



CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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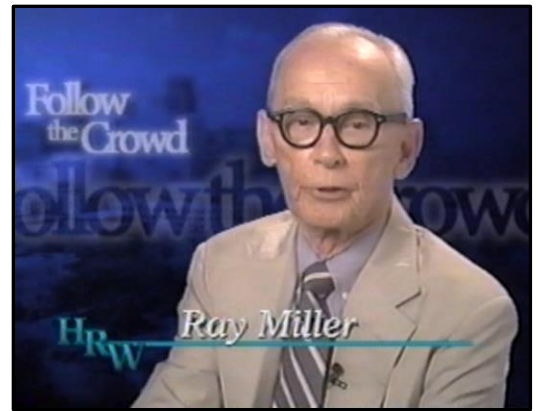
CHS “Do You Remember” Event on Saturday, October 5th at Juergen Hall!

by Terri Sigmund

One of the things we love to do is see old friends and share memories. We used to do that more, when we were younger, but now, not so much. It's not that we don't want to, as much as it is much more effort than it used to be.

This October 5, 2019, the Cypress Historical Society is having a Fall Gathering at Juergen Hall. You will have another chance to meet up with old friends. A chance, maybe one last time, to share memories and see friends. Members are encouraged to bring their friends and family as guests, to join in the fun!

We start at 11:00 am, not too early, plenty of time to get going. We have a neat television clip of Ray Miller doing an *Eyes of Texas* segment on Hot Wells, the Cy-Fair Rodeo, and the F&M



TV reporter and author, Ray Miller, hosted several segments on Cy-Fair over the years which were re-aired on PBS in the '90s.

CHS “Do You Remember” Event

Featuring: Ray Miller Video on Hot Wells, Cy-Fair Rodeo, and the F&M Dairy

When: Saturday, October 5th

Time: 11:00am – 2:00pm

Lunch Served

Where: Juergen Hall, Cypress Top Historic Park

Bring Your Friends & Family!

Dairy at 11:30am. And at noon we will have a bite to eat for lunch. There will even be an old-fashioned raffle for a quilt and throw too!

We would love to see you there. Heck, your friends would love to see you, your family and friends there! So please do your best to come and see your friends and share memories of the Cy-Fair area!

“Hands-On History” Day Camp

by Jay Gavitt

The Cypress Historical Society completed their 3rd Annual Society's “Hands-on History” Summer Camp which took place the last week in June. It was hosted by Cypress Top Historic Park and the Kleb Woods Historic Farm and Nature Preserve. Fifteen youngsters attended the week-long camp which focused on local history from the time of Native Americans until today. The campers engaged in a variety of activities including developing their own family trees, building models of Cypress and comparing early housing in Cypress. The Houston Archeological Society and with Dave Koenig, a local blacksmith, provided hands-on experiences for the campers. Tours of the historic buildings and grounds at Cypress Top and Kleb Woods, provided an opportunity for the campers to compare life in the town of Cypress with life on an early farm. They also had an opportunity to interview Society members and work on family trees with the Society's genealogists. For the final day of camp over 40 parents, grandparents and friends toured Cypress Top Historic Park and a student-created museum at the Cypress Historical Society. What made this event special was these tours were conducted by the campers themselves.

(Continued on Page 2)



Marvin Weiman came to talk about the dairy industry, but his fossil dinosaur dung was the real hit with the kids!

Day Camp

(Continued from Page 1)

Thanks go out to Pct 3 Commissioner Steve Radack, Park Director Fred Collins and his Staff; Houston Archeological Society, President Linda Gorski, Sharon Menegas and 7 volunteers; CHS members: Camp Director Jay Gavitt, Helen Callender, Susan Lanier, Linda Martin-Rust, Leticia Moran, Erlene Schoenfeldt, Marvin Weiman, Blacksmith Dave Koenig, and Jim Sigmund; Counselors Uyen Tong, Corinne Fonte and Chris Fonte.



Campers interviewed Susan North Lanier about growing up in Fairbanks, and what things were different than they are today.



The highlight of the camp is the last day, when the Day Campers become the docents, and give their parents a tour of the Park.



One day of the camp was at Kleb Woods, where Blacksmith Dave Koenig shows them some simple "smithing" techniques.



Jay Gavitt explains to Day Campers how to operate the vintage road grader at Cypress Top Historic Park!

Feedback From The Parents:

"My two children, ages 11 and 9, were thoroughly enraptured with the Hands on History Camp! After a week of engaging activities that made history come alive in their hands, they were empowered to become docents at the Cypress Historical Park, where they enthusiastically gushed about all the wonderful things they learned that week regarding the local history. It not only provided an enriching and memorable experience, it sparked a new passion for history and museums! The volunteers that dedicated time to the camp were friendly, encouraging, and really worked to show the kids the importance of history in a way that was relatable and relevant. We can't wait to come back next year! Thanks again for all you guys did! It was a FANTASTIC experience!"

"Thank you so much for another great year! My daughter looks forward to it every year, and she leaves learning something new every day. I love that she loves it! Everything is so organized and carefully planned out. The amount of information that they get in that one week is amazing! Love the hands on activities and the tour at the end! Another great camp!! Thank you."

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

CHS To Raffle Quilts at Oct 5th Event!

With the cost of ink, utilities, printing and paper, CHS never has a problem living up to its status as a “non-profit”! But, the Dorcas Guild at St. John Lutheran Church has come to our rescue, and has generously donated their time to make two beautiful quilts that will be raffled off as a fundraiser at our October 5th Event. Both have been hand made by the ladies in the Guild, and will make a perfect accent for a couch or chair, or look great as a wall hanging. Thanks to Dorcas President Nancy Andrews and CHS’ Levern Smith for coordinating this significant donation to CHS. Raffle tickets will be available at the event.



A 56” Quilt that utilizes fabric designs popular in the 1930’s.



A 48” 2-sided Quilt with a Texas theme and CHS T-Shirt designs.

Mark Your Calendars!

Sep 21 – CHS Board Mtg

(All Members welcome)

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

Oct 5th – CHS “Do You Remember” Event!

(Members and their Guests are welcome)

- **Ray Miller Video - “Houston: Remember When: Hot Wells in Cypress, The Cy-Fair Rodeo, and the F&M Dairy”**
- **Lunch Served**
- **Quilt Raffle!**

Saturday, 11:00am-2:00pm at Juergen Hall
Cypress Top Historic Park

(No October BOD Meeting)

Nov 16 – CHS Board Mtg - BOD Elections

(All Members welcome)

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

(No December BOD Meeting)



Children from the “Building Rainbows” Day care center visit Cypress Top Park.

“Building Rainbows” Kids Tour Cy-Top

Over two days in July, 37 children and staff from the “Building Rainbows” Day Care Center visited Cypress Top Park. On the 9th, it was 5-7 year olds, and on the 10th, it was the preschoolers. The youngsters had a tour, did some hands-on activities, and finished their outing with lunch in the pavilion. CHS’ Jay Gavitt and Pct #3 Park Director, Fred Collins, kept the children entertained!

CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

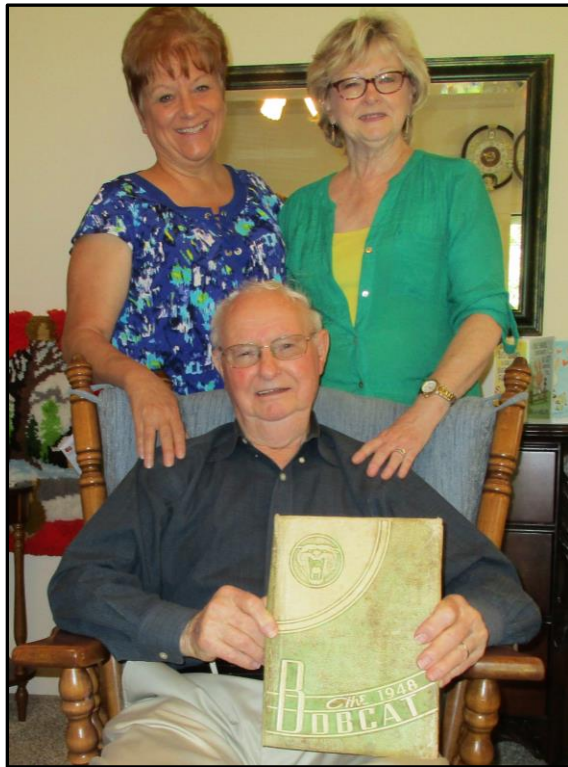
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Fire Destroys Rural H.S. #5 (Sept, 1942)

In 1936, a wood-frame high school was built in Cypress and was officially known as Rural High School #5. Within a few years, and the formation of the Cypress-Fairbanks School District, it was clear that a new, larger school was needed. In the Spring of 1942, a new brick high school (that still stands today) was completed. Later that year, the old building became the Elementary School along with several other buildings that were moved to the same site on Telge Rd. But, within weeks of its opening, the old wood frame school caught fire and burned to the ground. Many long-time residents have vivid memories of the day they watched their school being destroyed by fire. One such student was Don Jackson, who sent us his recollections of that fateful day.



Rural High School #5, before the fire in 1942.



Don Jackson, Cy-Fair Class of '48, with (left) daughter-in law, Brenda Brackett Jackson '72, and (right) daughter, Donna Jackson Couch '70.

Cypress Memories . . .

by Don Jackson, Class of '48

"I started 1st Grade in 1937, the first year Fuchs School was at (the) Cypress School (site). Ernestine Matzke was my teacher through the 3rd or 4th Grade. I was in the 8th grade when Cypress and Fairbanks consolidated. This was about the time the new brick (High School) building was built. Mr. Millsap was the Superintendent (then) Mr. Spencer and Mr. Lamkin, when I graduated in 1948.

In (Sept, 1942), all the school buildings burned down but the old Fuchs School and the Superintendent's house. We had just moved into the new High School building on Hempstead Highway. We were in class, and someone came in and said the school building's on fire. Classes were dismissed, and we watched them burn. I saw a flaming piece of something fly off one of the buildings and land on the roof of another building. It caught the roof of the building next to it, and started burning, and burned the rest of that building to the ground. There were no fire departments anywhere near.

All the grades had to move to the new building. We were crowded! We held classes in the Auditorium, the Library, and various other rooms. I think the old Fuchs School building was again used for classes. But we survived. That was before the Fuchs School building was the FFA building."

STUDENTS ESCAPE FIRE AT CYPRESS SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Sept. 30, 1942

All of the nearly 250 students of the elementary school at Cypress escaped injury Wednesday afternoon when three of the five frame buildings of the school were destroyed by fire.

The five buildings were close together and the fire raged through the three main structures before it could be brought under control. The largest and newest building, finished in 1936, housed the gymnasium and eight classrooms. The second building had five classrooms and the third destroyed had one large room.

The other two buildings are a two-room structure and the superintendent's building. They were saved by the fire fighters.

Until May 13 of this year the school was the district high school for Cypress and Fairbanks. The high school students are now housed in a new \$235,000 structure one-half mile from the burned buildings.

A second elementary school at Fairbanks is in the same school district and this may be used by some of the students. It is not large enough to handle the entire student body but arrangements are being made to convert the two remaining buildings of the school into classrooms to care for many of the boys and girls.

E. A. Millsap, principal of the school, could give no estimate of the loss suffered by the school district in the fire. All of the furniture and a large number of books were also lost, he said.



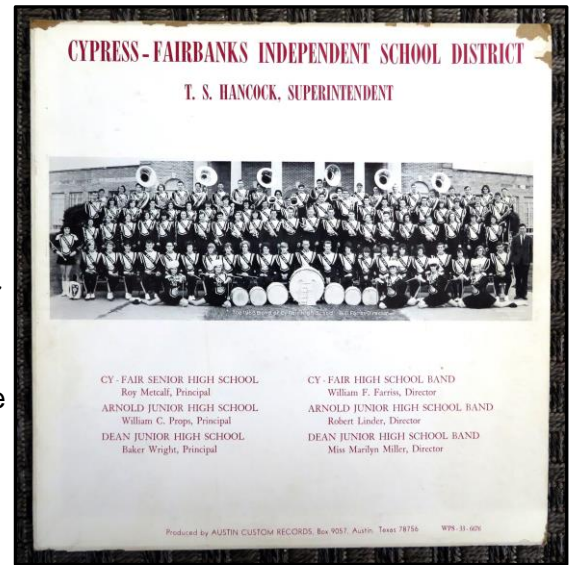
Don Jackson in 1937, in the 5th Grade!

CHS Library News

by Jim Sigmund

Our volunteers are busy researching and organizing. Plus, new historical artifacts and photos keep coming in:

- Annie Hagler brought us a 33 rpm vinyl record album of recordings from the 1966 Cy-Fair ISD Bands.
- Elroy and JoAnn Hirsch donated some very old books, including an interesting Home Medical Book from 1920.
- Erlene Schoenfeldt has completed the Indexing of the Cy-Fair H.S. Scrapbooks 1944-1984. This means all of our Scrapbook Collections are now indexed, and can be searched by Name or Key word. Anyone who has spent time paging through the scrapbooks looking for a particular article understands how significant her (and Forrest Kruger's) work has been. Erlene has also completed an Index of Family Genealogies we have in the Library, so we can instantly find if we have genealogy done on a particular family.
- Leticia Moran has worked with Patricia Anderson Scherer to compile records for the Anderson family in Cypress.
- Thanks to Pct3 Maintenance Dept, there are now lights over both outside doors of the CHS Library building!
- If you would like to help out at the CHS Library, we can use the help. There is filing, scanning, family or history research, and indexing that can be done. You can also help with tours of the Park buildings, or just look through our photo collections and help us identify people in pictures. Even just coming in and updating your family's genealogy, or sharing your memories would be much appreciated.



"The 1966 Band of Cy-Fair High School, Bill Fariss-Director" produced by Austin Custom Records in Austin, Texas. Features Cy-Fair H.S. Band, Arnold Junior H.S. Band and Dean Junior H. S. Band. (Donated by Annie Hagler)

THANKS TO OUR JUL-SEP BENEFACTORS!

Donations:

John & Virginia Alamanza
Joyce Kleb

In Memory of Gloria Conner Davis

The Kroger Company
Rick & Donna Lemons
Patricia Anderson Scherer

Scholarship:

Joann & John Petzold

Lifetime Membership:

Marj Andreo

2020 CHS Scholarship

by Becky Martin

The society is once again offering the Gene and Delphine Zaboroski Scholarship in 2020. The scholarship is open to all Cy-Fair ISD seniors and former graduates who are now attending college. Students interested can find all requirements, along with the application, on our website www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com.

Eligible students need to demonstrate good academic standing and an interest in history, social studies, library science, or education. In addition, we urge applicants to volunteer at the CHS office by assisting with scanning, searching online genealogy, or history research. Since applications are due early next year, it is important that applicants contact us soon in order to get their volunteer hours scheduled.

Over the last 6 years, CHS has awarded \$10,000 to deserving students. This would not have been possible without our member's support and donations.

CHS Items For Sale

by Terri Sigmund

Do you have someone you know that may have left for college? Someone who will be getting a little homesick in a few weeks? How about including a Cypress T-shirt in the next care package you send!? If they have an apartment and are going to be doing some cooking, the CHS cookbook would be a big help and be a little piece of home! Take a look at the items we have for sale at the Library and maybe get something for someone you love and help CHS out at the same time.

CHS T-Shirt	\$15
CHS Polo Shirt	\$26
CHS/Cypress Hat	\$15
Cookbook	\$20
Current Calendar	\$15
Past Calendars	\$10
Note Cards/Box of 8	\$10



Items available for purchase through CHS.

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

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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 us at 281-758-0083 (Library)
www.cypresshistoricalsociety.com

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