

HAYS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Thursday, February 27, 2014
Le San Michele
Virginia and Chuck Fleming
219 Hy Road
Buda, Texas 78610

The February 27, 2014, meeting of the Hays County Historical Commission was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Chairman Kate Johnson. A quorum was met as the following members were in attendance: Delbert Bassett, Marie Bassett, Sue Cohen, Linda Coker, Jim Cullen, Luanne Cullen, Bonnie Eissler, Robert Frizzell, Dorothy Gumbert, Betty Harrison, Shelley Henry, Carmen Imel, Kate Johnson, Richard Kidd, Jo Landon, Ida Miller, Jerry Moore, and Jude Prather. Four guests also attended.

Announcements—Kate Johnson announced that the next HCHC meeting would be held on March 27 at Nick Edwards' place in Wimberley at 6:00 p.m. Train rides would be available on his train. She also sent reminders to fly our Texas Flags on March 2, Texas Independence Day. Also the Manchaca Onion Creek Historical Association (MOCHA) will have Ron Ralph, an archeologist with an interest in cave exploration and general archeological studies, as guest speaker at their March 1 meeting. The Virginia Woods 100th Birthday Celebration will be held April 5-6 in Seguin. Janice Woods Windle has invited the HCHC members to attend. RSVP information would be sent when received. Dorothy Gumbert shared information about the screening of YAKONA, a film interpreting the San Marcos River's time and memory, in Austin on March 8 and 11th during SXSW. A champagne toast was held to celebrate Kate's completion of the annual report.

1. **Vote on accepting minutes from January 23, 2014**—Delbert Bassett moved to accept the minutes; Carmen Imel seconded the motion. Motion passed.
2. **Colonel Peter C. Woods Documentary**—Richard Kidd said that the principal filming of the documentary was completed. The gun boat filming on Lake Travis attracted media attention and was reported in the Austin American-Statesman and KXAN news. Janice Woods Windle's stories also were going to be incorporated

into the film. The editing process was beginning, and the film might be completed by the end of May.

3. **Buck Winn Murals**—Kate said that we are going through the process of accepting the contract from the seller, Larry Boettigheimer, and that she is following up with Mark Kennedy, special legal counsel for the county, and County Judge Bert Cobb to work through the contract issues.
4. **El Camino Real Signing in Hays County**—Kate said that she was contacted by Steven Gonzales, Executive Director of the “El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association,” about locating the National Park Historical Signs along the original alignment of the El Camino Real de los Tejas. She will be meeting with him in San Antonio and will bring more information to the next meeting.
5. **Oral History Committee Report**—Bonnie Eissler said that plans have been made for Jim Cullen to interview Red Simon and would include some information about the Kyle Depot. After some discussion, plans were made to videotape the interview.
6. **Cemetery Committee Report**—Jim Cullen said that most of the Cemetery Committee was able to meet on Saturday, Feb. 8, for a field trip to visit and orient members to the Abel Ranch Cemetery and Byrd Owen-Payne Cemetery in Stringtown as well as the San Pedro Cemetery. Dr. Ana Juarez accompanied the group on the trip and offered her insights on both the Abel Ranch and San Pedro sites. The THC Medallion also carried a story about the Abel Ranch Cemetery and quoted Dr. Juarez throughout. Jo Landon is researching local history resources for information on the Antioch Colony Cemetery with anticipated interviews about the site with Minnie Nelson and Mary Giberson. The information will go into the preparation of a Historical Texas Cemetery designation application which can lead to a THC medallion marker. Committee members were invited to visit the Cocke Cemetery next to Le San Michele before this evening’s meeting.
7. **Ecology Committee Report**—Delbert Bassett said that he had no new information to share at this time.
8. **Historical Marker Committee Report**—Betty Harrison reported that all of the markers we submitted for this cycle were approved: the J. H. Barbee house was submitted by Thea Dake; C. W. Burdett and Indian Mott were submitted by Kevin Fowler; and the First Baptist Church NBC was submitted as a subject marker. All have been invoiced and paid for except for the church. She had contacted the City of Buda about scheduling a dedication for the Stagecoach House (McElroy-Severn House) but had not had a reply. Also, the marker for the Bunton Branch Bridge has been repaired and is ready to be placed by the bridge.

9. **Hispanic Committee Report**—no report was available.
10. **County Judges Report**—Kate reported that the pictures of the County Judges had been removed from the wall in the Commissioners Court Room in the courthouse. Ida Miller has been placing the pictures in larger frames and helping with information to be written on bronze plaques. Judge Bert Cob's picture is in our office and will be framed soon. A decision will be made whether to display his picture next to Jack C. Hays on the first floor or next to the Court Room on the third floor.
11. **Colonel Peter C. Woods Memorial**-- Kate said that the memorial to Col. Peter C. Woods, which is located on the courthouse grounds, is in need of restoration. There are some funds in our budget to offer but we also need assistance from the United Daughters of the Confederacy and perhaps the Woods relatives to properly fund the work. She was asking Patrick Sparks, civil engineer, to help determine the overall cost of the project.
12. **Old Hays County Jail**—Kate said that the exterior of the Old Jail is completely finished. George Wilcox believes that a phased approach to the interior completion would be a good way to keep the project moving. He also suggested keeping the same general contractor for the work. In order to effectively design the space, a decision needs to be made as to the purpose of the building upon completion and any outbuildings that might be needed. Kate suggested one or more special meetings with the HCHC with a professional facilitator to come to a consensus on our vision for the jail and jail site. After this vision is decided, Clayton and Little Associates would be able to help us design facilities to realize that vision.
13. **Courthouse Committee Report**—Linda Coker said that the San Marcos Wine Walk would be held on March 7 and a sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers. She also said that the meeting room was continuing to be used frequently and that the Facebook page has 180+ "Likes."

Adjourn—Delbert Bassett moved that the meeting adjourn; Marie Bassett seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

After the meeting, the owner of Le San Michele, Virginia Fleming, described the site and its history as a farm and its growth into the event center. Supper followed.

Respectfully submitted,
Luanne P. Cullen, HCHC Secretary

(Please see photo collage on the following page)

