



# SFA NEWSLETTER

## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH OUR CHAPTER

### THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE



*SFA President Milli Pope*

Hello, Ladies! I don't know about you, but I am looking forward to our next meeting. So much to plan and do before our summer break!

For those of you who missed out on our field trip to Goliad and Gonzales, you really did miss out. **Allyce Dolan, Sherry and Todd Crickmer, Debi Pantalion, Sharyl Burshnick, Muriel Parker, Fabienne Mayfield**, and I drove in a 12-passenger van to Goliad bright and early on the morning of February 20<sup>th</sup>. There we met **Barbara Walters** and **Laura Kitley**, and began our quest to learn about the Republic of Texas sites there and in Gonzales. Photos and details are on pages 5 and 6.



Big news, we have a winner for our 7<sup>th</sup>-grade essay contest! **Margaret Russell's** essay entitled **The Tenacity of the Canary Islanders** beat out all other entries to come out on top. Congratulations to Margaret, daughter of SFA Associate Member **Julia Russell** and her husband Brian! Margaret and her parents are invited to the SFA Scholarship Luncheon on April 20<sup>th</sup>, where she will present her essay to the attendees. We are looking forward to the opportunity to hear her read her essay, congratulate her, and of course present her certificate and check for \$50. Margaret's essay will go on to the District VIII 7<sup>th</sup>-grade essay contest, with the chance to advance to the National competition. Good luck, Margaret!

Speaking of contests, the topic of the Senior scholarship essay this year is **Founding Mother: A Woman Who Made a Significant Contribution to the Republic of Texas**, and the due date is **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. We look forward to reading the entries and honoring the winner (or winners)!



Our next meeting is on March 18<sup>th</sup>, and our speaker will be **Dr. Carolyn Frick**, associate professor in the Radio-TV-Film Department at UT Austin. She will be presenting a program on her work with the Texas Archive of the Moving Image. Having seen her speak before, I can tell you she's engaging and interesting, and you are in for a treat. Hostesses for this meeting are **Beverly Locklin, Suellen Mills**, and **Barbara Walters**.



#### Reminders:

- CRT to DRT or SRT transfer for 16-to-21-year-olds. It's important they transfer in before their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday or they have to start from scratch.
- It's about time to start planning the Scholarship Luncheon scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> at Balcones Country Club. I will be contacting those of you who have volunteered to help to make sure you have what you need, and thank you for your contribution!
- If you are unable to attend the March 18<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting in person, it will be live streamed on Facebook on the Stephen F. Austin, Daughters of the Republic of Texas page. Log on at noon to watch.

Happy Trails, and see you on the 18<sup>th</sup>!

--- **Milli Pope**

# Member News and Happenings...

*Editor's Note:* I'm back (sort of)! After a ridiculous medical odyssey, I'm back on the newsletter. A BIG *thank you* to everyone for your calls, cards, good thoughts and prayers. They meant a great deal.

--- **Lucy Duncan**

We've also acquired quite a few new members during my absence.

**Audra Shugart, Kelsay Stephens** and her daughter **Amber Stephens** are from Austin.

**Dusky Waters** and her mother **Sally Chionsini** are from Georgetown.

**Audrey Poche** lives in Leander.

**Faye Beery** calls Bellville, TX, home, while **Sherry Workman** lives in Jewett, TX.

And **Julia Russell**, mother of multiple essay contest winners, has become an Associate Member.



We're glad to have you in our chapter!

This brings our Chapter membership to **117 Full Members** and **9 Associate/Affiliate Members!**

SFA Past President, **Debi Pantalion**, was invited to the President Houston Chapter in Huntsville to be their guest speaker. She was invited by another Past President, **Gayla Lawson**. She attended their regular meeting on February 8 and talked about her Y'Barbo and Pantalion family. The focus was on solving a 30-year-old mystery concerning the Pantalion name. The members were friendly and welcoming, which provided a very pleasant experience. A lovely lunch at City Hall Cafe and Pie Bar followed the meeting.



## OUR NEXT MEETING

Northwest Recreation Center  
2913 Northland Drive  
Austin 78757

**March**  
**18**  
**Noon**

**Dr. Carolyn Frick**, Associate Professor in the Radio-TV-Film Department at UT Austin, will present a program on the Texas Archive of the Moving Image. (Bring your own popcorn!)

Hostesses will be **Beverly Locklin, Suellen Mills and Barbara Walters**.

## FINANCIAL REPORT



As of February 27<sup>th</sup>, our balances were:

Chase Checking Account:	\$ 9,833.53
Chase Scholarship Fund:	\$ 2,252.48
Scholarship CD:	\$10,000.00



- March 2 – Texas Independence and Flag Day**
- March 6 – Alamo Heroes Day**
- March 27 – Goliad Heroes Day**
- March 1-31 – Texas History Month**

On March 2, 1836, fifty-nine men met in a blacksmith shop in Washington-on-the-Brazos to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence. Most wanted to be on the battlefield, but Houston convinced them of the importance of this document. He felt it would give the Texians some legitimacy in their fight with Mexico and help elicit help from the United States. It was also Houston’s birthday.

We commemorate this event annually with a major parade up Congress Avenue.

Four days later, on March 6<sup>th</sup>, the Alamo fell when Santa Anna’s troops stormed the mission building and killed all the defenders. This, of course, is the origin of the rousing call **Remember the Alamo!** The names of the defenders who died are engraved on a granite memorial at the site, and the Alamo is now one of the most sacred sites in Texas.



Following the fall of the Alamo, the Mexican army, under the command of Gen. Santa Anna, attacked Col. James W. Fannin’s men at Goliad. Fannin was forced to surrender. On March 27<sup>th</sup>, **320** men were executed. It was the largest loss of life in the fight for Texas’ independence.



Col. James W. Fannin

**Remember Goliad!** joined **Remember the Alamo!** as a battle cry at San Jacinto.

## This Month In Republic of Texas History

**March 24, 1843**  
**Rancho Salado, Texas**

The remaining 176 of 248 Texian prisoners who surrendered after the ill-fated Mier Expedition drew from a jar of 176 beans, 159 white and 17 black, in a “lottery of death.” Those who drew the black beans were given a little time to conclude their affairs and write their families, then at sunset they were lined up and shot. The next morning the remaining prisoners were handcuffed and ordered to continue their march to Mexico City.



### March 6, 2024

**What:** *Dawn At The Alamo* Remembrance  
**Where:** The Alamo in San Antonio  
**Time:** 6:00 a.m. Details on page 4.

### March 30, 2024

**What:** Historic Site Dedication  
**Where:** 810 San Marcos St.  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Details on page 4.

### April 20, 2024

**What:** Annual Awards Luncheon  
**Where:** Balcones Country Club - Austin  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

*Here are the details for the events listed on page 2.*

**The Daughters of the Republic of Texas**  
**\*William Barret Travis Chapter, No. 3\***

Invites You to Attend the  
Historic Site Dedication for

**810 San Marcos Street Property**  
**Austin, Texas 78702**



**Saturday, March 30, 2024**  
**1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

- 1:00 pm**.....VISITING/RTHC Courtyard
- 1:30 pm**.....Historic Site PROGRAM/RTHC Courtyard
- 2:00 pm**.....Visit Building A (Steakley Family Research Center)  
Visit Building B (Republic of Texas MUSEUM)

Thank YOU to:  
The Republic of Texas History Center (RTHC) Committee 2007-2022



**DRT “Dawn at the Alamo” Invitation**

You are invited to attend our annual “Dawn at the Alamo” commemorative ceremony and join with the San Antonio Living History Association, in partnership with the Alamo Living Trust, Inc., in Alamo Plaza where we annually “Remember the Alamo.” The program begins at the same historic hour to commemorate the anniversary of the March 6<sup>th</sup> Battle of the Alamo and solemnly remember the men who fought and died for the Republic of Texas.

We request each DRT Chapter President to please share this invitation by email with their members who may wish to attend on March 6<sup>th</sup>. All participants attending will be honoring the supreme sacrifice made in the cause of Texas Independence. Those Chapters who are attending with floral offerings should check in at the registration desk before 5:30 a.m. If presenters are on the registration list, their DRT chapters will be called to present floral offerings in the grassy area in front of the Alamo church during these solemn ceremonies.

Please respond early by emailing [salha8@yahoo.com](mailto:salha8@yahoo.com) to be recorded on the presenters list. Include your Chapter’s name and President, or presenter’s name, to confirm your planned attendance. All presenters are requested to check in at the registration desk by 5:30 a.m. and then line up their floral presentations before the 6:00 a.m. program begins.

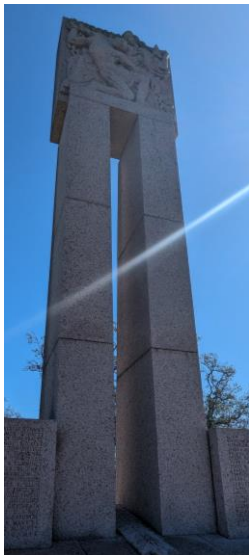
For those who have not registered as presenters by March 4<sup>th</sup>, please go to the Alamo Plaza registration desk by 5:15 a.m. on March 6<sup>th</sup> to print the presenter’s name, email address, and Chapter name on the final page of the presenters list to be called forward with others during the program. All floral offerings are appropriate for your remembrance.

**Thank you for Remembering the Alamo**  
Bob Benevides, SALHA & Alamo Chapter SRT

### Field Trip to Goliad and Gonzales

We viewed and toured the Fannin Memorial Monument, where Col. James Fannin and his men were buried long after the Goliad Massacre; the Angel of Goliad statue honoring Francisca Alvarez (who offered aid and comfort to Fannin’s men while they were prisoners); and Presidio La Bahia, a Spanish fort built in 1721 that was later used by Mexican troops, then by Fannin before the Massacre. After a delicious lunch at the Blue Quail Deli on the square in Goliad, we set back out and visited the Fannin Battleground Memorial, and Goliad State Park and the Spanish Mission Espiritu Santo. We then drove to Gonzales where we toured the Gonzales Memorial Museum, home of the original **“Come and Take It”** cannon (it’s tiny!); and we visited the Eggleston House, one of the first homes built in Gonzales after the Runaway Scrape. For those of you who are interested, we were able to get two stamps in our Revolution and Republic Historic Sites Passport (Presidio La Bahia and Fannin Battleground), one stamp in the Texas State Parks Passport (Goliad SP), and one in the National Parks Passport (Goliad SP is a visitor station for the El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail).

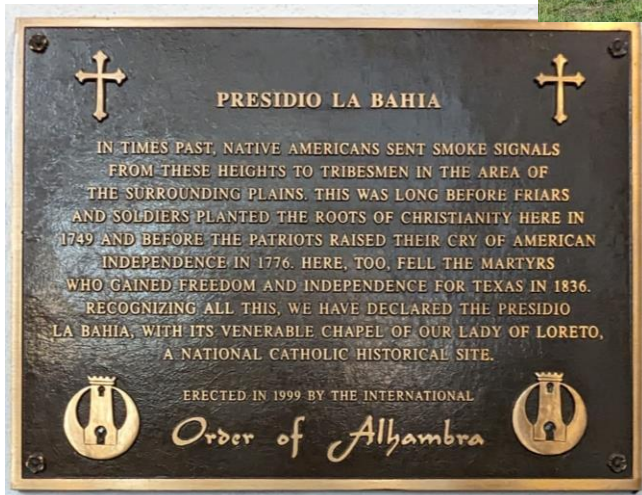
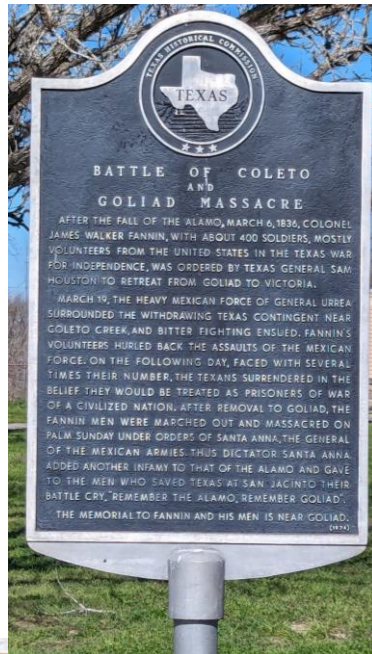
**Field Trip!**



#### Photo List

- Sign from Presidio La Bahia (Goliad)
- Fannin Memorial
- Fannin Battleground Historical Marker
- Mission Espiritu Santo (Goliad)
- Detail from Mission Espiritu Santo
- Eggleston House in Gonzales
- Statue in Texas Heroes Square (Gonzales)
- Texas Heroes Square
- Angel of Goliad statue near Fannin Memorial
- Presidio La Bahia chapel
- President Milli Pope ready to do battle!





## 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.



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

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

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 **\$25.00**.  
Associate pins are **\$20.00**.  
Stickers and static-cling decals are **\$5.00** each.



The 2023-2024 **SFA Chapter Directory/Yearbook** should be available at the September meeting. You can request a free digital copy from Lucy Duncan. Email is [lucyd4622@gmail.com](mailto:lucyd4622@gmail.com). See **page 3** for **details and how to obtain a hard copy**.

The **2022-2023 Supplement** is available in digital form. It contains **ONLY** the changes from the 2021-2022 Directory plus new member (at that time) info.



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

## 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're also nearing the start of our annual



collection process. (It doesn't hurt to pay early!)

