



Arlington Historical Society | July-August 2022 Newsletter

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Arlington Historical Society

www.arlingtontxhistory.org

Executive Board Members

Geraldine Mills | Executive Director

Nancy Tice | President

Claudia Perkins | Vice President

Lydia Brosowsky | Secretary

Wanda Marshall | Treasurer

Contact Us

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Our Venues

Fielder Museum

1616 W. Abram Street

Arlington, Texas 76013

www.facebook.com/FielderHouseMuseum

Knapp Heritage Park

201 W. Front Street

Arlington, Texas 76011

www.facebook.com/knapp.park

Arlington Heritage Memorial Grounds

600 W. Arkansas Lane

Arlington, Texas 76010

www.ahmgc.org

A note from the editor

The term “historical society” can be a funny thing. It often evokes thoughts of folks casually reminiscing about the old days...and not doing much else. Most historical societies, though, are actually quite busy with events, projects, and community involvement. They simply must be. Local history doesn’t grow and survive on its own. It takes real people doing real work, getting involved, and preserving the past while looking toward the future.

The July-August newsletter focuses on some of the Arlington Historical Society’s current projects. We have a lot happening behind the scenes, with plans in motion and dreams of doing much more. It’s an exciting time for local history in Arlington and our historical society. If you want to volunteer or get involved, we’ll have some specific opportunities for you soon.

Lastly, we’re excited to report that there has been an increase lately in visitors to the Fielder Museum. That’s great news! Maybe it’s partly because of the summer months, but hopefully, more people are taking an interest in what we’re doing. If you stopped by recently and enjoyed your visit, let us know – and tell all your friends! If you haven’t stopped by lately, come see us! We’re open and look forward to seeing you. Check out pages 3-4 to help plan your next visit.

Be sure to visit our new website at www.arlingtontxhistory.org!

Jason S. Sullivan, 08-26-22

Newsletter Editor

Arlington Historical Society

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Upcoming Events

- **September 22** – North Texas Giving Day
- **November 5** – “Arlington’s War Heroes: Celebrating Their Sacrifices & Achievements,” Downtown Library, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM, presented by Wanda Marshall
- **November 14** – AHS Board Meeting, Fielder Museum, 6:30 PM
- **December 17** – National Wreaths Across America Day, locally recognizing Veterans at Arlington Cemetery and Parkdale Cemetery



A BIG THANK YOU! – Arlington Tomorrow Foundation Awards Grant

A big thank you to the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation! We're excited to announce that the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation recently awarded the AHMGC a \$90,000 grant! This grant was unanimously approved by the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation Board and will be put to good use towards a project. We express our gratitude to the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation and the Board for their support.



www.facebook.com/arlingtonfoundation

Further, we want to thank the Arlington Heritage Memorial Grounds Corporation board and the county committee for applying for the grant. Visit their website at www.ahmgc.org to learn more about their mission and to get involved.

Thanks for the donation!

AHS Board Member and our resident artist Keisha Smith recently made a large financial donation to the AHS. Thank you, Keisha!

Thank you!

The AHS greatly appreciates donations from our members and the community. Every little bit helps, and we're thankful for your generosity.

Former AHS President Steve Barnes recently donated some of his postcards and collection of artifacts of Arlington's history to us. Once we catalog the donations in our system, we plan to display them at Fielder Museum. Thanks for the donation, Steve!

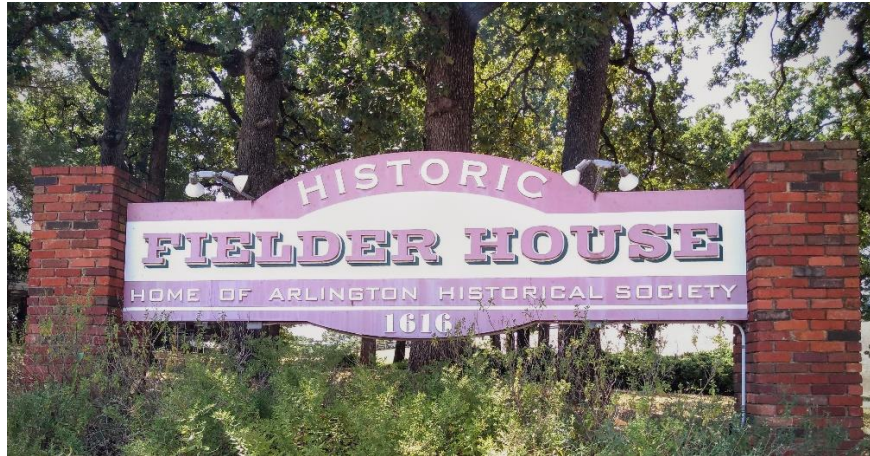
Do you have something related to Arlington's history that you'd like to donate? Let us know – we might be interested! We can't accept everything, keep in mind that condition and relevance are important factors, but our museum continues to grow because of donations from the community.

Museum of Me

We're still working on some details around this, but the intent of this project is to spark an interest in local history amongst younger people. The idea is to create an exhibit about prominent people in Arlington's history – for example, Tom Vandergriff or Carrie Rogers. The displays would be portable and small enough to fit in a box or suitcase and then presented to young students in history classes. It may prompt an interest in local history and inspire students to create a similar exhibit – a *Museum of Me* – for themselves.

Visit Fielder Museum

Former signage at our museum used to state, “Historic Fielder House: Home of the Arlington Historical Society.” While that’s correct, in hindsight, it may have been a bit misleading, especially for those unfamiliar with us. Arlington’s population is constantly growing and changing. Many newcomers may have thought Fielder was simply an old home, a house museum, or just headquarters for the Arlington Historical Society. Even long-time residents may have forgotten about it over the years – if they even knew about it at all.



Lately, we’ve been making an effort to rebrand ourselves from Fielder House to **Fielder Museum**. (Of course, the official name is now *Fielder Museum at Geraldine Mills Heritage Place!*)

Fielder House to Fielder Museum a subtle difference, but it’s to remind folks that the site, is in fact, a museum. Yes, it’s a historic house and home to the Arlington Historical Society, but it’s more than that. It’s a museum about Arlington’s history, filled with various exhibits – and it’s open to the public. Stop by and we’ll give you a guided tour, or feel free to wander and explore on your own.



Here are a few details to help plan your next visit:

| Fielder Museum | |
|------------------------|--|
| Location: | 1616 W. Abram Street Arlington, Texas 76013 |
| Hours: | Tuesday – Saturday; 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM |
| Admission: | Suggested donation of \$5 for adults and \$3 for children (preferably cash); large groups welcome, kindly give notice. |
| What to expect: | <p>Fielder Museum features more than a dozen exhibits (permanent and rotating) celebrating Arlington’s history. Popular exhibits include our World War II room, a replica of Dr. Zack Bobo’s office, personal items from actor Morgan Woodward, and artifacts from Arlington Downs racetrack. There’s also a room with vintage toys and games popular with children (and adults!) who visit.</p> <p>The museum is in a house built in 1914; it has two stories and a basement, which is also popular. The building has an accessibility ramp for entry, although only stairs inside. Beautifully landscaped grounds also include a butterfly garden. The property has two Texas Historical Markers and other plaques on the grounds. There’s air conditioning and heat for comfort, and restrooms are available.</p> |

Arlington Cemetery Receives New Signs, and Coming Soon, QR Codes

Arlington’s Landmark Preservation Commission was recently involved with a project to make improvements at Arlington Cemetery. There are now street signs posted with the names of prominent citizens – William W. McNatt, Carrie Rogers, George Finger, W.C. Weeks, and W.H. Rose.

Coming soon, QR codes will be posted that you can scan with your smartphone to read about some of the citizens interred at the cemetery.

Thank you to the Landmark Preservation Commission for their continued work to preserve Arlington’s history.

For more information about Arlington’s Landmark Preservation Commission, visit their [website](#).

Texas Rangers Exhibit Opens at Fielder Museum

This year marks the Texas Rangers' 50th season in Arlington. To help celebrate, we have a new exhibit at Fielder Museum. The exhibit includes memorabilia, collectibles, ticket stubs, baseballs, bats, jerseys, game-day programs, photos, articles, newspaper clippings, and much more.

Enjoy a box of Cracker Jack as a snack and hear the Fielder's player piano play "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." Check out a few photos below and stop by to see it yourself.

The exhibit runs through October 23.



Fall Fundraiser offer a chance to support the AHS

As the AHS is a nonprofit organization, your support helps us do great things for local history and our community.

North Texas Giving Day

- **September 22, 2022**
- **Visit this link to donate and learn more!**

www.northtexasgivingday.org/organization/historicalarlington



North Texas Giving Day is September 22. Your donation has even more of an impact than you may realize. Did you know that prizes are awarded to nonprofits throughout the day based on the number of donations? Your donation could help us receive a \$5,000 grant! **All online donations to the AHS on September 22 between 6:00 AM – 9:00 AM enter us into the drawing.** So, if you plan to donate, a donation during that time would be *extra appreciated* – but please know that we greatly appreciate all donations on that day and throughout the year.

Also, the Arlington Historical Society is hosting a brunch on North Texas Giving Day at Fielder Museum from 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM. If you visit during those hours, we'll help you make your donation and you get a delicious breakfast.

The AHS received more than \$12,000 in donations last year and hope to match or exceed that amount this year. If you're on Facebook, watch for our posts, as we plan to utilize social media to raise awareness and provide updates. Let us know if you have any questions or need help.

North Texas Giving Day a major fundraiser for more than 3,000 nonprofit organizations in our community. It's a big deal. Since its inception in 2009, North Texas Giving Day has helped raise more than \$375 million for local nonprofit organizations, as the event brings unrivaled awareness and support. What started as an idea is now a movement.

Two Arlington Cemeteries Join National Wreaths Across America Day

The **Arlington Historical Society** is proud to be a corporate sponsor for the Lucretia Council Cochran Chapter of the DAR Wreaths Across America project.



National Wreaths Across America Day is December 17.

First observed in 1992, this is a special and poignant event to honor Veterans. The non-profit organization's goal is to place a live balsam fir wreath, hand-tied with a red velvet bow, at the headstone of every Veteran. The organization's mission is to Remember, Honor, and Teach.

While more than 3,000 cemeteries participate across the U.S., two Arlington cemeteries will join the tribute this year: **Arlington Cemetery** and the adjacent **Parkdale Cemetery**.

There are over 850 Veterans interred in Arlington Cemetery and Parkdale Cemetery, representing U.S. military service participation from the 1840s through the Vietnam era.

If you'd like to sponsor wreaths, including one for a specific person, you can do so for \$15. Visit the Wreaths Across America website for more information, locate participating cemeteries, sponsor a wreath, or sign up to volunteer. Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery nearby in Dallas also participates in this event.

Wreaths Across America

www.wreathscrossamerica.org

Happy 100th Birthday to Doland Maner!

Doland Maner turned 100 years old earlier this month! From the photos on Facebook, it looks like it was a great birthday party.

Mr. Maner served on the Arlington City Council from 1967 to 1975 and was instrumental in helping recruit the Washington Senators (now Texas Rangers) baseball club to Arlington. He has served the Arlington Historical Society and the Fielder Museum for many years.

Doland got to throw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Texas Rangers baseball game on August 7, which was his birthday. He gave a big smile as he tipped his cap to the cheering crowd.



Becky Tucker, Doland Maner, and Geraldine Mills at his birthday party