

# THE JOURNAL

*The unofficial newsletter of Wilson County Historical Society*



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## Rancho Pataguilla

*by Anthony Delgado*

Congratulations and "hooray" to Maurine Liles and the late Gene Maeckel for their extensive research regarding Mission San Juan's Rancho Pataguilla. The fifty-one page report, used as part of the Texas Historical Commission Historical Marker application, has resulted in Maurine's marker application being approved.

The plan is to have the marker installed alongside the Lodi marker and the de la Zerda Cemetery marker near Peach and Goliad streets.

We expect the dedication to occur in late 2024.

# JAILHOUSE MUSEUM UPDATE

by Tara Lee



The restoration of the museum is close to being finished!!! The last major items are the windows in the jail area which need to be removed and reconstructed. This will take approximately \$80k.

We started moving items back into the museum. The museum is still open on the 2nd Sat of every month from 10am to 2pm.

Our August paranormal tours are scheduled for August 11, 12, and 26th. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/wilson-county-jailhouse-paranormal-tours-and-more-1894109> to purchase tickets.

## Volunteers needed:

- We are planning **Grand Re-Opening** around the last weekend in September and will need a few volunteers to help out. With this, we want our first special exhibit to be around the Peanut Festival. If you have any memorabilia that you would like to loan to the museum for display then let me know. More details will come out in the following weeks about this event.
- **Peanut Festival** - We plan on having someone in each room/area to greet guests and answer any questions. We will be open after the parade until 4 or 5.

Please email, text or call Tara if you would like to volunteer for either of the two volunteer opportunities above. Any amount of time you can provide is helpful, even if not for the full amount of time. (wcjailhousemuseum@gmail.com, 210/843/1002)

# Memories Recounted

by M.C. Forister

My parents, my older brother, Marvin and I moved to Floresville in 1941. The address was 1308 F Street, now that house is no longer there. Anyway, my father had gone to work, my brother gone to Grammar School, and my mother starting washing clothes. That usually takes her all day to wash, then hang clothes on the lines. I was five years old, and I asked Mama if I could go to neighbor's house which was next door to us. I wanted to go over there to play with Walter Paul Butler as he and I were same ages. She said yes, so I walked over there, went to back of the house and knocked on the door. Turns out that no one was at home.

Instead of going back to the house, I walked toward Third Street from F Street. Then, head to downtown, went to C Street to I. D. Flores Drug Store, now Trail Rider's Steak House. I still don't know how I managed to walked that far. Maybe that the reason my feet still sore of today. And, I knew where that place was as our family doctor, Dr. C. W. Archer's office was upstairs in that drug store. And, knew that they has candies there in drug store as well. I walked up to the counter and looked inside to see all kinds of candies. The owner of the Drug Store, Mr. Flores, Sr. asked what I want so I pointed the lollipop. He reached in and hand it to me. I took it and walked out without paying for the candy. Now, remember, I was around 5 years old at that time. Later, I had learned that Mr. Flores asked someone, "Who was that little girl?" and someone said, "Oh, that's Afton's daughter!" Everybody knew my father as he was a truck driver of Graf Truck Line for years, deliveries freights.

I also learned later that I walked right in the middle of the street, licking my lollipop. People were blowing their horns, tried to get me off the street. But, I just turned around and waved at them. I kept on walking (two blocks) all the way to school where my brother was. The school was 3 story building, corner of Third Street and A Street, no longer there. I went into his classroom and the fourth grade teacher was Ms. May. Ms. May had my brother to take me home as I disturbed the class.

We walked home and Mama was still washing clothes. She noticed the candy and asked, "Where that candy comes from?" The next day, Daddy went over to I. D. Flores Drug Store and deliveries some freight there. Mr. Flores then told Daddy, "Afton, you owe me a penny!" And, Daddy said, "Oh? Since when I owe you a penny?" Mr. Flores then told him of what I did. So, Daddy reached in his pocket to get a penny. But Mr. Flores smiled and said, "Forget it!" Thank God Mr. Flores didn't have me arrested for stealing candy! Mr. Flores and his son, Nash Flores as Pharmacist were such a sweet, very nice gentlemen and I dearly missed them both. About Lollipop? I do not like lollipop anymore. Got tired of it, I guess.

Few years later, in school, I went to Fourth Grade Class, and guess who my teacher was? Yep! Ms. May as my Fourth grade teacher. She always kept her yardstick on her desk as she often used it on students when they misbehaved in class. Thank God, she never use it on me. Couple of years later, Ms. May passed away, and her body was laid at Vinyard Funeral Home, across from school ground. During recess, I've decided to walk over to the funeral home to respect to Ms. May. As I walked in there, I was starting shaking so bad as this was my first time to go in alone. As I walked toward the casket slowly, I was so sure that Ms. May would jump up and yell, "What the hell you doing in here!?" But, she didn't, so I then left there, walked back to the school ground and told 4 girls there where i went. They too, wanted to go over there but afraid. I told them I will go with them as it is alright. So, five of us went and those girls were sure shaking so bad too.

About Walter Paul Butler, now as Dr. Butler. As you may remember that his father. Harold Butler used to owned and run the Butler's Dry Goods in the 1940's to early 1950's. The store was, I think, between Post Office and Arcadia Theater on 3rd Street, across from the Wilson County Courthouse. By the way, I finally located Walter Paul around 2009, and got in touch with him. He married and has children. He served as a public school teacher, principal, a college faculty member, and as vice president of two universities, and many more. He was a busy man. And, I got one of his books that he wrote, "From Little Acorns." Very interesting too.

I have written seven genealogy books of both my parents' family. Also, my last book, ***It Wasn't Easy!***, is a story about my life. I was born with a birth defect and had a roughed life when growing up. I wrote that last book to help others, especially special children. I don't want them to go through of what I had gone through.



# Save The Dates



**2nd Saturdays** - Jailhouse Museum Tours  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Wilson County Jailhouse Museum

**August 11, 12** - Paranormal Tours  
Jailhouse Museum

**August 15** - Membership Meeting  
6:00 PM

"Railroad History of Wilson County"  
by John Reed  
County Courthouse

**August 26** - Paranormal Tours  
Jailhouse Museum

**September 7** - Floresville Opry  
Wilson County Expo Center  
Doors Open at 5:00 PM

**September 19** - Membership Meeting  
6:00 PM

"Wilson County Post Offices"  
by Sharon Meyer  
County Courthouse

**Note: Society Meetings are held in the County Courthouse, 2nd Floor Courtroom until further notice!**

Be sure to check out our Website and "like" our Facebook page

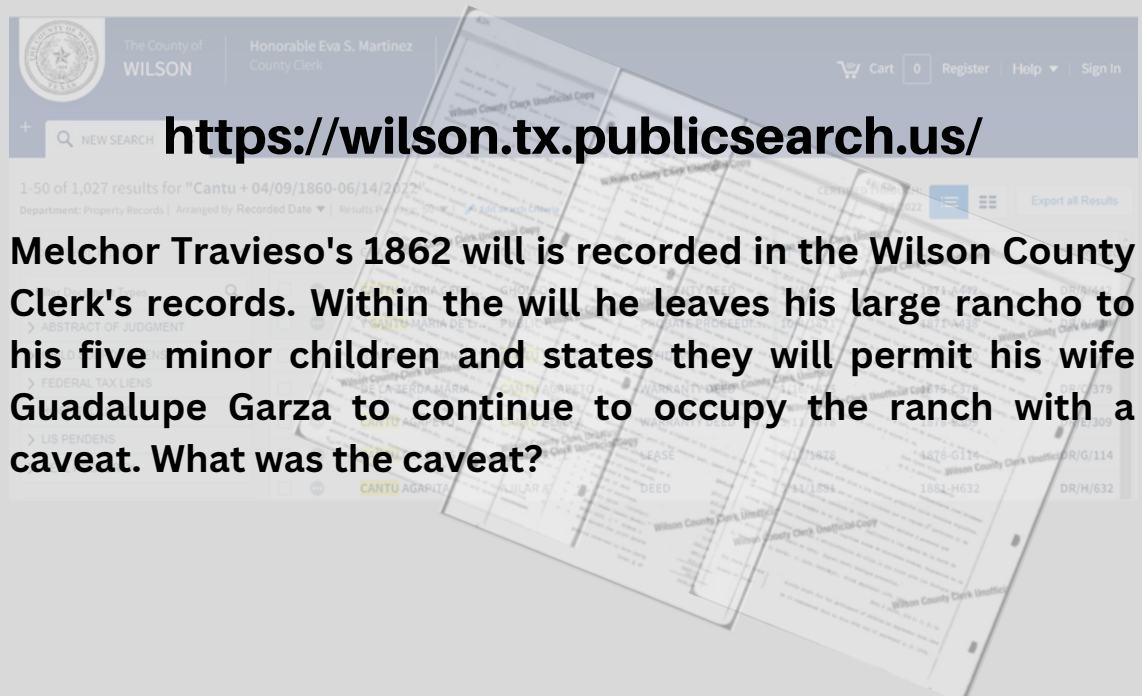


<https://www.wilsoncountyhistory.org>



[facebook.com/wilsoncountyhistoricalsociety](https://facebook.com/wilsoncountyhistoricalsociety)

Have you visited the Wilson County Clerk's Official Records Site?



<https://wilson.tx.publicsearch.us/>

**Melchor Travieso's 1862 will is recorded in the Wilson County Clerk's records. Within the will he leaves his large rancho to his five minor children and states they will permit his wife Guadalupe Garza to continue to occupy the ranch with a caveat. What was the caveat?**



## Message from Viola Henke Producer of the Floresville Opry

The July Floresville Opry had a record breaking attendance with approximately 500 attendees. Viola and Neila came up with an idea to prepare a basket of goodies and do a \$20 Arm Stretch Raffle at the Opry. It proved to be a hit earning around \$1,000.00.



Veterans picture by Glenn Toothman. Veterans are recognized at the Floresville Opry several times a year.



Neila Hopkins and her "Arm Stretch Raffle"



Carol Chitty staffing the dessert bar

*Make your mark in Wilson County's history!*

## BUY A BRICK

*Consider an inscribed brick paver as a tribute or memorial to a friend, family member, a loved one, or yourself, as a permanent part of Wilson County History!*

We are taking orders for engraved bricks that will replace the existing sidewalk leading to the Wilson County Jailhouse Museum. As a "State Antiquities Landmark" we must preserve and protect the old Jailhouse.

*Orders for engraved bricks will help fund the restoration and upkeep of the Wilson County Jailhouse Museum.*

The Wilson County Historical Society's goal is for ALL families in Wilson County to be represented with an engraved brick.

*Thank You!*

**4x8 Brick Pavers**  
3 Lines, 20 Characters per line  
**\$100**

Order at  
[wilsoncountyhistory.org](http://wilsoncountyhistory.org)

**WILSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

For info., contact  
Neila Hopkins  
281-376-1364  
or Viola Henke  
830-391-1062

SCAN ME

WCHN Graphics • 830-214

Thanks to all who purchased their brick. The first 130 sold bricks are with the engraver and will hopefully be installed soon.

Your contribution will help us renovate the historic Jailhouse. At the same time you'll be leaving a legacy for generations to come.

**Oh, you have not purchased yours yet?**

You can purchase a 4x8 brick paver for \$100 and you have three lines of 20 characters to tell your generational grandchildren to come that you were here and contributed to saving this historic landmark. You can contact Neila Hopkins or Viola Henke for purchase information.

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES NEXT MONTH

This year is flying by. September 30th is the expiration date for those of us who have an annual membership in the Society. You do not have to wait until September 30th to renew. Here's the link to the Membership page where you can either fill out the membership application form online or download the form to fill out and mail.

<https://www.wilsoncountyhistory.org/membership>



## WESTERN SHINDIG

The Western Shindigs hosted by the Floresville Opry were able to award the WCHS Jailhouse Museum Restoration Fund over \$20,000. Floresville HEB donated an ice chest with groceries to our cause.

Neila Hopkins and Sarah Gella spear headed another awesome fundraiser, the \$20 Arm Stretch Raffle bringing in \$1,064.00 for the Jailhouse Museum Restorations.



Thanks to all who volunteered. Your contribution helped make this a successful event. We cannot thank you enough.



*Floresville Opry & Western Shindig*  
**SILENT AUCTION**  
 SPECIAL LIMITED EDITION  
 CUSTOM DESIGNED GUITAR



**Benefit for the Wilson County Jailhouse Museum Restorations**  
 Make your bids now by Facebook messaging Viola Henke, Producer of the Floresville Opry  
 or calling 830-391-1062

Bidding will take place at the  
 Floresville Opry the first Thursday of each month at the  
 Expo & Community Center  
 and the Western Shindig at the  
 Floresville Event Center July 15, 2023

Bids for this memorable guitar will close  
 on December 7, 2023 at the Floresville Opry.

An outstanding Christmas gift for one of your loved ones.

*Thanking you in advance for your support*

**STARTING  
 BID  
 \$700**

Silent Auction Guitar to be awarded at the December Opry. Anyone wishing to place your bid, call or text Viola #830-391-1062. Ruby Manen is doing a fantastic job with the monthly silent auction. It is our profitable fundraiser as all items are donated. Members, please continue with your donations. We need to finish the Jailhouse Museum soon.

# Battle of Medina

by Anthony Delgado

Next week, on August 18th, it will be the 210th anniversary of the bloodiest battle in Texas. Approximately 1,000 members of the rebellious Republican Army of the North, led by General Jose de Toledo, either perished on the battle field or were executed by Spanish army General Joaquin de Arredondo following their capture. Several members of the Republican Army of the North lived or ranched on land that now makes up Wilson County.

Following the battle, General Arredondo commissioned two Spanish royalist, Jose Antonio Saucedo and Luis Galan, to name the rebel insurgents and identify their property for seizure. Here is the list of the named 96 insurgents (Bolded names are those known to be associated with Wilson County-area ranches):

Acosta Domingo Diego, Acosta Pedro, **Arocha Francisco**, **Arocha Tomas**, Baume El Frances, Belois Juan Diego, Benites Bernardo, Benitez Petra, Beramendi Fernando, Beramendi Juan, Blanco Juan, Bocanegra Nepomuceno, Borrego Francisco, Carbajal Jose Antonio, Carmona Francisco, Carmona Antonio, Casas Ygnacio, Castro Miguel, Castro Antonio, Cervantes Marcelo, Cortes Juan, Cruz Remigio, Cuebas Jose, Curbelo Jose, **de Arocha Ramon**, de la Cerda Francisco, de la Garza Ygnacio, de la Garza Vicente, de la Garza Juana, de la O Gabriel, de Leyba Jose Gil, de los Santos Gertrudis, del Rio Miguel, del Toro Joaquin, del Toro Jesus, **Delgado Manuel**, **Delgado Jose Manuel**, **Delgado Jose**, **Delgado Clemente**, **Delgado Antonio**, Dominguez Cayetano, Enriquez Juan Manuel, Estrada Feliz, Falcon Jesus, Farias Francisco, Flores Miguel, Flores Pedro, Flores Valdez Jose, Galet El Frances, Gallardo Luis, Hernandez Jose Andres, Hernandez Francisco, Hernandez Jose Antonio, Hernandez Agustin, Hernandez Francisco, Laro Xavier, **Leal Jose**, **Leal Joaquin**, **Leal Jose**, **Leal Remigio**, Longueville Pedro, Losoya Miguel, Losoya Domingo, Losoya Ceferino, Losoya Lino, Martinez Juan, Martinez Francisco, Martinez Francisco, Martinez Antonio, Martinez Pasqual, Martinez Juan Jose, Menchaca Luciano, Montes Gertrudis, Navarro Juan, Pena Ygnacio, Pena Manuel, Perez Manuel, Perez Ambrosio, Perez Joaquin, Ramirez Claudio, Ramos Lorenzo, Rechar, Rendon Manuel, Rodriguez Francisco, Rodriguez Christoval, Rodriguez Juan Pablo, San Miguel Nepomuceno, Sanchez Jose, Sanchez Manuel, Santos Josefa, **Seguin Erasmo**, Toscano Jose, **Travieso Vicente**, **Travieso Francisco**, Urrutia Juan Antonio, Villegas Jose Antonio, Ynojosa Josefa

Source of Names Index: Tejano Genealogy, Palo Alto College, Libguide