



BIRDVILLE HISTORIAN

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NEXT MEETING

February 16, 2008

Old Red Courthouse

Dallas, Texas

11:30 A.M.

We have a very exciting meeting planned for February. We will have a guided tour of the Old Red Courthouse in Dallas, Texas. Stephanie Evans will be conducting the tour and I'm looking forward to hearing about the roll this building has played in Dallas County history. I'm planning on taking the TRE and if you would like to join me, be at the Richland Hills Station in time to take the 10:15 train. Tickets are \$4.50 round trip for adults or if you are a Senior Citizen you may travel for \$1.00. You can ride any of the Dallas area rapid transit lines or Trinity Railway Express trains as much as you want on this ticket for the entire day. We will get off the train at Union Station and walk two blocks to the courthouse so wear comfortable shoes.

Tickets are normally \$8.00 per person for the tour but we have a group rate and BHS will pay for your ticket if you are there on time and we can count you in the group.

After the tour, we will walk approx two blocks to Sonny Bryan's for BBQ lunch and then back to Union Station, a total of 4 or 5 blocks. to board the 3:52 train back to our part of town to arrive at 4:40 in Richland Hills. There are several stops to board the TRE that may be more convenient for you so please make the best decision for you.

**The Original Old Red Courthouse
With Clock Tower**



Fundraising Tour of Haltom Mansion

On December 8 & 9, 2007 BHS co hosted a tour of the Haltom Mansion along with the help of the Haltom Family, Robert & Helen and their daughter Mary and Mary's husband Scott Lancaster. This was the first ever fundraiser event sponsored by BHS and approx \$3,500.00 was raised after expenses to help with programs and presentations.

I would like to thank all of you who bought a ticket or made a donation to support BHS. There were about 100 volunteer spots filled by you and historians from other parts of Tarrant County as well. There is not enough space in this newsletter to list all the volunteers but please know your time was greatly appreciated and a special thanks to the Haltom family.

Some people have asked if we plan to repeat this for next year and "Management" is still out on that.



Graffiti Removal

In December 2007 someone "tagged" the back of the Haltom Theater. That is what they call it now when some artistic vandals choose to spray paint on other people's property. After much phone work and working out a schedule, we met to get the art removed on January 19, 2008. Patriot Pressure Washer Company volunteered to spray wash the building if BHS would purchase the solvent and the unwanted writing came off amazingly well. We waited until the afternoon to start because the washer line was frozen but when we finally got to start, it only took about an hour and it looks so much better. I wish these vandals would contact me as I think a mural covering the entire back wall would be beautiful. This would be a major undertaking but I believe these people certainly have the talent



*Upper Photo Walt McCarty of Patriot Pressure Washers
Lower Photo Ray Ecklund of BHS*

Donations

In response to the “Kinky Friedman for Governor 2006” information that Travis Royal donated, we now have information about Carole Keeton Strayhorn’s campaign for governor donated by Beth Kisor.

Thanks to Travis Royal for information on Leonard’s Mill and stories of his childhood. A receipt for the funeral account of Mr. John Royal dated February 23, 1946 and for the photos of the McLain House in Haltom City.

Thanks to Warren & Pat Davenport and Asbury Methodist Church for the 1930’s pump organ and a special thanks to Ray Ecklund for helping to move the organ.

Thanks to Weldon Cannon for receipts from the Euless Nursery about the purchase of plants for the Haltom Mansion in 1939 and 1940. Weldon’s father owned the nursery.

Thanks to Bobbie & Bernice Gilbert for 3 Haltom Junior High School annuals and one Haltom High School annual.

For the next quarterly meeting BHS will host the Annual Birdville Cemetery Reunion and you will receive more information in May.

Beginning with the May meeting and all future meetings I will be sending the newsletter via email to those of you that I have on the email list. This is just a small way we can contribute to saving the environment plus it will save BHS on printing envelopes, purchasing paper and save the City of Haltom City in postage. If you would like to continue receiving your copy via US mail, please let me know. You may download a copy from the BHS website if you wish www.birdvillehistory.org.

If you have relatives or friends who would like to bequeath items to the Birdville Historical Society, we are recognized by the IRS as an official 501©3 organization and all donations will be tax deductible. In the case of a death in your family, you can be assured that any donations made in memory or in honor of your loved one in the way of photos, documents or historical objects, will be preserved in the best way possible. We now have a place to keep the items and every effort will be made to preserve the treasures and your memories. This is one way to insure that the work of preservation will continue in Birdville.

Welcome new members Deborah Sayers of the Farmer's Market in Haltom City and Perry & Choiwan L. Moy of Fairfax, Va.

If you have not had opportunity to join or pay your dues for 2007, please do so at this time. Mail your checks or contributions to Birdville Historical Society, P.O. Box 14246, Haltom City, Texas 76117.

Membership Levels

DIAMOND CORPORATE SPONSOR \$1000.00
RUBY LIFETIME \$750.00
SAPPHIRE LIFETIME \$500.00
COUPLE PER YEAR \$25.00
INDIVIDUAL PER YEAR \$15.00

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