



The Daughters of the Republic of Texas
SAN JACINTO CHAPTER
THE SAN JACINTO DISPATCH



! The President's Message !

September 2009

September . . . the end of summer and the beginning of a new *SJC-DRT* year. While it is still quite warm, it has been one brutal summer and one to remember for years to come. As we are acknowledging the one year anniversary of Ike and still rebuilding, all of us hold our breaths anxiously awaiting the next possible hurricane threat. It is a challenge living on the Texas Gulf Coast.

Even though most of us don't follow a school calendar, September is the beginning of our calendar year. People return from summer vacations, the weather becomes cooler and the lazy days of summer are behind us. As we begin again this fall, there is always a sense of renewal and commitment to those ideals that we cherish. Our heritage that grants us the privilege of belonging to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas is a unique responsibility.

As usual both the Log House Board and the San Jacinto Chapter Board have been meeting all summer planning for the upcoming year. Anita Cooper and the Yearbook Committee have been busy re-organizing the yearbook into a binder format. Ann Bevil has scheduled Larry Spasic, San Jacinto Museum of History, for our October speaker, as well as many more interesting programs. Also, we will be hosting the Sidney Sherman Chapter, of Galveston, for a Founder's Day Luncheon on November 5, our regular meeting day.

For those of you who have not visited our Log House over the summer, you will be in for a delightful surprise. After years of fundraising, Brooks Cottage and the storage shed have finally been renovated over the summer and finished in August. Special thanks go to Gwen Kunz and Esther Simon for assisting with overseeing this project. Other Log House Board members who have also dedicated time and effort are Brenda Auld, Nancy Burch, Martha Haydel, Kae Theilen and Luanne Zacek.

Gonzales Day, October 2, a Texas Honor Day is fast approaching. The Battle of Gonzales is considered the first military engagement of the Texas Revolution. It was fought near the Mexican Texas town of Gonzales on October 2, 1835 between rebellious Texian settlers and a detachment of Mexican army troops. Although it was minor as a military engagement, the skirmish marked a clear break between the American colonists and the Mexican government. The Texians raised a homemade white banner, with an image of the cannon painted in black in the center and the words ***Come and Take It!*** (Source – Wikipedia)

As Daughters we must always remember that the Texas Veterans . . . *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.*

If we do not preserve our Texas History and teach our children and grandchildren what it means to be a Texan, how will they know who they are? Where would we be, were it not for the bravery, courage, and sacrifice of these pioneer men and women of the Texas Revolution who were so willing to give their lives for liberty and independence? When we talk about Texas, not only are we honoring the memory and spirit of our pioneer ancestors, but we are educating the children of Texas about their roots and the legacy of our pioneer ancestors.

Please join us this coming year as we work together to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the independence of Texas.

Eron Brimberry Tynes, President



2009-2010 San Jacinto Chapter Programs

Thursday, October 1, 2009

“Historical Perspective and Its Relevance to Texans Today”

Larry Spasic, President, the San Jacinto Museum

Thursday, November 5, 2009

“Obedience Smith (1771-1847) Pioneer of Three American Frontiers—Her Ancestors and Descendants”

Audrey Barrett Cook

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Christmas Luncheon

Details to be Announced

Thursday, January 7, 2010

“The Life and Times of Texas Patriot, Dr. Charles B. Stewart, (1806—1885)”

Pat Spackey, Descendant of Dr. Charles B. Stewart and
President, Judge Nathaniel Hart Davis DRT Chapter and
Jack Shepherd, Montgomery Historical Society

Thursday, February 4, 2010

“Freedman’s Town Community Archaeological Digs”

Dr. Carol McDavid and Ms. Debra Blacklock Sloan

Thursday, March 4, 2010

Annual Field Trip to Liendo Plantation

Details to be Announced

Thursday, April 1, 2010

“Buffalo Bayou, An Echo of Houston’s Wilderness Beginnings”

by Louis F. Aulbach and Linda C. Gorski

Thursday, May 6, 2010

“Was the Civil War in Texas Important?”

by Edward T. Cotham

Memorial Service for Departed Members

Thursday, June 3, 2010

End of Year Luncheon

New Member Welcome Service

DRT Convention Report

Details to be Announced

bt.stover@sbcglobal.net

Brenda Stover, Newsletter Editor

Phyllis Moody, Co-editor

**District VI Meeting
Washington on the Brazos**



Standing: Luanne Zacek, Carolyn Lightfoot, Tamara Kittleson, Phyllis Moody, Kae Theilen, Brenda Auld and Linda Beverlin
Seated: Eron Tynes, Anita Cooper, Sue Montgomery and Martha Haydel

**Anita Cooper elected
District VI Nominating Committee Representative**

On August 29, 2009 the annual District VI workshop was held at Washington-on-the Brazos State Park. The host chapter was the Dr. Richard Fox Brenham Chapter. Sandra Meier, District VI Representative chaired the workshop.

Reports were given by the Board of Management, State Committee Chairs and District VI Chapter Presidents. Anita Cooper, San Jacinto Chapter, was elected as the District VI Nominating Committee Representative for the State DRT Nominating Committee and Mary Wigham, Dr. Richard Fox Brenham Chapter, was elected as the Alternate.

San Jacinto Chapter members in attendance were Carolyn Lightfoot, Linda Beverlin, Sue Montgomery, Phyllis Moody, Luanne Zacek, Kae Theilen, Tamara Kittleson, Martha Haydel, Anita Cooper and Eron Tynes.

Attendance Award

The San Jacinto Chapter Board will award one year complimentary dues to a chapter member for 2010-2011. How to enter-Attend every chapter meeting and sign the book. The members who attend the most meetings will have their names entered in a drawing. The drawing will take place at our June Luncheon, June 3, 2009.



NEW MEMBERS

Alice Cabrera Calderon
Marcus Cabrera, Ancestor

Angela Cochran Mahmarian
Richard E. Hooper, Ancestor

Charlene Lusk Dwyer
Robert O. Lusk,, Ancestor

Emily Ursula Dwyer
Robert O. Lusk, Ancestor

Michaelene "Miki" Norton
Robert O. Lusk, Ancestor

Annette Lusk Segura
Robert O. Lusk, Ancestor

WELCOME

SJC-DRT Officers 2009-2011

President Eron Brimberry Tynes
First Vice President Anita Cooper
Second Vice President Ann Bevil
Third Vice President Loretta Williams
Fourth Vice President Luanne Zacek
Fifth Vice President Esther Simon
Chaplain Mary Jane Harmon
Recording Secretary Ann Tanner
Corresponding Secretary Sally Whittington
Treasurer Tamara Kittleson
Registrar Marje Harris
CRT Registrar Marilyn Chapman
Historian Martha Haydel
Advisors Brenda Auld and Phyllis Moody

Parliamentarian Nancy Burch

Historical Perspective and Its Relevance to Texans Today **By Larry Spasic**

Join us for our first meeting of the 2009-2010 year on October 1, 2009 at 10:00 am to hear Larry Spasic's gleanings on our Texas history significance in our lives today. We are looking forward to Larry Spasic's insightfulness on Texans in today's world with a historical perspective.

Larry Spasic is truly special to the San Jacinto Chapter, just as he says we (the San Jacinto Chapter) are special to him. His personal history with the Daughters of the Republic began when he received the Texas History Teacher of the Year Award in 1988. The San Jacinto Museum of History staff acquired him as the Curator of Education in 1989. He was unanimously elected President of the San Jacinto Museum of History by the Board of Trustees in 2006.

A light brunch will be served at 10:00 A. M. followed by Larry's presentation and the meeting.



DAUGHTERS WORKING TOGETHER AT ALAMO HALL



Yesterday Past President General Tookie Walthall, granddaughter Ashley Carter and I met 30 DRT members who arrived from around the state to paint Alamo Hall.

Photos had been sent out showing the colors being used but could not do justice to the vibrant and fresh hues being applied to the walls of old firehouse #2 now known as Alamo Hall. The new colors along with hand cleaning made Clara Driscoll's magnificent chandelier and sconces come alive.

District VII Rep. Melinda Navarro and daughter Nicole climbed fifteen foot ladders to change light bulbs and return the light fixtures freshly washed by Darlene Glover.

Alamo Committee member Melba Stout met with cabinet makers for estimates as well as arranged for the food that was prepared and served to the volunteers. Cheryl Embrey, Patsy Kuykendall, Gladys Clark, Arciela Perez-Davis and Barbara Wright brought food and made sandwiches for the hungry crew. Delitha Guenzel sent her famous cookies and crackers. Health food fanatic Tookie Walthall provided fresh cherries and apples, while junk food junkies Melba and Kathleen provided cookies to keep the worker bees going. Crystal Hamby delivered ten gallons of tea donated by Bush's Chicken in Castroville.

District Attorney Susan Reed arrived early to drop off drinks, survey the work in progress and huddle with project manager Pam Konopka of Bertram. Susie Brooks from Argyle washed and prepared the kitchen woodwork followed by Judy Tannehill applying the primer. Collette Herzog of Houston and Christine Lutrell could hardly wait to see what the support columns would look like after the application of the hard to describe buttery/orange color. The colors make your heart sing! Shirley Dyer and Jeannie Travis both contributors to the project, couldn't believe the progress being made.

Second VP Gen. Roxanne Schoen arrived with Pam's three adorable children to survey the work in progress and lend support to her talented daughter. Pleading altitude sickness or suffering from paint fumes, I do not have the names of the extraordinary ladies from Smiley, the dynamic trio from Poteet or even the other volunteers from San Antonio, but the important thing is that they were there performing a labor of love just as our ancestors did.

And where were President General Patti Atkins, Alamo Committee Chairman Virginia Van Cleave, Special Task Force Chairman Mary Carmack and Retiring President General Madge Roberts? Why they were tending to DRT and Alamo business while putting out fires.

Still lots to be done, the wish list is long--with kitchen cabinets and shelving high priority. Word is the cost of flooring is covered with help from previous and one new vendor benefactor.

If you want to be a part of this project join us in person to work or simply to see or make a contribution. Make checks to

Alamo Hall Refurbishing Fund
The Alamo
PO Box 2599
San Antonio, Texas 78299
Attn: Margie Purcell

PS: The new Gift Museum Supervisor is getting high praise from staff, supervisors, vendors and DRT members.

Kathleen M. Carter



Lineage Fair at CLAYTON LIBRARY CENTER FOR GENEALOGY RESEARCH

5300 Caroline, Houston, Texas 77004

Saturday, October 17, 2009 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

San Jacinto Chapter, DRT, will participate in the annual Clayton Lineage Fair next month. Here is an opportunity for our members to bring prospective members by to meet your SJC representatives. There will be at our table all the necessary application forms, worksheets, and other information that is needed to make application for membership to DRT.

Clayton Library is hosting a Lineage Fair where interested individuals can come and talk with representatives from local chapters of lineage societies. Each lineage society will have information available about their society. In addition, there will be mini-seminars conducted all day long. A list and sign-up sheet of the available seminars will be available at the front desk of Clayton Library beginning in October. Seating for the seminars is limited so please sign up early.

If you would enjoy being at the fair and assisting at the San Jacinto Chapter table for a couple of hours, please contact Phyllis Moody, 713-621-1884 moodlyphyll@pdq.net

Participating Organizations:

Cherokee National Historical Society

Mayflower Descendants

National Society Daughters of Founders

And Patriots of America

National Society Magna Charta

National Society of New England Women

Sons of the American Revolution

Sons of the Republic of Texas

United States Daughters of 1812

United Daughters of the Confederacy

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Sons of Union Veterans

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Jamestowne Society

Colonial Dames of the XVII Century

Children of the American Revolution

Children of the Confederacy

Daughters of the American Colonists

Daughters of the American Revolution

Daughters of the Cincinnati

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

Descendants of San Jacinto

First Families of Louisiana

Huguenot Society of America

Lorenzo de Zavala (1789-1836)



HISD Harris County Historical Commission and the Magnolia Park Historical Preservation Association invite you to the rededication and unveiling of an official Texas Historical Commission Marker for Lorenzo de Zavala on October 6, 2009 at 10 a.m. Lorenzo de Zavala Elementary School. 7521 Avenue H, Houston, Texas 77012.

Three miles east of San Jacinto is the home site and grave of a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence and first vice-president of the Republic of Texas--an illustrious statesman of two nations. He was born in Mexico. Lorenzo de Zavala, an ardent liberal and earnest advocate of democratic reforms served his native country as representative in the Spanish cortes, Madrid; minister of the treasury; president of Chamber of Deputies; governor of State of Mexico and ambassador to France. De Zavala tired of Santa Anna's tyranny, resigned his ambassadorship and moved here in 1835. When Mexican officials learned of his taking refuge in Texas and ordered his arrest, he became a strong leader in the cause for Texas independence. Voters in Harrisburg sent him in 1835 to the Consultation at San Felipe de Austin and later to the Independence Convention at Washington-on-the-Brazos. The de Zavala home, a plank-covered log house across from San Jacinto battleground, served as a hospital for both sides after the battle. An observer on the scene described de Zavala as "the most interesting man in Texas."



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.

Brooks Cottage Before Redo



Brooks Cottage After Redo



Friends of the Log House

Things have been quiet at the Log House this long hot summer. We are looking forward to filling our rooms again with the lively voices and smiling faces of our San Jacinto Chapter members. We need to feel your renewed energy for another year of listening, learning and sharing in the quest to better know the history of our great state.

Again, we remind you that a new fiscal year has begun for the Log House. If you have not received an acknowledgement note from *Friends* this summer, then your membership from the previous year has expired. It is time, once again, to join the ranks of Log House supporters, home of the San Jacinto Chapter and teaching center for Texas History.

Remember that you can send a tax-free donation to memorialize family or friends or honor them on special occasions. Membership is open to non-members as well; anyone who loves Texas history can be a *Friend*.

We look forward to having every one of our members participate this year in Friends of the Log House.

Martha Haydel
Chair, FLH