



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Tom Wiederhold

Happy Valentine's Day, my friends! The month of January has been busy for me and I'm a bit behind in my chores! Thankfully, I have the help of Teresa and the board to keep me straight. The February meeting should be a great meeting with Mayor Betsy Price. We also have some other business that the members will enjoy.

News wise, there is isn't really much. A weapon that was thought to have belonged to long-haired Jim Courtright was found to be a fake; portions of the weapon were from 1885. It apparently was a "fantasy piece" made by someone who wanted to take advantage of Courtright's fame. The weapon owner and I met with a COLTS firearm expert who gave us the sad news. Also, you may have noticed that there has been work going on at the New Isis Theatre. We were excited at the prospect of the renovations starting but after checking with the architect Art Wienman we found out they were only cleaning up debris that had fallen off the canopy to the sidewalk.

The Encore Western Channel on cable was in Fort Worth filming at the start of the Stock Show. Watch for some February footage of Fort Worth and the Cowboys of Color Rodeo! The film crew was in the Stockyards filming some, and I spoke with the show's producer about the Bill Pickett Bronze in front of the coliseum. They seemed very impressed with what has been done and were very appreciative of the guidance and hospitality of Fort Worth.

For you researchers, there are new cases and some many interesting items at the Tarrant County Historical Commission Archives. It's worth a stop in to see what Tarrant County has done to preserve history! The Archives are located on the 5th floor of the County building at 2nd and Taylor.

I'm going to leave this column short, but I want to once again thank the board for their efforts. I am confident you will see many positive changes in the coming year. I'm going to ask everyone to think about membership and the dues, and I would like to encourage each and every member to be an ambassador for the Society, recruiting new folks. In order to remain strong and viable we need to retain our membership numbers.

That's all for now, see you Feb 9th! -Tom



Happy Valentines Day!



Membership Newsletter February 2012

An Evening with the Honorable, Mayor Betsy Price

Join us for the February 9th meeting and spend an evening with Mayor Betsy Price.

Meeting begins at 7pm inside the Livestock Exchange Building.



Fort Worth Stockyards claim to having the first indoor rodeo is challenged!

For nearly a century, Fort Worth has claimed that the first indoor rodeo took place March 11-16, 1918, in the Stockyards' North Side Coliseum, now known as Cowtown Coliseum.

But this month, the Wichita Eagle published a report arguing that an indoor rodeo took place in Kansas in January 1918, about seven weeks before the one in Fort Worth.

To those who aren't rodeo fans, this may seem like a silly claim to get worked up about. But lots of people, especially Fort Worth boosters and Western history buffs, see the issue as more than bragging rights over a historical footnote. The launch of indoor rodeos was an important milestone in the evolution of the sport and presaged a 1922 rodeo at New York's Madison Square Garden that drew national attention. But unlike the contest held in Fort Worth two months later, the Wichita competition wasn't called a rodeo, and Cowtown loyalists say that's crucial. Essentially, a rodeo by any other name doesn't sound too historically significant.

Read more at: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2012/01/27/3693996/fort-worths-claim-to-having-the.html#storylink=cpy>



In Honor and Celebration of Black History Month

A special selection of books are being featured and are on sale through February in honor and in celebration of Black History Month in the Stockyards Museum gift shop.

Select books include, Bill Pickett, Bulldogger by Colonel Bailey C. Hanes; Cinderella Kid by Reby Cary; Black Cowboys of Texas by Sara Massey and Calvin Littlejohn, Portrait of a Community in Black and White.

Time to Renew your NFWHS Membership!

As a member of the North Fort Worth Historical Society, your support helps preserve an important part of the Stockyards' colorful history for future generations. Membership contributions support museum exhibitions, collections, conservation and research. In return, all members receive a 15 percent discount in the Museum Store, invitations to members-only events and access to the Museum's research library and artifacts.

Please choose your Membership Level

- \$25.00 Individual
- \$35.00 Family
- \$12.00 Student*
- \$150.00 Patron/Corporate
- (no dues) Honorary*
- Other \$ _____



It's easy to pay your dues Online with PayPal. Just go to the [Contact Page at www.StockyardsMuseum.org](http://www.StockyardsMuseum.org)

* Student and Honorary members will not have voting privileges.

Name _____

Address1 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone(s) _____

Email _____

Would you be willing to volunteer (ex: in our museum/gift shop, special events, etc.) if needed?

Are there any talents that you would offer to the NFWHS (webmaster, decorating/design, public speaking, etc.)

Members may purchase a gold magnetic name badge with their name, the molly logo and NFWHS.

I would like _____ badges @ \$12.00 each. Names as you would like them on the badge _____

Return to: NFWHS ▪ 131 E. Exchange Ave., #110 ▪ Fort Worth, TX 76164 ▪ 817.625.5082

The North Fort Worth Historical Society is a 501c3 Non-Profit Corporation

NFWHS News by Teresa Burleson



Congratulations to NFWHS Member, LeAnna Schooley! LeAnna has started study toward a doctorate in history at TCU, and also has become Assistant Director at the Center for Texas Studies there, working with center Director, Gene Smith. LeAnna is the daughter of Board Trustee Sarah Biles and the niece of Treasurer Sue Hayley.

Long-time NFWHS friend Janie Williams died on January 25, 2012. She went to work for Swift & Co. at the age of 16--her first job. When she was interviewed during the filming of Wall Street of the West, Janie talked about what it was like to work at Swift's in those days and how proud she was to have that job.

Janie appears in this photo, in the center, taken for a Swift & Co. Beauty Contest in 1943. Pictured are (left to right): Aline Jackson, Katie Wemberley, Janie Williams, Dorothy Cook and Monterey Cobb Williams.



Bill Pokluda, long-time member and volunteer, has been under the weather lately and had a short stay in the hospital. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Doris Crocker came by the office and it was good to see her feeling more like her old self. She hasn't felt well in the last several weeks but seems to have bounced back!

Robert Baker was back in the hospital for a few days with an infection but is home again and feeling better. He has spent the better part of 2 months in and out of the hospital and dealing with health issues but he is a fighter! He found out today (Feb. 1) he no longer has to do dialysis!

There will be a Gala held celebrating Texas Independence Day on March 1, 2012. The special guest of honor is Holt Hickman and entertainment will be provided by the legendary Leon Rausch and Cowtown Opry. Proceeds go to 3 Stockyard non-profit organizations: Friends of the Fort Worth Herd; Friends of the Cowtown Coliseum and the Cowtown Opry. Go to www.cowtownopry.org for more info.

Charles M. Russell: Watercolorist

to Open at Sid Richardson Museum



Russell's watercolors of the 19th century American West are considered to be among his finest efforts and 16 will be in a rare exhibition from February 11 through May 13, 2012. The exhibition launches the 30th anniversary of the Sid Richardson museum.

Admission is free to the museum, which is open daily except major holidays: Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.