

2019-2020 Grant Recipients

There is a total of \$25,000 in the grant fund this year.

1. Historic Preservation: Allen Heritage Guild Farmhouse: Replace Windows and Doors Requested \$5,000 Granted \$2,000

The Farmhouse was the last one in Allen, which came with a barn and shed. The barn has been removed and the Guild is diligently working to restore the farmhouse as money allows. The Farmhouse is located in the Allen Heritage Village and will be named the Lane-Carroll House. A fundraising campaign put on a new roof, restored the dormer windows, and cleaned up the interior of the structure. The Guild has completed the wrap around porch restoration and the next step will be the replacement of windows and doors. This includes eight windows and three doors, which will require custom fabrication and retro-fit framing. With this completed the Allen Heritage Guild can begin the restoration of the interior, a much anticipated finish to show farm life in Allen in the early part of the 20th century.

2. Historic Preservation: Murphy Historical Society Tombstone Project Requested \$3,787 Granted \$3,000

The Murphy Historical Society has chosen 11 tombstones to repair which are at the Decatur/Maxwell/Murphy Cemetery. A lot of the tombstones at the Maxwell Cemetery continue to deteriorate due to time, exposure to the elements, damage due to equipment, and vandalism. Several tombstones are in need of immediate repair. The society has chosen 11 of the most urgent stones for this grant request. The detailed reports for each stone are listed in the attachments in the application but include: fixing broken stones, cleaning the stones with a special process (stones are very porous and mold and other biological microbes have infiltrated the stones, which damages the stones), leveling stones so they won't fall over and fixing the joints between pieces of the monuments because they have deteriorated with time. The tombstones in this cemetery are a true asset to Murphy and Collin County history.

3. Historic Preservation: Chambersville Cemetery Association Marker Repair, Cleaning, and Leveling of Monuments Requested \$5,000 Granted \$3,000

The Chambersville Cemetery has been in operation since 1853 and is located at the intersection County Road 206 and 281. The board of the Chambersville Cemetery Association, using conservation prioritized repair recommendations provided by the Texas Cemetery Restoration LLC under the leadership of James Brenner, will undertake a project to repair, level and clean monuments in the Cemetery. Community involvement would be encouraged by using the contact data base of community and family members to facilitate additional funding to repair, level and clean family monuments. Weather permitting the project will begin in September 2019 and be completed in April 2020. The goal of the board is to use the assistance of the Texas Cemetery Restoration LLC to evaluate needed repairs to monuments on an on-going basis. By restoring monuments in the cemetery, a sense of community pride and its impact in our county, region, and state will be accomplished.

4. Historic Education: Anna Area Historic Preservation Society Display Base for Diorama of 1900 Anna Requested \$4,850.69 Grant \$1,600.00

The 1885 Anna Depot belongs to the Anna Area Historical Preservation Society and was moved to its permanent resting place at the City of Anna's Sherley Heritage Park. The building is nearly complete and should have its dedication and grand opening in September, 2019. The next priority is materials to build a large base for a diorama model of the town of Anna circa early 1900s. The diorama was built by Bert Wetherill, a registered and certified archeologist. This is a large model and will require a base and protective visual barrier at the top to protect the delicate models. The base will also offer storage and display shelves for antique railroad items. The overall finished size of the base and protective barrier will be 5' D X 10' W X 66" H. The Society requested funds to build additional display bases to house railroad antiques, acquire a large monitor and computer for educational presentations in the grant application.

5. Historic Education: Heard Craig Center for the Arts Scanning Business Ledgers Requested \$750 Grant \$400

The Heard Craig Center for the Arts in McKinney was established in 1971 as a hub community fine arts organizations. Its mission, as set by its benefactor, Kathryn Heard-Craig, is to preserve the past and to promote and perpetuate education and the study/diffusion of knowledge. The Heard Craig Center offers exhibits (clothing of the 1900's, porcelain, teacups, hats, toys, and etc.) during the year, offers special events to the public and access to historical documents. The Center is seeking to embark on an effort to preserve over 6,000 pages of business documents that were used by Stephen and John Heard in their many Collin County and McKinney businesses. The first project will protect and preserve 1,250 pages from the ledgers of the 6,000 pages available for preservation. The ledgers cover from 1893-1914 and include stock certificates 1897-1930. The preservation project will be done at the University of North Texas where the scanners are located. Once the ledgers are scanned, they will be made available on-line for public access.

6. Historic Preservation: Elm Grove Historical Cemetery Association Marker Repair, Cleaning and Leveling of Monuments Requested \$3,000 Grant \$1,500

The Elm Grove Cemetery has been in use since 1859. It is located in Collin County about five miles east of Anna just off FM 2862 and is an active cemetery. Cemetery records show 187 burials prior to 1900. Because of age and neglect some of the markers are in need of repair or restoration. Among the early historic family names are Roland, Shields, Fields, Ballard, Griffin, and Hendricks. Phase 1 of the Restoration project had 111 gravestones restored in March, 2018. The Cemetery Association plans to complete phase 2 of the restoration project which is 57 gravestones. Inclement weather has delayed phase 2. The association is requesting funding for phase 3 to complete the restoration of 50 markers for the remainder of the cemetery. The main goal of the association is to care for the markers and the graves of the early settlers of Collin County and their descendants who are buried in Elm Grove Historical Cemetery.

**7. Historic Preservation and Education: Collin County Genealogical Society
Digitizing Historical Newspapers of Collin County**

Requested \$3,858 Granted \$3,000

The Collin County Genealogical Society was founded in 1970 with the mission of promoting an interest in genealogical research, by assisting members with their research, by helping to preserve local records, and by providing support for the genealogy section of the Plano Public Library System and other genealogical and historical archives and organizations. This project will focus on digitizing the *McKinney Examiner* newspapers from the 1930's and 1940's. These bound newspapers consist of six volumes are currently housed at the Collin County History Museum which has given the Collin Genealogical Society permission to pursue the project. Very few of the papers that are bound have been microfilmed and some of the newspapers are deteriorating. To implement the grant, the society has chosen to partner with the University of North Texas who will perform the actual scanning and digitizing of the newspapers. Following digitization, the content of these newspapers will be placed online at UNT's "Portal to Texas History" Web site. Then researchers worldwide will be able to access the newspapers directly through the portal. The University of North Texas has digitized more than 1400 newspaper titles across the state and over six million newspaper pages.

8. Historic Preservation: Highland Cemetery Association Cleaning, Repairing and Leveling Stones Requested \$5,000 Granted \$1,500

The Highland Cemetery Association is a volunteer organization that cares for the upkeep of the historic Highland Cemetery in Melissa, Texas. The cemetery is located in Collin County between Melissa and Anna at 1173 CR 364 aka Throckmorton Road. There are many very old and fragile grave stones at the cemetery. From time to time these stones require maintenance to ensure the stones are safe, legible and properly displayed for the families who visit the cemetery. Texas Cemetery Restoration LLC provided a detailed quote listing 68 graves in the oldest portion of the cemetery in need of repairs, cleaning, and leveling. This will be an ongoing project, starting with the most fragile or dangerous stones. The Association chose the most critical stones for repair.

9. Historic Education: Heritage Guild of Collin County Chestnut Square Village Podcasts Requested \$1,500 Granted \$500

As digital age continues to grow and become a larger part of our everyday culture, Chestnut Square is broadening its outreach by creating a podcast to reach more people and a wider demographics. Chestnut Square consistently receives positive feedback regarding tours, the homes and the volunteers who present and reenact. This project would entail various subjects related to 19th and 20th century history, traditions, artifacts and more—that specifically pertain to Collin County history. The format will allow for interviews with long time McKinney residents and early members of the Heritage Guild, including dialogue with other local Collin County museums. Podcasts allow for members of our community and those who share a passion history with Collin County's deep roots. A brochure was requested too.

**10. Historic Preservation: The Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation
Restoration Standing Gravestones Requested \$2,002 Granted \$500**

Routh Cemetery is one of oldest cemeteries in Collin County, and one of the prominent families laid to rest there are members of the Campbell family. The land was purchased in 1852 by Jacob Routh which at that time there were two graves in the cemetery. The project that the Plano Conservancy is trying to complete within the historic cemetery is the restoration of 10 standing gravestones. Restoration costs would include cleaning, leveling and any necessary repairs. The restorations will be done by Texas Cemetery Restoration LLC. A more complete restoration of the cemetery would help draw in many visitors, not only from the surrounding apartment complex, but throughout the area as the cemetery is easy to get to and in close proximity to the nearby Routh Family Cemetery and the Spring Creek Preserve.

11 Historic Preservation: Routh Cemeteries Association Restore Fallen Stones Requested \$5,000 Granted \$3,000

The mission of the Association is to preserve and protect the Jacob Routh Cemetery and the larger Routh Pioneer Cemetery in Collin County. Until the beginning of 2018, the two Routh Cemeteries had been hidden deep in the Routh Woods in the area of what is now known as Spring Creek Nature Area. It is bounded by Routh Creek Parkway and Glenville Drive. This year's grant would allow us to preserve tombstones that are at risk of being destroyed. Last year's grant allowed us to focus on stabilizing those standing stones. Over time the coffins underground have collapsed leaving holes of various sizes. Many of the fallen tombstones are sliding into the holes at greater and greater depth. This spring we uncovered four stones that had disappeared under the dirt. Many of the fallen stones are weathering badly. In rainy weather, water collects in the symbols and carvings on the stone. After large rains many of the stones are caked in mud. Cold winter weather can cause this water to freeze. The stones also have added exposure to the bright summer sun. This year's grant would allow us to begin to raise the stones that have fallen.

12 Historic Preservation: Snow Hill Cemetery Association Headstone and Marker Restoration Requested \$3,200 Grant \$3,000

Snow Hill Cemetery is located on County Road 621, between Blue Ridge and Farmersville in Collin County. The 5,978 acre cemetery has approximately 325 marked graves, with an unknown number of unmarked graves. The earliest marked burial is dated 1855. Continuing the marker preservation project, the cemetery association has chosen thirteen markers in need of preservation. The Texas Cemetery Restoration LLC has been contacted to do the restoration project. Two markers include Lillie Pennington and her five year old son who both died in the early 1900's. George Jeffcoat who died in 1918 is surrounded by many family members. William McCarley died in 1893 and had 15 children. He is buried between his first and second wife. Yet there are lone markers in the cemetery. All thirteen markers are over 100 years old. Our goal is to restore and preserve historic markers, providing education and awareness of our country and county historical heritage for current and future generations.

13. Historic Preservation: Farmersville Historical Society Window Restoration Requested \$2,300 Grant \$2,000

As part of the ongoing preservation and maintenance of the Bain-Honaker House, the age and weather-related deterioration of various structural features of the house must be addressed. The project is aimed at replacing the building's twenty-one decaying windows and window screens, some of which are 150 years old. This past year, serious water leaks have required temporary repair work, but replacement is necessary for a permanent fix. To conform to our preservation goals, the windows must be replaced with custom-built units with approximate, as clearly as possible, the originals. Due to the great expense involved, the Historical Society plans two or three windows per year. A restoration construction firm will remove the old windows and replace them with new units. It is anticipated that this window replacement project will be repeated annually until all damaged windows have been replaced.