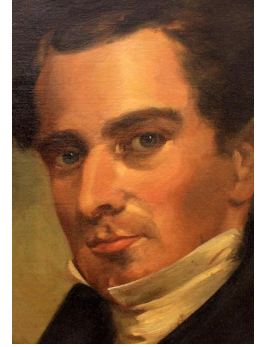


Stephen F. Austin Chapter, DRT NEWSLETTER

August, 2026



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Hello, Ladies!

I hope you all are having a great summer.

Does everyone have the September 21st meeting date on their calendars? We'll be off and running with the 2026-2027 DRT year before you know it. This year we will have a revised, refreshed yearbook/directory, hopefully with a minimum of mistakes and omissions. They will be at the September meeting- be sure to pick one up.

I finally settled on a field trip venue for August- it fits the bill (learning about Texas history, and it's air conditioned)- the Bob Bullock Museum. Senior admission is \$13, and those of us who haven't made it to 65 yet pay \$17. I hope you will join me! We will meet at the big star out front at 10 AM on August 19th.

I've had a special request from the DRT Museum Chair- is anyone interested in joining the Museum Committee? They are a great group of ladies, and they are looking for Austin-area members. The word is out about what a great chapter we have, so they are scouting us!. If it sounds like a good fit for you, please contact **Kathleen Townzen** at chaplain@drinfo.org.

And, speaking of what a great chapter we have.... I'm going to put on my District Representative hat for a moment and ask for a favor as well. The DRT District VIII meeting is going to be October 30-31 in Leander. The host chapter (Martin Wells Chapter) is very small, and could use some help with the Friday activity and the meeting itself on Saturday. Everything will be planned and ready to go, but they will need some help with things like decorating, setting out refreshments, directing people to sales tables, registration, handing out name badges, etc. I would love to see as many SFA members at the meeting as possible, regardless of whether you're helping with the meeting. But if you could find it in your heart to contact me and volunteer to assist, I would be extremely grateful.

In the meantime, stay safe, stay healthy, and until we meet again, Happy Trails!

-Milli Pope

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 17, 2026

What: *Stephen F. Austin Chapter Board Meeting- for all chapter officers*

Where: *Yarborough Branch, Austin Public Library, 2200 Hancock Drive, Austin*

When: *10:30 AM*

August 19, 2026

What: *Field trip to the Bullock Museum*

Where: *1800 N. Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78701*

When: *Meet at the big star out front at 10:00 AM*

September 21, 2026

What: *Stephen F. Austin Chapter Meeting*

Where: *Northwest Recreation Center, 2913 Northland Drive, Austin, TX 78757*

When: *12:00 Noon*

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of July 30, 2026, our balances were:

Chase Checking Account:
\$12,027.95

Chase Scholarship Fund:
\$6,650.10

Scholarship CD: \$11,565.86



This Month in Republic of Texas History

August, 1840

Citizens across the Republic have been shocked by reports of

a massive Comanche incursion that swept across the Texas frontier and reached the Gulf Coast. Led by the renowned Chief Buffalo Hump, hundreds of Comanche warriors rode through Victoria before descending upon the bustling port of Linnville. Homes and warehouses were plundered, merchandise carried away, and livestock driven off in great numbers, while residents escaped by fleeing into the waters of Lavaca Bay.

The raiders departed with thousands of horses and mules laden with valuable goods, but their triumph was short-lived. Colonel John H. Moore, accompanied by Texas Rangers and militia volunteers, pursued the fleeing warriors and engaged them on August 12 at Plum Creek, near present-day Lockhart. Though many Comanches escaped, the Texans recovered much of the stolen property and scattered the raiding force.

The Great Raid stands as one of the most daring and destructive attacks ever suffered by the Republic of Texas. The events have renewed calls for stronger frontier defenses and serve as a solemn reminder of the dangers faced by those who have settled the young Republic's western frontier.

Texas Honor Days:

Battle of Nacogdoches Day: Aug. 2

The Battle of Nacogdoches culminated on August 2, 1832, after a group of Texians resisted an order issued in July by the commander of the Mexican Army at Nacogdoches, Texas to surrender their arms. The situation soon escalated into a major battle.

The Mexican army commander in Nacogdoches, José de las Piedras, after reviewing all that occurred during the Anahuac Disturbances, had issued an order that all residents in his area surrender their arms. The city officials of Nacogdoches resisted the order and soon organized a militia.

On August 1, a force of about 300 men from all over East Texas met up at Pine Hill and elected James W. Bullock of Attoyac Bayou as their captain.

On the morning of August 2, 1832, James Bowie joined the Texian Militia and they marched into Nacogdoches to voice their demands to Piedras and to declare favor for Santa Anna and his Federalist revolt against the Centralist Mexican government. Piedras declined to rescind his order and to support Santa Anna

Over the next two days, Nacogdoches was engulfed in battle, culminating with the Mexican combatants fleeing during the night. On August 3, Bowie and 15 companions ambushed and captured the fleeing army.

The Texians marched the surviving Mexican soldiers back to Nacogdoches and on to San Antonio, where they were

released. Asa Edwards escorted Piedras to Stephen F. Austin at San Felipe, where he was paroled and sent to the Mexican interior. The Texians suffered three killed and four wounded, one mortally.

Contest Information

The topic for the 2027 SFA Scholarship Essay Contest is:

The Empresario System and its Failures

Examine the colonization contracts. Analyze why Mexico encouraged Anglo-American immigration, the cultural disconnects, and how land policies led to friction.

The DRT 4th Grade Essay topic is the *Old San Antonio Road*.

The DRT 7th Grade Essay topic is the *William Barret Travis Letter*.

Contact our Honors and Awards Chair, Dusky Waters, at duskycwaters@gmail.com for more information!

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). 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.
Associate Member ribbons are \$16.00
Stickers or static cling decals are \$5.00
Magnets are \$3.00

The **2026-2027 SFA Chapter Directory/Yearbook** will be available in digital format in September. You can request a free digital copy from Milli Pope at millipope@gmail.com. Hard copies will be available at the chapter meetings.



Sales of the *Native Texan License Plate* fund grants by DRT to deserving projects. Please consider showing your Texas pride on your car and supporting some good causes!

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 Milli Pope by email: millipope@gmail.com.

Send any contact info changes to Sherry Crickmer at sacrickmer@gmail.com or Allyce Dolan at allyce.dolan@gmail.com.

Additionally, send email address changes to Milli Pope to ensure you keep getting this newsletter. It's important we keep our records up to date.

