HAYS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Thursday, September 26, 2013, 6:00 PM
Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
Spring Lake Hall (formerly Texas Rivers Center)
951 Aquarena Springs Drive, San Marcos, Texas 78666 and
Salt Grass Steakhouse
221 East Sessom Drive, San Marcos, Texas 78666

After a walking tour of the site of Burleson cabin at the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, the Hays County Historical Commission met for the September 26, 2013, meeting at the Salt Grass Steakhouse. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kate Johnson at 6:56 p.m. A quorum was met as the following HCHC members were present: Delbert Bassett, Marie Bassett, Sue Cohen, Linda Coker, Luanne Cullen, Bonnie Eissler, Robert Frizzell, Dorothy Gumbert, Betty Harrison, Shelley Henry, Carmen Imel, Kate Johnson, Jeff Jordan, Richard Kidd, Jo Landon, Ida Miller, Jerry Moore, Ofelia Vásquez-Philo, and Charlie Willis. Also attending were seven guests.

- Announcements—Kate Johnson announced that the next meeting would be held on October 24, 2013, at Judge Shannon's Ranch near Driftwood.
 Kate also introduced George Wilcox, Architect, who would be speaking later in the meeting about the projects including the Old Jail, the Kyle Depot, and our newest project which includes the Burleson homestead on the hillside above Spring Lake.
- 2. **Vote on accepting minutes from August 22, 2013**—Delbert Bassett moved to accept the minutes; Dorothy Gumbert seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- 3. Courthouse Committee Report—Linda Coker reported that volunteers were needed for the BBQ lunch that was planned for Tuesday, October 1, 2013, at the Courthouse to welcome Hays County General Counsel Mark Kennedy to his new office on the second floor. A volunteer list was passed for members to sign up for times. She also announced the upcoming events including the Wine Walk on September 27, the showing of the Open Meetings video in the Courthouse theatre on Saturday, October 19, and the Wassail Walk on November 15. New

acquisitions for the museum include probate books from the 1884 jail donated by Jeff Jordan; a silk skirt donated by Bill Harris; negatives of photos from the <u>Clear Springs and Limestone Ledges</u> book donated by Cindy McCoy; <u>The Indian Wars and Pioneers of Texas</u> book written by John Henry Brown in 1896, was donated by Kate Johnson; and, also donated by Kate, was the proof plate that was used for the engraving of the Battle of Walker Creek on the Colt revolver that was presented to Jack C. Hays.

- 4. **Colonel Doctor Peter C. Woods Documentary**—Richard Kidd reported that the research on Dr. Woods was almost finished especially his Civil War experiences. Shooting would be held in December.
- 5. **Oral History Committee Report**—Bonnie Eissler said that her committee had completed three transcripts of interviews and was hoping to schedule a showing of the "101 Ranch" documentary at the Dripping Springs Library.
- 6. **Historical Marker Committee Report**—Betty Harrison reported that one subject marker application had been submitted for the African-American Baptist Church in San Marcos. The application period will close on November 15. It was mentioned that, in the historic Dunbar District of San Marcos, the Ulysses Cephus House on MLK Drive and the Eddie Durham Park next door held their ribbon-cutting ceremonies and open house on August 13.
- 7. **Old Hays County Jail Report**—Kate presented several enlarged photos of the Old Jail which highlighted the restoration of the exterior and ongoing work on the interior. George Wilcox, architect, described the renovations, such as the window sashes and the installation of the window bars, and complimented the contractor for his outstanding work.
- 8. **Kyle Depot**—Mr. Wilcox also described the on-going renovations at the depot and said that the current focus was completing the offices for the Kyle Chamber of Commerce.
- 9. **Hispanic Committee Report**—Ofelia Vásquez-Philo said that the September 21 celebration at the Centro Cultural Hispano de San Marcos was successful and well-attended. She also announced that the Indigenous Culture Institute was having a Powwow at Aquarena Springs on October 5 to bless the Sacred Springs.
- 10. **George Wilcox, Architect with Clayton & Little Architects**, described the new project in restoring the General Edward Burleson homestead above Spring Lake with the Moon-McGehee Chapter of the DRT. Plans include writing a master plan to outline the historical significance of the structure and to build and improve trails to tie various sites together (reconstructed cabin, Centennial Marker, replica of the Mission Tower, and the Grist Mill, etc.) At this time, the amount of land and location of the cabin are to be determined.

11. **Community Announcements**—Marie Bassett announced that the Fall Fest would be held at the Pound House in Dripping Springs at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 28.

Shelley Henry announced that the Heritage Association of San Marcos would hold the Cemetery Walk at the San Marcos Cemetery on November 2, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. and would be highlighting early founders of San Marcos. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students (children under 12 are free). Also, the Texas Historical Foundation's Board of Directors would be having their board meeting in San Marcos, October 17-19. They will be spending the 18th touring some historical sites which will include our courthouse museum, the LBJ Museum, the Charles S. Cock House and Merriman Cabin, and the Price Seniors Center.

12. **Adjourn**—Marie Bassett moved that the meeting adjourn; Delbert Bassett seconded the motion. Motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. Supper followed.

Respectfully submitted, Luanne P. Cullen, HCHC Secretary















