



# SFA NEWSLETTER

## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH OUR CHAPTER

### THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE



*SFA President Debra Pantalion*

March started out, appropriately, **with a march!** We participated in the Texas Independence Day Parade on March 4<sup>th</sup> up Congress Avenue from the Ann Richards Bridge to the Capitol building. Several members and family were there, as well as **Sheila Kemple** from the Catherine Cynthia Overton Chapter in Manor. We had four times more attendees than last year. Yee haw! See the photos on page 5.



As part of the planning for the RTHC Grand Opening, the hostesses were given a special tour of the building on March 7<sup>th</sup>. It has taken a very long time and a lot of effort for the RTHC to come to fruition, but well worth it. The Daughters can be proud of the finished product. Hostesses attending with me from our chapter were **Carolyn Schilthuis, Beverly Locklin, Sharon Wander, Ophelia Overton** and **Sherry Crickmer**.

We had a very good turnout for our March 20<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting. Some were there just because of our speaker, **Marshall Kuykendall**. He talked about his family and how they were interwoven in Moses and Stephen F. Austin's plan to bring settlers to Texas. He is a relative of chapter member **Allyce Dolan** and some of her family were there. We also had several prospective members: **Emily Cook, Debbie Shaw, Dana Werner** and **Sharon Rankin**. We were so

pleased to have them attend. Our hostesses were **Beverly Locklin, Suellen Mills** and **Juanita Painter**. Thank you, Ladies, for all the goodies.

**March 25<sup>th</sup>** was the Grand Opening for the RTHC building. There were about 330 present to witness the event and *oooh* and *aaah*. The current and several past Presidents General attended. The Master of Ceremony was Kenneth Raney, husband of past PG Carolyn Raney. It was a perfect day for the celebration and dedication. Our chapter and the William Barret Travis chapter were honored to be asked to serve as hostesses. Our chapter was represented by **Sheryl Burshnick, Sherry Crickmer, Beverly Locklin, Evalyn McVeigh, Ophelia Overton, Juanita Painter, Carolyn Schilthuis, Sharon Wander** and me. I thank everyone for her participation!

Photos from the tour and the Grand Opening are on pages 6 and 7.



Coming up . . . **Our Scholarship and 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon is on April 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the Balcones Country Club. Please RSVP to me at [dpantalion@austin.rr.com](mailto:dpantalion@austin.rr.com) as soon as you can. The deadline is **April 14<sup>th</sup>**. We'll have a great speaker, raffle, silent auction—and we get to hear from our 4<sup>th</sup>-grade (**Abigail Russell**) and 7<sup>th</sup>-grade (**Noah Helmers**) DRT essay winners. Noah also won for District. And, of course, our scholarship winners. (See the announcement on page 4).

There is a choice for payment. You can mail a check to the address on the invitation or send it via Zelle. **Milli Pope** has set up the system to send payment for anything SFA related—Luncheon, dues, auction items at the Luncheon or to make a donation. The **extremely important** thing to remember is to indicate the purpose of the payment (dues, etc.) Zelle is the preferred method for payments—no lost or delated checks, no check to write, no stamp or trip to the Post Office or mailbox. It’s relatively easy and it’s free. Give it a try. On your bank’s website, confirm that Zelle is an option. Set it up. Send the payment to [stephenfaustin@drinfo.org](mailto:stephenfaustin@drinfo.org). Don’t forget to indicate the purpose.

**DONATING TO THE AUCTION?**  
Send a photo (if possible), a description and the value to:  
**muriel.parker@gmail.com**

May 4-6 is the Annual Convention in Galveston. You can register on the DRT website. The deadline is **April 24<sup>th</sup>**. Please don’t wait. Let’s have a good representation for the SFA Chapter!

As you can read, March was a very busy month! In front of us are the Luncheon, May meeting (when we’ll install new officers) and **Dues, Dues, Dues!**

I hope to see many of you at these events.

*-- Debi Pantalion*

**OUR NEXT MEETING**

Northwest Recreation Center  
2913 Northland Drive  
Austin 78757



Our May tradition is to have a member do a presentation on her family. **Milli Pope** has the honor this year.

Hostesses will be **Ervallyn McVeigh, Juanita Painter** and **Ali Bills**.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**



As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, our balances were:

<b>Checking Account:</b>	<b>\$ 5,407.74</b>
<b>Scholarship Fund Account:</b>	<b>\$11,530.50</b>
<b>Chase Checking Account</b>	<b>\$ 3,347.00</b>
<b>Chase Scholarship Fund</b>	<b>\$ 2,675.02</b>

There are no outstanding checks.



(Yep, I’m repeating the information.)

As we are now collecting dues, as well as other activities that involve checks, our members need to be aware that all checks will now need to be made out to

**DRT-SFA.**

The bank will not allow us to deposit checks made out in any other way.

We will constantly remind you because we don’t want to return checks with the incorrect payee. Using Zelle or paying through the DRT website may make this easier for those of you who can pay online.

However, we would appreciate your starting to think **DRT-SFA** instead of the other way around!

*-- Lucy Duncan*



Our chapter continues to grow with the addition of our latest new member, **Reagan Ann Harris**. Reagan lives in Driftwood, TX, and transferred her membership from CRT to our chapter. Her mother and sister are past members.



Thank you for choosing our chapter!

Our membership is now up to **115** Full Members. We also have eight (8) Associate and Affiliate Members, which brings the total to **123**.



**April 22, 2023**

**What:** Scholarship & Anniversary Luncheon  
**Where:** Balcones Country Club  
860 Balcones Club Drive (Austin)  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**May 4-6, 2023**

**What:** DRT Convention  
**Where:** Galveston, TX  
**Contact:** Register through DRT website

**June 23-24, 2023**

**What:** CRT Convention  
**Where:** Center, TX

**April 21 – San Jacinto Day**

Following several disastrous battles (including The Alamo), the remainder of Texas army gathered on the fields of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, for what would be a final battle with Santa Anna's troops.

Though taken by surprise, the Mexican Army put up some resistance initially for a few minutes then fled in disorder. The Texans asked no quarter and gave none. The slaughter was appalling. But the Texans did show Santa Anna the mercy he denied the men of The Alamo and the Battle of Goliad.

The encounter at San Jacinto has been called *18 Minutes That Changed The World*. It was the decisive battle of the Texas Revolution and eventually led to enormous land concessions from Mexico. Almost one-third of the present area of America changed sovereignty.



The San Jacinto Monument was built to commemorate the battle and the Texans' sacrifice (helped by The Daughters of the Republic of Texas who pressured the legislature). The 537.31 ft. monument is the tallest **masonry** column in the world. At the top is a 34 ft., 220-ton star and observation deck.

While the Monument hosts numerous educational events and activities each year, the surrounding land remains sacred ground to Texans.





We are pleased to announce the winners of this year's scholarship competition. Yes--winner**S**. We had two entries. The scores were so close that the Scholarship Committee decided to award scholarships to both students.

This year's topic, *The Treaty of Bird's Fort*, dealt with the first real treaty signed by the Republic and relations with Native Americans in general—not an easy topic.



Our winners are [Audrey Humann](#) and [Campbell Lino](#).

**Audrey** is a Senior at Lake Travis High School and plans to attend UT Austin. Even better, she is a Full Member of our chapter. This is the first time we've been able to award a scholarship to a member rather than a relative of a member.

**Campbell** is a Senior at Atascocita High School in Humble, TX. She will be attending Cedarville University in Cedarville, OH. She is the granddaughter of Associate Member **Muriel Parker**.

Both are members of the National Honor Society and very active in school activities.

Audrey and Campbell have been invited to be our guests (along with a parent or guest of their choice) at our Awards Luncheon on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## A NOTE ABOUT OUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS AND WINNERS

**ALL** of our scholarship winners are/were examples of excellence. They usually have a perfect or near-perfect GPA, which means they are usually in the National Honor Society. Most, if not all, are taking Advanced Placement courses. They are active in school extra-curricular activities (including athletics) and often just as active in their communities.

Our expectations for our scholarship applicants are high, which is as it should be. However, we often forget what it took to reach the level of excellence these students have achieved.

They did not wake up one morning right before their Senior year and think, "I'd better get my act together. Time is short now." Their achievements are the result of years of developing good study habits, learning to listen and to think and to question. No doubt there were many times when they would have preferred to be out with friends having fun but, instead, turned their attention to school-related work that needed to be done, thus learning the lesson of delayed gratification.

They've had to learn about sacrifice, dedication, prioritizing, focus and yet somehow find the balance that allows them to excel in school while becoming a well-rounded person.

None of this happened overnight. It took years of work, but they kept their eyes on the prize—a good education that would lead to a productive work life as an adult. **ALL** of our past winners have done exceptionally well in college. Many are already out in the "real world" and doing very well.

We hope that many of you will attend our annual Luncheon to recognize and celebrate our winners' achievements and to wish them well as they move into the next phase of their education.

They are our future—and the best investment our chapter makes.



Micah Zink



From l to r: Shelia Kemple, Stevie (the dog), Sharyl & Mike Burshnick, Tim, E.J., Emma Sue, Kelly & Valerie (all Vande Streeks), Todd & Sherry Crickmer (in red), and Jonathan Vande Streek (in white hat)



Larry Biegert, John Harris (President, Moses Austin Chapter of Sons of the Republic), Valerie Vande Streek, and Mark Ellison



E.J., Evie, Valerie and Kelly Vande Streek



SRT Color Guard with SFA Chapter President Debi Pantalion



Ready to march!



# RTHC Tour



*From l to r: Sharon Wander, Ophelia Overton, Sherry Crickmer, Carolyn Schilthuis, Beverly Locklin and Patricia Horridge*



*Seated: Prospective members Dana Werner, Emily Cook, Vanessa Simon & Sharon Rankin.*

*Standing l to r: Carolyn Schilthuis, Muriel Parker, Sharon Wander, Sharyl Burshnick, Suellen Mills, Barbara Walters, Beverly Locklin, Ophelia Overton, E.J. Vande Streek, Debi Pantalion, Allyce Dolan, Elizabeth Meek and Sherry Crickmer*



*Left: Speaker Marshall Kuykendall and President Debi Pantalion*

*Right: Marshall received a special certificate from 1<sup>st</sup> VP Sharon Wander*





*Cathy Gieselman*



*Beverly Locklin, Ophelia Overton and Registrar General Mary Ann Oliver*



*Above: Sharyl Burshnick, Debi Pantalion and past chapter president Sherilyn Beal*

*Right: Ervalyn McVeigh*

*Left: And, of course, there were yellow roses everywhere!*





## WHERE TO GO FOR WHAT



With so many things going on in DRT and our Chapter, it's hard to remember who to contact or where to go for what. This page has the basics.



To order SFA Chapter name tags: GTX Awards in Georgetown (512.868.5881) or [info@gtxawards.com](mailto:info@gtxawards.com). Cost is \$12.50 including shipping.



To order SFA Chapter pins and merchandise: Send check payable to **DRT-SFA** to

**Milli Pope**  
2641 W 45th St.  
Austin, TX 78731

Chapter pins are **\$20.00**.  
Associate pins are **\$15.00**.  
Stickers and static-cling decals are **\$5.00** each.



The 2021-2022 **SFA Chapter Directory/Yearbook** is now available only in digital form. You can request a free copy from Lucy Duncan. Email is [lucyd4622@gmail.com](mailto:lucyd4622@gmail.com).

The **2022-2023 Supplement** is available in hard copy as of the September meeting. Digital copies are also available. However, it contains **ONLY** the changes from the Directory plus new member info.



To order Native Texan license plates:  
**Visit the Texas Dept. of Transportation's website.**



If you would like something put in the Chapter newsletter, contact **Lucy Duncan** by email:

[lucyd4622@gmail.com](mailto:lucyd4622@gmail.com)



## JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

If any of your contact info changes, **please** let Lucy Duncan know through the email address above. It's important that we keep our records up to date.



We are now accepting dues. **They are \$65.** If paying by check, make it out to **DRT-SFA** and mail to **Milli Pope** at address in left column.

You can also pay online through Zelle.

