Daughters of the Republic of Texas

From the President





Whew again!!! Happy New Year!

Blessed 2024 to All!

My head is still spinning with visions of sugarplums! - my family!!! Chaos is getting back to normal chaos and filled with lots of new memories - I hope your head also has wonderful new memories.

Our January 4 meeting was well attended in person and on ZOOM - it must have been the beautiful day and wonderful speaker Iris Clawson-Davis telling us about Texas Native Plants. I discovered that our chapter has several members with black thumbs like me. I am going to look into some of her suggestions.

New and very young member Claire Gorman brought her three sisters who are now interested in joining our chapter. And new and very young member Alexandra Herrera attended and discovered that she and Claire were both living in Washington DC - one at Georgetown Law and the other serving an internship. They plan to get together in DC. Also, new member Meridith Cocke sat next to Claire and in conversation, discovered they share the same ancestor. Small World - new cousins! You never know what you might learn when you come to a meeting! Or meet a relative you didn't know about!

Two more new members were approved by General - Janet Pierson, ancestor John Goodloe Warren Pierson; and Rachel Caraway Berte, ancestor Martin Palmer/Parmer.

"They" always say we are supposed to get ourselves organized in January. If you happen to be cleaning out your home or a family member's home, see if there are any Texas history related books you might want to donate for us to sell at the Country Store. Call me to discuss, we can't take very many, and are particular about what we might take.

I just read in the San Jacinto Museum newsletter that they are offering scheduled van tours of the battlefield. Check out their schedule for a pretty day to learn more about the battlefield that our chapter helped to save.

Jaimie Moran has planned a wonderful field trip for March 7 to the Varner-Hogg home in West Columbia. See the sign-up form in this newsletter to get on the list. We hope to have a county bus to take us, however if one is not available, we will carpool. And of course, we will enjoy lunch together that day.

I know Sharolyn Wood would love to have some new docents. Contact her if you are interested in learning more about our log house displays and artifacts, and to share this information with others on tours and open houses. Tours and Open Houses are typically on weekends, so this can be a fit for working people to volunteer.

As always, let me know if you have questions, ideas for future activities or want to get more involved.

We look forward to seeing you in this new year!



God Bless Texas and You! Gwen Sorsby Koch

President, San Jacinto Chapter DRT

Page No.

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- 1 From the President
- Calendar January 18th February 19th 2
- 3 Our Mission
- 4 January Chapter Meeting
- 5 Special Thank You
- 6 Honor Days
- 8 Texas Statehood Day 9
- Silent Auction
- 10 March Field Trip 11 Historian Highlights
- 12 Book Corner
- 13 CRT's Own Flag & DRT Insignia Ring 14 Texas History Teacher Award
- 15 DRT Essay Contest
- 16 DRT Art Contest
- 17 Tidbits & Notes
- 18 Double Your Donation



Calendar January 18th - February 19th





Our Mission

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To Perpetuate the Memory and Spirit of our Ancestors

Mission The Daughters of the Republic of Texas, a lineal organization, shall educate, research, preserve, and protect the history of the Republic of Texas for all future generations.

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January Chapter Meeting

January Chapter Meeting

Our January Chapter meeting welcomed our Park Partner, Iris Clawson-Davis. Ms. Clawson-Davis is Director of Green Space for the Hermann Park Conservancy. She

is a native Houstonian with a degree in Horticulture from Stephen F. Austin University. She taught us about Texas native plants and their incredible diversity and the best ways to use native plants in our gardens and landscapes. We were all taking notes and I am betting there will be more natives in our gardens this Spring!

We plan to welcome our Chapter's Eron Tynes in February as a special guest speaker. Eron is a past-president of our Chapter and served multiple terms. She is an expert on Texas history and the San Jacinto battleground. The title of her presentation is "Honoring Our Chapter". Our chapter has a rich history in acquiring the San Jacinto Battleground and marking the key sites of the Battle. Eron has given numerous talks about



the Battleground to other historical groups over the past several years. Also, she has been invited to speak as part of the "History Under the Star" annual lecture series in 2024 at the Battleground. This will surely be a great program!

See you in February...

Jamie Moran





Special Thank You





help with refreshments at a future meeting or event, please contact Gwen Koch.





Honor Days



January 26th – Mirabeau B. Lamar, *Father of Education*

Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar was an American attorney, politician, poet, and leading political figure during the Texas Republic era. He was elected as the second president of the Republic of Texas in 1838, just after Sam Houston.

Mirabeau Lamar is celebrated for having persuaded Congress to set aside public lands to fund Texas schools and universities —earning him the title "Father of Texas Education."

LAMAR DAY

JANUARY 26, 2024

JOIN US IN HONORING MIRABEAU B. LAMAR, SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, EXCEPTIONAL SCHOLAR AND STATESMAN, AND EARLY RESIDENT OF RICHMOND AND FT BEND COUNTY.

A GRAVESIDE CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 10:30AM, FRIDAY, JANUARY 26TH, AT MORTON Cemetery in Richmond. Come show your texas pride in one of our OWN.

MIRABEAU B. LAMAR.





Texas Statehood Day



"The Republic of Texas is no more"

... As he lowered the Texas Flag on February 19, 1846. Anson Jones – Last President of the Republic of Texas



Anson Jones

This Texas Honor Day Event will be held at the Anson Jones grave marker in Glenwood Cemetery, 2525 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007 on February 19, 2023. The time of the ceremony will be at 10:30 a.m. and is sponsored by the Sam Houston Chapter, SRT. Dr. Anson Jones served as the last President of the Texas Republic before it became a part of the United States. The San Jacinto Chapter, CRT & DRT will also lay a wreath in honor of Anson Jones and his wife, Mary Smith Jones, who was the first President of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

During the Texas Revolution, Dr. Jones served as a judge advocate and surgeon to the Texas Army, though he insisted on holding the rank of private throughout the Revolution. After the war, Dr. Jones returned to Brazoria and resumed his medical practice.



Silent Auction

SILENT AUCTION TO BENEFIT HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The following items will be offered in a Silent Auction at our February Chapter meeting.

As Far As You Can See, Picturing Texas, First Edition 2018, NEW Photography by Kenny Braun, whose work has been featured in Texas Highways magazine



Alamo Collectible Ornament "THE ALAMO 2023"

Backroads of Texas, Larry Hodge and Ed Syers, Fourth Edition 2000





 GETTING ACQUAINTED

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Getting Acquainted with Your Ancestors, Workbook by Marje Harris, former SJC Registrar and Clayton Librarian

Please join us for the San Jacinto Chapter, DRT Field Trip March 7, 2024

A Tour of the

Varner-Hogg Plantation Historic Site 1702 N. 13th St., West Columbia, TX 77486

\$15.00 per person

Following our tour, we will have lunch at Margarita Jones Mexican Restaurant Everyone will order & pay individually, please bring cash to pay for your lunch.

~To Register Online, please scan the QR Code or click here:

Online Registration and Payment Options



-To register by mail, please print form and mail with your check

San Jacinto Chapter Field Trip ~ March 7, 2024 10:00 a.m. *Reservations must be received by February 29, 2024

Reservation for

My Guest(s)

□ I/We will ride the Bus departing from St. Luke's Methodist Church Arrive no later than 9:00 am & must be 55 or older (or assisting someone 55 or older).

□ I/We will meet the group at the Varner-Hogg Plantation Visitor Center at 9:45 am

Check for \$15.00 each payable to: San Jacinto Chapter DRT Or send cash

Mail to: San Jacinto Chapter, DRT % Carla Brown 5220 Weslayan, C103 Houston, TX 77005-1079

For questions, please contact Jamie Moran.





Historian Highlights

HISTORIAN HIGHLIGHTS

Teaching Texas History Library

The Historic Preservation Committee has designated the following books to be placed in the Log House hall shelving for use by our docents, educators and researchers:

- What is a Texan? (manual for docents of Log House) 1997
- The Ethnic Groups of Houston #3 1984
- Legendary Texans, Volume 1 1982
- Like It Was—Bicentennial Games & Fun Handbook
- San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Park A Teacher's Curriculum 2 copies
- Annexation of Texas into United States
- Teach A Child History Trunks Manual
- Texas Under Six Flags Research & Resources Before Statehood Marje Harris
- Gone to Texas How They Got from There to Here Marje Harris

CRT Library

Brooks Cottage is now the <u>new</u> home of our historical CRT scrapbooks, to include years 2000-2007, and the publication *Adventures of SJCCRT Terranauts 1936-1989*. Previously the scrapbooks were stored offsite and now they will be available for review by the SJCCRT officers and members.

Donation of Annual Proceedings to University of Houston Libraries

Forty-two years of the State DRT Annual Proceedings publications previously stored offsite have been approved for donation to the UH Libraries to complement their existing holdings of these publications. If you are interested in obtaining the latest 2022 Annual Proceedings, it is available for sale online at TheBookPatch. <u>https://app.thebookpatch.com/BookStore.aspx</u> Enter the search word **DRT** to bring up the Annual Proceedings for sale. Cost \$15.61 plus shipping.







Book Corner

The essay topic for this year's DRT Essay competition for 4th graders is "Collin McKinney". All I knew of him was that there was a town named for him. I didn't know that McKinney, Texas is the county seat for Collin County, also named for this Texas patriot. The book, Texas Maker, the heretofore unknown legend of Collin McKinney, was written by Eric M. Nishimoto. It tells the story of this man who became a mentor to so many of our Texas heroes and weaves his story into the story of the founding of the Republic of Texas.

Collin McKinney was born on April 17, 1766 in New Jersey. He was a well-known statesman in Kentucky and Arkansas, but only became a Texas legend after he turned 70 years old. He was six-feet tall and a respected preacher and made eleven trips back to Kentucky and Arkansas by horseback to lead people to Texas.

At the Convention of 1836, McKinney was one of the five men who drafted the Texas Declaration of Independence. He was the oldest man to sign the Declaration and was given the quill

pen used by all of the delegates that day because of the respect the other men had for him.

McKinney also was on the committee that drafted the Constitution of the Republic of Texas and later served Texas in the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Congress. Even into his 90's, McKinney was giving fiery speeches against secessionists before the Civil War. He lived through the American Revolution, the Texas revolution, the Republic of Texas, Texas statehood, and the beginning of the Civil War and died at the age of 95 on September 8, 1861.

Beth Garrett McCarty





CRT's Own Flag AND DRT Insignia Ring

CRT's Own Flag

Our CRT Chapter now has its own flag!

Thank you Eron Tynes and Tish Wolter for making this happen.



DRT Official Insignia Ring

This official ring, beautifully handcrafted by J. Brandt Recognition, is now offered to members of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

To order, go to drtinfo.org/member for the order form. It must be submitted to our chapter president and treasurer to approve, and they will forward the form and your check to J. Brandt Recognition. This process assures that only DRT members have this ring.

Gwen Koch, President San Jacinto Chapter DRT





Texas History Teacher Award

I wanted to share this information with you, our Chapter deadline is February 1, 2024. Please share the information if you know anyone interested.

Deadling 1st February 1st Mariam Beckham Texas History Teacher Award

Sponsored by

The San Jacinto Chapter The Daughters of the Republic of Texas

Do **YOU** know a 4th or 7th grade Texas history teacher who deserves special recognition for outstanding teaching?

Simply nominate that teacher by submitting their name, school, and school district to the San Jacinto Chapter DRT Education Committee at <u>DRTSJCEssay@gmail.com</u>,

or call or text Patti Randolph at 832-578-2385

by February 1, 2024.

Please include a brief statement as to the reasons for nominating.

You will be contacted after all nominations are received.



DRT Essay Contest

We would love to have lots of children and teachers represented.



Each of the winners will be honored with \$100 by the San Jacinto DRT Chapter at an award reception at the DRT Pioneer Memorial Log House on May 5, 2024. The winning essays are then submitted to the district level for a chance to win \$50 and, at the state level, \$500 each will go to the winning Fourth and Seventh grade essays.



DRT Art Contest

This is information about the DRT Art Contest with a March 1 deadline. Share with any student who may be interested.

ELEMENTARY GRADES 1-5

- The poster size MUST be 11" x 14" in size, with or without a border
- It MUST be original artwork
- It MUST denote a historic site, event or activity that occurred, or individual(s) that lived in your home district prior to 1850, who helped settle Texas
- The reverse side of the artwork MUST include the following:

A. Title of the artwork

- B. At least two sentences describing the artwork
- C. Your name, age, grade, full mailing address, school name, email address for a parent or teacher, county of the district you are in along with the district number, and name of local newspaper

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 6-12

- The poster size MUST be 9" x 12" in size, with or without a border
- It MUST be original artwork
- It MUST denote a historic site, event or activity that occurred, or individual(s) that lived in your home district prior to 1850, who helped settle Texas
- The artwork MUST be signed on the front, lower right hand side
- The reverse side of the artwork MUST include the following:
 - A. Title of the artwork
 - B. At least two sentences describing the artwork
 - C. Your name, age, grade, full mailing address, school name, email address for a parent or teacher, county of the district you are in along with the district number, and name of local newspaper.

All artwork becomes the property of the Republic of Texas Museum and may be duplicated for any reason by the Museum without further authorization by the artist. Winning entries may be displayed on occasion at the Republic of Texas Museum and at the DRT Annual State Convention. Art pieces that DO NOT comply to size, district, or topic criteria will be disqualified from the Art Contest. Winners' names will be sent to local news services for recognition, if provided by the student.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION MARCH 1, 2024 Art entries may be mailed or delivered to the following address: Republic of Texas Museum PO Box 6290 Austin, TX 78762-6290

1836-1846

DRT



Tidbits & Notes

Texas History Art Contest - topic: and original drawing of a Harris County person or landscape or building in Harris County. For more information contact Tish Wolter.

Show your Texas pride by purchasing a Native Texan License Plate – we would love to see all cars in our parking lot with one!

Texas History 4th and 7th grade Texas History 4th and 7th grade Teacher Award - Information at Sanjacintodrt.org Teaching Texas tab or contact Patti Randolph. February 1, 2024, speaker- Eron Tynes. Come in person or with ZOOM

SJC Scholarship - three \$4,000 scholarships will be awarded at the San Jacinto Day Ceremony in April to Houston area high school seniors who will attend a Texas college or university in the fall. For information: sanjacintodrrt.org Teaching Texas tab or contact Laura Kaplan. Applications due before March 10, 2024.

> Show us your colors - fly your Texas flag and send us a picture. You could have it in our newsletter.

4th grade Essay Contest - topic: Colin McKinney 7th grade Essay Contest - topic: The Canary Islanders Find detailed information at sanjacintodrt.org Teaching Texas tab or contact Patti Randolph. Great project to work on during the holidays.

Remember to link your Randall's and Kroger cards to the Pioneer Memorial Log House for our chapter to receive donations from your purchases.

> If you would like to help with refreshments at a future chapter meeting, contact Gwen Koch.

If you need DRT information or forms not included in the SJC Yearbook, go to drtinfo.org/members. Sign in (your username is your member #, and the password is your choice). You can also find the form for ordering insignia, ancestor bars, etc. These items require signatures from the chapter treasurer and chapter president as confirming the person's chapter membership. And you can purchase San Jacinto Chapter pins in our Country Store for \$35.



How You Can Help

Double Your Donation (at no cost to you)

Ladies, does your employer have a matching gift program? You can double your donation to our Chapter or the Friends of the Log House through Employer's Matching Gifts. And retirees can often do the same through their previous Employer's Matching Gifts. Help our chapter and the loghouse increase our donations through this free program. Please contact Carla Brown, Treasurer at treasurer.sjcdrt@gmail.com for assistance in setting up your matching gift.

Did You Know???

Kroger and Randall's both offer a 1% Rebate to us for all money you spend on groceries. Simply sign up to link your account to us; here's how:

Kroger:

Go to

HOKrogerCommunityRewards@ kroger.com. Our account is DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, PIONEER MEMORIAL LOG HOUSE, Account number is RF149. Ask them in the email to link your Kroger Rewards Account to us. You will need to provide your Kroger Rewards number OR go to the courtesy counter and ask them to help you. Kroger has a number of affiliate stores including City Market, Dillon's, King Super and Fry's (grocery).

Randall's:

Set up a Randalls for U account through the smart phone app or the website at www. randalls.com. Then, send an email to Good. *Neighbor@Randalls.com* and ask them to link your account to the non-profit by providing the organization's Good Neighbor number in your message, along with the phone number used to set up your Randalls for U account. (This is the same phone number you use at the register when shopping.) Our Good Neighbor account number is 14197. Affiliates include Albertsons. Safeway, Vons, Jewel-Osco, Shaw's, Acme, Tom Thumb, United Supermarkets, Pavilions, Star Market, Haggen, Carrs, Kings Food Markets, and Balducci's Food Lovers Market. Be sure to ask the courtesy booth if you need other help.

If you are aware of other stores that offer rebates to non-profits please let me know so that we can apply. My email is dgrig1@comcast.net.

Thanks, Debra Grigsby, 4th VP Ways and Means

