

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Daughters of the Republic of Texas



May 2017

From the President

Wonderful changes are on the way for our Chapter. We will swear in and welcome our newly elected officers at the June Luncheon. The newest San Jacinto members will take their oath and join our Chapter.

Please join all of us at the BraeBurn Country Club to be an important part of these special events.

Jamie Moran, President



May Meeting

The May meeting of the San Jacinto Chapter was both inspiring and poignant.

Through a beautiful memorial service we remembered chapter members Marion Hargrove, Sally Woolrich, Marie Kendall, Caroline Gregory, and Bette Shumake.

Gina Bouchard, Luanne Zacek, and Nancy Burch each shared a story of their families' connection to San Jacinto during a program titled "Remembrances of San Jacinto".

Anita Cooper was endorsed by the chapter as she adds her name to the ballot for the DRT Board of Management.

The budget for 2017-2018 was adopted and members enjoyed delicious refreshments highlighted by a beautiful cake designed in honor of our memorial service.

June Meeting

The last meeting of the year will be the annual luncheon, this year being held at the Brae Burn Country Club.

Please complete the reservation form which can be found on the last page of the newsletter. Send the form and your check to Martha before May 22.

Position of Newsletter Editor

If you are interested in serving the chapter as Newsletter Editor, please contact Jamie Moran or Laura- Hill Taylor.

Editor: Susan Stormer susan@familyaggies.com
Proofreader and fine tuning: Phyllis Moody





**Janet Ann DeVault
1949-2017**

Janet Ann DeVault, 68, passed away peacefully on May 6, 2017 in Houston, Texas after a protracted battle with cancer with her two sons Bryan and Chris and their wives Ariëtte and Chelsey at her side. Born on April 21, 1949 in Lubbock, Texas to Ruth and Buddy Miller, her childhood featured frequent moves to cities as varied as Jackson, Mississippi, Roswell, New Mexico, Caracas, Venezuela, and finally Midland, Texas, where she graduated from Midland Lee High School in 1967, and was the editor of the school's newspaper.

After receiving a degree in History from the University of Texas at Arlington, she joined her family in the oil business in West Texas, where she jointly managed Miller family companies with her father and her younger brother A. Lee Miller and served on the Board of Directors of two publicly-traded oil and geophysical companies. She continued her career in the oil industry as the Chief Financial Officer of Vecta Oil and Gas, a small independent oil and gas company, from 2013 until her death.

Jan was deeply fascinated by genealogy from an early age. She spent many hours at genealogical libraries learning about her family's history and ancestors. These efforts were rewarded by her establishment of a family lineage back to the ninth-century Emperor Charlemagne. As a result, she was admitted to life membership in the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America, the Order of the Merovingian Dynasty, and the Baronial Order of Magna Charta. Her discovery of early Texas and Revolutionary War ancestors led to membership in both the Daughters of the American Revolution and the **Daughters of the Republic of Texas. She devoted many years of service to the latter group, becoming President of the San Jacinto Chapter from 1997 to 1999. She also served on the DRT's Board of Managers at the Alamo.**

A fifth-generation Texan, Jan's great passion was historic preservation and, born on San Jacinto Day, she seems to have fought for the San Jacinto Battleground all her life. She was appointed by then-governor George W. Bush to the San Jacinto Historical Advisory Board in 1999, and she co-founded with Jeff Dunn the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving, reclaiming, and restoring the San Jacinto Battleground and building greater public awareness and scholarship about the Battle of San Jacinto.

The many honors she received for her work at San Jacinto include the San Jacinto Award, the San Jacinto Descendants' highest honor, as well as the Hero of San Jacinto prize from the San Jacinto Symposium.

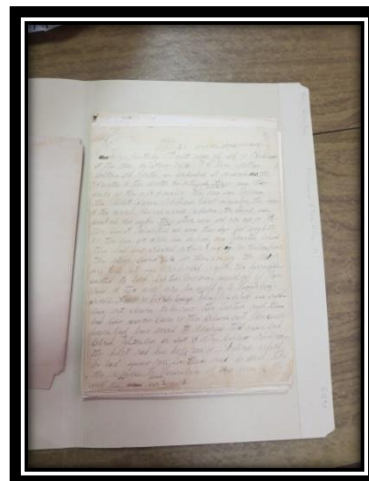
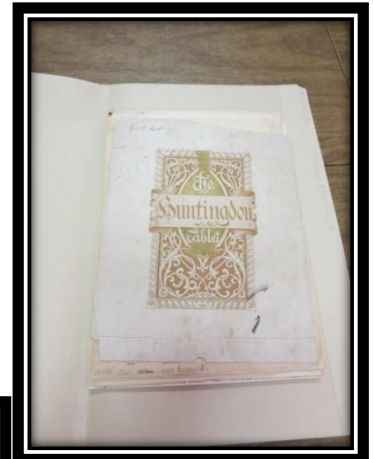
A memorial service will be held Thursday, May 18th at 11:00 am at Bethany Christian Church, 3223 Westheimer, in Houston, where she was a member of the congregation. Those wishing to commemorate Jan's life are encouraged to donate to the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy, PO Box 940536, Houston TX 77094.

**Historians Report
By Angela Mahmarian**

The book that we will be donating to the Texas Room in memory of our 2016-2017 deceased members will be **A Rose Blooms in Texas** by Carlos R. Hamilton, Jr.

If you happen to be in the area of the Bullock Museum in Austin, two pages of the Dilue Rose Harris Diary are now on exhibit until September 1, 2017. They are on the second floor in the Texas History Galleries, in the "revolution" area.

It was with much pride that our SJDRT chapter loaned these pages to the museum. If you would ever like to see the entire diary, it is stored at the San Jacinto Museum. All you have to do is call and make an appointment to view them. We presently have 64 items on loan to the San Jacinto Museum.



San Jacinto Day April 21, 2017

Under blue Texas skies, hundreds gathered at the San Jacinto Battleground Monument to honor the heroic deeds of those early Texans who, in 18 minutes, changed the course of Texas and United States history.

Once again, members of the San Jacinto DRT Chapter were instrumental in both the planning and implementation of the program. Sharolyn Wood, as co-chair, was involved for months in the planning and production of the entire day's events. Nancy Burch, Jamie Moran, and Luanne Zacek represented the chapter in the planning. Nancy Burch gave the San Jacinto Battle Report. As President, Jamie presented the scholarships. Sally Whittington gave the Invocation. Music was led by Laura-Hill Taylor and Martha Jorgenson. Hope Theilen Davis played the flute for "Will You Come to the Bower". The Davis family was additionally involved as the United States and Texas pledges were led by Madeline and Margaret Davis.

The students receiving scholarships from the San Jacinto Chapter were honored.



Scholarship Recipients

Aaron B. Burluson

(Presented at the May meeting by his descendent Luanne Zacek)

Aaron B. Burluson was born in Alabama on October 10, 1815, the youngest son of James and Elizabeth (Shipman) Burluson. His father was a captain under Andrew Jackson at the battles of Horseshoe Bend and New Orleans. The Burlusons returned to the old family home in Hardeman County, Tennessee, and from there, in 1827, they moved to Bastrop, Texas with Austin's Little Colony. Aaron was 12 at the time. He was raised on the frontier and was a frequent companion of his elder brother, Edward Burluson on campaigns against Indians. Aaron served under his brother's command during the Siege of Bexar October-December 1835.

Aaron accompanied Edward to the Battle of San Jacinto as a member of Capt. Jesse Billingsley's Company C of Edward Burluson's First Regiment, Texas Volunteers. Aaron was one of the party that captured Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. He is pictured in the Portrait by William Henry Huddle, 1889 in the state Capitol with a noose in his hand. Aaron was 21 at the time. After the Texas Revolution he lived on the upper Colorado, approximately equidistant between Bastrop and Waterloo, which became the city of Austin.

In 1838, Aaron returned to Tennessee to marry Minerva J. Seaton. The couple immediately returned to Texas and settled at the mouth of Walnut Creek in Travis County. They had six children before Minerva's death in 1855. Burluson was married again in 1856 to Jane Tannehill (Marjorie Forster's ancestor) and with her eventually had 6 children. In 1839, Aaron again under his eldest brother's command, took part in the battle of Brushy Creek, a decisive defeat of Comanche raiders in upper Colorado settlements. That same year, Aaron was part of a 5 man council chosen to plot the city of Waterloo that later became Austin.

In 1842 Burluson again served under his brother, Edward, then the vice president of the Republic of Texas, in repulsing General Rafael Vasquez who took possession of San Antonio but were pushed back to Mexico. In October 1860, Governor Sam Houston commissioned Burluson to raise a company of rangers for frontier defense. Burluson amassed a considerable fortune before his death at his home near Govalle, some 2 miles east of Austin. He, both of his wives, and several of his children are buried in the Rogers Hill Cemetery in Travis Co. Aaron never had the political aspirations of his older brother but he was a good Christian man. When he had slaves, one recorded that Aaron was a good man and that what was good for the house was good for the quarters. Ham in the house, ham in the quarters. He never separated families and after the civil war, he gave all his slaves land. Many of them are buried outside the fence at Rogers Hill. At the age of 70, Aaron was walking with one of his hands out to check on the fields, when he collapsed and died of a heart attack

My Journey to DRT

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

June Luncheon

June 1, 2017 11:30 a.m.

*New Member Ceremony
Texas History Teacher Award
Installation of Officers*

*BraeBurn Country Club
8101 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77074*

*Reservations Required - \$35 per person
Make your reservation with Martha Jorgensen by May 22nd*

marthajorgensen@sbcglobal.net or 713-461-4611

=====*Clip and mail with your check*=====

**San Jacinto Chapter June Luncheon
June 1, 2017 11:30 am
Reservations must be received by May 22nd**

Please print

Reservation for _____

My Guest (s) _____

**Check for \$35 payable to:
San Jacinto Chapter DRT**

**Mail to: Martha Jorgensen
702 Wycliffe Dr
Houston, TX 77079**