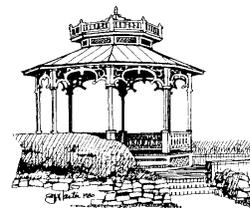


# HERITAGE



Heritage Association of San Marcos Bi-Monthly Membership Newsletter

January/February 2022



## Garden Tour

Saturday, June 4, 2022 . 11am—4pm

Rain date: June 11th

TICKETS: \$25 advance, \$30 tour day

TICKETS: Go to [www.heritagesanmarcos.org](http://www.heritagesanmarcos.org). Also available at the Charles S. Cock House Every Friday in May from 11am-1pm and on June 3 from 11am-1pm

## See, Sip and Savor In the Historic Gardens of San Marcos

The 45th Annual Home Tour combines two of the best attractions that San Marcos has to offer—delicious food and rich history. Stroll between stunning homes in the historic district while you savor outstanding southern cuisine, explore lush gardens, and listen to exceptional music by the SMART Orchestra. Don't miss the exhibit that provides a glimpse of each home tour over a period of 45 fabulous years. **Better get your ticket today because admission is limited to 400!!**

### TOUR THE CLASSICS

- **220 N. Johnson Avenue:** Enjoy mimosas in this classic revival home with indigenous trees, plants and grasses within an urban setting. Built in 1906 by John H. Barbee—noted for establishing the first cotton gin in Hays County—one of the finest examples of historic preservation efforts in San Marcos.
- **227 N. Mitchell Street:** Savor lemonade, cookies and a gourmet charcuterie in this Greek Revival home with gardens featuring a stone fountain, conservatory, bronze of a young girl and arbor at the entrance of the Garden for Grandchildren. Built in 1907 for the Ike Wood family and later purchased by William Crook who served as the US Ambassador to Australia from 1968-1969.
- **903 Belvin Street:** Relish English scones and other sweets in this Victorian home surrounded by lush gardens, open entertainment kitchen, storybook guesthouse, and mature shade trees. Built in 1886 by Sam R. Kone on a lot dating back to the original Juan Martin de Veramendi grant.
- **221 North Street:** Enjoy cocktails by Cody and appetizers by Palmer's at Gary Germer Insurance Services. This 1920's era bungalow was originally built in the Sears Craftsman style. It was recently renovated into offices with design elements in keeping with its historic integrity.
- **336 W. Hopkins Street:** Drinks, live music and a relaxed indoor/outdoor atmosphere will entertain you for your grand finale. Originally built as a 1930's gas station, brothers Chase and Seth Katz opened it in 2011 as a very unique bar and it is purported to be "the best little icehouse in Texas".



## MAY IS PRESERVATION MONTH

Heritage is revisiting our list of Historic At Risk Properties (HARP) in our community which illustrates the expansiveness of our town's history and helps to tell the story of San Marcos.

In addition to these properties, we recognize the funding needs to repair the ongoing deterioration of the Charles S. Cock House. Proceeds from the Easter Egg Hunt and the 45th Annual Home Tour will go towards the preservation of this iconic building. Over the years there has been deferred maintenance issues, and due to its pier and beam construction, ground shifting has had a negative effect on the structure. An estimated cost of repairs begins at \$250,000.

Support the Cock House by booking your next event in this historic home. If you need a facility to accommodate 45 people, look no further. Call Marianne Moore to book it: 512-665-6048. \$25/hour with a 4 hour minimum + \$25 cleaning fee + \$100 refundable deposit.



## DOCENTS NEEDED AT MERRIMAN CABIN

Our sweet, historic cabin needs to have regular "open" hours and we are turning to our members for help. All we need are 5 volunteers—each person to be at the cabin one Saturday a month for 2 hours.

Use those 2 hours for your own quiet time with very little interruption: read a book, write in your journal, needlepoint a pillow, finish that painting...whatever you need or want to do for yourself, here's your golden opportunity. Plus you are giving a wee bit of time to Heritage and the community. Call Bronwyn Sergi today - give to yourself while giving to others: 512-757-0730. It's a win-win!

Our thanks to the many volunteers and sponsors who contributed to our First Annual Heritage Easter Egg Hunt. It was a huge success and well attended with over 300 little hunters and over 600 accompanying adults. Enthusiasm has been awesome and we're already planning the 2nd Annual on April 15, 2023. Mark your calendars! If you missed the 1st, you MUST make the 2nd!

The purpose of our Bi-Monthly Membership Newsletters are to stay connected, to share stories about Heritage members, and to bring you updates. Please let me hear from you if you have something to share. Call or email: Renee at rrg51@sbcglobal.net or 214.641.5841.

### NEW MEMBERS, RETURNED MEMBERS, OR CHANGED MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

- Francile Blue:** correct telephone number is 512-214-7823
- Cindy McCoy:** correct telephone number is 512-247-8191
- Mark Berins:** correct email address: markberins@yahoo.com
- Kathy Prather:** correct email address: Kathy.martinezprather@yahoo.com
- Judy Felan:** 501 Scott Street, San Marcos 78666, 210-422-7489, felan.judy@gmail.com
- Carol Brooks:** 2301 Sungate Drive, New Braunfels 78130, 830-556-0800, CABrooks922@gmail.com
- Bonnie Hughson & Andrew Cox:** 3300 S. Old Stagecoach Road, Kyle 78640, 512-787-4953, BLHughson@yahoo.com

To help cover the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter, please buy an ad. Space is allotted on the back cover for **four (4) ads @ ONLY \$50 each**. Approximate size: 3 1/4" w x 3" h. Personal or business are welcome & I'll create your ad for free. Send your information to **Renee Graham at rrg51@sbcglobal.net** and check to **Michele Breihan at P.O.Box 1806, San Marcos 78667-1806**. Renee Graham, Communication Chair

HERITAGE LEGACY MEMBER  
May/June 2022 Highlight



## **BOBBIE GILBERT**

Bobbie Gilbert has lived in San Marcos most of her life and if you ask her, she'll tell you she loves this river town because of the people. Some of her fondest memories were formed through the many friendships she made with the Heritage Association, thanks to her good neighbor across the street, Frances Stovall, who urged her to participate. Bobbie was on the board and the membership committee from the start. But now we're getting ahead of the story.

Her family moved here when she was in 6th grade. After high school, she attended the SW Texas State Teachers College for two years and then moved to Austin where she worked for the TX Employment Commission while attending UT. After graduating, Bobbie returned to San Marcos and went to work for the First National Bank, now Wells Fargo, and was referred to as "Miss Info". There she met her future husband, George, and "it turned into a joint checking account". George was a pilot in the Army Air Force but left the service in 1958 to open a business in 1959 which became Sunset Bowling Lanes. "It started out as 8 lanes but grew into 24." Bobbie organized the woman's bowling leagues when she wasn't supervising their three children. In 2016, they sold the business to their son, Gary.

They have lived in their beautiful Timbercrest Drive home since Gaye Lynn, their daughter, was 6 months old. She joined the First United Methodist Church with her family in 1942 and the congregation has flourished since then. On August 6, 2022, the church plans to celebrate 175 years of worship and Bobbie feels blessed to have enjoyed her bible studies with such a loving group of members.

Bobbie became the chair of the Bicentennial Bells in 1974 with the help of Suzanne Wales and Dot Renfrow who were always there to give a hand. The Bicentennial Bells were the first docents to serve lunches on Friday at the Cottage Kitchen. They also served as docents during the Heritage home tours to provide history to the visitors. Frances Stovall was an excellent cook and was known for her rolls. Word got around. Frances selected a dress pattern for the docents to wear while serving. It was a high neck, blue calico dress with three quarter sleeves trimmed in a wide, white lace with white lace trim around the collar. Bobbie can pull it out of her closet in a minute if you ask to see it!

Bobbie has been on the Riverwalk committee twice over the years and is a current member today. She remembers so many festive events, more than we can mention here: music in the park, 4th of July Patriotic programs, and river events in Sewell Park. Among other groups, Bobbie was also an active member of the Spring Lake Garden Club. Her future will undoubtedly be about relishing time with her close-knit family, her many friends and the joy that comes with serving others.

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.



## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR HERITAGE PRESIDENT**

It feels like Heritage and San Marcos are reemerging from hibernation. The Board's fresh ideas are bringing in new people and a new look to HASM. We are embracing our roots of preservation while expanding our efforts to reach young families with whom we can share the importance of historic preservation.

I look forward to the collaboration of the 2022 and 2023 HASM Board in creating and implementing a Capital Campaign that will allow us to make The Cock House priority #1 to restore, improve, and protect this magnificent piece of San Marcos history. An additional goal is to clean and beautify Veramendi Plaza Park as this is part of the foundation of HASM.

-Debbie Austin, President  
Heritage Association of San Marcos

Founded in 1975  
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