

# NIOSA® 2023

Patti Zaiantz, NIOSA Chairman

It's hard to believe that spring is near. After all, just a week or two ago we were experiencing freezing temperatures. And now the smell of grape Kool Aid permeates the air, a tell tale sign the mountain laurels are blooming. That means NIOSA is right around the corner. **And this year, 2023, celebrates the 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday of NIOSA!** Mark your calendars for **April 25<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>** to join us to celebrate this auspicious event. The NIOSA Team is busy planning and arranging, selecting merchandise for souvenirs, tasting potential new foods, and cleaning, testing, and organizing all types of appliances. In addition, we are meeting with the Area Chairs, vendors, and city departments, along with carrying out many other duties and responsibilities. It's a very busy time and I truly appreciate the commitment of the NIOSA Team, which includes: Lisa Pierce, Julie Terrell, Glenda Duffin, Terry Campbell, and Wayne Hartman, plus staff members Fernando Villareal, NIOSA Business Manager; Lisa Schneider, Senior Bookkeeper; Mandy Rodriguez, NIOSA Administrative Assistant; and Richard Montemayor and Mario Gloria, the dynamic duo at the warehouse. Thank you all, very much, for all you're doing to put on the very BEST event of Fiesta!

**News and Updates:** Most of you are aware that construction continues in Maverick Plaza and the surrounding area, along with Alamo and Nueva Streets. At this writing, we've been assured by the powers that be at the City that work will be sufficiently completed to use the area for our event. Keep your fingers crossed and stay tuned! Once the footprint is finalized, a map of the areas & booths will be posted on the NIOSA website.

I'm happy to share that we're returning to food and drink coupons this year. We will also be using paper gate tickets which will be sold at select H-E-B stores (Thank You H-E-B!), as well as area military bases and, of course, the NIOSA office at 227 S. Presa. Gate admission tickets will still be available for purchase online through the NIOSA website.

We strongly encourage you to print your electronic ticket and show it at the gate to avoid electronic glitches. Member tickets will be mailed out soon, so watch your mailbox. Ticket prices remain the same, \$15.00 for Members and \$20.00 Advance (plus handling fees where applicable.) The on-site gate admission price, however, will be raised to \$25.00. All transactions for food/drink coupons and tickets purchased at the gate will be in cash. **PLEASE NOTE:** No credit card transactions. There will be numerous ATM machines located around the grounds for your convenience. There will also be a couple of new foods this year. Fish & Chips (in Irish Flats) will reflect the original food sold at the Mission San José Harvest Festival put on by our Founders as a precursor to A Night in Old San Antonio. Chicken Wings will make their debut in Main Street.



**REALLY BIG NEWS!** We welcome Silver Eagle Beverage Company as our new beer and adult beverage vendor. That means we will be enjoying a variety of Budweiser's most popular products. Please have fun, but enjoy responsibly!

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# The Conservation Society of San Antonio THE PRESERVATION ADVOCATE



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# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kathy Rhoads, President

As we all eagerly await this year's exciting NIOSA, you will be pleased to know the Society has incorporated a new entity: Conservation Celebration. The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission license for NIOSA will come through this entity and all servers will volunteer through this entity. And there's more good news, Patti Zaiantz has returned as NIOSA Chair

to bring us an even better NIOSA (with coupons). So, if you see her, give her a big shout out for returning to give NIOSA new and exciting things!

On another note, thank you if you filled out our most recent membership survey. As of this printing, we have had a response of 20%. For those of you who haven't done so yet, it's not too late.

## Here's a brief recap of the results:

**20** - Average years with the Society

**67%** - Served on a Society Committee or as a volunteer

### Reasons you belong to the Society:

- #1 - Educational opportunities
- #2 - Volunteer opportunities
- #3 - Representation in local and state policy making
- #4 - Latest news in San Antonio and surrounding area
- #5 - Network with other conservation-minded people
- #6 - Distinction, prestige and/or added credibility
- #7 - Hands on conservation workshops
- #8 - NIOSA tickets

### How likely are you to renew your membership with the Society?

- 85.7% - Extremely likely to renew
- 9.4% - Very likely to renew
- 3.6% - Likely to renew
- 1.3% - Not likely to renew

We will share the final results at a later date.

# VIVA NIOSA!

## SAVE THE DATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH SEMINAR

### What's Next For Miraflores San Antonio's Mexican Garden of Memory

Presentation & Panel Discussion Exploring  
Cultural Heritage, Imbedded Memory & Possibilities

**Saturday, May 13 • 10:30 am to 12 Noon**

Location to be announced



# INSTITUTE OF TEXAN CULTURES UPDATE

As the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Institute of Texan Cultures/Texas Pavilion moves forward, I wanted to share some of the interesting historic and architectural facts included in the nomination. The Brutalist building of concrete over a steel frame was meant to invoke an inverted pyramid, and it was originally surrounded on all sides by earthen berms to create a sense of wonder and discovery. In true 1960s Modernist style, the three-story building features a covered perimeter walkway at the second level with a bridge connecting to the main fairground, while the first floor is below grade and the third floor rises above. Designed by Houston architects Caudill, Rowlett and Scott, the combination of architecture and setting makes the building unique in Texas when compared to grade-level Brutalist buildings like the Dallas City Hall or LBJ Library.

The main alterations to the building were the addition of vertical windows into the façade around 1976 for the apartment of Directors Jack and Pat McGuire, and the removal of the earthen berm west of the building in 1991. The added windows are done consistent with the style, and the other three berms remain, so the building retains its architectural integrity. The interior hallways and wood paneling, along with the exhibit spaces, also retain architectural integrity. Some of the original features, such as the fountain and pool near the entrance – designed to suggest the multiple cultural influences of Texas flowing together – are currently non-functional.



## Vincent Michael, Executive Director

Unlike most of the HemisFair buildings, the Texas Pavilion was planned to be the permanent, housing the Institute of Texan Cultures; a museum that the National Park Service declared “the most sophisticated museum in America” in 1971. In 1972, the Texas Folklife Fair debuted at the ITC with 2,000 participants, peaking at 120,000 in 1990. Owned by The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), the building and the Institute have been the subject of numerous studies and task forces over the last few years as UTSA determines the future of both entities.



The National Register nomination is scheduled to be heard by the Texas Historical Commission at its May meeting. National Register listing makes the property eligible for the 20% Federal Investment Tax Credit and the 25% Texas historic tax credit. It provides limited protection through the Section 106 process, requiring review of any project using Federal funds or permits.



# 2023 PUBLICATION AWARDS

## TEXAS HISTORY JUMPS OFF THE PAGE



Every other year, the Conservation Society invites authors and publishers to submit their most recently published books on Texas history to the Society's Publication Awards program. Since 1949, the Society has used these awards to encourage the publication of works that document Texas history and culture in a way that educates the public and inspires a deeper appreciation for our regional heritage.

This year, our volunteer readers evaluated 19 books to select the top ten. Within these pages, readers encountered artisans carrying out an unusual sculptural tradition, a Texas Ranger Hall of Fame captain, and 19<sup>th</sup> century pioneers whose stories returned from the grave. Other award winners provided fresh insight into the economic, political, and physical development of the built environment, from colonial settlements to modern cities, and the effects on their inhabitants. Two intriguing guidebooks for the San Antonio area introduced readers to the ins and outs of property research and the diverse cultural significance embodied in the region's vernacular architecture.

On **Friday, March 24, 2023**, the Society will recognize the winning authors at an awards luncheon held at the luxurious Estancia del Norte hotel. Following the ceremony, attendees may purchase their own copies of the winning books and have them signed by the authors.

Many thanks to the following readers who generously gave of their time: Pat Ezell, Joyce Felter, Anne Ferguson, Kevin Geary, Ernest Gerlach, Martha and Lee Grant, Frederica Kushner, Jane Martin, Diana Martinez, Paula and Doug Piper, Irene Rendon, Rebecca Smith, Janie Thomas, Virginia and Albert Van Cleave, and Carolyn Wright.

**The Conservation Society congratulates the authors of the following award-winning books for 2023:**

**Artisans of Trabajo Rústico: The Legacy of Dionicio Rodríguez** by **Patsy Pittman Light**, Texas A&M University Press, 2021

**A Field Guide to the Vernacular Buildings of the San Antonio Area** edited by **Brent R. Fortenberry**, Texas A&M University Press, 2021

**Improbable Metropolis: Houston's Architectural and Urban History** by **Barrie Scardino Bradley**, The University of Texas Press, 2020

**In the Loop: A Political and Economic History of San Antonio** by **David R. Johnson**, Trinity University Press, 2020

**Los Adaes: The First Capital of Spanish Texas** by **Francis X. Galán**, Texas A&M University Press, 2020

**Property Research and Definitive Guides to the City Directories and Sanborn Maps of San Antonio, Texas** by **Michael Patrick Carroll**, Chupacabra Publishing, 2022

**Queen of the West: A Documentary History of San Antonio, 1718 - 1900** by **Richard Bruce Winders**, State House Press, 2021

**Texas Ranger Captain William L. Wright** by **Richard B. McCaslin**, University of North Texas Press, 2021

**West Side Rising: How San Antonio's 1921 Flood Devastated a City and Sparked a Latino Environmental Justice Movement** by **Char Miller**, Trinity University Press, 2021

**What Lies Beneath: Texas Pioneer Cemeteries and Graveyards** by **Cynthia Leal Massey**, TwoDot, 2021

### THANK YOU TO THE PUBLICATION AWARDS SPONSORS AND DONORS:



The Joni & Gary Raba Family Foundation  
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Window Coverings By Michael

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State House Press



# EXPLORING SAN ANTONIO'S BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In 1968, a powerful television documentary titled “Black History: Lost, Stolen or Strayed” called for the recovery of this forgotten history. Now, over 50 years later, the good citizens of San Antonio are working hard to recover their lost Black History. The Conservation Society has been a leader in this effort. Most recently the Society played a major role in the successful drive to save the Woolworth Building and its ties to San Antonio’s Black History. Mark Kusey, our 3rd Vice president has taken a different tack to contribute to these community efforts. See his story below.

## COLLECTING ORAL HISTORIES: MAKING CONNECTIONS

**Mark Kusey, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President**

After retiring, I was looking forward to exploring my community for volunteer opportunities. My chance to dive in deeper came one Saturday at a SAAACAM (San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum) open house in 2019 where I met co-founder Everett Fly. Mr. Fly took my wife and me on a tour of the house and collection and explained SAAACAM’s mission and projects to us along the way. At the end of the tour I signed up as a volunteer to assist with cemetery research and oral histories. A week later, I was given an official backpack with everything I needed to give an interview.

My first interview was with Kenneth Dominique, the son of famous trumpeter and Key Hole Club owner, Don Albert. I knew Kenneth personally and was comfortable asking him just about anything. What surprised him, he later told me, was that my questions were mostly about him and his life and not so much about his famous father. Kenneth’s candid accounts painted a picture of segregation, integration, interracial relationships, and the entertainment industry in San Antonio from the mid-1940’s through the 1950’s.

Other conversation highlights included Rufus Miller, who recounted his time in the Negro Baseball League playing with the San Antonio Yankee’s and Black Sox. Miller also played on a traveling basketball team called the “Harlem All Stars” which toured the Southern U. S. during the baseball off-season.

My interview with long-time Conservation Society member, Mary Anita Guilbeau Guajardo was inspiring. Guajardo’s great grandfather, Francois Guilbeau, Jr., served as interim mayor of San Antonio in 1841, and the following year served as the French vice consul until 1859. He also assisted



Charles Clifton Andrews, Jr. at Brooks in 1964

in the settlement of Castro’s Colony. Mary Guajardo was a registered nurse who later received a Masters in Public Health Administration. Among her numerous accomplishments during her working career, Guajardo was tasked with opening and overseeing the first Home Health Agency for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District in 1972. She had a Home Health Agency Committee composed of physicians, nurses, professors, and those well-connected with the City, “which afforded her to make progress and get people what they needed.” Guajardo established an on-site clinic at Healy Murphy to serve the community.

Interviewing Charles (Chuck) Clifton Andrews, Jr., son of Dr. Charles C. Andrews and Smithie Sutton, was also very rewarding. In the early 1960’s, Andrews secured a position as a lab technician at the School of Aerospace Medicine on Brooks Air Force Base and was later promoted to physiological training officer. Ever enterprising, Andrews later went on to found a local radio station, a consulting firm that worked with housing authorities and Model Cities Programs across the country, and an ocean transportation company. Chuck is the brother of Mary Lillian Andrews who led the lunch counter desegregation effort at Woolworth’s in 1960.

While my volunteerism of taking oral histories has been short, some very important points have emerged. First, I appreciate the delicate craft of working with people of varying backgrounds for their perspectives. Naturally, marginalized populations in our society have a wealth of recollections of events, struggles, and movements that provide a more realistic account of our histories, and our ability to include these stories and facts is imperative for a more authentic

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# MAKING HISTORY BY SAVING HISTORY

Kay Hinder, Historic Farm & Ranch Committee Chair

Recognizing the rarity of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Bexar County farm and ranch complexes, and that they were increasingly threatened by development pressures and environmental decline, the Conservation Society formed the Farm and Ranch Committee in 2005. How time flies---that means the committee has been in existence for eighteen (18) years! Former Society President, Joanna Parrish advocated for the formation of the committee along with other members. A second impetus for the formation of the committee was a request by Bexar County that the Society update the 1973 rural survey produced by Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG). That document produced a list of rural historic properties for Bexar County. In addition, the City of San Antonio's (COSA) Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) was given review and comment authority over new development plans such as Master Development Plans (MDPs), Planned Unit Developments (PUDs), and plats. This new review authority made it clear that a number of historic farm and ranch complexes were coming in for demolition and development. Considering the obvious connections between the mandate of the Committee and the review authority of the OHP, then as City Archaeologist, I was assigned as an Advisor by then Historic Preservation Officer (HPO) Ann Benson McGlone to support the work of the Society in identification of such properties and to provide professional expertise if needed.

So much work has been done since that original 2005 date! A primary step established a survey methodology of temporality and materiality for those properties that would be considered: This focus formally established a working date range of 1800-1899; and, prioritized 19<sup>th</sup> century historic vernacular complexes as these were most likely to have condition issues due to age and materials used, and were highly threatened

by development pressure. Utilizing previous historic survey data and aerial surveys, new surveys were conducted by vehicle and on foot--when such access was granted. By vernacular, we mean a common building style of the period (not high style or formal architectural design) based on local needs using local materials and constructed, generally, by persons not professionally trained in buildings arts. As a result, such vernacular constructions often typify the unique architectural inventory produced by the combination local materials, necessity, and traditions. Properties that typify our unique local vernacular construction and documented in the survey include jacals (wattle and daub), log, adobe, stone, fachwerk, and brick noggin construction. Collectively, these complexes are multicultural and represent the various ethnic groups that settled here including Spanish, Mexican, Tejano, African-American, German, Polish, Irish, Alsatian, Swiss, and French settlers, among others.

In a future Preservation Advocate we will discuss various projects the Committee has undertaken over the years. The Farm and Ranch Committee is one of a few Society committees that meet monthly from September to May. Meetings may include a guest speaker, site tours, or workshops. Upcoming tours include one to the Perrin House on March 18<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Eric Reyna, Project Manager, Public Works Department, City of San Antonio. Other future events include a workshop in April on archaeological site recordation by Dr. Nesta Anderson, and a presentation in May by Everett Fly, National Endowment for the Humanities honoree, on Black Settlements in Bexar County. We have much going on and much to offer and sincerely hope that you will consider joining the Farm and Ranch Committee. All members of the Society are eligible to join.



Krause House



Joseph Ball House



Monken House



Blas Herrera House

## Welcome New Members! October 1, 2022- FEBRUARY 28, 2023

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# DONATIONS: October 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023



## 2023 Capital Club



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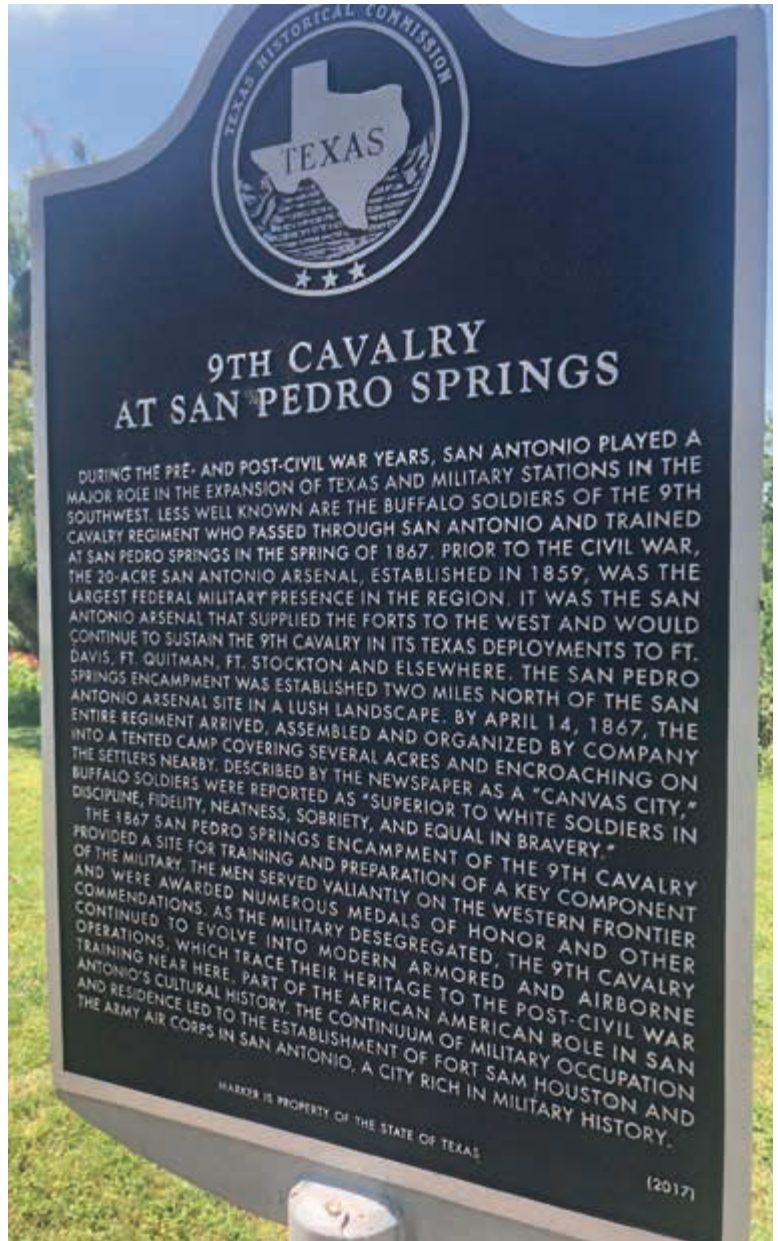
### VINCENT MICHAEL

National Preservation Partners Network

# THE 9<sup>th</sup> CAVALRY AT SAN PEDRO SPRINGS

This year, the Conservation Society has been working with the City of San Antonio's Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) to develop an African American Historic Context Statement for Survey. The Society received a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which is matched by grants received by the City's OHP office from the state of Texas. The context statement is the first step in doing a comprehensive survey of African American sites in San Antonio because it identifies the themes and sub-themes that are important to the African American community. These include historic contexts like housing and segregation; social contexts like education and cultural institutions; spiritual contexts like churches and sacred rituals; aesthetic contexts like art and architecture, and neighborhood development patterns; as well as scientific contexts.

Together, the City and Conservation Society assembled an Advisory Committee to work out the themes and sub-themes for the statement and to identify a working list of potential sites and structures associated with the vetted themes and sub-themes. By working out the cultural context statement, sites that might be missed in an old-fashioned windshield survey can be identified with research before ever venturing out. This includes places that may have significance for a range of groups, such as San Pedro Springs Park. As the oldest park in the State, San Pedro Springs served as the site of the first European expedition to San Antonio. It also became a place of assembly for African Americans in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, notably serving as a temporary muster and training ground for the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry of "Buffalo Soldiers." The context project also involves our long time partner, the San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum (SAAACAM), who is collecting oral histories from the community to further support the goal of identifying important aspects of African American history in San Antonio and the places associated with that history.



## IN FEBRUARY, THE JR. ASSOCIATES TOURED MISSION SAN JUAN

Join the Junior Associates and see where we go next. Next meeting will be held May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Interested in joining or want more info? Email: [ja@saconservation.org](mailto:ja@saconservation.org) or contact the office for more information.



## NIOSA (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

**Calling ALL Volunteers!** We need lots of Volunteers since we are returning to paper food/drink coupons & gate tickets. There are also several food & drink booths that need a Booth Chair. We welcome groups of volunteers from corporations, companies, nonprofit organizations and service groups needing service hours. Please contact the NIOSA office @ 210 226-5188 for more information or visit the website

[niosa@niosa.org](mailto:niosa@niosa.org). Thank you for supporting A Night in Old San Antonio!

Finally, the 2023 medal is a beauty and selling like hot cakes! Get yours before they're all gone! Medals are \$13.00.

Feliz Cumpleanos, NIOSA! Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday, NIOSA! VIVA! NIOSA!

## MAKING CONNECTIONS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

contemporary society. An Anglo-Germanic man asking questions is the default of an earlier time and we must continue having other members of other cultural groups lead and tell their stories; the collaboration of our many heritage and historic organizations such as ours is critical for the most meaningful and credible experience.

Second, the work required to archive and make available histories to folks in the community remains a challenge. It would be useful to make duplicates of all interviews in several mediums including paper to further research and

understanding our past. Today's technologies will disappear and with them the interviews – think eight track tapes and even DVD's.

Finally, my experiences have once again confirmed to me that our histories are a wonderful amalgam of every sort of people with overlapping stories that make up the fabric that is San Antonio. My hope is that my current volunteerism in the Conservation Society and the City's Cemetery Stewardship program will continue to connect those many people and stories that I live with on the Historic East Side.

## NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS, OFFICERS, AND DIRECTORS

### INTERESTED IN ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP?

If you are an "Associate" member of the Conservation Society for at least one year and would like to become an "Active" member, nomination forms are due to the Society office by **9:00 am on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**. Active members are voting members and may hold office on the Conservation Society's Board of Directors. Active Member Nominations require the signature support of two active members.

### SOCIETY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee is accepting recommendations of individuals who are interested in being an integral part of the Conservation Society by service on the Board of Directors as either an Officer or Director. Officers elected by the Board of Directors must have had at least one year of Board membership within the past five years before taking office. Directors elected by the membership must have been Active Members for at least one year or the major portion thereof. Forms for your recommendation must be submitted to the Nominating Committee by **9:00 am on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**. Active Members, please watch for your packet which will be mailed soon.

Please refer to the Society Bylaws for more information. For additional questions, please call the office at 210.224.6163. To access governing documents for the Society, visit [www.saconservation.org](http://www.saconservation.org) under "Governing Documents". The newly amended San Antonio Conservation Society Foundation Bylaws can also be accessed [here](#).

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

Send letters, articles, or comments to: [conserve@saconservation.org](mailto:conserve@saconservation.org).

Submission deadline for the Summer Newsletter is Friday, June 23, 2023.

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: Paul Ringenbach, Ph.D., Chair; Paula Piper, Vice Chair; Kathy Rhoads, Ex Officio; Murphy Emmons; Christine Forestier; Gary Houston; Velma Nanka-Bruce



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'Here it is, I helped to save it'  
Miss Anna Ellis - 1927



**O. HENRY  
HOUSE MUSEUM**

In 1855, German settler John Kush built the house on South Presa Street, occupied by author O. Henry from 1883 to 1885. To preclude its demolition in 1959, the Conservation Society purchased the house for one dollar with the stipulation that the house be moved within 60 days. Sold to the Lone Star Brewing Company, it remained on the grounds until 1998 when it was sold and moved to its current location on Dolorosa Street. It opened as a museum in 1999. Saved by the Society!

## SAVE THE DATES !

**Friday, March 24, 2023 at 10:30 am**  
**PUBLICATION AWARDS LUNCHEON**  
Estancia del Norte, 37 NE Loop 410 At McCullough

**Thursday, March 31, 2022**  
**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DEADLINE**  
**Contact the Society office for more info**

**Sunday, April 24-25, 2023**  
**JUNIOR ASSOCIATE ACTIVITY**  
**Information on Junior Associate Calendar**

**April 25, 2023 - April 28, 2023**  
**A NIGHT IN OLD SAN ANTONIO**  
La Villita

**Friday, April 28 2023**  
**FIESTA FRIDAY - STAFF HOLIDAY**

**Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 2:00 pm**  
**JUNIOR ASSOCIATE MEETING**  
**Spring Garden Day @ the Yturri Edmunds Homestead**  
**Officer Election 2023-2024**  
**Information on Junior Associate Calendar**

**Saturday, May 13, 2023 at 10 am**  
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH**  
**What's Next For Miraflores**  
**San Antonio's Mexican Garden of Memory**  
Location TBD

**Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at 5:30 pm**  
**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Bylaws Consideration/ Board of Directors Election**  
San Antonio Garden Center-3310 N New Braunfels Ave, 78209

**Monday, May 29, 2023**  
**MEMORIAL DAY - STAFF HOLIDAY**

**Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 5:30 pm**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**MEMBER RECOGNITION & INSTALLATION**  
**OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS**  
Location TBD

**Tuesday, July 4, 2023**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY - STAFF HOLIDAY**