

# AUSTIN REMEMBERS.

“THE COLLECTIVE MEMORY OF AUSTIN & TRAVIS COUNTY”

WINTER 2020



## SPOTLIGHT EVENT OFFERS ACCESS TO WEST AUSTIN LANDMARK

A 150 year-old former military institute overlooking downtown Austin served as the crowning site for the last AHCA Membership Spotlight Event for 2019. On Nov. 10 an estimated 150 people attended the Spotlight gathering at The Castle, a west Austin landmark rarely open for public events. Forty-six of those attending the event used the occasion to join AHCA as members.

The Castle is the centerpiece of what was once the Bastrop Military Institute, then the

Texas Military Institute. The hilltop structure was built in 1870 on 32 acres of land a mile west of the Texas capitol by Confederate War veterans John and Charles James. The economic devastation of the Civil War and the advent of free public education in Texas led to the foreclosure of the institute in 1894. The historic building now serves as the home to Castle Hill Partners, owned by Vic Ayad and John McKinnerney, who donated the use of the site for the event.

“Many of our members were excited to have the chance for the first time to see inside the renovated Castle – the former Texas Military Institute,” said AHCA Board President Lee Cooke. “It was a rare treat.”

Underwriters for the Castle Spotlight event included Mark Hiemstra, Dinah and Norman Chenven, Jeffrey and Yasmine Dochen, Waterloo Education, Charles Page, Michelle Slattery and Matt Levin. Event Sponsors included Cisco’s Restaurant, Waterloo Icehouse/Doc’s Motorworks, Wildfire Studio and Jack Allen’s Kitchen/Salt Traders @Zilker.

**CASTLE... PAGE 4 ➔**



▲ AHCA members and guests arrive at the Nov. 10 Spotlight event at The Castle.



▲ University of Texas School of Architecture Professor Emeritus Sinclair Black and Travis County Precinct 3 Commissioner Gerald Daugherty enjoy a drink at the Spotlight Event at The Castle.

## Our Austin Story to Take Center Stage at Eberly Luncheon

Some of Austin’s earliest residents will come to life to help tell the story of how Austin came to be at AHCA’s annual Angelina Eberly Luncheon February 7, 2020. *Our Austin Story, Chapter One* will be presented at the luncheon as a narrative, threaded with historical characters that will come to life to tell the story of how Waterloo, a tiny hamlet on the banks of the Colorado River, became Austin, the capital of Texas and an important center for government and education. Noted certified interpretive planner Ted Lee Eubanks of Fermata, Inc., Poullette MacDougal, well known playwright, and Don Toner, an accomplished director of stage and theatre, combined their talents to develop the presentation.

The luncheon is being held for the second year at the historically significant 1878 Millet Opera House, designed by renowned architect, Frederick Ernst Ruffini. The building is now home to the Austin Club.

Enhancing the early Austin theme, this year’s luncheon menu will feature historical recipes and foods that were available in Austin in the 1840s.

*Our Austin Story, Chapter One* will lay the basis for chapter two and chapter three presentations at Eberly Luncheons in 2021 and 2022 respectively.

To learn more or to buy tickets, visit [AustinHistory.net](http://AustinHistory.net) and click the Eberly Luncheon tab in the upper right corner of the page.

---

---

**Austin History Center  
ASSOCIATION**

**Austin History Center Association, Inc.**  
810 Guadalupe  
Austin, Texas 78701  
512.270.0132  
www.austinhistory.net  
info@austinhistory.net

Mailing address:  
P. O. Box 2287  
Austin, Texas 78768

*The Austin History Center Association helps tell the story of Austin by supporting the Austin History Center in its mission to procure, preserve, present and provide the historical records that make up Austin's unique story.*

---

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Lee Cooke** - *President*

**Kent Collins** - *First Vice President*

**Sandra Kirk** - *Second Vice President*

**Joe Pacheco** - *Secretary*

**Evan Taniguchi** - *Treasurer*

**Charles Betts** - *Immediate Past President*

**Mike Miller** - *City Archivist Austin History Center Ex officio, Non-voting*

### AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

**Lynn Cooksey · Lori Duran · Beth Fowler**

**Adam Friedman · Arnold Garcia**

**Becky Heiser · Nefertitti Jackmon**

**Rita Kreisle · Pastor Steve Manning**

**Kathleen Davis Niendorff · Charles Page**

**Judge Bob Perkins · Charles Peveto**

**Marilyn Poole · Ruthann Rushing**

**Candace Volz · Bob Ward**

**Anne Wheat · Geoff Wool**

### AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER ASSOCIATION STAFF

**Jeff Cohen** - *Executive Director*

**Dane Anderson** - *Membership Coordinator*

---

## AUSTIN REMEMBERS.

**Geoff Wool** - *Editor*

**Beth Fowler** - *Creative Director*

**Eve Molnar** - *Layout & Design*

**Anne Wheat** - *Photographer*

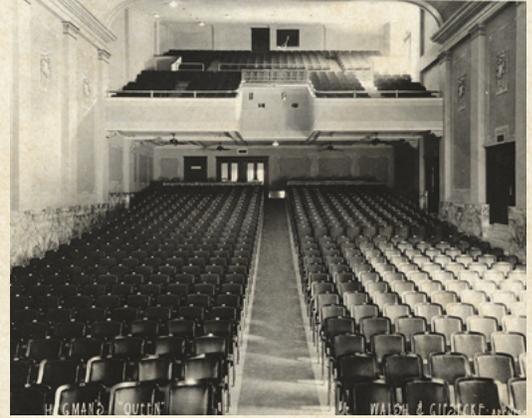


## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Since the publication of the last edition of *Austin Remembers*, the Austin History Center has added approximately 195 linear feet of new donations to the collection.

Here are a few highlights of these recent acquisitions:

- Descendants of Galen Crow and J.J. Hegman donated a collection of photographs, genealogy research, correspondence, and business records documenting their ownership of the Crescent Theater, Ritz Theater, and Queen Theater. The collection includes a 1923 ticket ledger listing movies shown at the Queen Theater.
- The AHC acquired 46 linear feet of records from Seton Healthcare Family documenting Brackenridge Hospital, Brackenridge School of Nursing, Children's Hospital of Austin, Dell Children's Hospital, and Seton's history from 1902 to 2018. These records were part of the official Seton Archives that were recently closed by the company.



▲ Auditorium of J. J. Hegman's Queen Theater, 1921. PICA 36764, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library.

## NEWLY PROCESSED COLLECTIONS

AHC staff and student volunteers continue to work to make the collections more accessible to the public, processing 21 unique manuscript and photograph collections and over 96,000 items in the last four months. You can view inventories of all of the AHC's processed collections online at: [legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse\\_ahc1.html](http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html). Here are a few collections recently completed:

### AR.P.001. Austin (Tex.). Austin Police Department Records

The Austin Police Department and Office of the Chief of Police were formally created in 1862 by the Austin City Council. Over the years, the department has grown to include different divisions and duties to tackle the expanding issues of a growing city. The department's records contain minutes, correspondence, photographs, videos, reports, legal documents, ledgers, and administrative records from 1876 to 2004, documenting the activities of Austin's police force, with the bulk of these materials dating from the early- to mid-20th century. These materials depict the daily occurrences of the police department, from police dispatch calls and traffic reports to records of arrest and prison registers. The collection is organized into nine series, mostly determined by departmental division: office of the chief of police, patrol division, traffic/highway enforcement division, court, investigations, professional standards, operational support, administrative/organizational, and photographs. A full inventory of the collection is available at: [legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/aushc/00723/ahc-00723.html](http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/aushc/00723/ahc-00723.html)

### AR.T.005. Austin Street Railway Company Papers

The Austin Street Railway Company was originally established under the name of the Austin Rapid Transit Railway Company. Chartered in 1890 by M. M. Shipe and Associates, the company was created to build electric streetcars to operate in Austin, the first of which began running on Congress Ave. on February 26, 1891. Shipe sold the company in

1911, and it was renamed the Austin Street Railway Company, with William J. Jones as its president. The Austin Street Railway Company papers are composed entirely of correspondence between prominent figures in the company, specifically, President and General Manager William J. Jones, Assistant Treasurer George E. McComber, and John Springfield, who succeeded Jones as general manager in 1922. Most of the correspondence is between Jones and McComber, discussing financial and legal issues such as service expansion, increasing revenues, and ways to prevent federal receivership. Other notable topics include the Jitney War of 1915 (concerning competition from private automobile users), the establishment of the Liberty Motor Bus Company, the effect of World War I on materials and availability of personnel, and the post-World War I expansion of Camp Mabry. A full inventory of the collection is available at: [legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/aushc/00735/ahc-00735.html](http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/aushc/00735/ahc-00735.html)



▲ Austin Street Railway Co. trolley, ca. 1930s. C00664, Chalberg Collection of Prints and Negatives, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library.

#### AR.Q.002

#### Walter E. Long Papers

Walter Ewing Long served as manager of the Austin Chamber of Commerce from 1915-1949 and wrote about 40 books and hundreds of articles before his death in 1954. The collection spans the years 1850 to 1967 and includes both personal papers and Austin Chamber of Commerce materials pertaining to local history and the development of Austin. During his service at the Chamber of Commerce, Long was responsible for starting the campaign for the present council-manager form of city government, championing city planning, raising money to purchase the site for the State School for the Blind, and initiating the campaign for city acquisition of Barton Springs. He was also the founder of the Texas Legislative Service. Most notably, Long helped to create the Colorado River Improvement Association, which would come to be known as the Lower Colorado River Authority. The Walter E. Long papers are divided into three series: Personal, Literary Productions, and Chamber of Commerce. However, there is a considerable amount of overlap between Long's personal interests and his professional life and that is evident in the records. A full inventory of the collection is available at: [legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/aushc/00730/ahc-00730.html](http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/aushc/00730/ahc-00730.html)



▲ Walter Ewing Long. PICB 05233, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library



## AHCA Board Marks 40 Year Milestone with New Program of Work

The AHCA has grown from its humble beginnings to become an effective advocate for the Austin History Center and the effort to preserve archives from Austin's unique past. As the AHCA marks 40 years of advocacy, AHCA President Lee Cooke and the organization's board of directors have adopted a Program of Work centered on developing a more aggressive budget, member recruitment strategies, new membership appreciation events spotlighting historic locations in Austin, and a continued effort to ensure the John Henry Faulk Library building is available as the expansion option for the Austin History Center.

"We feel that we need to look carefully at the overall mission of our organization as we enter our 40th anniversary as the citizen support association that brought about the creation of the Austin History Center in 1980," said AHCA president and former Austin Mayor Lee Cooke.

The new Program of Work includes goals and objectives that will guide AHCA's future direction, including reinstatement of Life and Student membership levels and strong focus on an endowment established in 1983 and managed by the Austin Community Foundation. New committees on strategic community planning,

awards, and underwriting project events; and a formal financial management committee are also mentioned for consideration.

The board discussion about the Program of Work sparked new ideas, including AHCA's role in development of Our Austin Story, an interpretive program promoting Austin history, and thoughts on how the 1933 AHC and the 1979 Faulk buildings could be developed into an Austin History Center complex.

"We could begin to develop an 'Austin History Central Complex' that could become a cutting-edge national research and virtual reality location that shows how the past impacts tomorrow," Cooke said. "We can help people understand the impact on central Texas, the state of Texas and everyone around the world."

Copies of the 2019-2020 Program of Work are available to AHCA members in the O. Henry Room of the AHC.

"We are in the process of a two-year review and analysis of the organization and how the beginning of our next 40 years might look," said Jeff Cohen, AHCA executive director. "We welcome ideas from our members."

You can share ideas by mail at: Jeff Cohen, Executive Director, P.O. Box 2287, Austin, 78768 or email [jcohen@austinhistory.net](mailto:jcohen@austinhistory.net).

►... **CASTLE** The Castle event was the third in a series of social gatherings conceived this year to thank existing AHCA members and encourage other Austinites to join the organization. The first Spotlight event was May 22 at the iconic Antone's nightclub and the second was June 25 at Austin's oldest hamburger restaurant, Dirty's. The events have proven to be a popular draw and have helped spread awareness of the Austin History Center.

Watch for additional Spotlight events being planned for 2020, beginning in the spring.

**COMMENTS FROM AHCA MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT EVENT AT THE CASTLE**

Gorgeous evening for an Austin History Center Association reception at The Castle on the hill – had no idea it originally was the Texas Military Institute, built shortly after the Civil War in the style of the Virginia Military Institute — **John Howard (existing member)**

Very much enjoyed it!

— **Phoebe Allen & Dick Kallerman (renewing members)**

We had a wonderful time. The weather could not have been better for the event. Great to see you as always — **Alicia Perez-Hodge (new member)**

Wonderful event last night at The Castle!

— **Martha Hartzog (founding member)**

Kim and I are thankful you made us aware of this opportunity. We are new members at the Archivist level!

— **Kenny Hill, President & CEO of Goodwill (new member)**

It was a lovely party. The beautiful venue, wonderful jazz, delicious food and gorgeous weather made for a very memorable evening. Congratulations on such a successful event! Best wishes!

— **Cynthia O'Keeffe (existing member)**

Such a fun evening! Thank you for sharing and channeling your wonderful positive energy with the AHCA. I never knew AHCA was so much fun! — **Tere O'Connell, AIA (existing member)**



▲ AHCA members Poullette and Frank MacDougal pictured with guest Susan White (left).



▲ Those attending the Castle Spotlight event got rare access to the west Austin landmark and its views of downtown Austin.

## Austin History-makers, Witnesses to History, Share Stories

The AHCA Oral History Committee continues to identify and capture stories from some of the people whose lives have left an indelible mark on Austin. From July 2019 to February 2020 the committee plans to record at least 23 oral history interviews of people who have affected change in Austin or have stories about the way things were. Below are highlights from some of the most recent oral history interviews:

Former State Rep. Wilhelmina Delco describes how segregationist customs complicated everyday life, including the seemingly simple act of buying her child's shoes.

Austin businessman Whit Hanks describes memories of Sunday dinner (and sherry) at Sunny Ridge, a family home now the site of Hancock Center. Hanks' family has been in Austin almost as long as the capital city has been in existence, so he has seen and heard about a lot of changes that have driven the development of Austin.

Mike Edgar, whose grandfather was manager of Deep Eddy in the

1920s, tells tales of Lorena Carver, dressed in a scarlet bathing suit, and her 1,500 pound horses, Snow and Lightning, who would slide off a 40-foot tower into an 11-foot pool of water to the wonder and amusement of the crowds.

Ladd Patillo's family history stretches back to the mid 1800s, with much of it centered in the Bull Creek area of Austin. Patillo shares great stories of growing up in what was then the northern outskirts of the city.

To view oral histories that have already been recorded and processed, or to read the transcripts, ask for assistance from staff in the Reading Room of the Austin History Center.

If you know someone you feel could share interesting stories of their life and time in Austin, nominate them for an AHCA oral history interview. Go to **AustinHistory.net** and click the Community tab near the top of the screen. In the drop-down list, pick Oral History Submission Nomination.



**ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE**

# “Behind the Walls” Tour Shows Limits of AHC Building

Three members of the Austin City Council — District 1 Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison, District 6 Council Member Jimmy Flannigan, and District 8 Council Member Paige Ellis — each recently took a “behind the walls” tour of the Austin History Center.

The tour, conducted by AHC staff, allows visitors to access areas of the AHC where historical document collections are stored and staff members work to process and archive incoming materials. The tour gives council members and other decision-makers a chance to see firsthand the limitations of the AHC’s current building, which opened as Austin’s Central Library in 1933. Though the Italian Renaissance-style building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated a historic landmark for both the state of Texas and city



▲ In November, District 6 Austin City Council Member Jimmy Flannigan (center) took the “behind the walls” tour at AHC. Also pictured are AHC tour guide Madeline Moya (right), media archivist at the AHC, and Candace Volz (left), chair of AHCA’s Campus Committee.



▲ The October 11 “behind the walls” tour of AHC was conducted by City Archivist Mike Miller (center left). Joining the tour were Charles Peveto (left), chair of the AHCA Eberly Luncheon Committee; District 8 Austin City Council Member Paige Ellis (center right); and Evan Taniguchi (right), past president of the AHCA.

of Austin, it no longer has the capacity needed to store the trove of archives that continues to grow each day. In November 2018, Austin voters approved a bond proposition with money dedicated to general repair of the John Henry Faulk Library building and preparing up to two floors of that building for expansion of the AHC.

Besides showing decision-makers the existing space limitations, the “behind the walls” tour is a way AHC staff and AHCA volunteers can highlight the importance of preserving archives that tell the story of how Austin evolved.

As 2019 came to a close, each current member of the Austin City Council, or a member of their staff, had taken a “behind the walls” tour of the AHC.

## Events, New Membership Levels Spark Interest in AHCA

Special membership Spotlight events at Antone’s, Dirty’s, and The Castle are stoking interest in Austin history and bringing new faces to AHCA. To build on that, AHCA has added two new membership levels designed to make the organization more accessible to young history buffs and provide a way to stay connected for a lifetime.

People under 22 years old and those enrolled in a university or college program can now join at a special \$35 annual membership level. Student members receive the Austin Remembers newsletter and advance invitations to events and programs.

“We want to reach out to the more than 100,000 students in the Austin metro area and attract them into the fun and fabric of the Austin History Center,” said AHCA President Lee Cooke. “We want to give them access to our unique history and great people stories

and show them how everything today and in the future harkens back to yesterday.”

The AHCA board has also revived the lifetime membership level first established in 1992. A gift of \$5,000 or more as a Life Member will be added to the AHCA Endowment Fund managed by the Austin Community Foundation. Interest earned on the principal payment will help cover the AHCA’s operational costs. Life Members are listed as AHCA members until death and are featured in the *Austin Remembers* newsletter.

“These lifetime memberships will reinvigorate the endowment and the interest they earn will support AHCA for generations,” Cooke said.

For information on becoming a member, visit [AustinHistory.net](http://AustinHistory.net) and click the Membership tab near the top of the screen, or call 512-270-0132.



### These Gifts are History!

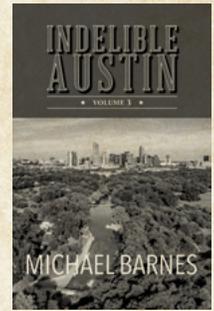
Volunteers Micki Neal (left) and Carol Castlebury (right) joined AHCA President Lee Cooke (center) at the Waterloo Press Holiday Sale Nov. 30. Waterloo Press is the publishing branch of the AHCA. You can shop for Waterloo Press items year-round at [AustinHistory.net](http://AustinHistory.net).

# Barnes' New Book Premieres at Texas Book Festival

Austin American-Statesman columnist Michael Barnes signed copies of his new book, *Indelible Austin, Volume 3*, in the Waterloo Press tent at the Texas Book Festival the last weekend in October. *Volume 3* is a spin-off of Barnes' first two Waterloo Press projects, *Indelible Austin: Selected Histories* and *Indelible Austin: More Selected Histories*.

Following the pattern of the first two books, *Indelible Austin Volume 3* tells the stories of real people and real places, offering a deeper understanding of our city, sometimes at odds with the accepted narratives.

All three Indelible Austin books are available online at [AustinHistory.net](http://AustinHistory.net) or at most local bookstores.



## NEW OR RENEWING AHCA MEMBERS: JULY 9 – NOV. 30, 2019

ABC Bank	Kent and Reenie Collins	Jack Allen Gilmore	Dick Kallerman	Robin Meeks	Steven Sadowsky
Gerald Adair	Cecelia Small Cook	Mark Goodman	Wendy Kalthoff	Katie Pierce Meyer	Salt Traders @Zilker
Phoebe Allen	Trammell and Jennifer Cooper	Sandy and Lisa Gottesmen	Ted Karam	Susan Millner	Schlusser Development
Betty Jane Andrews	Harlan and June Cooper	Beth and Tom Granger	Biruta Kearl	Moore and Associates	Bryan Schneider
Kay Arnold	Colin Corgan	Kathleen Hunt Grobe	Ken Kooch	James Moritz	Judge Bob Shannon
Austin Energy	Margaret Cox	Bryan Hardeman	Rita and Matthew Kreisle	Fred Morse	Michelle Slattery
Austin Public Library	Robyn and Bryan Cumby	Lorraine Haricombe	Betty and Marshall Kuykendall	Carole and Ron Mullen	Jare and Jim Smith
Vic Ayad	Linda and Tom Cummins	Nancy Harper	Keith Langford	Rudy Munguia	Terral Smith
Buck Baccus	Gerald and Charlyn Daugherty	Robert and Becky Heiser	Lee Leffingwell	Carole and George Nalle	St. David's Foundation
Sue and Bill Bailey	Carl Daywood	David and Kathy Helfert	Matt Levin	John Nyfeler	David Sullivan
Tommy Bergstrom	Kathleen and Nick Deaver	David and Deale Herndon	Karen Light	Mollie O'Hara	Kathy Swartz
Charles and Sylvia Betts	Jeffrey and Yasmine Dochen	Lisa Herrera	Carol Lindeman	Becky Packard	Evan Tanaguchi
Dennis Bitterlich	Doc's Motorworks	Dane and Rita Hersey	Emma Lou Linn	Charles Page	Connie Todd
Terrell Blodgett	Ann and Leonard Dolce	Mark Hiemstra	Stephen Livingston	Miriam Parris	Bruce Todd
Cliff Bowman	Downtown Austin Alliance	Highland Resources	Perry and Sheridan Lorenz	Karen Pavelka	Chris Treadaway
Sally Bowman	David and Susan Erickson	Kenneth and Kim Hill	Frank and Poullette MacDougal	Alicia Perez-Hodge	Ben Turner
Anne Bruno	Roxanne Evans	Kelly Hodge	Judy Maggio	Judge Bob Perkins	Jena Karam Umstaddt
Carole Buckman	Magda Evans	Kay Kercheville Hollenbeck	J. Fotini Margos	Personiv	Visit Austin
Leigh Buehler-Rappoid	Pamela Fielding	Paul Holubec	Cheryl Marihugh	Prominent Title	Candace and John Volz
Mary Baughman	Andy Fish	John C. Horton III	David and Ali Martineau	Linda Quintanilla	Waterloo Icehouse
Dan Bullock	The Cain Foundation	Bruce Hunt	Jose Martinez	Carolyn and Kenneth Raney	Senator Kirk Watson
The Michael Butler Family	The Fowler Law Firm	IBC Bank Austin	Mary Mateer	Beverly Reeves	Roosevelt Weeks
Castle Hill Partners	Frost Bank	Jim Innes	The McBee Family Foundation	Ronney Reynolds	Westminster
Norman and Dinah Chenven	Christian and Vanessa Fuentes	Jack Allen's Kitchen	Mark McCormick	Reynolds and Helen Shelton	Anne Wheat
Elizabeth Christian	Margaret Furse	Luci Baines Johnson	Grace McEvoy	Chris Riley	Wildfire Studio
Cisco's Restaurant	Richard Gilbane	Texas Hotel & Lodging Association	John McKinnerney	Oscar and Nancy Robinson	Scott Wilson
Matt Cisneros			Rick McMinn	Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza	The Sam and Sonia Wilson Family
George Cofer			Marshall Meece	Henna Chevrolet	Bob and Brenda Woody
Cohen and Associates				Rachel Ruiz	Will Wynn
					Peck Young

### In Memoriam

We were saddened by the loss of the following AHCA members in 2019:

Mary Ann Bradfield  
Royce Faulkner  
Carole Mullen

Suzy Linderman Snyder  
Walter Timberlake  
Bill Wittliff

*These members, and those still with us, continue to inspire the work of the AHCA.*

# Research Helps Convince Council to Fix Historic Misspelling

By his own recollection it took almost 9 years of effort but senior district judge and AHCA board member Bob Perkins thinks a historic inaccuracy has finally been corrected.

In Dec. 2019, city of Austin crews replaced Manchaca Rd. street signs with signs reflecting the south Austin roadway's new name — Menchaca Road. The Austin City Council approved the renaming Oct. 4, 2018, but the decision was tied up in court for a year after several business owners along the route filed a lawsuit challenging the name change.

Perkins led the effort to rename Manchaca Rd. citing his view that those who originally named the road misspelled the surname of Jose Antonio Menchaca, a captain in the Texas Army who fought at the battle of San Jacinto and is believed to have camped south of Austin near what was later labeled Manchaca Springs.

"If you are going to honor someone by naming a public place for them then the first thing you have to do is to spell their name right," said Perkins. "When the International and Great Northern Railway — now known as MoPac — extended the railroad to San Antonio in 1880, they thought they were spelling Menchaca's name right when they set up the station house and named it Manchaca to honor the man who had served the pioneers of the area."

Perkins believes the railroad simply perpetuated the misspelling found in Texas records at the time that documented Menchaca's participation in the Battle of San Jacinto. That listing of Manchaca led to the mispronunciation, "Man-chack."

"His family has always been offended that his name was misspelled and mispronounced," said Perkins. "The only proper way to handle this in the capital of Texas, the only flag he ever fought for, is to spell his name correctly."

Although he first discovered the naming error in 1980, Perkins started working to correct the spelling in 2011 after retiring his



▲ Capt. Jose Antonio Menchaca

▲ In early December 2019, 143 Menchaca Rd. street signs replaced those that said Manchaca Rd. The group that proposed the name change, Justice for Menchaca, paid the cost associated with the sign replacement.

everyday district court responsibilities and becoming a senior district judge. He spent many hours of research at the Austin History Center and the Texas State Library and Archives learning more about Menchaca and the efforts to honor his service to Texas.

"The information I was able to get at the AHC was essential," Perkins said, citing numerous books, newspaper articles, and other publications he read to build his case for fixing the Austin street name.

Perkins says the Austin City Council made the right decision and that honoring Menchaca with a proper spelling is a matter of Texas pride.

"We don't misspell Bowie, Travis, Crockett, Austin, Houston, Caldwell, Burleson, or any other Texas hero. We shouldn't misspell Menchaca."

## That's a Wrap: Know Your District History

The Austin History Center recently wrapped up a year of "pop-up" exhibits highlighting the histories of neighborhoods around town. Councilmember Allison Alter stopped by and visited with staff and attendees at the District 10 event, held on October 19 at the Old Quarry Branch library. Pictured here are (left to right): AHC Processing Archivist Kelly Hanus, AOQ Branch Manager Ann Minner, Latinx Community Archivist Marina Islas, and District 10 Councilmember Allison Alter.



Austin History Center Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2287  
Austin, Texas 78768

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Austin, Texas  
Permit No. 1545

  
Austin History Center  
ASSOCIATION  
[www.austinhistory.net](http://www.austinhistory.net)



## Volunteer Opportunities Abound at AHCA

Part of the fun of being a member of AHCA is participating in all the events and activities that go on throughout the year, including the Angelina Eberly Luncheon, Member Spotlight events, and the AHCA Annual Meeting.

***Got an interest in public relations and marketing?***

There are volunteer opportunities there.

***Want to support Waterloo Press authors at book-signing events?***

We've got a spot for you.

There are volunteer opportunities throughout AHCA from work on committees to providing help in the AHCA office in the Austin History Center building, and of course, at AHCA events.

To learn more about volunteering  
AHCA-style, email Volunteer Committee Chair  
Lori Duran at [loliduran2003@yahoo.com](mailto:loliduran2003@yahoo.com)

---

**SAVE THESE DATES** AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER (AHC) - 810 Guadalupe (at 9<sup>th</sup>)  
Open Tue.–Sat. 10am – 6pm & Sun. 12pm – 6pm Call 512-974-7480

**JANUARY 30**  
Opening Reception:  
**Villager Newspaper Exhibit**  
6:30 p.m.  
AHC

**FEBRUARY 7**  
Angelina Eberly Luncheon  
11:45 a.m.  
The Austin Club  
(Millett Opera House)

**MAY 17**  
AHCA Annual Meeting  
2:00 p.m.  
The Austin Woman's Club,  
Chateau Bellevue

**JUNE 30**  
Opening Reception:  
**Elisabet Ney Exhibit**  
6:30 p.m.  
AHC

Visit [AustinHistory.net](http://AustinHistory.net) for more specific information about these and other upcoming events.