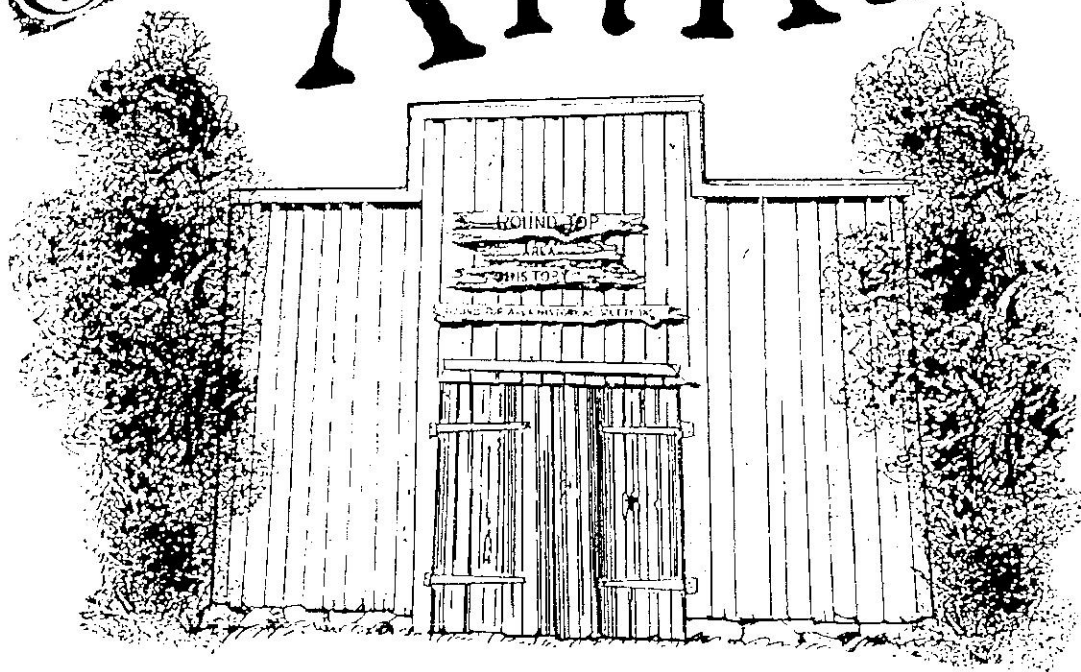


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Artifacts



ROUND TOP
Historical
Cultural
Quaint
Unique
Patriotic

Vol. 10

2003



ROUND TOP AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.



JOIN A HISTORICAL SOCIETY???

Why does one join a historical society? For some it is the conduit wherein the expression of belonging to and supporting a community can be channeled. For others it is the innate sense of preservation that moves them. And, for others still, it is the profound knowledge that action today is the only means whereby our history of yesterday will be recorded and catalogued for tomorrow's generations.

For these reasons the members of Round Top Area Historical Society continue their patronage year after year. They know that no matter how little their contribution seems it takes many to sustain the existence of the society.

The true measure of the success of the society can be found in the spirit of its membership. There are those that contribute financially by remembering their commitment, making donations and remembering others with memorials. And, there are those who give of their time freely, hoping to leave a legacy for Round Top. It is this group, the volunteers, upon whom we depend. Without them there would be no historical society. They are to be commended.

For a person to step forward by becoming a member he or she demonstrates a willingness to accept the responsibility of citizenship. That person is asking for the opportunity to help in doing something for the community. He or she is usually a person who can find excellence in the midst of failure, is respectful to all, is positive in actions and words and is enthusiastic, imaginative, realistic, optimistic.

By Herbert L. Diers
Facts & Artifacts newsletter editor 1994-2003

OUR FIRST 10 YEARS: 1993-2003

1993 ★ The Society was founded by citizens of Round Top and nine members were chosen for the Board of Directors because of their interest in preserving the history of the Round Top area.

The land and the building to be used as the home of the Round Top Area Historical Society was graciously gifted by Lillian Kroll Thomas and Ruby Kroll on January 29, 1993. It was deeded to the Town of Round Top for the specific purpose of being used as the historical center.

The Society by-laws were approved by the Board of Directors on Feb. 23rd. The Mayor of Round Top and the Town Historian are members of the Board of Directors as per the by-laws.

The Society was incorporated May 3rd, Charter No. 01269568.

Application to the I.R.S. for Not-For-Profit tax-exempt status was temporarily approved on May 10th.

1994 ★ Total renovation of the historical center was begun in February.

The first issue of the Round Top Area Historical Society newsletter, *Facts & Artifacts*, was published in the Spring. Editor: Herb Diers.

Donations, artifacts, historical memorabilia, etc. were solicited. Displays were prepared to present to the public a semblance of the Round Top area history.

An "open house" was held on May 7th with all the community invited.

Renovation of the historical center was completed in November.

November 19th: First day open to the public.

The first amendment to our by-laws was approved in September. It added another category called "Honorary Membership" in Article III. The Board of Directors has the authority to bestow this special honor by a two-thirds vote.

1995 ★ The Society's first large scale fund raiser held on February 18th and 19th was a tremendous success. Labeled as a "Community Garage Sale" it received participation from almost all of Round Top's citizens.

The Grand Opening of the historical center was held May 6th. This grand occasion was the forum for presenting the plaque dedicating the building and land generously gifted by Lillian Kroll Thomas and Ruby Kroll. Mayor Dave Nagel thanked Lillian and Ruby on behalf of the Town of Round Top and unveiled the plaque which bears the inscription: *This building and land, a generous gift from Lillian Kroll Thomas and Ruby Kroll, was accepted by the Town of Round Top for the express purpose of housing the Round Top Area Historical Society, Inc. Their gift is gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated by all with an interest in preserving our history.*

1995 was the 125th year of Round Top's incorporation. This milestone was celebrated by all of Round Top's citizens and friends on September 30th. A special exhibition was on display at the historical center entitled:

ROUND TOP: THE FIRST 125 YEARS

A retrospective commemorating the 125th anniversary of the
incorporation of the Town of Round Top

1996 ★The second annual "Community Garage Sale" took place on Feb. 17th & 18th and it was very successful with large donations and terrific community response. As the community interest grows in preserving its history, a larger facility will be needed. The community was fortunate in having the beneficence of its citizens to enjoy a great beginning. Immense funds will be needed to increase land space and building capacity.

Additional land acquisition was approved by the Board of Directors and 1,441 square feet of land was purchased by the Society adjoining the current facility to the east.

An add-on to the rear of the historical center of 460 square feet was completed. This space will afford more room for office and storage.

The Pioneer Arts Foundation sponsored Round Top's first "Arts Festival" in November. The Society participated by having a hot dog and nacho stand as a fund raiser.

1997 ★The third annual "Community Garage Sale" was held Feb. 15th & 16th. It was very successful with all of Round Top and friends of Round Top donating and buying. The Society was especially grateful for the matching fund received from Lutheran Brotherhood

The Texas Historical Foundation through the Jeanne R. Blocker Memorial Fund provided a \$1,000 grant for the floor and roof restoration.

A new concrete floor and a new insulated metal roof were installed.

A photocopier and a computer were purchased to handle the Society business more efficiently. Both were used, but in very good condition.

The Society participated in the second annual Arts Festival by having a hot dog and nacho stand as a fund raiser.

1998 ★The fourth annual "Community Garage Sale" was held Feb. 14th & 15th. The outpouring of donations and purchases again exceeded the year before.

Two new bookshelves and a lighted display case were purchased. The interior walls and the restroom were completed. The Internal Revenue Service approved our permanent status as a tax-exempt Not-For-Profit organization.

The flagpole donated by the Town of Round Top was installed along with a plaque commending past mayor Don Nagel and historian John Banik for their many years of faithful service to our town.

Pat Wood donated one acre of land for the use and benefit of the Round Top Area Historical Society. It is situated at 397 E. Mill Street directly behind the Round Top Post Office. Also, an easement for ingress and egress to this one acre was granted.

The by-laws were changed regarding board members. Article IV changed by reducing the number of board members from nine to six and a board member may serve three consecutive terms of three years each instead of two terms.

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Round Top issued a proclamation commemorating the year 1998 as the 150th (Sesquicentennial) Year since Round Top began. The Round Top Area Historical Society promulgated the proclamation.

The Society sponsored and produced the first Christmas Tour of Homes and Historic Places for Round Top. Homes and places on the tour: Fricke-Cies House, Hoffmann-Wood House, Umland-Diers House, Schiege-Johnston House, Colonel Moore's Fort, Bethlehem Lutheran Church and the Round Top Area Historical Society Center.

1999 ★The fifth annual "Community Garage Sale" was held on Feb. 13th & 14th. Again, many donations and purchases from Round Top citizens and friends resulted in a very successful fundraiser.

The Society sponsored and produced the second annual Christmas Tour of Homes and Historic Places. Homes and places on tour were: The Historical Center, General Store, Etzel-Tubbs House, Maddock House, Joh-Kahn Log Cabin, Bethlehem Lutheran Church

The Bodo Kraus house was donated to the Society by the Kraus Estate and situated on the Wood Annex behind the post office. Restoration on it will begin next year.

The Society is in discussion with interested parties with the idea of moving the Connersville Baptist Church building to the Wood Annex. It now is located next to the Richter Cemetery on FM 1457. Approval from the town council is being sought in light of the new Land Use and Architectural Controls for the Town of Round Top.

Round Top's new post office was dedicated 4-22-99. A framed copy of the Sesquicentennial Proclamation was presented by Mayor Dave Nagel and it now hangs in the post office. The Round Top Area Historical Society is credited with promulgating the proclamation.

2000 ★The sixth annual "Community Garage Sale" was held on Feb. 19th & 20th. As in the previous years the participation, both in donations and buying, was tremendous resulting in a very successful event.

The Society sponsored and produced the third annual Christmas Tour of Homes & Historic Places on Dec. 2nd. Homes and places on tour were: The Historical Center, Huth House, Sharon Green Baker House, Winklemann-Travis House, Tillman House, Bethlehem Lutheran Church

The Kraus Haus now situated on the Wood Annex has undergone complete restoration.....new roof.... new windows, etc.

The Town of Round Top has approved the request to move the Connersville Baptist Church onto the Wood Annex.

Major donations during the year: Pat Wood gifted an additional .248 acre of land to the Wood Annex, Leon & Dot Twiford donated an old printing press, Lydell & Gary Brown donated Johann Traugott Wandke's wooden woodworking lathe he brought from Germany in 1855.

2001 ★The seventh annual "Community Garage Sale" was held on Feb. 17th & 18th. This social and fun fundraising event continues its success with everyone in Round Top participating. A wonderful outpouring of donations were collected and almost all were sold. Another great success!

This was the fourth year for the Christmas Tour of Homes & Historic Places held on Dec. 1st. Another very successful event sponsored by the Society. Homes and places on tour were: The Historical Center, Wolf House, Wolff-Rather House, Kraus Haus, Joseph George Wagner Haus, Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

A fifth category was added to our by-laws in Article III-Membership, "Lifetime Member - \$1,000". It is a single dues payment of \$1,000. If a membership includes a spouse, it is for the lifetime of both.

Major donations during the year: The Kraus Estate donated additional personal items to be displayed in the Kraus Haus, The Do Your Duty Club donated \$5,000 for the furtherance of preserving Round Top history, David & Mary Collins donated \$2,500 toward the moving and restoration of the Connersville Baptist Church.

Work continues on the improvement of the ground, parking space, trails and other amenities for the Wood Annex. Two live oak trees were planted. A water meter was installed. Moving the Connersville Baptist Church and building a pavilion on the annex are items under consideration.

A brochure depicting a brief history of Round Top as well as describing the beginning of the Round Top Area Historical Society was produced during the year. It is also a solicitation for membership in the Society.

2002 ★The eighth annual "Community Garage Sale" was held this February 16 & 17th in the Round Top Town Hall. It was another great success.

The fifth annual Christmas Tour of Homes & Historic Places was held December 7. Homes and places on tour: The Round Top Area Historical Society center, Knutzen Haus, Log Cabin on Bybee Lane, Rummel Haus, Hornberger House, Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Work continues on the Wood Annex in shaping and building the padsites for the future pavilion and the Connersville Baptist Church. Connersville Baptist Church will be the new museum for African-American history in and around Round Top.

The John F. & Helena Knutzen Haus has been donated by Douglas Knutzen. It is an early Texas farmhouse built in the latter 1800's. The Knutzens reared a family of seven children, four boys and three girls, in this house.

The 1905 Fire Pumper has been donated to the Society by the Round Top-Warrenton Fire Department. It has been accepted by the Society and is planned for display.

Changes to the by-laws: Amendment III now states that a director may not be elected to succeed himself/herself if such director has served four consecutive three-year terms. Also, Article V changed such that each person shall serve one-year terms unless re-elected but shall not serve more than four consecutive one-year terms.

2003 ★The ninth annual "Community Garage Sale" was held February 15 & 16th in the Round Top Town Hall. This exciting event has become an exceptional fundraiser for the Society. This year was the most successful ever.

The sixth annual Christmas Tour of Homes & Historic Places is planned for Saturday December 6th. Tickets will be sold in advance in hopes to boost the success of the event. Ticket holders will be entered in a raffle

The Connersville Baptist Church was moved to the Wood Annex this spring. A grant application was submitted to LCRA on September 30th. Renovation of the building is planned for the upcoming year. David Collins has worked diligently on achieving this milestone for the Society. The grant proposal was prepared by PTI, Inc.

An 1880's log cabin was gifted by Reese & Darla Schmidt and was moved to the Wood Annex for restoration.

The 1905 Fire Pumper was displayed on the Fourth of July.

The Knutzen Haus was moved by Douglas Knutzen to his farm for family restoration.

The Society purchased a new copy machine and a steel shipping container to store garage sales items throughout the year.

David Collins donated a new computer.

The society by-laws were changed regarding the number of board members. The board of directors shall consist of eleven individuals to serve four three-year terms. This is now Amendment VI to the by-laws. Article IV was changed which now states that the Board of Directors shall consist of eleven individuals. This is now Amendment VII to the by-laws.

New members of the board: Michael Cies, Rose Diers, Frances Harris, and Peggy Warnock. Ruth Menking took the place of Herb Diers as secretary after his passing in April.

New Historical Center hours: Friday and Saturday 12-3pm.

Up on the rooftop, reindeer pause,
Out jumps good old Santa Claus.
Down through the chimney with lots of toys,
All for the little ones, girls and boys.

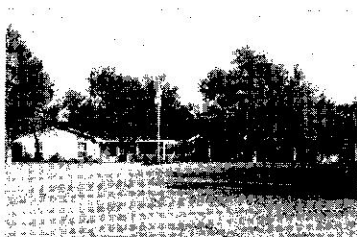
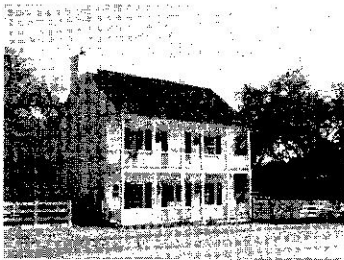
Ho ho ho. Who wouldn't go.
Ho ho ho. Who wouldn't go.
Up on the rooftop, click, click, click.
Down through the chimney with old Saint Nick.

Unless you're Santa, it will be almost impossible to get to see all the homes and historic places that make Round Top so special. But, there is one way to see many of the homes and places in Round Top that include both the old and the new.

come join us for the 6th annual

Round Top Christmas Tour of Homes & Historic Places December 6, 2003 1-5pm

The idea was founded by a member of the Historical Society six years ago in 1998. Sponsored as a benefit for the Round Top Area Historical Society, this self-guided tour has opened many of the beautiful homes and places to the public for just one afternoon in December. Every year the tour includes a different set of homes for an inside glimpse into the current and historical life of Round Top. The written tour guide gives the history of each home and historical place. For those that come back year after year, maybe they will eventually catch up with Santa.



The Round Top Area Historical Society

Membership 2003

Honorary

Lillian Kroll Thomas
Ruby Kroll
Patricia Wood

Lifetime

Herb & Rose Diers
Marcia Hayslip
Gladys Krause
Alfred Jr. & Ruby Wagner
Foundation

Patron

David & Mary Collins
Frank & Kathy Johnston
Mary Belle Rogers
John & Collen Smelley

Contributing

Charlie & Jackie Anderson
Bill & Louise Anzalone
Dr. Henry, Jr. & Teddy Boehm
John & Martha Crowe
James Dick
Stephen & Rebecca Drake
Jack & Ruth Elvig
Burgess & Frances Etzel
John & Diane Grace
Frances Harris
David & Ora Keetley
Arno W. Krebs, Jr.
Gene & Deloise McGill
Herb & Jerre Paseur
Pamela Rafferty
Jerry & Suzanne Sacks
Georgia Tubbs
Emma Lee Turney
Wayne & Pearlle Wagner
Herman Weigelt
Ruby Schneider

Business Friend

Brands Brangus Ranch
Round Top Mercantile Co.
Round Top Service Station
Round Top State Bank
Sharon Baker Design

Friend

Paul & Betsy Ache
Jerry & Lynda Adams
Ed & Edith Ahlrich
Barnell & Laverne Albers
Gerry & Beth Anderson
Billye Beth Baker
Annie Banik
Gwen Barclay
Charles & Marguerite Barnes
Larry & Karen Beevers
Larry Birkelbach
Charles & Joy Blake
Delmus Brau
Jeanette Burger
John & Elaine Burkhardt
Michael & Penny Cies
Rose Cyrene Crain
Luther & Ruth Crouch
Erik & Kelli Diers
Wilma Eckerman
Burgess Etzel, Jr.
Dottie Jean Etzel
Edgar & Essie Lee Fricke
Evelyn Fricke
Lila Garlin
Olie & Inez Gebhard
Nola Goehring
Gene & Marlyce Goolsby
Fay Graeber
Lee Roy & Hulda Graf
Cecil Green
Janice Haglund
Doris Graeter Hannes
Harry & Betsy Harwood
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Hendrix
Tim & Gloria Hickey
Madalene Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.
Ida Bess Howes
Thomas P. Jacomini
Lisa Kahn
James & Janet Kepner
Marjorie Klar
J.C. Kline
Shirley Knopp
Raymond & Verlie Kuretsch
Bob & Maxine Lain
Curtis & Mary Leitko

Edgar & Loretta Leonhardt
Cordell & Corine Levien
Ora Lee Levien
Audrey M. Mallette
Oral Markwardt
Kathryn Mayfield
Butler & Barbara McCauley
Gene & Ruth Menking
Elmer & Margaret Milz
H.A. Albert Napier, Ph.D
Oscar L. Newton, Jr.
Rose Nicholas
Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Noak
Jason & Natalie Peine
Frances Pittman
Eunice Quade
Frank & Jean Raymond
Charles & Bernice Reed
Thomas & Dorothy Rothermel
Mr. & Mrs. R. H. Rowe
Jack & Rosemary Rumbley
Delia Sacks
Tony & Kay Scanapico
Alien Schumann
Barbara Smith
Jay F. & Jacqueline Smyre
Julianne Givens Speer
Stephen & Cristin Swope
Kyle & Susan Tillman
Leon Twiford
Judy Birkelbach Van Zandt
Dr. & Mrs. Ken Vincent
Oliver & Virginia Wagner
Maxine Weinert
Curt & Jamie Warnock
Wayne & Peggy Warnock
Roy & Susan Weyand
Dr. M.C. & Barbara Williams
Winedale Historical Center
Richard Zansitis

Please notify the editor of any changes or corrections. Thanks!

Memorials

CAROLYN KILGORE

Herman Weigelt
Dottie Jean Etzel

ROBERT BANIK

Dottie Jean Etzel
Burgess & Vernell Etzel
Eunice Quade
Georgia Tubbs
Gene & Deloise McGill

EDNA LANGE

Dottie Jean Etzel

DAVE NAGEL

Gene & Tom Hopkins

HERB DIERS

Natalie Wubbenhorst
Dottie Jean Etzel
Nina Peine
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Sales
Barnell & Laverne Albers
Kathryn W. Mayfield
Merton & Kathryn Schulze
Suzanne & Jerry Sacks
Jerry & JoAnna Rudolph
Georgia Tubbs
Scotty Lynch
Annie L. Banik
Evelyn Fricke
Joyce M. S. B. Harlow
Robert & Louise McDonald
Round Top Rifle Association
Carl Paul & Laverne Jaehne
Emily A. Ritter
Lorayne Curtis
Conrad G. Walton
Roy & Susan Weyand
& family
Sharon Baker
Harry & Mary Nell Benson
Gerry & Beth Anderson

CLIFTON ETZEL

Eunice Quade
Georgia Tubbs
Dottie Jean Etzel
Gene & Deloise McGill
Burgess & Vernell Etzel

CHARLES REEVES

Dottie Jean Etzel
Gene & Deloise McGill
Georgia Tubbs
Herman Weigelt

DORA MENKING

Georgia Tubbs

Pam & Red Schoenst
Gene & Deloise McGill
Herman Weigelt
Doris Hannes
Neal A. & Charlene Onstot
Ralph & Melinda Dunk
Bob & Maxine Lain
Jennifer & Chris Parr
Curt & Jamie Warnock
Texas Pioneer Arts Foundation
Peggy & Wayne Warnock
William & Cynthia Koch
Tommy & Bernice Dorsey
Yvonne L. Treacy
Lillian Thomas
Ruby Kroll
Ruth & Luther N. Crouch, Jr.
Clara L. Ritter
Norma J. & Lewis C. Davis
The Klump's
P. J. Hornberger
Pat Wood
Frances Harris
Natalie & Jason Peine
Kelli & Erik Diers

LEROY LEVIEN

Eunice Quade
Georgia Tubbs

ORAL MARKWARDT

Georgia Tubbs
Tiney Markwardt
Marvin, Betty & Lance Dallmeyer
Russell & Hope Dallmeyer
& family
Steven & Lucy Markwardt
Patrick & Stacy Markwardt

LUCILLE TEAGUE

Herb & Rose Diers

ROUND TOP AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Georgia Tubbs President
Dottie Etzel 1st VP
Gene Menking 2nd VP
Deloise McGill Treasurer

Michael Cies
David Collins
Rose Diers
Burgess Etzel
Frances Harris
Carol Nagel
Peggy Warnock

Ruth Menking Secretary

PURPOSE:

- ★Revisualize the history of Texas and especially the Round Top area.
- ★Collect and preserve the facts and artifacts of history.
- ★Illustrate the story of the area by means of exhibits that reflect the early life of the people.
- ★ Extend and disseminate knowledge of our history in the belief that it will encourage and promote patriotism and friendship among all people.

MEMBERSHIP:

Any person, firm, or corporation can request membership with any of the following commitment levels:

FRIEND.....\$25 Annually
BUSINESS FRIEND\$75 & Above
Annually
CONTRIBUTING...\$100-\$249
Annually
PATRON.....\$250 & Above
Annually
LIFETIME.....\$1000 one-time

Donations and Memorials
graciously accepted.

Historical Center:
(979) 249-5058

For Information:
(979) 429-3042
RTAHSI@yahoo.com

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AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
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A NOT-FOR-PROFIT AND
INCORPORATED SOCIETY
UNDER THE LAWS OF TEXAS.
EDITOR: NATALIE DIERS PEINE
SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$4/YEAR
FREE TO MEMBERS.

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NEWS & UPDATES

New members of the Board are Michael Cies, Rose Diers, Frances Harris, and Peggy Warnock

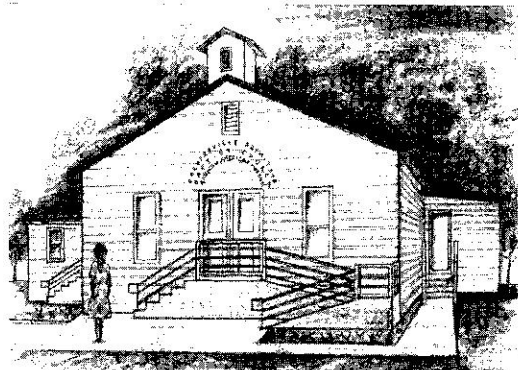
Our by-laws were changed to allow for eleven individuals to serve for four three-year terms on the Board of Directors

Historical Center hours are now Fridays and Saturdays 12-3pm. Spread the word!

Progress on the Connersville Baptist Church project is under way. This spring the church was moved to the Wood Annex. A grant application was submitted to the LCRA on September 30, 2003. Plans to begin renovation are set for the upcoming year.



The Connersville Baptist Church as it stands
today at the Wood Annex in Round Top



The proposed Connersville Baptist Church

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

The sixth annual **Christmas Tour of Homes & Historic Places** is scheduled to begin at 1:00 on December 6th. Buy your ticket in advance from any Round Top Area Historical Society Board member and get entered into our Christmas Raffle!

The tenth annual **Community Garage Sale** is scheduled to take place on February 14 & 15th, 2004. Please take advantage of our new storage container and begin gathering all your garage sale items for the big sale. We plan to fill the town hall with all the donated treasures. Dates for bringing in items will soon be announced!

A Note From Your New Editor:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be your newsletter editor. As most of you already know, I have been presented with a very hard act to follow. Not only was the prior editor "my Dad" but he was your historian. His love of historical facts and information was, in itself, an amazing thing to bear witness to. His favorite place to unleash his history knowledge was on his porch in Round Top. Hot coffee in hand, seated in his regular porch chair, he was raring to go...and, if you were one of the fortunate souls that got the chance to sit, listen, and learn...you know what I mean. He could tell you stories about Texas history that made you feel like you had almost slipped back in time. But, then you'd come back to reality and feel so thankful to be living today. The hardships and battles that our ancestors overcame, yet had to bear, almost do not seem possible in today's day in time. Time spent on the porch with Dad was golden, which somehow I always knew.

If you have any historical works or facts or interesting tidbits that you would like to see published in upcoming newsletters, please do not hesitate to send. Your comments, ideas, and suggestions are always welcome.
Natalie Diers Peine
RTAHSI@yahoo.com

Get your tickets early for the

6th annual

Christmas Tour of Homes & Historic Places

sponsored by the Round Top Area Historical Society, Inc.

Saturday, December 6, 2003

1- 5pm

See any board member to purchase \$7 ticket in advance.

Each donation ticket enters your name in the holiday Christmas raffle for December 6th.

Raffle items include:

Christmas Wreath designed by Houston's designer June Mitchell

donated by Rose Diers

Gingerbread House

donated by Peggy and Wayne Warnock

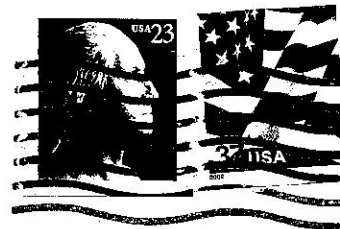
Bottle of Wine from The Wine Shop

donated by Penny and Michael Cies

Round Top Area Historical Society, Inc.

P. O. Box 151

Round Top, Texas 78954



David L. Collins
7719 Chasewood Drive
Missouri City, TX 77489

77483+1837

