

2012-2013 Grant Recipients

1. Allen Heritage Guild Guttering for churches at the Allen Heritage Village \$900

Allen Heritage Guild has requested funds for gutters for St. Mary Church to be attached along both sides of the building at the eaves and above the new doors that the Collin County Historical Commission funded last year. Guttering is also to be placed at the eave on a small section of roof on the rear elevation of Allen Christian Church over the area of the handicap access door and ramp. This handicap door is suffering splash damage from the porch. The purpose of the gutters is to protect the integrity of the wood framing around the doors and along the building sides and to protect the wood flooring of the porch area.

2. Bear Creek Cemetery Foundation: Repair Damaged Markers \$4,080

Bear Creek Cemetery contains about 180 marked graves, including some that are only marked with bois d'arc posts or fieldstones. Many stones are broken, crooked, leaning, fallen and are in need of cleaning. The Collin County Historical Commission held a marker restoration workshop in April 2011 at Bear Creek Cemetery. Twenty –three of the largest markers were leveled and repaired in February, 2012 by a grant from the Collin County Historical Commission. Now the Foundation is concentrating on restoring the many tablet makers that are lying flat on the ground and broken in pieces, with missing or broken bases. The most damaged markers will be repaired by Texas Cemetery Restoration LLC, Rusty Breener's company. Also the people of Nevada are involved with this cemetery.

3. Cemetery Association of Murphy: Tombstone Inscription Preservation \$1,780

Several tombstones in the Maxwell Cemetery have lost, or are in the process of losing, all or part of their inscriptions. A survey of the cemetery found eighteen markers that are in imminent danger of losing their inscriptions due to breakage and/or erosion. The inscriptions have been recorded in early photographs and in history books. In accordance with the missions of both the Cemetery Association of Murphy and Collin County Historical Commission to mark, preserve, interpret and accumulate information on Collin County history, the Cemetery Association of Murphy is requesting a grant to cast aluminum plaques made to preserve and display the inscriptions for eighteen stones. The plaques would be mounted on a stand that would be inserted in the ground next to the markers.

4. Collin County Genealogical Society: Digitize McKinney's Historical Newspapers \$4,530

Until the Collin County Historical Commission grant awarded in 2011 allowed digitization of some of the old McKinney newspapers from the 1800's had been digitized and made freely available to the public. The Collin County Genealogical Society is again seeking funding to continue scanning and digitizing decades of Collin County's historical heritage (newspapers already preserved on microfilm) and making them freely accessible and searchable by online researchers. The Society will partner with the University of North Texas "Texas Digital Newspaper Program" and be able to digitize and make available online to a worldwide audience the contents of two microfilm rolls of the

McKinney, Texas newspaper, *The Democrat*, from the years 1904-1908 and four microfilm rolls of *The Daily Courier Gazette* (years 1901-1913). There are a total of 4800 newspaper pages whose content can then be found via search engines like Google or through direct searches to the Portal to Texas History Web site.

5. Heard Craig Center for the Arts: Inline Guttering \$1,000

The Heard Craig Center for the Arts is requesting funding for preventative maintenance on the inline gutters for the Heard Craig House in McKinney. Due to a cold winter in 2011 and hot summers contraction and continual expansion have caused one of the seams to split and water damage occurred. The gutter was repaired by Stidham Sheet Metal which recommended that strainers be added to the downspouts in order to keep debris before it goes into the spout. The strainers would keep the downspouts free flowing during rainfall. The strainers would be checked during the annual inspection of the gutter seams. In this way the Heard Craig House would be able to keep its original design as possible.

6. Heritage Association of Frisco: Build a Replica of the Frisco Calaboose \$4,580

As local historian and former mayor Bob Warren has written, the calaboose is a colorful link to Frisco's frontier past. The calaboose housed drunks and criminals, was the site of Halloween pranks by local teenagers and serves as a reminder of a time when Frisco was isolated by distance from the county seat. The original calaboose, a small concrete building with two cells, two windows, one door, and no water or toilet facilities was built in 1902. The building is still standing, just northeast of the intersection of First Street and Main Street, but is badly damaged and the cost of moving the building from its current location is prohibitive, with no guarantee that it would survive the trip. The Heritage Association of Frisco intends instead to build a replica using new (and safe) materials, but including the original windows from the 1902 building which are still in the calaboose. The replica will be located in the Frisco Heritage Center and will become part of the Heritage Center tour for school children and will be used during events such as the Shawnee Trail Days and Gone to Texas day camp.

7. Heritage Farmstead Museum: Create a Black land Prairie Garden \$2,080

The Heritage Farmstead Museum would like to bring together the Junior Naturalists Group from Wilson Middle School, the Master Naturalists of Collin County and the Plano Garden to assist the Heritage Farmstead Museum in creating a Prairie Garden. The Garden at Heritage Farmstead Museum would be available daily for viewing and be an excellent addition to educational tours and public tours. Visitors could simply explore the various plants and flowers that were a part of the historic past. The garden would be filled with prairie grasses and wildflower mix. It would include plants such as Indian Blanket, Lemon Mint, Winecup, Butterflyweed Gayfeather and Black-eyed Susans. Bird baths and bird houses would be added. The garden would be set up in such away that visitors, several at a time, could pause and view at their own pace, 4x 6 areas filled with decomposed granite would allow for this viewing area. A drip irrigation system would maintain the garden and would not be highly visible or disturb the aesthetics of the Prairie Garden.

8. Heritage Farmstead Museum: Commemorative Book \$2,080

This farm has had an amazing past however; there is limited representation of the unique and interesting lives of the Farrell family, which included Hunter, Mary Alice and Aimmie, that once called this farm home. There are no published accounts of the cherished collection or of the history of the museum. With the museum celebrating its 25th Anniversary last year, this commemorative book will showcase the history of the Heritage Farmstead Museum, as well as spotlight pieces from the museum's collection, a task that has never been done for the museum. From its birth as a sharecropping farm, to its time as a sheep ranch, and finally through its life now as a museum which gives a glimpse into the past, the goal is to take a walk down memory land to discover the three distinct lives of the Farrell-Wilson house and the Heritage Farmstead Museum. One of the self publishing websites that has been selected is Blurb.com. The expected length of the book will be 21-40 pages at the price of \$18 each.

9. Plano Conservancy for Historical Preservation: Renovate the interior of the Texas Electric Railway Car #360 \$2,480

The Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation, Inc. is seeking funds to continue the ongoing renovation work to the interior of Texas Electric Railway Car #360. Texas electric Rail Car #360, manufactured in 1911 is the number one artifact accessioned into the Interurban Railway Museum collection. Rail Car #360 symbolizes a bygone era and is the only remaining example of a combination passenger/mail car that serviced the line and completed the final run in 1948. Recently the rail post office section of the car has been renovated and Plano Conservancy will refresh the two passenger cabins, starting with the interior ceilings. The scope of the work would be repairing and repainting of the ceiling in the two passenger cabins, mounting of an air pressure gauge, switches, and other items that would better present the original look.

10. Snow Hill Cemetery Association: Build a secure fence \$4,830

The Snow Hill Cemetery Association is seeking funding for their ongoing plan to have a secure fence on all sides of the cemetery. The area, for the current project, is to fence the east property line of the cemetery. The cemetery is located on County road 621, east of County road 619, five miles north of Farmersville. This area, in early years, had a general store (now located in Old City Park)), a church that is still active today and a school. The earliest marked grave is 1855 in this historic cemetery and includes the grave site of a soldier who served in the Texas Army in 1836. The area for the proposed project is 170 feet of fence, at a cost of @8.00 per foot for a total of \$4,760. This fence area would give the cemetery a secure fence on three sides. Completing this east fence would help with the goal to have all four sides of the cemetery secure from animals, and vandals.

11. Stoney Point Cemetery Association: Steel Entry and Fence \$4,080

The Stoney Point Cemetery is located in North east Collin County off FM 545 between the community of Valdasta and City of Melissa on CR1095. There is a historical marker at the intersection and the Stoney Point Baptist Church is on the property. The Stoney Point Cemetery Association is requesting grant funding to fabricate and install powder

coated steel entrance identity structure at County Road 1095. It will include wing panels on each side and approximately 266 feet of ornamental steel fence along the northern property line. The proposed project once completed, will provide an arrival point for visitors to the historic Stoney Point Cemetery and Church. The main entry feature will consist of two massive steel columns with decorative caps on both sides of the driveway. A four foot high decorative iron fence will attach to the columns of both sides of the driveway. The goal of the project is to help define the entry to the cemetery and to deter vandalism.

12. Young Family Cemetery Association: Reprinting of two historical accounts, printing of a promotional brochure, monument and flagstone for a Scatter Garden, \$1,580

The project for which grant funds are being requested is multipart and includes: revision, reprinting and digital recording of two previously published books. *The Old Farm Home* by Gladys Young with Joy Gough, *The Young Cemetery of Collin County, Texas* by Joy Gough as well as a new publication, "Young Family Scatter Garden," a brochure describing the garden at Young Cemetery for use in memorial ceremonies with scattering of ashes. To be completed before opening for use, the Scatter Garden will have a granite monument installed where names of those memorialized can be added by users for an additional fee paid to the Young Family Cemetery Association. It also needs a flagstone path from entrance to turnaround to enable visitors to the small garden to make use of the entire space. The republished books (now out of print) will be available for purchase in either print or digital form. The brochure describing the Scatter Garden will be printed and distributed to local funeral homes and crematories to publicize the site for use in memorializing those who have chose cremation.

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