



Registrar's Corner

A bit of trivia for you!

What does a new member of the San Jacinto Chapter look like?

The Process:

A total of 59 Applications submitted and approved during June 2021 through February 2023 were analyzed. This represents 20% of our current membership.

Biographies collected were also analyzed.

Applicants ranged from 16 to 95 years of age. Supplemental applications and posthumous were not included in the sample.

Results:

The average age of these new members is 52 years old. 50% of this group are under 50 years old.

90% possess a college education or an advanced degree.

About 11% are attorneys and 8% health care professionals. Another 10% are educators. The balance were artists and business people.

All are computer literate except the very elderly in their 80's and 90's.

An overwhelming amount of this group are 6th and 7th generation Texans with one 10th generation Texan.

18% are single or widowed.

I had the pleasure of meeting most of them and they come in all shapes and sizes too!
You are great and I loved working with you and meeting each one!

Debra Grigsby
San Jacinto Chapter Registrar
Dgrig1@comcast.net

From the President:

As we mentioned last month, April and May are busy months in the life of our San Jacinto Chapter. At our April 6th Chapter Meeting, we received a quilt honoring the Log House from our District VI Representative along with pins from the 2020 Convention. Our guest speaker was Jim Bailey, who told us about the iconic courthouses in Texas, the oldest being built in 1861 in Linden, Texas! Several of our members spent San Jacinto Day, April 21st, and Family Day, April 22nd, at the San Jacinto Monument and Battlefield. April 30th, we held our Education Reception at the Log House where we honored our Essay Contest Winners and our Scholarship Winners. May 4 – 6 was the National DRT Convention at Moody Gardens in Galveston. We were well-represented with 16 members attending! May 11th, at our Chapter Meeting, we held our Annual Memorial Service honoring the nine DRT Sisters we have lost this year. We look forward to our Spring Luncheon on June 1st at Braeburn Country Club where we will initiate our new members and install our new officers for 2023 – 2025.

I have truly enjoyed serving as your President for the last four years! Who knew in June 2019 that we would survive a global pandemic and that terms like "Zoom" and "Hybrid Meetings" would become a part of our regular chapter vocabulary?! Who knew that we would earn a Six-Star Award and two Chapter Growth Awards (90 new members in the last two years!)? Who knew we would completely renovate Brooks' Cottage, get a new kitchen floor in the Log House, and restore the 87-year-old logs inside and out? We became actively involved with our national DRT organization and several SRT chapters; we grew our CRT chapter, elected officers and wrote CRT Bylaws; we started some new committees and reactivated others and now have 17 active committees comprised of over 30 different members! We learned so much about our history and about how to work together and we have numerous projects that are ongoing. Thank you so much to everyone who supported us and helped us reach so many goals. Onward, San Jacinto Chapter! There is no limit on what we can do together! God Bless Texas!

-Beth Garrett McCarty

The San Jacinto Dispatch

CRT and Education Committee News!

A fun time was had at the Log House during our Education Reception on April 30th. We recognized our scholarship recipients and our essay contest winners and enjoyed meeting their families. Laura Kaplan introduced our scholarship recipients and shared a brief bio of each one, including where they will be attending school. Tish Wolter introduced our three essay winners. Each of our winners read their essay, including one of our winners who joined us from Colorado via Zoom. There were many proud parents and grandparents in attendance, including many DRT and SRT members. 'Thank you' to Gwen Koch for acting as our hostess and to everyone who prepared the Log House and provided snacks. (see photos below)

CRT Convention News!!

Information is now available to register for the 62nd Children of the Republic of Texas Convention. The Convention will be in Center, TX June 23-24. Attached is the registration form.

You must call the hotel and speak to Heather Matlock to lock in the CRT rate for hotel rooms.



If you have the chance, come see the Bluebonnet Garden the CRT planted at the Log House!

CRT and Education Committee Fun!



The San Jacinto Dispatch

New Raffle Information!



Raffle to Raise Funds for our Pioneer Memorial Log House Restoration

A beautifully designed **Texas Our Texas** quilt featuring all things Texas is being raffled this year: 1 ticket for \$10, 3 tickets for \$25. This artful quilt can be used as a wall hanging, bed coverlet or throw!

San Jacinto DRT member, Debra Grigsby, adapted the design to include the San Jacinto Monument, Bluebonnets, Indian Paintbrush, the Alamo, Mockingbird, Spindletop, boots and more!!! Debra's craftsmanship and attention to detail AND quality make this a one-of-a-kind treasure. The quilt measures 52" x 64" and is definitely a labor of love for Texas!

Proceeds of this raffle will benefit our Pioneer Memorial Log House. Tickets will be for sale at San Jacinto Chapter meetings and activities, DRT State Convention in May, and DRT District Workshops this summer and fall. The drawing for this quilt will be December 7, 2023 at our chapter's Christmas Luncheon. The Winner need not be present to win. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Gwen Koch at 713/826-9061 or jkoch11949@att.net.

Country Store at Convention!



The San Jacinto Dispatch

San Jacinto Weekend



We had a Flag display of 15 flags along with some pioneer artifacts and a large bin of cotton. In addition, we had Texas themed coloring pages and a poster of the "The Surrender Tree" by William Huddle. Several members

Once again San Jacinto Weekend was a huge success at the San Jacinto Battleground as we celebrated 187 years of Texas Independence. In addition to the official ceremony on Friday, April 21, our chapter also sponsored a booth at the Battleground as Friday was "School Day". Rain had threatened earlier in the day and while several schools had canceled there were approximately 200 school children from the fourth and seventh grade in attendance.



were there on Friday - Roni Thelen, Tish Wolter, Carolyn Gilbert, Gayla Sonderreger and Shelly Richardson were busy talking to all the children and passing out Texas Flag Pledge cards. Roni Thelen also brought her son, Anthony and nieces, Joslynn Esquivel, Ji'anna Esquivel, Arianna Contreras and Andilynn Contreras on Friday and they were a huge help.



Then Saturday was Festival Day with the Battle Re-enactment and the weather was gorgeous. Roni came along with all of her nieces in period dress and other family members, Isabel Paris and Leilani Paris. Tish Wolter was there with both her daughters, Lorien and Morgan in period dress and all participated in the Runaway Scrape. Beth McCarty and Heather Henderson were also there to assist at our booth. Special thanks to Roni Thelen for all the pictures. Please check out our Facebook page for many more. Everyone stayed busy throughout the day visiting with the public, sharing knowledge about Texas history and passing out the information we had. What a wonderful feeling it is to know that as we promoted Texas History, we reached out to so many people. We clearly achieved our mission to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the independence of Texas.



- by Eron Tynes

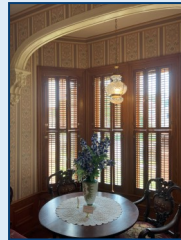
The San Jacinto Dispatch

Annual Convention Recap from Gwen Koch

Daughters of the Republic of Texas Portals to the Future 1891-2023
132nd State Convention May 4-6, 2023
Hosted by District IX at
Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention Center, Galveston, Texas

Charlene Buck, Convention Chair welcomed everyone to a fast-paced DRT convention. Yes, fast paced – the convention concluded after the Saturday luncheon, no afternoon business meeting!

Thursday's activities included tours of The Cradle where the first DRT Chapter was founded in 1891 and DRT was born; The Bryan Museum and Rosenberg Library Museum.



The Cradle with fence medallion, historical plaques at front door, inside with the tour, and historic cannon on back patio with fountain made from the ruins of the Ballinger home.

The Formal Opening Ceremony where all of the Board of Management were introduced featured Anthony Delgado who spoke on Canary Islanders inhabiting what is now Texas as early as the 1600's. What a fascinating talk.



Pictured left, Gwen Koch with granddaughter Carolyn Young Peter's Colony District III, CRT Chaplain General and Page at Convention.

Our Country Store traveled to Galveston for sales Wednesday through Saturday with gross proceeds being about \$6,000. Special thanks to Carla Brown, Sharolyn Wood, Debra Grigsby, Roni Thelen and Gwen Koch for handling sales with several other members coming to help from time to time. Texas flag jackets, Capitol ornaments and our wide selection of children's books are what keep the customers coming back to us. Thank you, Luanne Zacek, for getting the store started with these favorites years ago.



Pictured left, first Business Meeting led by President General Kim Zapalac.

Pictured right, Gwen Kunz with her 50 year Continuous Membership Award.



Our San Jacinto Chapter received DRT Chapter Awards 1st in Achievement, 2nd in Attendance, 1st in Texas History, 1st in Volunteer, 1st in Membership and 1st with President General's Project Award. Gwen Kunz received her DRT 50 year Continuous Membership Certificate – what a special recognition, I wish each of us could achieve it, but only a few can. SJC also had four members receive their Twenty-five Year Continuous Membership: Jane Fieldcamp, Martha Haydel, Laura Kaplan and Sharon O'Meara.



Debra Grigsby's outstanding efforts as our Chapter Registrar for the second year earned SJC the Chapter Growth Award two years in a row – exceeding the 10% member requirement with 31 new members. Thank you Debra for all of your hard work! We were one of only 12 chapters to earn this award.

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Convention Recap - continued

The Memorial Service Roll Call included the names of our seven members who have passed away since the last DRT Convention. It is a meaningful ceremony. Six of these women had been members for 25-58 years – what a tribute for our chapter; and the other member was a young mother who had just joined our chapter. They will all be missed.

We were disappointed when it was announced that Honorable Judge Ken Wise was ill and would not speak at the Historical Dinner. However, his replacement, Ed Cotham Jr. was wonderful speaking with his insight about the people who came and settled Texas.

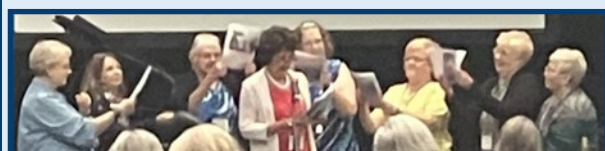


Historical Dinner: Debra Grigsby, Beth Fisher, Sally Whittington, Miki & Ralph Norton, Tish Wolter, Gwen Kunz and Sharolyn Wood

Essay Awards, Outstanding Teacher, and DRT Scholarship winners were presented – what an outstanding group. As a FYI, each of these awards comes with a monetary award! Be thinking of your 4th and 7th grade children, grandchildren or your neighborhood schools to encourage them to submit essays to SJC by March 1, 2024. Fourth grade topic – Collin McKinney; Seventh grade topic – Canary Islanders. Detailed information can be found on the DRT website.

This was election year – new Board of Management officers elected for 2023-2025:

President General – Carol Mayo Steakley
President Elect General – Ora Jane Johnson
Treasurer General – no candidate, will be appointed
Chaplain General – Claire Haynes
Recording Secretary General – Tiffany Miller
Custodian General – Jeanne Baxter Wallace
Executive Secretary General – Johnnie McWilliams
Historian General – no candidate, to be appointed
Registrar General – Sharon Farnsworth



Our CRT Chapter was represented by Lorien Wolter (right), SJC CRT Chaplain, who served as a Convention Page, and our CRT Standing Committee Chair Tish Wolter.



San Jacinto Chapter member Beth Fisher's cousin Ann Shafer Hunn and Michelle Graham won the June Franklin Naylor Award for their Terrific Tales of the Texas Navy series: Tale of a Powder Monkey Quick, Tale of a Rigger Tall, and Tale of a Gun Captain Noble. The Virginia M. Law Award was won by author Bill Winsor for Let's Cross Before Dark. These award winning books are now for sale in our Country Store.

The next DRT Convention will be May 23-25, 2024 at the Overton Hotel and Convention Center in Lubbock. The District X members had a fun skit to make the announcement for their 2024 The Winds of Change from Windmills to Wind Turbines theme.

What is the best thing about attending the DRT Convention – being with your chapter, district and all of the DRT sisters!!! San Jacinto Chapter had a great time together selling in the Country Store; sitting together for business meetings, lunch and dinner. Our members enjoying the camaraderie: Carla Brown, Vanessa Flores, Carolyn Gilbert, Debra Grigsby, Gwen Koch, Gwen Kunz, Susan Long, Miki Norton, Carol Theilan, Roni Thelen, Sally Whittington, Tish Wolter and Sharolyn Wood. We missed Beth McCarty and Deidre Vick as they were ill and could not come. We would love to have you join us next year – give any of us a call!!!

God Bless Texas!

The San Jacinto Dispatch

TAPESTRY COMES HOME

This tapestry was presented to our chapter Thursday by District VI rep Coyla Holmes. It was made by District VI members and sold at a raffle to raise money for our chapter after the Harvey floods. The person who won it in the raffle returned it and now it will remain at the Log House.



Ladies, just a reminder that San Jacinto Chapter always needs donations for the Pioneer Memorial Log House. Those of you who own a home know how costly upkeep can be, and when a home is older, maintenance can be more expensive. Our dues are not enough to cover the log house expenses. When you are able, or if you want to make a gift in honor or memory of someone, please consider making a gift for the log house or chapter. A donor form is attached at the end of this newsletter.

**Sincerely,
Gwen Koch, 4th Vice president,
Ways and Means**

We hope you will register for our upcoming year-end luncheon scheduled for June 1. BraeBurn Country Club is a beautiful location for our officers and new member Installations with the pretty spring green grounds as our backdrop. The invitation with details and registration form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

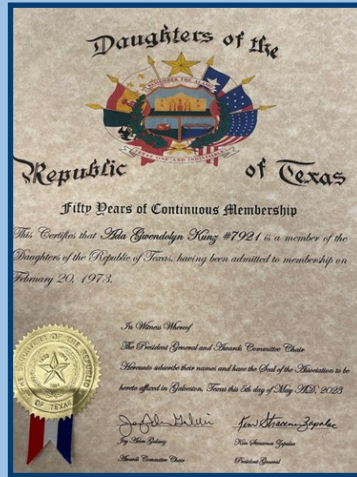
You may pay online or by check, but we must receive your reservation by May 20 as we have to provide the country club with our guaranteed number.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

*Social Chair
Gwen Sorsby Koch*

The San Jacinto Dispatch

More Convention Fun!



Welcome New Members!!

Nancy Lang Stokes

Shana Creech

Heather Ford Collins

Corina Cortinas

Dirkira Cobb

Gayla Nicar Sonderegger

Lorann Garrett-Newman

Penny Sue Lusk Johnson

Sarah Catherine Leavitt

Claire Fiedler Bradshaw

Sarah Lusk Taylor

Meredith Finck Cocke

Delinda Thompson Holland

Whitney Schouajsa Bennett

Wilma Wendt-Schouajsa

Claire E. Gorman

Deborah Kay Reed Lunn

Jan Reed Norman

Kristina Hornberger Sommerville

Nancy Austin Fatheree

Gina Manlove

WELCOME!!!

The San Jacinto Dispatch

2022~2023 Calendar of Events

(See yearbook for details)

2023

Third Thursday Log House Workday, 9:30 a.m.	May 18
Monthly Saturday Open House, 1-3 p.m.	May 20
June Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.	June 1
CRT Annual Convention, Center, Texas	June 23-24

It's almost summer!

Thank you to our refreshment hostesses at our May 11 meeting- Beth McCarty, Carla Brown, Susan Caraway, Gwen Koch, Roni Thelen and Sharolyn Wood.



Kroger Community Rewards and Randalls grocery stores have given Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Pioneer Memorial Log House new numbers. Please check with your local Kroger to have your Kroger Plus Card updated for our new **#RF149**. Randalls donation card number is **#14197** for the Pioneer Memorial Log House. You can request this number to be programmed onto your Randalls shopping card. Remember, you shop anyway, so this is a painless way for our chapter to receive a donation from Kroger and Randalls just because we shop. Every little bit helps!



Pioneer Memorial Log House

Become a "Friend of the Log House" for 2022-2023

To help preserve the house and grounds

- Texas Star.....\$ 25
- Silver Star.....\$ 50
- Shining Star.....\$ 100
- Gold Star.....\$ 250
- Lone Star.....\$ 500
- Platinum Star \$1,000 and higher

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

Name _____
(as you wish to be printed)

Address _____
Street City, State, Zip

Phone _____ Email _____

General Contribution \$ _____

Contribution in Memory / Honor of _____ \$ _____

Send card to: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Total Gift \$ _____

Make check payable to:
San Jacinto Chapter DRT

Or pay by credit card/Venmo (use QR code to donate online):

Name on credit card or VENMO User ID _____

Card Type and Number _____

Expiration _____ Code _____

Mail donations to:
Pioneer Memorial Log House
1510 Cambridge Street
Houston, Texas 77030-1732



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

Children of the Republic of Texas 62nd Annual Convention

June 23-24, 2023

Best Western Plus Center, Texas * 936-591-0002

Hotel Reservations, Rooms Rate varies by size.

MUST TALK TO HEATHER MATLOCK - MENTION CRT CONVENTION

Reserve before June 1 for CRT Rate

Complete one form per person. Mail registration form and check payable to William Carroll Crawford Chapter
420 King St, Center, Texas 75935

Name _____ Age as of 6/24/2023 or Adult _____

Address _____ City _____ Tx _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Contact Email _____

Chapter Name/City _____ District _____

Special Meal Needs: _____ Allergies _____

DRT/SRT BOM _____ Yes _____ No _____ DRT/SRT/Chapter _____

Office _____

Registration \$20.00 _____

Friday Dinner \$15.00 _____

Saturday Lunch \$25.00 _____

Adult T Shirt \$25.00 _____

Child T Shirt \$20.00 _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Size(circle) SM MD LG XL 2X 3X

Size(circle) SM MD LG XL 2X 3X

President General CRT Vest *FREE* Adult S M L _____ Child S M L _____

Friday Events

9:00 am BOM meeting Historic Courthouse
11-4:00 Registration at Historic Courthouse
11:00-2:00 pm Scrapbook
Drop Off- Historic Courthouse
11:00-12:00 Silent Auction Begins
2:00-4:00 Courthouse Lawn Republic Days of Yore
3:30-Nominating Committee & Scrapbook Judging
4:00 Silent Auction End
5:30 Republic of Texas "1830s" style attire – option
6:00 Dinner at Community House
7:30 Swimming at hotel – Free Time

Saturday Events – Center High S

8:00-9:30 am Registration
9:30 am First Business Session
10:00 am Special Presentation TBA
12:00-1:30 pm Lunch and Awards
1:30 pm Second Business Session
2:30 pm New Officers Installed
3:15 pm Convention Adjourns
Photos – New Board of Management etc.

Please join us for
San Jacinto Chapter,
Daughters of the Republic of Texas

Annual Luncheon and
New Member Initiation Ceremony

June 1, 2023

11:30 am

BraeBurn Country Club
8101 Bissonnet, Houston, Texas 77074

\$50 per person

Complimentary Valet Parking

Reservations must be received by May 20, 2023

_ To Register Online, please scan the QR Code or click here
[Online Registration and/or Payment Options](#)

_ To Register by Mail, please print form and mail with your check.

Check for \$50 each Payable to and Mail to: San Jacinto Chapter DRT
1510 Cambridge Street
Houston, Texas 77030



Reservation for _____

Phone/email _____

My Guest (s) _____