

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

January 2015



From the President:

Happy New Year from the Log House!

We are busy at the Log House—meetings, rentals, and work on the grounds.

The January Chapter meeting was well attended, and although cold outside, the Log House was warm and toasty.

We will bus to Galveston for our field trip, with lunch at Gaido's. Yum. Be sure and reserve your bus seat for the March 5th field trip to Galveston. Jamie Moran is taking reservations.

San Jacinto Chapter is reinstating the tradition of the Log House Minute thanks to past president Gina Brouchard sharing this tradition. At future meetings, a chapter member will share with us an ancestor's story of early Texas.

One of my favorite Chapter activities of the year is coming soon—Pioneer Days at the Log House. We have successfully held this event on "Zoo Day's" during Spring Break. This year Pioneer Days will be March 16 & 17. Contact Luanne Zacek to join us.

The Nominating Committee is working to present our slate of officers for 2015-2017. Details on how to serve are in the newsletter.

Realizing that we have interested members who cannot attend our monthly meetings, in our newsletters, we will provide you with details on how you can participate from now to June in Chapter events. Whether reviewing scholarship applications, serving as an officer, being a Texas Pioneer Day volunteer, or providing refreshments for our meetings—San Jacinto Chapter needs you to participate.

Sharolyn

2nd VP Jamie Moran with January speaker Mike Jackson



February 5th Chapter Meeting 10:00 am

Join us on February 5th to welcome our guest speaker, Dick Ambrus, who will speak on "The History of Glenwood Cemetery."



Richard A. (Dick) Ambrus, a Certified Public Account, has been the Executive Director of Glenwood Cemetery for thirty one years and the Glenwood Cemetery Historic Foundation since its inception in 1999. A native of San Antonio, Texas, Dick has resided in Houston since 1974 and now considers himself a native of Houston. Dick formerly was in public practice as a CPA and also formerly the Mayor of the City of Jersey Village for two terms in the late 80's and early 90's.

Dick takes great pride in the improvements that have been made in Glenwood Cemetery in his thirty one year tenure, particularly the preservation and restoration of historical monuments. Some of which he will share with you today.

Jamie Moran, Program Chair

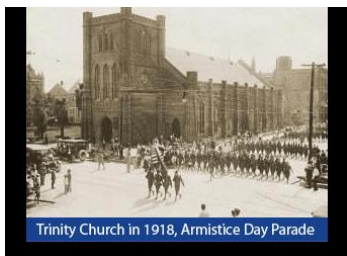
Inside This Issue



P. 2	March 5 th Field Trip; Nominations Committee; Fly Your Texas Flag
P. 3	Pioneer Days 2015; Response Forms for Field Trip and for Pioneer Days Volunteers
P. 4	2015 Thelma Maresh Scholarship Announcement"
P. 5	New Officers Elected; In Memorium--Kae Theilen
P. 6	State DRT Committee Update; Calendar for 2015; In Memoriam--Lucy-Jane Saks

March 5th
Galveston Field Trip
Trinity Episcopal Church & the
Cradle

San Jacinto Chapter's March meeting is traditionally a field trip. The 2015 Field Trip will visit two historic buildings in Galveston, with lunch at Gaido's, the famous seafood restaurant on Seawall Blvd.



Trinity Church in 1918, Armistice Day Parade

Trinity Episcopal Church was founded in 1841 by The Rev. Benjamin Easton. The gothic structure, completed in 1847, is one of the two oldest churches in Galveston, having survived numerous hurricanes, yellow-fever epidemics, fire and flood. The church is located at 22nd and Winnie Streets. We will have a one hour guided tour.



The **Cradle** is the "birthplace" of The Daughters of the Republic of Texas. The building was originally the law library of William Pitt Ballenger, father of co-founder Miss Betty Ballinger, where Miss Ballinger and her first cousin, Mrs. Hally Bryan Perry, formulated the idea for their new organization which would become The Daughters of the Republic of Texas. The Cradle is located at 2902 Avenue O ½, the corner of O ½ Street and 29th Street.

Field Trip Schedule:

- 9:00-9:15 Board bus, St. Luke's United Methodist Church.
- 9:30 Bus leaves for Galveston
- 11:00 Tour of Trinity Episcopal Church
- 12:30 Lunch at Gaido's
- 1:30 Visit the Cradle
- 3:30 Arrive at St. Luke's

Make your reservations now. Join us for the fellowship and convenience of the bus ride to Galveston. A minimum of 12 riders are required for the Pct. 4 bus.

Don't want to take the bus? Let Jamie know if you plan to meet us in Galveston.

We need to know if you are coming. Complete the reservation form or contact Jamie Moran at moranjamieta@aol.com or (713) 584-0254.

Nominations Committee

At Work.....

Join us at the Log House!

Are you interested in serving on the Executive Board? Are you interested in serving on a committee? Or are you interested in participating in one particular event, e.g. Christmas decorating or Pioneer Days? Do you want to assist with CRT activities?

The **Nominating Committee for 2015-2017** is currently putting together the San Jacinto Chapter slate of officers who will take office at our June Luncheon and a list of committees to work with our new president. The committee members will be glad to visit with you and find a way for you to participate.

Check out the Yearbook "Chapter" section for the offices and the committees which make our Log House hum. The Bylaws will tell you the official whys and wherefores.

The Chapter needs **officers** like president and vice presidents, as well as a historian, parliamentarian, and chaplain. We need **committee chairs and members** to help with social events, chapter refreshments, calling members without email, and the Log House and grounds, as well as members who can assist with photography, computer needs, genealogy research, or mailing the newsletter.

If you are not able to attend week day meetings, the Chapter needs you to serve on our scholarship or Texas history essay committees or as a docent when we open the Log House on the third Saturday of each month.

To find out how you can participate, contact:

Jamie Moran, Nominations Committee Chair; **Marje Harris**, **Carolyn Lightfoot**, **Joann Russell**, and **Ann Tanner**, Committee Members



Texas Honor Days

Fly your Texas flag!

Texas Statehood Day, 1846
February 19

Texas Independence Day, Flag Day, 1836
Sam Houston's Birthday, 1793
March 2

Alamo Heroes Day, 1836
March 6

March 5th Galveston Field Trip

*COMPLETE THE FORM TO MAIL IN YOUR RESERVATION BY **February 19, 2015***

_____ Reservation(s) for bus trip and lunch

_____ Reservation(s) for lunch only (private travel)

Please print Reservation for _____

My Guest(s) _____

Cell Phone Contact Number _____
(in case we need to contact you on the field trip)

**Respond to Jamie at (713) 584-0254 or moranjamiet@aol.com
or mail this response to Jamie Moran, 11406 Mullins Dr., Houston, Texas 77035-2632**

March 16 & 17 -- Pioneer Days 2015

Volunteer Now!

Texas Pioneer Days have been a great success. Our first year, over 800 children, parents and grandparents visited the Log House during Spring Break. With "Zoo Days 2015" drawing visitors to Cambridge Street, we will again welcome visitors to the Log House for refreshments and tours. The children will love doing the Texas history oriented crafts.

To host Texas Pioneer Days 2015, we will open the Log House for two days, Monday, March 16, and Tuesday, March 17. From 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, our volunteers will provide refreshments, help children with crafts, and give tours of the museum. Texas Pioneer Days is a wonderful way to meet our mission statement to educate the children of Texas on our history and heritage. Yes, you may volunteer for one day or both days!



Luanne helps young visitors create Texas flags.

Let me know what days you can be a Texas Pioneer Days Volunteer so we may begin making plans. You may leave a message on our Log House telephone at (713) 522-0396, or even easier, email me at lzacek@hotmail.com, or sent in the reservation form below.

Luanne Zacek, CRT Registrar

Volunteer Form for Pioneer Days

*COMPLETE THE FORM TO MAIL IN YOUR RESPONSE BY **MARCH 2, 2015***

Yes, I want to participate in Pioneer Days:

Please print name _____

_____ **March 16, 2015** _____ **March 17, 2015** _____ **BOTH DAYS**

**Respond to Luanne Zacek at (713) 522-0396 or lzacek@hotmail.com,
Or mail in this response to Luanne Zacek, 6521 Patricia Lane, Katy, TX 77493-1818**



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

Thelma Maresh Scholarship 2015

The goal of the Thelma Maresh Scholarship Program is to recognize and award scholarships to graduating students in the Greater Metropolitan Area of Houston who are extraordinary leaders, outstanding scholars and responsible citizens. **Six scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 each will be awarded.** Awards will be presented on April 21, 2015, during the San Jacinto Day Commemorative Ceremony at the San Jacinto Monument, San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site.

Criteria for Selection

The scholarship committee will seek the most promising student leaders with potential for providing exceptional contributions to the college or university which he/she will attend and to the world at large. The selection will be based on:

1. leadership
2. scholarship
3. responsible citizenship

In addition to these criteria, the scholarship committee is interested in the applicant's educational and career plans, life philosophy, volunteerism, motivation and determination.

Eligibility

1. Must be a high school senior who will graduate before June 30 of the current school year.
2. Must be qualified, upon graduation, to enroll at an accredited four-year college or university.
3. Must be a citizen of the United States.
4. Must have a **minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0.**
5. Must exemplify achievement, leadership, and college and career potential.

Application Procedures

1. Complete the application form with a photograph attached and **return on or before March 13, 2015**, to: Mrs. Luanne Zacek, 6521 Patricia Lane, Katy, Texas 77493.
2. Provide **official** high school transcript(s) and copy of SAT/ACT Test Results. Test Results may be on your transcript or a copy of your scores from the test center. Transcript(s) should show final grades for all courses taken from 9th grade to most recently completed semester in high school. Unofficial transcripts are not acceptable. **Official transcripts are mailed from the registrar's office to us.**
3. Provide 2 letters of recommendation: one recommendation of academic and one of nonacademic, supporting academic achievements, leadership skills, and college potential.
4. Submit a typed narrative supporting your life goals and experiences. See application instructions.
5. Scholarship recipients will be notified prior to April 14, 2015. If you would like to know if you are a recipient, you may email me at lzacek@hotmail.com after April 14, 2015.
6. The scholarship committee reserves the right to interview applicants as part of the application process.

Scholarship Award Checks will be issued beginning June 1, 2015, upon proof of registration at college or university. Your name must be on the printed proof by the university.

For Scholarship Applications/Information, contact: Mrs. Luanne Zacek
6521 Patricia Lane
Katy, TX 77493-1818
lzacek@hotmail.com

New Secretary for San Jacinto Chapter

On January 29, 2015, **Joann Russell** was elected Recording Secretary by the Executive Board pursuant to the Bylaw provision for filling a vacant officer position. Ann Tanner and Margie Forster have been serving as Acting Recording Secretary. Joanne will take over the secretary duties at the February chapter meeting.

New Officer and Director for PMLHM

Carolyn Lightfoot has agreed to serve as President of The Friends of the Log House. President Sharolyn Wood announced this appointment at the January 29th Board meetings. Carolyn is past president of San Jacinto Chapter and former District VI Representative.



Carolyn Lightfoot, President, Friends of the Log House

The San Jacinto Chapter Executive Board also filled the open Director At Large position on the Pioneer Memorial Log House Museum Board, electing Diana Stachowiak to the term which runs until June 30, 2017. Diana joins Margie Forster, Gwen Kunz, Tamara Phillips, Esther Simon, Sharolyn Wood, and Luanne Zacek on the PMLHM Board.



Diana Stachowiak named to PMLHM Board

The Executive Board of the San Jacinto Chapter meets at the Log House on the last Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. The PMLHM Board meets after the chapter board.



In Memoriam

Katherine Weber Theilen

Katherine Weber Theilen went to be with our Lord on December 27, 2014, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was 74.

Kae was a beloved wife and mother as well as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Born in Corpus Christi, Texas, on September 4, 1940, she graduated from Harlingen High School in 1957, and went on to earn a BS in Education from Southwest Texas State College in San Marcos in 1961. After moving to Pasadena to teach elementary education, she met and married Hershale Dean Theilen of Lahoma, OK, on May 4, 1968.

Kae was an active member of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, The Heritage Society and the Houston Hemerocallis Society.

Kae is survived by her husband of 46 years, Hershale Theilen; her children Katherine Hope Davis of Calgary, Canada, Ross Dean Theilen of Denver, CO, and Carol Lyn Theilen of Houston; her brother Ross Kenneth Weber, Jr. of Kerrville, Texas and her sister Carolyn Weber Schwartz of San Benito, Texas; and 5 grandchildren.

Visitation was held at Pat Foley Funeral Home on December 30, from 6pm to 8pm. The funeral was at Gethsemane Lutheran Church on December 31 at 10am with interment at Glenwood Cemetery immediately after. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas – San Jacinto Chapter; Gethsemane Lutheran Church; or The Heritage Society at Sam Houston Park.

Update on State Committees:

SJC members Joann Russell has been named to the Cradle Committee and Anita Cooper named to chair the Nominations Committee...

CRADLE COMMITTEE

Joann Russell, Committee Member

This committee supervises the Cradle, making recommendations to the BOM for any changes or improvements.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Anita Cooper, Chair

Previously reported SJC members serving on State DRT committees.

EDUCATION & FLAG COMMITTEE

Betty Stokes, Committee Member

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Brenda Auld, Committee Member; Sara Parr, Past Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Marje Harris, Committee Member

SAN JACINTO BATTLEFIELD COMMITTEE

Luanne Zacek, Committee Chair

(sanjacintochair@drtinfor.org)

Phyllis Moody, Committee Member



In Memoriam

Lucy-Jane Watson Saks

Lucy-Jane Watson Saks, born on the 12th of December 1911, daughter of Dr. Jerre Watson and Myrtle Garrett and step daughter of Annie Harrison Watson, passed away peacefully in Houston, on Friday the 22nd of January 2015, at the age of 103, in the presence of her family.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Colonel Julien David Saks. She leaves her daughter, Judith-Ann Saks Rosenthal and her husband Haskell; grandson, Brian Julien Rosenthal and his wife Eugenie Lang Rosenthal; grandchildren, Lilian Jane Rosenthal and Charles Julien Rosenthal; sister, Rebecca Stubblefield and her husband Herman; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Lucy-Jane grew up in Anniston, Alabama, the oldest of six children. She earned a BA in English and a Masters in Education from the University of Alabama, where she was Rush Captain in Alpha Chi Omega, an ROTC Sponsor, eventually serving as Vice President of the Alabama Alumni Association, and was State Secretary of the Alabama Junior Music Club.

She had strong faith, and she credited her longevity to not worrying about things out of her control. She was fiercely independent and believed in good habits. She taught fourth grade, wrote the Crimson White and the Anniston Star, served as secretary of the Anniston Little Theater and on the Sisterhood Board of Congregation Beth Israel. She was involved in the Lady Washington Chapter of the DAR, the San Jacinto Chapter of DRT; and the Magna Carta Barons and Dames.

The funeral service was conducted at two o'clock, Sunday, January 25, in the Chapel of Congregation of Beth Israel, 5600 North Braeswood Boulevard, in Houston, where Senior Rabbi David A. Lyon is to officiate. At a later date the family will gather for a private interment at Houston National Cemetery.

Calendar for 2015

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events

- February 5th Richard Ambrus, "The History of Glenwood Cemetery"
- March 5th Field Trip, "The Historic 1841 Trinity Episcopal Church and the Cradle in Galveston"
Lunch at Gaido's
- March 16th & 17th
Pioneer Days at the Log House
- April 2nd "Crazy Texas Weather!"
- April 21st San Jacinto Day Ceremony
- May 7th Laney Dwyer, "The Texas Room at the Julia Ideson Library"
- June 4th June Luncheon with New Member Ceremony and New Officer Installation