

Preservation Celebration

Awardees and Nominees of 2017

Collin McKinney Achievement Award

Awardee:

Collin County History Museum on March 2, 2017 opened their newest exhibit, Texas and Collin County World War I Centennial Commemoration. This exhibit will be open until November 11, 2018. The opening displays were devoted to the draft and several training camps around the state. Additional displays include a partial full sized trench, letters home from soldiers and weapons of the war. The museum covers the war for women by including a drive for voluntary food rationing, the establishment of Red Cross chapters in the county, and service stories for three Collin County nurses. For children there is a special display about mascots (war dogs) and 40 stereopticon slides of the war. To increase engagement with the World War I exhibit the museum has integrated 24 different videos accessed by 10 iPads and QR codes to increase engagement with World War I. The exhibit offers the citizens of Collin County a great opportunity to discover our common history. Come and visit the Collin County History Museum in McKinney.

Other Nominee:

Kathy Moore became a board member of Heritage Guild of Collin County in 2013. She graciously volunteered to lead the construction efforts which meant countless hours of research, interviews and community research. Kathy interviewed 12 contractors and Heritage Guild chose Hoegger and Associates. Construction began in February and will be finished in June 2016. She has gone great lengths to insure the integrity of the Dulaney Cottage. Once the project is completed, the home will be available for public tours, educational tours to school aged children and rental space for small weddings, parties and meetings.

Excellence in Historical Education Award

Awardee:

Adah Leah Wolf has been Farmersville Main Street Manager since July, 2013. During that time she has worked on numerous historic preservation projects. They all are related to educating the public about the importance of historic preservation or educating the public about Farmersville's unique history. While on the Historic Assets Program she put Farmersville literally on the map. Adah has published an Audie Murphy brochure, a walking tour of downtown Farmersville, and historical markers near the town. She has produced displays, especially the post office Museum and has researched historical markers. Downtown Farmersville has been designated at a Commercial National Register District. Adah Leah initiated and coordinated this successful multi- year project. She is a key liaison for building owners by helping them to care for their historic buildings. Since 2003, 25 of 59 downtown buildings have received Main street design assistance. She has a dedicated volunteer committee and together they have expanded Audie Murphy Day from its humble beginnings. The monthly Farmers and Fleas Market was begun by Adah Leah and Main Street volunteers in 2004. She has greatly improved and preserved the history of Farmersville.

Other Nominees:

Linda Hess worked on the committee that originated the Historic Assets Review Project for the Collin County Historical Commission and worked tirelessly to identify sites in southeastern Collin County that has historical significance. She included such sites as Prairie Grove Baptist Church and cemetery, Empire College and Cowskin Community. She literally put the community of Josephine on the map by identifying at least 35 sites within the town. In addition Linda documented the information for several state and county markers in the same southeast quadrant of the county. She planned each marker dedication ceremony with emphasis on public presence and education. Linda is a dynamic personality whose energy rubs off on people with whom she works.

Diane Miller has been a member of the Collin County Historical Commission for many years; during that time she has served as a member of several committees including county and state markers and Preservation Celebration. Someone said "Diane loves cemeteries and would love to restore all of them in Collin County." She helped get three grants for the Lair Cemetery project and has worked long hours for the Highland Cemetery Association. In recent years Diane worked with Page Thomas on the Wysong Blacksmith dig and collected and cataloged many artifacts. She worked tirelessly to save old barbed wire from fence lines on her property as road crews came through her property. She is one of the unsung heroes of historic preservation in Collin County.

Leadership in Preservation Award**Awardee:**

City of Allen, Parks and Recreation Department- The City of Allen with the leadership and expertise of the Allen Parks and Recreation Department undertook the preservation of existing historic resources of Allen' Houston and Texas Central Railway Water Station and the development of signage about the area's history and landmarks along with hiking and biking trails to make the site accessible to the public. Elements of the project include the preservation of Allen's 1874 Old Stone Dam, pump house, water tower foundations, and construction of a destination bridge across the Cottonwood Creek. The 1874 stone dam is believed to be the only standing stone dam in Texas that was built specifically for supplying water to the railroad industry. The water station site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. A dedication and ribbon cutting, celebrating the completed project was held in Water Station Park on April 1, 2017.

Other Nominees:

Karen Chaney has served as writer and has been editor in chief of the Murphy Messenger for the last two years. The Murphy Messenger is mailed to 6,800 homes and businesses every two weeks, with another 500 copies distributed via newsstands throughout Murphy. The newspaper is free and the history of Murphy and Collin County is printed for all to read. Karen makes sure coverage is given about the programs and speakers of the Murphy Historical Society. In addition she has covered and written about the Collin County Historical Commission county marker dedications. Without her help, The Murphy Historical Society would receive little media coverage and citizens would not know about our history.

Lisa and Matt Crowder have not only created a new thriving business in downtown Farmersville, they have successfully rehabilitated a significant building and brought it back to life. The original business was a grocery in 1892. They purchased the building in June 2015, began working on the building in April of 2016, and completed the façade repairs, back wall replacement, and the first floor interior renovations by August, 2016. All of the interior work completed was sensitive to the historic nature of the building. This is a contributing building in the newly designated Farmersville Commercial National Register District. Their store, Simplexity, opened in September, 2016, which offers home furnishings, jewelry, clothing and antiques.

Lenard Terrell began work on the Dulaney Cottage in March, 2016, which has been in dire need of significant and highly skilled work. The daunting task did not sway Lenard from accepting the job. He replaced most windows on the house, and put in new flashing to prevent further water damage. Using salvaged wood when possible, he sealed around the house. Lenard has adjusted the stairs of the cottage which had shifted due to foundation issues. He also painted the exterior of the home in historically accurate paint showcasing the beauty of the 1870's cottage. The Collin County Heritage Guild was able to save over \$5,000 in labor. In addition to his expertise in carpentry and building, Lenard agreed to supervise students from the North Texas Job Corps, who are learning specific trades in construction business. He has proven to be a mentor and excellent teacher to the students who worked under him.

Living Legacy of Collin County Award

Awardee:

Joy Gough- To list her accomplishments as a citizen of Collin County who has significantly enriched our cultural heritage through a lifetime of dedicated service would require a book itself. Lolisa Laenger said "Joy has done so much for preservation in Collin County. I first knew her when she was cataloging the cemeteries and including the histories of the cemeteries in Collin County. She and Ned Hoover wrote a book on the Cemeteries of Collin County. When I was chair of the Collin County Historical Commission, I would call on her whenever I had a question or needed information on a cemetery." Also she put out the last Historical Markers book of Collin County. Annually Joy handles the Historical Commission's documentation for the Tax Abatement program for the county. The program provides an incentive for the restoration and preservation of historic landmarks and structures. Joy chairs the state maker committee for the commission. She verifies the information and helps the applicants with the documentation that is approved by the Collin County Historical Commission and is then submitted to the Texas Historical Commission. In addition Joy was heavily involved with the Historic Assets Survey with Loydell Seward who said, "She has probably served or assisted every committee on the commission." Candace said "I called her the cemetery lady for some time and have taken that title to a small degree with great honor as well, I treasure her calm demeanor and friendship. You will have to ask Joy to list all of her books but when asked she admitted to seven or eight." We are proud to call Joy our 2017 Collin County Living Legacy.

Other Nominees:

Elaine Bay and Patricia Nall are twin sisters who have dedicated time, manpower and artifacts since 2010 to the Heritage Guild. These inspiring ladies have led tours, volunteered as servers

for teas and luncheons and gardened extensively. They have also decorated homes at Chestnut Square for the annual Holiday Tours of Homes. The last six months of the year, the sisters average 32 hours a week volunteering their time at Chestnut Square. Chestnut Square covers 2 ½ acres of ground, creating endless landscape, lawn maintenance and gardening opportunities. Elaine and Patricia created a resource folder with native Texas plants, categorized by trees, shrubs, vines and flowers. It is not uncommon to see these tenacious ladies mowing the grounds on a hot August day. No project or task is too big for them.

Pat Rodgers has been an integral part of preserving and sharing the rich history of McKinney and Collin County by being involved with various community and historical organizations. She was an educator of special needs children for 35 years and served as a trainer for teachers with the Bureau of Indian Education for 12 years. During the last nine years she has been a member or officer on the Board of Directors for Heritage of Collin County and Collin County History Society and Museum. During her service with the Heritage Guild she was instrumental in writing and developing a trolley tour of the historic district and served as tour guide. Pat was also responsible for developing and presenting traveling trunk lessons about the Life in Collin County during the Civil War to 5th graders. During the programs she dressed in period costume and brought artifacts. For eight years Pat was responsible for selecting several of the homes of the Historic Holiday Tours of Homes in McKinney. In 2015 and 2016, she served on the Collin McKinney Coalition Committee the 250th Birthday of Collin McKinney and helped plan and execute museum exhibits. In 2017 Pat designed, developed, and set up The Collin County World War I Centennial Commemoration Exhibit. Thank you for your many countless years of service and your passion for history.

Young Visionaries Award

Awardee: Farmersville Boy Scout Troop 310 has been involved with the Audie Murphy Day Celebration in Farmersville for 18 years. In 2016 the scouts were involved as committee members and scout representation was at every meeting. The event honors over 200 local veterans and attracts many to town for the popular parade and free program. The scouts handle every hot and difficult task of the event- from outdoor seating, banner set up, and take down to indoor set up for the program. They assist Veterans as they load up on floats, make sure all visitors have plenty water and assist the VFW in placing American flags on Veterans graves. Boy Scout Troop 310 has taken ownership of the Prairie Grove Cemetery where Audie Murphy's mother is buried. Before Audie Murphy Day, the scouts brave the heat, snakes, and chiggers and clean the entire cemetery. Maps to the cemetery are provided at Audie Murphy Day for those visitors who want to pay their respects to Mrs. Murphy. There is no doubt that this event could not function without Troop 310.

Arwen Adams is a junior at Centennial High School in Frisco and this past July organized and conducted a day camp for girls ages kindergarten through 2nd grade. A day in the life of a Prairie Day camp was designed for the girls to have the opportunity to learn what a day on the prairie would be like for a girl of their age. The girls learned how to sew, make butter, wash clothes on a scrubbing board, and played games of the 1800's. The camp was conducted for two days with 20 girls with the Heritage Association of Frisco where Arwen has been volunteering since middle school. The camp was Arwen's project for her completion for her Girl Scout Gold Award which represents the highest achievement in Girl Scouting.

Autumn Beck started volunteering at Chestnut Square in 2013 when she was 13 years old. She can be found weekly at the information booth at farmers market where she provides information to customers, sells merchandise and assists with other market duties. In 2013 Autumn began volunteering at the

annual Killis Melton's Ice Cream Crank Off, with her mother to lead, organize, and manage children's activities. In 2014, she was volunteering during the summer to help with Prairie Adventure Camp, serving girls from age 5-12. Currently, Autumn is working on her Silver Girl Scout Award where she plans to create a 19th Century child size barn.