

End of Year Report 2021
Polk County Memorial Museum

The museum has been doing very well considering we're still in the throes of the pandemic. We surpassed the 2019 attendance numbers by 13.5% and 2020 by 44%. We had a 32% increase in children from 2019 to 2021, attributable to a few field trips for private schools before the health scare affected attendance.

Visitor attendance:	Total	Adults	Children	
FY-2021	750	616	134	
FY-2020	521	407	114	*closed March 6 - April 30
FY-2019	660	563	97	
FY-2018	Incomplete data; no records found for the period of February 2013 to July 2018			

I have produced seven temporary exhibits, averaging one every six weeks. Attendance numbers for each temporary exhibit are detailed below:

- Sep/Oct 2020: Quanah Parker Day – 39 visitors
- Oct 2020: Texas Archaeology Month – 52 visitors
- Feb 2021: Black History Month – 23 visitors
- Mar 2021: Celebrate Texas Independence – 74 visitors
- Mar 2021: Happy 175th Birthday, Polk County! – 35 visitors
- Apr 2021: James M. Parker, Jr.: Doolittle Raider, Patriot, Hometown Hero – 147 visitors
- Aug 2021: Livingston High School All Decades Reunion – 58 visitors

We also had two special events which brought good attendance:

Memorial tree dedication (Dickie Lou Alston) October 24: 45 visitors

Reception after James M. Parker, Jr. Historical Marker dedication: April 17: 64 visitors

Major acquisitions FY-2021:

Meekins family (Moscow) foot-pedaled pump organ: Judson and Pat Pritchard and Cannon Pritchard facilitated the donation of the organ: their sister, Patricia (Pritchard) Miller Alexander purchased the organ from Mary Lou Collins who had acquired it from a Meekins family descendant. Mrs. Alexander's sons Jimmy, Ross and Clint Miller donated the organ to Polk County Memorial Museum in October 2020; Judson Pritchard arranged for transportation and Cannon Pritchard donated hymnals and sheet music previously owned by Ruth Cannon Pritchard which sit on the organ..

Texas Sesquicentennial Doll, 1986: Kaycee Jones donated the 15" Caucasian doll which was owned and used by her mother Ellen Harrison Jones while teaching 7th grade Texas History at Livingston Jr. High. It is dressed in a blue velvet 2-piece outfit with matching hat and clutch; numbered and signed; manufactured by Dolls, Inc.

Hand saw used at Big Sandy/Camp Ruby sawmill approx 1910: Betty Morgan Hall, resident of Flower Mound, Texas donated the handsaw that her husband's great-grandfather used in the saw mills. David

K. "Buck" White was the foreman at Camp Ruby. His son Fred also worked at Camp Ruby and used the saw while employed there. The saw was donated in memory of Gene Morgan White.

Handmade Livingston High School track flag and track blanket; display frame with track and field Medals, scrapbook representing his high school years: Bill Landry, Tyler, Texas

Livingston High School letter sweater: Perry Pace III, Livingston

Two Livingston High School cheerleader sweaters: Ramona M. Burford, Rusk, Texas

Facilities: The large tree in the circular planter in the back yard broke in half and fell on the house in July 2020. Fortunately, only a few roof tiles were damaged. The remainder of tree was removed and the roof was repaired. The flowerbeds along the street were not thriving, and Sherry Baker had her crew remove those beds and re-sod the areas. Landscaping was updated in April 2021 after February 2021 freeze killed many.

Irrigation system breaks from the Feb freeze were repaired in April 2021.

Security: Illuminated signs installed on all exits including path lights and exterior lights: October 21st. (I realize this installation was technically FY-2022, but the request and walk-throughs with County and City Fire Marshalls and the contractor were done in July 2021.)

Outreach: Dec 5, 2020: Goodrich Christmas Parade
Oct 30, 2020: Polk County Trunk or Treat

PastPerfect update (Museum-specific computer program for collections management including images of artifacts and detailed description files)

Number of files entered for FY for each category:

	FY-2021	FY-2020 (Purchased October 2020)
Objects:	2,358	1,985
Photos:	2,028	1,445
Archives:	71	48
Library:	268	18
Donors:	598	400

Requested and received from surplus furniture: 6 2-drawer file cabinets for photograph and archival storage

Thank you,
Betsy Deiterman
Curator, Polk County Memorial Museum