

TEXAS UNITED METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1, #3 Winter 2010

President's Letter by Wm. C. Hardt

Texas Methodist history is flourishing. It is a rare week that I do not receive an email or telephone request for information about a local church's history, a Methodist ancestor, historic site designation, or membership in the TUMHS. With the installation of the medallion at First UMC Beaumont on Feb. 21, Texas will have exactly 100 UM Historic Sites recognized by the General Commission on Archives and History. Pennsylvania and Georgia are tied for second place with 24. Tennessee is third with 21. New Jersey, Ohio, and South Carolina are tied with 13 each. You can find the complete list at <http://www.gcah.org/site/c.ghKJI0PHIoE/b.3524085/>.

I mention the above statistics not out of any notion of Texas chauvinism since the GCAH Historic Site designation is not a competition. Instead I find it one more illustration of the depth and breadth of grassroots interest in our Texas Methodist heritage. One of the greatest joys of service on the Texas Conference Commission on Archives and History is helping local church historians apply for the designation. I especially enjoy attending the dedication ceremonies in which the markers are affixed to the church buildings.

When I help a local church committee in the application process, I always end up learning a great deal about a local church's history, but the main benefit is meeting people and making new friends who are passionate about preserving their church's history. Some of the local church historians I meet are life long members of the same local church. Others are recent arrivals who use church history to get to know their new congregations better.

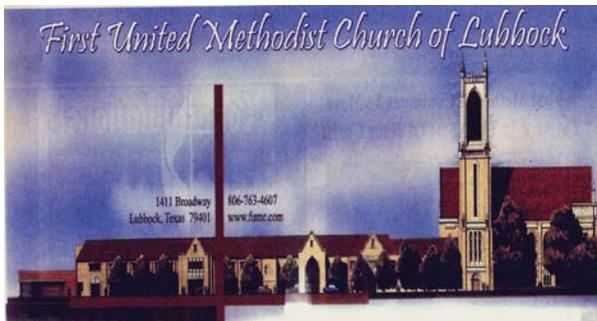
If your church is not already a recognized UM Historic Site, I encourage you to consult the GCAH website http://www.gcah.org/site/c.ghKJI0PHIoE/b.3527081/k.64BB/Historic_Site_Application.htm

You will also note that Texas contains two Heritage Landmark Sites. There is McMahan's Chapel near San Augustine and the Rutersville Cluster near LaGrange. I will not try to explain the difference, but in a nutshell, Heritage Landmark Sites are designated by General Conference action and Historic Sites are designated by Annual Conference action.

The chair of your conference Commission of Archives and History will be happy to help you complete the application.

Another way you can make new friends who are passionate about Methodist history is by attending the annual meeting of the TUMHS. Registration materials are included in this *Newsletter*.

2010 Annual Meeting



Housing Information

Lodging arrangements have been made with the Radisson Hotel, 505 Avenue Q, 806-747-0181; fax 806-747-9243, at a rate of \$82 per night. The Radisson has airport shuttle by appointment, free wireless internet, an in-door pool, and fitness center. It is conveniently located near FUMC and the Lubbock Women's Club. To secure this rate, reservations must be made by February 26

Lubbock's Historic First United Methodist Church Will Host Annual Meeting

The TUMHS 2010 Annual Meeting will be held at Lubbock FUMC on March 26 and 27. The officers wish to thank Betty Carr for all her hard work in making local arrangements.

Schedule

Friday, March 26

10:30 a.m. Executive Committee

12:00-1:00 Registration FUMC

13th Street at Ave. N.

1:00-3:00 Welcome, devotional, and tour of historic FUMC.

3:00-4:30 Speaker

4:30-6:00 Break

6:00-8:00 Banquet and Keynote, Dr. David Murrah, *Created by Man, Divided--by*

God! Lubbock Women's Club. 2020 Broadway

Saturday, March 27

8:30 Registration FUMC

8:45 Devotional

9:00-10:30 Speaker

10:30-10:45 break

10:45: 12:00 Business Meeting

Preregistration

Preregistration is appreciated but not mandatory. To preregister, please send \$25 and the accompanying registration form to Jean Traster, TUMHS Secretary, at address provided on form.

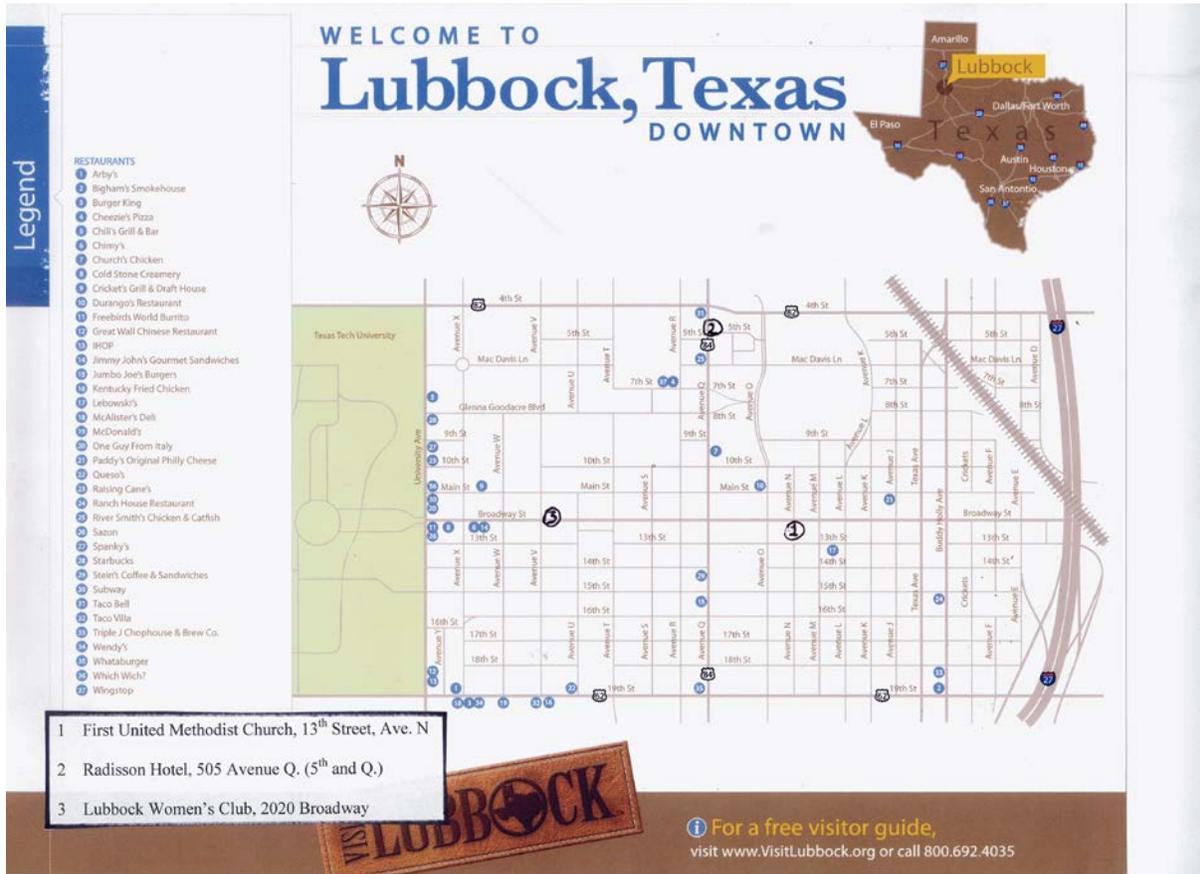
Her telephone # is 1-817-468-8170. .

The banquet meal is included in the registration fee. If you plan to register at the door, please call Ms. Traster so we can have an accurate number to give to the caterer.

Additional Attractions

Lubbock has some of the most interesting museums in Texas. Here are two which come highly recommended.

- **Museum of Texas Tech University** which features pre-history, history, and art of West Texas. 3301 4th Street. No admission charge. Open until 5:00.
- **Silent Wings Museum** which interprets the history of the World War II glider program. 6202 N-I 27 open until 5:00. General admission \$5.00. Senior citizens, \$3.00



(Use zoom feature on your computer to enlarge image.)

PREREGISTRATION

To preregister, print this page, cut the following form and mail it to Jean Traster, 2014 Iron Horse Ct. Arlington, Tx 76017 with a check for \$25 per registrant.

NAME (s) _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE AND EMAIL _____

LOCAL CHURCH AFFILIATION (optional) _____

BYLAW REVISION

The TUMHS is governed by its bylaws. The amendment provision of those bylaws stipulates that amendments must be distributed at least one month before the Annual Meeting. The general membership votes on bylaws at the business session of the Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee proposes the following amendment to the bylaws and respectfully requests an “aye” vote during the business meeting which will be held on Saturday, March 27, 2010 at 10:45 a.m. The bylaws were printed in the *Heritage Journal* for reference purposes.

Replace Article IV Officers with the following:

Section 1. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority of members present and voting at the regular annual meeting of the Society and shall serve a term of two years or until successors are elected. They shall be eligible for reelection to their respective offices for no more than one additional term.

The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall comprise the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for planning meetings and proposing policies and plans to the Board of Directors and the Society.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Committee, the Chairpersons of the participating annual conference Commissions on Archives and History, the immediate past president of the Society, and a representative from Perkins School of Theology.

Members of the Jurisdictional and General Commissions on Archives and History and elected officers of the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church with membership in one of the participating annual conferences shall also be members of the Board.

Section 3. Each year, a new class of one or more persons shall be elected as members of the Publications Committee for a term of three years. The Committee shall administer the publications fund, allocating grants to support the publication of works related to the history of the member annual conferences and their constituent parts. This does not include local church histories.

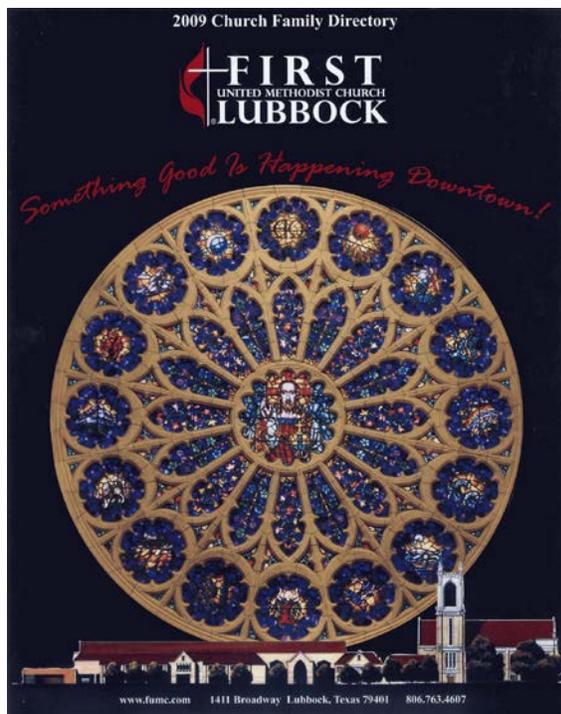
Section 4. The Chairpersons of the participating annual conference Commissions on Archives and History, in consultation with the President of the Texas United Methodist Historical Society, shall act as a nominating committee prior to the annual business meeting. The President shall name the chairperson of the nominating committee.

Section 5. The Board of Directors may elect such other officers as are required for the operations of the Society to terms as determined by the Board. The Board and the Executive Committee may invite the holders of any of these positions to attend their respective business meetings.

Can You Identify This Image?

The image in the previous TUMHS Newsletter was of Laredo Seminary, later Holding Institute. Laredo Seminary was one of the most important social service agencies of the MECS. It began in 1880 on the banks of the Rio Grande as a school for Mexican and Mexican-American children. In 1883 Nannie Holding arrived from Kentucky to assume the superintendency. Upon her retirement the Seminary was renamed in her honor. In a personal note, the author's grandmother taught at Holding Institute during the superintendency of James Skinner.

Our image in this edition of the Newsletter follows:



Obviously this image is not a quiz since it is captioned. It is an image of the magnificent rose window at FUMC Lubbock. Annual Meeting attendees will be able to view the window as part of the tour on Friday afternoon.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2010 Annual meeting—Lubbock, March 26/27

2010 South Central Jurisdictional Convocation of Archivists—July, Central Methodist University, Fayette, MO, July 8-10.

Central Texas Conference Centennial Celebration, Will Rogers Auditorium, Fort Worth, October 23, 2010.

2011 Annual Meeting of the TUMHS—Chappell Hill

2011 Historical Society of the UMC—Oklahoma City

All information is subject to change.

Membership

Annual dues in the TUMHS are \$12.50 per year for individuals and \$15.00 for couples. A life membership is \$200. To become a full member in the TUMHS, send your dues to the Rev. John C. Johnson, Treasurer, 6766 Silver Saddle Road, Fort Worth, TX 76126. Current members should report address changes to Rev. Johnson so we can assure delivery of the *Heritage Journal*. His email address is jcjohn0100@sbcglobal.net