



Holiday Homes Tour 2023

Saturday, December 9

Anticipation is building for the Bastrop County Historical Society Holiday Homes Tour! Mark your calendars and plan to attend on Saturday, December 9, 2023, from Noon to 5 p.m. The Society's 2023 tour features four historic homes and a Victorian opera house. We are pleased to announce that a 1911 Prairie-style house makes its debut on this year's tour. Two homes return to the tour for the first time in 23 years, and it has been 17 years since the opera house graced the tour.

This year's tour offers fascinating glimpses of the social life of Bastrop's early citizens, including the rare treat to tour one of Bastrop's carriage houses (now a residence), an elaborate Victorian mansion and an opera house constructed at the same time, both becoming social centers – public and private- of the community; the home of an 1899 University of Texas football player, a descendant of original settlers of Stephen F. Austin's 'Little Colony'; and the home of a banker's widow who purchased her own hotel where she cooked Sunday meals for the 'elite' of Bastrop.



The Fowler-Jenkins House
 1302 Pecan Street

The Fowler-Jenkins House, built by local architect Joseph Pfeiffer, this ornate late Victorian frame house was a wedding gift from J. P. Fowler to his son, Hartford Jenkins, Sr. purchased it in 1912 and rolled it to its present location on logs. Hartford was on the 1899 University of Texas football squad.



The B. D. Orgain House
 1508 Church Street

The B. D. Orgain House, a fabulous example of late 19th-century Victorian architecture, returns to this year's tour after twenty-three years! The Orgains built their elaborate mansion in 1888, and it soon became the social center of Bastrop with wraparound galleries, smoking porches, massive pocket doors, and stained-glass windows throughout.



The Adolph A. Erhard Carriage House
 1209 Pecan Street

The Adolph A. Erhard Carriage House, constructed circa 1870s to serve as a carriage house for the A. A. Erhard House next door, a second-level servants' quarters were added between 1921 and 1934. Carriages were backed into the Beech Street side through large bay doors, a central staircase led from Beech Street to the second floor, and the "front" door was on the south side for easy access to the Erhard's Italianate mansion.



The J. T. Crysop House
 1607 Main Street

The J. T. Crysop House, a two-story Prairie-style house built in 1911 by a banker and business investor and his wife, Lillie. They moved to Bastrop from Crockett, Texas, when J. T. was hired to manage Citizens State Bank. After J. T.'s death, Lillie purchased the Bastrop Hotel, where she cooked Sunday lunches for the "elite" of Bastrop.

Ticket sales are open. Online tickets may be purchased through December 1st at www.BastropCountyHistoricalSociety.com 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 tour day, tickets may be purchased at the Museum & Visitor Center or any tour site. Proceeds from the tour fund programs and operations of the Museum.



Visit Poco a Poco Gift Shop at the Visitor Center for that unique, special gift.
The City of Bastrop supports BCHS – Who else? See Page 2



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Blue Ribbon Services Inc.
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Allen and Martha Ziegenhals

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The Bastrop Opera House
711 Spring Street

The Bastrop Opera House, constructed in 1889 by two local businessmen for \$15,000; its floor plan included a balcony, an orchestra pit, a large stage, and dressing rooms. Today, the Opera House thrives with a full season of plays and musicals. A new capital campaign for expansion will commence in 2024.

CALLING ALL DOCENTS!

We are so excited about our annual Holiday Homes Tour which is on December 9th from noon-5:00. We need docents for each of our lovely, historic homes. Being a docent is a fun experience; you learn a lot about the history of the homes and get a free ticket to tour the other homes as well!

Shifts are from noon-2:30 and 2:30-5:00, no experience is necessary.

If you are interested in being a docent, please contact the museum at 512-303-0057, Jennifer Leisure at 512-922-1281, or Sarah Johnson at 512-284-4624. ★



Lost Pines Historic Homes Symposium

December 8-9, 2023

Experience first-hand details on the art and science of renovating historic homes. Our speakers are successful experts in their fields. This event includes informative classroom-setting sessions, opportunities to enjoy Bastrop's cultural arts district architecture, food, and live theatre offerings. Attendees have a special opportunity to tour the acclaimed historic home, "Ancient Oaks" with docents and its restoration team. *Registration fee: \$250 Limited seating (20) Call 512-303-0904 ★*

BCHS would like to thank...

Astro Record Store for their donation of a variety of music CDs for outdoor entertainment.

Megan Hodson for her donation of a video camera and accessories.

Robbie Sanders for serving as a docent for new BISD employees' bus tour of Bastrop's historic district.

Judy Enis, Carrie Martin, Ron Ramirez, and Mark Mowery for serving as docents for Austin Museum Day on September 17. ★

It's time to renew your membership!

2024 Membership renewal letters were mailed recently, and we hope that you will take a moment to renew today. If you did not receive a letter, you can renew online at the Bastrop County Historical Society website (www.bastropcountyhistoricalsociety.com/membership-form). You may also call the museum and renew over the phone, 512-303-0904. Your support helps us preserve and share history in Bastrop County. ★

Museum Acquisitions

Frank Huffman – Archival sleeves and folders

Cheryl Bruns – War ration books belonging to Esther E. Miller

Bruce Darling – Family documents

Doug Cooper – Panoramic photograph of CCC Co. 1805, c. 1939

Gloria Perkins – Cotton gloves

Debbie Wahrmund – Old Mexican Cemetery records

Robin Schneider – Copy of *A History of Texas Whiskey* by Andrew Braunberg

Jack Moncure & family – Sword of Captain John James Moncure ★

Research Requests

The word is out! The research library is busier than ever. To better serve your research needs, please email Heather Bloom, Collections Manager, at Heather@bchs1832.org to make an appointment so our team can prepare for all research visits. ★

Research Library Volunteers

Jackie Givens Andres Herrera Megan Hodson Gloria Hoffman Adela Jones
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2024 Leading Members

As of October 2, 2023

BENEFACTORS:

Kathy Holberg

MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

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Blue Ribbon Cooling
Central Texas Elevator
City of Bastrop
Community Lawn Care and
Maintenance
Darling Ingredients, Inc.
Frontier Bank of Texas
Sharah and David Johnson
Medack & Oltmann, CPAs
Leslie and Chris Mellenbruch
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Small Innovations

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Ron and Sandy Barclay
Jill and Chris Barrow
Capital of Texas Roofing
Sandra Chipley and Chuck Kellogg
Pat and Robert Cunningham
The Dentists
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Traci Frary and Jeff Crouch
Doris and James Kershaw
Jennifer Leisure
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Nancy and Larry Mellenbruch
Gloria and Win Perkins
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Sara and Tom Clayton
Anita and Leslie Feigenbaum
Betty Gurwitz
Sandy Kibby
Jamie and Curtis McDonald
Carole Reynolds
Nancy and Tom Scott
Ginni and Fred Smith
Catherine and Rodney Turner
Derek VanGilder
Debbie and Jeff Wahrmund
Lucinda Wilcoxon
Martha and Allen Ziegenhaus

Fall Quarterly Meeting

Guest Speaker: Ron Ramirez

Join us for a special BCHS Quarterly Meeting — Featuring Guest Speaker Ron Ramirez, Former Elgin Mayor, about our newest exhibit, **Hispanic Heritage, Bastrop Roots**. Meet us at the museum on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

This exhibit spotlights the invaluable contributions and enduring influences of Hispanic residents in Bastrop County. It was created with original research and oral histories. The exhibit features family businesses, educators, elected officials, and civil service professionals. The exhibit showcases



interesting items like the military service medals of former Bastrop County Commissioner Willie Piña and the gavel used by Senator Barrientos during his years of service in the Texas Senate.

Interview with speaker Ron Ramirez on the BCHS website at: www.bastropcountyhistoricalsociety.com/quarterly-meeting

The exhibit **Hispanic Heritage, Bastrop Roots**, will be on display until October 27, 2023. ★



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26 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