

June, 2009

JAILHOUSE NEWS



It's been a busy, productive month. Hope you have seen the roof painted "Garrison Red". Dennis Masterson did a great job shoring up the 3rd floor ceiling and bracing the attic. He unearthed some treasures... The Texas Proud Festival was fun, but a lot of work. We are getting ready for our 1st anniversary as a group with a big celebration on July 12. Read on!

TX Proud Festival Events at the Red Top.

With a generous donation of \$750 from Llano Main Street, we were able to hire the Brazos Bottom Cow'ographers to reenact old west scenes, including a jail break of Johnny Ringo on Saturday, May 23. The dynamite charge to open the jail was a little too realistic – it burst a window and blew out Gene Miller's hearing aids! However, Mike Reagor got it on video and showed it at the movie X-men (see below). The Cow'ographers enjoyed their time with us and are coming back for another jailbreak at our annual meeting, July 12 (read on).

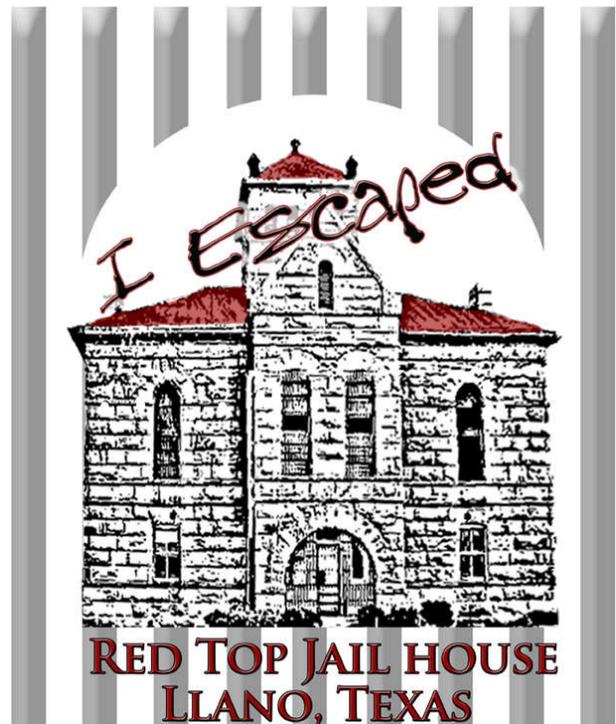
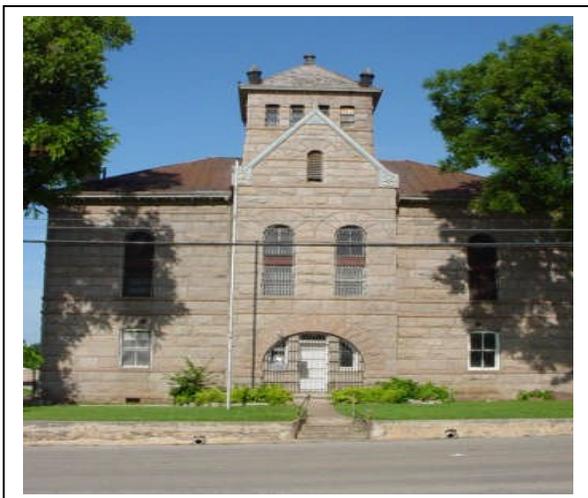
Because we volunteered to sponsor the movie Gran Torino, we garnered \$650 to hire the Celtares musicians to play their traditional

music. They were awesome! Thanks to all who helped out at the LanTex for that.

15 volunteers helped serve food all day Saturday and Sunday morning, give jail tours and other things. I am very grateful to everyone who helped out, especially Ovetra, Sandy, Jim Ives, Gene, Mike Reagor and Frank. It was a success because of all of you. Thanks to Castell General Store, Jimmy Stephenson and Tejas Tacos for their food donations, Llano Feed and Supply for hay bales, the Cow'ographers for a \$150 contribution and Llano Main Street.

Red Top T-shirts for sale!

We have 100% cotton shirts from small-3XL for sale at Enchanted Rocks and Jewelry. \$15 for regular sizes, \$17 for 2XL and 3XL. Thanks to Cheryl Quallenberg for the design!



Masterson finishes the roof on schedule!

The grant from the LCRA to repair and paint the roof was to go "poof" June 30 if we did not use the money. Dennis Masterson and his crew came to the rescue and saved our Cinderella! 160 bags of concrete later, 4 new footings were poured in the attic to meld the gables to the central gallows tower. New metal rods were drilled from the gables to the central gallows wall in the attic. The attic is no longer in eminent danger of falling down and the gables have been bolstered.

All leaks in the roof were fixed with new flashing. The missing decorative corbels in the eaves were recreated and the metal sheets in the gutters were re-formed exactly to match the existing metal work. The minimal hardwood underlayment that had deteriorated was replaced. The roof has been painted the "Garrison Red" color that was specified by Source Co. in Galveston. This company scientifically matches historical paints to modern day paints. We used a Sherwin Williams special polymer roof paint that should last for a very long time. If you remember, the metal roof is steel with a lead coating. Masterson power washed the roof, primed new flashing, and then sprayed this new polymer paint onto the gallows and main roof. It looks like a Disneyland castle!

Most importantly, Dennis Masterson donated the paint and labor for the roof. He also became a new member! Thanks to Dennis, we have finished the project on time and pretty close to budget. All of the members of the Board are very impressed with his professionalism and skill in this project. We are eternally grateful to you, Dennis.

The new roof was not without its hitches, however. A rainstorm broke a tree limb that smashed newly bent sheet metal for the gutters and Masterson had to throw them away. The TX Historical Commission and City of Llano had a lot of issues with how the work was to proceed. However, Masterson stayed on board through this last year's hiccups and got the job done. Thanks again, Dennis.

"Friends" host X-Men at the LanTex. Thanks to all of the volunteers who sold popcorn and tickets at the last LanTex movie. The money (~\$200) goes to the restoration.

Treasures found! Frank and Ovetra were digging around the trash during the roof project and found a curious hemp canvas piece with 3 metal clips. The clips are ~shell-shaped and engraved with the words, "Patented 1902". They fit perfectly into holes in the jail cells. Turns out, they were used to support hammocks that the prisoners layed in at night. We were curious how 4 prisoners per cell were housed in those tiny cells. Now, we know. They slept in hammocks. Other Pauly Jails throughout the country also used hammocks.

Dennis also found a piece of the metal tiles on the gallows roof that says "Patented 1892". These are part of our heritage.

First Anniversay Party July 12! We are throwing a big shindig on Sunday, July 12 at 5:00. We will have our annual general meeting mixed in with the fun, including:

*Gourmet burgers/Desserts/Drinks
Jail break reenactment/Jail tours/Music*

While this benefit is free, please bring your checkbook. We all need to "reenlist" as Friends, give to future restoration efforts and help support the Red Top Jail.

For this event, the Cow'ographers will stage another "jail break" of Johnny Ringo. We will serve gourmet hamburgers, venison sausage, cowboy beans and scrumptious homemade bread pudding. Music will be from Courtney and Allan Reed! To make this all happen, we will need your support again...but hey, WE are moving forward, right?

Sheri Zoch, President

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT FROM THE "FRIENDS OF THE LLANO RED TOP JAIL" BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: *Sheri Zoch 325-248-0284*

Vice President: *Tom Dalrymple*

Secretary: *Sandy Shaw*

Treasurer: *Ovetra Hartman*

Member: *Frank Rowell*

Member: *Gene Hall Miller*

APPLICATION FORM FORM
FRIENDS OF THE LLANO RED TOP JAIL

The Friends of the Llano Red Top Jail is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the Llano Red Top Jail, as well as to determine a function for the structure (i.e., some kind of a museum). Members are encouraged to assist in the restoration projects and attend an annual meeting to elect directors and discuss projects.

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone numbers: _____

Could you help us with: (circle one or more)

Jail tours Work parties (cleaning/painting) Fundraising

Historical research Newsletter Events Marketing

Assisting with bids for contractors Planning Woodworking

Other _____

Our current membership dues are \$20 individual and \$35 family (household). Please enclose a money order or a check made out to Friends of the Llano Red Top Jail and send to Sandy Shaw, 295 CR 306, Llano, TX 78643. You will receive a membership card. Questions, call 325-248-0284.

Thank you!