

# Spring Newsletter 2024



## Tomball Museum Center Spring Creek County Historical Association



### Hours of Operation

Sunday 2:00pm-4:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am-2:00pm

Saturdays 10:00am-2:00pm

510 N. Pine St. Tomball, TX 77375 ~ 281-255-2148 ~ [tomballmuseumcenter.com](http://tomballmuseumcenter.com)

# *Members of the Board*

HENRY REID—PRESIDENT

BARBARA POWELL —SECRETARY

MARY MCCOY—TREASURER

BECKY CLAPPER

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BOB RUSSELL

BOB WATTS

# *Letter from the President*

Dear Friends.

It is spring already and we are getting ready for the summer months. Let us all pray that it will not be as dry and hot as last summer.

While we do not have many activities during the winter months, we are still busy here at the museum. The docents have been cleaning and reorganizing the barn. On March 23 the Tomball Memorial HS Key Club came and cleaned around the building/. This past weekend the Ladies of the Tomball Garden Club and the Bridge-land High School Social Studies NHS worked diligently cleaning flower beds and planting new plants to get ready for the summer. In addition, we are scheduled to paint the exterior of the Theis House this month and will be replacing the old A/C units in the church with new Mini-Split units.

On May 25 we are having another Kids' Museum Day. It will have a patriotic theme with crafts and games. It is open to elementary age children and should be lots of fun. Let's just hope the rain holds off this year so we can enjoy the outdoors.

Our big event this summer will be our first Annual Tomball Museum Center's Quilt & Craft Festival on Saturday, June 8th. If you are a Quilter or Crafter, please sign up and if not, please come and look at all the beautiful quilts your neighbors and friends have brought out for your enjoyment.

This fall's activities include our third annual Antique Car Social on Oct. 5th from 11 to 2 and our second annual Halloween Night at the Museum on Oct. 26th from 4-7. Come and explore our museum and have your kids show off their Halloween costumes (this includes parents in costume, too) . If you missed any of these events last year, you missed a good time had by all.

We are having our Annual Meeting for all members on Monday, May 13 at 6PM. We will be electing 4 board members. If you would like to be a board member or know of someone who would like to be a board member, please contact Bob Watts, 832-562-1518 or his email is [rwatts1944@yahoo.com](mailto:rwatts1944@yahoo.com).

On a sad note, one of our past presidents, Ben Scholl, passed away recently. Ben was not only our President but was one of the key individuals in the overall operations of the museum for many years. We will continue to have our Ben's Moments in our newsletter which are excerpts from the book he wrote about life in Tomball and surrounding communities.

Regards,

Henry Reid

President

## *Tomball Museum Center*

Spring Creek County Historical Association  
510 North Pine St ~ Tomball, TX 77375



- Hoelscher Weatherstrip
- Gloyers Pharmacy
- Golden Nonsense
- Tomball Ford
- Tomball Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram
- Glass Tex
- Tomball Bowl
- Rock Materials
- Dale Cannon Insurance Agency
- Tomball Mechanical
- Klein Funeral Homes
- Tony Swonke Land Surveying
- J-Tech Systems Inc.
- The Lynch Family
- Klein Memorial Park Cy-Fair
- Klein Memorial Park & Mausoleum
- Tomball Lowe's Home Improvement Store
- Robert Hooper and Urban Companies
- Tenenbahr Jewelers

*Our Corporate Donors*

*Thank You All!*

## We'll Miss You

This year the Tomball Museum Center says "goodbye" to our own special Jim Hayhurst. Jim and his wife, Katie, are moving back to their grass roots of Indiana - areas of which both Jim and Katie spent their formative years. Jim has been an indispensable member of our maintenance crew for so many years that no one can remember when he started - but to give you an idea he is still driving his 2008 Dodge Ram 1500 that he started with. Jim is the epitome of volunteerism, having spent many years not only here at the museum but building homes for Habitat for Humanity and devoting untold hours every year to AARP's volunteer tax specialist program for families in need of tax assistance.

Thanks so much Jim for all you've given to us over these past years.



## CALLING ALL MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS...

Did you know that the Tomball Museum Center is governed by a Board of Trustees that, like a corporate board, is responsible for the formulation and implementation of the policies, standards, condition and operation of our museum? It is a big responsibility and our board takes its responsibilities seriously.

The board consists of twelve members; each member serves three-year terms that are staggered so each year four board members stand for election. Elections are held yearly at our May meeting which will occur this year on May 13. The “legal” requirement to run for the board is really straightforward - a candidate desiring to run for office only needs to be a member in good standing for a year before running.

If you know someone – or yourself – who wants to run for a board position nominations need to be in two weeks before the election, or by April 29th. Besides the “legal” requirement any candidate really needs to possess the desire to carry out the mission of the museum with the zeal and passion that has made this museum so great in the past.

Nominations should include name, address and contact information so we can contact the candidate. Nominations can be sent by regular mail to P.O. Box 457, Tomball, Texas 77375 or emailed to [tomballmuseumcenter@gmail.com](mailto:tomballmuseumcenter@gmail.com) or [rwatts1944@yahoo.com](mailto:rwatts1944@yahoo.com).

Quilters and crafters to sign up for the Tomball Quilt and Craft Festival. Details and registration forms on our website.

Elementary kids sign up for the Museum Kid's Day. May 25th 10-12. Details and registration forms on our website.

# Kids' Museum Day

**Tomball Museum Center**  
Saturday, May 25, 2024 10 AM - 12 PM

**\$10 per child**

Patriotic  
Crafts  
and  
Games



Register Online  
[tomballmuseumcenter.com](http://tomballmuseumcenter.com)

Open to Children in Elementary Grades  
(must be accompanied by an adult)

Limit 25 Openings



## Tomball Museum Quilt and Crafters Festival

DATE: Saturday, June 8th, 2024, 10:00am – 4:00pm

Location: Tomball Museum Center, 510 Pine Street, Tomball, TX 77375

**QUILTERS!**  
JOIN  
**TOMBALL MUSEUM CENTER'S**  
**TOMBALL MUSEUM QUILT AND CRAFT FESTIVAL**

Saturday, June 8th, 2024, 10am - 4pm

Come be a part of the Tomball Museum Center's first quilt and craft show!

Entry fee is \$20, up to 3 entries per quilter. Hand crafted ribbons will be awarded.  
Go online for application and full list of rules:  
[tomballmuseumcenter.com/2024/02/tomball-museum-quilt-crafters-festival/](http://tomballmuseumcenter.com/2024/02/tomball-museum-quilt-crafters-festival/)



For additional information please contact the event coordinator:  
[Cindershirley@gmail.com](mailto:Cindershirley@gmail.com), 832-523-1951

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(281)255-2148



**CRAFTERS!**  
JOIN  
**TOMBALL MUSEUM CENTER'S**  
**TOMBALL MUSEUM QUILT AND CRAFT FESTIVAL**

Saturday, June 8th, 2024, 10am - 4pm

Come be a part of the Tomball Museum Center's first quilt and craft show!

12 spaces available at \$40 each (Spaces are 9' x 20'; Limit 2 spaces per vendor). Electricity available for \$10 per vendor.  
Go online for application and full list of rules:  
[tomballmuseumcenter.com/2024/02/tomball-museum-quilt-crafters-festival/](http://tomballmuseumcenter.com/2024/02/tomball-museum-quilt-crafters-festival/)



For additional information please contact the vendor coordinator:  
[tomballmuseumcenter@gmail.com](mailto:tomballmuseumcenter@gmail.com)

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## Best Little Creamery in Texas



While looking through the Lincoln Nebraska Star Journal on June 25, 2004 I was surprised to see a 4-column picture of CEO, Paul Kruse and former CEO Howard Kruse of Blue Bell Creameries of Brenham, Texas on the front page of the business section of the paper. The article, written by Kristen Hayes of the Associated Press, gave a short history of the company and its rise in sales in the 14 states where Blue Bell is now sold. It was shipped to the White House and to Camp

David while G.H.W. Bush was president and is now shipped to the Crawford, Texas ranch and to the White House for George W. Bush. In November 2001 Russian President Vladimir Putin was served Blue Bell's Homemade Vanilla on his Texan pecan pie, and this March, Mexican President Vincent Fox was served the same flavor on apple cake at the Crawford Ranch. The capacity for the Brenham plant is 30,000 gallons per day. My guess is that Nebraska will be Blue Bell's next expansion of territory. The current major seller in Nebraska appears to be Blue Bunny, which, in my opinion, doesn't compare to Blue Bell.

I remember my mother telling me that as a teenager she took the family's cream to the Brenham creamery, driving a one horse buggy the 7 miles from our home at Phillipsburg to Brenham. Milk was stored in pans kept cool by the evaporation of water from a sheet hanging down in a pan of water, fastened across the front of the shelves holding the pans. I don't remember how often Mother made the trip to Brenham, only how cold she said it was facing the north wind. In 1969 the creamery started making ice cream, changing the name to that of a local flower. It is now Number 3 in the nation, behind Dyer's and Eddy's, and the Number 2, Breyer's.

Mother and Dad lived long enough to enjoy the growing popularity of their favorite flavor, Homemade Vanilla.

Written by Benjamin H. Scholl as published in:

Scholl, B., (2004), "Growing Up In Rose Hill (We Were Poor But Didn't Know It)", ISBN 1583968830



## VIV Corner:

- Jan, Feb, and March volunteers have served the museum for 1325.14 logged hours.
- We hosted our third Tea and Chat.
- We had a volunteer appreciation chili dinner with several board members serving the meal. It was well attended, and all had a good time.
- We have had two teen workdays with students from two different high schools. The students worked hard and accomplished much.
- We have had one large school tour of over 100 kids.
- We have hosted two National Charity League tours.
- Have seen an increase in the number of tours we are giving.
- Our major donors have replaced glass, added a good a/c system to the Fellowship Hall, and repaired doors.
- Continued upgrades to the computer program.
- Continued upgrades to our web page.
- Added to the oral history project.
- Continued looking for grants.
- Continued upgrades to the docent site. Docents took a trip to the Texas Cotton Gin Museum.
- The Friday work crew has made many great repairs and upgrades.
- The museum is gifted with so many self-starting, talented volunteers who are accomplishing an amazing amount on so many subjects. Thank you again volunteers for your dedication and interest in the museum.

Lucy Harvell

Volunteer Coordinator Tomball Museum Center

# Texas Wendish Heritage Museum

“Docents love history and learning. What a wonderful experience to upgrade our knowledge of the Wendish people on our first docent road trip. We gained new facts and stories to add to our tours about our own Wendish Cabin. “

The first picture is a painted church. The second is native dress. The third is the group who went. The fourth is one of the Wendish Museum’s exhibits, The fifth is an example of the famous Wendish egg decorating. These are real eggs.



We have had our second docent road trip. This one was at the Texas Cotton Gin Museum in Burton, TX. We learned a lot about the processing of cotton and enjoyed a meal together.



# Texas Cotton Gin Museum

Our docents took a learning trip to the Texas Cotton Gin Museum in Burton Texas. We had a great day and learned a lot about their cotton gin from 1914. The gin is run once a year at their festival. We are lucky that they shared one of their bales with us and it is now in our barn. The question was how to move a 500-pound bale? David Roche, our volunteer, put it in his truck and drove it to our museum. New challenge, how to get it from his truck into the barn. Stacy, another of our volunteers ran home and procured his grandson, Kayden, and Kayden's friend, Henry. With leverage and these two young men the bale is now on display. Come see it.





Several of the Key Clubs from the Tomball area have volunteered to help us in the last few years. This past March 23rd, we had 14 kids help us clean and oil some of the tools from our exhibits in the barn as well as clean the smokehouse and the outhouse.



# Our Antique Loom Is Out For Restoration

Greg Broussard is restoring it with tools and techniques from the late 1800's to early 1900's. We will be able to have loom demonstrations when he finishes the restoration. Greg has discovered several people who still work looms in our area.



April 27th Stop by the museum's display at the Tomball Rails and Tails Festival.



# 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

