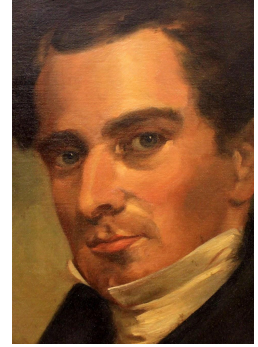


Stephen F. Austin Chapter, DRT NEWSLETTER

October, 2026



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Hello, Ladies!

Annnd, we're back! I apologize for the lateness of this issue- September absolutely flew by, and it was October before I knew what was happening.

We had a great September meeting, and we got to welcome lots of new members, relatively new members, and prospective members. We held the Welcome Ceremony and inducted two new members, **Kacy Hassack Green** and **Lisa Peterson**, and recent transfer **Rita Ramseur**. I'm so excited to have so many new people around, and I can't wait to see what great ideas and fresh perspectives y'all will offer! Keep in mind, we will have officer elections in the spring, and there will be plenty of opportunity to participate in chapter offices and activities.

Don't forget, our chapter field trip to the San Jacinto Monument and Museum is coming up on Wednesday, October 14. So far there are only 8 of us signed up to go in the 15 passenger van, and it's not too late to add your name to the list. Come with us, and get your Texas Revolution and Republic Historic Sites Passport stamped! RSVP to me at millipope@gmail.com. We always have a fantastic time on our field trips, and this one is a bargain for only \$20 plus admission to the museum and your lunch.

If you haven't registered yet for the District 8 Meeting on October 30-31 in Leander, please get that form turned in ASAP! Friday, October 30 is the pre-meeting activity, the Spirits of Bagdad Cemetery tour. The meeting itself will be Saturday October 31 at the Leander Activity Center starting at 9am. The meeting will be over by 2pm, so never fear! There will be plenty of time to get home to go trick or treating with the grandkids.

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

-Milli Pope

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 14, 2026

What: *Field trip to San Jacinto Battlefield and Monument*

Where: *Meet at Northwest Recreation Center, 2913 Northland Drive, Austin, TX 78751*

When: *Leave at 8 am*

October 30, 2026

What: *District VIII Meeting Activity-Spirits of Bagdad Cemetery Tour*

Where: *Baghdad Cemetery Pavilion, 400 Bagdad Road, Leander, TX 78641*
Saturday: Leander Activity Center, 11880 Hero Way W Ste 600, Leander, TX 78641

When: *7 pm to 9 pm*
Saturday October 31: 9 am to 2 pm

October 30, 2026

What: *District VIII Meeting*

Where: *Leander Activity Center, 11880 Hero Way W Ste 600, Leander, TX 78641*

When: *9 am to 2 pm*

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of August 21, 2026, our balances were:

Chase Checking Account:

\$10,319.10

Chase Scholarship Fund:

\$6,650.27

Scholarship CD: \$12,500.00



This Month in Republic of Texas History

October 2, 1835

Today, The Battle of Gonzales, the opening engagement of the

Texas Revolution, occurred near the Guadalupe River in Texas.

The conflict began over a small, bronze six-pounder cannon Mexican authorities had originally loaned to the settlers of Gonzales for protection against Comanche raids. However, as political tensions rose and Anglo-Texan settlers grew increasingly resistant to the centralist government of Mexican President Antonio López de Santa Anna, military leaders grew uneasy. Colonel Domingo de Ugartechea, the Mexican commander in San Antonio, dispatched a small detachment of dragoons to retrieve the artillery piece.

The citizens of Gonzales refused to surrender the cannon. They quickly consolidated a volunteer militia of approximately 150 men, led by John Henry Moore. To taunt the advancing Mexican troops, local women hastily fashioned a flag out of a white wedding dress, featuring a crude drawing of the cannon, a single star, and the defiant words: "Come and Take It."

Early this morning the Texian militia launched a surprise assault on the Mexican camp. Following a brief skirmish amidst heavy fog, during which the Texians fired the disputed cannon,

the Mexican forces withdrew toward San Antonio. While casualties were minimal—only two Mexican soldiers were killed—the political impact was absolute. The brief firefight marked a point of no return; we are committed to the path of Texas Independence.

Texas Honor Days:

Gonzales Day: October 2

On this day, we remember the Battle of Gonzales and the citizens who kicked off the Texas Revolution.

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.

