



CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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CHS Attends the Cy-Fair High School Reunion: Classes of 1938-1957

On June 24, 2017, CHS was the guest of the Cy-Fair High School Classes of 1938-1957 at their annual reunion in the Bear Creek Park Community Center. Over 80 classmates and family members enjoyed a pot-luck lunch and recalled the good ole days at Cy-Fair. J.L. Sebek organized the event with help from many others, including the dedicated workers at Pct 3 Bear Creek Park. CHS displayed all kinds of memorabilia of early Cypress and school days in the 40's and 50's. Jim Sigmund and Annie Hagler showed slideshows of the "students" as high schoolers, and clips of their extra curricular achievements from our scrapbook collection. It was great to visit with the people who helped to build Cypress into the great community it is today.



(l to r) Cecil Weiser ('47), Jean Zorn Winters ('52), and Athala Weiser Jones ('42) stop for a photo at the Reunion.



(l to r) Adell McDonald Stanley, Gene Zaboroski, and Jane Krahn Ledbetter were among those from the Class of 1954.

CHS Scholarships are Available for the 2017-2018 School Year

Students with an interest in history and willing to help out at the Cypress Historical Society library and events may be eligible for our Gene and Delphine Zaboroski Annual Scholarship. This scholarship is open to all Cy-Fair ISD seniors, and former graduates who are now attending college. See our website for details. (www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com)

The Cypress Historical Society
2017 Annual Meeting
for Members and Their Families

**"Civil War Relics from
the Cypress Area"**

Guest Speakers: Eric Briggs and
Rich Sandman

Saturday, October 7th, 10:00am-Noon
Juergen Hall, Cypress Top Historic Park
Light Refreshments will be Served



Eagle Scout Project Adds Additional Space for CHS

by Jay Gavitt

Josh Vega presented CHS with a number of portable display boards. These were part of his Eagle Scout Project. Josh is a member of Troop 533 Cypress. He was aided by troop leader, Louis Mayer and Eagle Scout supervisor, Wes Brown. Josh got involved with the project through the Cypress Ranch HS Key Club and CHS Educational Programs. He discussed with CHS the need for additional display space. Josh designed, engineered, budgeted, and constructed the display boards. The display boards added an additional 288 sq./ft. to our display area. Josh presented the display boards to Jim Sigmund. Joining Jim and Josh were, Mr. Vega, Jim

Wilson– CTHP historian and Jay Gavitt. The display boards were used the next day at CHS “Hands-on History” Camp’s Parent day. Josh has been involved in scouting since 2nd grade with Pack 337 in Katy. His scouting exposed him to camping and leadership experiences. Josh is presently a Sr Patrol Leader who will be attending Texas A&M in the fall. CHS thanks Josh and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.



Josh’s display boards were immediately put to use as Day Campers made presentations to their parents.



Mr. Vega, Josh, Jay Gavitt, Jim Sigmund and Jim Wilson with display boards.

Mark Your Calendars!

Oct 7 –CHS Annual Mtg & Member Event

(Members & their Families welcome)

“Civil War Relics from the Cypress Area”

Speakers: Eric Briggs & Rich Sandman

Saturday, Time: 10:00am-Noon

Juergen Hall, Cypress Top Historic Park

Nov 18 – CHS Board Mtg & BOD Elections

(All Members welcome)

Saturday, 9:00am at Darline Roth Library

Cypress Top Historic Park

CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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COMING SOON!

THE

CHS COOKBOOK!

Cypress Historical Cookbook and Memory Book

by Levern Smith

We are getting very excited about the CHS Cookbook & Memory Book! I want to share with you that lots of time and relentless hours have gone into this book. The book will be sent to the printer soon. Thank you for sending the pictures, recipes and stories to be shared with our families, friends and community.

Camp Cypress Historical Society's "Hands-On" History Camp *by Jay Gavitt*

This summer marked the first year that CHS offered a week-long summer camp for students in grades 4-6. The camp was hosted by Cypress Top Historic Park and Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Heritage Farm. The program was directed by CHS member, Jay Gavitt and CTHP's Historian, Jim Wilson. The focus of the program was to have students explore Cypress area's past and to create a museum exhibition and offer guided tours for their families and friends. The activities included exploring old photographs and maps to create models of Cypress Top in 1907 and the present. They built models, participated in an archeological dig, worked with blacksmiths and engaged in a nature walk through the old Kleb farm. They interviewed long-time residents and worked on their own family trees. They toured all the buildings and learned that "artifacts tell a story". On the last day, each camper acted as a docent and provided a guided tour for family and friends. The guests were also treated to a museum exhibit that was created by the campers during the week.



Proper methods for an archeology dig were taught by HAS.



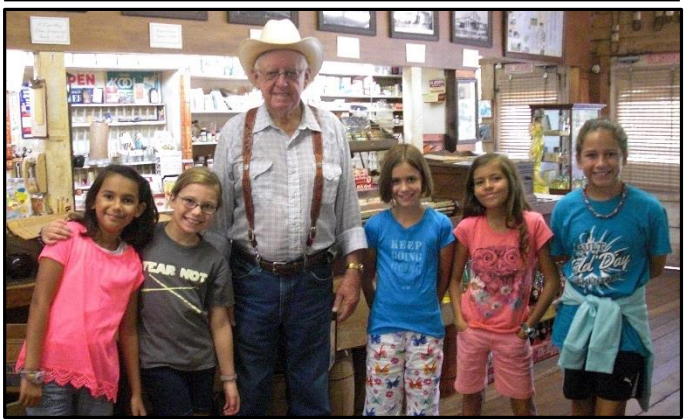
Jay Gavitt coaches the campers on how to give tours.



Vintage photos were used to draw a map of 1907 Cypress.



Building a "dog-trot" cabin was a favorite craft at camp.



Campers interviewed Marvin Weiman about his life.

Special thanks to all those who made this project a success for our young people. These included Jim Sigmund of CHS and Fred Collins of CTHP and Kleb Woods. Thanks also to CHS members Joyce Kleb, Marvin Weiman, Mary Bianchi, Helen Callender, Leticia Moran, Jane Ledbetter and Jackie Devine. Linda Rust-Martin of Kleb Woods along with Jane Hippen of Pct 3 Juergen Hall Community Center helped publicize the camp. Additional thanks goes to Kendra Kocab, Dave Koenig, Jim Pulliam, Sharon Menegaz and members of the Houston Archeological Society (HAS) for their excellent programs at Kleb Woods. The campers were assisted during the week by administrative assistant A.J. Smith, and junior docents Chris Fonte and Eric Willis.

“Hands-On” History Camp (Continued)



Jim Pulliam teaches blacksmithing at Kleb Woods.

Cypress Historical Society

P.O. Box 2963

Cypress, Texas 77410

E-Mail: cypresshistsociety@att.net

Darline Roth Research Library: 281-758-0083

Hours: Tue, Wed, Thur 9 - 4, & 3rd Sat 11 - 2



Artifacts were found by sifting the dirt at Kleb Woods.



The culmination of camp was Friday afternoon, when campers acted as docents and explained Cypress history to their parents!



Joyce Kleb shared her life stories of growing up in the Juergen house and working in the Juergen store.



The 2017 “Hands On” History Day Camp, offered through the Cypress Historical Society and Harris County Pct 3 Parks.

CHS Library News

by Jim Sigmund

- Margaret Kitzmann sent us an aerial photo of the Kitzmann property in the 1950s, showing the J.A. Kitzmann house and Chevrolet. But, there are also some buildings we cannot identify (see below).
- Celeste Haltom allowed us to scan the photo album of her Aunt Celestine Hohmann, including the "Going To Hot Wells" photo that will be featured in the 2018 CHS calendar. We were also excited to confirm that several of the photos were taken in the J.A. Kitzmann front yard in 1923, and show the west side of the Kitzmann Store.
- Joyce Kellogg loaned us a photo album which included her husband Ralph as a rodeo clown for the Cy-Fair Rodeo. Ralph was the school photographer, so he also had some great rodeo shots.
- Kay Weiman sent us some photos from various families including the Grisbees, Kitzmanns, and Hohmanns. There is a very old picture of the Carl Ernst Groschke family, and only picture we have seen so far of the old Grisbee school!
- Forrest Krueger brought us a large collection of local obituaries that were saved by his family over the years. He has indexed these, and they are ready for searching. Obituaries are extremely valuable to genealogy because of the relational information listed and the cemetery location of the grave.
- We are working on our 2018 CHS calendar with historical pictures of the Cypress area. Harvey has put us behind schedule, but it will be available soon!

THANKS TO OUR JUL-SEP BENEFACTORS!

Donations:

John & Virginia Alamanza
Rodney Sprenger
The Kroger Company

Scholarship:

Don & Deborah Clanton

Lifetime Membership:

Don & Deborah Clanton

Kitzmann Corner and the Eagle Cafe

by Jim Sigmund

I am trying to figure out what was west of the Kitzmann Chevrolet building on the northwest corner of Cypress-Rosehill and Hempstead Highway. I have heard there was an Eagle Café, that had an eagle over the door. Others tell me there was a restaurant called Queenie's. Then, I also heard it was a BBQ Pit. Can anyone help me sort out what was on this corner?



There is a light colored building on the west end of the Kitzmann Chevrolet (Red Arrow). I am trying to determine if this is 1) the Eagle Café, 2) Queenie's, 3) a BBQ place, or 4) something else (note lawnmower on roof in color picture below!).



This photo was labeled Eagle Café, but is not the same as the others.



The edge of the Kitzmann Chevy canopy can be seen on the right side. The yellow building has the same design. There is another wood building in blue also.

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

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Make check to: Cypress Historical Society

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Questions? Please contact Jane Ledbetter at 281-758-0083
www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com

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