

CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 2008

ISSUE 1

OCTOBER, 2008

President's Column

I am honored to be serving as President of the Board of Directors. By preserving historical buildings, documents, artifacts and interviewing residents to get oral histories we hope to connect people with the place in which they live. In the future, Cypress Historical Society (CHS) will have presentations and lectures that promote the history and folklore of the area.

Spread the word about CHS, tell your friends and neighbors. We have volunteer opportunities in many areas. It is through your support that we will grow, and make our presence known in the community. Your membership and financial assistance are needed to continue accomplishing our goals. We invite you to join us in preserving the heritage and history of the Northwest area. Some of our members are volunteering at Cypress Top Historic Park. We are assisting Precinct 3 Harris County in preparing these buildings and displays for the opening in November, 2008. If you would like to volunteer for any of our committees or activities, please call 281-256-6212. I thank you for your support and look forward to working and serving with you. . . . Diane Neff

CHS Advisory Committee

Paul Bellow, Jr, owner of Cypress Station Grill has agreed to serve on the Cypress Historical Society advisory committee. Margaret Pirtle of the Homestead



At the heart of old Cypress Top was Juergen's Store. Efforts by Harris County Precinct 3, Steve Radack's office, and volunteers from CHS, have preserved this important piece of Cypress History

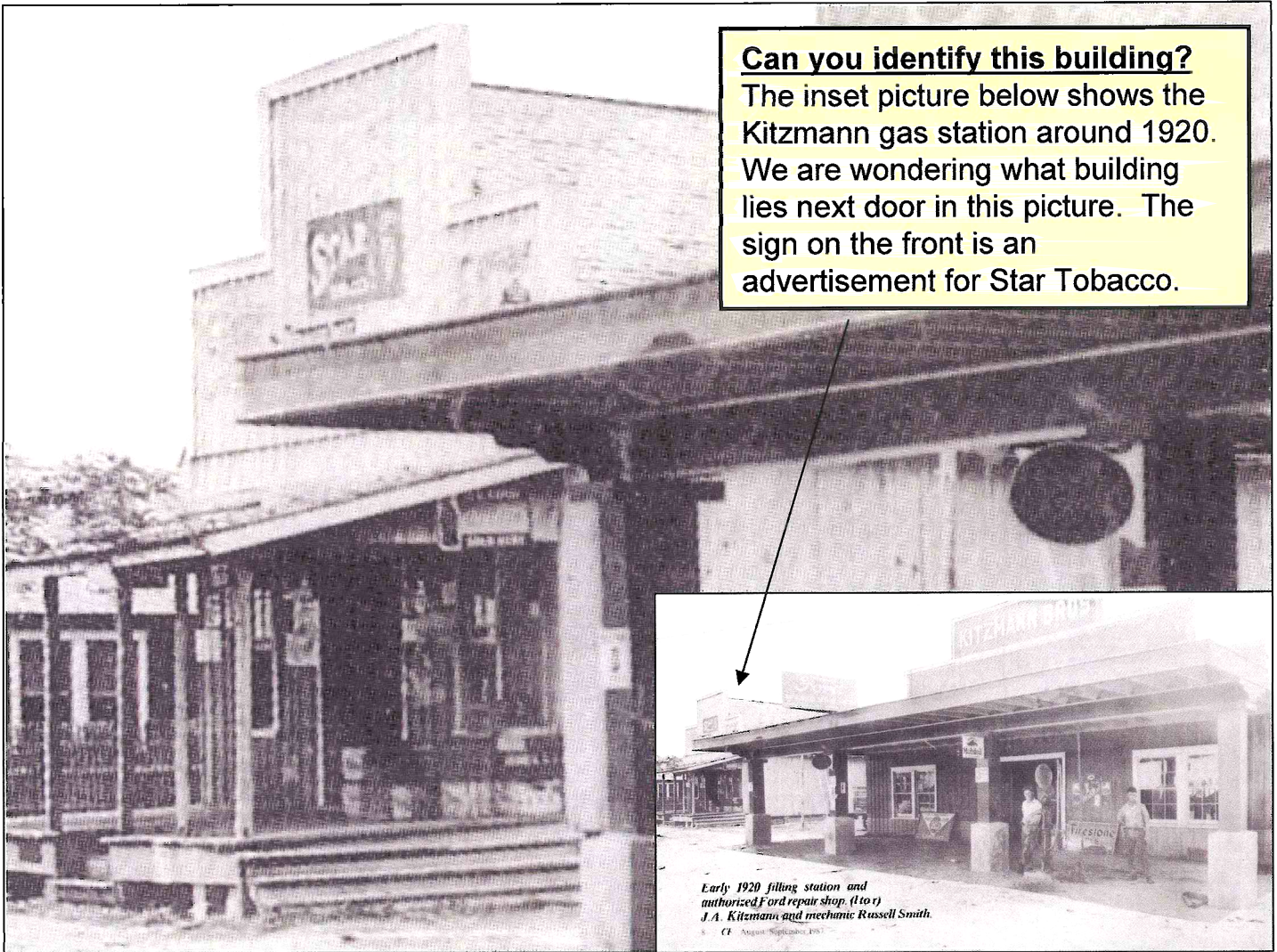
Magazine has also graciously agreed to join the advisory committee.

"Cypress Top" Park to Open Nov 10th!

Cypress Top Historic Park will be opening November 10, 2008. The eight buildings depict area history through displays, period furniture, photographs and items that were for sale in a general store. The buildings provide a look at the lifestyles of the early settlers in Cypress. The park will benefit from financial support and volunteer efforts from the Cypress Historical Society (CHS). CHS received a donation of \$1,500 from Bridgeland-General Growth Properties, Inc. to be used on projects for the park. CHS officers and members will volunteer at the park serving in various ways. Tours will be available on request.

Can you identify this building?

The inset picture below shows the Kitzmann gas station around 1920. We are wondering what building lies next door in this picture. The sign on the front is an advertisement for Star Tobacco.



Pioneers of Cypress

While there are many subjects waiting to be explored, our current project is to verify genealogy and obtain pictures of the oldest, and or, first family members who arrived in the United States and settled in the Cypress Community. The pictures and family history will be placed

on the wall of the Juergen Dance Hall at Cypress Top Historic Park. We are especially in need of the pioneer family's pictures. All of you who have inherited grandparent's or great-grandparent's photos, please allow us to copy them for display We also may contact you to verify our genealogy information

Darline Roth

Cypress Historical Society

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CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1ST ANNUAL MEETING

November 15, 2008 1:00pm - 3:00pm

At Cypress Top Historical Park

Hempstead Hwy. at Cypress-Rosehill Rd

Guest Speaker: Fred Collins, Park Director

And a Special "Behind the Scenes" look at the new Park!

Memories of Cypress

Spurs jingle-jangling, horses whinnying, bulls bellowing, calves bawling, people calling out greetings to one another - those are sounds I remember as I think of the old Cy-Fair Rodeos. The Ag boys, under Mr Arnold's watchful eyes, put the rodeos on every Friday night during the summers of the 1950's, '60's, '70's and later. People from miles and miles around would attend the rodeos, some as contestants, others as spectators.

The rodeo arena was originally located on the north side of the Cy-Fair High School-Cypress Elementary School complex. High school Ag teacher Forrest Arnold began the rodeo back in 1944 to provide entertainment for area families on Friday nights. He started out with a few goats for roping, and then gradually added calves for roping, barrel racing for women and girls, and other rodeo events such as bronc and bull riding. Eventually the rodeo arena, bleachers, concession stands, etc. had to be moved from the original site to a site on the east side of Telge Road where there was more room (Some people said the school needed the original rodeo site for more school facilities, others would tell you there was not enough room at the original site for all the pick-up/horse trailer rigs, plus spectators, to park.)

The rodeos were the chief source of

HOW YOU CAN HELP CHS!

- Do you have memories of the Cypress and Cy-Fair areas that you would like to share with us? We would love to have them. Please send your memories to Jane Ledbetter, 18634 K-Z Road, Cypress 77433, (or E-mail me at janel_54@att.net). If you feel that you really can't write much, just give me your ideas and I will try to put them in paragraph form for you.
- Do you have pictures or other documents that represent Cypress in its earlier days? We would love to scan your photos and return the originals, or archive your originals so they become a permanent record of Cypress history
- Do you have books about the local history or copies of your Family History that you could donate to our library?

income for the FFA chapter as well as being good entertainment for area families. In fact, it has been said that the rodeos were so popular and well attended that churches planning to have Vacation Bible School closing programs on Friday nights might very well have to schedule their programs differently because no one would come, everybody would be going to the Cypress Rodeo! . . . Jane Ledbetter

Cypress Historical Society
13003 Red Laurel Ct.
Cypress, Texas 77429

CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Names(s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State & Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

Individual	(\$5)	_____	Sustaining	(\$50)	_____
Family	(\$10)	_____	Sponsor	(\$100)	_____
Business	(\$25)	_____	Corporate Sponsor	(\$250)	_____

I would like to make a Donation to support the Cypress Historical Society \$ _____

Are you interested in serving on a committee? Yes _____ No _____

Are you interested in joining our group of Historians? Yes _____ No _____

Make check payable to: Cypress Historical Society

Mail check and form to: Jim Sigmund 19518 Lutheran Cemetary Rd, Cypress, TX 77433

Questions: Contact Darline Roth at 281-304-8068 or Jane Ledbetter at 281-255-9297