



Carter Cabin circa 1845



Potter Watson Cabin circa 1850s

FREESTONE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
2017-----Spring-----Newsletter
Discover ~ Share ~ Enjoy

The staff and board of trustees of the museum extend a welcome to all guests and visitors to the museum for SPRING Outings! Hopefully with the lovely spring weather, visitors will come to explore and learn about the many fascinating stories of Freestone County history. We are always delighted to have guests and have seen an upswing in the number of families with children who visit on Saturdays. The children are in awe of our historic cabins exhibits which portray the daily living hardships of our Freestone County pioneers. WE HAVE A NEW CHILDRENS EXHIBIT "THE CRITTERS OF FREESTONE COUNTY" MADE BY F I S D ELEMENTARY.

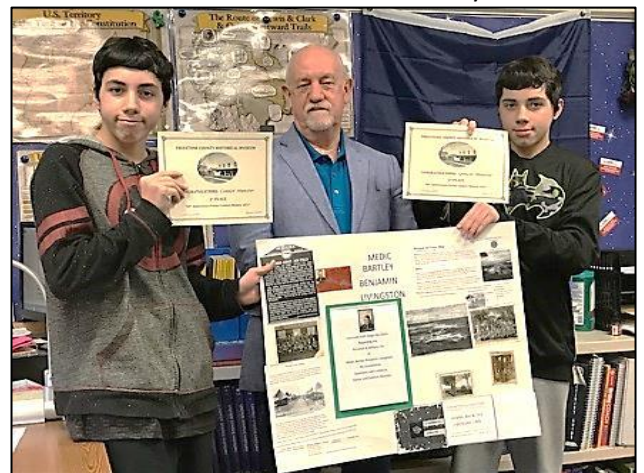
The museum is celebrating its 50 Year Anniversary!!!
Saturday, May 6th, 2017 from 1:00 -3:00 p.m.

The museum sponsored a "50 Year Anniversary Poster" contest. 7th graders from all area schools- Fairfield, Dew, Teague, Wortham and local home schoolers were encouraged to submit a poster. The winning poster came from Wortham Junior High. The poster is the WWII story of Army Air Corp medic, Bartley Benjamin Livingston, as told by his grandson, Wortham Judge, Ray Jones in an interview conducted by brothers, Spencer and Conner Munster. The winning poster was submitted by Conner and Spencer Munster who each received \$50.00 for their 1st Place entry!

A pizza party was given to the winning students/classroom of Laura Sides 7th grade classroom on April 13, 2017. Ms. Sides, as the winning teacher, received \$50.00 and she also received \$100.00 for purchase of historic fiction and non-fiction classroom books/materials for the school.

The winning poster is on display at the museum during our 2017 anniversary year. Former curator, Nancy Taylor is the museum's education specialist and supervised the project. **See photo of Spencer and Conner Munster with Judge Ray Jones & with the winning poster!**

We are thankful to Navarro Electric Cooperative's OPERATION ROUND-UP Program for providing the money grant to underwrite the pizza party costs and cash prizes for the winners and their school, Wortham Jr. High.

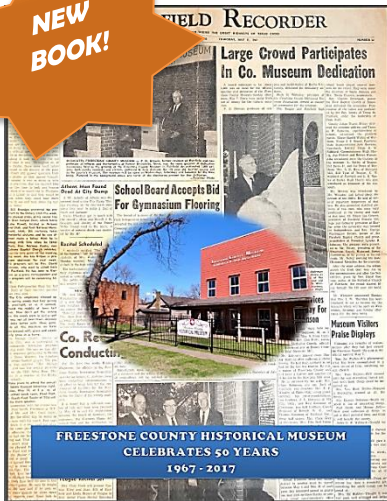


The 1936 Ford Fairfield fire truck is being renovated by Fairfield residents, Bill Green and Carroll Embry. It is anticipated that the first phase of the restoration is to be completed by June! We have received a \$500.00 donation from the Fairfield Volunteer Fire Department and we appreciate their support! Any donation amount is appreciated for completion of this worthwhile project.



The Freestone County Commissioners' approval and support of the formation of the Freestone County Historical Museum in 1966 was vital in getting the necessary public interest and support to raise public donations totaling \$7200.00. In June 1966, these monies were used to purchase the jail from Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Willard and to renovate it for housing the newly created museum. The commissioner's court financial support has been vital for its maintenance operation over the years. Mr. Asa Pickett was one of the commissioners at that time who was initially elected in May, 1962 without a run-off against 4 opponents in Precinct 2. He had previously served for 17 years as an employee of that precinct.

FRONT ROW SEATED LEFT TO RIGHT: ASA PICKETT, R.C. COOPER (?), HUGH HARRIS. BACK ROW STANDING LEFT TO RIGHT: HUBERT WASSON AND SPURGEON PICKENS



A 50 Year Anniversary fundraising campaign has begun on **gofundme** :

"Save Freestone County's 1881 Jail".

We are asking all that can to give \$50 to celebrate 50 years of service. However any size donation is greatly appreciated. Every dollar counts!

Also Linda Mullen, Board President, has compiled a book to commemorate the museum's 50 years. Books sales will begin on May 6 at our anniversary celebration. Cost will be \$25.00.

YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED!

2017 MUSEUM MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE YEAR ROUND: Your membership is extremely important. Those of you who contribute year after year are the foundation of the museum and essential to its ongoing operation. You may email, phone or come by the museum to join.

Yearly membership rates are:

- Individual:** \$15.00- entitled to free admission
- Family:** \$25.00- entitled to free admission
- Silver:** \$100.00- " " " plus book, *Two Stars in the Southern Sky*
- Gold:** \$200.00- " " " plus *Vol II of History of Freestone County*



Please join us on Facebook! And visit our webpage: www.freestonecomuseum.com

We love our museum friends!!!

FREESTONE COUNTY HISTORICAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Linda Mullen-President | Don Awalt |
| Brad Pullin- Vice President | Ralph Billings |
| Nancy Rula-Secretary | Sherrie Minze |
| Leslie Tate-Treasurer | Muriel Morton |
| Patricia Pratt, Curator | |