



Heritage Herald

A PUBLICATION OF THE ALLEN HERITAGE GUILD

Volume 2 Number 1

JUNE 2011

MEETING TIMES:

First Wednesday
every month,

6:30 PM

Allen Heritage
Center

100 Main Street

Allen, Texas

ALL ARE
WELCOME!

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New officers elected at annual meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Allen Heritage Guild was held on May 4 at the Watters Crossing Clubhouse for the purpose of electing new officers for the coming year. A pot luck dinner with a Cinco de Mayo theme was served prior to the meeting. An election was held to fill four open positions on the Board. Those elected were Bonnie Borrello, Anne Gifford, Jim Waldbauer and Van Orr. It was decided that the

Allen Heritage Guild, Inc. should apply for a Hotel Motel Occupancy Tax Grant which is to be used for reprinting the Historic Driving Tour brochures. Tom Keener wrote the grant request.

Paula emphasized how much the Allen Heritage Village was being used just in the last year. There have been fourteen weddings, the Symphony Chorus has used the Christian Church three times, there was a

Memorial Service for Bill Zepp, several tours were conducted for the Allen Tour Director, numerous school field trip tours, and monthly board meetings by the Allen Heritage Guild.

Anne Gifford president presented Spirit Awards to Guild members for preserving and promoting Allen's heritage and spirit.

See full list of officers and board members on page 3

A note from the President



The Guild has come a long way from the early days of a handful of dedicated folks meeting at the old senior Center to the

great membership and accomplishments we enjoy today. Our vision for the Village is becoming more real all the time as we use our facilities for weddings and other events. We have a small, but interesting

museum at the Depot with some of the best educational exhibits and events around North Texas. Thanks to all you dedicated volunteers for getting us to this plateau. Now we need to re-energize and propel the Guild to the next level.

President Anne with the help of a great bunch of people started educational tours for second graders at the Village last fall. The Guild hosted over 500 students!! This year that will continue—so plan to volunteer a few hours to help out. You

may even learn some of Allen and North Texas history as well! At this point the Guild needs to grow our membership and bring in a few new faces and fresh ideas to keep our vision alive! We want great programs for the monthly meetings and we want our staged events to continue to draw good crowds, but a few people can't do it. Input from all is wanted. Please make suggestions about the kinds of programs you'd be interested in hearing.

Paula Ross, AHG President

A little-known fact about Ebenezer Allen

The name sake of our city, Ebenezer Allen, is known by many people as a lawyer, statesman, Attorney General, Secretary of State and railroad promoter. However, I suspect few people know that he was also a poet.

On the occasion of his own birthday on April 8, 1855, he wrote a poem for his wife, Sylvia, and entitled it "A Retro-

spect". The poem was published in the July-December 1855 edition of Godey's Ladies' Book and Magazine. Godey's was the most popular women's magazine of the day. Its editor, Sarah Josepha Hale, famous for writing "Mary had a Little Lamb," was the mother of Ebenezer Allen's law partner in Galveston, William Hale. I guess this is further proof that it's not what you know but

who you know.

The poem is basically an autobiography which outlines his life growing up in New England and later moving and settling with his family in what was to become the newly formed State of Texas.

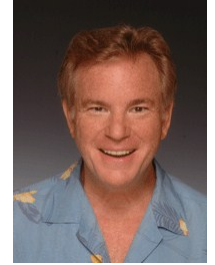
If anyone would be interested in reading the poem, just contact Ed Bryan for a copy.



Flag Day Celebration

Allen Heritage Center / Depot

JUNE 12, 2011



Dave Tanner Entertainer will present a program:

America, I Can, in memory of Bill Zepp at 1:00 PM

Sons of the American Revolution will present the Colors.

Daughters of the American Revolution will be presenting a reading.

Flag Retirement ceremony will be held.

Flags and Uniforms will be on exhibit at the Heritage Center 100 East Main

Updated Master Plan for the Heritage Village

Assuring Tomorrow's Heritage



Jim Waldbauer has worked hard over the past several months to develop a document and map for leading the Guild and the City to the next stage of development for the Allen Heritage Village. Thanks for you and your committee for your tireless effort on this most important document. We look forward to your continued reports about the progress of the Allen Heritage Village.

New Painting of Depot by Nancy Hoke

Dedicated Talent for the Allen Heritage Guild

Nancy Hoke is an accomplished artist. She has spent hours researching the history, culture, and the railroad to help her paint our Depot. The picture that she painted for the Allen Heritage Guild describes what the Depot might have looked like in early 1900's. It is currently on exhibit at the Depot.

She has allowed us to print gift cards of her paintings of St. Mary Baptist Church, Allen Christian Church and the Old Stone Dam. If you haven't had a chance to buy her gift cards, we encourage you to do so. They are on sale in the Depot. Thank you Nancy for the generous donation of your time and talent.



Allen Heritage Village

Where Allen's History comes Alive

Anne Gifford past president reported that during the 2010-2011 school year we have had over 500 students come to the Allen Heritage Village to learn about Allen's history, the Houston Texas Central Railroad, and cotton production. They visited the Depot, 1874 Stone Dam, and walked through the Village to see the Allen Christian Church, St. Mary Baptist Church other historic homes.

Touring these Allen historic sites have provided the students with the physical experience to help them grasp their cultural heritage rather than merely reading about Allen's history in the classroom.



Field Trip 4/14/11 Photo taken by Heather King

Allen Heritage Guild hosts Texas Lakes Trail

Preserving and promoting your Heritage

On May 25 the Allen Heritage Guild was privileged to host the Texas Lakes Trail regional meeting. This involved providing and setting up the meeting location and making arrangements for brunch and lunch for those who attended. The Allen Heritage Guild members who assisted were Paula Ross, Ann Gifford, Marge Bryan, Tom Keener and Jitka Hyneczek, and JoAmrah Dillingham.

We would like to thank Kroger on McDermott Dr. for donating the flower decorations for the tables and Harry and David for providing cookies and



Photo taken by Bonnie Borrello

cakes for the lunch.

Steve Terrell, the Mayor, Ross Obermeyer, City Councilman, Kelly McGinnis, Grant/Project Coordinator, and Karen Cromwell, Tourism Manager were on hand to welcome the Texas Lake Trail Region of the Texas Historical

Commission to Allen. Thank you all for coming.

Mayor Steve Terrell welcomed everyone and shared a story or two on how much Allen has grown in the last few years. Tom Keener, Cultural Arts Manager with the Allen Library, gave a program on the 1874 Stone Dam.

The Texas Historical Commission believes in the preservation and promotion of our heritage and works with the communities to promote heritage tourism statewide through the Texas Heritage Trails Program, a Regional Tourism Initiative.

Brigadier General Dalton speaks at June meeting

Life of Service in the United States Air Force

On June 1, Brigadier General Jerry Dalton spoke to the Allen Heritage Guild about his 30 plus year career in the Air Force. He is a friend of Anne Gifford and has loaned the Guild one of his

uniforms for the current Flags and Uniforms display at the Depot. General Dalton said, "It's very important for people in any profession to give back to the profession. It should be more than a monetary

commitment. It means getting and staying involved as a volunteer to advance the profession and the professional."

Mission Statement:

- Create a sense of community spirit by providing service and implementing projects that create a distinctively positive image of Allen.
- Assure tomorrow's heritage by recording past, recent and current milestones.

OFFICERS

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