

PRESS RELEASE – MAY 9, 2005

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LANCASTER, TX

STOP! DON'T SHOOT!

The Lancaster Historical Society invites the public to attend their next meeting on Sunday, May 15, 2005, at the historic MKT Depot in Lancaster. Noted author Charles E. Finsley will provide a lively presentation about the Confederate arms factory that once operated in Lancaster. Tucker Sherrod and Company's most widely known product was their copy of the .44 caliber Colt Dragoon, which was used in the Civil War by Texas troops.

Mr. Finsley is retired from his long-time position as the Curator, Earth Science, at the Dallas Museum of Natural History, but continues to be much in demand as a speaker on all matters pertaining to Texas paleontology. He has supervised several excavation projects and has written two books on earth science. In addition, Mr. Finsley is the author of ***Hannah's Letters: the Civil War Letters of Isaac E. Blauvelt, friends, and other suitors***. Copies will be available for purchase at the meeting.

Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM, and the business meeting will begin at 4:00 PM. Admission is free and the public is invited.

The Lancaster Historical Society meets at the MKT Depot on the third Sunday of every other month. The Depot is located next to the railroad tracks on Pecan Street, just East of Centre Street. Meetings are free and open to the public, though LHS is always happy to add new members to its roster. Membership dues are only \$15 per year for an individual, or \$25 per year for a couple. The Society maintains the MKT Depot and adjacent Rose Garden, strives to keep local history alive for the enjoyment of the community as well as for the record books, and supports local efforts to preserve historic sites.

For more information about membership or upcoming events, visit the Historical Society's website at [www.lhsweb.org](http://www.lhsweb.org) or contact board secretary Lynnette Lakey Taff at 214-616-6961.