



# THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*By Marty Humphrey*

Well, the saying about if you don't like the weather in Texas, stick around a minute was proven true this past week. Cold weather or warm weather, we keep on keeping on. The February meeting was outstanding. We have the greatest members and it was so good to have such a huge crowd, Mike Nichols was wonderful, we sold out of books (but have more autographed in the museum now), many renewed their membership and some members donated additional funds for the Society.

At that meeting we announced that to try to help the museum's financial state, we have started charging admission for a three-month trial run...it's only \$2 per adult and so far it has been going well.

We have some new outdoor "sandwich" signs to get the visitors off the sidewalk and into the museum. They are eye-catching and professional looking signs and sincere thanks to Wade Wilson for designing them for us. Be sure to check them out when the museum is open, you will be pleased.

We will also be having another raffle starting in the next few weeks-a \$2,000 gift certificate for Cabela's Sporting Goods. Thanks to Robert Baker for arranging the gift certificate. Once the tickets are printed, be sure to pick some up and start selling them to all your friends and co-workers.

On March 1<sup>st</sup> at the Port of Brownsville Texas, a public ceremony was held for one last look at the carrier USS Forrestal before dismantling. In attendance were members LeAnna Schooley & her father Jerald Biles. Jerald was on the ship July 29, 1967 when a rocket misfired. At the time the ship was in the Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam and 134 service members lost their lives during the fire.

We will be having a new neighbor soon; the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association will be opening a museum across from Billy Bob's. President Tom Wiederhold met with them last week to get a peek at their building design. We will have more information later as we learn about the new museum.

Don't forget, if you know anyone who would like to become a corporate member or sponsor events like the Oakwood Saint and Sinners Tour in October, please send them our way!!

See you at the meeting, *Marty*

**Thank you to all of those who paid their memberships! And a big WELCOME! to the new members!**

If you would like to become a member of the North Fort Worth Historical Society or renew your membership, you can do so on-line at [www.stockyardsmuseum.org](http://www.stockyardsmuseum.org), or by sending a check to:

**NFWHS, 131 E. Exchange Ave. #110, Fort Worth, TX 76164**

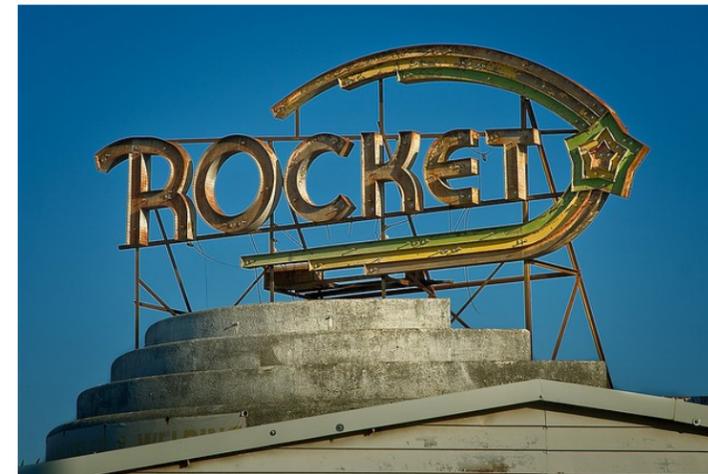
**Membership levels:**

- Individual \$25.00     Family \$35.00     Student\* (Grades 1-12) \$12.00     Patron \$150.00
- Commission Agent\* \$1,000.00     Brand Inspector\* \$2,500.00,     Stockyards Cattle Baron\* \$5,000.00



Membership Newsletter March 2014

***Don't miss the NFWHS Meeting on Thursday, March 13, at 7:00 PM in the Livestock Exchange Building.***



*Our special guest will be Max Hill, who will talk about research he has done on nightclubs in Fort Worth.*

*Many of us remember the Skyliner and the Rocket, but there were a lot of other places here where you could have a night on the town.*

*Max worked for the Fort Worth Public Library for almost 29 years before his retirement in 2005.*

*As assistant manager of the Genealogy & Local History Unit there, he was a researcher's best friend.*

## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

**DONNA DONNELL**

You know her as an author and researcher and even as Skip Humphrey's sister. But she is also a volunteer in the Stockyards Museum. Donna has been a member for more years than anyone cares to count. She brings to the museum her love and knowledge of history and countless stories about the Stockyards and Fort Worth that she shares with the visitors.



We appreciate Donna and all of our volunteers!

***"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."***

## Glimpses of the Past...



### Casino Beach

In 1916, Fort Worth built a municipal beach, where the Nine-Mile Bridge connected to the west shore of Lake Worth. It was a huge success. By 1920, over a hundred thousand bathers patronized the beach each season. It was so popular that a bus line from Fort Worth called the Fort Worth Auto Bus Company took passengers from the end of Rosen Heights line to this beach.

Casino Park was renowned for having The Thriller, the largest roller coaster in the southwest. It was almost a mile long, with humps that varied from 14 to 72 feet.

Casino Park held an annual beauty pageant, and on the Fourth of July, the Casino would draw crowds of well over a hundred thousand to celebrate and watch the fireworks display.

But by far, the center-point and most long-lived attraction was the Casino Ballroom. At over 31,000 square feet, it could seat 2,200 people for an evening of dancing and a hot meal for \$2 per person, total.

Sadly, after years of economic struggle and decline, Casino Beach closed in 1972.

## NFWHS News by Teresa Burluson



Get well wishes are sent out to Dan Padgett. He had a minor, out patient surgery and is home recovering well.

Pat Simpson has been under the weather lately and we look forward to her coming back to her post in the museum on Thursdays.

Be Sure You Mark Your Calendars for the NFWHS Quarterly Day Trip!

We will be visiting

### **Homestead Heritage at Brazos de Dios**

In Elm Mott, TX (near Waco) on March 29th.

Homestead Heritage is a Traditional Crafts Village that showcases a community of craftsmen who have returned, not to the past, but to the enduring values exemplified in handcraftsmanship. You can visit the shops in the crafts village, watch craftsmen work, and experience their joy and fulfillment of returning to the art of workmanship.

You will visit: The Potter's House, Heritage Furniture, Heritage Forge, Gristmill, Fiber Crafts and General Store. The paths between each place are a pleasant stroll along a pea-graveled, tree lined walkway.

You can also enjoy a hay ride on a horse-drawn wagon. Bring a sack lunch and your favorite beverage and have a picnic at one of the many picnic tables beneath the beautiful trees.

Admission: \$5 for Seniors, \$6 for non-Seniors.

Horse Drawn Hay Ride: \$5 for Seniors, \$6 for non-Seniors

\*Car pools and Caravans to the location are being determined.

**You Must RSVP by  
March 22 by calling  
Teresa at 817-625- 5082  
or email :  
nfwhs@sbcglobal.net**

