MUSEUM HOURS

The Gaston Museum is open
10:00 – 4:00
on Thursdays and Fridays
and 10:00 – 1:00
on Saturdays

We will additionally make every effort to accommodate visitors at any time for scheduled visits. Depending upon the number of volunteers that we have, regular hours may vary. Please let us know if you are planning a visit so that we may be sure that the Museum is open for you. Call 903-722-9016 or email the Museum:

museumoffice@gastonmuseum.org

or call Stephanie Osteen (903-812-1794) or Rosemary Whitten (903-863-2108) to schedule your visit.

2016 Reunion Weekend

The annual Gaston reunion weekend was held on September 30 and October 1, 2016. The Museum was open on Friday and Saturday, and many exes stopped by to see the exhibits and visit with others who attended school at Gaston. The reunion is not limited to those who graduated from Gaston but is intended for anyone who ever attended any grade on the Gaston campus or those whose family or friends attended here. Museum fundraiser lunch was held at the West Rusk Raider Cafe on Saturday. Over 100 were in attendance, and all appreciated the great facility on the West Rusk campus and the cooperation of the staff in preparing for our reunion. Many volunteers helped to make the day a success. Please see a few photos on pages 2 and 3, and visit our website, www.gastonmuseum.org, to see more pictures from the weekend.

2017 Events Planned

June 24 – Terry Irick Memorial Golf Tournament, Longview Country Club. Perhaps you or your class would like to help us out by being a hole sponsor for $100. We also need players! Email the Museum if you are willing to be a sponsor, play in the tournament, or volunteer that day to help with the tournament.

September 29 and 30 - 2017 reunion The Museum will again be open for both days, with lunch on Saturday being at the Raider Café. Registration will be due by 9/22/2017. Schedule and registration information may be found on the website, and a special newsletter with final details will be distributed in August.

WWW.GASTONMUSEUM.ORG / Gaston Museum
2017 is off to a fast start as plans for the Golf Tourney, Education Day and the Reunion are already in place. A Poker Run as an additional Fundraiser is also being considered so those of you that have participated in a Poker Run, please email your thoughts and interest in participating to museumoffice@gastonmuseum.org. More details will be posted on the Website as we get closer to the events. Of course, with all events there must be volunteers and as usual we are in need of help. If you have a special talent or interest, please let us know that we can count on you. Be sure to come out and see the additions and changes that we are working on at the exhibit building and grounds. We are moving more in the direction of education to the community in order to actually portray the life in the Early East Texas Oilfield. Preserving that period is critical for the museum. Our desire is for the future generations to know just how important their ancestors were in building the future that we have here in East Texas. We would love to expand our Education Day events to more schools and more ages.

If you or someone you know have access to these items, we are looking for donations of the following: a scaled down version of a pump-jack to display on the grounds, a pick up or car from the late 30's early 40's for outdoor display at the gas station, an old gas pump to be concreted in for prevention of theft and old fashioned picnic tables (4-6). We also need tools for carpentry and yard work for the maintenance team (hoes, rakes, shovels, post hole diggers, saws, hammers, screwdrivers, etc…) and anything related to the time period that could be displayed outdoors. Your cash donations are critical and greatly appreciated and any future help will be as well. We look forward to your generous contributions.

Our project last year merited the donation of our privacy fence from Lowe's. Don't forget to place your orders for the nameplates to be posted on the fence. Prices are posted on the website and at the museum. This year I am going in search of a company to preserve the gas station. As always, thank you all for your participation, we look forward to seeing you at the museum.

Stephanie Osteen, Museum Director

Class of ’56 celebrated 60 year reunion

I'M A GASTON RED DEVIL FOREVER AND EVER AMEN

(Left to Right) Nancy Scott Erwin, Anabell Bailey Carlisle, Glenn Williams, Wanda Arrington Berry, Linda Lowe Wood, Juanita Greer Birdwell, Howard Leverett, Janita Greer Bolt, Lois Pace Sproles, Barbara Waggoner Curbo, Wayne Thomas, Jim Gray
2016 REUNION WEEKEND

MANY EXES AND FRIENDS VISITED THE MUSEUM ON FRIDAY. Barbara Benson Brewster ('44), from Baton Rouge, La. always makes the reunion! All the Walker siblings were here, and two of the Hyatt sisters.

It was very special to have Billie Gentry Shepherd ('46), all the way from Rogersville, Mo.

We appreciated the help of members of the West Rusk Student Council for help with set-up, serving lunch, and cleaning.

Saturday’s luncheon honored the classes of 1946, 56, and 66
West Rusk, Overton, Troup and Full Armor groups attended the 2016 Education Day, bringing over 200 7th graders to imagine what life was like in East Texas just before and after the days of the oil boom. Numerous volunteers assisted in making the day a rousing success. Stations included Museum Exhibit Building (Gary and Bob Dickeson), Tent House (Paul Fess), Wash Day (Louise Stegall and Barbara Vinson), Church on the Grounds (Andy Elliott), Snack Shop and Derrick (Stephanie Osteen), and School under the Trees (Rosemary Whitten). Buddy Vinson, Carlos Hunt, Daneen Dean, Alexa Duke, Ruth Johnson, and Carol Nylund served as tour guides.

Wash day.

Push mower was a real hit!
Robert Forsythe continues to maintain an email list to notify Gaston friends of topics related to the Museum, illness or death in our families, and other news. The notification list was recently corrupted. He has attempted to reconstruct the list. If you have not received one of his emails since March 1, or if you wish to be added to the email list, send an email to the Museum with the subject, “Add to notification list”.

Gaston Museum Income/Expense
1/1/2016 through 7/28/2016

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OVERALL TOTAL: 1048.91

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2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andy Elliott, Chairman
Stephanie Osteen, Vice Chairman /Museum Director
Rosemary Whitten, Secretary
Louise Stegall, Treasurer

Janie Bradbury, Roy Davis, Gary Dickeson, Alexa Duke, Paul Fess, Carlos Hunt, Ruth Johnson, Courtney Osteen, Jim Stroud, Bill Woodall

A FINAL FAREWELL

Peggy Holland Baker, Class of ’50
6/23/33 – 1/7/2017

Jack Clark, Class of ’41
12/1/22 – 11/18/2016

Raymond Darragh, Class of ’50

Alfred Eugene Harger, Class of ’57

Dorothy Utzman Jameson, Class of ’57
5/1/39 – 3/16/2017

LaDonna Smith Lyons, Class of ’47

Carolyn Stroud Montero, Class of ’61
12/12/42 - 11/25/2016

Betty Jo Boehringer Petrofsky, Class of ’44
8/25/27 – 1/16/2017

Glen Bert Rawlinson, Class of ’68
11/27/49 – 10/2/2016

Mona George Hamil Shelton, Class of ’39
11/1/22 – 9/27/2016

Ena Louis McWilliams Spalding, Class of ’43

Lulu Stone Ward, Class of ’61

Willie Garrett Ware, Class of ’59
3/13/41 - 12/4/2016

Lottie Mae Zachry, Class of ’49
4/15/30 – 1/10/2017
Memorials

DONATED BY:

Janita Greer Bolt
Charlie Burgess
Darden Fowler Creighton
T. C. & Nancy Scott Erwin
Francine Mellon
Francine Mellon
Anne & Bill Simpson
Anne & Bill Simpson
Anne & Bill Simpson
Gladys Terry
Rosemary Whitten
Estate of Karlena Jackson
Estate of Mona George Hamil Shelton

IN MEMORY OF:

Ethel Lincecum
Jack Clark
Wilma June Stowe
Reed Franklin
Jack Franklin
Reed Franklin
Alvena Gatewood Williams
Carolyn McWilliams Croft Hill
Jackie Wiggins
Jack Terry
Glenn Bert Rawlinson