



Holiday Homes Tour 2022

To Be Held Saturday, December 10

If you are new to town or have lived in Bastrop County for a lifetime, you'll want to put this year's Bastrop County Historical Society Holiday Homes Tour on your calendar! Plan to attend on Saturday, December 10, 2022, from Noon to 5 pm. Our 2022 tour showcases six historic homes and an historic church. Two homes appear on the tour for the first time and it's been around 20 years since two others were highlighted. One just barely missed last year's tour due to delays with its expansion/renovation project! Interestingly, four of the six houses were built between 1850-2.

In an environmentally friendly spirit, this year's tour clusters two groups of homes at two separate historic city blocks. Each block highlights three houses in close proximity to encourage attendees to park once and walk between the houses. An iconic church and its historic restoration project provide respite for our guests when driving between the two historic block stops.

This is a tour you don't want to miss! This year's homes have housed the town's first surveyor, a mystery and romance novelist, a tailor, the father and siblings of a former governor, a future Pulitzer Prize-winner, the son of Josiah Wilbarger, and a survivor of the infamous Santa Fe Expedition. The church continues to inspire those across the country with its appearance in the Christmas movie, *Angels Sing*.



The Mays House
1008 Walnut Street

The Mays House, thought to have originally been built as a 'dog-trot,' this circa 1850 home was built by the town of Bastrop's first surveyor and Battle of San Jacinto veteran, Thomas Mays. This is your chance to see its 2021 renovation details!



The William Kesselus House
1002 Walnut Street

The William Kesselus House, a Victorian cottage built in 1891 as an "add-on" to a few existing rooms that were construction before 1860. This was the home of a German tailor immigrant who added "us" onto his surname for "United States."



The Woehl Home
709 Hill Street

The Woehl Home, built in the 1890's by a widow and her sons who were carpenters and builders of many structures in Bastrop, this Victorian Folk cottage just missed last year's tour. The house is now home to a *USA Today* best-selling author and the co-author of the 'Seasoned Southern Sleuths Mystery Series.'



The Dimon-Erhard House
1402 Main Street

The Dimon-Erhard House, this 1851 folk house was built by merchant Moses O. Dimon whose store burned in the 1862 fire that destroyed all buildings in the 900 block of Main. The home sold in 1865 to Cayton Erhard, a survivor of the ill-fated Texan Santa Fe Expedition and owner of Erhard Drug, later known as the oldest drug store in Texas.

Advance ticket sales begin **November 1, 2022**. Online tickets may be purchased through December 5th at www.BastropCountyHistoricalSociety.com, by US mail, or by telephoning the Bastrop Museum & Visitor Center (904 Main Street) at 512-303-0904. Admission is \$20 per person. Accompanied children under 12 years of age are admitted free.

On the day of the tour, tickets may be purchased at the Museum & Visitor Center or any of the tour sites. Proceeds from the tour fund the operation of the Museum.



2022 Leading Members

(As of September 15, 2022)

BENEFACTORS:

Sharah and David Johnson
Glen Long

MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

Barbara Allbright Realtor,
All City Real Estate
Bluebonnet Electric Coop
Central Texas Elevator
Karen and Forrest Chalmers
Darling Ingredients
Eagle Pest Control
First National Bank of Bastrop
Kerry and Steve Fossler
Frontier Bank of Texas
Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa
Medack and Oltmann LLP
Susan Noguees Real Estate LLC
Osborn Plumbing, Inc.
Sweet Lucy Ranch LTD

HERO:

Aqua Water Supply
Sandy and Ron Barclay
Jill and Charles Barrow
Joan and Kent Bohls
Capital of Texas Roofing
Capitol Wright Distributing LLC
Sandra Chipley and Chuck Kellogg
Sara and Tom Clayton
Barbara and Andrew Coy
Pat and Robert Cunningham
Betty Dunkerley
G & C Printing and Forms
Sherri Gilmore
Doris and James Kershaw
Jennifer Leisure
Janis Penick, Kuper Sotheby's International Realty
Gloria and Win Perkins
Willie Pina and Stella Haecker
Libby Sartain
Nancy and Tom Scott
The Dentists
Tuck Law Group, PLLC
Visit Bastrop
L.C. Wright Land and Cattle Co., Ltd.

CHAMPION:

Adjust Chiropractic
Cindy Aarvig and Larry Hill
Shirley Barber
Sondra Black
Deborah Cartwright
Karen Clardy
Bryna and Dan Cox
Pat Crawford
Nicole DeGuzman
Judy and Lonnie Enis
Anita and Leslie Feigenbaum
Traci Frary and Jeff Crouch
Betty Gurwitz
Stephanie Jenkins
Sandy Kibby
Carrie Martin
Richard Martin
Jamie and Curtis McDonald
Victoria and Kevin McLaughlin
Dr. Patricia and Mayor Orr
Lynn Schaefer Oualline
Kaye Sapikas
Nan and DeLea Sayers
Carol and Joe Shull
Ginni Smith
Charlotte and Glenn Synnott
Maria and Paul Tuttrup
Barbara and Alex Vana
Derek Van Gilder
Martha and J Allen Ziegenhals

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The Hall-Sayers-Perkins House
1307 Church Street

The Hall-Sayers-Perkins House, first constructed as a dogtrot in 1852 by an owner of a stagecoach line, the home was purchased in 1870 by the father of Governor Joseph L. Sayers. Its second story was added in 1910 by a prosperous local dentist. The garden is considered an historic landscape, with locals enjoying it for over fifty years.



The Wilbarger House
1403 Main Street

The Wilbarger House, built in 1851, a tour favorite, and once owned by prominent lumberman James Wilbarger who was the grandson of Josiah Wilbarger, the famous scalping victim who lived to tell the tale. This home was also once home to a Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court.

RENDEZVOUS 2022

The Rendezvous gala is our annual fundraising event to help pay for operations of the Museum while also paying tribute to our event sponsors, members, and volunteers. We are thrilled to announce that Rendezvous 2022 will feature local musical favorite CHUBBY KNUCKLE CHOIR! Join us in celebrating with fantastic music, dancing, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres Friday, December 9th, 6-10 p.m. at the Bastrop Convention Center.

Sponsorship categories are as follows:

Sam Houston - \$1,500
Ayuntamiento - \$1,000
Stephen F. Austin - \$500
Baron de Bastrop - \$250

Sponsorship commitments are due October 14, 2022, to be listed on printed materials. Payment is due November 23, 2022. ★



Bastrop Christian Church
1104 Church Street

Bastrop Christian Church, an 1895 iconic "New England Victorian" architectural jewel, the sanctuary served as the setting for inspirational scenes in the Christmas movie, *Angels Sing*, starring Harry Connick, Jr. and Willie Nelson. Parishioners are seeking funding support for its \$600,000 restoration project. ★

CALLING ALL DOCENTS!

Homes Tour Docents Needed: If you would like to serve as a docent, please contact Jennifer Leisure at 512-922-1281 or Barbara Vana at 512-303-0057. Docents help guests enjoy each site by facilitating the flow of guests from room to room and by answering questions about the home. Homeowners will meet with docents several days before the tour, to provide information and discuss specific assignments. The five-hour Homes Tour consists of two shifts, one from 12 to 2:30 pm. The second shift is from 2:30 pm to 5 pm.

Docents will receive complimentary tickets to the tour and will also be able to purchase tickets at a reduced rate to the Friday night Rendezvous festivities, which acknowledge our sponsors and gracious tour hosts. For more information about this year's homes tour, visit www.BastropCountyHistoricalSociety.com or contact Barbara Vana at 512-303-0057 or via email: Barbara@bchs1832.org. ★

It's time to renew your membership!

Your membership makes a difference. In 2022 the museum hit the ground running, finding our pace in the Covid era. The museum was open regularly with terrific temporary exhibits showcasing Ascension Catholic Church, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Trail, and the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce Centennial.

We presented engaging quarterly meetings focused on the museum's 2021 progress and the El Camino Real de los Tejas National Trail. Then, Robbie Sanders, Sandra Chipley, and photographer, Mark Winslett, discussed the recently published book *Historic Homes of Bastrop, Texas*. In October, we are looking forward to volunteer, Brad Weber, speaking on Camp Swift and the German POWs.

The year will wrap up with a spectacular Holiday Homes Tour on December 10th and a Rendezvous gala on December 9th. Celebrating with the local musical favorite Chubby Knuckle Choir will be so much fun!

None of this will be possible without the support of YOU – our members! So please renew your BCHS membership as soon as you get that card in the mail (or by email).



Research Library Volunteers

Gloria Hoffman Adela Jones Ken Kesselus Kathy Kolhoff
John Lockwood Mary Lucas Pat McKay Dianne Mills Ron Ramirez
Dorene Ruggs Robin Schneider Bernie South Laurie South Brenda Uptain
Tommy Vasquez Brad Weber Allen Ziegenhals

Museum Docents

Jeremy Deslatte Judy Enis Rachel Hatch Carrie Martin Ron Ramirez

Visitor Center Volunteers

Debbi Goertz Kathy Grimmitt Adela Jones
Bob Malerk Randy Mikel Lori Mitchell Jan Stringer Orlanda Valka

BCHS Officers

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Jane Wright, Secretary Bob Malerk, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Lee Ann Calaway Sandra Chipley Barbara Clemons Judy Enis Michal Hubbard
Sharah Johnson Doris Kershaw Mary McMurrey Joe Grady Tuck

SOCIETY STAFF

Nicole DeGuzman, Executive Director Barbara Vana, Office Manager
Carol Kysar, Library and Preservation Manager Traci Frary, Archivist

VISITOR CENTER STAFF

Gloria Perkins, Visitor Center Manager Candiss Lawrence, Visitor Center Associate
Martha Huett, Visitor Center Associate

Museum Acquisitions

Cheryl Bruns – Land records and correspondence relative to Garland Burleigh Miller, dated 1816-1959

City of Elgin – Book Milestones: Elgin, Texas History

Ann and Steve Fischer – The bed and dresser from the early 1800s belonged to Matthew Anderson, an early Bastrop resident. Quilt dated 1894. Ivory-colored bed cover with lace inserts and embroidery. Photographs of Anderson family.

Roy Johnson – Photographs of Bastrop homes and individuals in the County from the late 1900s through 2005.

Lynn Kysar – 1866 edition of Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War

John Lockwood – Flint spear point, likely Native American origin

Ron Ramirez – Copies of six photos of his family and of Elgin events/locations

Tim Rodden – Collection of documents relative to Reuben Gage and family.

Robin Schneider – Photo of a building in Elgin showing the two sets of front doors used during segregation

Ray Stoggins – Straight razor with carved ivory handle manufactured between 1900 and 1932 by the Shumate Razor Co. Belonged to Fred T. Stoggins, grandfather of the donor.

Mickey Turner – Photocopies of 1951 Bastrop High School sports teams

Ronnie White – 35-star U.S. Flag, 1863

Allen Ziegenhals – Copies of two affidavits pertaining to the location of Charles Wertzner's property ★

BCHS would like to thank...

Judy Enis and **Ken Kesselus** for serving as step-on tour docents for BISD teachers tour of the historic district during fall inservice.

Sherri Gilmore for two delicious home baked cakes and beverages for Volunteer Appreciation in September.

Lynn Kysar and **Randy Mikel** for relocating exhibit shelving and items. ★

Fall Quarterly Meeting

Speaker: Brad Weber

Brad and his wife, Ilona, are residents of Bastrop. They have three daughters who reside out of state. Brad has a master's degree in Military History and served in the United States Navy Reserve. He is also a life member of the American Legion.

He is a research volunteer at the Bastrop Museum and Visitor Center. His area of research is World War I and World War II history, with a local emphasis on Camp Swift and the German POW Camp there.



His presentation will give a general history of Camp Swift, as well as the German POWs of the Afrika Korps who were incarcerated there from 1942-1946.

The accompanying photograph is of the entrance to the German POW cemetery. ★



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27 AT 6:30 P.M.
BASTROP COUNTY MUSEUM 904 MAIN BASTROP

Bastrop
MUSEUM & VISITOR CENTER
of the Bastrop County Historical Society

904 MAIN STREET BASTROP, TX 78602
512.303.0057

www.bastropcountyhistoricalsociety.com