



Tomball Museum Center
Spring Creek County Historical Association

NEWSLETTER
SPRING
2022

Hours of Operation

Sunday 2:00pm-4:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am-2:00pm

Saturdays 10:00am-2:00pm

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OUR NAME
SPRING CREEK COUNTY HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION

Yes, there was a county named, Spring Creek County.

On January 21, 1841, the Republic's (Texas was not granted statehood until 1845) legislature established this new county. It consisted of parts of now Grimes, Montgomery, and Harris counties. It was so named because Spring Creek ran through its center. The county seat was to be named Greenville.

According to an article in the Impact, April 2016, Spring Creek County was established so that the citizens of the area would not have to travel so far to conduct judicial business. During that period before statehood "the county officials were the law enforcers and the face of government" to the local citizens.

Spring Creek County was abolished by a Texas Supreme Court decision, *Stockton v. Montgomery* (1842), which declared judicial counties unconstitutional.

There is a Historical marker in Tomball's Spring Creek Park in honor of this little part of our Texas history.

You can find more detail in the Impact Newspaper Tomball/Magnolia Features Edition —titled Spring Creek County.

Article by Carrie Taylor April 2016

Letter from the President

Dear Supporter.

We are proud to announce that we have reinstated our quarterly newsletter. In these newsletters, we will update you on what is happening at the museum plus a "Ben Scholl's Moment." We will also highlight a specific house, or an item displayed in our museum.

Recently we began a new interactive web site, tomballmuseumcenter.com. It includes a gallery of all our buildings with a short description of each and an events page where we highlight our facilities for your wedding, special meeting, or parties. We have added a photographers page where professional and non-professional photographers can book one (1) hour sessions to use our facilities as a backdrop for their pictures. I would like to give special thanks to Pam McKinney and Cindy Whitehead for their help in developing this web site and keeping it up to date for us.

I am sorry to report that memberships have dropped off dramatically during the last few years. The reasons are many and varied. Many of the founders and older members are no longer able to help or are deceased. Of course, this means we have less income supporting our museum. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join the association and help us maintain our beautiful facilities for future generations.

On a good note, we had a docent training session recently with six (6) new individuals attending. In addition, our new web site has encouraged several other volunteers that wish to work at our museum.

You may wonder why this is our first newsletter in a few years. The reason is the cost of printing and the expense of mailing. So beginning with this newsletter, if we have your email address, we will be emailing it but if we do not have an email address, we will mail it. We will also be including this newsletter as part of our web site.

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING ON MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022 AT 6PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL WHEN WE WILL ELECT BOARD MEMBERS.

Henry Reid

President

Executive Director's Update

The Museum is slowly getting back to pre-pandemic operations, updating some of the procedures and displays, and welcoming back visitors. In March the Museum was delighted to host 7 third grade classes from Creekside Elementary School. I'd like to thank the volunteers that made time to help work as docents. That included Pamela Kaiser, Danny Nicholson, Liz Peltier, Edwin (Butch) Theiss, Lynn McCoy and Vickie and Gerald Lee. People are definitely enjoying getting out as requests for tours and rentals of the grounds for weddings and social events continue to increase. I look forward to seeing many of you and your families visiting the Museum again.

--Mary McCoy



Ben Scholl's Moment

A Time When It Seemed to Be Quiet

Several times a week we get in the mail advertisements that say in large letters, "Absolutely free, No obligation," etc. If the ad also reads "Free hearing check," my wife hands it to me, saying, "You don't hear a thing I say, you need to get your hearing checked," to which I usually reply, "I have selective hearing." Sometimes I even get up the nerve to say, "If you didn't mumble, I would hear you better."

Recently, while getting the paper from the driveway at about 5:30 a.m., I noticed it was one of those mornings when sound travels very well. To the east, a diesel engine was switching rail cars and to the south, delivery trucks at the hospital were making "Beep, beep, beep" sounds as they backed up to the unloading dock. To the west, a steady hum of heavy traffic was going toward Houston on Highway 249. With paper in hand and stopping at the stack of firewood under the carport to pick up several chunks of wood for the wood-burning stove, I walked through the backyard. As I stood still I was surprised to hear, besides the roosters to the west, three or four different birds twittering or chattering in the predawn darkness. It seemed a little early in the year for mating calls, so maybe they were just enjoying the sound of their voices in the early morning stillness.

By living in almost soundproof houses we seem to be missing a lot of the sounds I remember hearing as a child. On the farm, the scissor-tails were the first to chatter in the morning. Then other birds chimed in and woke the roosters to officially announce the day. The nocturnal wolves on Little Cypress Creek were giving their last bark-howl before going to sleep. Under ideal wind and weather conditions, I could hear the steam engine on the Southern Pacific tracks between Hockley and Cypress and occasionally the Zephyr train as it traveled through Tomball at a high rate of speed. Our neighbor had a dog (I think her name was Queenie) who liked to nip people's heels, and in the morning I would hear the neighbor call her to tie her up for the day. Field larks, mourning doves, grackles, crows and other birds would call in the morning before it got hot. My uncle O. B. Schauer had a loud voice and some mornings could be heard yelling at his mules while plowing in the field. The advent of tractors started noise pollution on the farm.

Dogs seldom barked during the day but at night they were self-appointed deliverers of "messages by barking," as shown in the movie *101 Dalmations* (the main dog characters depend on other dogs to help find their kidnapped puppies). During the night our dogs would bark for no obvious reason. Then the neighbors' dogs -- Fehrle's to the south, Schwarz's to the east and Borgstead's to the north -- would bark, then their neighbors' dogs would bark. Sometimes these messages would continue until my mother made Dad go out in the yard and assure our dogs that we had gotten the message. By then it might have traveled to Conroe, Houston or Waller. I wonder if government has ever given a grant to study this way of communication.

At that time there were fewer trees, which permitted sound to travel farther, and we could also see farther. We could see the smoke from steam engines on the SP track between Hockley and Cypress and at night we could see the car headlights on Highway 290 going toward Houston. Now our senses are numbed by too much noise and too many visual images, and our sight and hearing has had to become more "selective."

Written by Benjamin H. Scholl

WHAT AM I AND HOW DO I WORK?



When the “icy ball” was put on the market, around 1930, by the CROSLEY CORP., it was the first time that a mechanical refrigerator was available to anyone who had a source of hot water, heated by kerosene, wood stove or wash pot. It had a hot ball and a cold ball, and the refrigerant was ammonia gas. The hot ball was placed in hot water, forcing the gas into the cold ball where it condensed into a liquid. By removing the heat source, the liquid would then “boil” away, moving into the outside ball, and making the cold ball frost over. It would freeze about a pint of water, or ice cream, depending on conditions. There were no moving parts, and could be recycled every day, or every other day.



Looking for a venue
for your event?

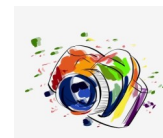
Tomball Museum Center is the
place!

Checkout

tomballmuseumcenter.com

for more info!

PHOTOGRAPHERS



We would like to recognize those photographers who recently used our museum as a backdrop for their pictures and who made a reasonable donation. These donations help us maintain our facilities.

Maria Snider

Julizza G Holub

Danielle Griffin

Angie Church

Nicole Daniel

Bethany Webster

Please support the photographers who support your museum.

Encourage Your Friends and Family and
Watch Us Grow and Spread the History of
Tomball!

Become a Member of Tomball Museum Center

INDIVIDUAL \$35 | FAMILY \$50 | BUSINESS \$500

Tomball Museum Center is a privately owned 501(c)3 non-profit association. We depend on the support of our members and other donations to maintain and make improvements to the facilities and grounds. Please consider becoming a member of our association and supporting Tomball Museum Center for years to come. Thank You!



Individual Membership

\$35.00



Family Membership

\$50.00



Business Membership

\$500.00



*We provide beautiful grounds,
historic buildings and views with
limitless opportunities for your
wedding. Let us help to make your
wedding day a special and
meaningful experience with
bountiful memories that will last
a lifetime!*

For More Information Call

281-255-2148

Volunteer Opportunities

1. Docent
2. Friday morning maintenance crew
3. Write newsletter articles
4. Help decorate for candlelight tour and other occasions
5. Help developing and writing grant proposals
6. Fundraising & membership drive
7. Research and prepare write-ups on museum artifacts
8. Take pictures and digitize museum artifacts
9. Organize and catalog the library
10. Help to clean and maintain the interior of all buildings

Schedule a Tour for Individuals and Groups

Please call our Museum office
at (281)255-2148 to schedule.

Members of the Board

Henry Reid-President

Bob Russell-Vice President

Bob Watts—Vice President

Becky Clepper—Secretary

Mary McCoy—Treasure

Michael Bradfield

Sue Cox

JoAnn Ehrhardt

Cecella Lang

Pamela Kaiser

Dwana McShan



TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE MUSEUM
SCAN THE WITH YOUR PHONE QR CODE

2022 BOARD ELECTION

Below is the list of five (5) candidates running for a position on the Spring Creek County Museum Association. The election will be held at our annual meeting on Monday May 9th at 6PM.

Leah Gonzato
Lynn McCoy
Mary McCoy*
Henry Reid*
Bob Watts*

* Existing board members

If you are a member of the museum you can vote for 4 of the candidates at the meeting or you can give your proxy to someone who will be at the meeting or a current board member.

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PROXY

PLEASE USE THIS AS MY PROXY TO VOTE FOR FOUR (4) OF THE PROPOSED INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF THE SPRING CREEK COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM.

Name_____ Date_____

Signature_____

Witness Name_____ Date_____

Witness Signature_____

ONLY FOUR (4) POSITIONS AVAILABLE, SO CIRCLE THE ONES YOU ARE VOTING FOR.

Future Advertisements