



BIRDVILLE HISTORIAN

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**The next meeting of the Birdville Historical Society will be
Saturday May 22, 2010
11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

We will meet at 11:00 AM to enjoy a tour of the Historic Birdville Cemetery led by Bill Reeves from the Birdville Cemetery Association. At noon we will enjoy lunch on the grounds. BHS will furnish Chick Filet Sandwiches, drinks and paper goods. Please bring a side dish or dessert to compliment the chicken.

We will hear from two very interesting people. Jim Gatewood will speak to us about his new book on JFK and Libby Willis will talk about the Oakhurst area and the process by which it was recently approved to be on the National Register of Historic Places. I know you will enjoy both of these so come join us, have some lunch and soak up the history!!

May is Preservation Month

Citizens in Haltom City will join thousands of individuals across the country to celebrate National Preservation Month this May. “*Old is the New Green*” is the theme of the month-long celebration sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Join us in the Birdville Cemetery to celebrate the fact that we have such wonderful history in this area. If you have not taken the time to explore historic structures in this area, I urge you to make time to do this. There is a vast amount of great architecture in Birdville and it is being destroyed daily.

Since the National Trust for Historic Preservation created Preservation Week in 1971 to spotlight grassroots preservation efforts in America, it has grown into an annual celebration observed by small towns and big cities with events ranging from

architectural and historic tours and award ceremonies, to fundraising events, educational programs and heritage travel opportunities. Due to its overwhelming popularity, in 2005, the National Trust for Historic Preservation extended the celebration to the entire month of May and declared it Preservation Month to provide an even longer opportunity to celebrate the diverse and unique heritage of our country's cities and states and enable more Americans to become involved in the growing preservation movement.

Birdville Cemetery Brick Sales

The first phase of the "Memorial Bricks" sale is complete and installed at the Birdville Cemetery. If you have not had the opportunity to stop by and take a look, please do so. I have taken some orders for the next phase and it is not too late for you to purchase a brick for your family or loved one. For more information call me at 817-834-1239. This is a great way to celebrate the life of someone and support the Birdville Cemetery as well. This is a lasting memory.

Birdville Museum Update

The architect is working on the plans for the restoration/remodeling of the area that will be our permanent home. We will be located in the BISD Shannon Center which is the location of the original Birdville Schools that started in 1858. This is a great location for a museum since it is right in the heart of where the original settlement of Birdville began.

The BISD Archives operated by Ida Jo Reynolds will share the space with BHS and hopefully will expand as both collections continue to grow. When everyone in the Birdville area realizes how popular this museum will be, it will be a great asset for the district as well as the entire Birdville area. I talked with Ida Jo last week and she was told that our portion of the remodeling should be complete shortly after the new school year begins.

I will have a drawing of the area for your perusal when you join us at the Birdville Cemetery. There will be lots of work for us and we will need all the volunteers that are willing to help move cases and boxes. We have a few really heavy items that will take a strong back. The help would be greatly appreciated. I have a list of volunteers so if you are interested in helping, please email or call me porterbhs@charter.net or 817-834-1239 or 817-975-9117.

I am so ready to have a home of our own and I know you all will enjoy the space as well. We will be able to have our meetings in the museum which should prove to be very interesting and don't forget, we have the genealogy collection from the Haltom City Library that will be available for research in the new museum.

Does anyone remember the painting that was on the Belknap Drive In Theatre before the Haltom Buffalo?? Call me with your answer!

Donations



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The photo above was donated by A.F. Adkins. Do you know where this grocery store was located in Birdville.

I received a call a couple of months ago from Emma Meadows. Emma was Mayor of Watauga in the 70's. She wanted to donate to BHS a set of andirons or pigirons that came from the Haltom log cabin. For those of you who may not know what this is, they go in the fireplace for logs to lie upon to build the fire. I drove to Clarksville and met with her and her daughter. She was so gracious and had prepared lunch for the visit. Below is a photo of Emma and myself. These will make a great addition to our collection and will have a place of honor in the new BHS Museum.



Emma Meadows & Betty Porter

Birdville Grand Reunion

I attended the Birdville High School Grand Reunion on April 17, 2010. It was held at the BISD Wylie G. Thomas Coliseum. Grades from 1930-1963 were all represented. Vance Godby's served a delicious dinner and 680 people attended.

Please remember to send your email address to

porterbhs@charter.net

To receive this newsletter via email in the future!

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. This is one way to insure that the work of preservation will continue in Birdville and would be a great time for you to contribute to the construction of the museum and move of the collection to our new museum space.

Tour of Jim Lane's Home on
May 14 to Benefit NFWHS

Costumes are ready, and we are all looking forward to this fun event. Valet parking is provided by Hire a Frog, Coors has donated beer, water is provided, and great Mexican hors d'oeuvres will be served along with margaritas. Now all we have to do is don our best period outfit and enjoy the home and view. If you haven't made your reservations, please call 817-625-5082 quickly. Tickets are \$75.00

If you have not had opportunity to join or pay your dues for 2009, 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

Board of Directors

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PLEASE CALL (817) 834-1239 THANK YOU