



SACHSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1

SPRING 2005

PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

KAREN REED

The annual meeting of the Sachse Historical Society was held on Sunday, April 17, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. The chapel of Smith Funeral home was the location of the business meeting and guest speaker, because it is across the street from the unfinished museum.

President Jeff Haupt reported on the progress of the museum construction. A colored rendering of the proposed final project was shown, as well as the breakdown of the building phases. As of the annual meeting, the roof and porch framing have been built, and new windows installed. Yet to be completed in Phase One are the installation of a copper-colored metal roof, some interior finishing, and iron fencing replicating the original fence around William Sachse's home. Phase Two will include gingerbread trim on the porch, a gazebo, and the shelter for Sachse's historic fire truck. Seeing the progress and plans take shape is very exciting for the members, who have had this vision for quite some time.

Lloyd Henderson, the first president of the group, described the founding of the historical society. He related recent history of the city of Sachse, including stories and anecdotes about the Chamber of Commerce caboose, chosen to link present-day Sachse to its history with the railroad. (continued on page 3)



Members & guests admire progress on the Sachse Museum construction.

SACHSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: SUE DILLARD

REPORTER: KAREN REED

SOURCE AND INSPIRATION:
SACHSE REMEMBERED
BY MARY ALLENE JONES

DISTRIBUTION: LOUISE CONANT

SUE'S EDITORIAL

In the excitement of seeing our 20th century building get a 21st century remodeling to resemble a 19th century building (are you still with me?), we must not forget that the building is only one element of growing the Sachse Historical Society. The most important element is people! Some of them are:

- 1) people of the past whose stories and belongings tell us who we are,
- 2) people of the present who take the trouble to contribute family treasures complete with the information that makes them historic,
- 3) people of the future who will benefit from our efforts.

The Texas Historical Commission teaches preservation workshops; the next one is June 20-23 in Austin. For the Sachse Historical Museum to be ready for its next phase, we need people and artifacts. Let us know how you want to participate.

Jeff Haupt 972-530-3049

Joe Stone 972-495 1231

Sue Dillard 973-475-3033

DALLAS COUNTY
PIONEER ASSOCIATION
RANDALL COOPER

An exciting event, celebrating the 150th anniversary of Dallas' La Reunion Colony, will be held on Thursday evening, June 16 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Exhibits, demonstrations, and hosts and guests dressed in pioneer costumes will honor the early days of Dallas history. It will be held at the Wilson House and adjoining park in the 2900 block of Swiss Avenue. All members are invited to attend and be recognized by the Master of Ceremonies, Bob Philllips (Country Reporter).

Activities will include music by Ye Merrie Olde Players, brick making, iron works, and games. Descendants of the early colonists will demonstrate some early crafts and trades. A short play by the Amateur Community Theater of Rowlett will re-enact the colonists' journey from the European homeland to Texas. It will be presented throughout the evening at the Wilson House.

La Reunion was established in 1855, on the banks of the Trinity River, by a number of French, Belgian, and Swiss families. Though the colony was not maintained, most of the families remained in the area and many Dallas streets and buildings bear their names.

Sachse Historical Society members who dress up and join the festivities may get ideas and inspiration to create a similar celebration when our new museum is dedicated!

"DESCENDENTS OF THE
EARLY COLONISTS WILL
DEMONSTRATE EARLY
CRAFTS AND TRADES."



PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE, CONTINUED

The final pleasure was adjourning to the museum-in-progress for refreshments, conversation, and photos. While builder Scott Williams of Williams Contracting and architect Bill Siebert explained their techniques for a museum that resembles William Sachse's decorative octagonal house, editor Patty Mantegna took pictures for Sachse's new newspaper.

The building project has been greatly aided by a generous donation honoring Jasper Newton Sachse, and Mayor Mike Felix presented some of that leader's descendants a monument to stand at the museum's entrance in his memory.



Historical Society President Jeff Haupt & Treasurer Joe Stone bracket founding families' Imogene Evans receiving the memorial plaque from Sachse Mayor Mike Felix.

2005-2006 SHS BOARD ELECTED

SUE DILLARD

- Two new members of the historical society were added to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting. They were Eileen McConnell and Chris Scourgie.
- As a former treasurer for Sachse Methodist Church, Eileen has kept records and artifacts relevant to that historic and recently departed building.
- Chris has lent his professional skills as an architect to the historical society in the past, and he has agreed to become active again. This help will be especially welcomed by the society when Bill Siebert moves.
- President Jeff Haupt and Treasurer Joe Stone will continue their leadership for another year, and Hazel Gregory will serve as secretary. Helen and J.C. Ledbetter will move to alternate member status, while Louise Conant, Karen Reed, Sue Dillard, and Eberhard Hermann will continue as active board members.

LEARN MORE ABOUT
SACHSE SITES IN
SACHSE REMEMBERED
FOR SALE FROM SHS
\$25.00



MOLLY BRAND GRISSOM

KAREN REED

Molly Brand Grissom, the last surviving grandchild of William Sachse, passed away on February 12, 2005; her funeral was February 15, 2005. Of the fourteen children of William Sachse, ten lived to adulthood and five spent their entire lives in the Sachse area: William Alfred, J.K., Jasper Newton, Missouri Ann, and Elisabeth Alabama. Elisabeth Alabama, Molly's mother, was William's youngest daughter.

Molly was born on October 20, 1913, to Alabama and her husband, Albert Rosco Brand, and she had eleven brothers and sisters. She was married almost fifty years to Jack K. Grissom, who died in 1981, and the Sachse legacy continues through her daughter and son-in-law, six grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. Molly Grissom was actively involved in community life. She worked at Southern Aircraft during World War II, then at Tiche's Department store, and Republic Bank in Garland. She was a lifelong member of the First Christian Church, and was also a member of the Ruth Mix Sunday school class, Garland Book Club, DWF Group, Mes Amies, and Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

*"ELIXABETH ALABAMA,
MOLLY'S MOTHER,
WAS WILLIAM
[SACHE]'S YOUNGEST
DAUGHTER."*