

The Conservation Society of San Antonio THE PRESERVATION ADVOCATE

THE
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY
OF SAN ANTONIO

MAKING HISTORY BY SAVING HISTORY.™

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“Remember the Alamo!” BUT, “Save the Woolworth Building Too.”

by Dr. Paul T. Ringenbach

It was early March of 1960 and the signs of spring appeared everywhere in San Antonio. The grass was getting brighter green and the buds were swelling on the branches of flowering trees. Against this background, the bud of a wonderful idea had already opened and flowered in the mind of Mary Lillian Andrews, a freshman student at Our Lady of the Lake College. As president of San Antonio's NAACP youth group, Mary stood ready to send letters to downtown department store heads with lunch counters, asking them to allow customers of all races to sit down together at their lunch counters. All African Americans had always been welcome to shop and spend their money on goods at the department stores, but they were not allowed to sit and eat with white customers at the stores' lunch counters.

On March 7, Mary mailed her letters, which concluded, “We feel that the citizens of San Antonio are intelligent enough to accept such a change.” The NAACP held a rally on March 13th, where over 1500 African Americans prepared to protest for their right to equal service. On March 16th, after negotiations between religious and business leaders, seven stores opened their lunch counters to everyone. The resulting peaceful integration served as a tribute to Mary's faith.

Major league baseball star Jackie Robinson said during a visit that San Antonio's story “should be told around the world.” The *New York Times* quoted Robinson in a front-page article. A picture of Mary, sitting with a friend at what has been identified as the Woolworth lunch counter, later appeared in the national magazine *JET*.

Woolworth's, located across the plaza from The Alamo, has a special place among the seven stores. It belonged to one of the country's largest variety store chains - the one where the national Sit-In Movement

started. Standing at the corner of a major bus interchange for the segregated city, Woolworth's served as a meeting place for all. Locals, and especially the kids, knew the store well for its special potato flour donuts. It outlasted all its competitors and eventually came to symbolize an important victory in African American freedom struggles.

As structures linked to San Antonio's African American history fell to modernization, such historic sites became more precious. Even most African American cemeteries had been forgotten, buried by undergrowth. When the State of Texas purchased the Woolworth Building and suggested it might be torn down to erect a new museum under its Alamo Plaza plan, preservationists and concerned citizens reacted with alarm.

The Conservation Society joined with the San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum, the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center and the Westside Preservation Alliance to form the Coalition for the Woolworth Building with the principal goal of saving this Civil Rights site. The Coalition pushed successfully to have the Woolworth Building designated a State Antiquities Landmark. Coalition members participated in two Martin Luther King marches to bring public attention to the issue. They also distributed free donuts next to the building while Everett Fly talked about African American history on Alamo Plaza.

The Coalition played a key role in getting the Woolworth Building added to the World Monuments Fund Watch List as one of 25 sites worldwide. The Fund recognized the Woolworth Building for its “underrepresented narrative” of Civil Rights history on Alamo Plaza.

(continued on page 9)



In Case You Missed It

Patti Zaiontz, President

It's amazing how quickly the seasons change! It seems like just yesterday I was hanging Christmas lights and decorating my tree. And now, we've rung in a New Year, celebrated Valentine's Day and we're waiting in eager anticipation

for the aroma of anticuchos cooking on the grill and the crack of cascarones 'cause NIOSA® is right around the corner! The smell of grape Kool-Aid is in the air as the mountain laurels are blooming – Spring is here! The seasons change, but the work of preservation continues and so do we.

Saving Places: The Woolworth, Crockett, and Palace Buildings remain high on our list of priorities. As of this writing, we remain eager to review the much-anticipated reports on the architectural and physical condition of the Woolworth Building by Waite & Associates along with the civil rights cultural history by Dr. Carey Lattimore. March 16th, 2020, commemorates the 60th anniversary of the voluntary desegregation of the San Antonio department store lunch counters. The Coalition for the Woolworth Building is planning an event to commemorate this anniversary so important in Civil Rights history. Stay tuned for details and watch for the invitation to join us in our efforts! We are also keeping a watchful eye on Alamo Plaza and the work that is scheduled to begin there soon as well as the restoration efforts on the Alamo church.

First Vice President Virginia Van Cleave continues to monitor the many city boards and commissions, and delivers statements when necessary on behalf of the Conservation Society. This is a monumental task as some of the meetings last for a very long time. These meetings are usually very interesting, and they are public meetings. You can get a real feel for how the city functions at these meetings and I encourage you to attend them. With the rapid development of our city, our neighborhoods are facing many challenges and we must remain diligent to protect the integrity of our historic spaces.

Engaging our Membership: It's membership renewal time again; please, don't forget to pay your dues. Have you considered asking a friend to join the Conservation Society? It's always fun to participate in activities together as a group. General membership programs, NIOSA, Membership Opportunities Committee, Bus Tours & Lectures, Junior Associates Activities, Farm & Ranch excursions, and Historic Preservation Month events, among others, provide opportunities to have fun learning more about preservation and history. Do you have a talent and/or a skill you would like to share? For example, longtime member, Patsy Long, designed beautiful artwork featuring the Wulff house for the cover of the Conservation Society Christmas card. Thank you, Patsy! There are many ways our members can get involved. Visit our website at www.saconservation.org to follow Society activities.



2019 Christmas Card by Patsy Long

In closing, I'd like to especially thank all our wonderful members who support our preservation efforts every day! Thanks to everyone who included a donation to the Society Foundation beyond your Society membership dues! We appreciate all the notes of support and encouragement sent in with them. Even the smallest gifts make a big difference when you add them all together. Pennies make dimes and dimes make dollars and over time, those dollars add up to a lot of help in moving our advocacy efforts forward. I look forward to seeing you soon at one of the many events that are coming up this Spring including NIOSA! ¡VIVA!

Issues Around Town

Vincent Michael, Executive Director

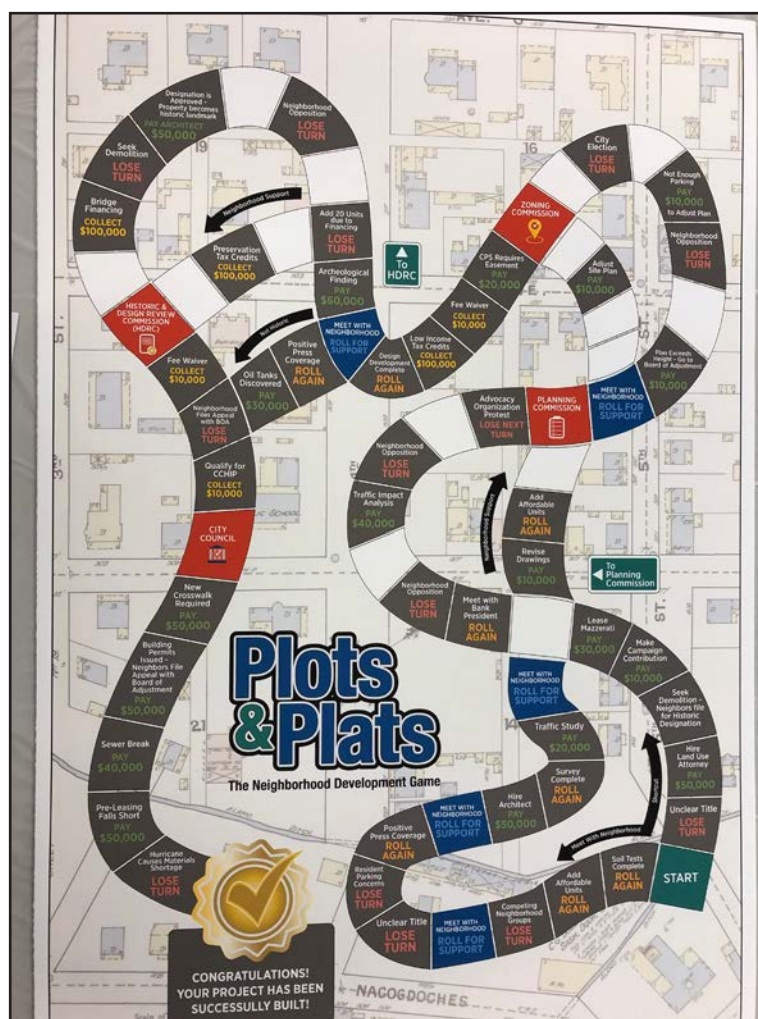
We have been super busy with the World Monuments Watch Day events including Donut Day on January 17th when we passed out free donuts near the entrance to the Woolworth's lunch counter. Also, the January 31st visit of Bénédictine de Montlaur, CEO of World Monuments Fund, and, of course, our February 1st Symposium on Civil Rights and the Alamo Plaza were highlights. But, that is not all we have been up to.

One of the most rewarding Conservation Society efforts recently has been our Neighborhood Initiative, kicked off 18 months ago. Led by Neighborhood Liaison Committee Chair June Kachtik, who sadly passed away February 27th, in partnership with the City's Office of Historic Preservation, the Tier One Neighborhood Coalition and the San Antonio chapter of the American Institute of Architects. It met with great success. I reported last year on our first two Neighborhood Workshops designed to empower neighborhoods, elevate the discussion and level the playing field in the rapidly growing City of San Antonio. I think we did well. In January at the Real Places conference in Austin, Kathy Rodriguez of the City's Office of Historic Preservation, Anisa Schell of the Tier One Neighborhood Association, and I spoke to more than 50 people about the collaboration.

It began in October 2018 with a workshop to assess the needs and fears of the various heritage neighborhoods. The second workshop, held in February, 2019, involved role playing to “elevate the discussion” by giving audience members examples of how Scale, Massing and Setbacks can affect properties, as well as the difference between Density and Intensity.

The third workshop in June, 2019 featured a board game called “Plots and Plats” developed by Anisa Schell of Tier One with help from myself and Jim Bailey of Alamo Architects. The idea again was to explain the development process. All players started with a million dollars and each had to go through Zoning, Planning, HDRC and City Council to get approval for their projects, spending \$50,000 every time they rolled the dice. The game was a huge hit and a lot of fun – odds for success could be increased by gaining neighborhood support for

your project! There was laughter at every table, but a lot of learning as well. The final workshop this January brought everyone back together to identify the issues they are still facing in the community and to find ways to share what everyone learned with more neighborhoods and more people. The partnership works!



Plots & Plats Neighborhood Development Game

NIOSA® 2020 - A Celebration of Preservation

Terry Schoenert, 4th Vice President, NIOSA Chairman

Members know that NIOSA is the fundraising arm of the Conservation Society of San Antonio, but please spread the word to all your acquaintances! In the past ten years alone, more than \$12 million has been netted at NIOSA to enable The Conservation Society to continue its 95-year mission of preserving historic buildings, objects, places and customs relating to the history of Texas. Out of the roughly \$1.5 million netted annually at NIOSA, proceeds support restoration and preservation of historic properties, parks, waterways and tangible cultural heritage of the city. NIOSA earning also support education and advocacy programs such as the Heritage Education tours, seminars, grants, scholarships, a resource library, and its two house museums.

NIOSA and The Conservation Society walk hand-in-hand together to make NIOSA happen and to preserve our culture and heritage. This year's medal is dedicated to the achievement of all the volunteers' hard work to make NIOSA the country's largest fundraiser for historic preservation. It was designed by the NIOSA team, with lots of help from Monarch Trophy designer David Durbin. The inspiration for the medal is NIOSA's new logo which features our beloved cascarones bursting open with confetti. The gorgeous folk art birds that dangle from the medal will remind people of NIOSA's and San Antonio's rich cultural arts since they mimic the birds of paradise found on Amate bark paintings. The new NIOSA logo will be featured on some of the 2020 NIOSA souvenirs.

The 2020 NIOSA medals are on sale for \$12 at the following:

- Online at www.niosa.org
- NIOSA office, 227 S. Presa, weekdays 9 am - 4 pm
- The Fiesta Store, 2611 Broadway St, San Antonio, TX 78215 - GET HOURS
- April 21-24 - During NIOSA in NIOSA souvenir booths, while supplies last

Discount tickets are available March 2 through April 24 for \$12 at www.niosa.org, the NIOSA office at 227 South Presa Street from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; H-E-B grocery stores in San Antonio, Boerne, Bulverde, Seguin and New Braunfels and The Fiesta Store, USAA; Ft. Sam Houston; Lackland AFB; and Randolph AFB and Southwest Research. Buyers should check with

sellers; some may add a service charge. Discount e-tickets for smart phone or tablet (or can be printed) are sold on the NIOSA website. If you buy tickets at the gate, they are \$15 for adults; children 12 and under are free when accompanied by an adult

HAVE WE GOT A DEAL FOR YOU! Join The Conservation Society Membership to support historic preservation AND get NIOSA tickets at a special discounted rate. More info at www.saconservation.org. For those of you who are already members, we have some new procedures this year: Member discount tickets will NOT be automatically mailed. Starting March 2, 2020, member tickets will be available online at niosa.org, by phone to 210-226-5188 by April 7, and in person at the NIOSA office. Watch out for our weekly emails for purchasing details in the coming weeks including your password for online purchases.

Membership has its privileges! Also new for our members this year:

- VIP Entrance- Society members will have a designated entrance gate exclusively for guests using Member tickets to attend the event.
- Exclusive opportunity to buy Advance Coupons- Society members may purchase coupon vouchers online which may be redeemed for NIOSA® Coupons at the VIP Entrance gate.

There is limited free parking for members to pick up NIOSA 2020 medals and tickets until April 10 in the lot behind Thai Lucky building at 102 Navarro (formerly called Alaskan Palace). Entrance to lot is on South Nueva. Spaces are limited.

For more information, call 210-226-5188, visit www.niosa.org, email niosa@niosa.org or follow NIOSA on Facebook.

¡VIVA NIOSA!

2020 NIOSA® Medal Honors our Volunteers

Terry Schoenert, 4th Vice President, NIOSA® Chairman

"A Night In Old San Antonio®" is only six weeks away and my crackerjack team of volunteers and staff are hard at it as we create the best NIOSA ever. My four NIOSA vice chairmen (Dee Wright, Julie Terrell, Lisa Pierce and Deborah Lund) and NIOSA Treasurer Jana Foreman—plus the incredible NIOSA staff—are helping me lead the charge!

One thing that is the same since 1966? NIOSA's Frontier Town area will definitely be in Maverick Plaza, with small changes. Erroneous rumors abound that our NIOSA footprint in La Villita will change in 2020, but it won't!

Some things that are new in 2020 at NIOSA? Two favorites are returning: Escargot in French Quarter, and Brisket Biscuit in Main Street. If you loved the Flaming Cheetos & Chamoy Pickles that were in Arneson Theatre area, they have moved to Clown Alley. We are happy that the schedule of great entertainers is much the same except new bands in Main Street, Irish Flats and Hay Market. New libations this year include Vizzy Hard Seltzer in Sauerkraut Bend and Mi Cheve - an American Lager style beer brewed by Revolver Brewing in Granbury, TX available in several beer booths.

We are happy to announce that NIOSA again earned in 2020 one of the highest certifications from the City of San Antonio based on its Green Events Ordinance. In 2011, NIOSA earned the "Platinum Status" in the city's Fiesta Verde program, the first organization in the city to do so. Continuing its efforts as one of the top Green events during Fiesta, NIOSA has recycle bins in each of its 15 areas so guests can help the Society reduce, reuse and recycle.

A bicycle valet is offered outside the NIOSA gate at the corner of Alamo and Nueva streets from 5:30 – 10 p.m. so bicycles (not motorcycles) can be locked up in a supervised area. Cyclists must bring their own lock/chain. VIA will again offer Park and Ride services; check www.viainfo.net/park-and-ride/ for complete information.

Reminder: Any bags, including diaper bags and backpacks, larger than 12" x 12" x 6" are prohibited unless they are clear or mesh. We encourage the use of clear bags for any size so that we can expedite entry into this event. Prohibited bags will not be held nor checked-in at the gates. All bags brought into the event may be screened.

We have projected that approximately **10,000** volunteers contribute more than **150,000** volunteer hours to make NIOSA happen.

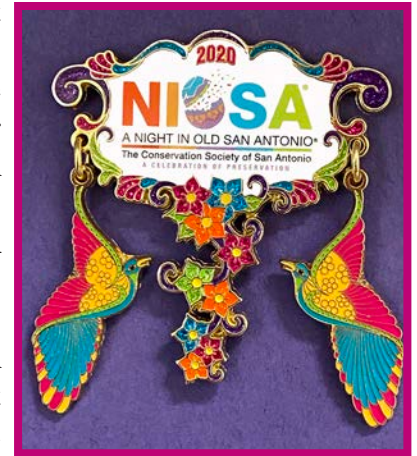
WE STILL NEED A FEW MORE TO HELP!

When you visit NIOSA this year, take a moment to appreciate these unparalleled facts that make NIOSA unique from festivals around the world:

- Food items are created, perfected, and prepared by NIOSA volunteers on-site and truly reflect the areas where they can be found. Many dishes can only be enjoyed at NIOSA.
- All booths are run by Conservation Society volunteers; many are second or third generations of a family. Volunteers come from all over the country to work at NIOSA.
- On the average, NIOSA revelers annually consume over 13,500 lbs. of beef; 11,000 lbs. of chicken; 4,200 lbs. of sausage; 3,800 turkey legs; 25,000 buns, rolls and bolillos; 25,000 tortillas; 5,300 tamales; 11,200 lbs. of fruits and vegetables; and 800 lbs. of guacamole.
- All musical acts play all night, every night, during NIOSA.

I repeat the pledge I made when I was made chairman of NIOSA; "to work hard, keeping the purpose of NIOSA and the Conservation Society in mind with all that I do. The job seems daunting, but what a challenge. I look forward to a successful year with none of the 'r-a-i-n' word. I love being able to help raise the funds and then help disburse those funds during the year."

See you in La Villita April 21-24, 2020!



Alig-Tampke House Receives City Landmark Designation

Pat Ezell, Member of the Farm & Ranch Committee

The Alig-Tampke House located in northeast San Antonio was granted a city landmark designation, i.e., “Finding of Historical Significance,” by the San Antonio City Council in January 2020. The house is owned by the Longs Creek Homeowners Association that recognized its historical significance and requested assistance from the Conservation Society of San Antonio in 2018. Members of the Historic Farm and Ranch Committee visited the property and engaged in the historical research. They posted much of the research and documentation along with photographs on the Historic Farm and Ranch website: <https://farmandranch.omeka.net/exhibits/show/aligtampkehouse>



Alig-Tampke House, 2018

The stone house is a single-story, single-pen, vernacular structure of a salt-box style. It has a three-bay covered porch with square posts and a concrete patio. There are modern six-over-six windows visible from the interior of the house which are hidden with steel window gates. Low-stacked stone walls stand on several portions of the property. This simple style house form was used for domestic residences in mid-nineteenth century Bexar County. It is similar to both the Hill Country Sunday Houses as well as the style of the early Irish settlers in San Antonio.



Alig-Tampke Rock Walls, 2018

The City’s Office of Historic Preservation noted that the nomination met three of the possible sixteen criteria for historic designation: 1) The structure is an intact example of a vernacular stone house built in the late 1800s; 2) The residence is one of the few remaining intact examples of immigrant housing from the late 1800s; it has been in the same location since circa 1880 with few modifications; and, 3) The residence is part of a post-Civil War boom in the farming and ranching sector found in Bexar County in the latter half of the 1800’s.

The Alig-Tampke house was likely built by or for German immigrant, Benedict Alig and his wife, Catherine Goll Alig around 1880. They engaged in farming and ranching activities and began raising their five daughters. Unfortunately, Benedict Alig died in 1890, leaving his widow with the care of the five girls ranging in ages from 3 to 12. Catherine remarried quickly to Henry Steindorf who died soon thereafter. She married for the third time to Bernard Zeller. Although Zeller was described as not being a farmer, he was willing to learn and was said to have been a wonderful stepfather to the children. Catherine (Alig) Zeller died in 1920 when she was seriously injured while trying to lead a horse from a burning barn. Bernard Zeller continued living on the farm for several years and then began living with a son from a previous marriage. Two of the Alig daughters, Anna Margaretha and Mary Elizabeth, married two brothers, Adolph and Ludolph Tampke, respectively. After the death of her mother, Mary (Alig) Tampke purchased the Alig property from her siblings and with her son, Lowell, ranched this land which was adjacent to the Tampke property. In 1965, Mary Alig Tampke sold 160 acres of the original ranch land to William Chisholm Winter. She moved into San Antonio to live with family members where she died in 1964. At the time of her death she was a member of Coker Methodist Church.

The Longs Creek Homeowners Association is commended for its commitment to preserve this historic residence at a time when so many of the older homes are being lost along with the stories of the early settlers and their families.

We encourage anyone wishing to join and participate with the Historic Farm and Ranch Committee to contact the Society’s office at 210-224-6163. We need additional researchers to assist in the documentation of the over 125 identified historic farms and ranches in Bexar County and the surrounding areas.

Visit the Historic Farm & Ranch website at
<https://farmandranch.omeka.net/>

If you are interested in joining our Farm & Ranch Committee, contact us at conserve@saconservation.org.

2020 Historic Preservation Awards Ceremony

Please join The Conservation Society of San Antonio as it honors this year's award recipients at the **2020 Historic Preservation Awards Ceremony**.



Thursday, March 19, 2020

San Antonio Country Club

4100 N. New Braunfels Ave.

6:30 pm: Cocktails

7:30 pm: Dinner & Awards Presentation

Advance Ticket Purchase Required

Tickets are \$100/Person

Buy online - www.saconservation.org/awards

Call 210.224.6163

Must Purchase by Monday, March 9, 2020

Limited Seating, Cocktail Attire



Texas Hero Award

**Hector Cardenas
Everett Fly**

**Amy Kastely
Jennifer Nottingham**

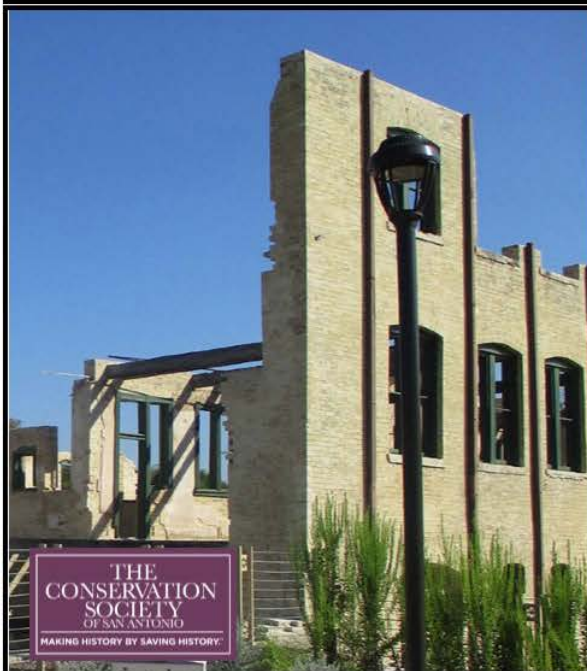
Paul Ringenbach

Bruce MacDougal Award for the Young Preservationist

Anna Nau

Special Recognition Award

Joanna Parrish



Please Join The Conservation Society As We Observe

National Preservation Month

"Hot Wells Revisited"

Guest Speakers, Guided Tours, Displays, Reception

Saturday, May 16, 2020

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Hot Wells Ruins

5503 So Presa, 78223

ADVANCE TICKET PURCHASE REQUIRED - REGISTER TODAY!

Tickets are \$35.00/Person

Buy online - www.saconservation.org/HPM2020

Call 210.224.6163

Limited Seating - RSVP Deadline: Friday, May 8, 2020

May is designated as National Preservation Month.

Each year the Society celebrates this month at a local preservation site.

Member Spotlight

We have been featuring different properties the Society has been involved with on the back cover of the Preservation Advocate for some time. While we are proud of our work, we are also proud of our other most important assets, our members! For this issue, we kicked off our Member Spotlight Series with a husband and wife duo, Ken Erfurth and Bea Quintero-Erfurth.

Ken's interest in history and preservation began when, as a child, he would play in Alamo Plaza while his mother attended to errands nearby. His father worked at Fort Sam, giving him opportunities to explore the Quadrangle as well. It was the fight against demolition of the Texas Theater in the 1980s, during which he picketed the Republic Bank, that brought him to the Conservation Society. After joining, he got involved volunteering at NIOSA®, the Society's annual fundraising and celebration of preservation event, where he helped with everything from ticket taking to working the Can-Can Booth in Clown Alley, from its first day to its last. He has also been involved with our Farm & Ranch Committee, participated in our Historic Gas Stations survey, and was part of the Mission Trail Oversight Committee.

One of the things we notice about our members is how involved they are with many other organizations within our community. Ken is a member of the Professional Tour Guide Association of San Antonio (PTGASA) and has volunteered at Las Posadas and Los Pastores selling hot chocolate. He has documented San Antonio through his photography, and recently began working with the National Park Service at the Missions! He volunteers with Bea, giving tours of the Missions to local 4th grade students and their teachers during our annual Heritage Education Tours, which he says is a service he gladly gives back. Ken's own 4th grade class participated in the Heritage Education Tours!

Bea's interest in history grew as she rode her bike from the Missions south of downtown all the way to San Pedro Creek Park as a child. Her grandparents taught her that learning didn't just come from books in school, but also from experiencing the world around you. She also wants to give special credit to retired Missions Park Ranger Danny Cantú, who taught her about indigenous symbolism that could be found at the Missions, how everything that was created there was made from items found right there on site, and for showing her that history is not just one story, especially when it comes to the Missions.



Bea Quintero-Erfurth & Ken Erfurth

She became a Conservation Society member after attending seminars by Pam Rosser and Cisi Jary that discussed the art found at the Alamo, and not the battle, telling a more inclusive part of the history there. This gave her the idea to begin the fresco table demonstrations during our Heritage Education Tours, where she now shows the students and teachers how the pigments were made that were used to paint the frescoes at the Missions. She is an avid learner and attended many other lectures and seminars, including those of Conservation Society endowed professor Bill DuPont and teacher and education consultant Billy Perryman. Aside from the Society she has worked with the San Antonio Visitors Bureau. She also volunteers at her church and at Muertosfest during Dia De Los Muertos, which she loves as it is a celebration of who we are and where we came from.

We cannot possibly fit all the wonderful things we learned about them in one article, but they both would like to say to you readers, to come out to the Heritage Education Tours in November and observe the product of all the hard work that is done during NIOSA each year to make these tours possible.

Thank you Ken and Bea!

“Remember the Alamo!” BUT, “Save the Woolworth Building Too.”

by Dr. Paul T. Ringenbach (cont'd from front page)

On Saturday, February 1, with the support of County Judge Nelson Wolff, the Coalition presented a symposium on the Woolworth issue in the double-height courtroom of the Bexar County Courthouse. The purpose was to present a more in-depth understanding of Alamo Plaza's place in the many-layered history of San Antonio. The Coalition identified five outstanding scholars to present papers for the “Woolworth Watch Day” on the subject of “Integrating History: The Role of the Alamo Plaza in Bexar County's Civil Rights Legacy.”

On the sixtieth anniversary of the first lunch counter sit-in, about 90 individuals gathered, sharing their excitement and interest while waiting for the event to begin. Among this group were Mary Andrews' brother (Charles Andrews, Jr.) and four other family members who were delighted to see Mary's efforts publicly recognized. Mary's proud grandniece, Taylor Andrews, read from Mary's letter, which had opened the way for desegregated local lunch counters.

Judge Wolff welcomed the attendees and talked briefly about the importance of history to Bexar County and the city of San Antonio. He pointed out the County's efforts to develop and enhance the San Antonio River, San Pedro Creek, the World Heritage-designated San Antonio Missions, and his support for retaining the Woolworth Building. Conservation Society President Patti Zaiantz added her greeting, followed by Executive Director Vince Michael's recap of the Coalition's advocacy. He also thanked the Bexar County Commissioners Court, H-E-B, the World Monuments Fund and the San Antonio Public Library for their support.

Everett L. Fly, FASLA, a recipient of the National Humanities Medal for his efforts in preserving African American places and landmarks, gave the first presentation. Beginning with 1883, Fly traced a series of civil rights events on Alamo Plaza that led to the plaza being considered the premier place in the County for civil rights assemblies. Dr. Tara Dudley from The University of Texas at Austin followed. She spoke of new methodologies to support National Register nominations for places critical to the understanding of African American history.

Dr. Bruce Winders, a respected author and current consultant to Bexar County, spoke after lunch. Well known to the audience as the historian and curator of The Alamo from 1996 to 2019, he argued for keeping the Woolworth Building intact on Alamo Plaza. Dr. Todd Moye, Robinett Professor of History at the University of North Texas, talked about the Sit-In Movement in Texas. He discussed

the reprehensible actions taken against protesters in other cities in stark contrast to the peaceful circumstances in San Antonio.

Dr. Kathryn O'Rourke, Associate Professor from Trinity University, took the podium as the final speaker of the day. Using outstanding illustrations, the dynamic O'Rourke argued that Alamo Plaza, as a civic space, made San Antonio history richer through its own layered history. She received a standing ovation, rare at any academic meeting.



Speakers, from left: Dr. Todd Moye, Dr. Kathryn O'Rourke, Dr. Tara Dudley, Everett Fly, FASLA, and Dr. Bruce Winders.



Symposium attendees; happy to be there!

All the folks at the symposium praised it as an outstanding and worthwhile contribution to the understanding of the Woolworth Building and the Alamo Plaza. What's next? The Woolworth Coalition is working on future plans, including a celebration of San Antonio's lunch counter integration at noon on Monday, March 16th in Alamo Plaza. We will meet at 516 E. Houston St. See you there! In the meantime, please contact your elected and appointed state officials to support the retention and reuse of the Woolworth Building.

Welcome Capital Club Members



Doric Level

Mr. & Mrs. Artie Dietel
Dr. Patrick Williamson



Pillar Level

Ms. Anne Alexander
Mr. Bob Buchanan
Bill Crow & Margaret
Anderson

Ms. Leticia Diaz
Ms. Rosemarie Q. Donelson
Mr. & Mrs. John Forestier, Jr.
Mr. Steve Hixon

Ms. Carolyn B. Jackson
Mrs. Joan Kelleher
Mr. Moe Lazri
Mr. Dennis McDaniel

Ms. Camille Rodriguez-
Brigant
Mr. Don Thomas
Mrs. Mary West Traylor



Keystone Level

Ms. Nancy Avellar
Mr. & Mrs. Dean & Dixie Bibles
Mrs. Cynthia Birdsall
Ms. Kathleen Carter
Mr. & Mrs. Cary and Cindy Collins
Mr. & Mrs. Steve & Alison Elder
Mr. & Mrs. Ramiro and Anna
Femat
Mr. Jeffrey Fetzer FAIA
Mrs. Missy Finck

Mr. & Mrs. Joey & Molly Groff
Ms. Debra Guerrero
Mr. Curtis C. Gunn, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne and Judy
Hartmann
Mrs. Caryn Hasslocher
Mr. Jim Hollerbach
Ms. Loyce Ince
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Johnson
Mr. Mitchell Kaliff

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kinnison, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Kundrotas
Ms. Jane Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. Scotty Light
Mr. Jerry Martinez
Ms. Shanon Miller
Mrs. Mary Ann Oliver
Mr. Samuel Panchevre
Mr. Robert Penshorn
Mr. David Richardson

Ms. Marlene Richardson
Ms. Gretchen Rose
Mr. & Mrs. William Sands
Mr. & Mrs. David Schoenert
Mr. Banks Smith
Mr. Rick Thomas
Ms. Dru Van Steenberg
Ms. Virginia Van Steenberg
Mr. V.T. "Skip" Wood

Welcome New Associate Members

Ms. Mary Jane Blanco
Mr. Nicholas Blazosky
Dr. Laura Cannon
Mr. Ronald Mack Dawson
Ms. Yvette Eddleton
Ms. Lorena Escobar
Mr. Hector Flores
Mrs. Patricia Gonzalez
Mr. Jack Guerra

Mr. Claus Heide
Ms. Kathy Hitt
Miss Monica Holbrook
Col. Terry Hunter
Ms. Michele Krier
Mrs. Patty Landacre
Mr. Eddie D. Lynch, Jr.
Ms. Lena S. Mason
Mr. Darien McWhirter

Ms. Cathy Meyer
Mr. Cody Moon
Ms. Mary Nethery
Mr. Edward E. Ogden
Mr. James Patterson
Mrs. Tina Patterson
Mr. Vincent J. Ramirez, II
Ms. Karen Roe
Ms. Patricia Santos

Ms. Kathy Scoggin Swallow
Mr. Caleb Shipley
Hon. Rebecca Simmons
Mrs. Susan R. Smith
Mr. Larry Travis
Ms. Cecilia Vaughan
Ms. Kathleen Weir Vale
Ms. Linda Wilson

Welcome New Corporate & Organizational Members

AL Plumbing, LLC

Thomas Jefferson High School Historic Preservation Society

Interested in Active Membership?

Attention Associate Members: If you have been an associate member of the Conservation Society for at least one year and are interested in becoming an active member, nominations are due on **Monday, April 27, at 9:00am**. Nominations require the support of two active members. Active members are able to vote and hold office within the Conservation Society. Learn more at: [www.https://www.saconservation.org/get-involved/membership-2/](https://www.saconservation.org/get-involved/membership-2/) or call us at 210.224.6163!

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The Preservation Advocate is published by the San Antonio Conservation Society.

Send letters, articles, or comments to: conserve@saconservation.org.

Submission deadline for the Summer Advocate is Friday, May 8, 2020.

The purpose for which the San Antonio Conservation Society was formed is to preserve and encourage the preservation of historic buildings, objects, places and customs relating to the history of Texas, its natural beauty and all that is admirable and distinctive to our State; and by such physical and cultural preservation to keep the history of Texas legible and intact, to educate the public, especially the youth of today and tomorrow with knowledge of our inherited regional values.

Publications Committee

Christina Forestier, *Chair*; Patti Zaiontz, *Ex Officio*; Dr. Paul Ringenbach; Brandi Hayes, *Staff Support*

‘Here is is, I helped to save it’ - Miss Anna Ellis (1927)
Gresser-Foutrel Complex



(1988)



(2007)

On April 6, 1998, the Society purchased the former Alaskan Palace property at 102-106 Navarro Street from the Tschirhart family. Koch's Bird's Eye View Map of 1873 showed two buildings on this site which backed to Louis Gresser's property on S. Presa Street. The main structure was a house divided in the middle, with a small cottage or kitchen to the rear. The current building façade was built between 1940 and 1945 when the Deason Radio Company occupied the southern portion of the building.

The Society completed the rehabilitation of the exterior of the building to its 1940s appearance in 2006. Subsequent interior renovations included the creation of a commercial kitchen in 2010 and the finish out of the rest of the building for lease. As of this writing, the space is occupied by Thai Lucky restaurant.

Upcoming Events

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| Thursday, March 19, 6:30 pm | Historic Preservation Awards, <i>San Antonio Country Club</i> |
| Sunday, March 22, 2:00 pm | Junior Associates Meeting: Cascarones & Decorations, <i>River House</i> |
| Tuesday, April 21 - Friday, April 24 | NIOSA, <i>La Villita</i> |
| Friday, April 24 | Battle of Flowers, <i>*Conservation Society Offices Closed*</i> |
| Saturday, April 25 | Junior Associates Event: King William Fair Parade |
| Saturday, May 16, 10:00 am | Historic Preservation Month Seminar, <i>Hot Wells Ruins</i> |
| TBD (May), 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Junior Associates Meeting, <i>Brackenridge Park</i> |
| Monday, May 25 | Memorial Day, <i>*Conservation Society Offices Closed*</i> |
| Wednesday, May 27, 5:30 pm | General Membership Meeting, <i>San Antonio Garden Center</i> |