

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Daughters of the Republic of Texas



April 2016

April President's Message

April is all about San Jacinto Day. The Ceremony at the San Jacinto Monument will be at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 21, 2016. Our San Jacinto Chapter will award six wonderful high school seniors a \$5,000.00 college scholarship to each of them.

What a grand opportunity our Chapter has to open the door to higher education to these exceptional young Texans. Mrs. Thelma Maresh wanted the San Jacinto Chapter to provide the first stepping stone to deserving high school seniors to begin their college education with the financial means to begin their journey. The generous endowment she left our Chapter enables us to continue to grant the Thelma Maresh Scholarships.

I hope to see you all at the San Jacinto Day Ceremony so we can cheer on our scholarship winners!

Jamie Moran, President



Mark Your Calendars June Banquet

When: **Thursday, June 2**

Where: **Lakeside Country Club**

More information and the chance to reserve your place will be available at the May meeting and in the May newsletter.



Due to circumstances both man-made and forces of nature, the newsletter is a week late this month. The plan was to have the newsletter out before San Jacinto Day, but that did not happen. Hopefully we will be back on schedule for May.

San Jacinto Day Celebration

Photos and a brief overview will be covered in the May newsletter.

May Meeting

Join us on May 5 for our annual Memorial Service and a presentation by Eron Brimberry Tynes along with Martha Jorgenson on *A Collection of Texas Inspirational*.

As Texans we take great pride in our illustrious history and how fortunate we are that this rich legacy has been transformed into beautiful inspirational poetry and song.

Eron is a Past President of the San Jacinto Chapter and a Honorary Member, Lone Star Chapter, Sons of the Republic of Texas. In addition to presenting numerous Texas moments at the Log House, she has also given other talks, *The Treacherous Road to Victory* and *The Treaty (and secret) Treaty of Velasco* across the state.

Martha is the Chapter's treasurer and chair of the Music Committee. She is a very talented musician and has presented numerous musical programs at the Log House.

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If you missed the April meeting...

Through an interesting and informative presentation, Jamie Wolman shared information about programs and projects for beautification of our Texas communities and the ongoing work to keep the towns and roads of Texas clean. Jamie's experiences as past president of Keep Texas Beautiful, as an active community member, and a long-time educator, provided her with many stories to share.

Jamie Moran

Jamie Wolman

Ann Tanner



The business part of the meeting included Eron Tynes presenting a "Log House Moment" in honor of the 80th birthday of the PMLH. Four new perspective members were approved (see the registrar's section). Luanne Zacek thanked the scholarship committee for their hard work and then announced the recipients of the Thelma Marseh Scholarship (see scholarship article).

Wonderful refreshments were provided by Luanne Zacek, Jamie Moran, Liz Liefeste, Stu Adamslundy, Sharolyn Wood, and Hope Davis. The cake was provided by Jan DeVault and brought by Eron Tynes.



Thelma Marseh Scholarship Recipients

The Thelma Marseh Scholarship Recipients were announced at the April meeting. They will be introduced during the San Jacinto Day program on April 21.

Christian Contreras Morton Ranch HS – Katy ISD planning to attend Texas A&M University

Mallory Langseth Deer Park HS – Deer Park ISD planning to attend Texas Tech University

Veronica Llanes: Clear Lake HS- Clear Creek ISD planning to attend Tarleton University in Stephenville

Samantha Sandacz: Cypress Creek HS-CyFair ISD planning to attend Texas State University

Ashlin Trevino Deer Park HS – Deer Park ISD Planning to attend Sam Houston State University

Cheyenne Valdez Deer Park HS – Deer Park ISD planning to attend University of Houston Clear Lake



The **Scholarship Committee** has the difficult task of reviewing many outstanding scholarship applications and from the many making the selection of the recipients.

Committee members are Jamie Moran, Luanne Zacek (Chair), Brenda Auld, Brenda Stover, Debra Liss-Frank and Angela Mahmarian

Trees to Honor Kae Weber Theilen

Recently, two trees, an Oak, and a Magnolia, have been planted in the east garden of the Pioneer Memorial Log House. These two special trees are planted to honor and memorialize Kae Weber Theilen, a valuable member of San Jacinto Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas until her death in December 2014. In the future, stone plaques with dedication information will be placed at the base of each tree. These trees are as strong as the beautiful lady we remember today. As you stop by to view and visit the new trees in our garden, remember Kae in your thoughts and prayers. She was a treasure to have amongst us. She loved being at the old Log House.

Katherine Weber Theilen was approved for membership on 22 December, 2006. Kae stepped right up to assist with "whatever" was needed and began being "part of our chapter" by bringing homemade cookies for our refreshments, as she was an excellent cook. One of the first events she participated in was the "Chili Cook-off" where she and Margaret Standard served Texas White Chili to the attendees. Kae became a member of the board of PMLHM and the San Jacinto Chapter board. She was always at the meetings and events of SJC. Once one got to know Kae, she was a valued friend for life. Kae was born in Corpus Christi, Nueces Co., TX in 1940. She married Hershale Dean Theilen in Harris County on the 4th of May 1968 and is survived by him. Among other survivors are two daughters, Hope and Carol, members of SJC, and one son, Ross. Kae and Hershale's five beautiful grandchildren are all members of SJC-CRT, and their daughter-in-law, Melane, is an associate member of SJC. Kae is also survived by one sister of Brownsville, a former member of SJC, and one brother of Kerrville.

Kae came to SJC for membership, after she could not get other DRT chapters in the Houston area to guide her through the application papers. It was a pleasure to assist Kae with her application, and all the other members which followed in her family. We were so happy to have wonderful new members such as Kae, and her daughters, and sister. Their proven ancestor was Sophie Henrietta Dorothea Ernst, Kae's great-grandmother. Sophie was born on German soil in 1838, traveled to the Republic of Texas on the ship, The Gerhard Herman, with her Ernst family who settled in Gillespie County, Texas.

Sophie was married to Johann Henrich Dietz in 1859, and together they had 9 children, one son Theodore being Kae's grandfather. Sophie died in May 1923 in Fredericksburg, Gillespie Co., Texas where she had married and raised her family. Kae used the old German family Bible with beautiful colored pages to prove portions of her application.

Kae was quite the seamstress. Kae loved the outdoors, and enjoyed a beautiful vegetable garden and the fruits of it. She enjoyed seeing a beautiful yard, front and back, where various flowers stood each year, especially the caladiums and daylilies. She was a member of the Houston Daylily Society, and Gethsemane Lutheran Church where she volunteered often. She was a very generous person. Funds for the purchase of the two trees, the planting of them, and dedication plaques were raised by the committee with donations in Kae's honor and in memory of her. Luanne Zacek, Chairman, Margaret Standard, and Phyllis V. Moody served on the committee to see that Kae was honored. This committee made sure that the trees were purchased and professionally planted in the exact spot where they stand today. On the East side of the Log House, rest a bit in the shade of either tree, as Kae would be so pleased to share them with you.

(Article by Phyllis Moody)



Live Oak tree and Magnolia tree planted on the grounds of the Pioneer Memorial Log House in memory of Kae Theilen.

Registrar's Report

New Member: Approved 5 Feb 2016

Lieck, Carlota Garcia Ancestor: Julian Flores
Mrs. Roberto Lieck
2810 Brookline Drive
Missouri City, TX 77459
Birthday 06 March
(713) 440-9997

New Member: Approved 18 April 2016

Wiley, Barbara Ann Middleton Ancestor: Miller, WM H
Mrs. Alvin Roy Wiley
2424 Alamanni Drive
Pearland, Texas 77581-1628
Birthday 10 December
832-598-2785 H
281-793-8912 C

Total membership as of April 7, 2016: 296

Pioneer Memorial Log House

One of the ways the San Jacinto Chapter of DRT honors its founders and the history of Texas, is with the maintaining and sharing of the Pioneer Memorial Log House.

A monthly open house, private tours, and rental opportunities for special events are only a few of the many activities happening in the PMLH in addition to our chapter meetings.

To make all this happen takes a lot of work by dedicated volunteers. The lead docents who open the log house the 3rd Saturday of each month are **Beth McCarty** and **Carolyn Gilbert**. They both shared that they appreciate the members who step in when needed – Marje Harris, Sharolyn Wood and Luanne Zacek.

Any member who is interested in helping with this endeavor to support the PMLH can contact Beth or Carolyn for more information.

Registrar's Report

Prospective members approved by vote of members present April 7 SJCDRT meeting.

Brasseaux, Shirley Ann Scherer Ancestor: Humphrey Jackson
314 Willow vista Drive
El Lago, Texas 77586-6018

Easterly, Kathryn Candace Cooper Ancestor: Adam J. Smith
5203 Beech
Bellaire, Texas 77401

Ramey, Margaret Holland Jones Ancestor: Thomas Barnett
2217 Hollister Street, #606
Houston, Texas
832-245-2286
wmkt2@hotmail.com

Thompson, Marcie Ancestor: Augustin Weber
2135 Havencrest Drive
Houston, Texas 77038
832-465-1689
mwilsont@yahoo.com

Chapter Members

The *San Jacinto Dispatch* is to serve as an informational and communication tool for our chapter.

If you have suggestions, ideas, or requests for ways that the newsletter can better meet the needs of the chapter, please let us know.

You can send this information to Jamie Moran, chapter president, or to me, Susan Stormer, as newsletter editor.

susan@familyaggies.com

Thanks and God Bless Texas!