

Sept. 2009
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Editor

JAILHOUSE NEWS



MAJOR EVENTS COMING UP! The Red Top Rummage Sale, Heritage Days and 4 Haunted House nights in October! Read how you can help. We also found an old Red Top Cookbook and are highlighting donors!

Rummage Sale October 10. The Friends will host its first rummage sale from 8-12 AM at the jail. We need an event coordinator, pricers and general volunteers. Please save your bags, hangers and call us for donations of junk, (excuse me), “treasures” to sell. Our goal is to fund a pier (\$1200, see below) with our take.

Heritage Days October 17. The Red Top will give tours from 10:00-2:00 on Saturday during Heritage Days. This year, the Llano Uplift Archeology Society will also set up a booth in front of the Red Top at that time for Archeology Month. The LUAS will analyze and date your artifacts, so bring arrowheads, metal objects, Indian beads, etc. that you are curious about. This is a free “Artifacts Roadshow” to assess your ancient artifacts. Take advantage, people!



If you remember from the last newsletter, this beautiful quilt will be auctioned at Heritage Days and ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE RESTORATION OF THE RED TOP! This full/queen sized quilt features historic Llano scenes (including the Red Top Jail, Llano Courthouse, Episcopal Church, Inks Bridge and old Llano Hotel) and was made and donated by the Friendship Quilters. Buy your raffle ticket for \$2 or 3 tickets for \$5. Call Sandy (325-247-1787) for tickets. The drawing will be at the courthouse at 3:00 PM, Oct. 17, but you need not be present to win. The quilt is named “Sherry’s Dream”.

History Committee forming. Ned Woodall, Dave and Inell Franks and Sharon Keilin are in so far. Want to join? We need to interview former inmates, jailor families, etc. We also need to archive what we have. Call or email Sheri, spratik1@verizon.net.

Haunted House October 23, 24, 30 and 31!

Last year we really riled up the Red Top ghosts with 2 nights of Haunted Houses. However, we should rankle them even more this year with 4 nights of kids and noise! After the Haunted House last year, a paranormal society from Austin said that they had never recorded so much activity. Bet we can best that this year!

We could use some volunteers to help the Llano Volunteer Fire Dept. put these shows on. I found some prison costumes online, if you would like to purchase one and clank your tin cup on the iron jail cell bars. Otherwise, we just need people to shuttle kids from one room to another, take money or help out in other ways. You don't have to, but you can dress up in your favorite Halloween costume.

Red Top Cookbook found. Carole Williams from the Llano News donated a precious Red Top Jail Cookbook that was printed in 1986 by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. It is dedicated to the Doolittle Chapel and has many delicious recipes from local cooks (many of whom have deceased, unfortunately). The front pages have many interesting facts about the Red Top and the Doolittle Chapel. It also has poems by Geraldine Christopher (DRT) and Pansy Ward (Doolittle Chapel). It contains recipes entitled, "Oh! Shuck That Corn", "Captain Midnight Muffins", "Grandpa Wesley Wunneburger's Smothered Steak", "1840's Reuben and Abigail Burleson Gage Gravy", "Hard Lye Soap" and "Hundred Year-Old Gingerbread".

What's next with the Jail? The architectural master plan is almost finished and we have some work to do. The first recommendation of the plan is to grade the property around the jail in order to allow water to drain away from the jail, instead of puddling under it. A French drain needs to be placed on the south side. We will soon get a survey and then consult with Sparks Engineering for grading specifications. Visually comparing the current grade to the Larry Jones collection photo of the jail from ca. 1900, it seems to me that maybe a foot needs to be removed on the south side?

DONORS HONORED! One thing I've learned through the years: You don't ask, you don't get! However, I am overwhelmed by the generosity of Llano citizens in answer to my little queries. Llano rocks! See below.

NEW BUSINESS MEMBERS:

Enchanted Rocks and Jewelry
Industrial Electric Service
Tom Shaw-Ranch Sales
Growing Crazy Plants and Gifts

Now, don't you want your business name to appear on our sign in front of the Red Top? All you have to do is donate \$100/year and you are up there!

ADOPT-A-PIER CAMPAIGN:

1. Sheri and Walter Zoch
2. Sam and Jeanette McPherson, in the name of Grant and McPherson Family.

Hurry, your chance to name a pier is going fast! We only have 29 to go! Your name or a designee will be *inscribed on the pier* and on a permanent plaque mounted inside the jail. Honestly, this is the *foundation* of the Red Top Jail restoration, and you could literally be a part of it for generations to see. It's a cool way to commit to the future of Llano. Call Sheri for your commitment.

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

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