



# CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 2008

Issue 31

September, 2016

## **Good Ole Summertime!** *by Tammy Sherrill*

There was certainly a great crowd on hand at our "Good Ole Summertime" event August 6, 2016. If you were there, 130 more were there to join you! The CHS Board of Directors enjoyed opening our membership event to the Cy-Fair High School Classes of 1938-1957 Reunion group so that they could still say they were able to meet in 2016. The Dessert Contest was a success again this year with several desserts entered to be judged. The judges selected the winners: Margaret Lowery, Doris Quade Svec, and Shayna Smith. How great it was to see folks baking their favorite dessert, and we could just see the pride beaming as their names were called.

People came from as far away as Alabama and New Mexico! Our local membership seemed to enjoy the day and the covered dish meal was a great idea with Wayne and Beverly Richardson, and their crew, providing the awesome BBQ meat. Thanks also to Jerry Klumpp for shooting some great photos for us. Folks sure seemed to have a good time catching up and bragging a lot about the past year. We kept the day rolling along with music, door prizes, and general questions about past activities and accounts of happenings in the Cypress area (like: "Did you ever have to go before Justice of The Peace Gene Zaboroski?" . . . A few hands went up, but they didn't want to talk about it!). Jordan Sherrill opened the day with The Star Spangled Banner, and later sang a little Johnny Cash to the delight of the crowd! Plans have already begun for another fun day for members to attend. Be



**Gerald Lowery, Marvin Weiman, and Calvin House had a chance to visit, and swap stories from the good old days!**

## **2016 CHS Annual Meeting**

**WHO:** All Members and their Guests!

**WHEN:** October 8, 2016, 10:00am-11:30am

**WHERE:** Juergen Hall  
Cypress Top Historic Park

- Pictures from the "Good Ole Summertime"!
- CHS Officers will report on the 2015-2016 year.
- Special Guest Speaker: Dennis Fox, CFVFD

## **"History of the Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department"**

*Dennis Fox will tell about the history of the department, including the people that made it happen, the early equipment, and some famous fires. He is just as interested in hearing your stories and memories of the CFVFD!*

sure and look at the pictures at our Annual Meeting on October 8th to see if you were captured enjoying the day! If you would enjoy working together with people of like interest, make a difference in the gathering of history of Cypress, or in general want to talk about the events of the past, come join us in the main office of the Cypress Historical Society!



**(l to r) Floyd Telshow, Floyd Telshow, Jr., Harold Sempe, and the Sherrill boys enjoy the great BBQ dinner!**

## More "Good Ole Summertime!"



*Doug Hegar ('56) accepts a CHS T-Shirt raffled off by Terri Sigmund. Doug travelled from New Mexico to see his '56 classmates and come back to the Juergen property where he grew up !*



*Among the CFHS Class of 1956 attendees were classmates (l to r) Charles Phillips, Mary Airola Smith, and Charles Stansell.*



*Over 130 CHS Members and CFHS Reunion folks enjoyed the festivities, filled up on BBQ and good food, and shared memories.*

**THE "GOOD OLE SUMMERTIME" WAS A FREE EVENT, THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF OUR LOYAL SPONSORS!**

### Red Star Sponsors

- Cypress Breakfast House
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### Blue Star Sponsors

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- La Hacienda
- Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers
- Spring Creek BBQ



*Marvin Osgood ('56) and J.B. Jimmy Smith ('57)*



*Attending as both CHS Members and Cy-Fair High School grads were J.L. Sebek ('53) and Norma Crenshaw Hillegeist ('55)*



**Gene Zaboroski is interviewed by Rho Kappa students Lexie Martin and Veronica Ordonez.**

## Students Interview CHS Members

*by Jay Gavitt*

Students from Cy-Ranch High School had the unique opportunity to interview longtime residents of Cypress. The interviews were part of the Cypress Historical Society's "Oral History Project". The project trains students to acquire interviewing skills and apply them to build an oral history collection of the Cypress area. The students that took part are all members of Rho Kappa, the honor society for social studies students. It is associated with the National Council for Social Studies. The interviews were part of the CHS's "Good Ole

Summertime" program and the Cy-Fair Class Reunions 1938-1956 held at Juergen's Hall on August 6, 2016. The student interviewers included Lexie Martin, Veronica Ordonez, Samiksha Ray and Jensen Von Osinski. The program was coordinated by Terri Sigmund (CHS) and Christina Shively (Cy-Ranch). The people interviewed included CHS members and reunion attendees: John Airola and sister Mary Airola Smith, John and Virginia Alamanza, Charles Glass, Homer and Carolyn Bay, Oscar Farrell and Dean Little, Walter and Raylene Cherry McDonald, Charles Stansell, Shirley Telshow, and Gene Zaboroski. The recorded interviews are available at the Darlene Roth Research Library, Cypress Historical Society at Cypress Top Historic Park. The library is open Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00-4:00 and every 3rd Saturday, 11:00-2:00. You can contact CHS at 281-758-0083 or at cypresshistsociety@att.net.



***There is no better way to learn history than to hear it from those that lived it!***

### Mark Your Calendars!

#### Sep 17 – CHS Board Meeting

*(All Members welcome)*

Saturday, 9:00am at the Darlene Roth Library  
Cypress Top Historic Park

#### Oct 8 – CHS Annual Meeting

*(All Members welcome)*

Saturday, 10:00am in the Juergen Hall  
Cypress Top Historic Park  
Speaker: Dennis Fox, CFVFD  
"History of the Cy-Fair Vol Fire Dept."

#### Nov 19 – CHS Board Meeting

*(All Members welcome)*

Saturday, 9:00am at the Darlene Roth Library  
Cypress Top Historic Park

*(No Board Meeting in December.)*

### 2017 CHS Scholarship

*by Scholarship Committee*

The Society is pleased to once again offer the Gene and Delphine Zaboroski Annual Scholarship. This scholarship is open 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 at [www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com](http://www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com). Eligible students need to demonstrate good academic standing and an interest in history, social studies, library science or education. In addition, applicants are encouraged to volunteer at the CHS office by assisting with scanning, searching online genealogy or history research, as well as becoming involved in other local Cypress historical activities. Scholarships have been awarded each year and additional donations will allow us to increase the amounts and/or expand the number of scholarships that we can offer in the future.

### 2016 CHS Board of Directors

<i>Jane Ledbetter</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>(281) 979-7470</i>	<i>janel_54@att.net</i>
<i>Beverly Richardson</i>	<i>Vice-President</i>	<i>(281) 246-4632</i>	<i>beverlyjsr@att.net</i>
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<i>Joyce Kleb</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>(281) 894-1662</i>	<i>jtk1951@sbcglobal.net</i>
<i>Erline Schoenfeldt</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>(281) 255-2769</i>	<i>(none)</i>
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<i>Rodney Sprenger</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>(281) 955-5208</i>	<i>rodneyTTU@aol.com</i>

# Reading, 'Riting, & 'Rithmetic . . . And More!

by Jim Sigmund

As another school year begins, it seems like a good time to reflect on how learning has changed over the years in this area. We smile at the class pictures from the one-room schools in the 1920's, with the children looking like they came right out of a Little Rascals episode! But even as the schools consolidated in the late 1930's and children moved into "modern" classrooms, an occasional pair of bare feet can still be seen peeking out from the desks. That's mostly the boys, though, as the girls are usually dressed in pretty dresses, with bows in their hair!

The real contrast is the difference in subject matter, as reflected in the early report cards. Practical and vocational learning was just as important as "book-learning" to the young students. The "Home Report" assured that chores were done, and that children learned a variety of skills that were important in their home, and to life on the farm.



1938

Mrs. Berta Dean's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class at Fairbanks Elementary.

1936 SCHOOL REPORT										HOME REPORT									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Days Present	30	27	25	30	30	30	20	20	20	Outside Reading	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4
Days Absent	0	0	2	-	0	0	0	0	0	Canning	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5
Times Tardy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Care of Stock	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5
Department	4+	4+	4	5-	5	5	5	5	5	Care of Poultry	5-	5-	5	5	5	5	5	3	4
Reading	4+	5-	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	Cooking	4	5	4	3	5	5	4	5	4
*English	4	4+	5-	5-	5	5	5	5	5	Gardening	5	5	4	4	5	3	5	3	5
Spelling	4+	5-	5	5-	5	5	5	5	5	Gen'l Farm Work	4	5	3	4	5	3	4	5	4
Arithmetic	4+	5-	4+	4+	4+	4	4	4	4	Ironing	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	4	5
Geography	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	Milking	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
History	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	Providing Fuel	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Physiology	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	Sewing	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	5
Writing	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	Sweeping	2	3	4	5	5	3	4	5	5
Drawing	4	4+	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	Washing Dishes	5	5	4	3	5	5	5	4	5
Music	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	Special Work	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Agriculture	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	Health Habits	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Civics	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	Study Habits	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Physical Ed.	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	Posture	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Home Economics	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Farm Mechanics	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

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\*"English" includes Oral and Written Composition and Grammar.

Parents please grade the home work, using the same letters that the teacher uses to grade the school work.

Maynard Hagler's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Report Card from Fairbanks Elementary. He was 8 years old, and did not like Sweeping!



## Girl Scouts Visit Cypress Top Park

The new school year once again brings scouts and students to the Cypress Historical Society and Cypress Top Historic Park. On August 20<sup>th</sup>, Brownie Girl Scout Troop 109011 from Cypress came to work on their "Celebrating Community" badge. For more info on our educational programs, just contact us.

(Left) The girls built a model of a "dogtrot" cabin with the help of Pct 3's Jim Wilson and CHS's Jay Gavitt.

## **CHS Library News**

*by Jim Sigmund*

- Our CFHS Yearbook collection is getting close to completion, thanks to the generosity of our members. We are still looking for 1938, 1947, and any of the years 1960 through 1967. Let us know if you have a copy you would donate, or let us borrow it to scan.
- It seems like local phone books would have been a common item, yet we don't have any in our Library. They would be a great record of who was living in the area in a given year. If you have any (older the better) let us know.
- Our Scrapbook Indexing Team of Forrest Kruger and Erlene Schoenfeldt have finished the Beverly Kruse Smith Scrapbook collection and are well on their way through the Cy-Fair High School Scrapbooks and the Thelma Backen Dopslauf Scrapbooks. The information on each article is entered into a spreadsheet that can be easily search by Name, Date, or Subject keywords. If you'd like to help on this project, let us know.

### **THANKS TO OUR JUL-SEP BENEFACTORS!**

#### **Donations:**

John & Virginia Alamanza  
Larry Hargrave  
Don and Elizabeth Neidigk  
Convergent Technologies (Match)  
Hobert & Levern Smith

#### **Sponsors:**

Bill & Lynn Blaine

#### **Scholarship:**

Marg Andreo  
Sandy McFadyen

## **Kroger Community Rewards Program: Time to Renew!**

*by Becky Martin*

Kroger requires each participant to re-enroll each year in their Community Rewards Program. Their "new year of giving" began on September 1st. Those of you that enrolled last year may have already received a reminder email that you must re-link your Kroger Plus Card for CHS to earn quarterly donations. If not, to re-enroll you must log in into [Kroger.com/Community Rewards](http://Kroger.com/Community Rewards) and select Cypress Historical Society as the organization that you would like to continue to support.

For those Kroger shoppers who have yet to link their Kroger Plus Loyalty Card, the process is simple and takes less than 5 minutes. When linking your card to CHS ([www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com)) make sure to enter our assigned NPO number: 41564. Last year we had just 10 households participate yet we received over \$135 from September to May of this year. Thank you to all of you who participated!

Once registered, every time you shop and swipe your Kroger Plus card at check out, CHS earns a donation. The more you shop, the more we earn! It is a great way to support CHS by shopping as you would normally. (CHS NPO 41564)

## **Did We Just Live History?**

*by Jim Sigmund*

Most folks I have talked to have said that the floods of April and May, 2016 were the worst they can ever remember. It seems like a lot of the historic photos we have were taken after floods or snowstorms, because that was a good reason to get the camera out! If you can recall a worse flooding event than this past Spring, we'd love to hear about it.

### **Cypress Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 2963**

**Cypress, Texas 77410**

**E-Mail: [cypresshistsociety@att.net](mailto:cypresshistsociety@att.net)**

**Darline Roth Research Library: 281-758-0083**

**Hours: Tue, Wed, Thur 9 - 4, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat 11 - 2**



**Big Flood of 1929**

*Willard Sommermeyer reminds us of Huck Finn as he looks over the flooded Sommermeyer home place in Fairbanks.*

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

CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2016 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual (\$15) \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor (\$100) \_\_\_\_\_  
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LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

Lifetime Individual (\$150) \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Family (\$250) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL DONATION (CHS is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corp)

General Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Make check to: Cypress Historical Society

Mail to: CHS Membership, P.O. Box 2963, Cypress, TX 77410

Questions? Please contact Jane Ledbetter at 281-758-0083  
[www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com](http://www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com)

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