

HAYS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Thursday, March 27, 2014
Nick and Lynn Edwards
3820 River Road
Wimberley, Texas 78676

The March 27, 2014, meeting of the Hays County Historical Commission was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Chairman Kate Johnson. A quorum was met as the following HCHC members were in attendance: Delbert Bassett, Marie Bassett, Jim Cullen, Luanne Cullen, Bonnie Eissler, Robert Frizzell, Betty Harrison, Shelley Henry, Kate Johnson, Richard Kidd, Jo Landon, SarahAnn Lowther, Jerry Moore, Ofelia Vásquez-Philo, Ralph Randow, and Charlie Willis. Also in attendance were five guests.

Announcements: Kate Johnson announced that the Virginia Woods 100th Birthday Celebration would be held April 5 and 6 in Seguin. Janice Woods Windle had personally asked the HCHC members to attend. A sign-up sheet was passed around for those who planned to attend.

Also, the HCHC had been asked to fund half of the cost of the three windows that need to be restored in the Courthouse. We can pay \$2900.00 and other funds would come from the Maintenance Department. Delbert Bassett moved for HCHC to spend \$2900 to repair the windows and Jerry Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed by the members.

The next HCHC meeting would be held on April 24, 2014, and the location would be announced soon. The Crooks Mansion in San Marcos was mentioned as a possibility for the April or May meeting.

1. **Vote on accepting minutes from February 27, 2014**—One correction was made to the minutes—the “Daughters of the Confederacy” was corrected to say the “United Daughters of the Confederacy.” Shelley Henry moved to accept the minutes as corrected; Marie Bassett seconded the motion. Motion passed.
2. **Colonel Peter C. Woods Documentary**—Richard Kidd reported that he had made progress with the documentary and that the Civil War footage was finished.

Janice Woods Windle had many good stories to share about Woods after the Civil War and footage would be shot to include some of the stories. There were few photos of Woods during the last 40 years of his life. The documentary should be completed by the end of April.

3. **Buck Winn Murals**—Kate Johnson said that she had given a Power Point Presentation the previous Tuesday to the Hays County Commissioners Court when she showed pictures of the murals and of Buck Winn. The contract has been signed by Judge Cobb and the 10% down payment (\$17,500 from the Burdine Johnson grant) has been deposited in the Treasurer's Office.
4. **El Camino Real Signing in Hays County**—Kate reported that she had been contacted by Steven Gonzales, Executive Director of the El Camino Real de Los Tejas National Historic Trail Association, about locating the National Park Historical Trail signs along the original alignment of the El Camino Real de Los Tejas. She, Mr. Gonzales, and Commissioner Debbie Inglesbe met on March 13 and discussed the cost of the signs, posts, and hardware (\$21,375.00) that need to be purchased in order to place them on the Post Road, Hunter Road, County Road 266, and State Highway 21. Even with the \$4,500 provided by El Camino Real de Los Tejas association, the balance of \$16,875 would need to be completed in phases. Mr. Gonzales and Kate drove to Willow Springs on Hunter Road where he identified road beds as well as tracks in the limestone. Because this creek is adjacent to the HEB plant, a possible partnership with HEB could save this historical site and obtain a historical marker.
5. **Oral History Committee Report**—Bonnie Eissler reported that her committee had made a video interview of Red Simon that was conducted by Jim Cullen, videotaped by Richard Kidd with assistance by Bonnie and Robert Frizzell. Mr. Simon told good stories about his life and about the train depot in Kyle. The previous day, Bonnie, Sue Cohen, Jo Landon, and Clemmie New had met to work on some of the oral history biographies. Decisions were to be made as to the next interviews and hopefully, one would be scheduled by the April meeting. She also planned to speak with Linda Hill Schmeltekopf and Patsy Scott Sturdivant in Kyle about the old train depot.
6. **Cemetery Committee Report**—Jim Cullen said that the committee's main activity for the month has been by committee member Jo Landon's researching of the Antioch Cemetery in preparation for completion of the Historic Texas Cemetery designation application for that cemetery. Jo's research has included speaking with members of the old Antioch Community, combing records provided by former HCHC member Mary Giberson, and spending time on-site in the historic cemetery. They also researched Hays County deeds at the County Clerk's office, visited the Central Appraisal District office, and spoke by phone with Dorothy Schwartz, who authored the Antioch Colony chapter of *Clear Springs and Limestone Ledges*. Marie Bassett mentioned the Phillips Cemetery

Tour that would be held on Saturday, April 5 from 2-4 p.m. in Dripping Springs.

7. **Ecology Committee Report**—Delbert Bassett said that his committee is moving as slowly as a tree grows. The “Hanging Oak” tree and other large oaks on Ranch Road 12 have been marked to be saved from cutting during the upcoming road widening project.
8. **Historical Marker Committee Report**—Betty Harrison said that we had received the proposed text from THC for the Eddie Durham marker and have sent it to the City of San Marcos and Dan Utley to review.
9. **Hispanic Committee Report**—Ofelia Vásquez-Philo said that a newsletter would be emailed each month with highlights of the Centro Cultural Hispano de San Marcos. A special Cinco de Mayo event would be held on May 2 that would include dinner, music, and more. Tables could be reserved for \$100 or tickets could be purchased at the door for \$10.
10. **County Judges Report**—Kate reported that the inscriptions had not been received and they are missing photos of the first four county judges. Descriptions of the judges are being finalized.
11. **Courthouse Committee Report**—Kate reported that the time capsule plaque is now in place and is beautiful. She encouraged HCHC members to visit the courthouse and see the plaque.
12. **Community Announcements:** Shelley Henry reported that, in a partnership between HCHC and the Heritage Association of San Marcos, the premiere of the Peter Woods film would be held on May 2 leading into the Heritage Association’s Tour of Homes on May 3-4. Janice Woods Windle might attend the premiere and be available for a question/answer session.
13. **Adjourn**—Jerry Moore moved to adjourn the meeting; Delbert Bassett seconded the motion. Motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.