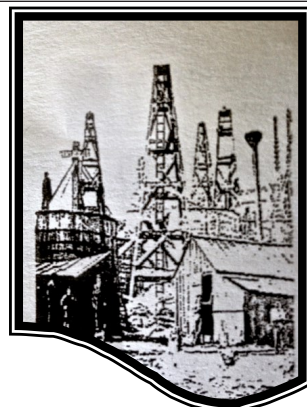


THE GASTON HERITAGE

GASTON MUSEUM



Windows to the Past:

An adventure through time to the Gaston School era and life in the East Texas Oilfield

This very appropriate theme for the Museum upgrade is the brainchild of creative Board member Julie Dickeson. Utilizing antique window frames from the 1930's era, the various exhibits provide looks into many aspects of rural Rusk County life in the Joinerville area from bygone days. This massive undertaking was spearheaded by Director Stephanie Osteen and Gary & Julie Dickeson. Many other volunteers spent countless hours during 2020 and continue to do so.

*Here are a few of the exhibits.
We look forward to showing
you more when you visit!*

SUPPORT YOUR GASTON MUSEUM WITH YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual	10.00
Family	15.00
Friend	50.00
Patron	100.00
Benefactor	300.00

MUSEUM HOURS

10:00 – 4:00

Fridays and Saturdays.

We will make every effort to accommodate visitors at other times for scheduled visits. 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 Museum, 903-722-9016 or Director, 903-812-1794.



The mantle from the old Boy Scout Hut has its place in the Museum.



We honor former students and staff who have served our country.



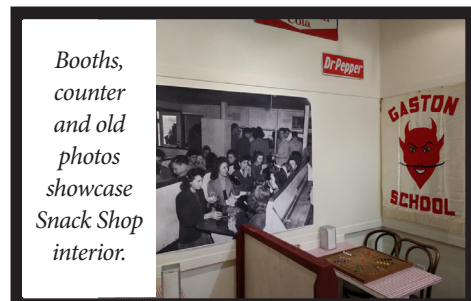
Remembering Gaston students who won many academic and athletic awards, along with contributions of the teachers and coaches.



One of the many stores in the Joinerville / Selman City / Turnertown area was Ross Store in Joinerville.



White's Snack Shop has moved inside the exhibit building.



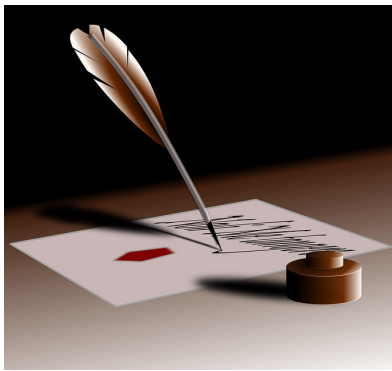
Booths, counter and old photos showcase Snack Shop interior.

Reunion weekend continued the Museum open house on October 2 and 3. There was no large group meeting of exes due to Covid 19 restrictions, but nearly 100 people visited the Museum over the three day period. Tents, tables and chairs were set up around the Museum grounds and small groups excitedly toured the new exhibits. Exes and other supporters

MEMORIALS

CONTRIBUTOR

Carlos & Frankie Hunt
 Barbara Brewster
 Barbara Brewster
 John & Peggy Chisholm
 John & Peggy Chisholm
 Bobby Hunt
 Kenneth "Twister" Thomas
 Class of '64
 Barbara Brewster
 Jean Challis
 Lynda Newcomb Divers
 Elaine P. Gauntt
 Kenneth "Twister" Thomas
 John & Peggy Chisholm
 Eddie Darragh
 John & Peggy Chisholm
 John & Peggy Chisholm
 Agnes Ellsworth
 Forest Home Baptist Church
 Gaston Class of 54
 Carlos & Frankie Hunt
 Gaston Class of 54
 Jo Anne Dowden
 Craig & Linda Sawvel
 Sonja Simmons



Director's News

We are jumping into spring with so much activity! Our crew has worked extremely hard during the winter months. Gary and Julie planted the new Memorial Rose Garden, cleaned the grounds, burned brush, had the gutters cleaned and just overall maintenance for our museum. We had a new Wi-Fi program installed through Suddenlink that will allow us security cameras on the grounds to protect our investments and allow contact between buildings. This is critical for us to move forward with all the new projects we that we have planned.

In other news, Julie has been working with the sign company and installers to finish up that project. The new signs should be displayed for the next reunion. She has also implemented a recycling program to help us be more responsible with our environment. I have been busy contacting schools, working with the Chamber, marketing and getting our museum out into the community to promote our renovations, scholarships and education programs.

We are also diligently working on hands-on activities for the inside exhibits as well as our outside education exhibits. When school starts in the fall, we hope to have a full-blown education system in place that will allow students in more than 50 school systems within 100 mile radius to experience our fascinating history! Starting this summer, we plan to implement classes on the weekend where kids can participate in a variety of hands-on projects, crafts and games from the olden days. (See the "Hands On Fun" article in this newsletter for details!) **Our future is absolutely education of history and we plan to do just that.**

Our Golf Tournament committee will be meeting to start preparation for the 2021 Scholarship Golf Tournament to be held on Oct 9th. We will update as we have more information.

As always, we depend on your generous donations of money and support. We are low on volunteers, so if you live in the area and would like to come visit while working on easy projects or simply telling stories as tourists come through, please contact the museum and leave a message. I will get back to you. Let's keep Joinerville, Gaston and the love we share of a truly unique piece of history alive and growing for others to know!

Hands On Fun

Visitors of all ages will be entertained as they Shine shoes, Shave Mr. Roughneck, Fix Mrs. Gaston's hair or play a game of checkers like they did at the gas station. Try your hand at the combination to our Post Office Mailbox.

Test your skill at our nerf gun shooting gallery, knot tying like boy scouts, add a few stitches to our cross stitch project, make your own butter, knead bread dough and practice your mixing, measuring and kitchen skills.

Play with our Lincoln logs, Tinker Toys or Legos. Or try your hand at Marbles, Pick Up Stix or Jacks. Make your own Rag Doll, Spool Knitter, Button Spinner or Jacobs Ladder. Enjoy refreshments while watching videos on our TV screen in the Snack Shop.

Ring the school bell as you enter the Gaston School area, play on the elementary Flannel Board or type a message on our portable typewriter. Take your picture with Elvis as you listen to him sing on our old time record player.

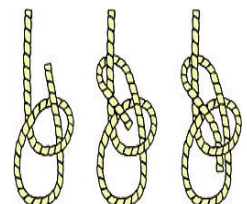
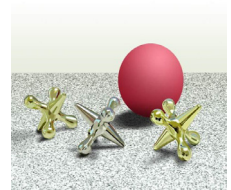
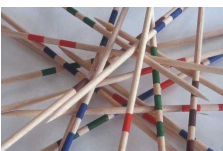
As you enter the museum, you will receive a postcard with the picture and info of a Gaston soldier. Find your soldier as you walk through our Veterans Memorial room and find out if he was a survivor.

Outside you will be able to play Hopscotch, croquet or Jump rope, horseshoes and more.

Try your hand at mowing with the old rotary mowers or cut firewood with a crosscut saw. Weigh cotton or Grind corn off the cob. Wash clothes with the scrub board, plant seeds and tend a garden.

These activities and more are only the tip of the iceberg. Education is critical and these hands on stations will secure the interest of kids young and old.

Be sure you try them out on your next reunion visit. As always, thank you for your support, it goes a long way in preserving our history.



Gaston Museum Income/Expense 2020 Total

Income

Admissions & Tour Income	242
Donations - General	6,039
Donations - Memorial	4,540
Interest	412
Memberships	580
Merchandise Sales	948
Renovation Income	1,835
Reunion Fundraiser Income	3,398
Rose Garden Fund	575
Sign Fund	3,750
Stock Dividends	54
Stock Gain	486

Total Income **22,859**

Expenses

Alumni Outreach	137
Artifact Preservation	660
Bank Charges & Fees	109
Cleaning Services	300
Cost of Merchandise for Sale	1,014
Education Program	53
Equipment	524
Insurance	3,056
Mail Services	46
Maintenance	1,774
Museum Promotion	434
Newsletters	1,098
Office & Cleaning Supplies	665
Pavers Cost	100
Pest & Termite Control	276
Postage - General	106
Renovation Investment	20,620
Rose Garden Expense	140
Safety & Security	361
Scholarship	1,000
Subscriptions	39
Utilities	5,157
Volunteer Appreciation	13
Web Page Hosting & Domain	361

Total Expenses **38,043**

Net Financial 2020 **-15,184**

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andy Elliott, *Chairman*

Gary Dickeson, *Vice Chairman*

Rosemary Whitten, *Secretary*

Julie Dickeson, *Treasurer*

Stephanie Osteen, *Director*

Janie Crisp Bradburry	Carlos Hunt
Paul Fess	Dwight Huntsman
Jim Gray	John Whitehead
Linda Croft Yarbrough	

Note from the Treasurer:

Our investment in the museum renovation was funded with existing Museum bank holdings and generous donations; and although resulting in a deficit on our financial report, these funds were reinvested wisely and strategically into the future of our Museum. The reconstruction, completed with the benefit of hundreds of hours of skilled volunteer labor, and the development of new & renovated exhibits, has greatly increased the historic value and tourism potential for our museum.

While our reserves and operating funds for 2021 are secure, we have a few more renovation projects to complete, and we will soon be implementing the exciting, enhanced education program described in the Director's Update. Alumni, with YOUR continued support, these projects WILL become a reality!! Thank you for investing in the future of YOUR Gaston Museum!

Scholarship Deadline: 6/1/2021

FINAL FAREWELL

Burl Bell, Class of '58	3/21/31 - 9/9/2020
Charles Burgess, Class of '42	1925 - 11/23/2020
Joe E. Burns, Class of '62	11/1/1944 - 2/4/2021
Daneen Dickeson Dean, Class of '55	11/12/1936 - 2/15/2021
Lynda Newcomb Divers, Class of '61	3/27/43 - 11/11/2020
Jeanette Ellis, Class of '68	10/24/1946 - 12/30/2020
Walter Ellis, Class of '61	8/18/1943 - 2/1/2021
Miles Ford, Class of '62	d.11/23/2020
Merritt Graves, Class of '58	1941 - 3/16/2021
Don Long, Class of '58	7/23/40 - 9/5/2020
Kenneth Malone, Class of '64	2/7/1946 - 12/11/2020
David Newton, Class of '67	11/7/1948 - 12/26/2020
Barbara Chance Schrader, Class of '58	6/24/1936 - 1/12/2021
Helen Dye Steger, Class of '41	11/9/1923 - 12/8/2020
Wayne "Tot" Thomas, Class of '56	10/16/37 - 11/29/2020
Barbara Blackford Toler, Class of '58	9/7/1939 - 4/2/2020
Etheldra Adams Turner, Class of '50	6/7/1932 - 12/26/2020
Betty Jowers Vickers, Class of '55	9/5/1937 - 1/26/2020
Jo Ann Barker Walker, Class of '54	12/27/1935 - 11/28/2020
Melba Hunt Whitehead, Class of '58	2/29/1940 - 4/14/2021
Bette Jo Croft Young, Class of '50	8/1/1932 - 1/6/2021

DATES TO SAVE!

October 1-2, 2021

Reunion Weekend. Visit Museum either day.

October 9, 2021

Gaston Museum Terry Irick Memorial Golf Tournament
Longview Country Club

CONTACT US:
Gastonmuseum1930@gmail.com

GASTON MUSEUM

LIFE IN THE EARLY
 EAST TEXAS OILFIELD

Chartered 501C (3) Non-Profit Organization

P.O. Box 301

Joinerville, Tx 75658-0301

Address Correction Requested

Preserving our History, one Memory at a Time!

GASTON ROSE GARDEN

A replica of the Gaston rose garden has been installed on the Museum grounds in front of the exhibit building. Built to commemorate the gardens that we all loved on the Gaston campus, this is a gift of James Adams, Nancy Stephenson Miley, Lee Thomas, and Rosemary Whitten as a reminder of the happy times each spent living on the campus and as a memorial to their parents who taught at Gaston. James lived here 1950-60, attending grades K-6 at Gaston. His father, James Adams, was shop teacher and coach. Nancy was 6 months old when the family moved in, living here until she was 13.

Her mother, Lorene Stephenson, substituted and taught elementary and her father, L. A. Stephenson, was at Gaston 1947-60, initially as coach and later high school principal. Lee's father, Dee Lee Thomas, became elementary/jr. high principal in 1951 and retired in 1975 as West Rusk superintendent. Lee attended Gaston through tenth grade and graduated from West Rusk in 1967. Rosemary attended grades 4-6 at Gaston. Her mother, Mary Jim Whitten, was librarian in spring 1950 and again 1958-62. Kenneth Whitten was high school principal, 1960-62.



**Volunteers,
 headed by
 Gary and Julie Dickeson,
 prepared the bed and
 planted roses.**

