

FHM Volunteer Notes

Annabelle Needs a Home!



Annabelle of Frisco is on display in the museum gift shop. This beautiful handmade doll is being raffled off to benefit the museum's volunteer program. Purchase your raffle tickets between now and December 2 for a chance to bring home this little lady. She comes with her own wardrobe of 6 different dresses, a quilt, apron and even her own toys! Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25 and are available in the gift shop.

Volunteer Update by Betty Jo King, Volunteer Coordinator

We've had a busy summer with new displays being placed in the museum and new volunteers being trained to give tours to the 3rd graders who will be visiting us this year. Thank you to Richard Wittrup for leading these training sessions.

Susanne Kerley made a tote and picked our first crop of cotton from the museum entrance. What a wonderful opportunity museum guests have had this summer to see the stages of cotton growing from seedling to harvest! You can learn more about cotton and its history by visiting www.cotton.org online.



Be sure to check out all of the new museum displays. We are fortunate to have so many wonderful treasures that have been donated to the museum for all of the members of the community to enjoy as they learn about life in Frisco from its earliest beginnings.

Stop by and see the additions to our older exhibits, too. Judy Burkhardt has set up her quilt in the cotton area and, if you're lucky, you may catch her quilting!



We're always looking for new volunteers so tell your friends! Thank you for your time and continued efforts on behalf of the museum!



Our newest museum volunteers! From left: Sung Frazzer, Phyllis Gasmann, Richard Wittrup (class leader), Madeline Bate, Ken Blacksher

Museum Changes by Judy Isbell



Frisco Heritage Museum

6455 Page Street
Frisco, TX 75034
972-292-5665
www.friscomuseum.com

Hours:

Wed-Sat: 10 am – 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm – 5 pm

The Heritage Association of Frisco has been busy over the last month putting together new displays at the museum. While all the graphics are not in place, these should all be completed soon.

Check out the north entrance for a covered wagon outfitted for travel across the prairies. As pioneers began to populate this area, the mode of travel was the covered wagon and if luck was with them, they could cover a whopping 20 miles per day. Often travel was much slower as no roads were in existence in the 1850's. The wagon in the museum was the inspiration of Claudia Kraemer and she has done an exceptional job of securing items from the Heritage artifacts to make the wagon look as it did when it rolled onto the Blackland Prairie of Frisco. Bob King made the rustic looking stanchions surrounding the wagon and Claudia's artistic talent once again is showcased with the prairie grasses surrounding the bases.



Ethel Warren's Beauty Shop

Ah, the things we do for beauty! A permanent wave machine from Ethel Warren's Beauty Shop, the first in Frisco, is on display upstairs. Mrs. Warren shop was first located behind a barber shop on Main Street before being moved to her home in 1942. Did any of you ever get a permanent on one of these space alien-looking machines? Just image your hair wet with chemicals and then about 200 amps being sent to each curl! It is a wonder that no one was ever electrocuted. All the items are from the shop of Mrs. Warren and are part of the Heritage collection. Susanne Kerley and Elisabeth Pink have done a great job of outfitting the vignette with all original items.

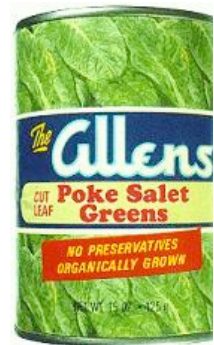
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Museum Changes *(continued)*

Cooking in the 1920's and 1930's was not as convenient as in our modern kitchens. The Colonial Universal No F-95 wood-burning cook stove was purchased in 1927 by the Dave Christie family who lived near the community of Lebanon and many meals for the family as well as the farm hands were prepared on this stove. Sandy Simpson has lead the group that pulled items from the Heritage artifacts to recreate the atmosphere of kitchens over 70 years ago. Check out the table display for more information on ordering the new Heritage Association cookbook, ***Recipes and Remembrances***, which will be available in the Museum Store in early November. The cost is \$20. Where else can you go to find a recipe for Rabbit Stew or Poke Salet?



Which Frisco resident witnessed the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in Paris in 1919 that ended World War I? That was Sam Lane. Do the 13 buttons on the cracker jack pants worn by Navy men relate to the 13 original colonies? No, but check out the pre World War I navy uniform of Roy Warren. Ray Head was in the second wave at Omaha Beach on D-Day and his World War II Army uniform is on display. Many of the wives, mothers, and sisters of those serving in World War II were Red Cross volunteers during the war years and the uniform of Mary Hobert, grandmother of Judy Burkhardt, honors the service of the women left at home. Donald Fisher was in a bomber squadron of the Army Air Corp during World War II and no doubt he wore the "Ike" jacket on display. All this and more are on display and were researched by Susanne Kerley and Angela Martin.



Trivia

Do you remember a song called *Poke Salet Annie*? It was written and recorded by Tony Joe White. Elvis Presley later recorded it.

Here's line from the lyrics:

Poke salet Annie, the
gators got your
granny
Everybody said it
was a shame
Cause her mama was
a working' on the
chain gang
(Sock a little pole
salet to me, you
know I need a mess
of it.)



"There are few occupations in life wherein a man will hold by so brittle a thread a large fortune as droving. In fact, the drover is nearly as helpless as a child. For but a single misstep or wrong move and he may lose his entire herd, representing and constituting all of his earthly possessions. None understood this fact better than the mobs of outlaws that annually infested the cattle trail leading from Texas to Sedalia, Missouri."

J. McCoy, The Cattle Trade (1932)



Life On The Shawnee Trail October 1 – January 3, 2010

Operating from the 1840's to the 1860's, the Shawnee Trail was the first cattle trail from south Texas to the northern markets in Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri. How the Shawnee Trail got its name is not certain but a Shawnee village north of Dallas may have inspired it.

On the north side of Dallas the trail followed Preston Ridge, a natural geographic pathway that made travel easier. This became Preston Road, one of the most historic and important transportation routes in Texas.

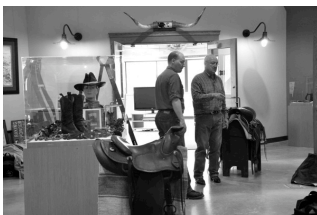
Near the intersection of Preston Road and Lebanon Road today is where the town of Lebanon once stood. It was settled in 1845 and, in the heyday of the Shawnee Trail, the cowboys passing through gave it a "wild reputation" as a cowtown.

Life on the Shawnee Trail was often difficult and dangerous for the cattle drover. It took two months or more to drive a herd to market. The slow pace of 10 miles a day allowed the cattle to fatten up on the plains grasses. Cowboys ate mostly biscuits, beans and coffee on the drive. A typical drive had 10 – 12 cowboys herding 1,000 to 1,500 head of cattle. Danger existed on the trail from natural threats: flood, drought, hailstorms, heat and the sometimes-difficult terrain but even more menacing was the man-made perils the drovers faced.

Fear of a tick-borne disease called "Texas Fever" was cause for laws to be created to keep Texas cattle out of the states north of the Red River. While the Texas cattle was immune to the disease, the ticks they carried would infest the local crops and make the local livestock sick and in many cases, killing them. When laws didn't stop the drovers, vigilante force sometimes did. Entire herds were sometimes slaughtered and the cowboys murdered although an exact number of the men who perished on the trail was never documented.

By the time of the Civil War, the Shawnee Trail had become too dangerous and most drovers sought safer routes further to the west. One of the last documented cattle drives on the Shawnee Trail/Preston Road was in 1873.

The history of the Shawnee Trail is turbulent; it is also a triumph of the spirit of our early pioneers. Be sure to visit the Shawnee Trail exhibit before January 3rd to learn more about the Trail's amazing place in Frisco's history.



Tre Colvin and Doug Harmon put the finishing touches on the Shawnee Trail Exhibit.

