

Sheridan School

A brief history

On a Thursday morning at 9 o'clock, May 16, 1912, the Colorado County Judge J.J. Mansfield met with Commissioners W.S. Griffith, A.J. Ratuff, John J. Brod and T.J. Roberts present. G.M. Watson met with others for the establishment of a new school district for the Sheridan area. Part of school district #7 which was the Cheatham district was taken with some additional surveys and the Sheridan School district #43 was established.

The first school was located on the north side of the railroad, over near where Lape Garza lives today.

On May 3, 1918, lots of block 25 of Sheridan was purchased from Johnson Brothers land development. There was a two room school built and later a third room was added.

From 1912 to 1918, the school only had two teachers. A third teacher was added for the 1918-1919 school year. On September 19, 1921 the school had 10 grades approved. There were three teachers from 1918-1922.

Then they dropped back to two teachers until 1936 when they added the third teacher again.

In 1940, Shell Oil Co. moved a drilling rig in and drilled their first gas well. It was a good well so more drilling took place. Shell moved their first family, Mr. and Mrs. A.T. Blanchard, to the area. They built houses out on the Flow Realty lease. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Twibell followed. In 1942 Shell Oil Co. moved in and brought more people and children.

On May 9, 1942 Cheatham School district #7 and Sheridan School district #43 consolidated. In 1942 restrooms with running water was added, and an annex with three rooms was added on the west side of the school grounds.

In 1945 the people petitioned to make district #43 an independent school district. There were five teachers during the school term of 1945-46; eight teachers from 1946-47; nine teachers, 1948-49; 10 teachers, 1949-50; 11 teachers, 1950-51; 13 teachers, 1951-52; and 14

teachers, 1954-55.

March 27, 1952, the county board authorized the creation of Sheridan Independent District 908 of Colorado County from the former Sheridan Consolidated C.S.D. #43 of Colorado County.

In the school term of 1946-47, the new school building was completed and moved into. It was one of the most modern in the state. The three room annex that was built in 1942 was moved to the west side of the new school and remodeled into a cafeteria under the management of Mrs. Mabel Franklin. This building was used until 1966 when a cafeteria was added to the north end of the gym with all the newest equipment. Mrs. Franklin is manager of all the cafeterias in the new Rice school district.

On May 26, 1970 the last graduation exercises was held in the school gym formally closing the Sheridan High School after 22 years of existence. The Sheridan school district existed for 51 years.

Sheridan School Teachers

Teachers who taught in the Sheridan School District #43 are as follows:

1912-1914 - Mrs. Lillian Blaney (2nd grade certificate) came from Kansas; 1914-1915 - Mrs. Swank, \$43 per month salary; 1915-1916 - S.C. Moore, \$60 salary; Myrtle Hunter (2nd grade certificate); 1916-1917 - Miss Marie Service, \$40 per month salary; 1917-1918 - Miss Mabel Duffey (1st grade certificate); 1918-1919 - Miss Mabel Duffey, \$40 salary; 1919-1920 - Mrs. C.D. Smith from Tennessee, C.D. Smith, 12 year experience in Texas, 2 years in other states, Beatrice Oberman from Mo. Smith's job as he resigned, Nora Giam, Mrs. F.C. Lankford, 1920-1921 - Eugene Johnson, \$50 salary, Lila Johnson, \$100 salary, Miss Lily Olsen, \$75 salary.

1921-22 - Miss Lily Olsen, Edna Vancott, \$100 salary, Olie Warren, \$75 salary; 1922-1923 - Carrie Kell, Dora Watson, \$90 salary; 1923-1924 - Miss Jewel Herby, \$90 salary, Lora Gillespie, \$65; 1924-1925 - Rachel Chance, \$60 salary; Olga Dutton, \$65 salary; 1925-1926 - Alice Strick, Ina Garret, 1926-1927 - Audrey Ralls, \$93.75 salary, Zena Mescham, \$81.25 salary; 1927-1928 - Willie Mae Barber, Marie Ellen Walker; 1928-1929 - Ina Garret, \$95, Eugene Almond, 1929-1930 - Ina Garret, \$100 salary, Eugene Almond, \$85; 1930-1931 - Ruth Powers, Lillian Ramsey, 1931-1932 - Miss Lillian Ramsey, \$100 salary, Ruth Powers, \$85; 1932-1933 - Ruth Smith, \$100 per month, Florence Cooper, \$80, Katherine Eversole, \$80; 1933-1934 - Mrs. Ina Flourney, \$100, Ruth Powers, \$85.

1934-1935 - Kathryn Eversole, Florence Cooper, Mrs. Della Taylor (Sept. through Dec.), Mrs. Anne Lee Chaudin (Jan through April); 1935-1936 - Kathryn Eversole, \$80, Florence Cooper; 1936-1937 - Fredonia Burns, \$84, Mrs. H.F. Jordan, \$82.50, H.F. Jordan, \$100; 1937-1938 - Fredonia Burns, Mrs. H.F. Jordan, H.F. Jordan, 1938-1939 - O.L. Long, \$95 per month, Mrs. O.L. Long, \$97, Mrs. J.W. Burns, \$83; 1939-1940 - Mrs. O.L. Long, O.L. Long, Mrs. J.W. Burns; 1940-1941 - J.P. Baumbach, Mrs. Ida L. Baumbach, Louise Flammie; 1941-1942 - J.P. Baumbach, \$94, Mrs. Ida L. Baumbach, \$79.75, Miss Viola Burkett, \$85; 1942-1943 - C.T. Bridgewater, \$125, Mrs. C.T. Bridgewater, \$99.

1943-1944 - V.E. Gosch, Mrs. V.E. Gosch, Ruth Walker, Mrs. Hilda Kelly, Miss Viola Burkett; 1946-1947 - V.E. Gosch, \$239.50 per month, Viola Burkett, \$145.50, Sallye M. Walker, \$120.20, Mrs. Helen Gosch, \$139.50, Mrs. R.A. Kelly, \$137.45, Mrs. M.F. Dollar, \$130.95, Jessie Mae Clark, \$137.95, Cora Lawler, \$137.95; 1947-1948 - V.E. Gosch, Helen W. Gosch, Jim Thompson, Cora Lawler, Mrs. Windell Abney, Mrs. M.F. Dollar, Mrs. R.A. Kelly, Miss Viola Burkett, Mrs. Mildred Thompson; 1948-1949 - V.E. Gosch, Helen W. Gosch, Jim Thompson, Windell Abney, Mrs. M.F. Dollar, Mrs. R.A. Kelly, Mildred Thompson, Lila Della Salvestre, Mrs. J.W. Pearson, Evelyn Turk.

1949-1950 - V.E. Gosch, \$385.10 salary per month, Jim Thompson, \$277.20, Helen W. Gosch, \$233.40, Nora Wagonmiller, \$196.50, Evelyn Turk, \$13.50, Mildred Thompson, \$196.50, Vera Fuldberg, \$245.50, Mrs. J.W. Pearson, \$237.20, Mrs. M.F. Dollar, \$137.20, Mrs. R.A. Kelly, \$243.75; 1950-1951 - V.E. Gosch, Jim Thompson,



Sheridan School 1928

Members of the Sheridan School in 1928, front row, Howard Criswell, Duane Sheridan, Sonny Fuller, Jack Brisco, Bob Criswell, Harry Brisco, L.A. Botard, Oscar Einkauf; second row Charlie Kinchloe, Lloyd Criswell, Otis Botard, Omi Kinchloe, Estelle Fuller, Audrey Criswell, Blanche Botard, Amos Kinchloe, Billy Botard, Isam Brisco Jr.; third row, teacher Marie Ellen Walker, Miller Kinchloe, McDowell Criswell, Casper Einkauf, Ted Gilcrease, teacher Willie Mae Barber, back row, Sophie Jones, Nora Almond, Estella Kinchloe.



Organizers of the 1986 Sheridan Homecoming - Zella Walker, Wayne and Natalie Dupre, greeting everyone at the reception table was, left to right, Zella Walker and Natalie Dupre.

Homecoming 1986

On August 1 at 6 p.m., the Sheridan Homecoming kicked off with approximately 80 ex-students, teachers and friends present to enjoy a buffet dinner in the Sheridan Community Center.

The dinner consisted of sliced shoulder clug, vegetable tray of cauliflower, broccoli, carrots, celery, pickle chips, green and ripe olives,

dill and sweet relish, cheese dip, sour cream vegetable dip, chips, white and brown bread, coffee and tea.

On August 2 at 9 a.m., registering began at the gym. There was coffee, orange juice, tea and donuts served throughout the day. The noon and evening meal was catered with 392 people enjoying lunch and 150 people for dinner.

After lunch, Zella Walker welcomed the ex-students, teachers and friends back to Sheridan. She introduced Crockett and Dorothy Leyendecker. Crockett is chairman of the Colorado County Sesquicentennial Committee. He gave a speech on patriotism to our state and country. Zella then gave the history of the Sheridan School

and introduced students and teachers. This was all video recorded by Monte Peck.

Mrs. Ina Garret Flourney, a teacher at Sheridan School in 1926, was present. Her son, Royce Flourney, brought her to the homecoming. Other teachers who taught were Mrs. Hilda Kelly Hobbs,

In 1942, Mrs. Mildred Thompson, 1954, Gene Geaves, 1956, Ruth Rutledge - Brisco, 1952, W.C. DeShazo, 1952; Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Gohike, 1955; Leola Kloss, 1956;

Elliot Menking, 1954; Ronnie Jones, 1967; James Moore, 1970; Annette Tise, 1970; Kathryn Woytek, 1966; Mrs. Chiles, 1984. Wayne Dupre gave a short

memorial service honoring the deceased students, teachers and friends of Sheridan.

It was a great day renewing acquaintances and reminiscing back when. After a lot of visiting and eating of good food the homecoming ended and everyone departed for home.

Sheridan School 1935

1st Grade-10th Grade

Front row, Mickey Lowe, Ray Varley, Edward L. (Bud) Brisco, Charles Griggs, Gene Burdick, Vernon Botard, Ford (Cap) Scott, second row, Celia Hall, Mildred Criswell, June Schilhab, Addie Mae Livergood, Charlie Criswell, Percy Kinchloe, Harry Johnson, Gloria Griggs, Helen Varley, Winfred Bradbock, Leona Brisco, Paul Lowe Jr.; third row, Pete Schilhab, Elyvone Brisco, Emmert Botard, Lorine Livergood, Virginia Bradbock, Audrey Criswell, Eva Botard, Francis Burdick, Georgia Schilhab, Ora Criswell, Raymond D. Harvey, Zane Brisco; fourth row, Boyd Johnson, Isam Brisco Jr., Howard Criswell, Bob Criswell, Harry Brisco; back row, Kathryn Eversole, Florence Cooper, Jacobsen, Mrs. C.A. Chadwick.



Sheridan School Trustees

1924-1925 - C.O. Evans, J.R. Einkauf, Howard Spittler; 1926-1927 - L.B. Board, Mrs. R.O. Einkauf, J.R. Einkauf; 1927-1928 - L.B. Board; 1928-1929 - Mrs. Bea Criswell, Mrs. Edna Brisco, Jeff Criswell; 1929-1930 - Mrs. Bea Criswell, Mrs. Edna Brisco, Jeff Criswell; 1930-1931 - Jeff Criswell, president, Mrs. Edna Brisco, secretary, Mrs. Bea Criswell; 1931-1932 - Jeff Criswell, Mrs. Edna Brisco, Mrs. Bea Criswell; 1932-1933 - Mrs. Edna Brisco, Mrs. Bea Criswell, Jeff Criswell;

1933-1934 - Mrs. Bea Criswell, Jeff Criswell, P.K. Lowe; 1934-1935 - Mrs. Bea Criswell, P.K. Lowe (vacated); 1935-1936 - Mrs. Bea Criswell, Mrs. Sarah Brisco, Jeff Criswell (appointed); 1936-1937 - Mrs. Bea Criswell, Mrs. Sarah Brisco, Joe Schilhab; 1937-1938 - Mrs. Sarah Brisco, Joe Schilhab, Mrs. Louise Griggs (moved to Houston), Mrs. Criswell (appointed); 1938-1939 - Mrs. Bea Criswell, Mrs. Sarah Brisco, T.T. Sheridan; 1939-1940 - Mrs. Bea Criswell, Mrs. Sarah

Brisco; 1940-1941 - Mrs. Sarah Brisco, T.T. Sheridan, Mrs. Bea Criswell; 1941-1942 - T.T. Sheridan, Mrs. Bea Criswell (resigned); Oscar Houchins, Harvey Emert (appointed 8/11/42); 1942-1943 - Harvey Emert, Oscar Houchins, Alfred T. Blanchard; 1943-1944 - Oscar Houchins, Alfred T. Blanchard, Mrs. Edna Brisco; 1944-1945 - Alfred T. Blanchard, Mrs. Edna Brisco, H.S. Cooper; 1945-1946 - C.C. William, A.T. Blanchard, G.E. Carlson, John W. Gore, Hubert S. Cooper, Mrs. Edna Brisco, R.L. West.

Prices back in the 1920s

August 20, 1920 - Sheridan Merchants, 10 gallons of paint at \$33.02; Joe Schilhab, painting and carpenter work, \$24.95. September 19, 1921 - Sheridan School had through 10th grade; motion was made, seconded and carried that action on the matter of consolidation of Sheridan District #43, and Cheatham

District #7 be postponed until information be obtained as to whether or not the consolidation will effect the obtaining of State Aid. 1920 - Mack Self was paid \$36 for 10 cords of wood; L.W. Wells, janitor, \$10 per month; 1921 - D.C. Foster repaired basketball goal for \$15.00. 1925 - John Bradbock was

paid \$40 for 8 cords of wood; 1936-1937 - Bud Sheridan, 3 cords of wood, \$16.80; Lorraine Johnson, 1 cord of wood, \$3.50; Howard Criswell, 1 cord of wood, \$4; holding election 1936-1937, T.H. Criswell, Miller Kinchloe, and Bertha Criswell paid \$1 each; Census taker, Bea Criswell paid \$2.44 for her services.

Attending Sheridan Homecoming

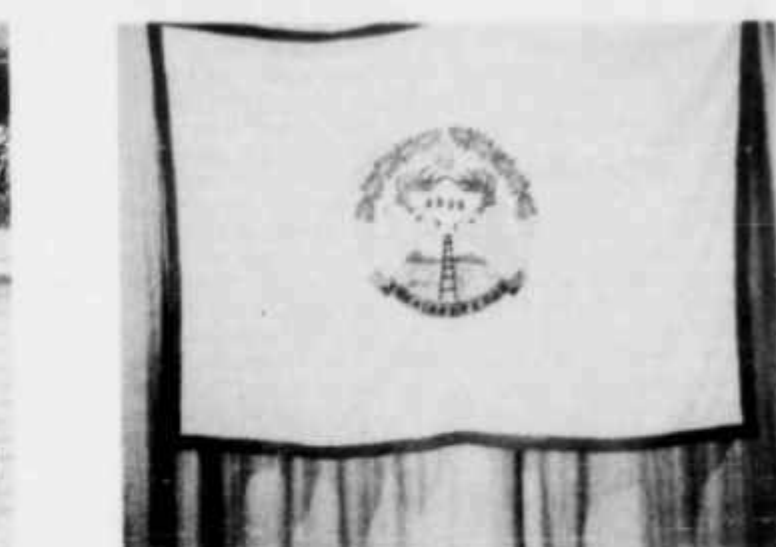
SHERIDAN RESIDENTS:

Jan & Zella Brisco Walker
Wayne L. & Natalie Dupre
Bill & Lillian Gohike
Mary Lou Criswell
Franklin, Tricia & Brandy Walker
Alan, Debbie & Zachary Kloss
C.W. DeShazo
Lara K. Dupre
Ed and Gladys Noy
Dorothy Mosley Selph
Warren, Janet and Ed Dupre
Tracy Walker
Lavo & Ruth Brisco
Alice Balook Hinz
Tamme Hinz
Anna Bernice Hester
Ora Kinchloe
Blanche Botard Johnson
Misty McClure
Clara Belle Johnson Rabel
Billy & Stacy Wilson
Dorothy Brisco Wilson
Darryl, Sharla & Matthew Huse
Carmen Potter Jackson
Chris & Leigh Jackson
Sarah Brisco
Harry & Maudie Botard Townsend
Emma Esch
A.T. "Frischie" & Teel Blanchard
Omi Kinchloe
Penny Botard Cooper
Hume & Nola Baker
Larry & Darrell Blanchard Varley
J.D. & Mary Whitley Ashley
Bernice Varley McCaskey
Dean & Betty Varley
Eddie Ray & Lois Taylor
Jay & Lennie Spittler
Shannon, Anne & Kmie Smith
Harvey & Cinnie Criswell Laake
Shane Laake
Bernice Brisco Scott New
Alice Balook Hinz
David & Cindy Quinney Gohike
Jenny & Bradley Gohike
Lannie D. Sheridan
Ricky Sheridan
Dorothy Mosley Fuller Selph
Beatrice Botard
John & Hellen Brisco Mierh
John Mierh, Jr.
Velma Schilhab Kutzer
Abbie Edda Schilhab
O.L. & Mabel Board
Vera & Marvin Tesch

OUT OF TOWN ATTENDANTS:

Weldon Brisco; Longview
Autrey & Nita Twibell Monroe; Kilgore
Harmen Mosley; Terrell
Stanley Fuller; Bay City
Violet Mosley Herring; Lake Corpus Christi
Eloise Mosley Creek; Boerne
Jimmy & Margaret Meyer Papp; El Campo
Cano Hernandez; LaPorte
Henry & Joan Lawson Waeing; Shiner
Marie Johnson Leoni; Yukon
Bernice Johnson; Brenningfield; New Center
Jim & Bettye Buchanan; Hallettsville
Leonard & Joyce Hencamp Sbrodka; Spring
Lloyd & Celia Hall Spittler; Texas City
Judy Meyer Cook; Houston
Darlene Beyer Barchak; Angleton
Sue Meyer Boyd; Sweeny
Ed & Dot Botard Jank; Houston
Don & Felicia Free; Montgomery
Warren & Sonia Franklin Menking; Houston
Billy & Patricia Rodgers Kocijan; Uvalde
Lewell & Carla Rodgers; Victoria
Charlie & Lillian Brisco Allen; Hallettsville
Jana Chappel Guley & Family; Stafford
Regina Brisco; Hallettsville

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Clockwise, from top right photo: Sheridan Community Flag - Zella Walker brought up the idea and asked Debbie Kloss if she could design it and Ora Criswell Schirmer and Lois Botard Vawter completed the project by sewing it together. The correlation between the community and the flag is very symbolic. These people should be commended for a job well done.

After the completion of the history of the school and the memorial service, groups gathered together to discuss the past and the present. Pictured at left are Juanita and Barron Kirk and at right are Donald and Miriam Gore.

A history was compiled of the Sheridan School from 1912 to 1970 with pictures and old news clippings to help illustrate the significance of its past and present. Pictured below observing the history from bottom to top are Guy Botard, Abbie Edda Schilhab, Lois Botard Vawter, Glenda Buckley, Zella Brisco Walker.

Because this was a sesquicentennial event, the items used to decorate the homecoming were of Texas origin. A red, white and blue streamer was placed down each table with red napkins tucked into them with a cut out of the state of Texas attached to it having Sheridan Homecoming 1986 and a sesquicentennial sticker. Styrofoam cups were donated by Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Johnson. The cups were used for drinks throughout the day and were custom designed especially for this event. One side of the cup had an oak tree and the other side had printed "Sheridan Homecoming, 1912-1986" with the cup. The sesquicentennial scarfs and Texas wreath were used to decorate the reception table. The American, Texas and Community flags were all used to complete the decoration of this event.

Colorado County Sesquicentennial committee member representing Sheridan Zella Walker and Sheridan Elementary and Junior High School principal Bill Gohike plant the red oak tree donated to the community of Sheridan by the sesquicentennial committee. The tree was planted on the front lawn of the Sheridan School in January of this year. As it continues to grow it will remind us of the 150 years that Texas has been a state.

Wayne Dupre presenting memorial service to the general audience as Monte Peck captured the complete homecoming on video cassette.

Wayne Dupre continues to entertain more friends as the homecoming was approaching its end.