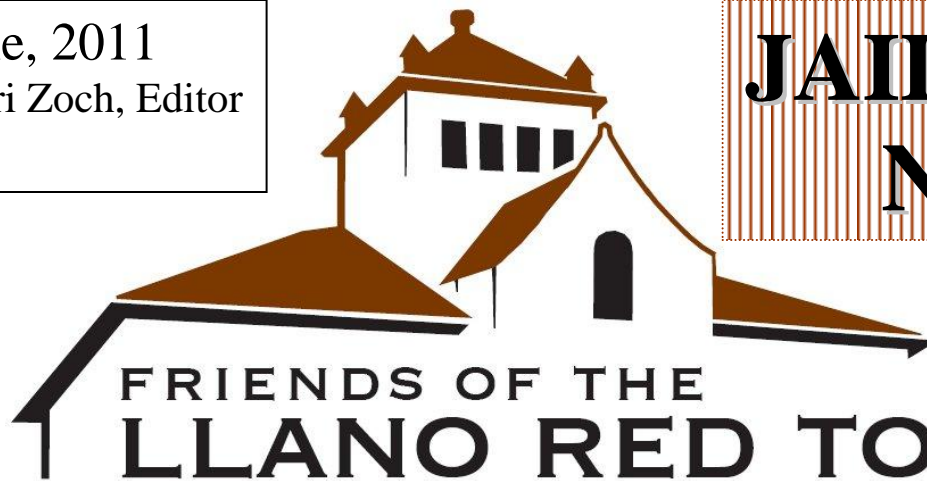


June, 2011
Sheri Zoch, Editor

JAILHOUSE NEWS

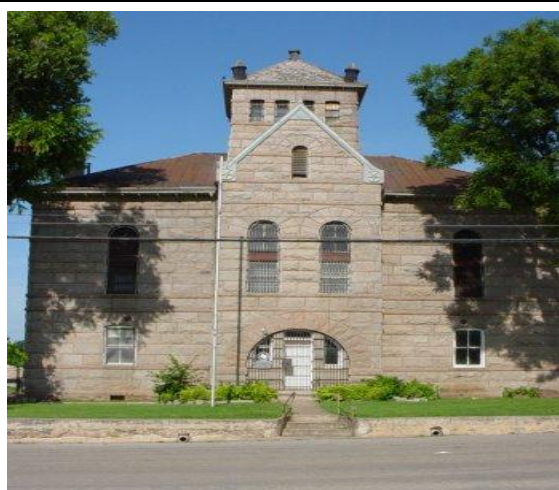


Things are heating up in Llano, and I don't mean just the weather! The behind the scenes work at the Red Top Jail is building momentum and we are moving forward on many fronts. I'm totally stoked! Read on...

Bluebell and Bluegrass Festival a Success!

The Brazos Bottom Cow'ographers set up their "town" behind the jail and entertained visitors with their skits on Saturday and Sunday at Memorial Day Weekend. Ol' Johnny Ringo was booked into the Red Top, but escaped again (that wily guy), with much bloodshed and pyrotechnics. Those Cow'ographers are getting better at their craft. They'll be here again at Heritage Days, so *don't miss out next time*. It was all great fun.

Two more piers donated. Thanks to new members Janet and Vance Naumann from Gene Naumann Real Estate in Austin, we have 2 more piers. We very much appreciate their generous donation. With only 2 more piers we can boast \$20,000 in matching funds for the Red Top restoration! Interested? Call Sheri.



Museum Planning News. Our museum planning consultants, Anne Toxey and Patrick McMillan, visited Llano in May and talked with many people about the Red Top. We thank Gene Hall for graciously putting these consultants up at her B&B. Check out the virtual tour of the Red Top that this group has assembled about the jail:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2kMJcezsVns>

During this visit, we discovered many things about the Red Top, including the fact that the "blue room" or "Doolittle Chapel room" was the "radio room", with a Motorola dispatch radio to notify the sheriff and police of emergencies. In later years, the jailors were the dispatchers for the sheriff and police in town. If any of you remember what this radio system looked like, we would like to talk to you. We'd like to incorporate a likeness of this radio into the new Red Top Jail museum.

Red Top Jail: The Movie! The Llano High School Class under Deirdre Henderson has completed the first movie about the Red Top Jail. This will be premiered at the LanTex Theater during the August 12th showing of the Llano Film Society movie. Thanks go to directors Steve Roberts and Marion Bishop. W.C. Jameson wrote two awesome songs that are featured on this film! The Llano Historical Ghost Society provided photos for the film. This 12 minute film has a story line of Mike Reagor giving a tour to two people (Isabella Revada and Sheri Zoch). As Mike describes things that happened in the past, the film flashes back to the actual historical events. Llano High School students were the actors. It's a real hoot, worth the price of admission!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Every Saturday: In case you live under a rock, we have begun to offer jail tours every Saturday from 11:00-?. As a tour guide, I go home when I get too hot! Seriously, we have had a lot of visitors at the jail since this started a few months ago. It's all good. Thanks again to Kim, Derek, Izzy, Ray, Mike and other guides. We get at least \$60 each day that we do tours, sometimes much more.

Rockin' River Fest, July 2: The Red Top Jail will offer tours from 9-1.

Trail of the Deer "Dressing Party", July 9 10 AM - ?. Come join the fun at Sheri Zoch's studio (700 E. Green, in the "playhouse" out back). We will paint our "Jailbuck" deer for the Trail of the Deer, donated by Robin Chiesa. This deer will remain at the Red Top Jail, handcuffed to the flagpole, for perpetuity. Our idea is to paint his top antlers red, "dress" him in black and white stripes with a convict number on his back and place a ball and chain on his back hooves. Jailbuck will have tattoos: "Mom" (with a heart) and of course, "Bambi". If you have other ideas for tats, call me! Bring an artist paintbrush, or we have plenty for use.

Red Top Jail Movie Debut, Lantex Theater, August 12. See above for details.

Friends of the Llano Red Top Jail General Meeting, Oct. 1. Details later....

Heritage Days Festival, October 15, 16. The Brazos Bottom Cow'ographers will appear at the Red Top to delight us with skits and jailbreaks. Hopefully also, the Celtaires? I'm working on it...

WC Jameson Red Top Jail Musical Benefit at the LanTex, October 29. While WC was making the two great songs for the Red Top Movie, he decided to put out a CD that would benefit the restoration of the Red Top. WC hopes to have the CD complete by this date. If not, he will put on a benefit anyway for the Red Top, inviting some of his friends for a great show. The proceeds will, of course, benefit the Red Top. I can't wait!

NEW COMPUTERS DONATED BY MIKE CONNAWAY'S OFFICE! Two gently used computers have been donated by Mike Connaway, via Nancy Watson, Llano Office Coordinator. These will be used to play the Llano Red Top Movie, once it has been debuted at the LanTex. In addition, the next LHS class is tasked with producing a film showing a virtual tour of the upstairs of the jail. This film will be shown to people who can't make it up the stairs to see the jail cells and the gallows. Thanks go to Steve Roberts for this suggestion and Nancy Watson, who thought that this was a great use of govt. equipment! My old saying, "You don't ask, you don't get!" Hah!

LLANO HISTORICAL GHOST SOCIETY (LHGS) HAPPENINGS:

1. Rockin' River Fest Silent Auction, July 2. The LHGS will offer a "Night at the Red Top Investigation" for 5 different bidders. Winning this bid will allow small groups to "tail" the local investigators at the Red Top on Halloween night, 2011. People will experience and learn what a paranormal investigation entails. Proceeds benefit the Starry, Starry Nights and LHGS.

2. Haunted Llano Tours, every weekend in October. The LHGS will offer tours of 5 old buildings in Llano, including the Red Top. For every ticket sold, the Red Top will get 10%. The other sites include the Dabbs Hotel, Badu House, the space above Stonewalls Pizza and Binky La Faye's Antique store. These tours have been hugely successful in other towns.

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: *Frank Rowell*

Secretary: *Sandy Shaw*

Treasurer: *Ovetra Hartman*

Member: *Earl Theiss*

Member: *Gene Hall*

APPLICATION 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 and the Doolittle Chapel/School. 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 Woodworking

Other _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES: (Check one and enclose \$\$\$\$)

Personal: Individual (\$20) Family (\$35)

Business: (Includes your business name on donor sign)
Silver (\$100) Gold (\$500) Platinum (\$1000)

Adopt-A-Pier (\$1200) (Your name on a permanent plaque)

Please print out this form, enclose a check and return to Sandy Shaw, 295 CR 306, Llano, TX 78643. Call Sheri Zoch at 325-248-0284 for questions, comments or ideas. THANK YOU