

On This Day In History...



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.



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.

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LEGENDS. HISTORY. ADVENTURE.



Frontier Times

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2006

TAKE NOTE:

- July 2006 Buffalo Soldier Heritage Month
- July 22, 2006 National Day of the American Cowboy
- September 2006 Exhibit Preview Party

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2006 Events	2
Membership Drive Success	2
Volunteer Spotlight	2
Student Letters	3
Cattle Drive Marker	3
New Members	3
This Day In History	4

Military Past Meets Present

An exhibit entitled "Homeland Security: The Texas Forts Trail Past & Present" opened to the public on May 2nd at Frontier Texas!. The exhibit features an overview of the military history of the Texas Forts Trail region from statehood through the current Texas Army National Guard and Air Force.

The exhibit was created by Frontier Texas! staff with assistance from members of the Texas Army National Guard, Dyess Air Force Base, the Texas Forts Trail Association and the McMurry University history department. Artifacts are on loan from several of the region's early frontier forts, the 12th Armored Division Museum and private collections.

A grant from the Community Foundation of Abilene brings two new audio-visual features to the temporary exhibit area and assisted in developing the exhibit. A new 42-inch plasma television allows exhibits to have video introductions and a touch-screen kiosk allows visitors to "take a closer look" at the issues presented in the displays. The information on the interactive kiosk is also available online through our website. www.frontiertexas.com

In a story on the exhibit in the *Dyess Global Warrior*, Richard "Doc" Warner said, "The exhibit shows



Flight helmets on loan from Richard Warner

that while technology has changed throughout the years those who served in military in the 1800s are still doing the same job they are now —defending our nation."

Robert Williams, a Senior Airman at Dyess said, "The exhibit hits close to home and makes you feel connected to the military roots in this area."

The exhibit runs through the end of August.

Director's Report



As the summer arrives the staff breathes a sigh of relief that we made it through another successful spring packed full of student tours. From the middle of April through May, when schools have completed TAKS testing, our schedule was almost completely booked with school tours. This spring we served over 5,000 students in group tours.

Education coordinator Nell Sims and our other staff members did a great job coordinating the tours and

had a wonderful group of volunteers to guide the groups through their experience. It was a true team effort. The responses we have received from teachers and students has been great. On page 3 you'll see two letters sent by students which are representative of hundreds like them we receive each year.

The summer has started well and we expect to be busy as travelers come from far and wide to experience what the *New York Times* called "a little Disney World, only with cowboys and Indians."

Upcoming Events & Exhibits



Frontier Campers being inducted into the 1852 Army by Bob Wettemann

2006 EVENTS

July 22-29th
Texas 4-H State Horse Show Promotion

September (TBD)
Exhibit Preview Party

September 18th
Hispanic Heritage Talk

September 29-30th
Spirit of the Frontier Festival

November (TBD)
American Indian Heritage Talk

2006 EXHIBITS

May-July, 2006
Homeland Security: The Texas Forts Trail Then & Now

August-October, 2006
The Vaqueros:
A Great Hispanic Heritage

November-January, 2007
Faith on the Frontier:
Christmas & Other Early Seasonal Traditions

The New York Times:
"It's kind of like a little Disney World, only with cowboys and Indians."

Membership Drive 2006 Success

After two months of membership drive efforts, we have come to a successful close. We are proud to welcome over 50 new and renewing members (as shown on page 3). Members receive benefits such as free admission to Frontier Texas! exhibits, 10% discounts on gift shop purchases and invi-

tations to members-only events—so remember to come often!

We are also proud to announce that membership drive prizes were given to over 25 winners. Congratulations to those lucky members and thank you to the businesses that made our

drawing possible this year by donating prizes.

If you know someone who is not a Frontier Texas! member and you would like us to send them information, please contact Kimberly Williams at 325.437.2800 or sales@frontiertexas.com. ★

Volunteer Spotlight: Anita Lane



Anita Lane

Anita Lane has been volunteering with Frontier Texas! since the museum's opening in April 2004 and served over 65 hours during this school year. Her joy in leading school tours is evident both on her face and in her enthusiasm.

Anita has also been volunteering on a weekly basis at the Taylor County Historical Commission Office since 1985, primarily on the archives.

She graduated from Hardin Simmons University in 1968 and was a local 8th grade teacher for Madison Middle School until 2001. For 33 years she shared her passion for teaching with her students, and Anita continues to work at Madison as a volunteer in the school library.

Anita attends First Baptist Church at Buffalo Gap and was

one of the organizers for the church's 125th year celebration this past year.

Her volunteering skills are divided many directions, but her dedication remains the same: strong and genuine. Therefore we would like to honor Anita Lane as one of our cherished volunteers who makes Frontier Texas! a great place. ★

To volunteer contact Nell Sims at 325-437-2800

Student Thank You Letters:



Students pose in front of the cattle drive bronze in the lobby.

Dear Staff,

Thank you for letting us come and see the statues. My favorite statue was the one with the cattle drive. My favorite thing about the artist was how he left a heart on the head of all the long horns. I also liked how you taught us about all the history of the frontier.

Your friend,
Danielle

Dear Staff of Frontier Texas,

Thank you for letting us visit Frontier Texas. My favorite part was the tour with the screens that show people from Texas. I liked Frontier Texas and want to go there again with my family. It was my favorite part of the field trip. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Ryan (Houston)

Glenn Middle School 4th grade student:
"I really never enjoyed history till now. Now I want to learn more."

Great Western Cattle Trail Marker

Over 250 guests ascended on Frontier Texas! the evening of Saturday, April 29th for a District Rotary Conference and the unveiling of the first Great Western Cattle Trail marker in Taylor County.

A ceremony to dedicate the marker was lead by officials from The Vernon Rotary, who began the program to mark the trail. A declaration was read and guests were

invited to pour a splash of "Red River Water" from a mason jar at the base of the marker, symbolizing the importance of water to the cattle drives.

Frontier Texas! was chosen as a location for a marker because of it's location along a feeder route from Buffalo Gap and the museum's dedication to promoting the history of the cattle trails.

Guests enjoyed wonderful food catered by Perini Ranch Steakhouse followed by tours and live entertainment. ★



Welcome New & Renewing Members... (April & May)

- Abilene Teachers Federal Credit Union
- American State Bank
- Atmos Energy
- Charles Taylor III, DDS
- MCM Elegante Suites
- M Print, Judy Daniels
- The Barry Hoefer Family
- The Chuck Senter Family
- The Chip Martin Family
- The Colleen Durrington Family
- The Douglas Drawe Family
- The Bob Weissinger Family

- Sadie Adamson
- The H.M. Richert Family
- The Charles Harber Family
- Vianei L. Robinson
- The Erika Copeland Family
- The Erin Thomas Family
- Eddie Boykin, Boykin Investments
- The Emmett Craig Family
- The Michael Murphy Family
- The Gene Linder Family
- The Gerald L. Johnson Family
- The Margaret Basquette Family
- The Ronnie Horrell Family

- Valencia Stevens
- Vivian V. Clark
- The James Wray Family
- The Grady Barr Family
- Harriett Jones Bass
- The Louie Bob Davis Family
- Silverbrook Ranches
- The Howard Wilkins Family
- The Jack Griggs Family
- The Jimmy Swaim Family
- The Jim Pizzorno Family
- The Royce Peterson Family
- The Susan Moore Family

- Bill & Ruth Gollihar
- H.R. Stasney & Sons Ltd.
- The John Gullett Family
- The Kaye Price-Hawkins Family
- The Keith Savage Family
- Peter Lauve
- Ralph McCleskey
- The Charles Coody Family
- The Russell Dressen Family
- The Terri Peterson Family
- The Sam Chase Family

