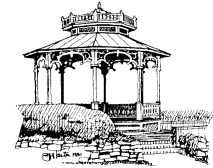


HERITAGE



Heritage Association of San Marcos Bi-Monthly Membership Newsletter

January/February 2023

The Annual Board Retreat

The January Annual Board Retreat reviewed each committee's report with a proposed agenda for the year, committee budgets, planned events through the year and "the big picture". Here is a brief summary of those reports to keep HASM members in the loop without inundating anyone with too many details.

- **President:** Debbie Austin, President, along with the ad hoc committee will meet with the city again regarding restoration of the Cock House and revisiting the lease agreement. She is coordinating with TX State on locations for The Spring Tour and reviewing the bylaws to present to the board.
- **Treasurer:** Michele Breihan, Treasurer, reported she has received budgets from all committees. Spreadsheets of Guild and HASM assets and liabilities are being reviewed.
- **Website:** Shelley Henry, Chair, will continue to manage our website. She has handed over the responsibilities for the yearbook and directory to other committees.
- **Database:** Jane Hughson has volunteered to take over the management of the database. Jane is an ideal candidate since she was the creator of the system.
- **Yearbook:** Sherry Baebler will continue to manage the membership roster and will oversee the yearbook publication.
- **Riverwalk:** Jeff Kester, Chair, continues to work with Parks and Recs on the master plan for Veramendi Plaza Park as well as with the Ad Hoc committee.
- **Membership:** Cathy Dillon, Chair, is making plans for membership appreciation events in 2023. We are now 230 members strong! Please renew online or with a phone call to Michele: 512-757-1316.
- **Guild:** Sherry Baebler, Chair, reported that the Guild is actively preparing for the Easter Egg Hunt in April and The Spring Tour in May. Sherry will also be managing the membership roster and the yearbook.
- **Communication:** Renee Graham, Chair, remains the editor of the bimonthly newsletter, and is preparing a series of articles about HASM for publication as well as continued leadership of the Easter Egg Hunt.
- **Home Tour:** Bronwyn Sergi, Chair, is working with Debbie in partnership with Texas State University, to host The Spring Art & Architecture Tour to include historic buildings, new architecture, and art installations on the campus. Dates and details will follow soon.
- **Easter Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 8th, 11am-1pm. Renee Graham, Chair, and Brian Olson, Co-Chair. Free and open to the public. Last year's 1st was hugely successful and attended by 300+ children and 500+ adults. Egg raffle tickets awarded winners great prizes like bikes, kayaks, electronic games & more. We are thankful for the generous sponsorships that made it happen. Register www.HeritageSanMarcos.org
- **Structure, Function, Bylaws:** Wayne Kraemer, Chair, reported the need to clearly define committee responsibilities as well as a bylaws review and update.
- **Historian:** Ellie Stewart, Chair, reported on the vast HASM archives on display at the public library.
- **Preservation Updates:** A Chair for this position will be finalized at the February board meeting.



2023 LANDMARK AWARDS

The Landmark Awards are the responsibility of the President's Advisory Council. We are accepting nominations for the 2023 Landmark Awards which are announced at the Annual Dinner in October.

These awards recognize the preservation of historic commercial and residential structures or sites. The structures or sites must be at least 75 years old and worthy of a citation as a restoration project completed within the past three years.

Send your written nomination to Debbie Austin between now and August 1st to Debbie@debbieaustin.com. This coveted award helps to preserve the state's historically and architecturally significant resources.



CHARLES S. COCK HOUSE MUSEUM

The Cock House is in need of substantial restoration which includes foundation repair, run off mitigation, and long delayed interior repairs. Our board ad hoc committee is creating a fundraising campaign to address immediate and long-term maintenance..



THE MERRIMAN CABIN MUSEUM

Plans are underway to host spring educational tours with a regular schedule for students and visitors. There is much to learn about Merriman Cabin and what the building represents. Consider participating on the Merriman Committee and opening the cabin doors to groups thirsty for this valuable history. Text Debbie at Debbie@debbieaustin.com

A BIG THANK YOU TO JANICE BOND

for your generous end-of-the-year donation to the Heritage Association of San Marcos. It is contributions like yours that enable us to give back to our community in so many ways.

The Bi-Monthly Membership Newsletters keep us connected. We share stories and bring you updates. Contact Renee at rrg51@sbcglobal.net or 214.641.5841 if you have something to share..

NEW MEMBERS, RETURNED MEMBERS, OR CHANGED MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Michele Donnelly: 524 Harvey St., San Marcos, mich.donn14@gmail.com, 512-787-8324

Cathy Coers Frank: 5135 Oasis Park, Houston, 77021, cathycfrank@yahoo.com, 713-706-3232

Mark & Ruah Gleason: 909 Conway Drive, San Marcos 78666, ruahgleason@gmail.com, 512-618-8264

Michelle Harper: 910 Stagecoach Trail, San Marcos 78666, michelleleighharper@gmail.com, 512-667-4525

To help cover the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter, please buy an ad for a low rate of only \$50 per ad. Approximate size: 3 1/4" w x 3" h. Send your information to **Renee Graham at rrg51@sbcglobal.net** and your check to **Michele Breihan at P.O.Box 1806, San Marcos 78667-1806**. Thank you for your support.

HERITAGE LEGACY MEMBER

Jan/Feb 2023 Highlight



THEA DAKE

It was 1961 when Thea met Ted and her life was about to change...forever. Love is unpredictable yet sometimes it's a risk worth taking. Then again, Ted knew exactly what he wanted and where he was going. So, in 1962, the day after he graduated from medical school, Ted married Thea and their journey began.

Thea's life followed the timeline of Ted's career in the military and private practice through Germany and eventually back to the US. In a sense, her own medical career did not begin until 1974 when she decided to go back to school while living in Walton Beach, Florida. After moving to Texas she enrolled in St. Edward where she received her degree in Clinical Social Work and then went on for her master's degree. She finished it in one year in 1980. Thea started her private practice immediately and it grew. When she began to pursue her PhD, she realized she really didn't need it and moved forward.

Having discovered the historic district in San Marcos around 2000, they decided to move here from Onion Creek. Their medical practice was relocated to a new building on Stagecoach Trail and their residence became an iconic home on Belvin Street. Due to nine months of restoration, it wasn't until November of 2001 that they were able to move into their majestic home.

Thea's involvement with the Heritage Association of San Marcos was tethered. Her full time career was in full bloom. Thea researched and received a Texas state marker on their Belvin home in 2014 which heightened her involvement in preservation efforts, but it was through her friendships within the community that peaked her interest to join Heritage. Since then, Thea has served in many capacities including, but not limited to, Guild vice-chair, awards committee, decorations, home tour, community volunteer of the year (2017), membership committee, preservation advocacy, Merriman Cabin, secretary, and benevolence chair. Their historic home has been on more Home Tours than she can count and she will continue the tradition with a gracious smile.

Thea has served on the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) three times including her present position. She also served on the board of CTMC and established the first Inpatient Hospice in five counties. In 2019 she received the San Marcos Woman of the Year Award. She is a dedicated volunteer with School Fuel, a nonprofit that provides food to children who would otherwise go hungry serving seven elementary schools and two middle schools. She joined the Daughters of the American Revolution with encouragement from her mother and relishes the many DAR relationships with women of history. Thea is an active member in the First Baptist Church. She is also proud of her involvement with the Hays County Sheriff's Department. Thea recently attended a 12-week program with the police academy and observed the skills of officers and trained canines who serve our community every day.

The most astounding quality of Thea's character is her authenticity. She has found her quiet center in which to create and sustain an authentic life which has become as essential as breathing. The unpredictable arrows she dodged and the risks she took built her path and she has never looked back.

Every bi-monthly newsletter in 2022 will highlight a Legacy Member who has served the Heritage Association through years of volunteer efforts and deserves special recognition.



GRAPHICS, PRINTING & PROMO
808 El Camino Way Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666
512-353-2412 | ColorMixGraphics.com

We appreciate Carla Sisk at Color Mix for her generous contribution in 2022 and 2023 to print this newsletter at a reduced and affordable price so that our members can stay in touch. Thank you, Carla.

MISSION: School Fuel’s mission is to provide the “fuel” for a better learning environment by removing the pangs of hunger among the students in our classrooms.

WHY: Over 75% of our SMCISD students qualify for free or reduced meals at school. They go home on weekends to little or no food. Statistics show that children who struggle with hunger at hoe perform at lower levels in school during the week.

HOW: School Fuel is currently serving 1,100 students who have a high risk of little or no food at home. Each Friday of the school year, the students receive a sack containing supplemental foods that they can easily open and serve themselves.

HELP: School Fuel is solely managed and operated by volunteers. Volunteers keep the operation costs low which maximizes the number of children we are able to feed. Our operation is sustained by donations. \$215 will provide weekend food for a child during the school year.

To make a monetary donation, mail a check to School Fuel, 102 Wonder World Drive, Suite 304, #120, San Marcos, TX 78666. You can also set up an automatic payment with your bank, credit card, or PayPal. Just \$18 per month helps a hungry student succeed at school.



Founded in 1975
HeritageSanMarcos.org
P. O. Box 1806 . San Marcos TX 78666-1806
512.392.4295 www.HeritageSanMarcos.org info@HeritageSanMarcos.org

Heritage Association of San Marcos
P. O. Box 1806
San Marcos, TX 78667-1806

Heritage Members Newsletter
Jan/Feb 2023 Issue