RTHC Site Plan Under Review by City

The RTHC Site Plan submitted to the City of Austin in May 2018 continues to be reviewed by the 15 different offices that must sign off on the Plan. Some changes to the building design have already been required. The completion of this process is expected in May 2019. To keep costs down and prevent confusion, no further artist renderings of the building will be created until the application for the Building Permit is underway.

Following the City’s approval of the Site Plan, the BOM will enter into a construction contract with a builder. The President General has set a cap on construction costs at $4,000,000. DRT will need additional funds to furnish the building. DRT Headquarters operations continue at the Anderson Lane building while construction for the IH 35/Hwy 183 flyover towers are being built. DRT has $3,051,062 (includes pledges) available for the building’s construction at this time from the proceeds of the earlier paver, flagpole and 50/50 campaigns, less expenses.

Outcome of 50/50 Campaign 2017 - 2018

The 50/50 Campaign concluded December 31, 2018. Districts 4, 6, and 8 raised $50,000 each. District 2 is continuing to raise funds to complete their pledge of $50,000 by Convention 2019. William B. Travis Chapter/Austin and the Bluebonnet Branch Chapter/Friendswood also raised $50,000 each. District 1 raised over $100,000 for the Naming Opportunity for the Catering Kitchen. One Foundation and 7 individual members each donated $50,000 or more. The total raised from the 50/50 Campaign was $998,336.

A big Texas THANK YOU goes out to these members, chapters and individuals who contributed to this campaign - the most successful of all previous fundraising efforts. These 50/50 donors will be permanently recognized in the RTHC for their generous commitment to preserving Texas history and for their support of DRT’s mission.

RTHC Available Funds: $3,051,062 as of Feb. 15, 2019

The FINAL PUSH Campaign: Build and Occupy 2020

With the end of the RTHC Building Project in view, the RTHC Team has named the last fundraising campaign THE FINAL PUSH. The medallion logo (left) depicts the tremendous effort and struggle to acquire the funds needed to purchase the property (2013) and build the RTHC (2020) on historic Republic of Texas property. This medallion will not be worn on the ribbon. Members and non-members who donate an accumulative amount totaling $250 starting January 1, 2019, will receive this FINAL PUSH medallion as a gift. Chapter donations of $250 or more will also qualify. Medallions will be available for pick up at Convention and District meetings. The RTHC database will assist members in determining their donations (after Jan. 1, 2019) that will qualify for this FINAL PUSH medallion. The President General has asked the RTHC team to raise an additional $1,000,000 to assure DRT can construct the building ($4,000,000), furnish it and move in.

RTHC Activities in Coming Months

The RTHC Team will hold a seminar on Thursday, May 30, 2019, at Convention to update the members on the status of the RTHC Project. An invitation via Chapter Presidents was sent this month to request questions for the Team that can be responded to during this seminar. Also, the RTHC Team is asking Chapters to extend an invitation to RTHC Team members to visit their Chapter and make a presentation. Often this type of contact is useful in clearing up questions and encouraging participation for those unable to attend Convention or District Meetings. If questions, please do not hesitate to contact RTHC Team Chair at patriciahorridge@austin.rr.com.

RTHC FINAL PUSH Pin: DRT Members & Associates

A very attractive RTHC FINAL PUSH PIN is also available for those members who donate after Jan. 1, 2019, in any of four levels of giving starting at $500, $2,000, $5,000 and $10,000. This pin, approved by the DRT-BOM, can be worn on and off the ribbon. The cost of the pin and dangle is $55.00 payable to DRT-RTHC. More information on this Pin will be posted on the DRT website.