Gaston Museum Needs You!

As members of the Board age, encounter personal and family health issues, and have limited energy to devote to Museum functions, it becomes critical that we find others who share the vision that local history matters to all of us.

If you are willing to give any time to your Museum or if you have friends or family, especially in the Rusk County area, whom you could encourage to do so, please step up to help keep the Gaston Museum alive. Specific needs at the current time include:

1. Person to act as treasurer, including Quick Books for financial reports. Quick Books is a special request – could even be done remotely!
2. Regular volunteers once or twice a month.
4. Two open Board member positions.
5. Contributors of memorabilia of Gaston school days.
6. Hole sponsorship for the golf tournament ($100) or team registration ($200 for 4 people) - Contact Andy Elliott (903-987-2217)

2016 Reunion

This year’s reunion is planned again for the first Saturday in October. The Museum will be open on Friday and Saturday, and the Museum fundraiser luncheon will be at noon on Saturday. The Gaston Museum Board has voted to hold the 2016 fundraiser at Raider Café, West Rusk ISD’s new cafeteria. Factors for choosing this location include availability, fee (free since we represent a part of the school), and the fact that the parking lots and cafeteria are all on one level, with no steps involved. Honor class of 1966 was the first West Rusk graduating class (all other grades were attended at Gaston campus). 1956 and 1946 will be the other honor classes. If there are individuals in these classes who would assist co-chairs Rosemary Whitten and Ruth Jackson in contacting class members about the reunion, please give Rosemary a call at 903-863-2108.
Spring has blown in here at the Gaston Museum. Our volunteers are busy getting the stain on the newly installed privacy fence (donated by Lowes of Henderson), along with painting the Snack Shop and the Tent House. New outdoor displays are in the making, along with a bigger and better brush arbor that will double as a small cover for outdoor events.

The history of the school and the alumni of Gaston have always been first and foremost on the hearts of all that work to keep things going. In addition to the memory of the Gaston School and community, we also strive to educate about the life in the early East Texas Oilfield. In order to move forward in the direction needed, we will be working to increase our educational events and hands-on exhibits as well as improving the annual golf tournament and reunion dinner.

The Board of Directors and the volunteers work diligently to keep our museum operating for those in the future to be able to step back in time to a more difficult yet simpler way of life, but we need your help. Come work at the museum; help with mail outs, promotion, special events; donate or just share us with your friends and families. It’s not just about the Gaston School; it’s about a way of life that led us to where we are now. History is the building block of the future. We look toward the future of the Gaston Museum where we share the history of East Texas.

**Stephanie Osteen,** Museum Director

Fundraiser 2015
Rosemary Whitten and Ruth Johnson, co-chairs

The 2015 Gaston Red Devil museum fundraiser was held at the Henderson Civic Center on Saturday, October 3, 2015. The Civic Center was open for visiting at 10:00. 89 exes and guests attended the lunch, and the Museum was able to raise approximately $2000 to help with expenses related to keeping the Museum open. The delicious dinner was catered from Mona Jimerson, Simply Southern Catering. Louise Stegall, Janie Crisp, Helen Capps, and Barbara Hudson welcomed everyone and handled registration. Lois Sproles and Ruth Jackson decorated with school colors and oilfield memorabilia. First time volunteer Genievia Cooper Hill had the great idea to serve food to the tables, and we were able to do this because Jo Baker drafted grandchildren Christopher Hand, Callie Hand, and friend Nate Ruiz to help. As an interesting side note, Christopher and Callie are 4th generation Gastonites. Jim Dickeson was in the first Gaston graduating class of ’33, Ruby Jo Dickeson Baker was in Gaston class of ’62, Melody Davis Hand graduated West Rusk ’84, and Callie Hand is in the West Rusk class of 2017. Genieva, Barbara Vinson, Ruth Ann Johnson, Janet Elliott, Ramona Giddings, and Maci Noel handled the serving and kitchen duties. Roy Davis, Bill Woodall, Andy Elliott, Buddy Vinson, Ramona Giddings, Maci Noel, and Rosemary Whitten were there through the cleanup.

Class of ’55 members attending were Daneen Dickeson Dean, Johnny Morrow, Tommy Marshall, and Lonnie Traylor. The class of ’65 had a great group attending in honor of their 50th. Jane Luptak and Nancy Miley spearheaded the effort to contact class members to encourage attendance. Those who were at the lunch included James Berry, Ellen Costlow Cochran, Linda Fowler Hall, Donna Richardson Hollingsworth, John Hollingsworth, Ruth Jackson Johnson, Jane Ann Bynum Luptak and husband Dennis, Nancy Stephenson Miley and husband Gary, Betty Joyce Johnson Speir and husband Wayne, Lynn Tarrant and wife Nancy, Gail Tolleson, Glenda Morgan Underdown, Wayne White and wife Pam. Those coming from out of state were James Berry (Martinez, CA), Gail Tolleson (Carlsbad, CA), and Wayne White (Kokomo, IN). Linda Adams Chapman and husband Rickey were in attendance at another of the group meetings. The Museum was open on Friday, October 1, and over 40 people came by to view exhibits, renew old acquaintances and enjoy evening snacks and fellowship. There were also several who came by the Museum throughout the day on Saturday.
The 2015 Gaston Museum Terry Irick Memorial Golf Tournament was held at the Longview Country Club on Saturday, July 18. We raised over $3000 to help support the Museum and to provide scholarships. The Museum Board appreciated the support of many Irick family members, both financially and for participating as players and tournament volunteers.

37 golfers participated. The winning team was made up of Travis Crietzberg, David Barrow, Andrew Morrow, and John Morrow.

Please see additional photos from the golf tournament on our web page.

We hope that you will join us on June 25, 2016 for the next tournament! Contact Andy Elliott, 903-987-2217, if you or your class would consider sponsoring a hole for the Tournament for $100.

Newsletters by E-mail

If you are willing to receive your newsletter in the future via email to help us save on postage and paper, please email:

museumoffice@gastonmuseum.org

Give your name, current mailing address, and statement “Please email Gaston newsletter to me in the future.

You may also view the newsletter on our webpage:
http://gastonmuseum.org/
Gaston Museum Income/Expense
1/1/2015 through 12/31/2015

INCOME
Admissions $133.00
Donations $2,931.20
Fence Fund $250.00
Golf Tournament $6,820.00
Interest Inc. $205.65
Memberships $200.00
Memorials $2,100.00
Museum Fund Raiser $1,789.50
Merchandise $283.50
The Pipeline Club $530.00
Walmart Dividends $12.25
TOTAL INCOME $15,255.10

EXPENSES
Dues $100.00
Golf Tournament Expense $3,453.52
Insurance $2,876.00
Maintenance $2,853.92
Miscellaneous $54.99
Newsletter $1,372.00
Office Supplies $0.00
Postage $49.00
Reunion $718.66
Scholarships $1,000.00
Utilities $2,750.78
Web Site $134.25
TOTAL EXPENSES $15,363.12

OVERALL TOTAL -$108.02

Cash & Bank Account Assets (12/31/2015)

Certificate of Deposit 10,468.49
Certificate of Deposit 11,440.19
Certificate of Deposit 10,819.62
Checking account 8,136.75
Total 40,865.05

A FINAL FAREWELL

Anthony Adams
Class of ’60 5/23/41 – 10/24/2015

Melba Elizabeth Dowden Davidson

Nadyne Bailey Freeman
Class of ’43 9/21/26 – 1/5/2016

Charles Hand
Class of ’42 5/24/25 – 3/22/2016

Floyd Hancock

JoAnn Kelsey Harden

A.Carolyn McWilliams Croft Hill
Class of ’48 7/25/30 – 1/15/2016

Roland Jackson
Class of ’46 7/31/27 – 1/5/2016

Gloria Forsythe Jones
Class of ’61 4/10/43 – 2/17/2016

Linda Hunt Kerley
Class of ’64 4/17/46 – 2/21/2016

Barbara Ann Traylor Leverett
Class of ’42 9/17/34 – 3/21/2016

Yvonne Waller Martin
Class of ’55 2/22/37 – 10/21/2015

Cecil D. Morgan
Class of ’61 2/24/43 – 4/5/2016

Joanne Cantrell Rosamond
Class of ’48 8/25/30 – 1/17/2016

Alvena Gatewood Williams
Class of ’51 2/11/33 – 3/12/2016

Marshall Ray Williams
Class of ’40 4/30/22 - 10/27/2015

Bill Burns
Long-time Museum volunteer
2/27/1928 – 1/15/2016

If you or other family members have Gaston memorabilia that you no longer want to keep, please consider donating to Museum!
Memorials 2016

DONATED BY:
Charles Burgess
Bud & Myra Curzy
Daneen Dean
Barbara Franklin
Merritt Graves
Robert Guytine
Mr./Mrs. Carlos Hunt
Dr. J. T. Rollins
Mr./Mrs. Kenneth Thomas
Mr./Mrs. Kenneth Thomas
Mr./Mrs. Kenneth Thomas
Lacy Weaver
Lacy Weaver

IN MEMORY OF:
Martha Thrash Fowler
Joann Cantrell Rosamond
Reed Franklin
Reed Franklin
Tom Graves
Duane Gibbs
Joann Cantrell Rosamond
Mary Pauline Clark
Leonard Crye
Rebecca Cassady Koraska
Reed Franklin
Ann Cassady Hale
Rebecca Cassady Koraska