

The San Jacinto Dispatch

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

October 1 2016



From the President

Dear Daughters,

The temperature still says “summer,” but Mother Nature is saying “autumn.” The sunlight is just a little softer, leaves and acorns are beginning to fall, and pumpkin- spice flavored everything has arrived at all of the coffee shops!

The changing of the season brings us back to the Log House and the start of our wonderful DRT year. I hope this autumn will find you marking your calendar for all of our Chapter meetings and special events. We have so much to look forward to.

Thank you, to all of our tireless Board members who spent their summer planning our year and special events. These ladies are the “super glue” of our Chapter. Once again they have done an awesome job.

Please remember to bring an unopened box of #2 pencils and colored pencils for Rebecca Mustachio, our Texas History Teacher Award winner. She needs these for her students who struggle to have their school supplies. These will be your “admission ticket” to our Chapter meeting.

*I hope to see you all on October 6th.
Jamie Moran, President*

HONOR and MEMORIAL DAYS

- September 17 * Texian Navy Day
- September 18 * Texas Heroes Day
- October 2 * Gonzales Day *Come and Take It* (1835)
- November 3 * Stephen F. Austin Birthday (1793)
- November 6 * DRT Founders Day (1891)
- January 26 * Mirabeau B. Lamar Day
Father of Education
- February 19 * Texas Statehood Day (1846)
- March 2 * Texas Independence Day (1836)
- March 2 * Sam Houston’s Birthday (1793)
- March 6 * Alamo Heroes Day (1836)
- March 27* Goliad Heroes Day (1836)
- April 21 * San Jacinto Day (1836)

October 6, 2016

Judge Mark Davidson

The Incredible Importance of Rotting Papers: Historical Court Records of Texas

Judge Mark Davidson served as Judge of the 11th District Court for twenty years before his retirement in 2009. He is now serving as the Multi-District Litigation Judge for all asbestos cases in the State of Texas, being named to that position by Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson and the Multi-District Litigation Panel of the Texas Supreme Court. In that role, he has judicial duties over the 85,000 asbestos cases pending throughout the state.

SAVE THE DATE

We all know how the fall days seem to fly by and suddenly it is the holiday season. Make sure you mark your calendar on **DECEMBER 1** to join your DRT sisters for a fabulous luncheon in the beautifully decorated Pioneer Memorial Log House.

A great meal, wonderful musical entertainment, and conversations with old and new friends - what a joyful way to ring in the holidays.

Details and registration information will be coming soon.

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Editor: Susan Stormer
Proofreading and Fine Tuning: Phyllis Moody

Old Stamp Donation

Angela Mahmarian has donated old stamps to the newsletter department of SJC. Since she could not use, sell, or collect them any longer, she donated enough stamps for several mailings, saving the chapter lots of money.

About 60 of our members do not receive the newsletter by e-mail, but it is mailed to them by "snail-mail." Phyllis Moody applied the old stamps to the envelopes which held the September newsletter and mailed it. Even the postmaster was intrigued with the use of older stamps. He thought it was a very good idea.

Thanks so much Angela for your ingenious idea. We will put them to good use.



Working Behind the Scenes

To keep an organization like our San Jacinto DRT Chapter running smoothly takes the dedication of many chapter members. Some of the jobs done by members are observable to all, but some of the jobs are done quietly behind the scenes and the job and member are not acknowledged often enough.

One of those jobs is done by Phyllis Moody each month to be sure that all members who do not receive information through e-mail get a copy of the monthly newsletter. This number is about 60 members.

As you have probably already noticed, Phyllis volunteered to be the proof-reader for our chapter newsletter (for which this editor is exceedingly grateful). As soon as President Jamie Moran makes a final check of the newsletter and sends it out, Phyllis's other job begins.

Phyllis prints and copies the newsletter for all the 60 members, addresses the envelopes, gets the newsletters in the envelopes, stamps the envelopes, and gets them in the mail.

Thank you, Phyllis, for your dedication to making our chapter a better place for all members.

Member Biographical Form Needed by San Jacinto Chapter Chaplain

Our chaplain, Sally Whittington (281-333-5210), has received information from her DRT State representative that a new form is required from each of our chapter members as spelled out in the 2016 Manual of Procedure! This form needs to be filled out and returned to her as soon as you are able. President Jamie Moran will be sending you a letter with the form attached so you will have an electronic copy. If you receive this newsletter already printed, the form is attached.

This form is an informational form on you that the chapter will keep so that we will have a record of your family, your life in DRT, and hobbies and interests, etc. **The form can be found on the DRT website as well, under FORMS, officially named Member Biological Form M.06.** It will help us know you better!! The form may also be used for speaker information, record of activities for each member, chapter Memorial Service, and submission to the Chaplain General when reporting a member's death.

You can type your information directly into the form, save it on your computer, and forward it on to **Sally's email address ssw2517a@gmail.com**. Or you can print out a copy and either scan it back to Sally at **her email address** or US mail a hard copy to her at **18112 Lakeside Lane, Houston, Texas 77058**. Of course, you can bring it to the next chapter function as well, and hand it to her in person or to any member of the Board who will send it on to her. Your participation would be appreciated as we follow new guidelines outlined in the 2016 MOP.

Support for Our Texas History Teacher Award Winner

Last Spring we honored Rebecca Mustachio with the San Jacinto Chapter Texas History Teacher Award. Rebecca teaches in Spring Branch ISD and has many students whose families struggle to provide all their school supplies. Rebecca has shared that she finds one of the biggest needs is for #2 pencils and colored pencils. The San Jacinto Chapter Board feels this is a worthy project for our members to embrace.

So, as students are often required to give the teacher one fact learned that day as their "ticket out" of class, we are asking our members **to bring unopened boxes of #2 pencils and colored pencils as our "ticket in" for the October meeting.** We will continue collecting pencils throughout the year.

Texian Navy Day

The third Saturday of September is designated as Texian Navy Day; this year that day was September 17. The SRT held its annual Honor Day Ceremony at the Battleship Texas, honoring those Texas heroes who served our state through the Texas Navy. The activities then moved to Galveston to the Fisherman's Wharf Restaurant where the Commissioning Ceremony for new Admirals in the Texas Navy took place. The beautiful room setting and ceremonial activities made this year's Commissioning Ceremony a memorable one for all involved.

Organized and orchestrated by San Jacinto DRT member (and an Admiral in the Texas navy herself) Beth Fisher and Texas Navy Association Vice-President Admiral Richard Hatch, the ceremony featured a red carpet, a traditional Navy side-boy honor guard, and the ringing of the bell which once graced a Navy vessel. The event, which included a wonderful buffet, featured Mr. J.P. Bryan, of the newly opened Bryan Museum in Galveston, as guest speaker. Our own San Jacinto DRT Chapter member Laura-Hill Taylor led the singing of the National Anthem and "Texas, Our Texas". San Jacinto Chapter members Luanne Zacek and Susan Stormer assisted Beth Fisher with registration.

Seven honorees were commissioned as Admirals in the Texas Navy in honor of their service to Texas by their diligence in helping preserve the history of Texas. Among those honored was Nina Hendee, who is an Honorary Member of the San Jacinto DRT Chapter, and will be presenting a program at the April meeting. For more details of the event, go to www.texiannavyday.com.

If you have never attended the activities for Texian Navy Day, put it on your calendar for next year which will be September 16, 2017.



Nina Hendee being commissioned as an Admiral in the Texas Navy.



San Jacinto Chapter members Beth Fisher, Luanne Zacek, Susan Stormer, and Laura-Hill Taylor at Texian Navy Day.



Nina Hendee on the red carpet flanked by the honor guard of Texas Navy and SRT members.