

# CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 2008

ISSUE 24

DECEMBER, 2014

# **Notes From the President**

by Jane Ledbetter

Well, here we are again, nearing the end of another year! (My mother once told me that the older you get, the faster the years go by; she was right!) It seems that 2014 just started a few short months ago, and now it is already gone! It was a busy, fastmoving, challenging and fun time for the Cypress Historical Society. We met new people, tried new programs and activities, and are eagerly looking forward to 2015! We certainly hope you have felt you had a part in the accomplishments of CHS this past year, and that you plan to renew your membership for 2015! There is much yet to be done to make CHS known to our growing community and to help newcomers put down roots here.

At our November meeting, we elected five people to our Board of Directors to fill our expiring 2-year terms. Returning for another term are Joyce Kleb, Erline Schoenfeldt, Rodney Sprenger and myself; new to the Board is Tammy Sherrill, who will be replacing Marsha Dugger. Our thanks goes to Marsha for her two years of service. The election of Officers for 2105 resulted in the current Officers agreeing to continue in their positions for another year!

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the Darline Roth Research Library lately, please come by and visit any Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday in 2015. We have new artifacts and new reading materials which I know you will enjoy.

# CHS Library Holiday Hours

The Darline Roth Research Library will be closed for the Holidays (12/23 through 1/1)



Dr. Barrett presenting "Dimond Knoll Project" at CHS Annual Meeting.

# **Annual Meeting - Archeology in Cypress Area**

by Rodney Sprenger

The Cypress Historical Society Annual Meeting was held on October 11 at Juergen Hall. Linda Gorski, President of the Houston Archeological Society, along with Dr. Jason Barrett, an archeologist with TxDOT were guest speakers. Other members of the Houston Archeological Society who attended the meeting included Sharon Menegaz and Bob Sewell.

Information was shared on different aspects of the "Dimond Knoll Project – Cypress Creek", which centered around the discoveries and excavations of prehistoric Indian artifacts and burial remains found along the Cypress Creek in northwest Harris County, were presented and discussed. Dr. Barrett referenced the area in which the archeological site encompassed and the process by which the excavation progressed. CHS members and guests enjoyed learning that prehistoric Indians once roamed across the Cypress area and had for millennium. The artifacts excavated shed light on what foods were eaten, the resources used, whether these resources were from local or out of state sources, and the possible uses of this site.

Although not heavily occupied by humans until more recent centuries, the Cypress area seems to have been a popular trading route for migratory Indian tribes throughout history. If you were not able to see this presentation at the CHS annual meeting, more information may be found at the Houston Archeological Society website:

http://www.txhas.org/articles dimond knoll screening project.html,

### Fiest Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Tours

by Beverly Richardson

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, third grade students from Fiest Elementary School in Copperfield visited Cypress Top Historic Park on a field trip, to learn about the local history in Cypress. Tours included about 95 student and staff. There were five buildings included on the tour: Juergen House, Dance Hall, Store/ Saloon, Gas Station and the CHS Depot Building. The students were treated to a special guest at the house, Gene Zaboroski, who lived most of his life in the home.

After the tours were completed, the students had lunch at the park, and returned to school. Special thanks to everyone who helped out on this special tour day. A second group from the school is coming for a tour on Dec17th.



Gene Zaboroski tells the children about living in the Juergen House, and how things were done back in the day.



Jay Gavitt, as the old-time store keeper, helps the children compare things in the Juergen Store to what they use today.



Annie Hagler leads the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders out of the CHS Building, where they were able to see items of daily life.

# **CHS Presents Workshop for Seventh Grade Teachers**

by Jay Gavitt

The Cypress Historical Society presented its first teacher's workshop at Salyards Middle School last month. The program is designed to introduce middle school teachers to the resources available from the Cypress Historical Society and the Cypress Top Historical Park. This Salyards workshop included 7<sup>th</sup> grade teachers: Debra Woolley, Angie Buck, and Lee Edmiston. The workshop was set up by social studies coordinator Amanda Banks and the society's own Jay Gavitt. The workshop included the use of published articles about



Salyards Middle School history teachers (I to r) Debra Woolley, Lee Edmiston, and Angie Buck.

lay Gavitt. The workshop included the use of published articles about local history. Many of these articles have been written by CHS members, and give both teachers and students a background in local history. The workshop also included the use of historic photos from the society's collection. The analysis of these photos helps students explore early life in the Cypress area. The final segment of the workshop focused on the examination of artifacts from the collections of the historical society and Cypress Top Historical Park. At the conclusion of the workshop, each teacher was given a resources disk that included over thirty articles about local history, over sixty photos from our collection as well as worksheets and Power Points to help students analyze photos, artifacts, and primary sources. If any members would like us to present this workshop to schools in their area, please notify us at 281-758-0083 or cypresshistsociety@att.net.

#### **CHS Scholarship Fund**

by Jay Gavitt

The Society is pleased to announce that we will once again be able to offer up to two "Gene and Delphine Zaboroski Scholarships" this year. The one-time scholarships of up to \$1,000 are available to all Cy-Fair ISD seniors and former graduates who are now attending college. Students are able to apply through their schools or directly through the Society. Students applying for the scholarship must provide a 500-word essay on how he/she has assisted the Cypress Historical Society in discovering, preserving, and/or promoting local history. Students need to demonstrate good academic standing and an interest in history, social studies, library science or education. Finally, students must provide two references. We awarded two scholarships last year and look forward to assisting two more deserving students this year. Any members wishing to donate to the scholarship fund can do so at the same time they renew their annual membership. Additional donations will allow us to increase the amounts and/or expand the number of scholarships that CHS website to view the scholarship information.



2014 CHS Scholarship recipient Austin Smith, with Delphine and Gene Zaboroski. Austin is currently attending Texas State University in San Marcos, majoring in History & Education.

# **Mark Your Calendars!**

(No Board Mtg in December)

#### Jan 17 - CHS Board Mtg

(All Members welcome) Saturday, 9:00am at the Darline Roth Research Library, Cypress Top Historic Park

#### Feb 21 - CHS Board Mtg

(All Members welcome) Saturday, 9:00am at the Darline Roth Research Library, Cypress Top Historic Park

Save The Date!

#### July 11 – 7th Annual "Old Fashioned" Picnic

(All Members and Guests welcome) Saturday, at Cypress Top Historic Park



Get your 2015 CHS Calendar, with the Sunbeam Express train on the cover!

#### 2015 CHS Calendars!

by Terri Sigmund

Now that Black Friday and Cyber Monday have passed, and you are wondering what to get for a few special folks, I have an idea for you – The 2015 CHS historic calendar! They are still at the great price of \$15.00 for the 2015 calendar, (prior years are \$10.00). You can pick them up at the Library

membership. Additional donations will allow us to increase the amounts and/or expand the number of scholarships that we can offer in the future. Please visit the CHS website to view the scholarship information.

in Cypress Top Park, or you can order them through the website and we will mail them out to you. This fundraiser is our largest of the year. We depend on the sale of the calendars to live within our annual budget. Please support us and pick two calendars, one for you and one for a friend. It's a wonderful gift that will continue giving all year long.

Special thanks to our Calendar Sponsors: Annie Hagler for the Fairbanks United Methodist Church, Arthur Murray Studios-Cypress, Cypress Breakfast House, Cypress Station Grill, Hot Wells Shooting Range, Minuteman Press Northwest, Prosperity Bank of Cypress, Rancourt Collision & Automotive Repair, Skeeter's Auto Service, St. John Lutheran Church, Telge Automotive, and Tin Hall. They make the calendars possible.

Cypress Historical Society P.O. Box 2963 Cypress, Texas 77410

E-Mail: <a href="mailto:cypresshistsociety@att.net">cypresshistsociety@att.net</a>
Darline Roth Research Library: 281-758-0083
Hours: Tue, Wed, Thur 9-4, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat 11-2

#### 2015 CHS Board of Directors

Jane Ledbetter	President	(281) 255-9297	janel 54@att.net
Beverly Richardson	Vice-President	(281) 246-4632	beverlyjsr@att.net
Terri Sigmund	Secretary	(281) 373-9052	jsigm@aol.com
Becky Martin	Treasurer	(281) 376-5054	bmartin115@gmail.com
Celeste Haltom	Director	(281) 373-0502	celestehaltom@gmail.com
Joyce Kleb	Director	(281) 894-1662	jtk1951@sbcglobal.net
Erline Schoenfeldt	Director	(281) 255-2769	(none)
Tammy Sherrill	Director	(832) 865-0687	texastami@aol.com
Rodney Sprenger	Director	(281) 955-5208	rodneyTTU@aol.com

## **Cypress Cannery Co-Op**

by Becky Martin

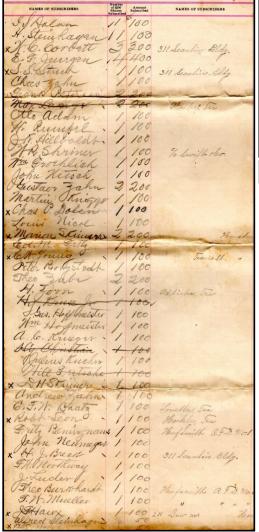
My family recently found an envelope of old paperwork that had been tucked away in a drawer. Included in the findings was the original contract that established a cannery co-op located in Cypress back in 1910. The cannery was located at the current intersection of old Hempstead Hwy and Cypress Rosehill Road. The contract, signed December 29, 1910, is with the Hastings Industrial Company out of Chicago, Illinois to build a "Combined Tomato, Sweet Potato and Fruit Canning Factory" for the amount of \$5,100. The contract also states



(Above) The Cypress Cannery building. (Below Left) The list of original Co-Op owners. (Photos compliments of the Precinct 3 Cypress Top Park Collection)

the size and the specifications of the building and machinery that will be housed in it. Approximately 41 local persons/families invested a minimum of \$50, with the majority putting in \$100 or more, in order to own a portion of the co-op (see the list below).

The cannery was in use until the 1920's and then fell into disrepair. Somewhere along the line, E. F. Juergen became owner of the building, probably because it was built on his property. After seeing the contract, Gene Zaboroski recalled that he used to play in the building as a child and remembered that old horse drawn buggies were stored there. His mother, Lila Juergen Hanks, inherited the land that the cannery was built on and ended up selling the building as wood scrap to her brother, Clarence Juergen, for \$400. His mother took \$45 of that money to buy him his trumpet. Gene said without that sale he would not have been able to join the high school band! If you have memories of the Cypress Cannery, please let us know.





This late 1920's photo shows the Cypress Cannery on Hempstead Hwy.

## So, What's For Dinner?

by Jane Ledbetter

(From a story printed May, 2010 in the Cypress Lifestyles Magazine)

Many of the early settlers to the Cypress area were farmers. They grew an abundance of vegetables which had to either be taken to the market to be sold or preserved for family use at home. Canning vegetables at home was a laborious task.

There was a time when several enterprising Cypress area families came up with the idea of building and operating a Co-op Cannery in Cypress. People could bring produce and even meat there to be processed in tin cans. The family bringing in the food for canning got half of it back, processed and ready to be put on the pantry shelves. The other half was the Co-op's charge for their supplies and labor.

The story is told about the time a family brought a load of mixed produce to the Co-op for processing. They picked up their canned goods at the designated time, not realizing until later that there were no labels or markings of any kind on the cans to tell them what was in the cans. It was an adventure every time they opened a can at mealtime to find out what they would be eating that day!

#### **CHS Library News**

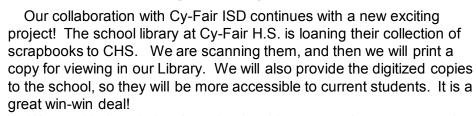
by Jane Ledbetter and Jim Sigmund

In September, we enjoyed a visit from Frank and Barbara Litt, who were down from Forth Worth. They donated large framed portraits and other photos of the Rumple-Neal family.

Herman F. Rumple and his wife, Fredericka Warnecke, were both born in Germany. They married in Harris County on July 12, 1882. Herman was the Section Boss for the H&TC RR. Their daughter, Hannah Anna, was born and lived in Cypress all her life. She married Edgar Neal on January 8, 1914. The Rumple Saloon in old Cypress later became Neal's Store.

Frank and Barbara also donated a large, framed photo of a Sons of Herman Lodge Membership Certificate which belonged to Herman Rumple. Written in German, it is dated October 28, 1901, and signed by E. F. Juergen, who was president of the Cypress Top chapter of the local lodge at that time. The Order of the Sons of Hermann was formed as a mutual protection society for German immigrants in New York City on July 20, 1840. It provided low-cost insurance and mutual aid to its members as well as promoting the preservation of the German language and traditions. The lodge still exists in many parts of Texas today. It's motto is "Friendship, Love and Loyalty."

Thanks to the Litts for the photos and the memories!



We need help to index these books. It's easy, and you get to read the clippings at the same time! Contact us if you'd like to help.



The painted portrait of Herman and Fredericka Rumple, and their daughter Hannah Anna. (circa 1895)

# THANKS TO OUR OCTOBER - DECEMBER BENEFACTORS!

#### **Donations:**

Annie Hagler Frank and Barbara Litt

#### **Scholarship Fund:**

Annie Hagler Terri & Jim Sigmund

On November 13, a graphic designer contacted the Cypress Historical Society asking if we could provide her with some vintage photos of Cypress, Texas. She was working with a new Fiesta Mart on Hwy. 529 to display vintage photos in their store. The pictures will be enlarged to 3' x 4' and will be installed in the entrance of the new store. We have worked with other businesses and groups in the past including Cypress Breakfast House, Cy-Fair ISD, Wells Fargo Bank, Raising Cane's, Lone Star College-Cypress, and Applebee's. These public displays help promote the rich history of this area.



The Cy-Fair H.S. scrapbooks, dating back to the 1940's, document the lives and achievements of Bobcat students including awards, weddings, school events, and deaths.

# Give a Gift of CHS Membership

by Terri Sigmund

Looking for a way to keep your Cypress friends in the know about CHS? Recently, one of our members asked if she could buy a membership for a friend. Of course, we said! That's how our Gift Memberships came about. You fill out a membership form with your friend or family member's information; include a note from you indicating it is a Gift Membership with a check for \$15.00. We will send the recipient a hand written note telling them of the gift along with their membership card and the most recent newsletter. They will be thrilled to be a member and appreciate you thinking of them. This Gift Membership is great for college students, family and friends living away from home, or even those living right here in Cypress.

Cypress Historical Society P.O. Box 2963 Cypress, Texas 77410

# CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s)		Da	Date	
Address				
City	State		Zip	
		ail		
	TYPE OF ME			
Individual (\$15) Sponsor (\$100) Family (\$25) Corporate Sponsor (\$2 Business (\$30)		50)		
	<u>ADDITIONAL</u>	<u>DONATION</u>		
	* CHS is a 501(c)3 N	Non-Profit Corp.		
General F	-und S	cholarship Fund		
Make check to: Cypress Historical Society		FOR OFFICE USE:		
<u>Mail to</u> :	CHS Membership, P.O. Box 2963,	Cypress, TX 77410	Treasurer	
Questions? Please contact Jane Ledbetter at 281-758-0083  www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com		Letter/Card Spreadsheet		