



The Daughters of the Republic of Texas
San Jacinto Chapter, Houston
The San Jacinto Dispatch
May, 2011



DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF TEXAS INDEPENDENCE

SAN JACINTO MONUMENT

APRIL 21, 2011

ABBIGAIL SOTT



**RE-ENACTORS OF THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO SEE
SAM HOUSTON IV'S HAT SAILING THROUGH THE BREEZE**

RE-ENACTORS OF THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO SEE

*May Program
Kenny Lewis, Cowboy Poet*

Kenny Lewis certainly has a gift for writing cowboy poetry and delivering it, too. We were enthralled listening to his entire repertoire of poems. Throughout his presentation, we were able to visualize cowboys around the campfire after a long, hard day on the trail telling stories. His last poem was written especially for our dear departed ladies of this past year. We thank him for being so kind and thoughtful by writing this poem.

His published poetry books were available to members to purchase. Members eagerly bought these nice poetry books about the vanishing prairies and the demise of the cowboy. Thank you, Kenny Lewis.

Ann Bevil,
Second Vice President



Ann Bevil and Cowboy Poet Kenny Lewis



Brenda Auld, Rose Slatton, Carolyn Lightfoot and Luanne Zacek

Texas Daughters

To pause in soft reflection,
To remember those so dear,
Who've come and gone before us
Is why we've gathered here.

It's not to mourn their passing
For who is really gone?
As long as we remember them
Their legacy lives on.

Our strength lies in the memory
Of a smile or caring touch
And the thousand little moments
That helped so very much.

The lessons learned through hardship,
Through their suffering and despair,
Were yet so freely passed to us
With love and tender care.

Texas has her favorite sons
Who've cast their bread upon the
waters.
But each loaf was baked by the loving
hands
Of gallant Texas daughters.

**Kenny Lewis
April 10, 2011**



FRIENDS OF THE LOG HOUSE

I want to take this opportunity to review a bit of history of Friends of the Log House. We have Past-presidents Jan DeVault and Pam Covington to thank for developing this auxiliary for the Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum. It was clear to these ladies that we needed a broad-based donor group for help in maintaining the Log House Museum. Hats off to you, Jan and Pam!!

Eron Tynes and I became co-chairs in 2001-2002, and continued to raise funds for our Log House. As Eron took on further responsibilities in the chapter, I continued to chair the Friends group. It has been rewarding to see how generously our members, as well as friends outside the chapter, support this historic house.

I urge you to continue your regular and systematic contributions to our Log House. As you have heard before, our house needs more than \$1000 per month to keep functioning. Overall, we have been lucky to avoid any BIG disasters. But, as with any other house, there are unwelcome expenses when we least expect it.

As you renew your chapter dues, please keep in mind that the Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum needs your continued attention. Let's think of this month as our kick-off campaign for the 2011-2012 year, and keep our forward momentum. Membership is open to anyone who loves Texas history and wants to help us foster that passion and enthusiasm. We encourage family, friends and acquaintances to join us in continuing our mission of preserving the past and protecting the future of our state's history.

Membership levels are as follows for the *Friends of the Log House*:

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

I thank you again for the generosity that you show toward our San Jacinto Chapter home. You are an inspiring example of the pioneer spirit that made this state "supremely blessed."

This is my last plea for donations, as I am leaving this position. My prayer is that you continue to cooperate with the new chair of *Friends of the Log House* and keep the doors open!

Martha Haydel, Chair
Friends of the Log House



SJC-DRT June Luncheon/Meeting

JUNE 2, 2011
LAKESIDE COUNTRY CLUB
PINELAKE ROOM
100 WILCREST DRIVE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77042

This is our regular Chapter meeting and will start at 11:30. New officers for 2011-2013 will be installed and new members will be recognized.

Cost of Luncheon is \$27.00. Please mail checks to:

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

Reservations must be received no later than May 30, or a \$5.00 additional charge will be incurred.

Valet Parking is Available.



Eron Tynes and Marje Harris conduct Memorial Ceremony

MEMORIAL CEREMONY

At the May meeting, a moving memorial service was held to honor SJC Daughters who have passed away during this year. Eron Tynes and Marje Harris conducted the ceremony. A candle was lit and a white rose was placed in a crystal vase in remembrance of each departed member. The Daughters who were remembered at the ceremony were Murnez Blades, Kelsey Lukingbeal, Alice Foster, Mavis Eppes, Lillie Helton, Francis Bivins, Ann Strange, Mary Grace Horlock, Rosemary Sullivan, Shirley Lightfoot and Dorothy Tabb. Chapter members, Luanne Zacek, Kae Theilen, Carolyn Lightfoot, Brenda Auld, Martha Haydel, Sallie Whittington, Marje Harris, Marilyn Chapman and Eron Tynes read life remembrances of each departed member. The ceremony concluded with a benediction.

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.



SJC President-elect Saves a Flag

It was a very dark, stormy and windy morning when Luanne Zacek, President-elect, began to uncover the sales tables at the most recent DRT state convention. The rain clouds dropped over 4 inches of rain that morning. At 8 o'clock in the morning, San Antonio was as black as the night and was experiencing a heavy deluge of rain and gusty winds. As we prepared the sales tables for the rush of convention attendees, most could only watch the weather, although they were there to shop. DRT members quickly made their purchases, and went off to the convention general assembly and meetings.

Luanne, Cindi Gruetzmacher, and Phyllis Moody attended to the sales tables, still watching the weather outside. They were proud to be inside and so happy not to have to go out into the bad weather. As the day progressed, they continued to watch the Texas and American flags outside the convention hotel windows, whipping around the flag poles in the gusty winds. They noticed the Texas flag had been blown up and over the flag pole. It had made connection with the point on top of its pole and part of the flag was stuck. The winds continued to blow hard and whip the flags around and around. This made a part of the Texas flag rip. The more fierce the winds, the more the flag was torn.

Eventually the weather began to subside, and the sunshine shone brightly through scattered clouds by noon. As DRT shoppers returned to the San Jacinto Chapter sales tables they each had something to say about the torn Texas flag. At mid-afternoon, we saw workmen preparing to take down the American flag, but not doing anything about the Texas flag. On her way to the bank to get change for the country store, Phyllis Moody walked across the plaza where the flags were hanging, wet and torn, on the poles. She mentioned to the workmen, “surely you are going to take down and replace the Texas flag?” Yes, was the answer. The Texas flag was replaced later that afternoon. The old, torn Texas flag was tossed into a box. From the third story window, Luanne noticed the harsh treatment of the Texas flag. She rushed down to the plaza and talked with the workmen. Soon returning to the sales table room, here is Luanne with the old, torn Texas flag neatly folded and placed in a box for safe keeping.

Now the plan is to use this flag for a retirement ceremony after one of the SJC meetings or at a special event. Thanks, Luanne, for thinking fast, and saving our precious Texas flag.

By Phyllis Moody

Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum Receives Dresses circa late 1800's

Three dresses owned and worn by Fannie C. Slaughter Little, native Texan have been received by the Log House Museum. These handsome dresses were carefully saved by Fannie's daughter Artie Myrtle Crawford, Member No. 9279 of the San Jacinto Chapter from 1977 until her death in 2000. Artie's daughter, Artie Jeannette Crawford, has donated them in memory of her mother and grandmother. Fannie Slaughter Little (1867-1945) married rancher David B. Little (1862-1916) in 1891 in Frio County, Texas. Fannie's parents were William J. Slaughter (1835-1906) and Caroline Vickers Slaughter (1841-1925) who owned a 41,000 acre ranch near Frio Town in Frio County, Texas.

Frio Town, originally known as Frio City, was a frontier community immediately south of the Presidio Crossing of the Frio River, 16 miles northwest of Pearsall. Frio City became the first county seat of Frio County in 1871. Estimates of its population in the early 1880s reach as high as 2,000. When the International-Great Northern Railroad was extended through Pearsall, missing Frio Town, a general exodus ensued. All that remains today is the Frio Town Cemetery and the remains of the original courthouse and jail on the Roberts Ranch.

Shown here is one of the dresses, a black lace cotton dress, now on display in the museum.



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This has been an incredible year to be behind the scenes for the 175th Anniversary of Texas! It has been my privilege to work with Eron Tynes and members of the San Jacinto Chapter during all the special events of this celebration. The knowledge and enthusiasm of Eron for all things TEXAS are legendary.

As we welcome the new officers of our San Jacinto Chapter, we say thank you to Eron and our outgoing officers! You have served your Texas ancestors with pride and honor! Job well done!

Brenda Stover

REMEMBERING. . .

Addie Sue Ivy passed away peacefully on April 26, 2011 in Houston, Texas. She is survived by her beloved husband of 62 years, James Weldon Ivy, of Houston; son James and his wife Linda Ivy of San Antonio, and their sons, Travis, Zachary and Samuel Ivy; son Jeffrey and his wife Charla Ivy of Houston; brother Davis Eppes and his wife Jeanne of Trinity, Texas; brother-in-law Forest Irwin of Houston; and numerous nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents Ruth Haynie and Richmond Eppes of Freestone, sister Reba Jo Eppes Irwin, sister Mavis Eppes, and brother Haynie Eppes.

Sue was born in Teague, Texas on August 20, 1928. She grew up in Freestone, Texas surrounded by her close-knit immediate and extended family. She graduated from Teague High School and Sam Houston State Teachers College in 1952. She taught elementary school in Freestone for two years, for two years in Brookshire, and for over ten years in Spring Branch ISD in Houston. Most of her adult life she lived with her family in Houston where she was a member of First Baptist Church, Spring Branch from 1953 to 2003, and Tallowood Baptist Church since 2003.

In addition to teaching, she had a lifelong interest in genealogy and was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Texas First Families and SJC DRT until her recent illness.

With all of her interests, Sue was most devoted to family and friends. They were her cornerstone, and every one she has touched recalls her rare ability to love, to nurture, and to welcome. She maintained her grace and her sweet disposition through a lifetime of challenges, including Alzheimer's in her final years. And while her family and friends rejoice in the assurance of her eternal salvation, she will be sorely missed by the many who loved her.

A memorial service was held Saturday, April 30 at 11:00 am at Bowers Funeral Home in Teague, Texas. Visitation began at 10:00am.

**CRT News**

The CRT State Convention will be Friday, June 24-26, 2011 at the Sheraton Arlington, Arlington, Texas.

Kay Martin, Third Vice President-Elect, (CRT) is requesting that any mother or grandmother who has some ideas about events for the CRT to please contact her.

President's Message

What an incredibly busy spring it has been as we commemorated 175 years of Texas Independence and celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the Pioneer Memorial Log House. As the year winds down and my term as President ends, I am becoming quite nostalgic. I have been blessed to have worked with many of you in our chapter who are so dedicated to our objectives. So much has been accomplished over the past four years due to the efforts of many members.

As I look back to the spring of 2007 when I was first elected President and our insurance company threatened not to insure Brooks Cottage because the roof was in bad condition – the past four years became a whirlwind of writing grants, raising money and working with various contractors to address needed repairs and restorations for the Log House and Brooks Cottage. That summer we received a grant from the Native Texan License Plate fund to replace the roof and then the Log House chimney began to leak. Another grant assisted with the repair of the chimney only to have Hurricane Ike come along and blow off the chimney cap, along with toppling three huge trees and filling the yard with debris.

The chimney was finally fixed and we worked diligently to raise the dollars to replace the siding on Brooks Cottage. This was accomplished in 2009. Grants were also received from the Herzstein Foundation and the Southern Heritage Society to assist with this project. The cow chairs, originally donated in 1936, were recovered with cowhide and new ceiling fans were installed.

As we began to approach the 75th anniversary of the Log House, efforts were directed to raise dollars so we could replace the Log House fence. Both the Log House and Brooks Cottage were broken into during the spring of 2010 and there was some minor damage that needed to be repaired along with the installation of a burglar alarm system for both houses. Due to parking issues, a gate was installed during the summer of 2010.

Fortunately, a bequest had been received from Anne Lackner that enabled us to complete the fence and a new sidewalk in time for the 75th anniversary. A marker was placed honoring Mrs. Lackner for her generous donation. Carolyn Lightfoot ensured that a new handicap ramp was built for the Log House. During the 75th anniversary celebrations, we received so many compliments as to how beautiful the Log House and the Texas Heritage Garden looked.

Along with the general day-to-day maintenance of the Log House, Esther Simon and Gwen Kunz, “the Log House Angels” have gone way above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that the Log House and the Texas Heritage Garden always look their best. Many improvements have been made by these two ladies that so enhance the Log House and the Texas Heritage Garden.

Numerous highlights are:

- The Lila Smith Memorial Rose Garden honoring Lila Smith was established in May, 2008, with memorial donations.
- The old sign for the Log House was refurbished and replaced.
- New trees were planted in the yard, courtesy of the Hermann Park Conservancy.
- A rose was planted in honor of Marian Beckham.
- Ongoing yard work to keep the grounds beautiful.

Anita Cooper spent numerous hours working to reorganize the yearbook into a binder format, to save us many dollars because we do not have to reprint the entire document each year. She also coordinated the CRT-DRT Medallion marking ceremony where 21 graves were marked.

Ann Bevil organized wonderful field trips and engaged such entertaining and informative speakers for our programs. Loretta Williams planned programs for the CRT. The highlight is the collection of toys each Christmas for the Pediatric Unit at Ben Taub. This project has grown so that four different events at the Log House now collect toys during the Christmas Season. Luanne Zacek has spent many hours working with the country store to raise much needed dollars for the Log House. A new DRT Seal ornament was created and a Log House 75th anniversary ornament was also designed.

Much time was spent cleaning out the Log House, Brooks Cottage and the storage shed. Many of our records were moved over to the San Felipe storage unit. Organizing Brooks Cottage and the Storage Unit is still an ongoing work in progress. Cindie Gruetzmacher has begun scanning the minutes and is doing a fantastic job as we address this long overdue project. A bequest had been made by Beth Dabaghi and we were able to bind 30 years of our Yearbooks and Annual Proceedings for our own archives. In addition, we donated many volumes of the Annual Proceedings and Founders and Patriots to the San Jacinto Museum, thereby making their collections current.

The Texas Essay Contest was re-activated and we have had many outstanding applicants along with hosting the Essay Reception each year at the Log House. The Seventh grade Outstanding History Teacher of the Year was renamed in honor of Marian Beckham. We have had the Outstanding Fourth grade history teacher of the year at the State level in 2009 and 2011.

Kay Martin as Historian worked diligently on the scrapbook with Luanne Zacek and we took first place at State in 2009. I am truly grateful to Linda Beverlin for creating such a wonderful newsletter back in 2007. Brenda Stover continued during my second term to produce an outstanding newsletter along with Phyllis Moody who serves as co-editor.

Due to the generous bequest from Thelma Maresh for the Scholarship Fund, Gwen Kunz as Assistant Treasurer has spent many, many hours auditing and ensuring we are in compliance with State and Federal regulations. Along with our Treasurer, Tamara Kittleson, records were updated, IRS 990's forms were filed and an Investment Policy was developed.

Marje Harris worked diligently processing papers for new members and has agreed to serve a third term as Registrar. Sally Whittington has been a blessing as corresponding secretary. She handles numerous administrative tasks that are so necessary to the functioning of our chapter.

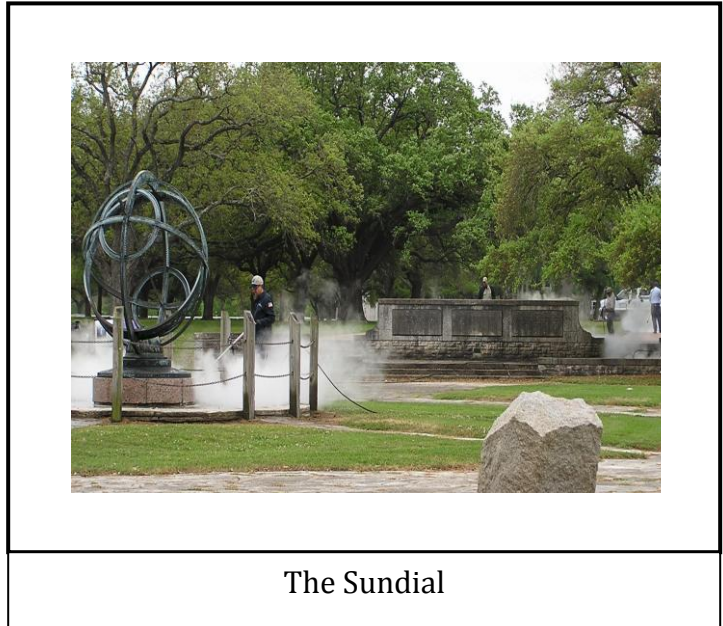
So many people work behind the scenes to ensure the smooth operation of the Log House and the chapter; Brenda Auld who handles the scheduling for the Log House, Kae Theilen, Log House Treasurer, Martha Haydel, Chair, Friends of the Log House, and Marilyn Van Way as Telephone Committee Chair.

Carolyn Gilbert served as Webmaster and Tina Shelton designed and manages the database. They are invaluable. Ann Tanner and Cindie Gruetzmacher, along with their ever faithful Social Committee, including Margaret Standard and Kae Theilen, always provided such wonderful refreshments for our chapter meetings and special events.

Two major highlights this year were the 75th anniversary of the Log House and the celebration of 175 years of Texas Independence. Many thanks go to Brenda Stover and Luanne Zacek for chairing the Anniversary Tea and to Nancy Burch and Charlotte Taylor for chairing the Fundraising Dinner. We received two Proclamations from Harris County and the City of Houston establishing March 2, 2011 as Pioneer Memorial Log House Day. The Houston Chronicle also had an article on their Houston history blog about the Log House and its 75th anniversary.

In addition, I enjoyed attending numerous events this spring representing our chapter - Texas Independence Day, Dawn at Alamo, Goliad and of course San Jacinto, where wreaths were laid to commemorate the men who gave their lives for liberty and independence.

Many thanks go to, Cindie Gruetzmacher, Chair, Relics and Preservation of Historic Sites, and her husband Bob who worked in conjunction with Russ Kuykendal, Site Manager, San Jacinto Battleground and Dennis Gerow, Architect, Historic Sites Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife to help spruce up the Texian Army Camp site in preparation for the upcoming 175th Battle of San Jacinto.



Much has been accomplished, and there is still much to be done. The above is just a summary of what goes on with our Chapter and the Log House. Our new President, Luanne Zacek definitely needs everyone's support. As you can see it takes all of us working together for our chapter and the Log House as we perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the Independence of Texas.

What an honor and special privilege it has been to serve as President during the 175^h Anniversary of Texas Independence and the 75th Anniversary of the Log House. Thanks to all of you for making the past four years such a wonderful experience. I have truly enjoyed serving as President over the past four years and will treasure it always.



God Bless Texas

Erin Brimberry Tynes

Have a wonderful summer