

# **SACHSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY: LOOKING BACK TWENTY FIVE YEARS**

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## INTRODUCTION

### **IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE TWENTY FIVE YEARS 1989-2014**

The year, 2014, marks the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Sachse Historical Society (SHS) which was organized on April 5, 1989. Many of things have happened during these past twenty-five years; This is a good time to look back and review the Society's beginning, development, growth and accomplishments.

During each annual meeting the membership of the Sachse Historical Society elects eleven of its members to serve as a Board of Directors. It is the responsibility of this Board of Directors to conduct the business of the Society, to plan projects and to involve the Society in various events. Each year the president of the Sachse Historical Society gives a report to the membership listing the projects which the Board intends to implement during the coming year. Also, a progress report is given to the membership regarding the status of the projects that were begun and lists the accomplished of the past year. In these monthly Board meetings most of the time is spent planning these various projects and events.

*Looking Back Twenty Five Years* begins by explaining the origin of the Sachse Historical Society and reviews its early growth. However, the continuing history of the Sachse Historical Society is best recorded in the projects and events in which the SHS has participated during these past twenty-five years. Therefore, most of the attention is given to a review of the history of these projects and events. The source of this material is taken from the minutes of the Sachse Historical Society Board of Director's monthly meetings.

Many people have given numerous hours of volunteer time to the Society over these twenty-five years. It is their selfless giving that has made the SHS a successful organization. The Society has never had a lot of money to work with and it is the ingenuity of these many volunteers that got the job done.

We hope you will enjoy this look at the Sachse Historical Society's past twenty-five years and join the celebration.

## GETTING STARTED.

I went to work for the City of Sachse in July, 1985. Occasionally, during the following three years, someone would say, "We need a preservation group to start gathering information and collecting artifacts regarding the city's history." At that time there were several "old timers" living in Sachse. They grew up in Sachse and their heritage could be traced back several generations. However, they were dying off and we were failing to record the oral histories of these people who could remember and describe what earlier life in Sachse was like. Their family artifacts were being distributed among family members because there was no responsible organization collecting these antiques for the City. Another problem was there was no safe place to store or display these oral histories and artifacts when they were collected.

Not only were the older people passing off the scene but the city was beginning to grow and younger families were moving in. This was the perfect time to take photographs of buildings being erected, new streets being paved, water towers being constructed and pictures of the people who were involved in the growth process. Although these would be present day photographs, sometime in the future they would become the historical records which document the past. There was definitely a need to pull a group of people together who were interested in preserving the City's history.

In the early spring of 1989, I attended the funeral of Bryan Salmon. Mr. Salmon was born, grew up and lived in Sachse all of his life. I was standing at the grave side with several Sachse City Council Members when I heard one of the Council Members whisper, "There goes another long timer and we didn't get his story." I suggested that the Council talk about it at their next meeting and added it for discussion on the next agenda. During the council meeting the points discussed above were reviewed and the Council unanimously agreed the City needed a preservation organization. The subject turned to whether members of this historical preservation organization should be appointed by the council and responsible to the council like other City Boards and Commissions, or should the organization's members be volunteers, independent of Council appointment. After some discussion, the City Council decided that this organization should be made up of people who volunteer to participate because they are interested in the history of the City of Sachse rather than be political appointments.

Having made that decision, the next question was, "Where do we go from here?" Since I have always had an interest in history and cities, I volunteered to get the ball rolling and that was agreeable to the Council. I called Joe Stone because he grew up in Sachse and knew almost everyone in town. He and I had talked often and I knew that he was also interested in organizing a preservation group. I asked Joe to put together a list of ten people who he thought might be interested. We divided his list and each of us called five people. We explained that we were interested in organizing a Sachse Historical Society. We asked them to meet us at the city hall council room on Thursday evening, April 5, 1989 at 7:00 p.m. Those who responded

and joined us for this organizational meeting included: Mary Eileen Jones, Iona Ingram, Floy Fay Bailey and Pat Boyd.

### THE BEGINNING YEARS.

At this first meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>, I was selected moderator to get the meeting started and serve until a president was elected. Pat Boyd was elected as president and I agreed to act as Secretary until such time that an election was held and a full slate of officers was elected. Also, I was assigned the responsibility of notifying members of future meetings.

The group agreed the first step was to develop a set of by-laws. I had collected several copies of by-laws that were being used by various historical societies in the area and distributed them among those present. After reviewing these samples, it was agreed that action on by-laws should be delayed until we had enlisted more membership. We also agreed that we should get direction and advice from an attorney. Pat Boyd was on the City Council at that time and he arranged for the City's Attorney, Mr. G. H. Kelso, to work with us to get it legally right. During the following several months, we gave most of our attention to working on the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation. Mr. Kelso was willing to prepare and file the legal papers at no charge. President Boyd wrote him a letter of appreciation and we elected Mr. Keloe and his wife, Mary, to a Lifetime Membership in the Sachse Historical Society.

At the second meeting we made another list of other people who might be interested in joining the SHS. Consideration was given to these people's unique backgrounds in Sachse and their ability to either help the Society with information or contacts. The people on this list included: Ray Stanton, Woodrow and Marie Sachse, Elna Wiseman, Laurie Schwenk, Pat McInnish, Eloise Bailey, Mark Reynolds and Marlyn Dow. These names were divided among those present to call and extend an invitation to join us.

The first two artifacts were also donated at this second meeting. Mary Allene Jones told the group that she had made arrangements to have a copy of William Sachse's original Texas land grant document restored and a copy made for the Sachse Historical Society. Joe Stone reported that he has six sections of the original iron fence which was in front of William Sachse's home on Floyd Street. He had obtained this fence from Mrs. John Strachner and asked that this donation be included in the minutes as a matter of record and was to become the property of the SHS.

By May 25, we had completed the By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation, Membership Application Form and Donor Information Form. We identified the objective of the Sachse Historical Society in the By-Laws as follows: "The objective of this organization shall be to preserve historical objects and data representative of Sachse as the city was established and has developed so that the community's heritage may be kept alive and available to the public."

Since the SHS had originated with the City Council, we felt we needed to make a progress report to the council to let them know that SHS was alive and well. Also, the city had just

finished building their new library building on Sachse Roads and had included a large room in the library that was to be used as a meeting room. On June 25<sup>th</sup>, Pat Boyd made a progress report to the City Council and asked if the SHS could place a glass display case in the library room to be use for a display of historical artifacts. In addition to the copy of the land grant, Mary Allene Jones had several items that belonged to William Sachse she was willing to donate if they could be put on display.

President Boyd gave a report to the SHS Board regarding his presentation to the City Council and reported that the Sachse Historical Society agreement with the city to use display space at the library was also approved. This case was donated by Devon Reed and was officially installed at the library during the regular meeting of the Society on October 24, 1989. Boyd also pointed out that the by-laws require that all donations are to be accepted by the Accessions Committee. However, this committee had not been appointed yet so the Board voted to officially accept donations until such time that the Accessions Committee was appointed. At the next meeting, on July 27<sup>th</sup>, Floy Faye Bailey volunteered to handle the accessions paperwork provided other members of the Board would help.

At the November 8, 1990 meeting, Joe Stone reported that SHS had a balance of \$236.23 in the bank and that he had received a notice of payment from the State Comptroller's Office. We had been busy getting organized and developing a program during the past eighteen months and it had not occurred that we were a corporation receiving income and had tax reporting responsibilities. We referred this notice to Attorney G. H. Kelso hoping that the Society would be able to claim tax exemption. Mr. Kelso advised us to consider a new set of by-laws which would contain language dealing with tax exemption and let him file for 501-C-3 tax exemption status for SHS.

We reviewed the amended version of the by-laws at the following meeting on December 9, 1990, and sent them on for approval at the annual meeting in January. Also, at this meeting, Joe Stone reported that we had \$236.24 in funds and paid Bob Bullock, State Treasurer, \$232.95 for the Society's Franchise Fee leaving a balance of \$3.29. Joe reported that we might get a refund after the 501-C-3 tax exemption form is filed.

At the June 27, 1991 meeting, Joe Stone reported that on May 24<sup>th</sup> we paid the IRS \$150.00 leaving a balance of \$150.00 in the Society's funds. He also reported that he, Lloyd Henderson and Pat Boyd had worked jointly to file an application with the IRS for recognition of Exemption under Section 501(c)3. This application was returned on June 20, 1991 with instructions to file a statement of the Society's expenditures for the past 3 years and to file an Application for Employer Identification Number. This was done on June 27, 1991 and the entire application resubmitted to IRS. However, that was not the end of it. On August 21<sup>st</sup> it was reported to the Board that we had received notice from the IRS that we must complete the following: (1) Sign form 872-c and return it; (2) submit a statement declaring the Society was not a private operating foundation; (3) submit a copy of our Articles of Incorporation showing the Secretary of State's filing stamp and incorporating 501(c)3 statements regarding purpose and a dissolution clause; (4) statement regarding acquisition of artifacts; and, (5) a statement

regarding the display of artifacts. In order to meet these requirements, we had to amend the Articles of Incorporation showing the SHS was organized for, “exclusively charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes.” Also, it was necessary to change the Articles of Incorporation to show that if the organization was ever dissolved, all artifacts would be, “distributed to the federal government, or a state or local government, for a public purpose.” We chose to say all artifacts would go to the City of Sachse.

At the meeting in January 1992, Randy Glover was elected President. These minutes reported that the Society had a membership of eighteen members and the financial report showed there was \$275.34 in the account. By this time, the Society Board had developed what they called a master project list which included the following projects: (1) Continuation of the video interviews with older people, (2) photographing, restoration, cataloging and display of farm equipment, (3) use of the library community room for displaying artifacts that were collected, (4) work with the Seventh grade teachers at the Sachse Middle School to conduct an essay contest; and, (5) establish a newsletter committee to write articles periodically for the newspaper.

By the beginning of 1992, the Sachse Historical Society had completed the task of setting up the organization. Legal instruments, such as the By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation and 501(C)(3) Tax Exemption had been approved by all State agencies. The membership application forms and forms for recording artifacts were completed and being used. By this time the Board Members had collected some farm machinery along with a few artifacts. They had installed a display case at the library and were using it to display a few articles and to promote the SHS.

Also, during these first three years the SHS Board Members had gained some experience as an organization. They had the experience of participating in three Fall Fest activities. They had conducted three annual meetings in which they learned the SHS membership enjoyed hearing the local people talk about growing up in Sachse rather than having an outside speaker. The annual meetings were originally held in January. However, by 1994, the Board learned that January was not a good month because of conflicts with the Super Bowl, possible bad weather and having just finished Thanksgiving and Christmas, did not give adequate time for planning the Annual Meeting. A motion was passed at the 1995 annual meeting to move the annual meeting to March.

The Board of Directors monthly board meetings soon developed into an agenda routine that has been fairly consistent throughout these twenty-five years. Basically, that agenda has been to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, receive a treasurer’s report from the Finance Director, entertain reports from the various appointed committees, review any old business carried over from previous months, and discuss any new business.

As mentioned in the Introduction, the history of the Sachse Historical Society is found by looking at the various events, projects and programs with which the Society has become involved over these twenty-five years. Some of this history is found in annual events in which the Society has participated each year such as Fall Fest. Some is found in long term projects like

the collection of farm equipment. And, some in short term projects like the restoration of the Ahrens-Fox fire truck and construction of the Onion Shed. In order to get a more complete history of the Sachse Historical Society, we now turn to look back at sixteen of the Society's major projects, programs, and events.

## PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND EVENTS.

### **1. Farm Equipment Display.**

During their second meeting, on May 25, 1989, the Board discussed the possibility of obtaining the farm equipment left by the death of Bryan Salmon. This equipment was antique, horse-drawn equipment that had not been used for several years. Mr. G. H. Kelso was a relative of Bryan Salmon and had been instrumental in setting up the Sachse Historical Society. Because he was an attorney, he was appointed by the family to settle Mr. Salmon's estate. Joe Stone agreed to contact Mr. Kelso and inquire if this farm equipment could be donated to the SHS for preservation as historical artifacts. At the following meeting in June, Joe Stone reported that he had spoken to Mr. Kelso and Mr. Kelso said he would do everything he could to see that the Society received anything of historical nature. However, Mr. Kelso said that it might take as long as one a year to settle the estate. On November 8, 1990, Mr. Kelso notified the SHS that the Salmon estate had been settled and the farm equipment was given to the Society. The equipment was moved to the City Service Center for temporary storage. It was inventoried and a list sent to Mr. Kelso recording what equipment was donated by the Salmon Estate.

During the following years there was a lot of discussion regarding how SHS should display the antique farm equipment. The possibility of constructing a pole barn on the Lions Club property at the corner of Williford and Bryan Streets was suggested. Pat Boyd agreed to get the estimated cost for constructing a pole barn and draft a proposed agreement to present to the Lions Club for the use of their property. He reported the next month that a building 20' X 40' without sides would cost about \$7,000. No action was taken at that time but at a later meeting all agreed that SHS could not afford this. There was discussion about constructing a shelter at the city's old water tower on Sachse Rd. and 5<sup>th</sup> Street. However, the contract donating this land to the city only permitted it to be used for city water supply facilities.

In the meantime, Joe Stone contacted former Board member, Floy Faye Bailey, about donating some antique farm equipment she had. On August 22, 1991, Joe reported to the Board that he and Lloyd Henderson, with the help of the City crews, picked up the following items donated by Floy Faye Bailey: a sulkey plow, a hay rake, a mowing machine, a planter (all Horse drawn) and several small items such as a cream separator, tools, and a cast iron pot. Along with these items, Joe contributed another cream separator, a butter churn, and a cluster mail box rack that he had salvaged from the old Sachse Post Office when it was located in the Hutson Grocery Store.

Because most of the Board members had not seen the farm equipment, they adjourned during the March 29, 1992 meeting to see it at the Sachse Service Center. It was apparent that some

of the equipment was just junk-partial pieces and good only as scrap iron. Eventually, the Board agreed to appoint a committee to look at the equipment and decide which implements were worth keeping and which to sell as scrap iron. Although a man who bought old farm equipment was contacted, Joe reported later that the man was not interested in the equipment SHS wanted to sell and the issue was dropped until Board meeting on January 21, 1996. At that meeting Joe Stone, Devon Reed and Randy Glover were selected to decide which pieces of the farm equipment to save and the rest sold for scrap iron. The three men met after the board meeting and marked eight pieces to be saved. The next month Joe Stone reported that he met with a buyer who paid \$50.00 for the scrap machinery.

On April 21, 1998, the building, located at the entrance to the Sachse Cemetery and owned by the City of Sachse, was turned over to the SHS for use as a museum. For the first time the SHS had space in the yard to set up its farm equipment for permanent display. Randall Cooper donated two loads of base material to put in the yard to set the farm equipment on. The rock material was spread and in August Joe Stone reported that the pad was ready for the farm equipment. However, this pad site was located on the west side of the building but it was later abandoned and never used.

During 2007, Joe Stone, Lloyd Henderson and Jim Becker were appointed to serve as a Farm Equipment Committee. They redesigned the layout for displaying the farm equipment by building a ten foot wide pea-gravel covered area following inside the fence line. The farm equipment was immediately moved onto this site, broken wooden handles were replaced, and interpretation/identification signs were installed. Jim Becker prepared a brochure with pictures that explained the purpose of each piece of equipment and how it was used

In July, two more pieces of farm equipment, a turning plough and a cotton planter were donated by Bill and Nell Grant. On July 21, 2007, the SHS Farm Equipment Committee received permission from the Board to install the bell used by Albert and Alabama Sachse to call the field hands in for dinner.

At the April 17, 2010 Board meeting, the Farm Equipment Committee reported that a weed mulcher had been added as a new piece of farm equipment. Actually, it had been at the museum for a while but was in two pieces. However, it was not known that the two pieces went together to make the weed mulcher and that it was pulled by horses or mules to pull weeds. In 2008, the farm equipment display was increased when former President Paul Head donated a 1938 Allis-Chalmers tractor. Jim Becker made some minor repairs and the tractor represented the SHS in several parades. In 2013 the Board had the tractor painted.

## **2. Participation in Fall Fest.**

SHS Board had its first discussion regarding participation in Fall Fest at the second meeting on May 25, 1989. From the very beginning, all agreed that participation should have a double purpose: to acquaint people with the work of the Sachse Historical Society by our presence, and

to generate revenue for the Society if possible. At this meeting on August 24th, plans were finalized to sponsor a cow chip throwing contest and charge a \$1.00 entrants fee. One of the Board Members expressed her feeling that the idea of the Society sponsoring a cow chip throwing contest was a disgusting idea. However, she agreed to vote for the contest if the Society would furnish gloves for entrants who choose not to touch those nasty things.

At the next meeting, President Boyd gave a report on the Society's participation in the 1989 Fall Fest as follows: "The Society had a booth at the Public Service Area with information about the Society and Sachse. The Society also conducted the Cow Chip Throwing Contest in which 34 people participated." This means we made a total of \$34.00 that first year. The next year SHS maintained a booth and conducted another cow chip throwing contest with all proceeds designated to go to the fire truck restoration project. The old Ahrens-Fox fire truck was towed to the Fall Fest site for people see and show them the need raise money for restoration.

The third year, during the 1991 Fall Fest, SHS conducted a horseshoe pitching contest as a fundraiser and charged a \$1.00 entry fee. There was an elimination throw to determine the two top contenders in each of the categories for women, men, and children. Then a regular contest was conducted to establish the winner in each category. Also, SHS displayed some of the farm equipment to acquaint people with the work of the Society.

For SHS participation during the 1992 Fall Fest, Randy Glover made arrangements with the Texas Living History Association to be present. They had their members, in Texas period costume, work among the crowd portraying some of Texas's most colorful characters. Naomi Reed had made a beautiful afghan which we raffled off at our booth for \$1.00 each ticket. Randy also made arrangements for SHS to rent an Orbotron to use as the fundraiser.

The Society has been asked to participate in the Fall Fest 1995. However, by August 1995, members felt they were already too committed and did not have time to participate and voted not to do so.

During the monthly meeting on May 18, 1997, It was agreed that SHS needed something new at Fall Fest. Suggestions that were made included coffee mugs, T shirts, belt buckles and caps with SHS logos and to continue selling the coverlets. Final plans for Fall Fest were made, in September, to purchase 25 tee shirts and 100 caps to sell them for \$10.00 or under. Orders for the coverlets were taken because the re-order was delayed and not available at the time of Fall Fest. At the next meeting in October, following Fall Fest, Joe Stone reported that one cap and one T-shirt was donated to the printer, in appreciation for his service, and 16 caps, 28 T-shirts and one coverlet was sold at Fall Fest.

It appears that between the 1997 and 2002 Fall Fest the SHS concentrated mainly on the booth to provide information and sell the coverlet but didn't conduct any activities or contest. However, in 2002 the SHS volunteered to handle the tee shirt contest and pony rides. The tee shirt contest consisted of 5<sup>th</sup> graders drawing a picture for the Fall Fest theme. The first place

winner had his poster copied onto tee shirts which become the official Fall Fest shirts. It was reported at the November Board meeting that the Historical Society sponsored tee shirt and horseshoe contest went very well. Although the horseshoe contest took a loss the Chamber absorbed the loss.

SHS had full size cutouts of William and Mary Sachse at the 2008 Fall Fest at their booth and took photographs of people standing with the cutouts. The cutouts provided a very successful presentation and the Society, "made more money this year than we ever have but it was less than \$100."

During the next three years the SHS engaged in raffles as their primary fund raiser at Fall Fest. In 2010 Board member, President Janis Tillerson donated guitar, a poster, a hat, a photo and concert pictures all autographed by country western music artist Toby Keith. Tickets were \$2 each or three for \$5 and SHS made \$750 that year. In 2011, Janis donated another guitar, a hat, a picture, several guitar picks, and poster autographed by Tim McGraw. That year the SHS made \$488. And, in 2012, SHS raffled a new bicycle that was donated by Board Member Roger Brand. Also, a gift certificate which gave the winner two days free rental of two bikes, including helmets was donated by Richardson Bike Mart. SHS made \$357.00 which included the sale of five sets of books.

### **3. Onion Shed Construction Project.**

During 2007, the SHS Board of Directors were determined to find a way to begin the restoration of the 1948 Ahrens-Fox fire truck. They also recognized that it would not be wise to paint the truck and leave it out in the weather where the paint would fade and the body rust. Soon after the SHS took possession of the museum building in 1998, they developed a Master Site Plan which included construction of a building to house the truck sometime in the future. The Master Site Plan also included improvements to the museum building, a gazebo and the location of sidewalks throughout the yard.

During the summer of 2007, a committee was selected to develop plans for the construction of a cover and restoration of the fire truck. The committee was also instructed to include the construction of the sidewalks on the master plan in their planning.

In February, 2008 Committee Member Bill Siebert reported to the Board that he had applied for permits with the City and submitted bid requests to Cooper Concrete and Martinez Construction for the construction of a slab and sidewalks. Bill pointed out that this would be an expensive project because the slab for the fire truck needed to be a structural slab, not just a parking slab. Plans are for a cover to be built to protect the truck, therefore, the slab needs to be built to hold the cover in addition to the weight of the truck.

The best bid was submitted by Robert Martinez Construction of \$6,923.42 for construction of the pad and \$2,925.00 for the sidewalks. This bid included the donation of the concrete for the sidewalks by Mr. Randall Cooper. A motion was passed giving the committee authority to

spend the money that was available and to make decisions on getting the pad and sidewalks put in by Martinez Construction. By the middle of May 2008, the pad had been poured and the sidewalks were completed. The Board discussed the possibility of moving the fire truck onto the slab but decided that the truck would be in the way during construction of the cover.

The Committee next turned their attention toward the construction of a cover for the fire truck. After several meetings they presented the Board with four options for the cover. Option 1: the construction of a steel frame with a copper roof at a cost of \$26,000; Option 2: a wooden constructed frame with a non-copper roof that cost \$5,000; Option 3: a temporary metal carport that costs \$2,215; and, Option 4, to do nothing regarding the building, move the truck onto the slab, leave it uncovered and build a cover at a later date. Option 1 was eliminated because of the cost. After much discussion a motion passed that to proceed with Option 2 and the committee given the authority to handle the details regarding the cost. The first step was to get the building built. The next step was to get the fire truck moved to the pad and start working on it.

On June 6, 2008, the Committee informed the Board that the Building plans were complete, bids were out and due back by July 15. The Committee had decided to go with a gable roof building because it would be less expensive than hip roof. The walk-in gate on the southeast corner of the museum building was changed to two swinging gates so large equipment could have access to the museum grounds. Also, the gate by the fire truck pad was changed to two swinging gates.

During this time the SHS Board of Directors was working to raise the money needed to pay for the project. The Board had budgeted \$1,000.00 in their Project Budget and the annual contribution provided by the Cemetery Association in the amount of \$2,000.00 was designated for this project. Board member Charles Smith was serving on the City Council at this time and he volunteered to go to the Council and ask them to contribute \$3,500.00. The City Council approved the request for the \$3,500.00 contribution on the rational that if SHS ever moved from the property, the building would still be owned by the City. These sources provided SHS with \$6,500.00

Bill finalized the plans and negotiated the contract before going to the city for a permit. The contractor, Mr. Jack Lovell, had originally said the construction cost would be around \$1,800.00 with SHS providing all materials. Bill prepared a list of needed materials. With the Home Depot discount the materials cost about \$2,200.00. There were additional materials such as electrical and steel plates that had to be added to this cost. The Committee assured the Board that they would keep a record of the costs of building materials to provide the city, for their auditors and will make a complete report on all of the expenses for the construction of the building including the sidewalks.

The construction process was slowed because of rain but was finished by the end of January 2009. Once the cover was finished it became known as the "Onion Shed" because of its

similarity with the Gulf Colorado & Santa Fe onion shed buildings of the past that were located in Sachse.

#### **4. 1948 Ahrens-Fox Fire Truck Restoration Project.**

During the first meeting on April 26, 1989, there was discussion regarding the types of programs and projects in which the Society might become involved. Just a year or two before this the city had taken an Ahrens-Fox fire truck out of service. The truck was built in 1948 and owned by the City of Dallas until 1973 at which time Sachse bought it by a closed bidding process. Although it was old and undependable, it was a classic. It was still running and the city had hopes of restoring it to use in parades and shows.

At the following meeting, on May 25, 1989, it was reported that the city had passed a resolution which contained the following statements: (1) Lloyd Henderson was appointed by council to chair a committee for raising funds to restore the Ahrens-Fox fire truck. (2) The 1952 Chevrolet fire truck was to be sold and the funds received to be applied toward restoration of the Ahrens-Fox. (This truck was sold at county auction for \$950.00). (3) When restored the Ahrens-Fox fire truck is to be returned to the Sachse Fire Department for custodianship.

The truck was originally moved inside the concrete water tower at the City's Service Center during 1988 where it was protected from the sun and rain. However, sometime between 1989 and 1992 it was moved outside where it was exposed to damage created by the weather and vandalism. At their meeting on May 28, 1992 it was decided the city should assume major responsibility for restoration and the Society should play a supportive role. However, because of board members' concern for the truck's deterioration, the Society should take responsibility for keeping the truck covered. Several attempts were made by the Society to cover it with tarpaulins but none of these lasted very long.

By January 1996, the City Council began talking about selling the truck but Board Members agreed they wanted to explore options for restoring the truck rather than selling it at this point. Lloyd Henderson volunteered to contact Mr. Bud Riggs of Riggs Equipment Company to get an estimate for getting the truck running and painted and to report back at the next meeting. During the next meeting in February, Lloyd reported that he had contacted Mr. Riggs regarding the Ahrens-Fox. Mr. Riggs said he would come by and see what it would take to get it running. It was also suggested that Lloyd contact City Garage in Sachse to see if they would be interested in helping.

During the Board's monthly meeting on August 15, 1999, all agreed that the truck should at least be painted and put into running condition. President Paul Head was directed to write a letter to the City Manager with the suggestion that the fire truck restoration become a joint project of the SHS and City. Apparently, there had been no response from the city by the following January 2000. Board Members began to realize it was going to be difficult to raise the money needed to restore the fire truck and turned their attention to providing a more permanent cover to protect the truck from the weather. Prior to the 2001 Fall Fest the Society

applied for a grant from Fall Fest to help out. On November 18, 2001, President Paul Head wrote a memorandum to the Board stating, "The Fall Fest Committee has awarded the Historical Society enough money to purchase a metal carport for ultimate display of the 1948 Ahrens-Fox engine and a few other artifacts. The carport can be used to cover the fire engine while it is being restored once it is moved to an appropriate location for renovation." However, this plan was never carried out.

By the January 2008, the Society had begun making plans for a permanent cover on the museum grounds and approached the city about donating the truck to the Society. On February 16, 2008, the City's Finance Director advised the Society that the city council was reworking a resolution to transfer the truck to the Society along with the \$1,738 from the sale of the 1952 Chevrolet fire truck. (This \$1,738.00 came from the sale of the 1952 Chevrolet fire truck including interest the money had earned during that time). The Council's original resolution stated that the fire truck would be on loan to SHS and required the Society to begin the restoration in 90 days and completed in 180 days. These requirements were removed and an agreement was added that the \$1,738 would be used to restore the fire truck for display purposes as historically accurate as possible.

On April 19, 2008, the fire truck committee, consisting of Lloyd Henderson, Joe Stone, Charles Smith, Jim Becker, Bill and Nell Grant, and Bill Siebert reported that they have had two meetings and have determined that the truck can be restored to look good for display purposes. The committee emphasized that the construction of the pad needed to get underway so the truck could be worked on at the site. They felt it would cost too much money to move the truck from place to place for various repairs. The committee suggested that tires may have to be bought in order to move the truck because the tires were about thirty five years old.

On February 21, 2009, the Fire Truck Restoration Committee reported that they had found a tow company to voluntarily move the fire truck from the City's Service Center to the new "onion shed" building and that it is now in place. The Committee explained to the Board that they had divided the future restoration work into three parts as follows:

1. Immediate Needs: The major problem at this point was the need to replace the hose bed. The wooden hose bed on the truck was very rotten and was a hazard for anyone who steps on it without knowing they would fall through. Joe Stone volunteered to take care of this.
2. Repair Work Projects: The committee listed the following items that needed to be done to make the truck more displayable. These are things on which they could use the \$1,750 designated for restoration by the city. However, committee members voluntarily took responsibility for taking care of some of the items.
  - Rebuild and replace the seats. (Smith & Henderson)
  - Replace two headlights. (Smith)
  - Put the front bumper back on the truck.
  - Replace the shattered windshields. (Stone)
  - Remove the entangled tarpaulin from the back wheels.
  - Replace the glass in the side mirrors. (Stone)

Replace the windshield wiper blades.

Replace the front tires. (Eileen & Don McConnell)

Find old fire hose to put in the hose bed.

Replace the gages on the side of the truck. (Becker)

Repair the rusted areas.

Loosen valves so the handles will turn. (Becker)

Loosen the hinges on the compartment doors and hood so they will shut. (Becker)

Get stands to put under truck and take the weight off. (Eileen & Don McConnell)

3. Paint restoration: Karen Reed was in charge of coordinating the painting of the truck and all resource and recommendations were directed to her.

The committee made a recommendation to the Board of Directors that the electrical work for the "onion shed" and fire siren be included in the 2009 Projects budget.

At the Board meeting on April 4, 2010 it was pointed out that the budget did not reflect the entire cost of the restoration because committee members paid for a lot of things themselves as the project moved along. Don and Eileen McConnell really got the restoration started by purchasing two new front tires for the truck and put four stationary jacks to relieve the weight on the tires.

## **5. Role in Obtaining the Caboose.**

In 1886 the Gulf Colorado & Santa Fe Railroad platted the Town of Sachse and built a depot. However, the depot was torn down and removed from the railroad's property sometime in the 1960's. During the first months of 1990, Mayor Larry Holden suggested to the Board members that it would be great if the depot could be replaced and used as a Chamber of Commerce office and museum. He challenged the SHS to take this depot replacement as a project. The Board accepted the challenge and began looking for a depot.

On June 28, 1990, Randy Glover reported on his communications with the Gulf Colorado & Santa Fe railroad concerning the donation of a depot building. The person contacted did not know of any that were available. Randy did find out that the railroad would give SHS a depot if they found one, but it would be the Board's responsibility to move and restore it.

Lloyd Henderson volunteered to contact the City of Sanger to see if they would sell their building. On December 9, 1990 he reported the depot at Sanger was available but was now in the ownership of Mr. Richard Wilk who lives in Connecticut. Mr. Wilk was contacted and said the building was for sale for \$25,000. It would cost about \$18,000.00 to set it up and additional money for moving. Once this is done then the restoration costs would begin. Because of the funding required the SHS Board agreed to drop this lead and look for others.

At their meeting on June 27, 1991, a new idea was presented by Board member Brenda Boyd. Brenda gave a report on a contact she made with Mr. Gene Harris of Southwest Railroad Parts Co. This company had about 41 cabooses from various railroads priced from about \$3,500 to

\$7,500. Brenda showed pictures Mr. Harris had faxed. Society members decided to give further consideration to this report and try to find ways SHS might secure one of these cabooses. At the meeting on September 22nd, Brenda gave a report on her follow up contact. She distributed pictures along with a price list and the Board decided that we could not afford to purchase a caboose at this time.

During May 1995, interest in the caboose came up again. It was suggested the Society approach the Chamber of Commerce regarding a joint project to obtain a caboose. Dave DeBusman reported that the Chamber of Commerce Board had discussed this project and was interested in obtaining more details regarding plans and costs before committing any resources. Lloyd Henderson and Pat Boyd were appointed to follow up on this project and report back to the Society. They contacted Mr. Harris and made arrangements to look at his stock and get current prices.

Although Mr. Harris originally had 41 cabooses, about three years had passed since Brenda's first contact and he only had 4 or 5 left. On May 28, 1996 the SHS Board members were briefed on the proposed joint plan to purchase one of the cabooses. The plan involved a joint financial participation by the City of Sachse, Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Corporation, Lions Club and the Sachse Historical Society. The SHS was asked to pay \$500.00 of the estimated total cost of \$20,500.00 for purchasing, moving and restoring the caboose. There would be no additional cost to the SHS. The caboose was to be used primarily for the Chamber of Commerce, and Economic Development Offices. Also, it was to include an information center and a visitor's attraction for the City of Sachse. The Board voted to pay \$500.00 and to participate in the purchase of the caboose.

On February 16, 1997, President Henderson reported to the Board that the caboose project was going slow mainly because the work was being done by volunteers. However, at the SHS meeting on May 18, he announced that the Chamber of Commerce has moved into the caboose and the SHS could possibly tour it at the next meeting.

Before the caboose project started, the SHS Board had agreed to take photographs and make a historical record of the purchasing, moving, and restoration of the project. At the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, board members were shown the photo scrapbook that Board Member Lloyd Henderson started when the project began. The book was now complete and the location of where the book was to be kept was discussed at length. It was decided, at the following meeting on September 14, that the original copy of the picture album was to be placed in the library and a copy made to be placed in the caboose. A formal presentation was made to Karen Williams, Sachse Librarian, at the next meeting.

## **6. The Development of the Museum.**

On June 25, 1990, President Pat Boyd made a progress report to the City Council. He explained that the Society had begun to collect artifacts and had been given a glass display case. The problem was that the Society did not have a place to locate the case for displaying artifacts. He asked the council if the SHS could place the display case in the library room. This request was granted and the case was installed in hr library. However, by June, 1992, President Randy Glover was back with the City Council asking for additional space. Randy reported that the City Council approved the allocation of additional space to be located in the adult reading room. The display case was moved and pictures were hung on the wall above the case. A few years later it was obvious that the library was running out of room for its own use and might need the space being used by SHS. The Society began looking for alternate locations to use in the near future. The city's staff was asked to check SHS historical items to see if some of them could be used or hung on the of walls the city hall building which was located on Hwy 78.

During 1996 the Sachse Police Department vacated their offices at the entrance to the Sachse Cemetery and moved into a new facility located on the northwest corner of Sachse and Miles Roads. The following February 16, 1997, SHS President Lloyd Henderson reported to the Board that he had sent a letter to the City Council requesting the SHS be allowed to use the vacant building for storage, display of items, and the creation of a museum.

It was not until April 21, 1998 that a final decision was made. The City Council agreed that the SHS could use the building and a Management Services Agreement was executed. This agreement provided that SHS could use the building and the City would pay the SHS a management fee of \$10.00 per year. Also, SHS would be responsible for utility costs, repairs, and maintenance of the property costing \$200.00 or less. The City agreed to maintain the grounds around the building and to provide adequate insurance to cover the City's liability.

The first monthly meeting of the SHS Board was held in this facility on May 17, 1998. Now that the Society had a building there were discussions about painting, shelving, security, acquisition of additional artifacts and moving the pictures and glass show case from the library to this new location. It was agreed that any action would be delayed until the Board had more time to plan and gather ideas. Also, the Board decided to not have the electricity or the water turned on until later because they would not be using the building very often. Without electricity there was no air conditioning so the Board conducted their meetings during the rest of the summer at the Sachse City Hall.

On January 16, 2000 Garry Adams, Sachse Community Development Director, was invited to meet with the Board to discuss the museum building and the display of antique farm equipment on the premises. Garry reviewed the procedures for obtaining a Special Use Permit with Board members. However, he was not familiar with the agreement SHS had with the City and raised some question about the zoning requirements for the outside display of the farm equipment at this location. Garry was provided with a copy of the Management Agreement so he could become aware of what had already been agreed upon. After further review, it was determined that the museum was located in a residential zone which did not provide for an outside display area.

On March 27, 2000, the Planning and Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing to change the zoning for the museum site, to define the museum category and to allow for a museum in a public building. During April, 2000, the City Council amended the city's zoning classifications to include definitions of "public building" and "museum" and to allow a museum in a public building provided the SHS applied for and received a special use permit (SUP). Now that the zoning requirements had been cleared, the next step for SHS was to present a site plan for an outside exhibit to the Planning and Zoning Commission and get final action from the Council.

However, before the SUP issue was settled another problem arose. On January 21, 2001, Bill Atkinson, City Manager, wrote a letter to the Mayor and City Council advising them that the SHS needed to check its insurance requirements to insure the city was not assuming any undue liability by issuing an SUP. The city attorney advised that city needed to abolish the existing management agreement and create a new agreement which had sufficient requirements in order to properly cover the city's interest and liabilities. He recommended a new management agreement that would require the SHS to provide its own liability insurance and not make it optional. In this case the city did not have governmental immunity and would be at risk under the current agreement. Atkinson advised the SHS that he would have the attorney revise the current agreement and get back with them. In their meeting on February 20, President Paul Head informed the SHS Board that now the yard was not specifically mentioned as part of the property included in the management services agreement with the city and there was a need to amend the original agreement to include the yard.

The SUP status and insurance requirement were discussed during the following monthly meetings of the Board. On June 9, 2001, a motion was passed to purchase \$2,000,000 insurance policy. This motion was rescinded at the July meeting and another motion to spend up to purchase a \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy was unanimously approved.

In November 2001, President Paul Head sent a memorandum informing the SHS Board members, the Sachse City Council had approved an SUP to allow the Historical Society to have an outside display area as part of the museum. He concluded by suggesting that it was, "time to spruce up this building and get organized." He also reported that the City Council was considering waiving the \$400 fee for museum special use permit at its next meeting.

On April 26, 2003 the Board of Directors spent time discussing the need for furniture, the acquiring of display cases, the need for a plan showing how the inside of the building should be laid out and the need for a committee to meet and discuss finishing the inside of the building. Chris Scorgie and Bill Siebert were appointed to prepare drawings for layout plan and submit it for approval to the board of directors. The Museum Committee composed of Board Members Hazel Gregory, Joe Stone, Ruth Robinson, Nada Davies and Jerri Graham was appointed at the SHS Board meeting on May 17, 2003.

On July 7, 2003, Bill Siebert presented the final drawings for changing the exterior of the museum building. However, there was a question regarding the Management Service

Agreement with the city regarding the renovation. The Sachse Historical Society Board of Directors gave President Jeff Haupt and Board Member Paul Head authority to write a letter to the city regarding the lease agreement on the behalf of the SHS Board Members.

Although the renovation project final drawings were passed on November 18, 2003, the process for amending the lease agreement was a slow process. It wasn't until January 17, 2004 that President Jeff Haupt distributed the proposed lease for everyone to review. A motion to accept the lease was passed and Jeff was given authority to act on behalf of SHS concerning the lease and the insurance policy. Jeff was also authorized to proceed with the solicitation of bids with the help of Jim Gatewood. Jeff passed around copies of the draft budget for the building renovations. It was pointed out that money would be needed to start the renovation. Raising membership dues and applying for grants were discussed. A motion was passed to set up special committee to start the raising funds.

On November 13, 2004, Joe Stone presented the Treasurer's Report for November 2004. At this time he also announced that..."a very substantial donation of \$60,000.00 has been received, dedicating the renovation of the Sachse Historical Museum to the memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Newton Sachse." The Board agreed that a permanent bronze plaque on a granite pedestal base would be located in front of the museum in recognition of this gift from the Evans Foundation.

On January 13, 2004, Jeff Haupt, Karen Reed and Bill Siebert were appointed to serve on a Construction Committee to proceed with the bidding and awarding of a construction contract for the renovation of the Museum. On January 15, 2005, the construction committee reported that they had received bids from three general contractors with a tentative schedule to start construction in February. On February 19<sup>th</sup> Scott Williams Contracting Company was presented as the general contractor selected to enter into negotiations for a contract to do the renovations project.

It was also explained at this meeting, that due to budget restrictions, the project had been divided into phases. The first phase was to include improvements to the building such as installation of the copper roof, construction of the porch, carpeting, painting and installation of the fence. The fencing would match the design of the fencing from William Sachse's octagonal house. Phase II included the ginger bread trim, flower beds and construction of the gazebo.

On March 19, 2005, the committee reported Phase I construction on the museum has been started. On May 21 they reported that Phase I was almost complete.

On June 18, 2005, the ornamental fence was discussed. The committee reported that they planned to keep it as close to the original as possible. It would be five feet tall with bars at twelve inches and six inches apart. Two bids were received for installing the ornamental iron fence in the amounts for \$9,695 and \$13,932 and a third low bid in the amount of \$8,723.00 which was submitted by a company in Royce City.

On September 20, 2005, Joe Stone reported that the City had given the Sachse Historical Society a certificate of occupancy.

## **7. Fourth Grade Essay Contest**

In September 1992, SHS Board selected an Essay Committee and made arrangements with the 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Texas history teachers at Sewell Elementary and Hudson Middle Schools to conduct an essay contest. The essays were to be approximately 400 words and the student could select any subject related to Texas History. The teachers reviewed all papers and forwarded the best 20 to the Committee. The Committee reviewed the papers and selected a first, second, and third place winners. These winners were invited to the annual meeting to read their papers and receive their awards which were U. S. Savings Bonds. The first place was a \$50.00 bond.

Prior to 1996, essay papers were being submitted that were not as original as hoped. It was obvious that some of the materials were copied from books and internet. That year the rules were changed and the contest limited to only 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Instead of essays on Texas history, we required the student to submit a paper about someone they had interviewed who was 50 years or older. The Committee gave the students suggestions to ask such as: How their family came to Texas and why? Where did they come from? Or, how has Texas changed since coming here? They were encouraged to interview a family member such as a grandparent, aunt or uncle.

In 1997, a set of guidelines were developed which defined the rules essay in more detail. The length of the essay was increased from 600 to 800 words and students were given the following topics from which to select:

1. Interview the oldest member of your family, a grandparent, great grandparent, etc. You may also interview a neighbor, church member, family member, friend, etc., if no one in your family is old enough. The purpose is to find someone who has had enough life experience to be able to talk about events in history. Possible questions to ask: Were you involved in any major events such as World War II, the Depression, Vietnam, desegregation, etc? How did your family come to Texas? Why did they come? Where did they come from? If they have lived in or around Dallas most of their lives, how has it changed? What is the most important event in history to them? Write an essay describing what you discovered in your interview.
2. Write an essay describing the history of a local place – Dallas, Dallas County, Garland, Sachse, Rowlett, Wylie, etc.
3. Topics approved by the teacher. These must relate in some way to Texas.

In 1998, the three prizes were increased to \$100.00, \$50.00 and \$50.00 savings bonds. In return some very interesting and touching stories were returned by the students. SHS usually

received thank you notes from each of the winners. For example, the following note was received from Durinda Buchanan, First Place Winner in 1998:

Dear Mr. Henderson and Committee,

When Mrs. Abercombrie told us about writing an essay on someone fifty years or older I thought it was going to be boring. While I was interviewing Ruth I realized it was fun learning about the olden days.

I thought that it was very thoughtful of all of you who came up to me and told me that I did a good job.

I really appreciate receiving the \$100.00 savings bond. This will go towards college for me. Right now I do not know whether I am going to be an elementary teacher or a doctor.

On January 20, 2001, Board Members passed a motion to discontinuing the essay contest year in favor of spending more money on books for the library.

### **8. Oral Histories Collection:**

Following the meeting on April 29, 1990, the Board members went to the home of Mrs. Eloise Bailey to conduct the first oral interview. Mrs. Bailey described her experience growing up in Sachse, told about how things were in the early 1900's, and provided some interesting stories. This interview was recorded on video tape for use in the Sachse's Historical Library.

On August 23, 1990, President Boyd discussed the need to continue with additional video interviews with long time Sachse residents. Mary Allene Jones indicated she had contacted Jewell Davis and Mrs. Davis said she would be willing to be interviewed. It was agreed that Mrs. Davis and another second person would be interviewed next.

Since that time seventeen persons have recorded their stories about early life in Sachse. These oral histories include: Willie Ann Davis Nelson, J.C. & Helen Ledbetter, Iola Davis Rimes, Dot Davis, Martha King Davis, Mary Allene Jones, Cleo Huston, Jewell Davis, Noble Ogle, Randy Glover, Pat Boyd, Mollie Grissom, Iona Ingram, Joe Stone, Margret Mozzelle Davis Toler, and Randall Cooper. These stories are preserved on CD disks filed at the Sachse Historical Museum and are made available for people to listen by appointment.

### **9. Newsletter.**

The first time the SHS minutes record a discussion regarding the need for a newsletter was on March 28, 1993. At that time Joe Stone suggested the Society consider the establishment of a newsletter to send out every three of four months. No one volunteered to take on this responsibility.

One year later, on March 27, 1994, President Glover led in an open discussion regarding a proposed SHS newsletter and received the following suggestions regarding content: The

original Routing of Hwy 78, street names from the original plat, historical marker in the cemetery, past uses of the city hall, Ahrens-Fox fire truck, and a photograph record of the construction of Hwy 78 showing the changes being made. Again, it was only discussed and nothing finalized.

At the Board meeting on November 17, 1996, Jim Cron presented the Board a sample of how a newsletter could be laid out and suggested two mailings per year. This layout was accepted by the Board and Jim Cron was elected as the editor of the newsletter. At the Board meeting in January, 1997, Jim discussed the details of the newsletter and said he would make the first mailing around February 1, 1997. By July 27, 1997, Cron stated he was finished with the second newsletter and there would be as many as four pages of news. He also informed the Board that the Newsletter would be ready to be mailed by September.

### **10. History Books for the Sachse Library.**

At the monthly meeting on June 25, 1995, it was recommended SHS deposit \$1,000.00 in a perpetual escrow account with the First National Bank of Sachse and that the interest from this account be used to purchase Texas History books to be placed in Sachse library. After discussion it was agreed that \$500.00 be placed in an interest bearing account and the interest be used to purchase Texas History or US History books to be placed in the library. The Board decided that the books would be presented each year at the annual meeting and that the Society would make every effort to increase the amount on deposit to a minimum of \$1,000. It was also decided that the first book to be purchased and given to the library would be *900 Miles on the Butterfield Trail*. At the July 1995, Board meeting Joe Stone reported that he had set up a restricted CD account at the First National Bank of Sachse in the amount of \$500.00. Randy Glover reported that he had made arrangements to present the book to the library on Saturday, August 5, 1995. The Society presented the book, *Duel of Eagles*, by Jeff Long to librarian Karen Williams at the 1996 Annual Meeting. Two books, *The Longhorns* and *The Texas Republic*, were presented during the annual meeting on March 16, 1997.

Here is a list of the additional books given to the Library between 1998 and 2002 as they are recorded in the SHS annual minutes and presented at the annual meeting:

1998 *Twenty Texans, 100 Days In Texas, Make Way For Sam Houston, Exploring The Alamo Legends* and *Jane Long, Frontier Woman*.

1999 *Stephen F. Austin: Wilderness, Moses Austin and S. F. Austin, True Tales of Texas, Texas Women: Legends in Their Own, Lone Star State Divided, Brave Bessie: Flying Free, David Crocket, Deaf Smith: Scout, Spy, & Texas Hero*.

2002 *Religious Life in Garland, Texas 1840-2001, A Biography of Sheriff Bill Decker of Dallas County 1898-1970, Duke Paul of Wuertemberg on the Missouri Frontier: 1823, 1830, and 1851 and a Reproduction of Sam's Street Map of Dallas circa 1900*.

The Sachse Historical Society continued to provide history books for the library each year until February 20, 2007 when Board of Directors voted to discontinue the program.

## **11. Afghan Sales.**

During the meeting on August 25, 1996, Board Members voted to adopt a fund raising project proposal presented by Naomi Reed. Ms. Reed showed Board Members a copy of a 50 X 70 inch coverlet (afghan) and explained that various historical objects related to the City of Sachse could be embroidered on them. A committee was chosen to select the historical objects which included the Seal of the City of Sachse surrounded by the early school house, Sachse water tower, first store and post office, First Christian Church, Daniel Herring home, the caboose, William Sachse rock house and second fire station. The light blue afghans cost \$25.00 each and the Society sold them for \$39.95. One year later Joe Stone, Treasurer reported that he had deposited \$2,593.21 from the sales of the first order of 50 coverlets.

On January 19, 1997, Naomi reported all of the original order had been sold and that 50 more had been ordered. She also said SHS would receive 20 free coverlets with this order and that 12 of these were already on back order. The 20 free Afghans were green and this gave the buyer a choice of two colors. However, by January 1998, the coverlets sales had begun to slow down so the Board asked the Chamber of Commerce if they would assist in the selling them at the Chamber office which was located in the caboose. SHS agreed to give the Chamber \$4.00 commission for each coverlet they sold.

The second order of coverlets eventually sold. Although the Board was somewhat reluctant, because of the slow sales, they did approve Ms. Reed's request to reorder an additional 50 coverlets on October 18, 2006. A recommendation was made to ask the Fall Fest committee for a Grant from the money they returned to the community for projects each year to help buy the coverlets. A letter was drafted requesting a grant of \$500.00 to be used for the purchase of coverlets which included paying for taxes, shipping, and handling charges. This grant request was approved and the Board received the \$500.00 to help pay for additional 36 coverlets. The sales price was increased from \$39.95 to \$49.95. The last afghan in this order was sold sometime during the fall of 2012. Because sales had become so slow, the Board decided to not invest any more money and time in this project.

## **12. Book Publication.**

On July 16, 2011, Lloyd Henderson showed Board Members a transcript of a book he had written about the City of Sachse from its beginning in 1952 through 1996. Two copies of the transcript, in notebook form, were passed around for members to view. He explained that the transcript contained much history on the development of the city including the controversy of whether the railroad would go through Sachse or Greenville, Texas to get to Paris, Texas, information on the development of the fire department, police department, animal control, and the infrastructure of the City. Lloyd said that he would like to donate the copyright of the transcript to the Sachse Historical Society. President Janis Tillerson said she had found that the publisher of Mary Allene Jones' book, *Sachse Remembered*, is out of business and that she has an appointment to talk with a publisher in Southlake on Monday. She said that she is also looking into a possible grant through the University of Texas Press. After discussion, it was

voted that this be tabled until the August meeting after Janis had been able to get more information from the Southlake publisher and more information on a possible grant. The time frame was set to have one hundred books printed for the annual meeting in March 2012.

On August 20, 2011, Janis reported that most publishing companies were not interested in publishing just 100 copies of a book. There are printing companies that do printing and binding and although Taylor Publishing is no longer a publishing company they do printing and binding. The owner of Taylor Publishing, Mr. Habicht, lives in Sachse and he suggested that a committee come to his office and let him explain the different qualities of paper, etc., to have a better idea of what they wanted when they went to a printer. Janis and Lloyd made an appointment and met with Mr. Habicht. Janis informed the Board that a bar code could be bought on the internet for \$35.00 and that would allow SHS to sell the book in stores. She explained the copyright could also be obtained through the internet.

On November 11, 1911, Janis informed the Board that they had a quote from Taylor Publishing Specialty Books for printing and binding the book. The quote included a book jacket which would be required if the Board wanted to sell the book in book stores. A bar code is required and it would have to put it on the jacket. The quote did not include transferring the book to a PDF file which would cost between \$800 and \$1,000. After a lengthy discussion a motion was passed that the Society submit an application to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) for \$3,000 and provide them with 250 copies of the book for use in promoting the City of Sachse.

By January 1, 2012, the PDF file had been completed and the editor was working on the book. In order to have an ISBN number for the book several decisions need to be made. After a lengthy discussion about the number of books to print and the price, the following was decided:

1. Primary and secondary subject: United States History
2. Contributor details: Have Lloyd Henderson as author.
3. Price: \$29.95
4. Target audience: Family
5. Main Description: History of the development of Sachse
6. How many to print: 500 at a cost of \$4,320.65

A motion was passed that 500 books be printed and that they be-bar coded to sell for \$29.95.

Ed Stelnecki reported that he had requested \$3,000 from EDC for their participation in printing the book. He explained that EDC would be given 250 books to use in promoting the City of Sachse. EDC responded that they would give us a grant for \$1,000 but it was not necessary for the SHS to give them any books.

The corrected PDF file was delivered to Taylor Publishing Company on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and they had one copy of the book available for the Board to review on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Corrections were made and the final copy was delivered to the printer in the time line that was requested. The book printing was completed by the 29<sup>th</sup> of February, just in time for the annual meeting.

The books were made available at the annual meeting on March 4, 2012. A book signing was held at the annual meeting and presented copies of the book to Mayor Mike Felix, to Kathy Cobb for the Sachse Library, and to High School Principal Steve Hammerle for the Sachse High School Library. At the Board Meeting on April 4, 2012 Lloyd gave the Board a letter in which he signed the copy rights over to the Sachse Historical Society and gave the original pictures to the museum.

### **13. Veterans Day Program.**

On August 21, 2010, President Janis Tillerson asked the Board of Directors if they would be interested in conducting a program at the museum for Veterans Day. After some discussion it was decided that Board Members would participate in the Veterans Monument Dedication Service being planned by the City of Sachse on November 7<sup>th</sup>. However, they agreed to give consideration to sponsoring a Veterans Day program at the museum in 2011.

On April 16, 2011, President Janis asked the Board if they would consider conducting the Veterans Day Program on 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> of November. Board members agreed that Janis should contact the manager of the Fubarmotorpool Museum in Nevada, Texas and find out which date would be best for him because SHS was asking him to bring several pieces of military equipment for display. At the next meeting in May, Janis reported that she had contacted him and they agreed that Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> would be the best time and that she had made arrangements with him to bring some of their military equipment for display. Janis said that she had visited the Fubarmotorpool Museum to look at what SHS Board might want to have on display. She was impressed with a lot of things but especially liked the tank.

During their meetings between May and November the Board of Directors spent a lot of time planning the agenda, making contact with groups and people they wanted to invite to participate in the program and discussing ideas for the program. Some of the suggestions that were not carried out included a fly over, a parachute jump, use of a ReMax hot air balloon, and whether or not to make food available.

The program began at 11:00 on November 5, 2011 with the ringing of the bell eleven times followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, singing of the Star Spangled Banner by Sachse High School student Rebecca Gibbs, an invocation by Board Member Roger Brand, and presentation of a Proclamation from the city presented by Councilman, Bill Adams.

The speaker for the program was Sachse resident, Lt. General Charles Eichelberger (Ret.). General Eichelberger reminded the audience that young men and women have answered the call to arms and protect our country for over 230 years and we owe them a debt gratitude that is hard to express. The program closed with a three-volley gun salute performed by a re-enactment group from the Texas Military Society and taps played by Sachse High School student Sean Hoes.

The museum's grounds were well decorated with flags representing each branch of the service, banners draped along the fence and American flags lining both sides of the street leading up to the museum. Tables were set up on the museum porch with military equipment such as rifles, a machine gun, bayonets, helmets, and uniforms from each of the services. The Furbarmotorpool Museum brought a FV 433 British Abbot tank for everyone to view. Several local veterans furnished military items and photographs they had collected while in the service. A Christian motorcycle group called the "Saints on Steel" provided security patrol for the event.

The Board conducted an evaluation of the program at their meeting on November 19, 2011 and concluded that the program was very successful based on many comments from those in attendance. Suggestions were made for improving the program in the future.

On May 19, 2012, the Board voted to conduct the second Veterans Day program and set the date for November 3, 2012. Since the previous program in 2011 was so well accepted the Board decided to follow the same format. Most of the people who brought display items the first year returned with their displays and the museum yard was decorated like before. The program speaker was Major General Retired Marcus Hurley who served with the U. S. Air Force. Major Hurley spoke of the honor we need to give to the 23 million Veterans from the greatest generation to the current generation and to those 1 million who have given their lives for their country since it was formed. He pointed out that no federal recognition program or dollar amount could repay them for what they have given. The Civil War Reenactment Group returned with their three gun salute, Mayor Mike Felix presented a proclamation from the City, Jessica Norris played taps, Scout Pack 243 Posted the Colors, Mark Santoyo sang the Star Spangled Banner, and the "Saints on Steel" Christian motorcycle group provided security again.

The Third Annual Veterans Day Program was conducted on November 2, 2013 and followed the format as the two previous programs. The Colors were posted by the Renegade Nations, an American Indian Veterans Association who marched to the beat of Native Indian music, Jordan LaGrenade sang the Star Spangled Banner, and Jeff Harwell played taps. The program speaker was Jacob Schick. Mr. Schick was a corporal in the U. S. Marines serving in Iraq when the vehicle he was driving was hit by a tank mine. He sustained multiple compound fractures in his left leg and arm, ligament and bone loss, partial loss of his left hand and arm, and an amputation below the knee of his right leg. He received 46 operations and 23 blood transfusions during his rehabilitation but said he would go through it all again if he had to because it was worth fighting for the cost of freedom.

#### **14. Digitizing the Sachse Sentinal**

Joe and Pat Stone owned and operated the Sachse Sentinal from 1978 to 1987. During this time they had saved a copy of each of the papers. At the SHS Board meeting on April 26, 1992, Joe stated that he plans to donate a bound copy of these Sachse Sentinels along with the original copy of the first layout once a place is provided for displaying this document.

On July 17, 2010 Board Member Kathy Cobb reported that Sachse Librarian, Deloris Greenwald was working on a grant application to digitize these newspapers at no cost to the SHS. However, when the Sachse Sentinel was sold it was not continued under the original name and some legal questions had arisen so the grant application had not been filed. The questions arose as to who the actual owner was. Also, there was a question regarding the copyright. After a lengthy discussion, the Board decided that the City Librarian should proceed with the grant request since the city has an attorney on staff. They felt he should be able to answer any questions that might arise.

On August 18, 2010, the Board received a report that Deloris Greenwald had discussed the copyright problem with the City Attorney. He had advised her that if there was not a copyright symbol on the newspaper, digitizing would be OK. The Board informed Deloris that they would like for her to proceed with the digitizing and to provide SHS with a copy of the letter from the attorney. However, when she was told that it would need to be discussed with the attorney she canceled the grant application. She said would reapply and let the Board know when to bring the papers to her.

On February 2, 2012, the SHS Board was advised that the city had a new Librarian, Mignon Morse. Also, they were told that she was working with the Wylie Librarian to get the Wylie paper digitized and would like to do the Sachse Sentinel along with the Wylie paper. A letter was sent to Ms. Morse indicating the Board's desire to proceed with the application for a TexTreasures Grant. A motion was passed that Board Member Kathy Cobb represent the Sachse Historical Society's Board of directors and work with the Sachse Librarian on this project.

On October 20, 2012, the Board received an email from Ms. Morse that they were ready to proceed with the digitizing and SHS needed to box the bound copies for shipment by November 9<sup>th</sup>. The digitizing was done by the Oklahoma Historical Society. The bound copies were packaged and delivered to the Sachse Library on November 8, 2012.

### **15. First City Hall Historical Marker**

During the summer of 2008 Lloyd Henderson told the SHS Board of Directors that he would like for the SHS to obtain a historical marker for the water pump house building located at the corner of Fifth Street and Sachse Road. This building served as the Sachse's first City Hall for eleven years between 1956 and 1967.

On August 16, 2008, Lloyd reported that the Texas Historical Commission had supplied him with what they consider to be a model application to go by and as soon applications were available he would proceed. On October 18, Lloyd explained that the application for the historical marker was rather complicated because it involved writing a narrative, footnotes and documentation. Also, he said it would take some time to complete the application because it

required the approval of the Sachse City Council and Dallas County Historical Commission before being submitted to the Texas Historical Commission.

At the November Board Meeting, Lloyd reported that all completed application materials had been sent to the Dallas Historical Commission. They recommended that SHS change its request to a "Subject Marker" instead of a "Historical Marker" because "Subject Markers" are easier to obtain. They also recommended a change to the narrative to include some items of business that were actually conducted at the site. After researching the city council minutes, business items such as the creation of the Fire Department, the establishment of the zoning ordinances, and adoption of the building codes were added.

On February 21, 2009, Lloyd reported that the application for a Texas Historical Marker for Sachse's first City Hall had been approved and the \$1,500.00 fee for the marker was due before March 23<sup>rd</sup>. A motion was approved to send in the money for the marker out of the 2009 budget. Since the building is located in a secured area under the water tower, the marker was installed inside the fence so that it could be read from outside the fence area.

Following their meeting on April 17, 2010, the SHS Board of Directors conducted a dedication of the First City Hall Historical Marker.

#### **16. Allis Chalmers Tractor Restoration.**

Sometime before 2010, former Board member Paul Head donated a 1939 Allis-Chalmers tractor to the Sachse historical Society's Farm Museum exhibit. The first time this tractor is mentioned in the SHS Board Minutes is on April 17, 2010. Since the tractor had been sitting out in the open for several years the back tires had rotted and it needed a paint job. The Board voted to replace the deteriorated back tires. SHS member, Jim Becker cleaned the carburetor and fuel lines, replaced the oil filter and did some minor tune up work. When he cranked it up it ran like a charm and for the next several years the tractor represented the Sachse Historical Society in the City's Fourth of July and Christmas parades.

During the following two years the Board discussed the possibility of painting the tractor but no final decisions were made. However, on April 17, 2012, a motion was approved to spend \$300.00 to remove, clean and coat the gas tank at a radiator shop before the tractor is painted. Also, it was agreed that an oil leak needed to be located and repaired. The goal was set to have this done and the tractor painted before the annual meeting.

On November 17, 2012, the Board voted to accept the estimated price of \$1,500.00 submitted by Mr. Johnny Gentry, Sachse Service Center, to disassemble and paint the tractor. This price included removal of the tires so that the wheels and rims could be painted, repair of three oil leaks and removal and installing the gas tank.

On March 3, 2013, Jim Becker reported at the Annual Meeting that the Allis Chalmers tractor had been restored to the original color, several parts had been repaired or replaced, and the tractor was in good working condition.

The Board has discussed the need for constructing a shed to put the tractor in at several meetings but no decision has been made to date.