

FREESTONE COUNTY
HISTORICAL MUSEUM

P.O. Box 524
302 E. Main
Fairfield, Texas 75840
903-389-3738

HOURS:
Wed, Fri, Sat
10 am to 5 pm

FCHM 2022 Winter

JAN 18, 2022

1881 Jail Open Once Again



If you weren't able to attend our open house on Oct. 2, you need to stop by and take a tour of the old jail.

Our community turned out in large numbers that day in support of their local museum and "hidden gem".

The building is celebrating 140 years of service: a jail till 1914, apartments till 1966, main museum till 2007; and now it is once again back to its original form as a jail complete with sheriff quarters.

Cutting the ribbon are board members, Don Awalt, Sherrie Minze, Nancy Rula, Leslie Tate, Linda Mullen, Curator Patricia Pratt, board members Brad & Diane Pullin.

It was an action packed day with the Old West Chronicles (J. D. and Christy Fox—Historical Re-enactments) performing a John Wesley Hardin Skit. The museum is very grateful for their participation; as well as to our emcee, Buzz Russell, speakers, Sheriff Jeremy Shipley, Mayor Kenneth Hughes, and musician Reverend Andrew Weitner—playing The Star Spangled Banner.

There has been much confusion through the years whether or not John Wesley Hardin actually spent a night in the old jail or not. One of the goals this year will be to have the jail historical marker corrected. The marker currently contains information about the 1857 jail which was located on the same site. Its foundations were uncovered when the chimney was added to the Carter Cabin in 1977. It is possible that J.W. Hardin may have spent the night in this much older jail. But the story still remains mostly legend.

An interesting Hardin family fact is that the 1850 sheriff of Limestone (pre-division Freestone) County was Emanuel Clements, Sr., whose wife was Martha Balch Hardin, Aunt of John Wesley Hardin. Emanuel was also the first county clerk of Freestone County in 1851, while his brother, William Clements was the first sheriff of Freestone County (1851-52). William shows up on the same 1850 census page as Daniel Potter of the Potter-Watson Cabin.



Ever heard of the Clements Gang? History seems to indicate that the Emanuel Clements children and the Hardin children, being first cousins, ran in some of the same circles together. By 1860 they had removed to Gonzales County.

MUCH THANKS also goes to Jodie Peterson "Sweet Assemblies" and Desserts by Momma Cakes for supplying cookies for our open house!



2022 Sponsorship Renewal Time

It is time to renew your museum sponsorship for the coming year. Our sponsorship program, formerly known as membership, helps the museum with unexpected costs that come to us during the year. Please return the attached sponsorship form at your convenience or you may now also donate online through our website homepage "Donate" button.

These donations go a long way to help us with special projects incurred with our eight building complex. Various levels range from a PIONEER individual level of \$15 to a VAL VERDE Corporate Sponsor level of \$1,000. **Our goal this year is to obtain 100 sponsors!**

Our cabins will need work this year and we have a long term goal of giving the metal building a pioneered themed fire house front.

Donations may now be made ONLINE through our website homepage "DONATE" button!

Congratulation to Nancy Rula Once Again!

Her book, *The Year of 1890 in Freestone County* won 2nd place and a \$100 prize in the Texas State Genealogy Book Contest, Category VII: Books Published by Partner Societies.

Congratulation to our Fire Truck

She participated in both the Christmas parade and also Christmas at the Park., winning 2nd place in the city Christmas Parade!

Jazz Arthur Visits Museum

Dr. Robert Pallitto, Professor of Political Science at Seton Hall University of South Orange, New Jersey, visited the museum this fall. Board Member, Don Awalt and wife, Mary, along with Curator, Patricia Pratt, assisted him with his research of Freestone County native, Kenny Dorham, one of America's great Jazz trumpeters and composers. Dr. Pallitto's book is to be titled: 'Whistle Stop: An American Journey' which is inspired by Kenny Dorham's 1961 album of the same name.

Hopefully in the near future we will be able to show off this book. (photo compliments of Mary Awalt)



Your Antioch Family Books (Turlington) are now in stock again!

Freestone County Historical Commission

The FCHC meets the 1st Tuesday of every quarter, usually at the Moody Bradley House. **The next meeting will be April 5, at 7:00 pm at Stewards Mill Church.**

FREESTONE COUNTY MUSEUM BOARD

Linda Mullen - President
Brad Pullin - Vice President
Nancy Rula - Secretary
Leslie Tate - Treasurer
Patricia Pratt - Curator

Don Awalt
Sherrie Minze
Muriel Morton
Diane Pullin
Ralph Billings—Consultant

EMAIL: freestonecomuseum@windstream.net

www.freestonecomuseum.com



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Become a **FREESTONE FRIEND** today by giving a generous tax deductible gift!

The FCHM Board is pleased to announce a sponsorship program called **FREESTONE FRIENDS**. The museum depends on your local support, along with the city and county support, to keep the doors open. It is very expensive to maintain eight buildings. Yes, with the enclosing of the fire house building, we now have eight buildings on our campus.

Our patrons are what make the Freestone County Museum one of the better small town museums in existence; not just in Texas, but across the nation. How long has it been since you stopped by for a visit or brought your friends and family to come see your local county treasure? They will be amazed. Our visitors make it all worthwhile.

*Your sponsorship is important to maintain **YOUR LOCAL** museum!*

- ☐ **PIONEER Level: \$15 donation**
—earns one individual free admission to the museum for 1 year, plus newsletter subscription
- ☐ **KEECHI Level: \$25 donation**
—earns you and your family free admission to the museum for 1 year, plus newsletter subscription
- ☐ **TEHUACANA Level: \$100 donation**
—all of the above plus a free book: *Two Stars in the Southern Sky*
- ☐ **TRINITY Level: \$200 donation/ individual or corporate**
—all of the above plus a free book: *Freestone County History Volume II*
(Spot on the FCHM Website Sponsors page for corporate donation)
- ☐ **W.L. MOODY Level: \$500 corporate donation**
—earns free admission, newsletter, and FCHM afghan and a spot on the FCHM Website Sponsors page
- ☐ **VALVERDE Level: \$1000 corporate donation**
—earns free admission, newsletter, and FCHM afghan and a spot on the FCHM Website Sponsors page

MEMORIALS: A gift to the museum given in lieu of flowers is a gift that lives forever. Cards will be sent announcing your gift. Given in memory of: _____

Send acknowledgment to: _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ DATE _____

☐

CHECK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Return form to the above address.

AMOUNT _____ CHECK _____

1.13.2021

*Thank you so very much for being a **FREESTONE FRIEND**!*

Donations may now be made ONLINE through our website homepage “DONATE” button!

ORDER SHEET: From our Museum Library and Gift Shop

QUANTITY	ITEM	PRICE	S & H	TOTAL
_____	The Year of 1890 in Freestone County By Nancy Rula	\$65.00	\$10.00	_____
_____	Freestone Past And Present By J. R. "Sonny" Sessions, Jr.	\$75.00	\$10.00	_____
_____	Freestone County Historical Museum Celebrates 50 Years & Beyond , By Linda Mullen	\$15.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	"The Boll Weevil" Railroad Book Teague Chronicle by Nancy Rula	\$25.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Fairfield Recorder Obits 1900-1905 Book 1 by Nancy Rula	\$20.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Fairfield Recorder Obits 1906-1910 Book 2 by Nancy Rula	\$25.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Freestone County History Book-Vol 1	\$90.00	\$10.00	_____
_____	Freestone County History Book-Vol 2	\$35.00	\$10.00	_____
_____	Two Stars in the Southern Sky: General John Gregg, CSA & Mollie by Davis Carter	\$25.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Fryers Delight by Barbara (Fryer) Price	\$25.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Queen of the Trinity Star by B. Price	\$15.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	The Kirvin Centennial (1906-2006) (only a few copies left)	\$10.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	The History of Streetman (1906-2006) (make checks to Streetman Historical Society, Inc.)	\$45.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Freestone County Afghan	\$50.00	\$8.00	_____
_____	Your Antioch Family:A History of Antioch Church, Cemetery & Turlington Community - 2012 (make checks to Antioch Cemetery Association)	\$60.00	\$10.00	_____

GRAND TOTAL : _____

**SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO: Freestone County Historical Museum,
P.O. BOX 524, FAIRFIELD, TX 75840**

CUSTOMER NAME: _____

ADDRESS _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

EMAIL _____ **Check box to sign up for newsletter**

DATE: _____ **CASH** _____ **CHECK** _____ **Questions call: 903-389-3738**