



Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools, Inc.

Volume 13:

Issue: SPRING 2024 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS OF GILLESPIE COUNTY COUNTRY SCHOOLS, INC.

Open House Schedule

APRIL 14, 2024 ANNUAL BBQ & FUNDRAISER

May 11, 2024 — Williams Creek School

2:00 to 5:00

May 11, 2024 — Cherry Mountain

11:00 to 4:00

June 1, 2024 — Grapetown School

11:00 to 4:00

June 1, 2024 — Luckenbach School

11:00 to 4:00

June 1, 2024 — Meusebach School

11:00 to 4:00

design: nelda roessler rbizniz@gmail.com

FRIENDS' ANNUAL FUNDRAISER:

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024 — 10:30am until sold out at American Legion Hall, 726 South Washington Street, Fredericksburg. TX. BBQ Chicken or Pork with all the trimmings for \$15. **PLATES TO GO ONLY.** Prize Drawing with many great prizes. Raffle tickets available from Friends' members or by emailing Frances Heimann, Friends Secretary at fheimann@ctesc.net.

FOGCCS members volunteered to assist with Spring Break 2024 at Pioneer Museum. Our volunteer docents shared stories and early school artifacts at the White Oak Schoolhouse on the Museum grounds. Their memories of country school education in Gillespie County included learning by memory, presenting plays, school botany books of pressed plants/flowers, games played, and memorization of the multiplication tables! They called it "learning by heart".

Sharing was common practice in early country schools and continues today among our 12 Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools.

The Books and 17 Artifacts donation received from Carolyn Sowell and Sally Murray of Lubbock, TX were shared by Cave Creek School after their Feb. 10th Open House with Willow City School for their March 9th Open House. A good way to increase the use of our donations and to assist one another.

Three more early school books were donated by Gloria and Olin Willaims of Mason, TX. They were placed at Willow City School. Thank you to our books and school artifacts donors. Your gifts make a visit to a historical schools interesting and allows us to learn what was used in early teaching in our schools.

GEOGRAPHY

The first geography textbook written by a woman, Susanna Rowson, in 1805 was entitled Rowson's Abridgement of Universal Geography. Rowson was a leader in female education and the first woman geographer. Geography and Math were considered the two most important subjects taught in early schools.



History of Susanna Rowson
First edition for sale

News from Schools

“Quilts Tell A Story”

Nebgen School held its open house on January 27, 2024, and featured an antique and modern quilt display. Visitors were treated to the stories behind the displayed quilts along with explanations of the “quilting process”.



Submitted by Maxine Jung



“Have A Seat”

Pecan Creek School is benefitting from the donation of 14 new chairs for the pavilion. The Hill Country Community Needs Council obtained the chairs as part of a grant back in 2015. This past February, they received a donation of 14 wheeled office chairs that were a better fit for their program needs. Rather than letting their old furniture sit in storage, they offered it to Pecan Creek. As you can see, attendees at our most recent meeting were thrilled with the upgrade from the cold, hard metal folding chairs. Many thanks to Cindy Heifner, Executive Director of the Needs Council, for sharing their bounty of seating with our group.



Submitted by Jennifer Voigt

Contact Directors-at-Large, Jane Woellhof at 830-990-8059 or Jim Lindley at 830-997-2103 to submit newsletter items.

The Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools, Inc. P.O. Box 55, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

Friends’ website: www.historicschools.org

OUR MISSION: Preserving the past to enrich the future.

+To further the preservation and maintenance of historic community school buildings in Gillespie County

You receive this newsletter as a Friends’ member or member-at-large. If you wish to unsubscribe, please e-mail Jane at

jane423@austin.rr.com