



PALACIOS AREA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



February - 2008

Upcoming Soup & Salad Supper March 11 at 5 pm

Palacios Area Historical Association will be holding its yearly Soup and Salad Supper on March 11, 2008 between 5-8 at the Senior-Center. Cost of meal is \$7 dollars.

The theme is World War II and the speaker will be a veteran from Camp Hulen, Mr. Nesbit. See more about Mr. Nesbit in this newsletter. Read more about Camp Hulen from the 1931 Camp Annual in this newsletter or come by and see the annual at the museum.

Don't forget the Upcoming Valentine Parade!



*February 9
Father Time Marches
in the Harmony Club Parade*

Howard Nisbet to be Speaker March 11, 2008 5-8 p.m. Honoring World War II Veterans

Howard Brazelton Nisbet was sworn in to the Kentucky National Guard December 6, 1940 for one year of federal service, part of 106 separate battalions Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft. After training 3-4 weeks in Madisonville, Kentucky he was shipped by way of the L&N Railroad and the Texas Southern Railroad to Camp Hulen, Texas.

It was drizzling rain and about 40 degrees when they arrived at the "flat-as-a-pancake" camp. He was in the headquarters company and did all the servicing for the battalion. Companies were issued 37 mm anti-aircraft portable semi-automatic guns. Howard was promoted to Corporal and trained troops to drill with the Springfield model 1903 bolt-action rifle. During 1941 there was a German submarine scare in Port Aransas Pass, and several 37mm guns were sent there from Camp Hulen. No submarine was ever spotted.

On payday for Camp Hulen, Corporal Nisbet would go to Victoria to pick up the payroll with a special guard duty. GI's were paid cash from \$26/month for a Buck Private to \$54/month for a Buck Sergeant. They got up at 3:00 am and had fried eggs for breakfast, and then set off to arrive at the Victoria County Sheriff's office at 6:00 a.m. The Victoria police department surrounded the whole block around the bank while the cash was placed in a one-ton jeep. Corporal H. Brazelton Nisbet sat on top of the safe armed with a 45-caliber pistol and a browning semi-automatic 30-caliber rifle for the trip back to Palacios. Armed military police escorted the jeep all the way back to the base.

Nisbet's company was charged with stringing field telephone line approximately 30 miles from Camp Hulen Base to Indianola Beach firing range. The shortest route led through the wetland areas, and wire was pulled with men standing in water up to their waist. Companies were sent to the firing range for training a week at a time where they camped out in tents and cots. The first to arrive had the duty of shooting and chasing off the rattlesnakes. The leather leggings (a sample in PAHA's collection) were worn for protection from the huge and multitude of snakes. Large centipedes were also found while maneuvering in the wild. Part of the training included army air corps trainer planes pulling target sleeves at low altitude with several hundred feet of cable for shooting machine guns and 37mm anti-aircraft guns.

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Weekend passes from Camp Hulen were spent in downtown Palacios, a five-mile round trip from the base. One weekend he traveled to Houston where Corporal Nisbet saw his first rodeo and fat stock show with Gene Autry and the Sons of the Pioneers performing. Once in 1941 the camp was evacuated to Gonzales to weather out a hurricane.

The weekend of December 6, 7, 8, 1941 he had a pass to Austin where he saw the UT Longhorns defeat Oregon University 77 to 7. When he returned to Camp Hulen he could not enter until properly identified. Sounds familiar! At 11:30 am December 8th, he and his peers assembled in formation to listen to President Roosevelt ask Congress to declare war. Within one hour "all hell broke loose" at the camp. At that time 90% of the 75mm anti-aircraft guns were in Camp Hulen, Palacios, Texas, and thousands of men, guns, trucks and equipment were shipped out by rail to California in res Palacios Beacon, November 1910 and other issues.

2008 SOUP & SALAD SUPPER

Honors

World War II Veterans

Sponsored by

Palacios Area Historical Association

Tuesday, MARCH 11th

Palacios Senior Center

5:00 Soup, Salad, Desserts

6:00 PAHA Meeting

6:30 Camp Hulen Presentation

By Mr. Howard Nesbit

7:30 Presentation of Awards

DONATIONS WELCOME

PAHA Website

Have you checked out the City by the Sea Museum website? If you haven't do so today. The website address (URL) is:

www.citybytheseamuseum.org/

You can also email us your comments or letters to:

paha@citybytheseamuseum.org

We love to get letters. If you have something on your mind, stories, suggestions, memories, or comments, please drop us a line. We would love to hear from you. Write or email us.



PAHA Media Center

Want to look over some of our old photos? If so, come by and check out our media center.

Seeking Information

We are gathering information on Matagorda County World War One casualties. There was a newspaper article in the 'Matagorda County Times' on 5 Sept. 1919 that listed men who had died in the war. In the Palacios list it had **F. Harper** listed with no other information.

If anyone knows anything about F. Harper to share, please contact us. Without an actual first name, it is almost impossible to figure out who this is. The census for 1910 and 1920 does not list an F. Harper.

Please call Colleen Claybourn at:
361-972-2270 or
email: windrush@skyconnect.net.

Thanks for any info! ! !"

Recipes from the PAHA Historical Cookbook

Order Yours Today!



Tortilla Soup

by: Colleen Claybourn

2 6" corn tortillas	2 T. oil
2 C chicken broth	2 T. fine chopped onion
2 T. tomato puree	1 1/2 tsp. Cilantro
1/2 C. Shredded Monterey Jack cheese	

Cut tortillas into strips. Heat oil to medium heat. Fry strips until crisp. Drain. Combine broth and onion in saucepan. Simmer 25 minutes. Add puree and simmer. Add cilantro. Add tortillas to bowls and pour in broth. Add cheese.

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Wish List

Computers
Large Scanner,
Networking equipment
Display cases
Items from Commercial Fishing
School Annuals both:
Tidehaven & Palacios

Items for Sale

Make Check payable to "PAHA"
Mail to: PAHA
Box 11
Palacios, TX 77565-0011

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Re-printed by popular demand after almost 20 years. Over 1,000 rare recipes.

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For those of you who missed the purchase of the third volume, it is now available for \$36.00 plus s/h from Higginson Books, a reprint company. They can be reached by email at: orders@higginsonbooks.com

Raising LaBelle

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Indians in Texas

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Texas Belonged to Spain

Price \$7.00 plus \$1.00 p/h

Palacios Seawalls

Price \$7.00 plus \$1.00 p/h

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White, Yellow, Red, Turquoise
Price \$15.00 plus \$2.00 s/h

PAHA 2008 Events

February 9	<i>Father Time Marches in the Harmony Club Parade</i>
February 28	<i>Accessioning Workshop</i>
March 11	<i>Annual Meeting and Soup & Salad Supper</i>
March 22	<i>Workday</i>
April 20	<i>Fried Chicken Fundraiser at the Hill Building and tour</i>
May 24	<i>Market Days Collection Sale</i>
June	<i>MEDIA MONTH</i>
July 4 th	<i>2 p.m. LaSalle Landing Recreation</i>
August 7	<i>Texas Cemeteries Book Review</i>
August 31	<i>Larry Joe Taylor Concert Fundraiser</i>
September 20	<i>OPEN HOUSE at Hill Building</i>
November 8	<i>Camp Hulen Day.</i>
December 13	<i>Progressive Supper OPEN HOUSE</i>

From the Chair.....

Since July, the progress of the work at the Hill Building has been challenged in several ways. First, waterproofing on the inside walls had to be done before the framing could proceed. Bidding and completing the task took months.

The entire front had to be rebuilt. All the windows were removed, rebuilt and reinstalled. The final step of the 1/2 round windows at the very top is still being worked on. As each step is taken more is seen to be done. The canopy at the entrance is now being replaced in order to hold the last of the windows. The refinishing work on the wood entry doors began. Additional windows on the second floor had to be repaired to prevent further water leakage.

All the electric, plumbing and air conditioning has been roughed in. A new electric service and utility pole has been installed. Sheet rocking has begun.

Great progress for our little organization, but there is still a long way to go. A grant application was submitted to USDA Rural Development for the Phase II work which includes the air conditioning, framing upstairs and the sidewalk. No notice has come in to date on the grant award. Other grants received to use in the project were received from Gulf Coast Medical Foundation, The Shelby Foundation, the SPJST, Wal-Mart, private retirement match grants and The Trull Foundation in Memory of Jean Herlin.

Your help is needed. We will have workdays for painting walls and trim. We are having workdays developing collection plans for the move. The photo scanning project continues to log donated pictures and create research computer files.

Many volunteers continue to work diligently, and more are welcome. History marches on quietly. Please submit your name and contact information if you want to get involved.

Also please come to the Soup and Salad Supper this year March 11. We are having a former Veteran who was stationed at Camp Hulen to speak. It will be a great event. Hopefully we will have a meeting after the meeting to plan our first ever – “Camp Hulen Day” November 8, 2008.

Thanks, Cheryl

PALACIOS AREA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 11 – PALACIOS, TEXAS 77465

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #10**



Soup & Salad!

March 11, 2008 - Soup & Salad
Supper 5-8 pm - \$7 per meal
Honoring World War II Veterans