



Collin County Historical Commission  
Collin County Courthouse  
Bloomdale Road  
McKinney, TX

Date: 12.07.2017  
Heard Craig Carriage House  
205 West Hunt, McKinney  
6:30 PM

Becky Airhart-Smith, Valdasta\*  
Alfredo Arias, Communications/Media  
Michael Black, Chair  
Larry Collins, Grants  
Chris Krupa Downs, Historic Assets Survey\*  
Naomi Emmett, Treasurer  
Joy Gough, State Markers  
Linda Hess, Josephine\*  
Donna Jenkins, Vice Chair  
Clyde Kerley, Lakes Trail\*  
Lolisa Laenger, Cruises  
Diane Miller, Melissa  
Kim Peat, Anna  
Janice Quick, Plano  
Paula Ross, Allen  
Jan Thatcher, Secretary  
Marianne Wells, Plano  
Eric Nishimoto, Liaison

Absent\*

**Public Comments:** Thank you Kim Peat for dinner.

Happy Birthday to Lolisa Laenger! Larry Collins also reminds us that on this date 12.07.1941 Pearl Harbor was attacked, a “date which will live in infamy”- Franklin D Roosevelt.

Sunday December 10, Allen’s Heritage Village will have an open house from 2-4 pm.

Farmersville will have a marker dedication on Saturday, December 9 at 6:30. Invitations were mailed out but is open to all. The Farmersville Downtown District is now on the National Register of Historic Places. It has the designation of a Commercial Historic District. The marker is located at the west end of Freedom Plaza on McKinney St.

The Collin County Genealogical Society has a flyer with monthly meeting dates and a list of speakers:

December 13, LuAnne Jones will speak on “Navigating Family Tree DNA”. It is also the groups Holiday Social.

January 10, 2018, Michael Bassett will speak on “Are You a Good Ancestor?”

February 14, Pat Gordon on “Depression Era Records”.

March 14, Kathleen Murray will discuss “Portal to Texas History”.

April 11, Eric Nishimoto will speak on the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team (all Japanese American WWII Unit).

May 18, Alfred Arias’ topic is involving kids in “archeological dig at family home place, etc.

June 13, CCGS members will have an open forum and end of year social.

**Minutes and Volunteer Hours:** Minutes were approved with corrections. Total volunteer hours for the CCHC is 203 hours. Other organizations hours total 45.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Year to date: out of a budget of \$49,900.00 for the Historical Commission; \$3176.98 has been paid out or encumbered for future payment. This leaves a balance of \$46,723.20. We have spent 6.37% of our budget. We are in balance with the county.

**Special Committee Reports:**

- a) **CCHC Wear** (Temporary committee): Teresa Mercer was emailed for a list of vendors the county deals with. No response as of yet.
  
- b) **Speakers Bureau** (Temporary committee): Five speakers have asked to be included in the Speaker Bureau. Their names, contact information & topics plus text for the web page, will be sent to Eric Nishimoto to create a Speakers Bureau Page on the Collin County Historical Commissions website. We will continue to publicize and grow the Speakers Bureau.

**Grants:** Larry Collins recently sent emails to the grant recipients and asked about the progress of their projects. Two historical organizations have requested to give their final reports and summaries in February and August.

Larry plans to distribute the 2018-2019 grant application at the Coalition Meeting on January 13, 2018. Also, a handout sheet of short descriptions about past projects will be given to Coalition members in attendance.

**Awards:** There is nothing to report.

**Cruise (Tour) Committee:** The Military Heritage Collection will be the highlight of the tour. Have talked with Mark Witham. The committee will meet in the next few months to help finalize the details. Tentative date will be April 21, a week before the Preservation Celebration and will not interfere with Easter (April 1).

**Film Preservation:** Three VHS tapes from the Collin County History Museum were taken to U-Edit Video in Richardson to be digitized: "Texas Day" filmed at Huffman Elementary in Plano in 1993, and two tapes about the Candace Montgomery Trial, the last trial held in the old courthouse in McKinney. For each tape, we will receive a DVD as well as the digital files on a flash drive. The items are ready and will be picked up soon.

**County Markers:** Another marker application has been received from the Anna area for Warden Cemetery.

Paula Ross attended the county marker dedication on November 4<sup>th</sup> for the John Greer Homestead in Anna and a state marker dedication on November 5<sup>th</sup> for the First United Methodist Church in Allen. Others in attendance for the state marker were Donna Jenkins and Jan Thatcher.

The Santa Fe Depot marker for Wylie has come in but no date has been set for the dedication.

**State Markers:** Saigling House Application-Worked with the preservation architect to research the history of the house and verify what had been written before. Some key information was missing; some wasn't well documented. The age of the house was actually 12 years less than previously thought. This changed its context and the importance of a later owner who lived there nearly twice as long as Mrs. Saigling and a three-term mayor during a critical period in the growth of Plano. The application has been accepted for processing.

Marianne Wells would like Eric to post on the website that narratives for state markers are accepted between April 1 & August 15. The Saigling research took so much time that Marianne postponed another Plano marker until next year.

**Blue Ridge Marker:** Marianne has two bids for mounting the marker in stone. They are within \$50 of each other so the first bid, which may have seemed high, is reasonable. Marianne has sent all the information to our commissioners' court liaison who will discuss it with purchasing.

**Survey of State Markers Around the County:** Marianne spent an afternoon in McKinney looking at all the markers. She recommends adding a correction plaque to the Throckmorton marker stating that the marker was moved from the Throckmorton Farm to its present location to alleviate confusion that the farm was adjacent to Pecan Grove Cemetery.

**Historic Burials Committee:** There is nothing to report.

**Lakes Trails:** There is nothing to report at this time.

**Educational Programs:** There is nothing to report at this time.

**Communications/Media:** There are 81 Followers on Facebook, a 5% increase; Twitter has 368 followers, a 3.3% increase; and Instagram has 60 followers, a 25% increase.

The month of December will feature weekly articles that pertain to Children's Education.

**Tax Abatement:** The application process starts now. The website has the application online.

**Historic Assets Survey:** Anna has applied. There are 6-7 locations to be put on the map.

**Workshops:** "Abandoned Cemetery Workshop" was held November 8<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am-noon. There were 21 attendees and 5 from surrounding counties! It was a great workshop with lots of information. A number of questions were to be followed up from the THC to particular attendees. Plans are in the works for another workshop later this year. Plans are to have Stacy Kemp conduct a workshop on genealogy research at the courthouse and Deborah Kilgore will present one on "How to obtain a 501(c) 3".

**Preservation Celebration:** After the first of the year the committee will meet.

Meeting adjourn at 7:51 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jan Thatcher