



Non-Profit Organization

# Tidbits

Volume 20—Issue 04

[www.hdsclf.org](http://www.hdsclf.org)

April 2019

## SPRING IN YOUR STEPS!!

### Social Gathering MMSC—April 10, Wednesday



On April 10, 2019, 25 senior citizens met with and imparted their knowledge to 25 students from the University of Houston's American Sign Language Interpreting (ASLI) Program.



Larry Butler took the floor to talk about growing up as a deaf person. He introduced Sharon Hill, the ASLI Program Director, who talked about her experience of becoming a sign language interpreter being involved in the Deaf Community, and managing the UH ASLI program.



Jim Dermon spoke about different sign languages from other countries; furthermore, he talked about his growing up years in New Hampshire and Vermont.

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Virendra Desai talked about his experiences growing up in India and then moving to Pennsylvania and attending college in Denver, Colorado.

Doina Langham was the next one when she explained about her life in Romania.

Robert Yost let the University of Houston students know that he is a big

Auburn University fan because he came from Alabama, and he and his family then moved to St. Louis, Missouri. He talked about his experience as a star track and field athlete in high school.

Nancy Morris talked about growing up in public schools and meeting two deaf people at her first job where she learned signs after meeting them.

Sharon Hill gave examples of different signs used by the deaf senior citizen speakers such as “then”, “talk” and a few other signs to emphasize that the UH ASLI students need to know that a lot of deaf people have different signs for one word.

After watching different speakers, the deaf seniors chatted with the UH ASLI students. The seniors broke out to go to lunch, and then a few of them came back to played games. It was quite a gorgeous and enjoyable day.



By Nancy Morris

**Remember our old phone from the past....**

**There is a video about TTYs history.**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHJ6AJ5i6xc&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2tcq1Tp0AB7j\\_8UXqJIEug64ha1meBf60Tcjk\\_a-AnqD9QsFr-Z3h35il](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHJ6AJ5i6xc&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2tcq1Tp0AB7j_8UXqJIEug64ha1meBf60Tcjk_a-AnqD9QsFr-Z3h35il)





## **Waco Mammoth National Monument Field Trip—April 13, 2019**



**Kneeling: John Holland, Robert Bellard,  
Tom Langham, Virendra Desai**

**Second Row: Leonard Coleman, Marion McCreary, Patsy Walker,  
Zane Owens, Janie Morales, Doina Langham, Gertie Session, Lee Morgan**

**Back Row: Wanda Andrew, Deborah Daniels, Clyde Andrew, Jim Dermon,  
Jan Dermon, Nancy Morris, Danny Hensley**

Nineteen of our senior citizens visited the Waco Mammoth National Monument on April 13, 2019. It was a rainy stormy day. The tour guide led us down a 300-yard paved path through the woods. He showed us where the first bones were found, and then entered the covered active dig site. The place is a very interesting...the picture, above, is the actual size of a mammoth!

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At the end of the tour which took about 45 minutes, we had to wait at the exit door for the storm to pass!

### Information below about Waco Mammoth National Monument...

It is a paleontological site protecting the only nursery herd of Columbian mammoths in the U.S. Visitors enjoy tours and fossils.

The national park features fossils of female mammoths, a bull mammoth, and an ancient relative of camels, an antelope, alligator, giant tortoise, and more. Visitors can enjoy tours where they visit the Dig Shelter, which houses fossils in situ, meaning still in their original position within the bone bed.

These fossilized Ice Age creatures were discovered in 1978 by Paul Barron and Eddie Bufkin. They were in search of arrowheads and fossils when they noticed a large bone protruding from a ravine. The bone was brought to Baylor University's Strecker Museum where it was identified as the femur of a Columbian mammoth (*Mammuthus Columbi*) ' the larger distant relative of the woolly mammoth. Since then, excavation of the site has lead to important scientific research and additional discoveries.

<https://www.nationalparks.org/explore-parks/waco-mammoth-national-monument>



## Camp Hearne, Prisoner-of-War Camp — After Mammoth Trip



**Kneeling: Robert Bellard, Virendra Desai**

**First Row: Wanda Andrew, Lee Morgan, Patsy Walker, Janie Morales, Doina Langham, Marion McCreary, Jan Dermon**

**Second Row: Gertie Session, Deborah Daniels, Nancy Morris**

**Third Row: Jim Dermon, Clyde Andrew, Leonard Coleman, Tom Langham  
John Holland, Zane Owens, Danny Hensley**



Camp Hearne is a very interesting place. Through the artifacts on exhibit, we were able to get a clear idea of what life was like for the POWs who lived there.

The tour guide was excellent. She told stories that were happened at the concentration camp.

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## Brief History About POW

**Starting in 1942, over 400,000 German, Italian, and Japanese prisoners of war arrived in the US from the battlefields of North Africa, Sicily, and Italy, and were held in 500 prison camps across the country. Camp Hearne was one of them. This website tells its story.**

Camp Hearne was a World War II Prisoner-of-War Camp located north of Hearne, Texas. Hearne is located 20 miles northwest of the Bryan-College Station metroplex.

After the 1942-43 US troop buildup and successes in North Africa and Italy, the ships carrying our soldiers to the European theater returned to the US with a different cargo... an estimated 425,000 prisoners-of-war.

Hearne was chosen to house 4,800 of these prisoners in its POW base camp due to its flat terrain, distance from the coastline, railroad access, sparse population and local need for farm laborers.

Honoring the Geneva Conventions, the US Army treated POWs well, providing ample food, shelter and clothing. Since work for a fair wage was only required of the enlisted men, various recreation and education programs were offered to the prisoners who were non-commissioned officers. The prisoners built a theater and put on plays, painted pictures, created sculptures and fountains, and played soccer to pass the time.

Today's historic camp site has many building foundations that outline the camp's original "footprint" as well as remnants of various prisoner-built amenities such as garden fountains and a stadium-seating theater with orchestra pit. An exhibit depicting the daily life of the Camp's mostly German prisoners may be viewed in a reconstructed US Army barrack on the historic site.

<http://camphearne.com/>





# **Mother's Day Luncheon**

**May 8, Wednesday**

**9:00 AM**

**Brief Meeting**

**10:00 AM**

**Senior Citizens**

**Crime Prevention**

**Officer James Sobota**

**11:00 AM**

**Drink on Your Own**

**Contact:**

**Nancy Morris—281.815.4013**

**Patsy Walker—281.973.2242**

# **Father's Day Luncheon**

## **June 12, Wednesday**

**Where:**

**Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church  
9920 Long Point Rd  
Houston, Tx**

**Time:**

**9:00 AM—3:00 PM**

**What to Bring—Contact:**

**Nancy/Zane Owens  
979.246.2180**



# Field Trip—Goliad, TX: Embracing the Past

Saturday, May 18, 2019

**Cost: \$10.00**

**Deadline: May 8, 2019**



**Goliad  
State Park  
and  
Historic  
Site**



**LUNCH ON  
YOUR OWN**



**Markethouse  
Museum**

**Presidio  
La Bahia**



Please meet at **6:00 am**  
**Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church**  
**9920 Long Point Rd, Houston**  
Bus leaves at **6:30 am**

**Contact: Jim Dermon (VP 936.828.4013)**

**Field Trip—June 22, 2019 Cost: \$5.00**

**Deadline: June 12, 2019**

## **Brenham**



**A great way to live your life,  
get out and walk.**



**Ride Carousel  
on Your Own**

## **Burton**



**Burton Railroad Depot &  
Museum**



**Texas Cotton Gin  
Museum**

**Please meet at 6:30 am  
Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church  
9920 Long Point Rd, Houston  
Bus leaves at 7:00 am**

**Contact: Mary Ann Ryba  
832-413-6975**



**Lunch TBA—On Your Own**



# Summer Field Trips--Tentative



Day at  
George H. W. Bush  
Presidential  
Library & Museum



Angleton &  
Bay City

- Brazoria County Historical Museum
- Crocodile Encounter
- Matagorda County Museum

# **HDSCLF OVERNIGHT TRIP**

**December 3—4, 2019      \$95 Per Person\***

**Fredericksburg • Johnson City • Marble Falls**



**Holiday Lights**



**Pioneer & Vereins Kirche Museums**



**LBJ State Park**

## **December 3**

- Trail of Holiday Lights and Walking Tours
- Overnight at Fredericksburg, TX
- Luncheon at Auslander Restaurant—On Your Own

## **December 4**

- Pioneer Museum/Vereins Kirche Museum
- LBJ State Park & Historic Site
- LBJ Ranch

**\*The price is subject to change.**

**Price is for anyone who is Deaf and over 60 years old residing in Houston area.**

**Anyone under 60 years old and not deaf is to contact Jim Dermon (936-828-4013) for pricing.**

**Full payment is due no later than October 31, 2019.**

**Monthly payment can be arranged. After October 31, 2019 is non-refundable.**

**Please send the payment to HDSCLF stating "Overnight Trip" on the memo"**

**HDSCLF • Attention: Overnight Trip • P.O. Box 130705 • Houston, TX 77219-0705**



# MARY ANN RYBA'S HAWAIIAN TRIP



Rosanne, Hunter, Mary Ann, Kaley



Hideway Beach, Kauai, Hawaii



Hunter, Rosanne, Mary Ann at Coconut Coast, Kauai

From March 9 - 15, 2019, I took a trip to Kauai, Hawaii with Roseanne, my daughter and her husband, Hunter, and Kaley, my daughter's best friend.

This was my first trip to fly over water which was beautiful! The first two days of the trip was dedicated to a wedding that my daughter was in.

How exciting!! We had a traditional Hawaiian meal including poi, kalua, and lomi-lomi salmon which was delicious. After the wedding festivities were over, we decided to explore the town of Kapa'a! , so we could visit some of the things we did during our trip. We rented some cruiser bikes for a stroll along the coastline, hiked to the waterfalls (yes, more than one!), hung out at some of the beautiful beaches, went to the Smith Family Luau, drank from fresh coconut, and went down a river in a kayak; I also swung on a vine hanging from a tree. I cannot forget to mention all the chickens and rooster running around the island.

Needless to say, I had a wonderful trip!! I can not wait to go back on a vacation to create more memories.

Mary Ann Ryba



# Fredericksburg, Texas

## Fredericksbrug Maibaum/Maypole



**Editor's Note:** There will be several trivia information about Fredericksburg, Texas between this May newsletter and the November newsletter.

**Maibaums** (Maypoles) are erected in Bavarian villages for festivals and are later used as frameworks for symbols of the villages' histories or points of interest. The Fredericksburg Maibaum was erected in 1991 to symbolize the history of Fredericksburg, which was founded in May 1846.

The bottom symbols portray the March 2, 1847 peace negotiations between Comanche tribes and the German pioneers. A group of settlers, led by John O. Meusebach, traveled north, deep into Comanche territory, and met with 15 to 20 Comanche chiefs. The agreement they reached allowed the Fredericksburg colonists to develop their settlement in peace.

The cowboy and dancers on the second level portray the settlers working and celebrating. The third level represents the grapes and peaches, which have contributed so abundantly to the local economy.

The next level shows the importance of hunting deer, turkey and other wild game in the development of the colony as well as its importance in the area's present-day economy.

Also playing a major role in Fredericksburg's past and present are cattle, sheep and goats, which find plentiful grazing in the area.



**Photo credit:**

Brent Burns (7/2016)  
Fredericksburg, Texas

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The ship and oxcart on the next level portray the transportation of the pioneers arriving in this colony. Most came by ship from Germany to Indianola, a port on Matagorda Bay, and then by oxcart overland to Fredericksburg.

The settlers established a unique community in Fredericksburg as symbolized by the Sunday Houses, which dot the city, and the historic Nimitz Hotel, which serves today as the Admiral Nimitz Museum—a key element of the National Museum of the Pacific War.

Two of the community's most recognized features today are the replica of the Vereins Kirche, the first church, and the cross atop Cross Mountain. These symbolize the devotion of the early settlers to the Christian faith.

The 12 tree branches at the top of the Maibaum are modeled after the burr oak, a species that is notable for its stately height and durable, useful wood. The trunk and branches are wrought iron and the leaves are copper with a natural patina.

The Fredericksburg Maibaum was contributed to the community by the Pedernales Creative Arts Alliance, a local organization devoted to fostering the arts in this area.

<https://www.visitfredericksburgtx.com/2013/05/03/the-fredericksburg-maibaum/>

*In*

*Memory*



**Bertha Moses**

**11/13/1942**

**4/2/2019**

**New Subscribers:**

Tom Becker  
Billy Hill

**Renewals:**

Vera Akers  
Jim Lawrence  
Mary Jo Stevens

**Donation In Memory Of:**

Bertha Moses (Jim/Jan Dermon)  
James Spaulding (Nancy Morris)

**Donations to HDSC Love Fund:**

Christine Johnson  
Cristina Rodriguez  
Abel Yarrito

On the behalf of HDSCLF board,  
we want to thank you for your  
kind donation. Your generosity  
makes a difference in the lives of  
Houston Deaf Citizens. Thank  
you again for your kindness.

Jim Dermon  
HDSCLF Treasurer

**Board of  
Directors**

Jim Dermon



Mary Ann Ryba



Nancy Morris



Patsy Walker

**Newsletter Editor**

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Jan Dermon Assist.

**Photography**

Judy Becker  
Virendra Desai

**Subscription**

Vacant

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Jim Dermon

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**Publicity**

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**Prizes**

Margo Jarreau

**Day Games**

Deborah Daniels  
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**Field Trips**

Patsy Walker  
Mary Ann Ryba

**Annual Trip**

Jim Dermon

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