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LANCASTER, TX

FROM COVERED WAGONS TO CYBERSPACE – LANCASTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY FORGES A NEW TRAIL!

Coupling a passion for history with a willingness to venture into the world of 21st century technology, the Lancaster Historical Society is pleased to announce the debut of their new website at www.lhsweb.org. The LHS board of directors, led by President Patricia Siegfried-Giles and Vice President Darlene Morton, prevailed upon board secretary Lynnette Lakey Taff to offer her talents as volunteer webmaster for the site. According to Lynnette, "This is just the first draft, so to speak. We plan to add more content over time to keep the site lively and worth visiting. But we don't plan to re-invent the wheel. There are already some websites out there with great information about Lancaster history, so we won't duplicate their efforts. Two of my favorites are the websites of the Lancaster Genealogy Society and the Texas State Historical Society; we've included them on our links page to help our visitors find other resources as they seek to learn about the history of our town." Lynnette has submitted information about the LHS website to the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce in hopes of getting links on both the Chamber's website (www.lancastertx.org) and the new Lancaster portal (www.lancastertexas.org).

The LHS website includes a meeting schedule, information about special events sponsored by the organization, a photo album, and copies of their newsletters in electronic format that can be easily read online or printed. There's also a feedback form where visitors can request more information or provide their anecdotes from Lancaster history to be considered for future updates to the website.

The Lancaster Historical Society meets at the MKT Depot on the third Sunday of every other month. The next meeting is scheduled for 3:30 PM on Sunday, September 19th, and will feature a program about the history of Lancaster's schools. 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.

LHS 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. In addition, the organization has become well known in the community for its fundraising parties, including the famed Cattle Burger Ball and the "Celebrate the Millennium" New Year's Eve party. In keeping with this tradition of having fun raising funds, LHS will offer a Happy Days Sock Hop on Saturday, October 2, 2004, along with a New Year's Eve party to close the door on 2004.

For more information about membership or upcoming events, visit the new website at www.lhsweb.org or contact board secretary Lynnette Lakey Taff at 214-616-6961.

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