

THREE VALLEY MUSEUM'S "YEAR IN REVIEW"

2017 HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

2016 was a wonderful and productive year for us at the Three Valley Museum. Our numbers indicate that we had approximately 3,400 visitors through our doors. And what a delightful group of history lovers they were. Local residents are always surprised when they discover that folks from all over the world visit our community and our award winning museum.

Journey Stories in January continued to be a big success with approximately 100 in attendance every evening. The presenters always come through with interesting tales of people and events that helped to form the culture of this area.

One of the most impressive was the theatrical interpretation of the story of the hangings held during the Civil War in Gainesville, Texas. It was presented by the ladies of the Morton Street Museum. And who could forget the sightings of Big Foot and his connection to folk lore in North America as told by Marvin Leeper of Murray State College. As we began to prepare for the Centennial Celebration of the Bryan County Court House, it was so interesting to hear from Ronnie Coppedge, a Masonic leader, who explained the Masonic tradition of placing the corner stones at public buildings. Ken Rainbolt, and all the rest, enlightened us night after night. We love journey stories. There is nothing like LISTENING to a good story teller.

Community Partnerships

We continue to offer meeting space to a number of community based organizations, including the Durant Newcomers Club, the Durant Main Street Annual Awards Dinner, the Kiwanias Club, and the Durant Rotary Club. We were represented in the Rotary Club's Bike Ride and Colton's Run.

We are proud to be selected to receive the aid of students from Durant High School. Under the direction of Mrs. Loann Latona, the students work to receive valuable on-the-job training for the real world. They learn skills in professionalism which include telephone etiquette, dressing for success, personal introduction in the workplace and the underlying duties associated with running a museum. I consider it a privilege to work with these enthusiastic and smart young leaders.

We participated in Imagine Durant's fact finding seminar on Culture in October, which recognized the history and mingled traditions of the people who have settled in this area over time.

We are teaming with partners within the county to commemorate the 100 th birthday celebration of the Bryan County Courthouse on July 15. Mark your calendars as this will be a red letter day in Downtown Durant.

Educational Outreach

One hundred thirty second grade students, teachers, and parents, from Washington Irving visited our museum during May.

In December, Silo second and third graders and a class of gifted and talented middle school students visited the museum. They learned of old time traditions, how to make ornaments, and cookie decorating.

Goodland School, near Hugo, brought a group to see our beautifully decorated museum during Christmas and learned through our tours and their teachers , the purpose of many items exhibited.

First United Bank presented their first annual "Show and Tell" Antiques Fair.

Acquisitions

Along with many precious family heirlooms which have been entrusted to us, we have acquired several items belonging to WWII Veteran Dee Burns.

Also, from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Bond, an 1800's doctor's buggy and sleigh.

We deeply appreciate your trust.

Historic Tours

In the fall, 40 of us boarded a bus provided by Durant Independent School District and headed east to Idabel for a day at the prestigious Museum of the Red River. We enjoyed learning of this wonderful museum and look forward to visiting again in the Spring when renovations are complete.

Fund Raising

We have two major fund raisers. The "Put a Cork In It" wine event and dinner will be on February 4th. Thanks to you, our ticket sales have been amazing!

Another premier event is the "Fourth Annual History in the Making" golf tournament on April 29th. It has been held at the picturesque Chickasaw Pointe Golf Course each year, and has been a preferred tournament of golfers in the area due to the fantastic prizes, food, and amenities. Please call today if you or someone you know is interested in signing up.

Curator's Comments:

Though we are well on our way into 2017, we hope that you can see and appreciate the valuable programs we offer to young and old alike. We strive to Respectfully and truthfully tell the stories of our area and its' people through exhibits, storytelling, tours, and outreach.

Our museum is a nonprofit, privately owned entity, operated by the Durant Historical Society. We are funded by your membership dollars, fund raisers, and donations. It is our hope, that as members, you can take pride in our work here, and that you will encourage others to become members of our organization.

Upcoming Events:

February 4- "Put a Cork in It" fund raiser dinner and tasting

February 24- "The Quilts of Dust Bowl Betty" – a quilt show and tea featuring the art of Betty Garrett and others.

April 29- 4th Annual "History in the Making Golf Tournament" Chickasaw Pointe Golf Course. Please call for more information. 580-920-1907

July 15, 2017- The Centennial Celebration of the Bryan County Courthouse

4TH ANNUAL THREE VALLEY MUSEUM HISTORY IN THE MAKING GOLF TOURNAMENT

APRIL 29, 2017
Denison Golf Club
7:30 AM Registration
8:30 AM Shotgun Start

TWO PERSON SCRAMBLE
\$100 p/p Entry Fee
Early Registration Deadline
APRIL 24TH- 4:00 PM

Entry fee includes round of golf, cart, after play meal, tee box gift. Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place teams along with long drive and closest to pin. All proceeds go to Three Valley Museum for restoration and preservation.

The Country Club Café will be open at 7:00 a.m. for breakfast (Dutch treat)

Gift Bag for all Golfers • Free Beverages on course • Complimentary After play meal

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Place me on a team with the following players:

Name: _____

Mail entries to: Donna Tyler ♦ PO Box 441 ♦ Durant, OK 74702 or visit our website: threevalleymuseum.org

Make checks payable to Three Valley Museum

Contact Donna Tyler (580) 920-8746 or Nancy Ferris (580) 920-1907 for more information