

# Chalkboard Notes



## FRIENDS OF GILLESPIE COUNTY COUNTRY SCHOOLS, INC.

Open House Schedule:

Sept. 16 - Lower South Grape Creek School

Oct. 20 - Cherry Spring School

Nov. 17 - Williams Creek (Albert) School

More information and map at [www.historicschools.org](http://www.historicschools.org)

Editor: Nelda Roessler [rbizniz@gmail.com](mailto:rbizniz@gmail.com)

## Friends Of Gillespie County Country Schools, Inc.

Volume 7:

Issue: Summer 2018 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

### Country School Association of America National Conference

The 2018 CSAA National Conference met in Beatrice, Nebraska, in June. Seven Texans who attended the conference were Friends' members: Sally Murray and Carolyn Sowell, Ben Shacklette of Lubbock, Jane and Ron Woellhof of Fredericksburg, and Catharin and Richard Lewis of League City. Ben Shacklette, AIA, Texas Tech University presented his research on Gillespie County Country schoolhouses, their unique designs, and German heritage influence with a brief history of our early free education. Check out the well-done YouTube video of the conference by Susan Fineman at <https://youtu.be/VU-usAoL8ws>.

### FRIENDS ENDOWMENT CHALLENGE

Ron and Jane Woellhof began saving quarters in an old fruit jar at the end of May to contribute to the Friends GCCS Endowment at the Friends Annual BBQ and Fundraiser in April, 2019.

#### THE WOELLHOF CHALLENGE

Save your quarters in an old fruit jar and bring them to the 2019 Friends' BBQ next spring! See what the "quarter challenge" can achieve when put together and deposited in the Friends Endowment in Perpetuity.



See the website: [www.communityfoundation.net](http://www.communityfoundation.net) for information or to contribute to the Friends Endowment.

### New Wrede School Flag

The July 4th Open House program on the US Flag by Roy Kasper and Violet Ottmers was followed by the presentation of the Wrede School flag designed by Jason Barnes. This is the first school flag for our Gillespie County Schools. Wrede, thank you for leading and for a program on flag and patriotism that was always taught in our country schools and is always appropriate today.

### Pecan Creek Hosts April Tractor Drive

Thanks to Helen Feller for the update on this year's Tractor Drive. The Drive meandered through the country roads and stopped at Pecan Creek School for lunch and fellowship. This event is a long-time partner with the Friends and they visit many of our schools each year. The Friends' Archives have a 2006 photo of that year's Tractor Drive at Pecan Creek School.





**DONATION:** Twenty-two school books, a slate board and photo album were donated in June to honor Bertha Thomas Pavlicek of Silverton, Texas. Her nieces Nancy Tschirhart Brooks and Linda Tschirhart Hejl wanted to honor their aunt who served as the Brisco County Clerk and attended a country school in Bisco County, Texas. An additional group of books were given by the ladies to honor their mother, Margaret Thomas Tschirhart, a Texas teacher. We are grateful for their generous gifts. These books, slate, and early school photos can assist Friends' projects and archives. All items have been inventoried by the Friends and are available for use at Friends' events. THANK YOU Nancy and Linda. We are thrilled with your grand gift.

**LOCAL SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE STORY COMPLETED IN JUNE:** The family of former Crabapple student, Hildegard Probst went on a mission. Her daughter is Lilly Smothers, a Crabapple School Community Center member. Lilly's son and his daughters traveled to Washington DC to view and photograph their family—the picture included great grandmother Hildegard, her two sisters (Esther and Bessie Probst, her brother, Kurt Probst, and her future brother-in-law, Louis Lee Bruns. Rather think the whole family learned a lot of history and experienced family pride and pride of place—a Texas Hill Country School story! Four generations touched by the “Many Voices, One Nation” exhibit at the Smithsonian.



Katlin and McKayla Harlan use their cell phones to photograph their great grandmother's picture at the Smithsonian exhibit.

**OLD PHOTOS: Gillespie County Country Schools need photos of stages, stages in use with school plays or other activities. Contact Jane Woellhof.**

Contact Directors-at-Large, Jane Woellhof at 830-990-8059 or Don Spraggins at 830-456-3956, to submit newsletter items.

The Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools, Inc. P.O. Box 55, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Friends website: [www.HistoricSchools.org](http://www.HistoricSchools.org)

*OUR MISSION: Preserving the past to enrich the future.*

You receive this newsletter as a Friends' member or member-at-large. If you wish to unsubscribe, please e-mail Jane at

[jane423@austin.rr.com](mailto:jane423@austin.rr.com).