



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Marty Humphrey

It has truly been a busy month. Some things good, some things not so good. One thing that I have been reminded of this month is – one, you can't please everyone, and two, even the people you please will say you could have done it better. Rumors are flying about the Stockyards, its development, and our involvement. So this month I will try to put some of those rumors to rest with the facts.

Rumor #1 – The NFWHS did not do anything to stop the demolition of the buildings in the Stockyards.

Fact – Not true. The property these buildings stand on is privately owned, but a representative of the Society (Paul Hunter, Melissa Hunter or I) attended every Council meeting, Landmark Commission meeting, and Zoning meeting to ask that various buildings be designated historical or be repurposed.

Rumor #2 – The NFWHS made a deal with the developers and approved the demolishing of the buildings.

Fact – Not true. We are sad the buildings could not be saved, but we do not own them and have no legal right to what is done with them. The owners have City-issued permits allowing the demolition. Several of the buildings had deteriorated to the point of having collapsed roofs and termite-eaten walls.

Rumor #3 – The Stockyards Museum is being forced to move out of the Livestock Exchange Building.

Fact – Not true. We have a lease that guarantees another year in our present location.

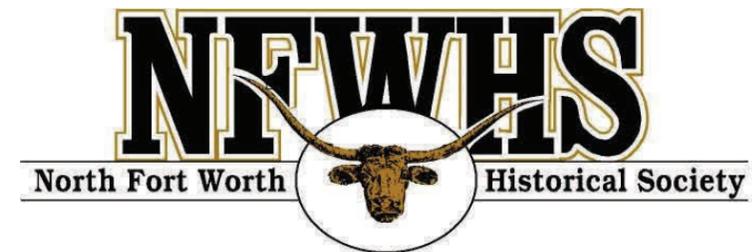
Rumor #4 – The NFWHS partnered with Majestic for the Stockyards Heritage Trail.

Fact – True. Throughout this two-year process, Majestic has seen our passion and our knowledge of the Stockyards and Northside history. They were listening when the community said they wanted the story of the Stockyards to continue to be told. They saw that the NFWHS could be a valuable asset in the development. They asked if we would be interested in a partnership to tell the story through the proposed Stockyards Heritage Trail and our Board agreed. All along, the NFWHS has pleaded to keep the history of the Stockyards alive and real, what better way to do that than to work on that project and have a say in the points of interest and the authenticity of the story that will be told.

Rumor #5 – The NFWHS had their pockets greased to allow the demolition of the buildings.

Fact – Absolutely not. Our accounting records are open to the public, stop by the museum anytime to see them. Because we are a non-profit organization, our tax returns are on-line for anyone to view. Monetarily we haven't gotten anything from the developers. What we did get is a voice in the historical representation of the proposed Stockyards Heritage Trail, and we are honored to be given this opportunity.

I hope this helps answer some of your concerns. Last month in this column I invited the developers to work together with the NFWHS in a true partnership to present the true story of what once was and continues to be, the Stockyards, so that it can remain strong...and they accepted my invitation. The NFWHS would be a very poor steward of our heritage if we had chosen to ignore the opportunity to partner with Majestic to keep alive our colorful history through the planned Stockyards Heritage Trail. To anyone wanting a voice in preserving our history, I say come join the members of the North Fort Worth Historical Society in the development of the Stockyards Heritage Trail, come see we are still committed to preserving and educating future generations about our wonderful Stockyards history. Remember the buildings are not our entire history; it is many things, including each of us. Standing with our back to the future, staring only at the past does not serve a purpose, we must embrace both past and future to preserve and protect our heritage. Come join us to show the next generation that history is ever-changing, ever-growing, and learning about it and being a part of it can be fun and rewarding. ~Marty



Membership Newsletter August 2016



NFWHS Meeting

August 11 at 7pm

Our special guest will be **Scott Barker**



Scott Barker is a local historian and collector who specializes in the art history of the City of Fort Worth. Barker is currently curating a fall 2016 exhibit for the Old Jail Art Center in Albany, Texas spotlighting four Fort Worth artists from the 1930s, Sallie Gillespie, Wade Jolly, Blanche McVeigh, and Evaline Sellors. His talk, *A Precarious Profession: Photographers in Early Fort Worth*, takes a look back at our city's first professional photographers and the fascinating body of work they left behind.

National Day of the American Cowboy—July 23, 2016—Parade



Thanks to John Pugh for pulling the trailer with his pickup.

Thanks to all who participated.



Glimpses of the Past...

This photo was taken in 1976 inside the Auction Arena that is just east of the Livestock Exchange Building.

This week the Auction Arena has been getting a much needed "facelift" because auctions will once again be held there.

On September 30th and October 1st, 2016, a Texas Longhorn auction will take place in the Auction Arena. It has been well over 20 years since a cattle auction has been held in the auction arena which was built in 1958. The plans are to have many more livestock auctions in the future.



NFWHS News by Teresa Burleson



Please keep Keith Bridwell, Pat Simpson and Dan Padgett in your thoughts and prayers.

We are still looking for recipes to compose a NFWHS Cookbook. Send us your old family favorites to nfwhs@sbcglobal.net or mail to the museum.

How Many Men Does It Take To Hang A Buffalo Head?

Bob the Buffalo has finally returned home after a long visit to Alpine Taxidermy to get a hair transplant. He was hung back in his regular spot by Skip Humphrey, John Pugh, Jonathan Pugh, Paul Hunter, Bobby Burleson and Dean Bedford.

Welcome Home Bob!

