



Dear San Jacinto Chapter,
Weather! Weather! Weather!

I wish the rain could be spread out to two or three times a week instead of everyday. However, I have enjoyed not having to water very much, and my yard is happy! I wonder if our ancestors would have enjoyed so much rain, the mosquitoes it brings, and dealing with fallen trees without the help of a chain saw.

The grounds at the log house continue to have challenges. The uprooted beautiful, large water oak tree on the east side of the log house is still laying there. It needs to be removed by the end of October so as not to be a liability during our Chili Cookoff on November 3. Hermann Park is aware of our urgent need for the trunk's removal, but they have many, many trees down that are taking priority. Our grounds have several other dead trees that need to be removed, and restoration of the raised bed on the west side of the house due to a tree that fell onto the Ben Taub Loop parking spaces. Debra Grigsby has submitted a grant request to Native Texan License Plate Fund to pay for some of this work, however, no one ever knows if a grant request will be approved. Chapter funds have already been spent to remove the tree that fell onto the Ben Taub Loop sidewalk and parking area. This expenditure took the majority of our budgeted grounds work funds, and we are only 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ months into our budget year! To add insult to injury, we just learned that our current growing pooling water problem under the log house, Brooks Cottage and the grounds is due to a break in our water main, and water has been cut off. To quote Sharolyn Wood, "What else can go wrong". While improving the grounds is our next big fundraising project (probably \$100,000) these current issues must be done now just to keep us with water for our buildings and taking down trees that are fall hazards. These imminent projects may cost over \$10,000! If you are able to make a donation for these urgent needs, we would so appreciate it. There is a Friends of the Log House donor form later in this newsletter.

Carla Brown, Luanne Zacek, Tish Wolter and I have attended DRT District II in Fort Worth, District VII in San Antonio, District IV in Canton, District V in Lampasas, and District IX in Galveston workshops, taking and manning the Country Store which netted more than \$2,000 in support for the Pioneer Memorial Log House budget. DRT Registrar General Sharon Farnsworth and DRT Parliamentarian General Cheryl Giordano are giving very informative programs about ancestor documentation for applications, and our DRT Bylaws. I have enjoyed going to the workshops where I make DRT friends from other chapters (most are much, much smaller than San Jacinto Chapter), and the activities in these towns are fun and interesting! In Fort Worth we learned about Frances Cooke Van Zandt and her reminisces of pioneer life in the Texas Republic and having a DRT Chapter named after her. San Antonio had a private tour of behind-the-scenes artifacts at the Alamo. Canton provided a tour of the Heritage Park Museum of East Texas in Edgewood, with a collection of many old buildings from the area showcasing how people lived and worked more than 100 years ago. We also learned that the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street has its first Texas exhibit in San Augustine August 24 - October 6. Did you know that the first DRT Convention was held in Lampasas in 1892? Galveston arranged for a Dutch treat dinner at Gaido's on Friday night, and if you have not toured the Byran Museum yet, you need to! How wonderful that DRT has so many dedicated



The San Jacinto Dispatch

From the President (cont'd)

members. I want to encourage you to attend our District VI workshop to be held in Kingwood on October 26. It would be wonderful for our chapter to have a "big show" of members there!

Beth Fisher, Eron Tynes, Sharolyn and Mike Wood, and I attended the SRT Sydney Sherman Birthday Dinner with Chandler Wahrmond, educator/interpreter with Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site in July. The Bylaws, CRT, Curatorial, Education, Historic Preservation, Log House, Membership and Yearbook Committees have been busy this summer, as well as the Executive Board. Our three Thelma Maresh Scholarship winners are enrolled in their college classes.

Prayers are needed for Joni Becker's husband and Bridgette Becker's father as he undergoes cancer treatments; Sarah Beeson who is recovering from a serious fall at her granddaughter's UT orientation; Beth McCarthy's daughter Rachel who continues to recover from a very serious infection; Susan Stormer's grandson who is recovering from surgery; Debbie Lunn who had a serious fall; Debra Grigsby's husband with recent heart problems; and other members and their families who are taking care of loved ones.

Chili Cookoff plans are in full swing - make plans to attend on November 3. We need donations of auction items, individual wrapped cookies/dessert and volunteers to help with setup and take down. This is also a CRT event - the flag retirement ceremony is memorable!

The yearbook supplement for 2024-2025 is in the mail. If you don't receive your copy soon, let me know, sometimes the mail is like a snail. And please let me know if your information is incorrect. We use the information you provide on your dues form.

This newsletter has lots of information for our new year, thank you for bearing with me for this longggg president's letter but I get excited to share news, both good and bad. Looking forward to seeing you at our first meeting of the year on October 3 at the Pioneer Memorial Log House.



God Bless Texas and You,
Gwen Sorsby Koch
President
San Jacinto Chapter DRT

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The San Jacinto Dispatch

Calendar August 3rd – September 14th

September

- September 18** Texas Heroes Day (Texas Honor Day)
- September 19** Chapter Workday 9:30 a.m
- September 21** Texian Navy Day (Texas Honor Day) (3rd Saturday)
- September 21** Pioneer Memorial Log House Open House 1-3pm

October

Save The Date

- October 2** Gonzales Day, 1835 (Texas Honor Day)
- October 3** Chapter Meeting 10:00 a.m.
- October 5** District I Workshop – El Paso (drtinfo.org/members)
- October 12** District VIII Workshop – Kerrville (drtinfo.org/members)
- October 17** Chapter Workday 9:30 a.m
- October 19** San Jacinto Battlefield Fall Fandango 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- October 19** District III Workshop – Dallas (drtinfo.org/members)
Pioneer Memorial Log House Open House 1-3pm
- October 26** District VI Workshop – Kingwood (drtinfo.org/members)
(San Jacinto Chapter is part of District VI)

Save The Date

November

- November 3** 2nd Annual Chili Cook Off, joint event
San Jacinto Chapter DRT, SRT and CRT,
Pioneer Memorial Log House



San Antonio (schooner)

*1836
Two of the
Ships
in the
Texian
Navy*



Austin (Flagship)



SJC Email Addresses Updates

In preparation for our new website, we have provided new email addresses for particular San Jacinto officers. These addresses are related to the office, not the person, and will always be for that officer position, and will roll over to the next officer with each election cycle. No more personal names. Please add this list to your contact lists and add them to your "safe senders".

ie: This year, I, Gwen Koch am the SJC president, but in the future, it will be someone else. Members don't need to remember the officer's name, just the position that they want to correspond with.

In the future, more special email addresses will be offered but for now, these are the addresses:

- President: president@sjcdrt.org
- Treasurer: treasurer@sjcdrt.org
- First Vice-President: vp1@sjcdrt.org
- Registrar: registrar@sjcdrt.org
- Corresponding Secretary & Database Admin: secretary@sjcdrt.org

October's Speaker

Speaker for our first meeting of the year Thursday, October 3, is Andy Smith, Site Manager for the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site.

Join us at 10 am for social time at the log house, and the program will begin at 10:30 am. He will provide highlights of our namesake, San Jacinto.

Remember the Date!!!

Put November 17 on your calendar to attend a DRT Medallion Ceremony for Thelma Maresh. She is responsible for the endowment of our college scholarship fund begun in 2000. Mrs. Maresh was San Jacinto Chapter president 1942-43, and DRT President General 1947-49. The ceremony will be at Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery in Houston at 2 pm. Invitation with more details will be distributed soon.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Tidbits (cont'd)

Lampasas, District V - Home of the first DRT Convention in 1892
Sales table with Luanne Zacek and the county courthouse



Loaded for Galveston's District IX workshop



**DRT Headquarters
NEW mailing address**

DRT Headquarters mailing address is now their physical address:
810 San Marcus St.
Austin, Texas 78702

Car loaded for the first workshop of the year - District II Fort Worth, Country Store on the road again!



San Jacinto Museum & Battlefield Assn links

The San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association have a wonderful list of links to sites full of great information on all things Texian.
Go to sanjacinto-museum.org/learn/suggested_reading



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Tidbits (cont'd)

October Workshop

I want to encourage our chapter to attend our District's Workshop.

I hope you can plan to attend our District's Workshop in October. The workshops are always interesting, and you may run into friends you didn't know were members. I would love for San Jacinto Chapter to have a good showing. The Country Store is going! And it isn't too far away.

Gwen Sorsby Koch
President San Jacinto Chapter DRT

Parliamentarian Needed

Our chapter continues to be in need of a Parliamentarian. If you know a member or yourself that could serve in this Executive Board position, please contact me at president@sjcdrt.org.

Annual Art Contest

Republic of Texas Museum Annual Art Contest - go to the drinfo.org website to find details of their art contest for children grades 1-12. I would love for our chapter to have an entry. Entrants may be any school age child.

Upcoming Log House Rental brochure

4th VP Ways and Means Debra Grigsby is working on a new Log House Rental brochure. Don't forget that the Pioneer Memorial Log House is available for rent year-round. Contact Luanne Zacek or Sharolyn Wood for availability and details.

District IV Workshop sales table



Let's Give Support on November 16th!

Let's support our fellow chapter member Eron Tynes who is one of the speakers for this evening's program. We can carpool and even have an early or late dinner at Monument Inn! Add November 16th on your calendar!





The San Jacinto Dispatch

Tidbits (cont'd)

Spread the Word

Currently, San Jacinto Chapter DRT has 325 members. Spread the word to your friends and family who may have ancestors which could allow them access to membership. And don't forget you can also have supplemental applications for additional ancestors. Children of the Republic of Texas membership is a wonderful opportunity to have our young people learn and be proud of their Texas history heritage.

National Sons and Daughters Day

For National Sons and Daughters Day in August, Eron Tynes and Barbara Short manned a table at San Jacinto Monument to promote San Jacinto Chapter Daughters of the Republic and its many accomplishments.



SJC DRT Members Proudly Displaying Their Native Texan License Plates.

Show everyone you support DRT with the Native Texan Specialty License Plate. Your purchase of this attractive license plate benefits the DRT's historic preservation and Texas history education programs. All you have to do is fill out the Texas Dept. of Motor Vehicle's Form VTR-999 and follow the instructions on the form. Don't forget to choose "Native Texan (Daughters of the Republic of Texas)", which is on the 2nd page, bottom left.



"Native Texan (Daughters of the Republic of Texas)"

You can find this form at: https://www.txdmv.gov/sites/default/files/form_files/VTR-999.pdf



Daughters of the Republic of Texas



District VI Workshop
Saturday, October 26, 2024
Kingwood, Texas

You are cordially invited to attend the Daughters of the Republic of Texas 2024 District VI Workshop hosted by Patti Johnson, District VI Representative, and the Seth Hurin Bates Chapter in Kingwood at Woodridge Baptist Church, located at 5707 Kingwood Drive, Kingwood.



Workshop Registration

\$50 (includes Registration & Continental Breakfast & Lunch)
\$60 late registration after October 7th

Friday October 25



Pre-Workshop Activities

3:00-4:00 pm Guided Tour of the Humble Museum, 601 Higgins St., Humble

Saturday October 26



Chapter Table Set Up
Registration & Breakfast

7:30-8:00 am
8:00-9:00 am

Chapter Tables Open

8:00-9:00 am

Business Meeting

9:00-10:30 am

Welcome, Introductions, Business Session

Break

10:30-11:00 am

Chapter Tables open

Program

11:00-11:45am

Dallam Masterson – Birth of the Texas Navy

Lunch

11:45-12:30

Chapter Tables open

Panel Discussions Session

12:30 -1:15 pm

Topics **BRING YOUR IDEAS!**

- Public and Private Social Media Outreach
- Increasing Chapter Membership
- Speaker and Program Ideas

Break

1:15 – 1:30 pm

Chapter Tables open

Panel Discussion Summary

1:30-1:50 pm

Closing

1:50 pm



Lodging

LaQuinta Inn and Suites, 22790 Highway 59 N, Kingwood
281-359-6611 Ask to speak with Gail or Sweetie. Ask for
“Daughters of the Republic of Texas” - Rate \$99 + tax (incl
breakfast) Room block until September 30, cancellations
must be made by September 30.

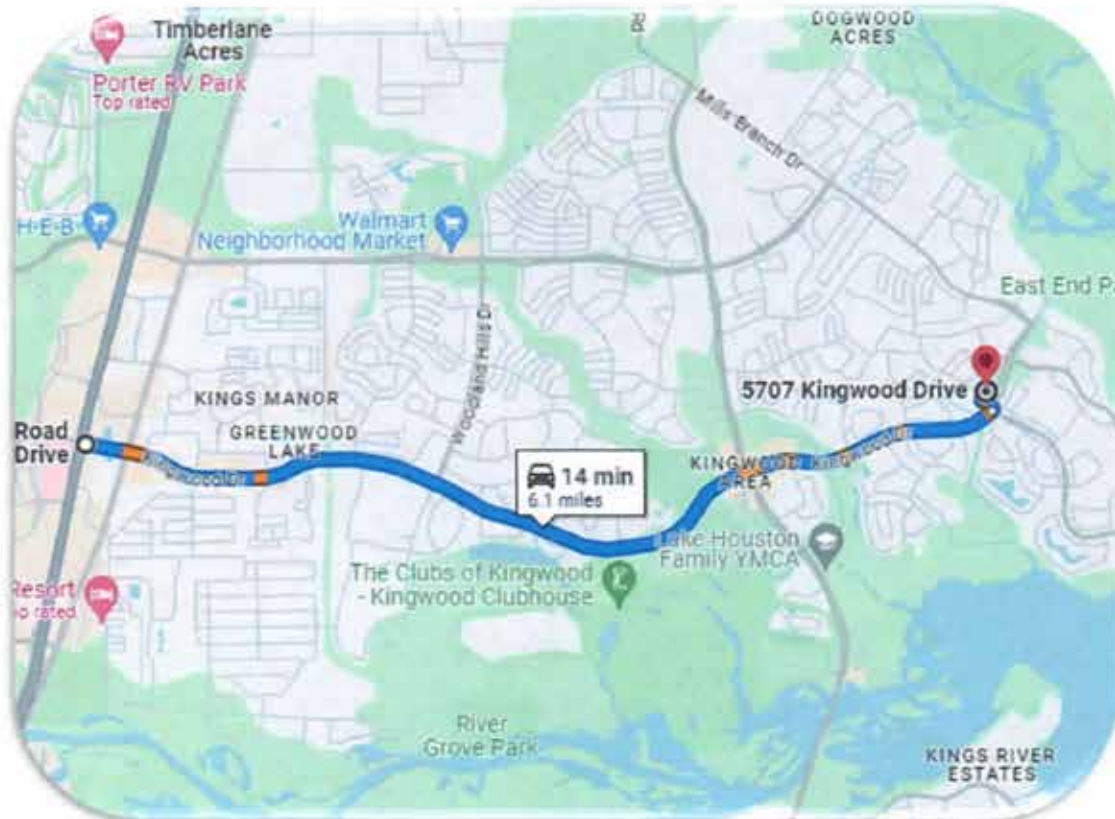


Daughters of the Republic of Texas



Woodridge Baptist Church is located at 5707 Kingwood Drive, Kingwood.

From I59/69, take the Kingwood Drive exit onto the feeder and turn east onto Kingwood Drive. Continue 6.1 miles to Willow Terrace. Turn left on Willow Terrace and then take the second right drive into the church parking lot. Enter the building through Entrance G.



For more Information contact:
Patti Johnson, District VI Representative at district6rep@drinfo.org



Daughters of the Republic of Texas



DISTRICT VI WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM OCTOBER 25-26, 2024

Name:			
Address:			
Phone:		Email:	
Chapter Name:			
Chapter Office:			
BOM/ Committee Position			

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024 – PRE-WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

Activity	# Attending
Humble Museum Tour	

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2024 – 2024 DISTRICT WORKSHOP

Registration	Member: \$50	
<i>(Registration includes Continental Breakfast, and Lunch)</i>	\$60, after Oct 7	
	CRT or Guest: \$20	
Name of Guest/CRT:		
Lunch: Jasons Boardroom Box (sandwich, chips, fruit, cookie) <i>Lunch will not be available for walk-ins.</i> (select one below)		
<input type="radio"/> Chicken salad	<input type="radio"/> Ham	<input type="radio"/> Smoked Turkey
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>If you require gluten-sensitive box check here and indicate sandwich above.</i>		<input type="radio"/> Vegetarian Box
		Clear <input type="radio"/>

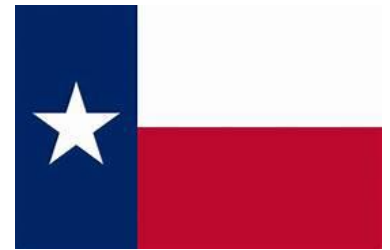
Chapter Tables	Half table at \$10	
	Full table \$20	
CRT, DRT HQ, Library, RTHC, Cradle	No Charge	
Table Name		
	Amount Enclosed	\$ 0.00

1. Registration due Oct 7, 2024
2. Complete form, make a copy for your files, mail original to address below.
3. Make checks payable to: Seth Hurin Bates Chapter, DRT
4. Mail form and check to:

Marsha Richards
 9310 Fairfield Oaks Lane
 Porter, TX 77365-7066
 Phone: 832-233-2725
 Email: marichards1978@gmail.com



Save the Date



Road to Independence

*Join the Sons of the Republic of Texas
Daughters of the Republic of Texas
& Children of the Republic of Texas*

Celebrate our Heritage

Stephen F. Austin's Birthday

"Father of Texas"

November 3, 2024, Sunday

2:00 p. m. – 5:00 p. m.

Pioneer Memorial Log House

Owned by the San Jacinto Chapter, DRT

1510 Cambridge, Houston, Tx

*There will be a Flag Retirement Ceremony, Rolling Thunder,
Texas Music, Re-enactors, Silent Auction and a Chili Cook-Off.*

*If you are interested in having a Chili Team,
please contact Eron Tynes – texan54@att.net*



Road to Independence - Celebrating our Heritage



November 3, 2024

Registration and Donation Form

As with many events it takes all of us working together to help defray expenses. There are several areas where you may make a contribution or donation. Please mail completed form with payment to Carla Brown, 5220 Wesleyan C103, Houston, 77005-1079, email form to Carla Brown: treasurer@sjcdrt.org, or complete the online form.

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____

Guest Fees:

No. of Adults _____ @ \$10.00/adult \$ _____

No. of Children _____ @ \$ 5.00/child \$ _____

Donation: \$ _____

Contribution(s):

Dessert(s) _____
(Please only cookies, brownies or wrapped candy)

Silent Auction:

Item(s): _____

Value: \$ _____

Total Payment: \$ _____

Payment can be made by (please denote 03Nov24 in memo):

1. Cash or check payable to San Jacinto Chapter, DRT
2. Venmo to @San-Jacinto
3. Credit Card – click [here](#) or scan OR code for online registration

If you are interested in having a Chili Team,
please contact Eron Tynes at texan54@att.net.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Galveston Historical Foundation and Elissa



The Elissa, sailing in the Galveston Harbor

Elissa is a three (3) masted, square-rigged iron barque ship. She was built in Aberdeen, Scotland in 1877 and has sailed under several flags, including Norway and Sweden. In 1930 she was sold to Finland. Sadly, Elissa was eventually abandoned in Greece's Piraeus Harbor scrap yard. It was there in 1978 that the Galveston Historical Foundation (GHF) found and rescued her. The GHF purchased Elissa and brought her to Galveston for restoration.



It was not until 1982 that the staff and volunteers completed the restoration in 1982, transforming this extremely rare vessel into a floating museum -- *that sails too*.

Elissa is one of only three ships of her kind in the world that actually still sails. She welcomes over 40,000 visitors annually and serves as the official Tall Ship of Texas, a National Historic Landmark, and a symbol of the Texas Navy.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

San Jacinto Chapter CRT Bulletin Board

New CRT Year 2024

The new CRT Year officially began on August 1, 2024. We finished out the 2023/2024 year with participation in the San Jacinto Day Celebration, the Battle of San Jacinto Anniversary Ceremony, and the CRT Convention in Waco. We're happy to announce our new chapter officers for the 2024/2025 year:

President: Lorien Wolter
Chaplain: Anthony Thelen
Treasurer: Anthony Klementich
Historian: Annie Wallace
Recording Secretary: Morgan Wolter

Raffle Tickets

The CRT President General and BOM will be selling raffle tickets at each workshop to support her project "Growing Texas Leaders". "Will you be attending the district workshops in our area? Be sure to bring a little cash to purchase CRT raffle tickets! Money raised benefits the CRT Scholarship Fund. 1 ticket for \$5 or 5 for \$20. The winner receives a Texas hat, a Texas cup, and a candy basket. Drawing will be at the CRT Convention in Clear Lake June 21, 2025. You do not have to be present to win."

Our SJCRT Chapter will be participating in these events, come join us!

- **October 19:** San Jacinto Fall Fandango
- **October 26:** District VI Workshop, Kingwood
- **November 3:** DRT/SRT/ CRT Chili Cook-off at Pioneer Memorial Log House

2024-2025 Project Book

"It's here!" You can stay active between meetings and support National Officers' Projects by participating in activities found in the Project Book. There are individual and chapter options for all ages! If you participate in an activity, please let me know (tishwolter@mac.com). Find the Project Book at www.crttexas.com.

DRT / SRT Transfers

SJCCRT Ladies: If you are turning 16 years old in 2024, you qualify for dual membership in Children of the Republic of Texas and Daughters of the Republic of Texas. Please reach out to me at tishwolter@mac.com or to our DRT Registrar, Trudi Becht, at registrar@sjcdrt.org if you have any questions about transferring to DRT.
SJCCRT Gentlemen: If you are under the age of 18, you qualify for Junior Membership in Sons of the Republic of Texas. If you are 18 or over, you qualify for Regular membership in SRT. Please visit SRTtexas.org for details.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

CRT Grade 4 Essay Contest



ESSAY CONTEST FOR 4TH GRADE STUDENTS

*SPONSORED BY THE SAN JACINTO CHAPTER
OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS*



ESSAY TOPIC

**WRITE AN ESSAY ON JUANA NAVARRO ALSBURY-
SURVIVOR OF THE ALAMO**

COVER PAGE MUST INCLUDE:

Student's Name – Title of Essay – Name of school and address – Daughters of the Republic of Texas – San Jacinto Chapter, Houston, Texas – Gayla Sonderegger, 713-417-6048 – Patti Johnson, District VI – Parent's Name, phone, and mailing address.

ESSAY GUIDELINES:

The most important part of the essay should be historical accuracy. The essay should be original, interesting, and well organized. Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are considered in judging.

Typed essays: 1" margins top and bottom, 1.25" margins on sides, minimum 1.5 pages

"New Times Roman" font, size 12, double spaced

Handwritten essays: Word count between 500-525 words

BIBLIOGRAPHY REQUIREMENTS:

Four references are needed with no more than two internet references. Bibliography should include author's name, title of book, article, or newspaper, city of publication, publisher, date of publication.

Attach and submit essay including cover sheet and bibliography to sjcdrteducation@gmail.com on or before FEBRUARY 1, 2025. Essays may be mailed to SJC Pioneer Memorial Log House, 1510 Cambridge, Houston, Texas 77030-1732. Please contact Gayla Sonderegger at 713-417-6048 with any questions.

The winners will be awarded a \$100 check and honored at an awards reception by the San Jacinto Chapter at the SJC Pioneer Memorial Log House in May, 2025. The winning essays are then submitted to District VI for a chance to win \$50. At the state level, the winning district essays will be considered for \$500, a certificate, and a plaque. The state winners will be honored at the DRT Convention Luncheon.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

CRT Grade7 Essay Contest



ESSAY CONTEST FOR 7TH GRADE STUDENTS

*SPONSORED BY THE SAN JACINTO CHAPTER
OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS*



ESSAY TOPIC

WHICH SITE SHOULD BE REGARDED AS THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS: SAN JACINTO, WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS, OR WEST COLUMBIA?

COVER PAGE MUST INCLUDE:

Student's Name – Title of Essay – Name of school and address – Daughters of the Republic of Texas – San Jacinto Chapter, Houston, Texas – Gayla Sonderegger, 713-417-6048 – Patti Johnson, District VI – Parent's Name, phone, and mailing address.

ESSAY GUIDELINES:

The most important part of the essay should be historical accuracy. The essay should be original, interesting, and well organized. Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are considered in judging.

Typed essays: 1" margins top and bottom, 1.25" margins sides on 8 ½ " x 11" paper, minimum 2.5 pages

"New Times Roman" font, size 12, double spaced

Handwritten essays: Word count between 800-825 words

BIBLIOGRAPHY REQUIREMENTS:

Four references are needed with no more than two internet references. Bibliography should include author's name, title of book, article, or newspaper, city of publication, publisher, date of publication.

Attach and submit essay including cover sheet and bibliography to sjcdrteducation@gmail.com on or before **FEBRUARY 1, 2025**. Essays may be mailed to DRT Pioneer Memorial Log House, 1510 Cambridge, Houston, Texas 77030-1732. Please contact Gayla Sonderegger at 713-417-6048 with any questions.

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Texian Frontier Revelry: Relive the 1830s

Step back in time and immerse yourself in the vibrant spirit of the 1830s at the San Jacinto Fall Fandango on Saturday, October 19, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. In an era when neighbors lived miles apart, social gatherings like a fandango were essential for bringing communities together. Families and friends are invited to join us as we explore civilian life on the Texas frontier and experience the joy of these historic festivities

Event Highlights

Experience Frontier Life:

Dive into a variety of living history activities suitable for all ages, offering a glimpse into the 1830s.

Family-Friendly Saloon Games:

Try your hand at authentic historical games that are fun for the whole family.

Historical Cooking Flavors:

Taste delicious recipes from the past, prepared with traditional methods.

Meet Artisans and Heritage Groups:

Discover the skills and stories of talented artisans and historical reenactors.

Market Vendors and Food Trucks:

Explore unique goods and savor tasty treats from a range of vendors.



Event Details

Location: Outside the San Jacinto Monument.

Age Range: All ages; activities for kids and adults.

Cost: Free to attend. Food and merchandise will be available to purchase.

Note: The event is outdoors, so please dress accordingly for the weather.

For more information, email san-jacinto-battleground@thc.texas.gov or call 281-479-2431.



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Battle of Gonzales



The Battle of Gonzales

Gonzales is one of the earliest Anglo-American settlements in Texas, the first west of the Colorado River. It was established by Empresario Green DeWitt as the capital of his colony in August 1825. DeWitt named the community for Rafael Gonzáles, governor of Coahuila y Tejas. Informally, the community was known as the DeWitt Colony.

The original settlement (located where Highway 90-A crosses Kerr Creek) was abandoned in 1826 after two Indian attacks. It was rebuilt nearby in 1827. The town remains today as it was originally surveyed.

Gonzales is referred to as the "Lexington of Texas" because it was the site of the first skirmish of the Texas Revolution. In 1831, the Mexican government had granted Green DeWitt's request for a small cannon for protection against Indian attacks. At the outbreak of disputes between the Anglo settlers and the Mexican authorities in 1835, a contingent of more than 100 Mexican soldiers was sent from San Antonio to retrieve the cannon.

When the soldiers arrived, only 18 men were in Gonzales, but they refused to return the cannon, and men from the surrounding area soon joined them. Texians under the command of John Henry Moore confronted them. Sarah DeWitt and her daughter sewed a flag bearing the likeness of the cannon and the words "Come and Take It", which was flown when the first shots of Texian independence were fired on October 2, 1835. The Texians successfully resisted the Mexican troops in what became known as the Battle of Gonzales.

Reprinted from Wikipedia



John Henry Moore



Green DeWitt



Sarah DeWitt



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Honor Days

Texas Heroes Day

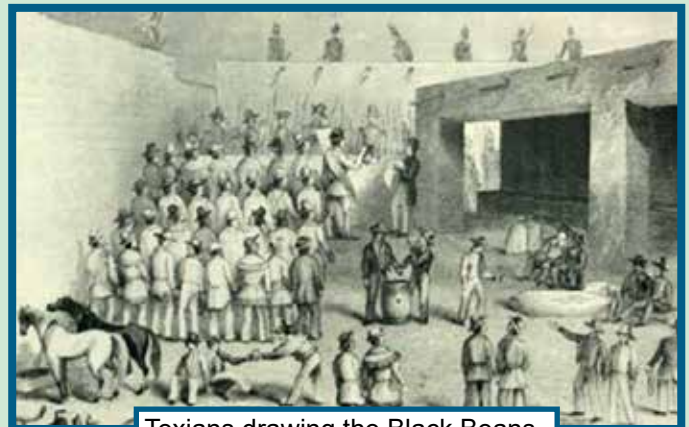
September 18th

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas recognize Texas military heroes on September 18th. DRT has designated this day to honor and preserve the memory of the volunteer soldiers who died defending the Republic and to pay tribute to the men and women of the military, both past and present, who serve Texas. Special emphasis is placed on honoring those who died in the Mier Expedition and the Dawson Massacre.

The Dawson Massacre occurred on September 18, 1842 when 36 volunteer Texan soldiers were killed on the field of battle which took place near Salado Creek, a few miles northeast of San Antonio. The battle was fought during a second invasion of the Mexican army. Three survivors escaped to tell the story, and 15 others were taken prisoner by Mexican soldiers and marched to Perote Prison in Veracruz, Mexico.

The Mier Expedition, the last of the raiding expeditions from Texas into the area south of the Nueces River during the days of the Republic of Texas, was the most disastrous of the expeditions from Texas into Mexico. The expedition was an unsuccessful military operation launched in November 1842 by a Texian militia against Mexican border settlements; it was related to the Somervell expedition. It included a major battle at Ciudad Mier (located south of the Rio Grande in modern day Mexico) on December 26 and 27, 1842, which the Mexicans won. The Texian attack was launched partly in hopes of financial gain and partly in retaliation for the Dawson Massacre (as named by Texans) earlier that year.

Both conflicts were part of continuing efforts by each side to control the land between the Rio Grande and Nueces River. The Republic of Texas believed that this territory had been ceded to it in the Treaties of Velasco, by which they gained independence; but Mexico did not agree.



Texians drawing the Black Beans



THE BOOK CORNER

Did your ancestors settle in Montgomery County? It was established on December 14, 1837. The area called the "Cradle of Texas" now includes an area covering Montgomery County and parts of San Jacinto, Liberty, Walker, Waller, and Grimes Counties. The original Montgomery County included land from the Brazos River to the Trinity (west to east) and Spring Creek to the Old San Antonio Road (south to north) from 1836 - 1846. Major cities there now include Huntsville, Montgomery, Conroe, Navasota, Anderson, Madisonville, The Woodlands, and Washington-on-the-Brazos.

Dr. Robin Montgomery and Joy Montgomery have published a book called *Cradle of the Texas Republic*, published in 2022. This book gives a list of interesting sites and cemeteries of each city and town in the original county and tells how they were settled. Then the authors give an interesting history of the settling of Texas in the area.

Did you know that there were two attempts to establish a Republic of Texas before the successful endeavor in 1836? In October 1812, a group of Anglo-Americans, Native Americans, and Tejanos made the first declaration of an independent Republic of Texas near present Madisonville. They took over San Antonio in early 1813, and on April 6, 1813, they drew up a constitution and flew a Green Irish flag! This multi-cultural group called the 'Green Flag Republic' lasted until August 1813 when they were defeated by the Spanish troops and demolished.

The second declaration of independence was made by the followers of Dr. James Long in 1819. He started with 75 followers in Natchez, Mississippi, and the group grew to over 300 men by the time they reached Nacogdoches. They built four forts in the Montgomery County area but were again defeated by Spanish soldiers.

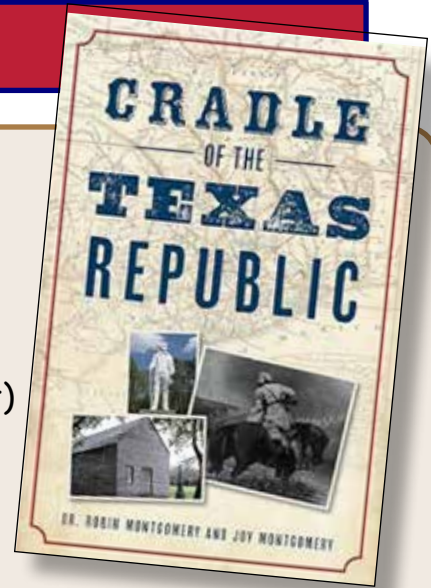
A strong tribe of native Americans who lived in the area were the Bidai. By the 1820's, the Bidai tribe were known as the sovereign tribe of the whole state of Texas. The chief of the Bidai claimed in 1828 that his tribe owned all of Texas, "including all the land, the waters, and the buffalo, deer, and turkeys"!

An interesting section on Stephen F. Austin's letter to the Mexican government requesting the establishment of his colony was about education. He states that "All restrictions or prohibitions on the introduction, sale or reading of books, are calculated to prevent the diffusion of intellectual light and knowledge: to retard the improvement of the nation, by perpetuating ignorance, . . . and shall never be imposed under any pretext whatever." The authors of this book feel that if Mirabeau B. Lamar is the Father of Education in Texas, Stephen F. Austin must be Texas Education's Grandfather!

The book tells of the clash and blending of the three cultures: Anglos, Tejanos, and Native Americans and then discusses the issue of slavery in Texas. There is a wonderful human-interest story about Joshua, a slave belonging to Margaret Houston in Alabama, who came with the Houston family to Texas and was educated here. He also made sure his four sons and four daughters were educated.

Cradle of the Texas Republic is a wonderful study of the history of the Republic of Texas. This book is available for sale in our Country Store.

Beth Garrett McCarty





Republic of Texas Spinning

As a quilter, I am naturally curious about fabric production and our spinning wheel in the Log House. This prompted me to investigate spinning and weaving in early Texas. Thanks to the Texas Historical Commission "Spinning and Weaving" article published February 10, 2024 I gained knowledge for this article.

In 1830 James Bowie proposed establishing a cotton mill in the Mexican state of Coahuila and obtained a charter for it. Apparently land in Texas was very good for cotton production, having been a cotton fabric producer since the early Spanish Mission days. Bowie's plan never came to full fruition as he died at the Alamo in 1836.



Modern Spinning wheels at the Texas Historical Commission.



Fabric Looms, 1836

Fabric making in Texas would remain a cottage industry until after statehood. Settlers on the Texas frontier had to rely on their own skill to grow cotton and flax (linen), raise sheep for wool and goats/rabbits for mohair. Women made thread using spinning wheels they brought with them when they immigrated. Some were homemade as well as looms. They would weave the thread into cloth. One Mary Rabb, who immigrated to Texas with her husband John in 1823, recalled her early days in Texas, saying, "Andrew Rabb made a spinning wheel and made me a present of it. Then I was very much pleased and soon got to work making clothing for my family ... I kept my spinning wheel whistling all day and also a good part of the night."

By the 1880's, the process was industrialized and very little fabric was made at home anymore. The spinning wheel in our collection is a "Walking Wheel" or Great Wheel meaning the spinner had to stand and "walk" to complete the process. It is well suited for wool. Our wheel was loaned to us in 1937 by Mrs. Robert Barton (Marie Scovel Browder). It is estimated to be 200 years old and was used by her ancestors in Ireland and later in Alabama before immigration to Texas.

Take a peek at this excellent example next time you are at the Log house! You can learn more about traditional spinning and weaving at a demonstration from the Bay Area Weavers and Spinners every second Saturday at the San Jacinto Museum. 281-479-2421 www.sanjacinto-museum.org

Debra Grigsby



SJC DRT's Spinning Wheel



The San Jacinto Dispatch

Double Your Donation

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.org 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 HOgrogerCommunityRewards@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 GoodNeighbor@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





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