



PO Box 251, Salado, Texas 76571

[www.saladohistoricalsociety.com](http://www.saladohistoricalsociety.com)

**2nd Quarter Newsletter**

**June, 2022**

**OUR PURPOSE:** The Salado Historical Society is dedicated to researching and preserving the history of the area and of the families that helped build this community. Our mission is “To locate, educate, and preserve the history and the historical integrity of the Village of Salado.”

### **A Word From Our President - Bill Kinnison**

Salado Historical Society members: Do you think your Historical Society board has been idle these past months? We meet every month throughout the year because we have much to discuss and decide about the projects we will undertake. These projects involve the membership because we need help in completing them. The ones we are prioritizing now are:

1. A new path at the log cabins. The current one is uneven and difficult to walk on. We can do better.
2. The dry-stack wall on the east side of Center Circle. You probably don't know about this because it is not visible from the road. Trees and brush need to be cleared and the dry-stack wall repaired. You may be wondering about why we would want to undertake this project. Well, the wall was built around 1851-2, was by the Boles-Aiken cabin before it was moved and reconstructed in 1990-1, and is one of the earliest remaining structures in Salado before it was Salado.
3. Saving the old church building that sits beside the Dodd's Creek bridge is also a possible project. It was built about 1908 and served the Church of Christ. They have now offered it to the Historical Society. This would be a wonderful addition to our log cabins. There are many things we could use it for once moved and renovated. Needless to say, this is a major undertaking for us that

will take lots of planning and fund-raising. It could be the place where we tell the history of Salado in pictures and words.

These projects have NOT been approved by the board yet. They will be considered when we have examined the scope of the work for each and assessed the cost and benefits. We welcome your thoughts.

Bill

**The Center Circle dry-stack wall and old church building.**



SALADO, DEC., 25, 1883.

BRO. BURNETT:—I am an old Texan. If I live to see next April I will have lived in Texas fifty years. My father brought me to Texas in 1834 when this great state belonged to the government of Mexico. At that time it was a violation of the law for a protestant to preach the gospel. I have but little education for we had no schools for several years after we came to Texas. I grew up as other poor boys, like the wild weeds of the prairie, without cultivation. My father made no pretensions to Christianity, but I must say to his credit that he was a constant Bible reader, and encouraged me to read the Bible, which I did, but not understandingly, until I heard old Bro. A. Newman preach the gospel in 1852; which learned me how to rightly divide the word of truth. After carefully reading the Bible, and hearing several of our preachers preach, I obeyed the gospel in 1856. In 1859 I was set apart as one of the elders of the congregation to which belonged. I commenced teaching the brethren and preaching to the world in my poor way in 1861.

I was ordained an evangelist by fasting, prayer and the laying on of hands by the eldership, Bro. C. Kendrick, officiating with others. Bros. D. Pennington, I. N. McFate and I. L. Dykes were ordained at the same times. Since that time I have been preaching the best I could, and as much as I could, and I can say with considerable success. I have immersed I cannot say how many but can compare favorable with my colaborers; have organized quite a number of congregations and set in order others in this county, and other counties. I have gathered into the church in co-operation with others over fifty this year, I can say as the apostle Paul I coveted no man's silver or gold, or apparel—these hands have ministered to my necessities, and to others. I have never received or claimed a cent for my poor labors, and never expect to as long as I keep my mind and physical strength.

I have many other things to say if I can set them forth in such a way as to be worth publishing in your valuable and worthy paper.

W. K. HAMBLÉN.

### In His Own Words...

William Kroger Hamblen died in 1902 but he is well known in Salado history. In the latter years of his life he became a minister. In the letter shown here, we have the rare opportunity to read about that event in William's own words. This article is reproduced as it appeared in the *Christian Messenger* on January 9, 1884. (Source: Portal to Texas History)

**SALADO.** A village on river of the same name, in Bell county, 73 miles north-east of Austin, and 9 southwest of Belton, the county seat, nearest railroad station and banking point. It contains 7 churches and 5 schools, a steam grist mill, 3 cotton gins, grist mills and cotton gins operated by power obtained from Salado river, and a number of stores. Shipments, cotton, corn, wool and hides. Stages daily to Belton; fare, 75 cents. Population, 700. Mail, daily. T. F. Rampy, postmaster.

Adkins A V, general store.  
Bank W A, teacher.  
Bryant C A, teacher.  
Buckels E R A, hotel propr.  
Burgess W H, justice of peace.  
Cook Miss M G, music teacher.  
Cox Dr M T, druggist.  
Davis J M G, grocer.  
Davis L H, teacher.  
Davis W A, grist mill.  
Debler Mrs Kate, music teacher.  
Dupree G H, livery.  
Dupree H G, blacksmith.  
Foard L D, boots and shoes.  
Griffith Bros, grocers.  
Griffith D, meat market.  
Guthrie A M, general store.  
Holley Miss Emma, teacher.  
Lewis A, boots and shoes.  
Lyles & Co, grocers.  
**Rampy T F, General Store.**  
Riggs J W, constable.  
Salado Co-operative Assn, general store.  
Sherman Mrs S E, teacher.  
Smith H C, cotton gin.  
**Steger J O, Druggist.**  
Stratton Mrs R, hotel propr.  
Thomason J W, furniture.  
Vernon Bros, blacksmiths.  
Vickey G N & Co, general store.  
Wood John, barber.

Salado College was an important part of Salado's commerce in the early years. Notice how many teachers are shown in this listing of Salado "businesses" as published in a Texas business directory in 1884.



We have lost a dear friend and true advocate for local history. Doris Kemp departed this earth June 2, and will be sorely missed in many circles. Salado Historical Society has voted to make a contribution in her memory to the Kemp Family Endowment Scholarship at UMHB.

**Doris R. Kemp 1927-2022**

## **Fourth of July Celebration**

**The Historical Society invites you to join us for our annual Fourth of July celebration at the high school on Monday, the fourth, at noon.**

**We will supply fried chicken and tea, please bring a complimentary dish.**