



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

President's Message

As November approaches, our thoughts turn toward the anniversary of the founding of our organization, originally called the Daughters of the Lone Star Republic. The first meeting was held in 1891 at the home of Mary Jane Briscoe, 620 Crawford Street, Houston. Seventeen ladies met at this location and founded our association that would become the most unique and significant organization in the State of Texas dedicated to the preservation of those historic sites so dear to every Texan's heart.

These women, our founders, who later became known as the Daughters of the Republic of Texas established an objective to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women of the Texas Revolution. They had the vision, the foresight, and the dedication and look what has been accomplished in the past 119 years.

Cora Carleton Glassford, San Jacinto Chapter, writes in the early 1940's:

Our organization has lived because it is founded on patriotism and love of country. We are proud that we can say we have accomplished the duties which we have set before ourselves. There are historical places that have been saved; laws have been passed for the good of all Texans; monuments rise on hallowed ground; markers tell us where our heroes loved and lived; schools are named for the men of Texas.

Our State DRT Founders Day is November 6 (Texas Honor Day) and our San Jacinto Chapter's Founders Day is November 9. Taking the name "San Jacinto" in honor of the most significant battle of the Western Hemisphere, our chapter was the second chapter organized. It immediately became one of our purposes to "acquire and mark the Battlegrounds of San Jacinto where our Republic was born."

We, the Daughters, were chosen by the Texas Veterans, those brave men who fought for liberty and independence, who bequeathed their memories and their deeds with an 'Undivided Texas' as a precious legacy to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, by them to be held in trust forever.

Please make an effort to join us as we pay tribute to our DRT Founders at the next chapter meeting on November 4. In addition, we will also be joining the Sidney Sherman chapter in Galveston on November 9, 2010 to celebrate Founders Day.

Erin Brimberry Tynes

October Hospitality Table



Welcomes Our Members

Margaret Standard



Margaret's Madness

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.

Carolyn Lightfoot elected District VI Representative



Congratulations to Carolyn Lightfoot for her election as District VI Representative, Board of Management. The election was held on September 25th at the District VI meeting. She will be installed at the State DRT Convention in May, 2011.

Carolyn is a Past President of our chapter, serving two terms from 2003-2007. She is a Past Chair of the State DRT Memorial Park Committee and is currently on Alamo Committee.

She is pictured (seated) with Sandra Meier, current District VI Representative.

Country Store



NEW STATE CAPITOL ORNAMENT

In celebration of fifteen years of Capitol preservation and education projects, the State Preservation Board is pleased to introduce the 2010 Capitol Ornament, fifteenth in a series of annual collectible ornaments.

This year's ornament combines many of the architectural and decorative elements featured in past ornaments and reflects a rich tradition of historic preservation embraced by Texans since 1996.

The Country Store

The Country Store is always open for business. Besides the array of children's books, there are many other Texas treats awaiting you as you shop. There is a wide variety of ornaments (that are so collectible) plus gifts galore for children and friends. Plan ahead and stock up on gift items for the coming holidays!

See you in my corner,

Luanne Zacek



Cindie Gruetzmacher
at the October Meeting

NEW MEMBERS

JULIE BIGELOW BOOKOUT
 ANCESTOR:
 ELIJAH RATLIFF

JANELLE AUTHUR
 ANCESTOR:
 CASPER HABERMACHER

EDITH MARIE KASPAREK
 ANCESTOR:
 CASPER HABERMACHER

MARY CARLISLE FISHER
 ANCESTOR:
 HENRY SCOTT

ALEXA NICOLE RUSS
 ANCESTOR:
 JOSEPH MIMS

WELCOME!

CYNTHIA JONES GRUETZMACHER
 SUPPLEMENTAL ANCESTOR
 DANIEL L. CULLINS

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP TO DATE
 345

MARGE HARRIS
 REGISTRAR,
 SAN JACINTO CHAPTER

PLEDGE FOR MEMBERS

Realizing that the heritage to eligibility in the society of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas is a sacred honor to be cherished, as a member of San Jacinto Chapter, I pledge myself to be faithful to its lofty ideals, and to guard its interests and achievements.



*The State Seal of Texas
 (Reverse)*

PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

Honor the Texas Flag,
 I pledge allegiance to thee,
 Texas, one state under God,
 one and indivisible.

CRT CALENDAR 2010-2011



**HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN DECORATING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2010, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2010, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Annual Toy Collection for Pediatric Unit
Ben Taub Hospital**

**PIONEER MEMORIAL LOG HOUSE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2011, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**CRT NEW MEMBER CEREMONY
JUNE 5, 2011, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
PIONEER MEMORIAL LOG HOUSE MUSEUM**

**CRT CONVENTION
FRIDAY-SATURDAY, JUNE 24-25, 2011
SHERATON ARLINGTON
1500 CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE
ARLINGTON, TX 76011
PHONE: (817) 261-8200 ~ FAX (817) 548-2873
RESERVATIONS: 1-800-325-3535**





Ann Bevil, Steven Howell and Eron Tynes

October 7, 2010, San Jacinto Chapter Program

Mr. Steven Howell, Executive Director of the Battleship Texas, spoke about the plans that are underway to construct a “dry dock” at the San Jacinto Battleground State Park. He presented facts about the Battleship Texas and her storied history. As a thank you, Mr. Howell was given a paperweight which is the San Jacinto Chapter’s sundial pin embedded in limestone salvaged from the San Jacinto Monument. The large bronze Sundial was commissioned and placed at the site of the Texian Army Camp. It was dedicated to the memory of the nine men who gave their lives at the Battleground for Texas liberty.

Ann Bevil, Second Vice President

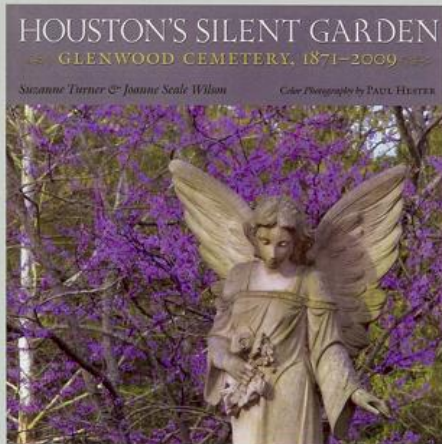
Texas History Firsts - Texas State Facts

- **1835** - The first offensive action of the Texas Revolution occurred in Goliad on October 9, 1835 when local colonists captured the fort and town.
- **1835** - On December 20, 1835 the first Declaration of Texas Independence was signed in Goliad and the first flag of Texas Independence was hoisted.
- **1836** - The state was an independent nation from 1836 to 1845.
- **1836** - Five sites served as temporary capitals of Texas: Washington-on-the-Brazos: Harrisburg: Galveston: Velasco: and Columbia. Sam Houston moved the capital to Houston in 1837. In 1839 the capital was moved to the new town of Austin.
- **1836** - The Republic of Texas, with Sam Houston as president, was born in 1836 following the war between American settlers in Texas and the Mexican government which featured the well known battle of the Alamo.
- **1840** - The capital city of Austin is located on the Colorado River in south-central Texas. The capitol building is made from Texas pink granite. It served as the capital of the Republic of Texas in 1840-1842.
- **1845** - When Texas was annexed in 1845 it retained the right to fly its flag at the same height as the national flag.
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Texas History Timeline, Revolution and the Republic of Texas

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

“Glenwood Cemetery: Houston’s Silent Garden” by Jim Parsons, Greater Houston Preservation Alliance, and Director, Museum of Houston, will be presented on November 4, 2010.



GLENWOOD CEMETERY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

This beautiful Cemetery is the resting place for many of Houston’s notables. Many familiar names, for example, Allen, Binz, Cummings, Foley, and Settegast. How appropriate with the celebration of Texas’ 175th Independence from Mexico to note the last President of the Republic of Texas, Dr. Anson Jones’ earthly remains are in this cemetery. It is also a showplace for late 19th and early 20th century monuments and statuary. This is just a small piece of information Jim Parsons will disseminate and reveal about this beautiful old cemetery.

Christmas Open House December 12, 2010

The Log House will be filled with wonderful sights and sounds as we celebrate a Christmas based on our ancestor’s observance of the holidays. The tree will be decorated, the fireplace ablaze and voices resounding as friends and family gather for this Yuletide festivity!



**Founders Day Luncheon
Galveston, Texas
November 9, 2010**



We have been invited by the Sidney Sherman Chapter to celebrate DRT Founder's Day to commemorate the founding of our two chapters. The Sidney Sherman Chapter and the San Jacinto Chapter are the two oldest chapters in the state.

We will leave Houston at 9:00 a.m. on November 9, 2010, from St. Luke's Methodist Church, 3471 Westheimer. There will be a short driving tour including the Sculptures of the Oak Trees of Galveston.

After Hurricane IKE many oak trees were dying because of the salt water flooding. Local artists shaped some of the trees into sculptures. Lunch will be at The Hotel Galvez and will cost \$25.00. We will visit *The Cradle* after lunch, returning to Houston around 4:00p.m. For other details, please see the attached registration form.

SAVE THE DATE



75th ANNIVERSARY TEA

PIONEER MEMORIAL LOG HOUSE

FEBRUARY 27, 2011

75th FUNDRAISING DINNER

PIONEER MEMORIAL LOG HOUSE

March 2, 2011

***Inactive Members effective
October 1, 2010***

SUSAN ALLEN
PAMELA BUTLER
EMILY DWYER
NANCY GUEST
NANCY HUDGINS
BETTY ISBELL
KRISTEN ROBERSON
KATHRYN SCOTT
KATHERINE SULLIVAN
MARINELL TRAYLOR

Newsletter Editor
Bt.stover@sbcglobal.net
Brenda Stover
Co-Editor Phyllis Moody

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



BUILT IN HONOR OF THE TEXAS CENTENNIAL

As we continue with the history of the Log House . . .

The following was written by Sarah Groce Berlet, Log House Building Chairman, in October 1934 to Mayor Oscar Holcombe:

We present for your serious consideration the following plan and purpose of a Texas pioneer shrine in the City of Houston, as a land mark for all time, and a mecca for Centennial visitors and celebrants in 1936.

In as much as our Texas forefathers had as their only available building materials hand hewn logs, there being no saw mills in our sovereign state until about 1830, it seems entirely fitting and proper that a log cabin be constructed, using logs to be secured from, and donated by patriotic land owners of wooded sections in the immediate vicinity of the city of Houston.

It would seem a splendid civic movement, worth in dollars and cents infinitely more, than the intrinsic value of such vacant property, as it would become necessary for the city of Houston to grant, with the sanction and approval of the city fathers.

The log cabin shrine, it is suggested, is to be furnished in the manner and style of early pioneer days and would house heirlooms and objects of historical interest of that period.

We suggest that ladies of San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, serve in alternate relays as hostesses, during the Centennial, to extend traditional southern hospitality and a cup of coffee or tea to all Centennial visitors, and be prepared to answer questions concerning Texas history.

As a final factor in its favor unemployed carpenters and others in allied trades necessary to such a project may be gainfully employed.

We hope for favorable consideration both by the City Council, and the Centennial Planning Commission, and if it does meet with their approval, we ask that San Jacinto Chapter be appointed custodians of the shrine, and be allowed to use it as a chapter home.

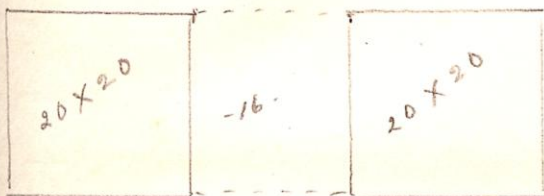
From the October, 1934 minutes:

. . . Mayor Oscar Holcomb seemed pleased with the idea. He said it was feasible, and that personally he would do all he could to advance the plan. However, he advised against taking the matter up with the City Council at that time, as they were in the midst of their campaigns, but that he would submit the plan to them after the election.

A called meeting was held on January 11, 1935, where a sketch of the house was drawn.

After much discussion, the President suggested a call meeting at the Library on January 11th. to decide the ~~plan~~ plan of the Log House.

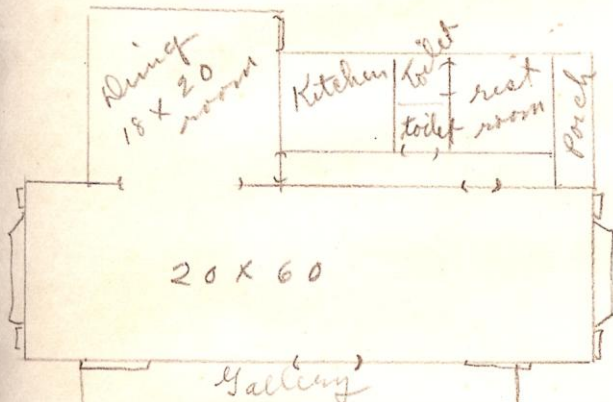
At this meeting, January 11th. , a black board was used by Mrs. Berlet to illustrate several pioneer log homes. she first drew one large room 20 by 20 ft. then 16 ft. over, she drew another room 20 by 20 ft.



This style of house was called a double log house with a run-way or "dog trot" between. The pioneers in time boarded up the open

passage , and another room was the result.

As members recommended omissions and additions, she erased and drew with chalk, until all seemed satisfied with the result as follows.



Mrs. E. T. Adkins suggested that the chapter members save green trading stamps, for the purpose of accumulating silver for the future home.

Mrs. Adkins was appointed Chairman by Mrs. Ramsey, of the Silver Committee.

It was suggested that a letter be written to five hundred patriotic Houstonians asking donations toward building the log house.

On February 3, 1935, Mrs. Berlet sent the letter below to Mayor Holcombe along with a pen sketch of the proposed Log House:

Hon. Oscar Holcombe,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Mayor Holcombe:-

We, the Pioneer Memorial Committee of San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, submit the enclosed tentative plan for the log house, and hope it meets with your approval,- but we would be glad for any suggestion you may offer for its improvement. It is larger than most of the pioneer homes, but is drawn from descriptions and pictures of the true pioneer type, with the addition of the modern kitchen and rest room, which will not be under the main roof, but an old-fashioned "lean-to".

The logs for the house have been donated by Mr. Robert H. Morris, President of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, and we only await the site on Buffalo Drive, which you promised, to begin our entertainments and solicitations for this most worthy memorial, which we hope to have finished and furnished in time for Houston City's one hundredth anniversary, as well as the Texas Centennial.

In selecting the site for this log house we should bear in mind to place it above possible overflow. We notice there are several small areas between the drive and Buffalo River between Waugh Drive and Shepherd Drive, and we were wondering if one of these would not be a suitable place for it.

Again thanking you for your co-operation and valuable contribution, we are,

Very truly,

PIONEER MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Mrs. George Berlet

Chairman.