



# CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Established 2008*

ISSUE 11

AUGUST, 2011

## Notes From the President's Desk

*by Jane Ledbetter*

Saturday, July 9, was a terrific day at Cypress Top Historic Park as the Cypress Historical Society and guests, numbering approximately 300 people, celebrated the Fourth of July with an old-fashioned picnic. It was indeed a fun day as evidenced by the picnic photos in this newsletter.

If you were not able to come to the 2011 picnic, please start planning now to come next year. We will give you the exact date in January, 2012. Whether you came this year or not, you can help us plan next year's picnic by letting us know of any displays, activities, or demonstrations you have experienced elsewhere that you think would be good for us to have at our picnic. You may contact any CHS Board member or Jim Sigmund at (281)373-9052 or JSigm@aol.com to share your ideas.

Our next big CHS event this year will be our Annual Meeting at Juergen's Hall in Cypress Top Historic Park the afternoon of October 8. More information will be sent to you as we get closer to the October 8 date.

We do look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting, but we also want to remind you that you are welcome to attend any of the CHS Board of Directors meetings. They are open to the general membership. The next one will be August 20 at 1:30 p.m. at the Sigmund's house, 19518 Lutheran Cemetery Road, Cypress 77433.

Late-breaking news: In mid-July, after months of research, writing and re-writing, Jim Sigmund and his committee sent the CHS application for a Texas Historical Marker for Cypress on the journey that will eventually put it into the hands of the Texas Historical Commission. Hopefully the application will be approved and sometime in 2012 we will get a much-deserved historical marker for Cypress. Won't that be great? Keep watching for notification that we have been approved for the marker; you will be among the first to hear about it.



*Daniel Tomchesson (left), who worked for many years on the ranch, and Mr. & Mrs. Lenoir Josey II, delighted the crowd with their memories of life on the Josey Ranch in Cypress.*

## CHS Spring Social

*by Karen McGilvery*

The first CHS Spring Social was held Saturday, April 30 at the RE/MAX REALTY CENTER on Telge Road. Lenoir Josey, II was the guest speaker. He shared his memories of the Josey Ranch. Mr. Josey described the Indian grass which grew on the ranch as one of the best grasses for cattle and called it the "cow's ice cream." It was abundant and grew as tall as a cow's belly or a horse's bridle. Big Blue Stem Grass was also present on the prairie lands of the ranch. Mr. Josey discussed the Santa Gertrudis cattle, rice, and soybeans that were raised on the Josey Ranch at various times. His grandfather bought the land in Cypress because he and others thought the area had lots of oil. In the 1940's, when visiting the ranch he remembers seeing famous visitors such as Eddie Fisher, Rita Hayworth, and Frank Sinatra. It was interesting to hear his stories of the Josey Ranch which once occupied land that is now home to apartments and subdivisions. After his talk, the audience shared information and reminiscences of the ranch and the agricultural heritage of the Cypress area. There was also plenty of time for attendees to enjoy refreshments and socializing.



### 3rd Annual "Old Fashioned" Picnic

The picnic on July 9<sup>th</sup> was great fun! In the tradition of Gene and Delphine Zaboroski's annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic, CHS members and guests enjoyed vintage crafts and music, good food, history displays and tours, and the joy of seeing old friends and family.

Music was provided by the Celtaire String Band and the Little Spot of Blue Grass Heaven. The Sharecroppers brought their antique tractors and engines, and of course, the home-made ice cream! "Buggs' Threadgill and friends showed off their vintage cars; and the Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department brought their 1929 pumper truck. Wayne Callender displayed old tools on his "What is It?" table. Stephen Sundquist showed us woodworking without power tools, and Dave Koenig demonstrated the art of blacksmithing. Cub Scout Pack 3 set up a *Raingutter Regatta*, and Mariah Matthews did Face-Painting. Joann Hirsch brought some beautiful quilts, and the Brazos Valley Stitchers shared their embroidery techniques. A highlight of the day was a visit by General Sam Houston (aka Charlie Fogarty)!



Of course, a picnic is not a picnic without lots of hot dogs with all the trimmings, popcorn, sno-cones, and all kinds of desserts. All this was topped off with a Watermelon-Eating and Seed-Spitting Contest.

Special thanks goes to our Sponsors, who help to keep this a free event: Wal-Mart, Minuteman Press Northwest, Skeeter's Auto Service, Daniel Arizpe Photography, Habu Graphic Designs, Cy-Fair Back & Neck Clinic, Topper Stamps and Postal History, Cypress Station Grill, Special T Shirts & More, and Arthur Murray Dance Studio Cypress. Please thank them for their support of CHS. -- Jim Sigmund





See and download more of Daniel Arizpe's pictures at <http://www.myphoto.com/jsigm/23246> (also albums 23219 & 23237)!

## Pictures from the Cy-Fair High School Reunion – Class of 1938-1953



Elroy and JoAnn Hirsch help out at the CHS display table.

(L to R) Willie Beth McWhorter, Mary Arnold, and Annie Hagler.

**Picnic Recipes!** - By popular demand, we print these recipes of wonderful salads served at the picnic.

### SAUERKRAUT SALAD -- Trevia Wooster Beverly

Drain and rinse well 1- 1 qt. jar of sauerkraut

\*\* It is important to really rinse the sauerkraut well (rinse & drain several times) so as not to compromise the sugar & vinegar mixture.

Bring to a good boil & cool: 1-1/2 cup sugar  
2/3 cup white vinegar

To the sauerkraut, add: 1 cup diced celery  
1 cup chopped green pepper  
1/2 cup chopped green onion (green & all)  
4 oz. jar chopped pimiento

Add sugar & vinegar mixture to the sauerkraut mixture; mix well and refrigerate at least four hours before serving. Excellent to serve with cold meats, or for Hot Dogs. Keeps well for a week.

### CUCUMBER SALAD

-- JoAnn Hirsch

Slice 3 medium Burp-less cucumbers.  
Add 2 T salt, and enough water to cover.  
Let set for 2 hours. Drain off water.

Mix: 1 cup sugar  
1 cup apple cider vinegar  
1/4 cup water  
1 onion, sliced  
2 toes of garlic, mashed  
Fresh dill (or about 2 tsp of dried)

Store in refrigerator one night to marinate.  
Serve until all gone!

### **Mark Your Calendars !**

**August 20 – CHS Board Mtg** (All Members welcome)  
1:30pm at Jim & Terri Sigmund's House

**September 17 – CHS Board Mtg** (All Members welcome)  
1:30pm at Jim & Terri Sigmund's House

**October 8 - CHS Annual Meeting** At Juergen's Hall.  
(All Members Welcome) Short business meeting, followed by a program, and refreshments. Time to be announced at a later date.

### CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jane Ledbetter	President	(281) 255-9297	janel_54@att.net
Karen McGilvery	Vice-President	(281) 246-1776	MMcgilveryt@aol.com
John Goodwin	Secretary	(713) 254-9589	JGoodwin64@comcast.net
Becky Martin	Treasurer	(281) 376-5054	bmartin115@gmail.com
Tammy Andrews	Director	(281) 758-0034	tandrews41@sbcglobal.net
Elroy Hirsch	Director	(281) 351-0984	jah787@peoplepc.com
Joyce Kleb	Director	(281) 894-1662	jtk1951@sbcglobal.net
Darline Roth	Director	(936) 931-9958	(none)
Erlene Schoenfeldt	Director	(281) 255-2769	(none)



**Be sure to check out the new Cypress-Fairbanks School display on the wall in Juergen's Hall**

## Genealogy Report

by Darline Roth

We now have a display of Cypress-Fairbanks School pictures on the Juergen's Hall wall. If you did not see them during the picnic, come by on a Tuesday (9am-4pm). The Cy-Fair Class of 1938-1953 Reunion on June 25<sup>th</sup> was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Tammy Sherrill and Elroy and Joann Hirsch for helping at the CHS display table.

There are many Thank You's to those who are contributing history and genealogy: Bernice Froehlich, for pictures and a collection of past obituaries; Joe Sebek, additional genealogy of the Sebek family, and more pictures of the House family; Erline Schoenfeldt, pictures from her mother's collection; Lottie Weiman, loan of seven local history books; and Mildred Hood, for donation of a portrait of the Charles Juergen family.

We are currently working with Virginia Snider and Celeste Haltom on additional genealogy for the Groschke and Grisbee families.

Not all is receiving . . . we are constantly sending copies of pictures and genealogy to families who request them. I recently received a wedding picture from 1897. After contacting the correct family and finding that they did not have a copy, they are now reunited with a picture of their grandparents!

During the picnic, we were fortunate to obtain three more names for our album of "Unidentified Antique Pictures". Thank you all!

## New CHS T-Shirts and Hats!

If you attended the Picnic, you might have noticed the new CHS T-Shirts, designed by Habu Graphic Designs. Both T-shirts are available in red or white, and have the CHS logo on the front pocket. We still have red polo shirts that say "Cypress Historical Society" on the front pocket, with nothing on the back. Hats are also available in red.

***The 2012 Historical Calendars will be for sale in October. Start thinking now of who on your Christmas list or client list would love one! More info at the Annual Meeting! -- Terri Sigmund***



**T-Shirts \$15.00**  
(in Red or White)

**Red Polo Shirt \$26.00**

**Red Hats \$15.00**

**+\$3.00 (If mailed)**

**Contact Terri Sigmund**  
**(281) 373-9052 or**  
**Jsigm@aol.com**

Cypress Historical Society  
19518 Lutheran Cemetary Rd.  
Cypress, Texas 77433

CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

Individual (\$15)	_____	Sustaining (\$50)	_____
Family (\$25)	_____	Sponsor (\$100)	_____
Business (\$30)	_____	Corporate Sponsor (\$250)	_____
		Donation	_____

\* CHS is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corp.

Make check payable to: Cypress Historical Society

Mail check and membership form to:

Becky Martin, 11911 Waterford Estates Ct., Tomball, TX 77377-2714

Questions? Please contact Jane Ledbetter at 281-255-9297

[www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com](http://www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com)