

## Burton Heritage Society February 2021

The February 9, 2021 meeting of the Burton Heritage Society was called to order at 6pm by president Susan Kiel at the Texas Cotton Gin Museum. There were 7 members present. (Charlene Free, Steph Jarvis, Susan Kiel, Paul McLaughlin, Barbara Schoenemann, Brenda & Lindy Varner, Bill Whitener). The minutes were read and approved (BWhitener, motion; LVarner, 2nd). The treasurer's report was given by Barbara S. Accounts are as follows: Checking \$8,785.66, Chapel restoration \$9,947.01, Pavilion at Depot \$2,088.74. Barbara also noted that most consistent payments out each month are for electricity and utilities and that totals around \$160/month.

**Discussion:** Meeting opened up with discussion regarding current funds and most important needs at the time. Susan noted that the termites at the Depot will need to be addressed and that she plans to contact Acme Pest Control to come out and give us some options for treatment. The question was raised as to the likelihood of raising enough funds to build a pavilion at the Depot when there are such needs and with our determination to restore Mt. Zion Historical Chapel. Brenda discussed vhs tapes of trains across the United States that they might like to donate if they can be played for groups that visit the Depot. Susan reported she might know where we can find a TV/vhs combination that we might use to play the tapes. Next topic was our continuation of the 1st Saturdays at the Depot. Bill Whitener agreed to come and open the Depot each of those days. If he is unavailable, he can contact Lindy to come instead. The group then discussed a few items in the Depot that need to be addressed including the reprinting of exhibit labels on the wall and the need for us to explore options to either preserve the large map of Burton on the wall or find someone to possibly enhance it. Susan noted that when the map was donated by Gayle & Janet Weeren, it was framed with the appropriate glass to protect the map from damage by UV light. Unfortunately since that has been some time, there may be better methods at the current time for preserving framed paper items. Steph agreed to reach out to other museum contacts about options for this item to be preserved or enhanced. Brenda volunteered to reach out to possible sources to locate other similar Southern Pacific maps that we might acquire. Susan and Steph reported that they had cleaned up a bit in the Depot after the most recent event (Trick or Treat Trail in October 2020) but that we need to continue to clean to be ready for TRD.

**Texas Ranger Day 2021:** The event is set for Sat. March 27th and that date was chosen to accommodate our friends with the Old West Rangers and the Legends of the Texas Rangers. Steph has prepared the cook off forms and will post those to the Facebook page. Charlene has begun work to update all of our graphics for the event. Susan will check with Terri S. on the last round of t-shirts that were donated by Burton Friends and Neighbors (ordered from CC Creations) to see if we might re-order a small batch in sizes that we need including small and medium. The current count for shirts is 14 large and 47 XL. Susan reminded everyone that once again we really need to find sponsors to cover the amounts paid out to the cook-off winners. Our last TRD in 2019, we paid out \$1,800. Steph reported that we will have two new additions this year with a chuckwagon cooker and mule rides. The chuckwagon cooker w demonstrate how to make chili and biscuits and offer samples to visitors. We will publicize this as a bonus for what is included when you purchase a wristband for food. Also, Sterling Merryman will offer mule rides, \$3/kids and \$5/adults and he would like those proceeds to go towards the restoration of the stagecoach. As in most years, the discussion also turned to if we need to put up fencing for the event. This question has to do with TABC requirements if alcohol is being served. Su will check with Lily at Los Patrones about this and if they will be able to sell alcohol. She will report back after talking with her. Brenda asked if we would again have the Lil Miss and Mr Ranger Contest and Steph noted that if we can

get an emcee back, we should try to have the contest as well. Steph/Su will check into the emcee question and let Brenda know so that they can contact Horseshoe Junction for possible gift certificates as prizes. Susan noted that she will follow up with Pam S. on if she will again manage the silent auction. She believes that Pam had begun collecting some items last year. Brenda volunteered to help with the cash out at auction as long as she is able. Charlene asked about our room for having craft vendors at the event and the group discussed the cost for booth fees. It was decided to charge \$15/booth (SJarvis, motion; PMcLaughlin, 2nd). Steph has revised the sponsorship letters and we will begin sending those out for donations. Members are encouraged to pick up copies of sponsorship forms to carry with them and give to anyone who might donate for the event. The group then discussed the need for a tent in the cooker area as we have had in the past. Steph will check with Brenham Party Rentals and their 20x30 tent option. She believes that is \$450, so she will check with them for sure. It was decided to schedule a TRD workday for Sunday, March 21 beginning at 1pm at the Depot. Charlene will continue updates to the flyer/poster for TRD and share it with members when that is complete.

**Meeting Day of Week:** The group then reviewed the day of the week that we meet. It was agreed to move the meeting date to Wednesdays for now and the next meeting will be set for Wednesday, March 3rd at 6pm at the Depot (CFree, motion; BSchoenemann, 2nd).

**2020 Donations of Items:** Steph reported on several donations made in 2020 to the heritage society. A couple donated a train desk that was supposedly originally in the Burton Depot. They acquired it from an antique dealer who said it was from Burton. We must make room in the agent's office before we can move it in there. A copy of one of the Railroad maps through Burton was donated by James Williams (Ronnie Stanley's uncle). Also, a grandson of D.E. & Lillian Lomax, Craig Sanders, donated two copies of the History of Burton as well as pictures and items from their membership with the Burton Baptist Church.

**Updates to possible contacts list:** Steph mentioned the excel list that was created a few years ago to find as many contacts possible with an interest in our work on Mt. Zion Historical Chapel. It was noted that it might also be useful to add Texas Ranger descendants to this list and that the Ranger Museum might be a good source for such information. Barbara S. offered to take a look at this option. Steph will share the current excel list with both Barbara and Brenda for their possible help with additions.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steph Jarvis  
Secretary