

Texas Trail Museum Newsletter

Editor: Anthony J. Sacco

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Vice-President: Jackie Mueller
Secretary: Roberta Marquardt
Treasurer: Mary Herman

Directors:

Karen Christensen
Donald Herman
Becky Martinez
Lucile Scheel
Sharon Shmidl

MUSEUM SETS DATE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, March 13, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in the old Historic High School's meeting room. Refreshments, provided by Angie's Deli and several volunteers known for their culinary skills, will be served.

All members in good standing are invited to attend. That means your dues for 2007 must be paid current prior to attendance at the meeting. Only members in good standing will be able to vote.

This is an excellent opportunity to come out and hear what has been accomplished recently, and what is on the drawing board for your museum in the near future.

SOME HUMOR

Will Rogers, killed in a plane crash in 1935, was probably the greatest political sage America ever had. Here are two of his humorous sayings:

"Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco."

"There are two theories for arguing with a woman. . . Neither works!"

DUES ARE DUE

If you joined the Museum during the months of January, February, or March 2006, your dues are now due. Kindly make your check payable to the Texas Trail Museum and send it to P.O. Box 545, Pine Bluffs, WY 82082.

If you joined prior to January 2006, your membership has lapsed (unless you joined as a lifetime member), and you should consider renewing.

A new Membership Card has been designed, and all members will be given a card as dues are paid.

Membership in the Texas Trail Museum couldn't be easier on the pocketbook:

Individual	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Silver Shield	\$50.00
Gold Shield	\$100.00
Lifetime	\$500.00

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A non-profit organization like The Texas Trail Museum can only thrive and grow if it develops a capacity to raise funds. With that in mind, the Board has set an ambitious fund-raising schedule for 2007. Of course, we'll continue our annual golf tournament, this year under the able leadership of Don Herman as Golf Committee Chairperson. I've also appointed Sharon Shmidl as Chairperson of the new Fundraising Committee. She'll oversee three raffles – one of which will be that free weekend for two at the Saratoga Inn – which is being repeated by popular demand.

But that's not enough. Some means of raising funds over the long term is needed. I've talked to other museums around this beautiful state, and back East, to see what they are doing in this department. A recurring theme: an endowment fund.

With that in mind, I've set up The Texas Trail Museum Endowment Fund. This offers an excellent opportunity for all to ensure that the history of southeastern Laramie County will be preserved, and artifacts which tell the story of that history will be acquired and displayed for generations to come.

For anyone interested, several investment choices are available, depending upon your needs and wishes. You can: 1) Leave a bequest to the Museum in your will, 2) Establish an insurance policy naming the Museum as beneficiary, 3) Designate the Texas Trail Museum as a beneficiary of your IRA or retirement plan, 4) Make a cash donation to the Endowment Fund, 5) Create a charitable remainder trust, 6) Create a charitable lead trust, 7) Create a charitable gift annuity, 8) create a remainder interest in a residential or

business property.

As you consider these possibilities, please consult your own financial advisor, whether your lawyer, CPA or Financial planner. And remember, our town boasts one of the finest, most respected CFPs in the business.

If you have any questions about this or anything pertaining to the Museum, please feel free to contact me at 245-3713 or 245-3304.

LABOR ON BOWSER HOMESTEAD COTTAGE BEGINS

If you've driven down Third Street in the past several weeks, you've no doubt noticed that work has begun on the Homestead Cottage mentioned in the last newsletter.

Carpenters Emmett Shepperd and Mark Matz have already gutted the inside, removing old and rotted material from walls, ceiling and floor.

Siding, windows, door, paint and other materials have been purchased at our own RA Lumber, and at Home Depot in Cheyenne. A stove, similar to those in use back in the early part of the 20th Century will be moved in, and the building will be furnished in accordance with information provided by Curt Bowser, who, with his brother and sister, grew up in the cottage.

Plans call for interior and exterior renovations to be completed prior to our opening on Memorial Day.