



Pictured left to right, front row, Kathlene Kramer W.M.; Rhonda Davis, W.M.; Honorees, Loretta Bankston, Regional Director Dist. 19 Order of Eastern Stars; C.W. Bankston, Special Deputy District 19; Frederick Walker, District Deputy Grand Master District 16; Martha Wolridge, Grand Worthy Matron Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter O.E.S. William Woods; Past Deputy Grand Master for State of Texas; second row,

Sarah F. Ford, Eunice Haynes D.D.G.M., Charles E. Russell III Illust, Potentate of Moussa Court 106, Vicki Adams, Verda Byrd, (O.E.S. Queen) Patricia Conners, Martin Conners III: Worthy Patron; third row, James Ford, Clyde Bankston, Stacy Foushee; Worshipful Master, Charles Wilson Special Deputy Dist. 19, Marsha Culpepper; and Kenneth Bankston: Worshipful Master.

Providence Baptist Church Observes Black History Month

Providence Baptist Church in observance of Black History Month, recognized African Americans with roots in Colorado County Sunday, Feb. 26 during regular services.

Theme for the program was: "Celebrating Community; Recognizing

Fraternal and Civic Organizations." African Americans in the field of engineering and drafting were recognized for their excellent achievement in their respective fields. Members of fraternal and civic organizations were recognized for untiring service given

to their respective communities.

Recognition was given to the following engineers and draftsmen: Christopher Shawn Clemons of Houston; Willie Cleveland Jr. of Eagle Lake; Rudolph McDowell Henry of Wharton; Wady Carl Williams of Columbia, MD;

Kenneth Gerald Woods of Tyler; and Alex Jack Williams Jr. of Houston.

Fraternal and civic organizations recognition was given to: C.W. Bankston, Prince Hall Mason of San Antonio; Loretta M. Bankston, O.E.S. of San Antonio; Cpt. Jamarcus Andre Brooks, Prince Hall Mason of Tagi, Iraq; Lonnie Coleman, Prince Hall Mason of Columbus; M Eala Davis, O.E.S. of Eagle Lake; and Janie Mae Douglas, Heroine of Jericho, of Eagle Lake.

Special recognition was given to Little Miss Zena Leroya Woods-Desouza, Hollywood Model of Eagle Lake.

Michael Hearn, Dow Chemical Company Subject Matter Expert and Independent Business Owner of Houston was guest speaker.

Immediately after services, guests and members enjoyed an "Old Fashion Day" dinner in the annex.

Rev Coby Shorter, Jr. Pastor

State Cleanup Effort Scheduled April 1

Drivers will see something different along Texas roadways April 1, when approximately 200,000 volunteers around the state participate in the annual Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off — one of the nation's largest one-day litter clean-up events.

Trash-Off will launch a spring and summer filled with special events and contests commemorating the 20th anniversary of Don't Mess with Texas. The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is a partnership between Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

The public is invited to participate by contacting the Yoakum District's Adopt-a-Highway Coordinator, Judy Broomas at 361/293-4308 to adopt a stretch of highway.

"When you see thousands of volunteers coming together on one day to help keep Texas beautiful, it's truly inspiring," said TxDOT Travel Division Director Doris Howdeshell. "There's so much to celebrate this year as the Don't Mess with Texas campaign turns 20, and Trash-Off is certainly one of the things we are most proud of."

"People who volunteer for Trash-Off are often surprised by how the experience moves them," said KTB President Lynn Lantrip. "It's such an eye-opening experience. You see the type of litter people are tossing on our roadways or in our parks, and you become even more determined to keep our state clean. Usually people will volunteer again the following year because they feel so good about what they're doing. Of course, we couldn't do it without our volunteers."

In January, TxDOT debuted the new "Real Texans Don't Litter" television public service announcements (PSA) as a springboard for the Don't Mess with Texas 20th Anniversary.

The PSAs feature some of Texas' most recognized celebrities including Lance Armstrong, Erykah Badu, Ray Benson, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Julius Jones, Los Lonely Boys, Matthew McConaughey, Chuck Norris, Janine

Turner, Owen Wilson and Lee Ann Womack.

In addition to the media campaign, TxDOT is sponsoring a "Real Texans Don't Litter" Cleanup Contest, challenging "Real Texans" to volunteer at one of 25 cleanups around the state.

The locations will be unveiled the day of Trash-Off, April 1, and the events will take place between May and mid-August. Visit www.DontMessWithTexas20.org on April 1 for exciting news and additional information.



Texas Parks And Wildlife To Conduct Free Seminar

The Texas Parks and Wildlife is conducting a free wildlife seminar on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 18 and 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The seminar is hosted by Tri-Region Chapter of the TAAD (Appraisal Districts), Texas Cooperative Extension Service and LCRA at Cooper Farm in Waldeck, Texas approximately 10 miles north of La Grange.

The program will consist of a workshop on the 18th and a bus tour and field demonstrations on the 19th.

Activities on both days will address recommended wildlife practices to enhance wildlife populations.

Please contact the Colorado County CAD at 979-732-8222 by Friday, April 14 if you are interested in attending and would like to have a catered barbecue meal at a cost of \$10.

A banquet and social will follow the seminar for a charge of \$10. The bus tour portion of the field day will cost \$30 a person.

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