



# SFA NEWSLETTER

## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH OUR CHAPTER

### THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE



*SFA President Debra Pantalion*

The first order of "serious" business for March is the **Texas Independence Day Parade** on **March 4<sup>th</sup>**. As of now, we have about 17 participants. The Color Guard from the Moses Austin SRT Chapter will be leading us. I ordered only 20 pins, so-----the first 20 to arrive will get a pin. The weather forecast is smiling on us. This should be a really fun day! If you are still thinking about joining us, just take the plunge. Don't miss out on this special opportunity.



Our **Scholarship Luncheon** is set for **April 22<sup>nd</sup>** at Balcones Country Club. We will send out more information as the date nears and plans are completed. For now, just get it on your calendar. This year's luncheon will be a special celebration as this is our chapter's **90<sup>th</sup>** anniversary!

We had an opportunity to hold a meeting in February at the new RTHC building, and we jumped on it. The building is quite impressive. We met on the 27<sup>th</sup> and were very honored to have a couple of special guests. **Custodian General Dusky Waters** offered special insights and gave us a tour of the building.

**President General Kim Stracener Zapalac** was our speaker. We were very excited about having her attend! She gave us some useful and important information concerning membership and our new building. **AND** she joined our chapter as an Affiliate Member!

We are very excited about being asked to serve as hostesses at the building opening on **March 25<sup>th</sup>** and look forward to showing it off!

Photos from the meeting and a few peeks at the new RTHC begin on page 4.



The State Convention is scheduled for **May 4-6** in Galveston. Hotel reservations and Convention reservations are available on the DRT website. Look under **Events > Event List > 2023 DRT Annual Convention > REGISTER MYSELF**. It's the only way to register. If you haven't already signed on to the website, please do it now. If you need help, you must call Headquarters at **512.339.1997**. The only way to get information is through the website. Attending Convention is part of the Six Star Award program. Help our chapter achieve the award by attending. Again, HQ is happy to help you with the website.

Our next regular meeting will be March 20<sup>th</sup>. Details are on page 2.

I hope to see many of you at one of our March events!

-- Debi Pantalion

OUR NEXT MEETING

Northwest Recreation Center  
2913 Northland Drive  
Austin 78757



Marshall Kuykendall will present a program on *Happenstance* – the accidental creation of the Anglo Settlement under Stephen F. Austin.

The hostesses will be **Beverly Locklin, E. J. Vande Streek** and **Suellen Mills**.



As Debi wrote in the President’s Column, **President General Kim Stracener Zapalac** has joined our chapter as an Affiliate Member.



We’re honored that you’ve chosen to join us!



The deadline for the Scholarship essay competition is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

We anticipate several entries.

The winner will be announced **April 1<sup>st</sup>** and will be invited, along with a parent, to be our guest at the Scholarship Luncheon on April 22<sup>nd</sup>

FINANCIAL REPORT



As of February 28<sup>th</sup>, our balances were:

Checking Account: \$ 5,432.74  
Scholarship Fund Account: \$11,528.64

This does not include SF interest for February, one outstanding check, or the \$5,000 taken from the checking to open a new account at Chase Bank.



As we are approaching dues collection time, 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 (but that’s better than what it originally wanted, namely *Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Stephen F. Austin Chapter*—yeah, like that’s going to happen!).

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.

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

-- Lucy Duncan



- 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.



**March 4, 2023**

**What:** Texas Independence Day Parade  
**Where:** Meet at south end of Ann Richards Bridge (Congress Ave.)  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m.  
**Contact:** Debi Pantalion (if attending)  
**dpantalion@austin.rr.com**

**March 25, 2023**

**What:** RTHC Grand Opening  
**Where:** 810 San Marcos Street (Austin)

**April 22, 2023**

**What:** Scholarship & Anniversary Luncheon  
**Where:** Balcones Country Club  
 860 Balcones Club Drive (Austin)  
**Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**May 4-6, 2023**

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



# February MEETING



*From r to l: Debi Pantalion, E.J. Vande Streek, Muriel Parker, Sharon Wander, Ervalyn McVeigh, Marcia Macha, Juanita Painter, Milli Pope, Carolyn Schilthuis, Beverly Locklin, Ophelia Overton, President General Kim Stracener Zapalac*



*PG Kim Zapalac, Custodian General Dusky Waters, Milli Pope and Juanita Painter*



*From l to r: E.J. Vande Streek, Lori Helmers, Ervalyn McVeigh and Ophelia Overton*



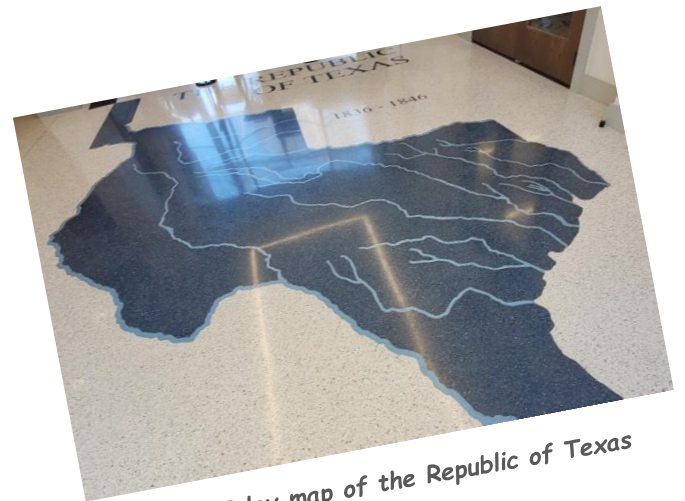
*1<sup>st</sup> VP Sharon Wander presented a chapter Certificate of Appreciation to President General Kim Stracener Zapalac*



*One of the "vignettes" in the RTHC.  
The red chair on the left belonged  
to Gen. Santa Anna*



*The founding Daughters of the  
Republic of Texas with the last  
veterans of the Republic of Texas  
Army*



*Inlay map of the Republic of Texas*



## 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 **\$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.](#)

## 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 will start collecting dues in April.

At the May Convention, DRT voted to raise the dues paid to Headquarters by \$5.00. This means we will be collecting **\$65.00** from SFA Chapter members.

The deadline for dues is **JULY 1<sup>st</sup>**.