

FRONTIER Texas!

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LEGENDS. HISTORY. ADVENTURE.

On This Day In Texas History...



June 6, 1849 Fort Worth established on the west fork of the Trinity River.

June 10, 1821 Moses Austin died leaving the work of establishing his Texas Colony to son, Stephen F. Austin.

June 13, 1851 Fort Belknap established on the fork of the Brazos River near Graham.

June 19, 1865 General Gordon Granger

landed at Galveston to take up duties as commander; issued proclamation declaring all Negro slaves in Texas to be free.

June 21, 1845 Texas Congress Approved annexation by the United States.

June 27, 1874 Battle at Adobe Walls.

July 6, 1851 Fort Mason established on the Llano River. Intermittently occupied until the Civil War. Abandoned by Union forces on March 29, 1861; reoccupied in 1866; finally abandoned March 23, 1869.

July 15, 1839 Battle of the Neches fought. Chief Bowles led eight hundred Cherokee against Texans. He was killed on July 16th.

July 29, 1867 Fort Griffin established to replace Fort Belknap, built on the right bank of the Clear Fork of the Brazos. It was first called Camp Wilson; name changed to Fort

Griffin on February 6, 1868; abandoned on May 31, 1881.

August 1, 1845 Zachary Taylor and federal troops landed at Corpus Christi.

August 2, 1827 Texans, under command of Hayden E. Edwards, defeated Mexicans at the Battle of Nacogdoches.

August 2, 1825 Camp Colorado established six miles north of the Colorado River on the road between Fort Belknap and Fort Mason.

August 7, 1838 The Colorado Rebellion led by Vicente Cordova began when his opposition to the Republic of Texas was discovered. He had about 600 Indians and Mexican troops, but Texas forces under Thomas J. Rusk were able to put down the uprising.



Frontier Times

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2007

TAKE NOTE:

- May - September 11 2007
Cowboy Cooking Exhibit
- June 19-20
Frontier Buckaroo Camp
- June 21 - 22
Adventure Camp
- September - November 2007
Sacred Indian Art & Places Exhibit
- October 5 - 6
Spirit of the Frontier Festival

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Chow Time: The Heritage of Cowboy Cooking

A new exhibit is on display through September 11, 2007 in the *Frontier Gallery* featuring artifacts from the collection of Tom Perini and photographs from the Erwin E. Smith Collection of the Library of Congress on deposit at the Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas.

The exhibit was inspired by the staff's discovering the photograph collection on the Amon Carter Museum website and by talks with Tom Perini about preserving the heritage of cowboy cooking. Frontier Texas! staff members have long known that cooking was a popular subject for museum visitors due to the number of cookbooks that have been sold in the general store.

"The Erwin Smith photos from the early ranch era brought the cowboy cook to life for me and made me want to look closer into those chuck boxes," said Executive Director Jeff Salmon. "When Tom came to us and said he would be interested in helping Frontier Texas! develop exhibits we jumped at the opportunity."

The staff's first task in developing this exhibit was to approach the Amon Carter Museum to determine the possibility of borrowing original prints or acquiring the photos in a digital format with the right to reproduce them. Thanks to Salmon's contacts from his days working in Fort Worth and the fact that the Amon Carter's new



Tom Perini's presentation on chuck wagon cooking

director, Ron Tyler, is an alumni of Abilene Christian University, an agreement was reached for the rights to reproduce 40 photos from the collection.

The next step was to explore Tom's vast collection of trail drive and vintage ranch cooking supplies to determine what story could be supported by the artifacts. Operations Director, Scott Clowdus, had the task of determining what would fit in the cases and how they could be properly displayed.

"We would have liked to put an entire chuck box in the exhibit," said Clowdus, "but the shallow depth of the cases limits what can be displayed and how it is displayed."

Continued on page 2

Director's Report



Summer is here and with it comes our annual transition from hosting thousands of students coming on school tours (over 7,600 this year) to hosting summer camps and tourists from around the state and around the world.

The staff has been working on finding creative ways to better serve our visitors. A major focus for the summer months is cross-promotion of

the other attractions in the area. With 11 new billboards along I-20 between Fort Worth and Abilene, Frontier Texas! is working to bring more visitors off the highways and into our facility where we can get them interested in discovering more of our great sites. We are the front line in welcoming visitors to town so plan to come work sometime as a travel counselor - it's great fun to see who stops in to visit the friendly frontier.

Jeff Salmon

Recent & Upcoming Events

2007 EVENTS

June 19 – 20, 2007
Frontier Buckaroo Camp
(for kids entering K-3rd grades)

June 21 – 22, 2007
Frontier Adventure Camp
(for kids entering 4th-6th grades)

August 16, 2007
Volunteer Training

September, 2007 (TBD)
Indian Heritage Talk

October 5 – 6, 2007
Spirit of the Frontier Festival

December, 2007 (TBD)
Christmas & Other Seasonal Traditions Heritage Talk

2007-2008 EXHIBITS

May – Sept 11, 2007
"Chow Time: Cowboy Cooking" exhibit

September – November, 2007
"Sacred Indian Art & Places" exhibit

December - February, 2008 (TBD)
"Christmas on the Frontier" exhibit



Kids at Buckaroo Summer Camp getting ready for a wagon ride through historic downtown.

Scrapbook



Black History Heritage Talk



Boys & Girls Clubs Tour



Mayor's 5K Run Winner



Wagon Rides at Camp

Survival Course at Adventure Camp

Monty Lynn, ACU Professor of Management: "We're fortunate to have such a great museum as Frontier Texas!"

"Chow Time" continued From Pg 1:

The final step was to merge the artifacts and photos into a cohesive narrative on graphic panels. During this process the staff decided the narrative should include the modern-day chuck wagon cooking competitions and cowboy cookbooks. "I believe it is always important for history to make connections with our lives today," said Salmon. "We want our exhibits to be relevant and motivating to visitors. We hope that people will want to experience it and go to a cook-off, visit a steakhouse or pick up a cowboy cookbook and make something they've never tried before. This is how the heritage of cowboy cooking will survive - by people eating good food - not just by seeing an exhibit." On Friday evening, May 4th, Tom Perini brought his chuck wagon and made an excellent presentation about trail drive cooking at the exhibit's preview reception. ★

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Volunteer Spotlight: Margaret Basquette

Margaret Basquette has been volunteering with Frontier Texas! on Mondays since the museum's opening in April 2004. She served over 42 hours in 2006.

Margaret is active on the board of the Friends of the Library

Organization. She also serves as First VP of the Abilene Retired Teachers Association and volunteers for The Grace Museum.

Margaret has been married to husband Hugh for 52 years as of May. They attend Pioneer Drive Baptist Church.

Margaret is devoted to giving back to the community which she loves. Her charming character and her thoughtful smiles are cherished here at Frontier Texas!. We are proud to acknowledge Margaret as the volunteer of the quarter. ★

Want to volunteer? Contact Nell Sims at 325-437-2800

Grant Received from the Shelton Family Foundation

Frontier Texas! received a \$25,000 grant this spring from the Shelton Family Foundation to develop integrated, multidisciplinary lesson plans that we have titled "Let Frontier Texas! Teach That for You" and to support the development quarterly exhibits.

"The wonderful thing about this generous grant is that it provides us with the resources to help teachers better use our museum as an extension of the classroom, and show students

how to learn in ways other than the traditional textbook approach," said Education Coordinator Nell Sims. "This helps students use our local history to connect to their required learning objectives (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills), and their own cultural heritage."

A portion of the funds are being used to pay a professional curriculum specialist to assist in developing new curriculum (lesson plans) to be used prior to and after their museum visit.

We are also paying a professional graphic designer to layout the new materials for use in the classroom and to create a new kid-friendly education section on the Frontier Texas! website.

A summer workshop for teachers about this program is scheduled through Region-14 Educational Service Center in August. Our docents will also have training sessions to review the new



teaching guides and learn what is taught at different grade levels in order to point out the specific economic, geographic and historical connections to the curriculum. ★

New Projectors!

Thanks to \$35,000 in grants from the Community Foundation of Abilene, Frontier Texas! was able to move forward on replacing exhibit projectors, a project totaling over \$70,000.

"Over the course of one year the projectors in the Century of Adventure exhibit are in use for over 3,300 hours. This constant usage of the video equipment was beginning to show a diminished level of quality," said Director of Operations, Scott Clowdus. "We know that our

members, volunteers, board of directors and staff all take great pride in the quality of our production and want the best for our visitors that come from all over the world. The Community Foundation grants included donor advised funds from Mrs. Lale Estes of the

T&T Family Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Caldwell, and the Mel Richards Fund for Civic Life in Abilene. An additional donation towards this project was received from Dr. David Halbert, one of our Founding Members. ★

Welcome to our New & Renewing Members...

New members:

- AES Wind Generation
- The Aaron Behrendt Family
- The Jeff Childers Family
- The Jeffrey Deems Family
- Carolyn Dycus
- The Frank Estes Family
- The Steve Grow Family
- The Jim Hill Family
- Donna Marie Kleman Family
- Bradley E. Neill
- The Margie Rainwater Family
- Sherri & Chuck Statler
- The Cathy Thomson Family

Renewing membership:

- Abilene Aero
- Abilene Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Abilene Regional Medical Center
- Sadie Adamson
- Jerri & Jim Alexander
- American Electric Power
- Associated Publishing Co.
- Lytle Land & Cattle and Sharon's BBQ
- Barr Roofing Co.
- Margarette Basquette
- Jane Ann Beard
- Bob & Peggy Beckham
- Seymour Beitscher
- Ken & Sue Burgess
- Community Foundation of Abilene

- Condley & Company
- The David L. Copeland Family
- Frank & Lue Crites
- The Louie Bob Davis Family
- BJ & Lale Estes
- First Financial Bank
- First Southwest Insurance Agency
- Funeral Director's Life Insurance Company
- Bobbie Gee
- Greathouse Foundation
- The Steve Grow Family
- David Halbert
- Hendrick Health System
- Law Offices of Sam Chase
- Lawrence Hall Chevrolet

- Raymond & Gloria McDaniel
- The H. Miller Richert Family
- Vianei Robinson
- Billye Proctor Shaw
- Bill & Lila Senter
- Harold Siglar
- Star Dodge-Hyundai Family Dealerships
- Dr. Paul Thames
- United Supermarkets
- Wagstaff, Alvis, Stubbeman Seamster & Longacre, L.L.P.
- Bob & Betty Weissinger
- Howard & Hope Wilkins
- Bill & Alice Wright Family
- The William Wright Family
- H.C. & Lanita Zachry