



The Daughters of the Republic of Texas
San Jacinto Chapter, Houston
The San Jacinto Dispatch
January 2010

THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS-1836-1845



It is January of 1836 . . . where are the men that will shape Texas's destiny in the months to come? Are William Travis and James Bowie at the Alamo? Where is Sam Houston, Davy Crockett and Stephen F. Austin? What about Juan Seguin, James Fannin, Anson Jones, and Lorenzo De Zavala?

Easy victories over the Mexican Army in 1835 at Anahuac, Goliad, Gonzales, San Antonio, Nacogdoches had given the people of Texas a sense of security as the Mexican Army had retreated South across the Rio Grande. It is now January, 1836 and Santa Anna is on the march North to Texas to quell the rebellion.

Representatives from across Texas are traveling to meet for a Constitutional Convention that has been called at Washington-on-the-Brazos. Juan Navarro, one of two native Texans, representing Bexar and Richard Ellis from Red River are headed toward the Brazos. Lorenzo De Zavala as a representative from Harrisburg and Thomas Rusk from Nacogdoches are also rushing toward the Convention.

Stephen F. Austin has been in New Orleans since January and is working to procure supplies and munitions for the Texian Army. James Fannin, a West Pointer has been at Goliad with 400 men since early January. In mid-January, Sam Houston sends Jim Bowie to San Antonio to determine if the Alamo is defensible and with orders to destroy the Alamo in San Antonio.

William Travis is also on his way to the Alamo and will not officially take command until February 11. Sam Houston travels to East Texas to meet with the Cherokees to obtain their neutrality in this conflict with Mexico. He will be named Commander of the Texas Army on March 4.

Davy Crockett and his Tennessee Mounted Volunteers stopped at San Felipe in early January to visit Governor Henry Smith and were ferried across the Brazos at that point. As Crockett said to Governor Smith they were "following the scent of a fight." Davy Crockett and the Tennessee Mounted Volunteers arrive at the Alamo on February 8.

Santa Anna crosses the Rio Grande on February 12 with an army of approximately 5,000 men.

What are our ancestors the people of Texas thinking and feeling as they go about their daily lives? There was no telegraph, information was very limited and rumors were prevalent.

Our pioneer ancestors discussed declaring independence, preparing for war, and the approach of Santa Anna. The men themselves questioned > > > should they go to the Alamo to defend San Antonio or to Goliad and join Fannin? How to get supplies and arms to the Texian Army?

As the men talked, the women knew that the safety and preservation of the family and their home would be their chief responsibility to bear. So as the rumors flew and the women helped their men prepare for war, the decision to stay and be at the mercy of the Mexican troops or to flee East to Louisiana was most prominent in their minds.

And so, 175 years ago as these thoughts and feelings were in the minds of these Texas men and women, our ancestors, who did not know what was to come in the next few weeks, our respect and admiration for their sacrifices and fortitude knows no bounds.

May God protect our men and the Texian Army in their struggle for independence. Please pray for those at the Alamo and at Goliad and our delegates meeting at Washington-on-the-Brazos. Protect our children, our families, our neighbors, and friends. Keep them safe from harm. God Bless Texas. Please pray for victory.

Eron Brimberry Tynes

President, San Jacinto Chapter





Eron Tynes, Judge Davidson and Ann Bevil

January 6, 2011 Program

At our first meeting of the New Year, January 6, 2011, we were honored to host Judge Mark Davidson. Judge Davidson spoke to us of **“Rotting Papers,”** those county courthouse records of early Texas events now stored in warehouses without either air conditioning or humidity control. In this climate, important links to our past are quickly deteriorating and diminishing our insight into happenings of Texas past. He outlined programs that are in progress to update some of the facilities that house these important records.

Ann Bevil
Second Vice President



“How the Pioneer Memorial Log House Came To Be”

Nancy Burch, San Jacinto Chapter Member,

February 3, 2011

The San Jacinto Chapter is so fortunate to have Nancy Burch as she is very knowledgeable and talented. It is our pleasure to present Nancy Burch speaking on “How the Pioneer Memorial Log House Came To Be.” Her grandmother Madge W. Hearne, (great-granddaughter of General Sam Houston) was a member of the original Pioneer Memorial Building Committee. These illustrious Houstonians were preparing for the Texas Centennial. They planned how they would participate in this momentous celebration. I have given it away! We will gain insights into the early process of building the Pioneer Memorial Log House. Learn about this Pioneer Memorial Building Committee members’ vision for the Pioneer Memorial Log House by coming to hear Nancy on February 3, 2011.



San Jacinto Chapter friends after the January meeting
Anita Cooper, Luanne Zacek, Carolyn Lightfoot, Sally Whittington, Brenda Auld and Gwen Kunz

FRIENDS OF THE LOG HOUSE

Our cup runneth over--the fun never ends! Our precious Log House was the grateful recipient of many generous contributors during the Christmas season, and for that we are truly thankful. You may have seen the impressive list in the last newsletter. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

In our continued effort to improve and enhance this unique building, we are always willing to accept other Friends of the Log House who might have forgotten to send in their gift this year, or who have just been too busy. Please know that we are always able to accommodate your donation schedule!

I'm sure that you are aware of the wonderful events coming up in February and March. Yes, that's right--the 75th Anniversary celebration of the Log House!! What a great time to rejoice and to be proud of the accomplishments of our SJC members of 1936. I hope we will all be able to share this time together as we give honor to those who did so much for our chapter.

Martha Haydel, Chair
Friends of the Log House



Texas Essay Contest

The deadline of February 10, 2011 is drawing near for entering the Texas History 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 is "Fall of the Alamo" and for 7th graders, the topic is "Fall of the Alamo: As seen Through the Eyes of David Crockett."

The first, second, and third place winners from the San Jacinto Chapter will be presented with a check, trophy, and a certificate. All winners will be offered an opportunity to read their essays during the Texas History Essay Awards reception on May 7, 2011 at the Log House. First place winners will have their essays forwarded to the District level.

Essays must be postmarked by February 10, 2011 and sent to Marje Harris, 6445 Sewanee Ave, Houston, Texas 77005-3759. Essay forms are included as an attachment.



Remembering . . .

Rosemary Beckman Sullivan, DRT #011364 passed away on December 19th, 2010 at Asbury Methodist Village, Gaithersburg, Maryland. She was born September 12, 1924 in Houston to Daisy Brent and Otto Louis Beckman.

She had been a resident in assisted living at Clarewood House for the past four years. Prior to her move to Clarewood House, she was active in several garden clubs, and also a member of the Harris County Historical Society.

Mrs. Sullivan became a member of the San Jacinto Chapter on March 5, 1982. Her ancestor was Cader Buxton Brent and her sister Carol McNeil is also a member of our chapter. A graveside service is planned for this summer at Forest Park Westheimer.

Log House Rental

The Pioneer Memorial Log House is currently used for a variety of occasions including San Jacinto Chapter activities and fundraising rentals. Because of the growing popularity of the Log House and in order to avoid "double booking," it is important to coordinate all use of the Log House. Please contact Brenda Auld at 281-497-0528 or bauld@comcast.net regarding the availability of the Log House for any function and to schedule an event at the Log House.

Newsletter Editor

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Brenda Stover

Co-Editor Phyllis Moody



Margaret's Raffle for the Log House



Ann Tanner Welcomes with Coffee



Texas Med 5K Fun Run

The Log House is a sponsor for the 5K Fun Run on Saturday, February 12, 2011. It is a GREAT run! You can either run or walk. Anyone wanting to participate will need to register soon at www.TexasMed5k.com. Each participant receives a T-shirt. This year's run benefits Mammography services at the Harris County Hospital District.

**Mid-year District VI Workshop
"Meet the Candidates"**

April 2, 2011
1:00p.m-3:00p.m.
Price Daniel House
Liberty, Texas

Details will be announced later

THE COUNTRY STORE



The Monarch Butterfly of the Keep Texas Beautiful Collection and both the 2009 and 2010 Capitol of Texas ornaments are still available in our Country Store as are all the wonderful books about Texas, for children and adults. Come see me in my corner!

Luanne Zacek
Country Store

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



BUILT IN HONOR OF THE TEXAS CENTENNIAL

Continuing our history of the Log House . . .

“ . . .On January 13th, when the chimney was started, members of San Jacinto Chapter gathered together, bringing articles from the homes of their forefathers, and other historic spots in Texas, and these were worked into the chimney among then being stone, brick, and rocks from the following places . . .”

Among those places:

Moses Austin home, Old well at San Felipe, Old Spanish Fort at Anahuac, La Bahia Mission at Goliad, Old Washington-on-the-Brazos, Cistern at the first Capital of Texas at West Columbia, Old Stone Fort at Nacogdoches, Tomb of Stephen F. Austin and homes of David G. Burnet, Jane Long, Mirabeau Lamar, Dr. Charles Stewart, and Sam Houston’s Huntsville home, including the Steamboat house where he died.

San Jacinto Chapter Archives

January 18~~th~~ - 1936

D. R. T. DEDICATION CEREMONIES



Officers and members of the San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, are shown at dedication ceremonies at the Pioneer Log Cabin in Hermann Park when work began on a memorial chimney. Stones and relics from many historic buildings in Texas will be used in the construction which is a part of the San Jacinto Centennial activities. In the foreground are Mrs. Erl R. Ramsey, president of the chapter; Mrs. Charles H. Milby, daughter of Admiral Tod of the Texas navy; Mrs. Alice Eubank, daughter of Alphonso Steele, who fought in the battle of San Jacinto; Mrs. George Berlet, general chairman of the Memorial Log Cabin committee; and little Sarah Francis Jackson, great, great grand-daughter of Benjamin Franklin. Others in the group are Mrs. Eugene Truett Harris, Mrs. George W. Baldwin, Mrs. Hedley Jackson, Mrs. MaBelle DeLesdernier Carr, Mrs. E. Thurman Adkins, Mrs. J. D. Kelley, Mrs. T. M. Howard, Mrs. H. H. Jennings.

Texas Daughters Dedicate Pioneer Log Cabin



When members of San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, dedicated their Pioneer Cabin in Hermann Park Monday, Mrs. Marian Hearne Thornall, great-granddaughter of Gen. Sam Houston, used a pitcher of water from the Brazos River which has played such a large role in the history and development of the state. The cabin is located in a beautiful wooded spot near Hermann Hospital.

"Almost ready for Centennial visitors," say Mrs. H. H. Ueckert, chairman of the building committee, and Mrs. E. R. Ramsey, chapter president.



Principal speaker for the occasion was Daffan Gilmer of a pioneer Texas family.
More about the dedication on Page 9.

