

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

November 2018

Ken Wise Shares Historical True Texas Tales: First Texas Flight and A Saga of Three Emmas

Justice Ken Wise told some stories at our November meet. Native Houston and fifth generation Texan, Ken's passion for history led him to create "Wise About Texas", a Texas history podcast. With a trove of oft unknown Texas stories, he told some compelling tales!

The First Texas Flight: Despite claims that Texan Jacob Brodbeck flew an "air-ship" near Luckenbach in 1865, the first confirmed Texas winged flight took place in South Houston on February 18, 1910. Made by Frenchman, Louis Paulhan, the historic flight was filmed by a camera and witnessed by a crowd. Within 2 weeks, army Lt. Benjamin Foulois completed a similar feat in San Antonio. Three years later, the army's First Aero Squadron was assigned to Texas City with a nine plane "fleet". Others advanced aviation. Sisters Marjorie and Katherine Stinson of San Antonio became women pilots. Wiley Post and Howard Hughes continued it into 1930's and after. During both World Wars, the area's terrain and climate were ideal for flight training. Air facilities used to train thousands of aviation pros established Texas as a key resource in flight technology, still today in an age of manned spacecraft.

The Three Emmas: A story of adultery, murder and three women named Emma. Most prominent is Emma Koehler, wife of Otto Koehler, president of San Antonio's Pearl Brewery in the early 1900's. In 1910 Emma was injured in an auto accident. So Otto hired a live-in nurse to help care for her...a young, attractive nurse named Emma with the nickname of Emmi. Otto and Emmi began an affair.

Emmi had a tall, blonde friend in her 30s also named Emma, also a nurse. Otto set the two of them up in a little house and was soon having affairs with both. But Emmi met a man she wanted to marry. Otto then proposed to the other Emma. She turned him down.

On November 12, 1914, Otto left the brewery to visit them at the house. A quarrel ensued and tall, blonde Emma shot him dead with a revolver. Tall Emma claimed self defense but was charged with murder. She fled to Europe to care for wounded World War I soldiers, but returned to San Antonio 3 years later to stand trial.

In January, 1918, an all male jury found her not guilty. In 1919, she went to New Orleans and married a member of the jury. They returned to San Antonio and moved into the cottage! "Emmi" got married and was not heard from again.

As for Emma Koehler, remarkably she kept the Pearl Brewery in operation during the Prohibition Era (1919-1933) by creatively expanding business lines to include ice making, soda bottling, and even auto repair. She retired in 1933, yet her presence remained strong at the brewery until her death in 1947. Emma's legend lives on. A boutique hotel aptly named The Emma opened in 2015 in the building that was the original Pearl's Brewhouse.



From the President

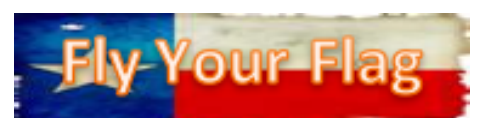
Dear Daughters,

Well, November is here and with the mid-term election over, we can now look forward to being inundated with Christmas commercials instead of election ads. A welcome respite!

Our Christmas luncheon will be on December 6th at Tony's and a flyer is included in this newsletter. Please send your check in as soon as possible and come celebrate the Christmas and Holiday Season. Again this year we'll be collecting gifts for Mission of Yahweh, a shelter for displaced women and their children. Please bring your **new, unwrapped** gifts to the Christmas luncheon and we'll see that they are delivered.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and I hope to see you at the Christmas Luncheon.

Laura-Hill Taylor,
President





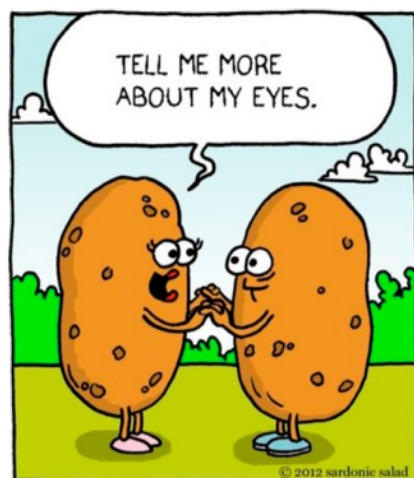
Question: What do you call a potato at a sports event?

Answer: A spec-tater. :-)

Don't be a "Spec-tater"! Come to the Baked Potato Lunch and enjoy social time.

The Baked Potato Lunch will be on Monday, December 3rd at 11:30 at the Log House. With the Christmas Luncheon being held at Tony's, the Log House won't have a tree to decorate, but come and enjoy social time with members. RSVPs must be received by Friday, November 30th. RSVP to Liz Leifeste at liz.leifeste@sbcglobal.net or 713.621.1754.

Some "work time" starts at 9 a.m. on December 3rd, prior to the potato lunch. The office and parlor need to be cleaned out and straightened up, so please help out. We need all hands on deck. Work and lunch are casual events so the dress code is jeans and tennis shoes!



In the words of Marje Harris...
**"Hot dogs and cold cats,
we have a new member!"**

New Member (33419):

Victoria Elizabeth Pavey

Ancestor:

Leander Calvin Cunningham

Birthday:

July 19

Approved:

October 30, 2018

Sponsors:

Liz Leifeste and Marje Harris

UPnext, December 6 - Christmas Luncheon

**SAVE
THE DATE!**

**Christmas
Luncheon
Thursday
December 6,
2018**



San Jacinto Chapter
Christmas Holiday Luncheon
Thursday, December 6, 2018
at Tony's
3755 Richmond Ave.
Houston, TX 77046

**Please bring a new, unopened toy
for a child. Toys will be donated to the
Women and Children's Shelter.**

You may confirm your reservation now
by sending your check for \$38 to:

Laura-Hill Taylor

5646 Grape St

Houston, TX 77096-1114

See invitation flyer in this newsletter.



Bring a Toy! Bring Some Joy!

We ask all Christmas luncheon attendees to bring a new, unopened toy for a child. Toys will be donated to the Women and Children's Shelter. Toy donations are the only Christmas gifts children who live at the shelter will receive.

The Women and Children's Shelter Transitional home, operated by the Mission of Yahweh, is a faith-based shelter for homeless women in crisis and their children. The shelter provides refuge, food, clothing and shelter. They are committed to helping women become self-sufficient, productive members of society. The shelter has approximately 1,600 residential stays per month.

Christmas is a very difficult time for women and children at the shelter. They often arrive on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The shelter wants to provide each child with at least one Christmas gift.

Jamie Moran and daughter Deborah Liss-Frank have helped the Mission of Yahweh Shelter for many years. Jamie and Deborah will deliver the toys to the shelter in plenty of time for Christmas. Bring a toy to lunch; bring some joy to a child!

Calendar of Events, San Jacinto Chapter

2018

| | | |
|-------------|--|----------|
| November 29 | Executive Board Meets Pioneer Memorial Log House | 11:00 am |
| December 6 | Christmas Luncheon Tony's Restaurant Speaker, Peggy Carter | 11:30 am |

2019

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| January 10 | Chapter Meeting Pioneer Memorial Log House | 10:00 Social /10:30 Meeting |
| January 24 | Executive Board Meets | 11:00 am |
| February 7 | Chapter Meeting Pioneer Memorial Log House | 10:00 Social /10:30 Meeting |
| February 28 | Executive Board Meets | 11:00 am |
| March 7 | Chapter Field Trip | 10:00 - 12:00 pm |
| March 12 | Texas History Pioneer Day | |
| March 29 | Executive Board Meets | 11:00 am |
| April 4 | Chapter Meeting Pioneer Memorial Log House | 10:00 Social /10:30 Meeting |
| April 21 | San Jacinto Day Ceremony <i>Presentation of SJC Scholarships</i> San Jacinto Battleground Battle Reenactment www.sanjacinto-museum.org | 10:00 am 3:00 pm |
| April 25 | Executive Board Meets Pioneer Memorial Log House | 11:00 am |
| May 2 | Chapter Meeting Pioneer Memorial Log House | 10:00 Social /10:30 Meeting |
| May 30 thru June 1 | DRT Annual Convention Austin, Details to be Announced | |
| May 30 | Executive Board Meets Pioneer Memorial Log House | 11:00 am |
| June 6 | June Luncheon BraeBurn Country Club 8101 Bissonnet | 11:30 am |



Lift a Heart, Lift a Spirit

Lift up Esther Simon

A member of our board, Esther Simon, lives in a Retirement Facility at 505 Bering Drive in Houston. Esther is recovering from a recent illness and is homebound. As a chapter, we'd like to reach out to her.

We encourage those who know Esther to please visit her from time to time. This will surely lift her spirits. Thank you!

Get well soon, Esther!



Honor and Memorial Days

November 3

Stephen F. Austin Birthday (1793)

November 6

DRT Founders Day (1891)

December 9

Siege of Bexar Day (1835)

2019

January 26

Mirabeau B. Lamar Day,
Father of Education

February 19

Texas Statehood Day (1846)

March 2

Texas Independence Day (1836)
Sam Houston's Birthday (1793)

March 6

Alamo Heroes Day (1836)

March 27

Goliad Heroes Day (1836)

April 21

San Jacinto Day (1836)



Program Schedule 2018-2019

December 6, 2018

Christmas Luncheon, Tony's
New Member Ceremony
Entertainment by:

Peggy Carter,
hammered dulcimer

January 10, 2019

Roundtable:

Sharing Histories of Our Own
Republic of Texas Ancestors

February 7, 2018

Mike Vance, The Making of the
"Birth of Texas" Movie Series

March 7, 2018

Field Trip:

San Jacinto Battlefield

Tour Guide:

Eron Tynes Brimberry
Lunch at Monument Inn

April 4, 2018

Linda Martin
The Houston Hogg Family -
Beyond Ima

May 2, 2018

To be announced.

June 6, 2018

June Luncheon



The WRITE STUFF:

Please bring #2 pencils to any meeting. We send them to our Texas History Teacher, Karen James, Landrum Middle School in Spring Branch. Karen never denies pencils to any of her students. It is an ongoing need.

Special Thanks!

A big thanks goes out to our October meeting social committee members - Luanne Zacek, Laura-Hill Taylor, Susan Stormer, Sally Whittington, Hope Davis, Jamie Moran, Diane Stachowiak, and Sharolyn Wood. Their refreshments were delightful.

For our November meet, yummy refreshments were provided by Jamie Moran, Beth McCarty, Liz Leifeste, Martha Jorgenson and Sharolyn Wood. Thank you ladies! If you'd like to bring a tasty tidbit for an upcoming meeting, please contact Gwen Koch at jkoch11949@att.net or call (713) 826-9061. Refreshments are a meaningful part of our social time. Great food connects new and old friends. Please try to attend one or more of our meetings. You're sure to enjoy yourself. The speakers are wonderful. Guests are welcome too!



Texas Trivia More Fun Facts



Austin Driskill Hotel



Waco, Tx, 1939

Dr Pepper was invented in Waco, 1885. Original formula Dr Pepper is made in Dublin, Texas. There is no period after the Dr in Dr Pepper.

Rodeo is the official state sport. High School Football is more popular.

Early Spanish missionaries in Texas encouraged European values by offering flannel underwear to Native Americans.

50 years ago you could be jailed dispensing or discussing birth control.

75% of the world's Snickers bars are made in Waco.

It's illegal in Texas to put graffiti on someone else's cow.

Lubbock is the largest city in the United States that is dry.

The Amarillo airport has the 3rd largest runway in the world and is a designated alternate landing site for the space shuttle.

The smallest Catholic church in the world in operation claims to be in Warrenton, Texas. It's 12 x 15 feet with 15 seats, open once a year.

Spitting on the sidewalk is illegal in Texas.

A ghost supposedly exists on Austin's Driskill Hotel's 5th floor.

The first suspension bridge in the U.S. was the Waco Bridge. Built in 1870, it's used today as a pedestrian crossing of the Brazos River.

The 2nd largest U.S. rock is Enchanted Rock with 130 sq mi of surface.

Cattle Rustling is still a "hanging offense" in Texas.

The all American meal, the hamburger, was created in Athens, Texas.

The world's first rodeo was held in Pecos on July 4, 1883.

A coastal live oak near Fulton is the oldest tree in the state, estimated at over 1,500 years old.

The oldest human skeleton ever found in the Western Hemisphere was discovered in 1953 near Midland, Texas.

More than 70,000 miles of highways span the state of Texas.

Texas has four national forests - Angelina, Davy Crockett, Sabine and Sam Houston.

And two national parks - Big Bend and Guadalupe Mountains.

Texas has 90 mountains a mile high or higher. Guadalupe Peak in West Texas at 8,751 feet being the tallest.

According to archaeologists, one of the oldest areas of human habitation in North America is a site near Lubbock, Texas. It dates back to the Clovis period 12,000 years ago.

Horse owners in Texarkana may not ride them at night without taillights.

Waco is one of only two cities in the U.S. that has a radio station whose call letters spell out the name of the city.

Source: <https://www.legendsofamerica.com/tx-facts/>





San Jacinto Chapter, DRT Christmas Luncheon

*Thursday, December 6, 2018
11:30 a.m.*

*Tony's
3755 Richmond Ave.
Houston, TX 77046*



Bosc Pear Salad

*Fresh greens & sliced pears in an apple cider vinaigrette
with organic goat cheese and spiced pecans*

Choice of Entrée

*Chicken Involtino – stuffed with spinach, sundried tomatoes and fontina cheese
or*

Grilled Texas Redfish with bianco sauce and asparagus

Dessert - Tuxedo Cake

Devil's food cake, mascarpone and chocolate mousse with Heath crunch

Coffee, tea, rolls

Complimentary valet paring

Make your Christmas Luncheon reservations by December 1st

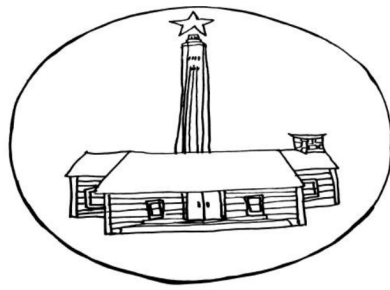
_____ Number of reservations at \$38 per person \$ _____

For more than 1 reservation, please list the names on the back of this form

**Make your reservation to:
San Jacinto Chapter**

**Send your check to:
Laura-Hill Taylor
5646 Grape St.
Houston, TX 77096-1114**





Pioneer Memorial Log House

November 2018

Dear Daughters of the Republic of Texas,

As our calendar year comes to a close, The San Jacinto Chapter needs your annual support for our cherished Pioneer Memorial Log House. She is 82 years old, and in need of expensive preservation and maintenance.

The Log House was built by the San Jacinto Chapter for the Texas Centennial in 1936 to serve as a Hospitality House for the City of Houston on donated land in Hermann Park. San Jacinto Chapter ladies raised the money for the log house to be built by two men using a portable "sawmill" in the middle of the Great Depression. It still offers hospitality with monthly open houses, private tours, chapter meetings and rentals for events.

Our mission is to Teach Texas. Groups like Friends of the Log House and San Jacinto Chapter DRT work to maintain Texas History with our stories and display of artifacts relating to early Texas and the contribution of women during this period.

Currently, the main meeting room has no heat or adequate cooling. In fact, we had to cancel last January's chapter meeting because we had no heat for the extremely cold day. And at last year's Christmas Luncheon, everyone had to keep their coats on because the log house was so cold due to the broken heater - which is why this year's luncheon will be at Tony's. Appropriate climate control for the log house is a necessity to keep us cool during the Texas heat and warm on those bone chilling days. The Log House must be maintained in order to continue serving as a hospitality center promoting Texas history. While Hurricane Harvey did not flood the log house, it did flood our grounds and Texas Heritage Garden featuring plants and trees native to the state as well as those brought by pioneers as reminders of their former homes. Volunteers have been nurturing the grounds but funds are needed for mulch, replacement of plants, erosion control, irrigation upgrades, rebuilding the grape arbor, leveling and repaving the parking lot and regular grounds upkeep. We are a little garden oasis of Hermann Park.

Needs include:

- Foundation repair
- Replacement of damaged logs, treatment and sealant for all logs, chinking as needed
- Repair/replacement of the porches and handicap ramp
- Upgrade of the lighting inside and out
- Replacement of HVAC system
- Landscape and drainage improvements including the Grape Arbor and parking lot
- Install full size hot water heater and closet

The Log House Committee is collecting three bids for each of the projects. The total of the identified preservation and maintenance items may be about \$100,000. As you know from your own home remodeling and maintenance, bids can be very different. We appreciate those of you who have provided possible funding source suggestions for the Log House. All possible sources will be studied for our eligibility to apply.

Please support our efforts to preserve this beloved place so we can continue the important work of Teaching Texas. Foundations and major funding sources want to see that the majority of our members are supporting this project. Any gift amount is appreciated. Some members make several smaller donations throughout our year, June 1-May 31, which will be combined for their higher Friend of the Log House Donor Level. All gifts are tax deductible. A donor form is attached.

We hope you and your family enjoy this holiday season. Thank you for your generous support and God Bless Texas!

Sincerely,

Gwen Koch
4th Vice President, Ways and Means

PIONEER MEMORIAL LOG HOUSE

Become a "Friend of the Log House"

to help preserve the house and grounds.

Membership levels



A gift of any amount is appreciated and you will be recognized as a *Friend of the Log House*.

Donor Name _____
(as you wish to be printed)

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

General Contribution \$ _____

Contribution In Memory of / In Honor of \$ _____

Send card to: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to San Jacinto Chapter DRT

and mail donations to Gwen Koch (4th Vice President – Ways and Means)

2015 Banks St., Houston, Texas 77098

★★★★★★★★PMLH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES★★★★★★★★

How I can help:

- ☐ Restoration Projects
- ☐ Tours / Docents / Greet visitors at monthly Open House
- ☐ Assist with identifying craftsmen and professionals for maintenance projects
- ☐ Assist with opening log house for special events
- ☐ Texas Heritage Garden: Assist with maintenance and beautification of grounds
- ☐ Spread the word about Log House Event Rental

All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. San Jacinto Chapter DRT is a 501 (c) (3) organization.