

May
2012

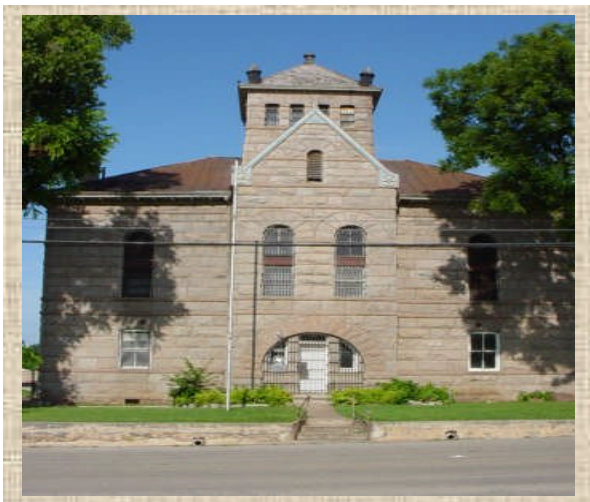
JAILHOUSE NEWS



Dear Friends,

It is with a very sad heart that we say goodbye to our dear secretary, Sandy Shaw. She and Tom are moving to Santa Fe June 5. Sandy has been an integral part of our success throughout the beginning of our journey with the Red Top. She has volunteered countless hours as secretary, taking care of memberships and meeting minutes. Her minutes were always prompt and accurate. It is obvious that she truly cares about the jail and its future. We will miss her smile and funny stories during the many times that she volunteered for our fundraising events. Sandy is truly one of a kind. Thank you, Sandy, for *always* being there for us. Gene Hall gave a send-off BOD party for Sandy at her B&B lodge. We had a blast driving around her ranch. Thanks, Gene.

Friends host the “Lorax” movie. The popular children’s movie “The Lorax” was shown at the Lantex Theater courtesy of the Friends. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to work during this event. It raised \$255 for the Friends. *It all helps!*



Prep work for the piers has started. The Friends had a work party to clear out the first floor of the jail for work on the piers. Tom Dalrymple, Mike Reagor, Frank Rowell, Steve Roberts, Kim Webb, Cheryl Crabtree, Tommy Nelms and Sheri Zoch (have I forgotten someone? If so, please forgive me) hauled the furniture and stuff to the Llano Chamber’s storage facility. The Chamber of Commerce graciously agreed to clear out their facility for us to use to store our treasures. This all went without a hitch. Charles Slocumb agreed to put the old piano and stove (not original to the jail) on Craigslist in Austin and San Antonio.

Unfortunately, an asbestos abatement must be done, since the adhesive used on the tiles in certain rooms contained asbestos and must be removed by an expert. We will be scheduling several work parties to remove the flooring. The first work party will expose part of the substructure in so contractors can provide accurate bids. See below.

FIRST WORK PARTY SCHEDULED WED. JUNE 6 AT 8:00 AM.

Please bring crowbars and other equipment to remove the floors from the first floor of the jail. Two of the downstairs rooms are carpeted, so do not have asbestos. If we can expose at least some of the existing piers, that will probably be enough to get the bids. The rooms have plywood placed over the original floor that needs to be removed. We would like to save as much of the tongue and groove wood as possible, so we’ll also need people to number the pieces for reuse. I heard of an architectural salvage place in Gonzales that may be able to help with period flooring replacements...

Bluebell & Bluebonnet Festival. Although there will be no tours at the jail on Saturday, May 26, the Friends will have a booth at this Festival to sell our “Jailhouse Rocks”, our fused glass ornaments, T-shirts and other items. We will move “Jail Buck” to the courthouse square for this event. Please plan to volunteer this Saturday to represent the Friends. We meet at the jail at 8:00 AM and will be on the courthouse square all day. Any relief time you can give Kim and Sheri would be appreciated.

Loss of a Charter Member. Skeeter Merrit, husband of Fran Merrit, passed away on May 1. Skeeter and Fran attended all of our general meetings and he will be missed. Our sympathies go to Fran.

Grants Update: Thanks to Michael Heaston and our stars being aligned right, we obtained a \$5,000 grant from the Texas Historical Foundation to help with the piers. Michael talked to Ted Lusher, who is on the Board of the THF, stressing the need to fund this project. That brings us up to \$60,000 for the piers. The LCRA \$25,000 grant was not funded because all of their grant money went to water conservation and firefighting this year.

Once we know the amount needed for the piers, Sheri will write a grant to the Meadows Foundation for funds. If awarded, this could cover the entire expense, depending on the bids.

New Board Members Elected. With the loss of Sandy, Frederika Dreyer was elected the new Secretary. The Secretary position was split into membership secretary and minutes secretary. Kim Webb, our Membership Chair/Board Member, will take over the membership secretary function. Frederika will record and transcribe minutes for the Board.

Due to his busy schedule, Earl Theiss resigned as a general Board Member. The Board unanimously approved Martha Rowlett as Earl’s replacement. Thanks to Earl for all of his time spent on the Board. He will continue to volunteer as per his schedule.

Welcome to our new Board Members. We look forward to working with you.

Time to Reflect on our Progress:

- 6/08** Friends of the Llano Red Top Jail incorporated.
 - 7/08** First General Meeting of the Friends.
 - 5/09** Red Top roof restored by a grant from LCRA, matched by City of Llano
 - 12/09** Architectural Master Plan delivered, outlining repairs needed. Funded by National Trust, matched by City of Llano
 - 5/10** Friends Board of Directors meet with LCRA to create a 5 year strategic plan and set a mission statement
 - 4/10** Red Top Jail named one of 7 of Texas’ Most Endangered Places by Preservation Texas. Friends feted at the state capitol
 - 9/10** Preserve America awards a grant to the City of Llano to hire a museum consultant to start planning an 1890’s era museum at the Red Top. This grant money also launched an oral history project with Llano High School
 - 10/10** Celtaire String Band played at Heritage Days Festival at the Red Top due to a Humanities Texas Grant
 - 10/11** ditto 10/10! Celtaires were great!
 - 3/11** Texas Historical Commission (THC) gives possibly their last grant (out of their corpus) to fund the piers project
 - 1/12** Summerlee Foundation matches THC
 - 4/12** TX Historical Fdn. matches THC
- Git ‘er done!*

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT FROM THE "FRIENDS OF THE LLANO RED TOP JAIL" BOARD OF DIRECTORS: (phone nos. 325 area code)

President: *Tom Dalrymple 423-2516*

Vice President: *Frank Rowell 247-4137*

Secretary: *Frederika Dreyer*

Treasurer: *Ovetra Hartman 247-3188*

Historian: *Steve Roberts 248-5000*

Grantwriter/Editor: *Sheri Zoch 248-2084*

Membership Chair: *Kim Webb 247-2233*

Member: *Gene Hall 247-4074*

Member: *Martha Rowlett*

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. 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

Masonry

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 made out to the Friends of the Llano Red Top Jail and return to Kim Webb, PO Box 5613, Valley Spring, TX 76885. THANK YOU.