

# Chalkboard Notes

FRIENDS OF GILLESPIE  
COUNTY COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Open House Schedule for:

OCT. 7, 2017

Williams Creek School-Albert  
Junction School -LBJ Park  
[www.HistoricSchools.org](http://www.HistoricSchools.org)

To contribute items to the CHALK-  
BOARD NOTES eNewsletter, contact  
either of the Friends' Directors :  
Don Spraggins at (830)-456-3956  
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## Friends Of Gillespie County Country Schools

Volume 6: Issue FALL 2017 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

### HISTORIC PAINTED SCHOOL CURTAINS OUT OF STORAGE FOR PHOTO SESSIONS

Two historic curtains were photographed with help from our partners, Bobbi McDaniel and her crew at Luckenbach, TX, and Internet Technician, Alex Cortez using a drone to capture a full photo of the 1934 Luckenbach School painted curtain which measures 20' x 8'. Luckenbach school trustees listed on the curtain are: Alf. Metzger, Hugo C. Petsch, and H.Y. Petsch. Dr. Jim Lindley added



### CSAA LANDMARK SCHOOL MARKERS:

PIONEER MUSEUM AND WHITE OAK SCHOOL hosted the installation of the Country School Association of America Landmark School Marker in September. They will install the Vereins Kirche CSAA Marker in November to honor our first Gillespie County school which was augmented by local businesses donating classroom space when the number of students increased. No wonder our community has continued to support education! These historical markers validate preservation work nationally and encourage others to preserve and value history. THANK YOU and congratulations to the Pioneer Museum, White Oak School, and Vereins Kirche.

close-up photos of the 30 business advertisements which paid for the curtain as was the custom in the 1920 to 1940 period.

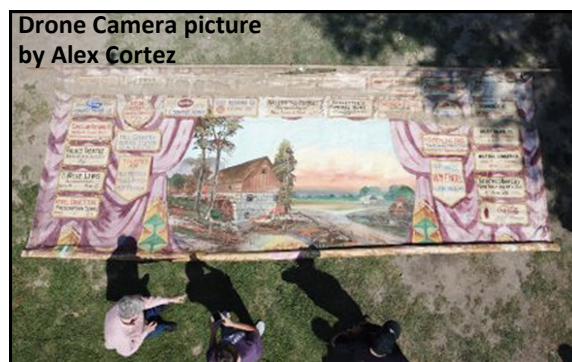
Next stop was at Stonewall to photograph the Weinheimer Hall curtain. Our partner, DeAnn Weinheimer Hampton at Weinheimer & Son, assisted us with the 1938 Weinheimer Hall painted curtain which measures 20' x 9'. It was used by Lower South Grape Creek School and other nearby country schools. Friends' archives now include photos of 14 Gillespie County painted stage curtains. Painted curtains were used in rural schools with indoor stages, pavilion stages, school porches, as well as a nearby heritage hall or dance hall. Most of the End of School Year events presented plays and entertainment on the stage with a curtain if they had it or in a neighboring pasture or in the school yard with an arbor or temporary stage constructed for the occasion. The whole community attended the school closings. Large crowds had to be accommodated, necessitating pavilions and the use of large halls for some schools. Think Doss School Closing today! The curtain photos join the Friends' Archives/Artifacts Project and the Willow City School Painted Curtain Project eBook with Website Solutions' Kay Hauptrief Guenther, and Power Point Project, Mary Pressler, aided by many Friends' members and community helpers----more to come on these projects.

**HISTORY LESSON:** “Everyone would bring food in a one half pint jar with their name carved on their lids. At recess time everyone would put their jar in to cook, about one half hour before noon, the teacher would light the stove.” In 1949, Pilot Knob School consolidated with FISD. From PILOT KNOB SCHOOL: page 108 - [Gillespie County School Histories 1983](#)

**RESTORATION NOTES:** Lower South Grape Creek School has installed security lights, added central air/heat in the “tin porch” area and remodeled countertops. Cave Creek School also has central air/heat. Wrede School added gutters. Luckenbach School replaced windows. Just like home, there are always repairs and replacements to maintain country schoolhouses. Our school/community clubs make a very reasonable rental opportunity for special events. Rentals vary from \$50 to \$250 with discounted rates for Friends GCCS members. See our website for information at: [www.HistoricSchools.org](http://www.HistoricSchools.org). Rental fees help support the country school and gives you a new experience that is photo-rich!

**COMMUNITY CLUB OR SCHOOL?** The schoolhouses naturally served the communities that built the schools, supported the schools and were their neighbors. Meusebach Creek School might boast of the oldest community club, “The Social and Improvement Club”, organized in 1917. The Club purchased new desks, dug a cistern, and installed a telephone in 1917. These clubs were formed with the main objective of helping the schools and to promote community spirit. Today we say school or community club or center and it does not matter which since they all continue to support education, teach the value of history and provide rural communities places to meet. They continue traditions of community spirit...a need in any community. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING the historic schools and community clubs. You make a difference and make our communities better.

**HELP NEEDED:** If you have early local country school photos, please share them with us for our Archives Project. We scan them so you keep the photo. We need photos of any painted stage curtains, use of the stage, plays or END OF SCHOOL YEAR events or ANY SCHOOL PHOTOS from any Gillespie County Country School. Contact us: Jane 990-8059 ([jane423@austin.rr.com](mailto:jane423@austin.rr.com)) or Don 456-3956 ([donspraggins@msn.com](mailto:donspraggins@msn.com)).



Thank you for supporting the Friends of the Gillespie County Country Schools. We look forward to bringing you the 2017 Winter Edition of CHALKBOARD NOTES. Feel free to contact the Friends to submit items for the CHALKBOARD; contact Don at (830)456-1249 or Jane at (830)990-8059 to submit articles or photos for the e-newsletter. The quarterly editions are meant to keep us in touch, share information, and open new doors to our country schools and community centers in Gillespie County-- so we welcome your submissions. Friends is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with a membership of 12 historic schools/community clubs with over 500 members in Gillespie County, Texas.

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