Chase came to Houston at the age 2. He is a graduate of Memorial High School. He graduated from Harvard College with honors in government in 1968. During the Vietnam War, he served as an officer in the US Navy aboard a Pacific Fleet destroyer and as aide to the commander of U.S. naval forces in the Philippines.

Returning to Houston, Mr. Untermeyer became a political reporter for the Houston Chronicle and executive assistant to the county judge of Harris County, Texas. In 1976, he was elected as a Republican to the first of two terms as a member of the Texas House of Representatives from a west Houston district.

He resigned his seat to go to Washington in 1981 to serve as the executive assistant to then-Vice President Bush. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan appointed him Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. During the first Bush Administration, he was assistant to the President for presidential personnel and director of the Voice of America.

From 2004 - 2007, he served as United States ambassador to the State of Qatar, on appointment of President George W. Bush. He is currently chairman of the Houston Committee on Foreign Relations and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.


Chase is married to the former Diana Cumming Kendrick of Sheridan, Wyoming, whom he met in the White House. Their daughter Ellyson, a 2016 graduate of Stanford University, is currently affiliated with Thiel Capital in San Francisco.
Please help Friends of the Log House fill up our Christmas donation drive tree for the upkeep of the Pioneer Memorial Log House. You may choose your giving level from the donation levels indicated on the Christmas tree graphic below.

Make your check payable to: The Pioneer Memorial Log House
Mail check to: Amanda Cowan, Treasurer
20603 Raingreen Dr.
Katy, TX 77449-1832

COSTS TO MAINTAIN THE LOG HOUSE

- Yard Clean Up, 2x Yearly $600
- Insurance, Monthly $70
- Alarm System, Quarterly $210
- Pest Control, Quarterly $150
- Cleaning Service, Monthly $80
- Phone, Monthly $70
- Lawn Service, Weekly $60
- Water, Monthly $35
- Gas, Monthly $25

Please send contributions to:
Amanda Cowan, Treasurer
20603 Raingreen Dr.
Katy, TX 77449-1832

Thank you!
Carolyn Lightfoot
President,
Friends of the Log House

We’re Counting on You this Christmas!
Friends of the Log House has a fund raiser twice a year to raise funds for maintenance of the Pioneer Memorial Log House, one at Christmas and one in conjunction with dues.
This Christmas, please give for upkeep of our log house. It’s a historical treasure to our chapter, enjoyed year-round.

New Trash Containers! Our new trash cans are our new treasure.

Carolyn Gilbert, docent, with a new trash can in front of the Log House.

Hermann Park provided us with 2 new trash cans. One for the front walkway and the other by the back shed. So heavy, it doesn't move. They also left us 5 additional barrel inserts, with heavy plastic trash liners.
Placement along the paths for people walking through may help with the trash issue. Many, thanks to Jamie Moran for getting this accomplished.
IN MEMORIAM

Rebecca Lee

Date of Death: November 16, 2017

Member since: July 2, 1987

Ancestor: James Wales Jones

She was born on July 16, 1929 in Brackenridge, TX to Roy and Harriett Brawley and is survived by 3 daughters: Cynthia Lee, Melinda Boyd, and Laurie Antaland; and 4 grandsons, Erich Hoff, Brian Antal, Austin Boyd, and James Antal. Her husband of 65 years, Noah Lee, survives her. She graduated from Texas Woman’s University in Denton, Texas with a BS in music. Music was a big part Rebecca and Noah’s life. They traveled to Europe and other countries during summertime with The American Winds Concert Band, a group of adult musicians offering American Music. Becky played bass drum. She also played bass drum in The Space City Band of Houston, Texas directed by her husband. She continued with music in the retirement center with the RiverPointe Community Band.

Rebecca was active in many different groups. She was a member of Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Daughters of the American Revolution, and is a descendant of Austin’s Old 300. She was also a regular member of The Association of Concert Bands, and Wind-jammers, Unlimited. Rebecca was a member of the South Broadway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Denver, Colorado.

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Calendar of Events, San Jacinto Chapter

2018

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 4</td>
<td>Chapter Meeting 10:00 Social /10:30 Meeting Executive Board Meets (after Chapter meeting)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>Executive Board Meets</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Chapter Meeting 10:00 Social /10:30 Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 22</td>
<td>Executive Board Meets</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Chapter Field Trip 10:00-12:00 pm Sam Houston Heritage Park</td>
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<td>March 12</td>
<td>Texas History Pioneer Day</td>
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<td>March 29</td>
<td>Executive Board Meets</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Chapter Meeting 10:00 Social /10:30 Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>San Jacinto Day Ceremony 10:00 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Presentation of SJC Scholarships</td>
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<td></td>
<td>San Jacinto Battleground Battle Reenactment 3:00 pm</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.sanjacinto-museum.org">www.sanjacinto-museum.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Executive Board Meets</td>
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<td>May 3</td>
<td>Chapter Meeting 10:00 Social /10:30 Meeting</td>
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<td>May 15-19</td>
<td>DRT Annual Convention Dallas, Details to be Announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>Executive Board Meets</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>June Luncheon 11:30 am BraeBurn Country Club 8101 Bissonnet</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22 - 23</td>
<td>58th Annual CRT Convention Deer Park</td>
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The DRT Museum Annual History Symposium, “The Life and Times of José Antonio Navarro”

Wednesday, February 28, 2018
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Texas State Cemetery Gallery
Austin, Texas

Speakers include:
Dr. Caroline Castillo Crimm,
Author and Historian
Mr. Emiliano “Nano” Calderon,
Site Educator at Casa Navarro State Historic Site in San Antonio

Fee:
$60, includes catered lunch and refreshments

Registration, information, and questions:
Please contact Museum Chair Julia Lopez at republicoftxsmuseumchair@drtinfo.org
One Potato, Two Potato, Three Potato, Four…

...five potato, six potato, seven potato, more! Most of us know this old childhood rhyme. We could've been chanting the rhyme at the Baked Potato Luncheon. The potatoes were soo delicious. we may have asked for more! Good thing for Liz Leifeste, we didn't. She baked all the potatoes, plus sweet potatoes to boot. To top it off, Margie Harris made her famous homemade 3-day chili. What a treat! Huge thanks goes out to Liz and Margie.

After the “potato fest”, we all pitched in to decorate the tree with old-fashioned type ornaments and decor. Many of the ornaments were hand-made by members, adding a sweet, loving touch to the Christmas tree.
An “1836” Clock for the Log House

A “Republic of Texas” clock has been donated in honor of Betty Petty to the Log House. Our kitchen clock needed replacing. And now this custom-made clock by Texan John Borin is keeping perfect time in the kitchen.

“The Texas Star” Handmade Necklace. Get Raffle Tickets at Meetings for a Chance to Win!

Carolyn Lightfoot, President of the Friends of the Log House, has commissioned a “The Texas Star” necklace and donated the necklace to the San Jacinto Chapter to raise funds to maintain the Pioneer Memorial Log House.

The Texas Star necklace is handmade by Paul Cravey is based on the Texas Ranger badge. It features a blue Texas topaz in the center of the star, surrounded by five white Texas topazes, one in each arm of the star.

The drawing for the winner of this stunning Texas themed necklace will be held at the San Jacinto Chapter June luncheon on June 7, 2018. You do not need to be present to win.

Raffle tickets are $20 each, or six for $100. They will be on sale at the Chapter Meetings in January, February, April, May, and June. If you wish to buy raffle tickets and are unable to come to a Chapter Meeting, please feel free to contact Treasurer Amanda Cowan at arcowan@sbcglobal.net.

A Bit of Texas History, Anson Jones (1798 - 1858)

Anson Jones was born in Massachusetts in 1798. He studied medicine and began a medical practice in Philadelphia in 1826.

Jones came to Texas in 1833. During the struggle for independence entered the army as a private soldier. Following the revolution, Jones was elected to the second Congress of Texas in 1837. The following year was appointed Texas' minister to the United States. After his return, Jones was elected Senator from Brazoria County, and became Secretary of State during Houston's second administration.

In 1844, Jones was elected president of the Republic of Texas. He held this position until Texas' annexation, when he surrendered the executive office to Governor Henderson, who had been elected the first Governor of the State of Texas.

Because of he was conspicuously neutral on the issue of annexation to the United States when the general mood on the public was strong for Texas statehood, Jones quickly lost influence as president of the Republic.

After statehood was achieved and Jones failed to re-establish himself in public office, he became increasingly moody and introspective.

He took his own life on 9 January 1858, and is buried at Glenwood Cemetery in Houston.