Meet our new Executive Director!

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum

Cuero Texas **Round Up** Fall 2011

www.ChisholmTrailMuseum.org

Say Giddyap! Cowboy Campers Take Over Museum

Young cowpokes pose for a group picture at the first annual Cowboy Camp, held this summer at the CTHM. Kudos, organizers and leaders! Read what these buckaroos learned and see lots more photos, *inside »*

Pavonia (rock rose) and salvia – plants known for heat and drought tolerance – showcased in newly planted landscape beds. One of three new catchment tanks is visible in the background.

Thanks, GBRA!

In a weather year that could only be described as challenging, our newly installed landscaping is not only surviving, but thriving, thanks to a generous grant from the **Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority.** GBRA, a strong supporter of the CTHM, sponsored our rainwater catchment system, creating an ecologically conservative source of water to landscape beds.

Thanks also to board members **Kay Walker, Kathy Crim, Errol John Dietze, Linda Anzaldua, Amy Thigpen, Sara Post Meyer** and **Robert Oliver** for sponsoring the handsome drought-tolerant landscape plantings. [☆]

Welcome Beverly Hadley

The CTHM enters a new phase of growth and development with the addition of Executive Director Beverly Bludworth Hadley.

A native Texan with an extensive background in museum management, fundraising and building rehabilitation, Hadley is arriving to Cuero and the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum from the **John Nance Garner Museum** in Uvalde. Obtaining her Bachelor's degree in Speech Communications from Mississippi State College for Women and Master's degree in Audiology from the University of Alabama, Hadley remarked about her out-of-state education, "I went to Mississippi State College to study speech communications and to play basketball, then the graduate degree just followed, but I tried to get back to Texas as soon as I could."

Robert Oliver, Chairman of the board of directors of CTHM, stated earlier this week, "We are really delighted to have Beverly as our first executive director of the museum and multi-purpose community facility – she will make the perfect addition to the team of board members that is working to make the project a success. As the Museum moves forward with exhibit fabrication and installation, Beverly brings a wealth of museum knowledge from exhibit planning and artifact conservation to programming and research. As our new executive director she will be responsible for all aspects of the day-to-day functions of the project."

Ms. Hadley had a difficult time hiding her enthusiasm for tackling the complex job of moving the CTHM into a "regional museum with national prominence." At the same time, she was equally ☛

confident about the partnership role the Museum and Cuero have in promoting the region as a destination for heritage tourists. "I'm thrilled to be in Cuero and at the new Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum. I prefer the closeness that individuals have with their community in a small town environment and I have a keen interest in ranching, especially the history of ranching in the state of Texas."

While at Garner, Ms. Hadley researched and helped to produce several exhibits. Her favorite, a ranching exhibit titled, "Two Hundred Years of Ranching in Texas," included a rare 1786 Bexar Archive document of the earliest cattle brands recorded in Texas. The exhibit encompassed the timeframe up to the late 1800s and incorporated the cattle, sheep and goat ranching heritage that is so vital to the area around Uvalde today. Hadley added, "As a result I thoroughly understand the concept that a community and its featured exhibits must blend together."

Museum as seen from Esplanade Street, above. Our well-appointed, faithfully restored second floor Community Center meeting spaces are now open.

Left: When first floor exhibit space is completed, the Museum will house the ***Horsemen of the Americas – Tinker Collection,*** *a rare and exquisitely crafted collection of horse-related artifacts.*

True Grit: Determined to Succeed

"However, it is what CTHM has accomplished that I have found to be so intriguing. It is impressive by any standard and on par with other fundraising efforts in Houston, Dallas or San Antonio. The Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum has several strengths that make it stand out as a museum of true excellence. First, it has a strong, experienced and dedicated board of directors. Second, the board determined their mission early in their development and have stuck to it. They have not allowed the slow and often tedious process of producing a nationally-ranked institution shake their determination."

New director Hadley: "...I tried to get back to Texas as soon as I could."

Hadley continued, "Then, these keen visionaries – along with this community – have managed to raise over $3.5 million. This vision and fortitude has provided for a state-of-the-art environment where the museum will be housed, while protecting the integrity and grace of the historic Knights of Pythias Hall, which I've learned is listed on the National Register of Historic Places."

The second floor, now open for use by community members, reminds us that the desire to preserve our past is just as important now as it was when the Knights of Pythias used the building for their ceremonial and recreational needs.

People and Horses in the Americas: A Compelling History

"In this future museum, the legacy of ranching history in DeWitt and surrounding counties, together with the history of arduous trips 'up the trail,' will be complimented with the addition of the *Horsemen of the Americas - Tinker Collection*." With a sparkle in her eye, Hadley concluded, "This community is so fortunate to have this rare and priceless collection of ranching and horse-related artifacts."

"The objects contained in the Tinker Collection connect ranching heritage across continents, tracing the migrations of generations of cowboys and animal herders as they made their way from Morocco to Spain and eventually to the New World. Many of the objects have not been seen in decades, so their inclusion in the new Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum will present a momentous experience."

As we concluded the interview Hadley added, "You can tell I am passionate about the Museum - its mission, the stories it will tell, and the legacy of Texas' ranching and cattle industry. I look forward to working with everyone in the community to honor these ideals."

Furthermore, she's confident that the board members would agree with her when she concluded, "While our next fundraising goal is an ambitious $2 million, it will allow the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum to put Cuero on the map for all the right reasons."

Currently, the museum component of the overall project is not open to the public. However, the second floor, multi-purpose community rooms are available for private functions and meetings. [★]

For Community Center meeting room rates and other information, please contact CTHM Executive Director Beverly Hadley at ***(361) 277-2866****.*

Exhibit Team Envisions Visitor Experience: A Trail Ride in Time

Handsomely realized dioramas and exhibit cases will define nine exhibit sections, each like chapters in a book. The displays will engage visitors with rich visuals and interactive media, to create an exhibit experience on par with national history museums.

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum aims to put visitors right in the well worn saddle of the American cowboy. Our museum's mission is to preserve the vivid, true-to-life stories of the cowboy and the era of the great cattle drives.

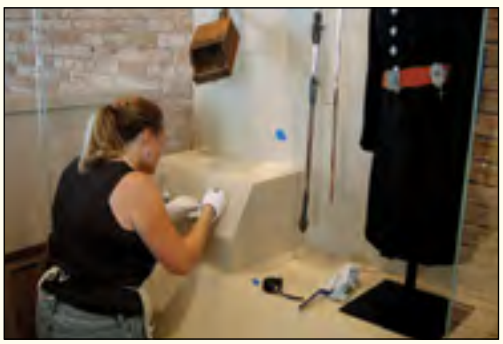
Preliminary exhibit designs define a well paced visitor sequence. We'll explore the places and events that shaped the best known American icon in the world, the Texas cowboy. Center stage of the exhibit area is reserved for the *Horsemen of the Americas - Tinker Collection.* The Tinker Collection is made up of exceptionally fine examples of objects used by cowboys and herdsmen of North, Central, and South America. The artifacts - saddles, spurs, lassos and more - showcase a high level of craft and decorative detail, intricate leather and silver workmanship in particular.

The CTHM has brought together a team of specialists to envision the Museum's storytelling environment, led by seasoned exhibit designers **Drew Patterson** and **Pony Allen.** Other contributors include a master photographer and film maker. The team also includes experts in conservation and archival display, ensuring that artifacts in our collection will be handled and displayed with preservation in mind. The exhibit team is guided by a strong core narrative, developed by historian and curator **Lonn Taylor,** native Texan and author of *The American Cowboy*. [★]

Knights of Pythias Artifacts

Although not directly part of the Museum's story of the American cowboy or legends of the cattle drive era, the Knights of Pythias will always be part of the CTHM's story. The CTHM is housed in the historic building built in 1903 by the Knights of Pythias as Jewel Lodge, No. 103. The national fraternal organization was founded in 1864 in Washington, D.C., and became part of a movement that sought to re-knit community after the Civil War. Their motto was "Friendship, Charity, Benevolence," and distinguished members have included United States presidents and members of the Supreme Court.

This collection of artifacts was installed this summer on the second floor landing, and now greets visitors to our Community Center meeting rooms. [★]



Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum

Cowboy Camp 2011

Camp organizer Candy Glidden and cowpokes Brandon Nemec, Kinsly Ley, and Mitchell Crain.

Cowboy Camp began last year, in conversation between CTHM board member **Candy Glidden** and chairman **Robert Oliver**. Oliver proposed, "The Museum should develop a program for children in the community, to help them understand the significance of this region and the history of the trail drives. Candy, I think you should design it."

Mr. & Mrs. Gene Nagel of historic Nagel Ranch at Arneckeville share their knowledge of the importance of the chuck wagon on trail drives.

Joe Adams, dishing up some fun...

Can we eat yet?

Camp cooks Wayne Hillman, Jimmy McMahan, Joe Adams, Ken Adams.

Olivia Netardus shows off the brands she designed.

Matt Thigpen sang about the cowboy life.

Devin Cowan and Ian Bickerton attach conchos on the leather cut-outs they tooled.

Say, "Biscuits!" Campers huddle up for a group photo.

Saddlemaker Tod Slone "shows them the ropes."

Hands-on leather tooling, above, and taking a turn in the fine Western saddle brought in by Travis Glidden, right.

Don Wieland and Marshall Henson, with the help of Henson's patient gelding, teach campers about the art of the farrier – shoeing a horse – and the importance of caring for the hooves.

A former school teacher, Candy answered the challenge. She created a program that would benefit area children by helping history's pages to unfold for them. The experience would "transport them back to the days after the Civil War, when Texas was cash-poor and cattle-rich," and help them to imagine the "fearful and thrilling journey into the unknown, the first trail drive of thousands of wild longhorn cattle" *(of course, there might be classic Western movies and popcorn, too).*

Mrs. Glidden enlisted the enthusiastic help of local elementary school teachers, and husband **Dan Glidden** (in another lifetime, owner of prominent Houston studio **Flat Lizard Graphics**). Dan pitched in to promote the program. In just a few weeks time, word had spread, and Cowboy Camp 2011 filled to capacity – well beyond expectations.

Now for the fun part! Candy began adding hands-on demonstrations that would bring history to life. **Tod Slone,** well known Cuero saddlemaker, agreed to a roping and saddlemaking demonstration. **The Institute of Texan Culture's Lynn Yakubik** offered to present a program on Indians and buffalo. **Don Wieland** of Yorktown came in next, with a live horse-shoeing demonstration – on a real horse! **Travis Glidden** joined in the fun, volunteering an expert knot-typing and roping workshop. And, **Jean and Charlie Nagel,** joined by ranch foreman and Taste of the Trail auctioneer **Joe Adams,** completed the cowboy scene, bringing their authentic chuck wagon. Jean and Joe's dramatic storytelling – tales of the wild west - provided a fitting finale. [✯]

Volunteers brought their cowboy spirit – and authentic period costumes – to the daily task of wrangling 30 lively campers. ***Applause to: Travis Glidden, Janie Veth,*** *and* ***Dan Glidden****. Thanks also to* ***Sara Meyer*** *and* ***Robert Oliver*** *for sponsoring Cowboy Camp tee shirts,* ***Kathy Crim*** *of Victoria for yummy beef jerky treats, and* ***Pam Bickerton*** *for Alamo tin cups for each camper.*

Big thanks to our community partners:

Circle Y of Yoakum, leather craft supplies

Tractor Supply of Cuero, rope for roping demo

Cavenders Boot City of Victoria, WalMart/Cuero, H-E-B/Cuero, DeWitt County Producers, Ful-O-Pep/Cuero, prizes and gift cards

Gerard Gonzales/Standard Printing/Cuero

GVEC, outdoor fans

CTHM Paver Project

Everyone has seen memorial bricks in public spaces – it's a popular fundraising program for historic restoration projects. The Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum has organized a unique variation on that familiar theme. **Lewis Fisher, AIA,** our restoration architect of record, has designed an elegant display for our commemorative pavers.

Stretching the width of our historic building and new Annex, a pattern of small and large square pavers will make an impressive entry. They will be cut from West Texas Cream quarry stone, a fitting choice for a heritage museum dedicated to the rural and ranching heritage of South Central Texas.

Place your name among the many friends and neighbors who have honored their proud local heritage with a paver. Spaces are still available today! Call today to order a paver.

By purchasing a paver, you help the Museum to complete construction needed to make the building ready to receive the public: exhibit furnishings, parking areas, landscaping, and many more key items too numerous to list.

Take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help the Museum, and to recognize your ancestry, your ranch or business name at the same time.

Going, going, gone!

Quantity is limited. Email or call the Museum for your paver order form:

Small Pavers (15 x 15") $300
Large Pavers (30 x 30") $1200

Email: **cthminfo@yahoo.com**
Phone: **361-277-2866**

Update! Taste of the Trail 2012

Welcome New Event Chairperson Charlotte McFadin

Creative, energetic, a dedicated volunteer - these are a few words that come to mind when you meet new Taste of the Trail Chairperson Charlotte McFadin.

Charlotte McFadin, ASID, RID is owner of Lyndon West, an interior design firm.

Taste of the Trail is the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum's signature fundraiser, held every other spring. The CTHM started looking for a new chairperson for the event in spring 2011, with the goal of bringing new ideas to the event already made so successful by previous chairs.

As Board Chairman Robert Oliver explained, "When the board asked Charlotte to chair Taste of the Trail, we felt that she could infuse fresh ideas and vitality into the event. Our Trail events have been very successful, but the board felt we needed new concepts. Charlotte is the professional we asked to handle this challenging job."

When talking to Charlotte, one cannot help but notice the sparkle in her eye as she talks about her plans and ideas for 2012. "I was so pleased to be asked to chair the 2012 Taste of the Trail event; it is a great honor. With the beautiful backdrop of DeWitt County and the Bellevue Ranch, the location is ideal. I am looking forward to bringing something new and different to the event."

Over the next month, the initial planning will start – with the help of committee chairs from previous events. One of the reasons the Taste of The Trail has enjoyed past success is due to the hundreds of volunteers who pitch in and help to get the job done.

A native Houstonian, Charlotte is an active member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). She also enjoys volunteer work with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Rodeo Parade Committee, and the Victoria Junior League. [★]

Memorial Gifts

Lew Harpold, Sandy Miller, Elaine Rau, Tim Pratt, Blaxton Dubose, Eleanor Howe
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Wayne & Emalee Hartman
Letty Lew & David Lloyd

Sybil Kerr, Dolphie Kubecka, Fay Weber, Beth Lasswell
Jeff Steen

Maxine Farris
Bob Farris

Nita Graves
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Ruth Weathers

Glenn Thornton Chisholm
Zenna Chisholm Snowden

Nanette Ayres
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Rosalie Hargis
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from: Cynthia & John Adkins

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Kay & Ron Walker
from: Cynthia & John Adkins Cavender

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2011 Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum Membership

$1500 SCOUT PLUS

Burdine & Lester Giese
Scott Noble - Noble Royalties, Inc.

$1000 SCOUT

Bill & Franke Albrecht
Dr. & Mrs. W. Grant Braly – The Mott
Mrs. Lem Duderstadt – Duderstadt Ranch
Rosemary Harrison
David & Letty Lew Lloyd
Robert Oliver
Bucky & Dee Sager – Mustang Mott Ranch and Bucky's Liquor Store
Steen Family / Jeff Steen / Steen Ranch
Susan Wallis
Ben R. Weber – Weber Energy Corporation
Michael Zuber

$500 POINT MAN

Amegy Bank of Texas
Lawrence & Linda Anzaldua – Rancho Pancho Ranch
Travis & Peggy Basham – The Basham Ranch
Bill & Nancy Blackwell
Joe Bland
David & Diana Burrow – Eatwell Farm
Paddy & Bettye Burwell – Las Colinas Ranch
Hershal & Trudy Ferguson – River Bend Ranch
Bill & Janet Fly – Fly Cattle Co.
John & Carol Hildebrand
Mark & Lou Houser
Ray and Sue Kelley – Burns Ranch
Dr. Heather J. Kopecky
Ryan Leatherbury
David & Paola Lloyd
Judd & Patricia Miller
Gregory Nagel
Sassy Stanton & William Pinckard
Shannon & Gay Ratliff
Dr. Raymond R. Reese
Jerry & Judie Stevenson
Missi Thomas – Friar Thomas Ranches
Michael Tracy
Ron & Kay Walker – Querencia Ranch
John T. & Marianne Wofford

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TDECU – Kathy Crim
Blake & Kathy Dunn – Dunn Services Inc.
Aubrey & Beth Feril – Farm Bureau Insurance
GVEC – Barbara Kuck
O'Connor & Hewitt Foundation
Spoetzel Brewery Inc. – Shiner
Trust Texas Bank
Weaver & Jacobs Construction, Inc. – Mike Weaver
First Victoria National Bank – Melanie Weischwill

$250 SWING RIDER

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Joyce Albrecht – Albrecht Cattle Co.
Margaret Allums
Ted & Frances Aven
Dave & Willi Baker
Pat Hickey Barlow
John and Suzanne Bell
W. T. & Margie Bell
Lovel & Avis Ann Blain – Blain Cattle Co.
Louis & Aileen Boening – Boening Cattle Co.
Jimmy & Betty Ann Borchers – Borchers Ranch
Charles L. Borchers, MD
Jay & Cheryl Bramlette
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Paul & Cathy Celauro – Cuero Creek Ranch
Errol John & Shirley Dietze
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Bill & Verlinde Doubleday – Sundowner Farm
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William & Mary Beth Finney, Sr.
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John & Theresa Garoni
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Betty Gossett
Greg & Sara Gossett
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Paul & Dorothy Guthrie – Triple O Ranch
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Skip & Terry Henkel – Los Suenos Ranch
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Daryl & Diane Lassig – 7L Farm
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Milt & Kathy McLeod
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Michael & Susan Pope – Z H Ranch
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Chris Pellegrino & John Teinert
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Clarence & Pat Wessels
Billy & Debbie White
Elizabeth (Bibba) Wilde – Wildwood Ranch
Darlene Wyatt
Frank Ybarra
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$250 TRAIL BOSS (Business)

Dr. Gary Cox – Coastal Skin Care & Wellness Center
Cuero Chamber Commerce
DeWitt County Producers – Leo Heinemann
Gerald & Linda Zengerle – Reuss Pharmacy

$100 DRAG RIDER

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John & Cynthia Adkins
Kay Bakken
Jeremy Barnes
David & Debra Baros – Baros Hilbrich Ranches
Linda Barth
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Mary Gayle Brindley
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John & Anne Cain
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Jimmy & Carolyn Coppedge
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John & Emily Davis
Lane & Kaye Dixon
B. J. & Jackie Drehr
Dan, Bli & Emmy Dugi
M. E. "Bo" Eagles
Pat & Karyn Elder – Cowbuddy Ranch
Mike & Carol Wofford Ellis
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Alton & Sara Meyer
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Gale & Trish Oliver
Greyson Oliver
Kathy Oliver
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Dorothy Ploeger
Glenn & Carrie Rea
Ray & Helen Reese
Andria Rucker
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Steve & Carole Sager
Arlyn Seiler
Michael & Cindy Sheppard
Rosemary Blackwell Sheppard
Warren & Jeanie Seidel
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sheppard
T. C. & Erna Lee Simon
Darryl & Nancy Stefka
Bert & Janine Stubbs
Sue Sulsar
Raymond & Sandra Tate
Bill & Diana Thibodeaux
Matt & Amy Thigpen
Mike & Merilyn Weber
Mary Fanett Wheeler
Curtis & Kay Wild
Barry & Sondra Wineinger
Louis & Kerry Yaeger – Los Caballos

$100 CROCKET CARDWELL STORE (Business)

Kyle & Debra Bruner – LCM Equine Services
Phylis B. & Steve Canion – Organic Emporium
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Justin & Alexis Cooper – Surface Burial Vault and Monument
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Gerard & Debbie Gonzales – Standard Printing Co.
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Randy & Sylvia Jochim – McDonald's of Cuero
Dennis Kutach – First State Bank of Yoakum
Kirk & Polly Laging – Certified Oilfield Rentals
Ken & Linda Markert – Triangle Cleaners
Tyler McCellan – Edward Jones Investments
Museum of the Coastal Bend, Victoria – Sue Prudhomme
Randy & Rhonda Pakebusch – Pakebusch's and Rendezvous
Darlene Renken – Yoakum National Bank
A Special Stitch
Kim Ulcak – First State Bank of Yoakum
Reed & Beverly Wagner – Wagner's Hardware and Gram's Attic

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$25 BUCKAROO

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Clem Waskow

The Little Economic Engine That Could.

For the ten-plus years since our board members adopted the mission of creating a heritage museum on Cuero's historic main street, there has been steady progress and growth.

A key piece of the Museum's importance to the community is its potential as an economic generator. So, it's with particular pride that we introduce new CTHM team members **Mary Barfield** and **Brian Mack.** Brian takes care of interior and grounds maintenance, and Mary provides office support to the Museum through the Experience Works program. She receives on-the-job skills training from Board members and volunteers, and the Museum gets the benefit of her good work and enthusiasm. [✯]

Brian Mack directs maintance and groundskeeping at the museum.

Mary Barfield supports the board as office administrator.

CTHM Board of Directors

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Members & Friends,

Meet designer **Torin Bales** at a festive holiday jewelry sale at the Museum – perfectly timed for your holiday gift giving!

Thursday
December 1, 2011
6 to 8pm

Musical guest Clay Crockett

Wine tasting courtesy Braman Wines and hors d'oeuvres

20% of all sales to benefit the CTHM

Mission Statement

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum's mission is to preserve the ranching and Western culture of South Central Texas through interpretive exhibits, research, and educational programs.

The CTHM is a 501(c)(3) corporation.

ChisholmTrailMuseum.org

Taste of the Trail

Save the Date! April 21, 2012

Visit tasteofthetrail.com

See the website for latest updates, tickets, volunteer information and giving opportunities.

Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum
Box 866
Cuero, Texas 77954