



de Stolfe Journal

14.2 : EARLY SUMMER 2025



CONTENTS

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Covers activities in April through July 2025.

(Page numbers correspond to the PDF page numbers.)

- 2** ... Contents & On The Cover
- 3** ... Comments by RG
- 4-8** ... Word for Life
- 9-12** ... Random Things
- 13-18** ... Granbury Cemetery
- 19-22** ... Historic Granbury
- 23-25** ... Speakeasy In Glen Rose
- 26-28** ... More Spring Wildflowers
- 29-30** ... Early Summer Wildflowers
- 31-39** ... Green Tree Country Club (and after)
- 40-42** ... Various Critters
- 43** ... More Flamingos
- 44-45** ... Mon Anniversaire
- 46** ... YouTubeLand
- 47-48** ... Travels of Chatbleu
- 49** ... Final Thought
- 49** ... The Fine Print

ON THE COVER



I was driving along a side road and came across this lovely log cabin. I eventually stopped to look at it and get some photos. Later, I did some research to find out the history and purpose of this cabin, which turns out to have an interesting history!



We live in the 2020s, not the 1920s! Wherever there is a web link like below, click it to go to the webpage it references! (Click it now!)

www.destolfe.com



COMMENTS BY RG

Summer Activities

I am finding that it takes me much longer to put together an issue of the Journal now than it did a decade ago! But, I also don't have as much free time now as I did a decade ago either! Here we are in late November, and I am just now getting out the Early Summer issue of the de Stolfe Journal! Sheeeesh! [facepalm emoji!]

This issue is packed full of goodies of places where I went, historical topics, animals, flowers, and of course my birthday.

The historical topics are what have taken me the longest as historical research is necessary to get the facts straight and the information correct! Topics for this issue include the Granbury Cemetery, an interesting log cabin tied to the early history of Granbury, and a revisit to the speakeasy gas station in Glen Rose, just south of Granbury.

One of the travel features is a work trip back to the Green Tree Country Club in Midland, Texas (along with a short visit to Lubbock afterwards).

I have several pages of more Spring wildflowers beyond the bluebonnets of the last issue, along with some early summer flowers.

I have several pages of various animals I saw in random places that were fun to see.

My birthday was in July, so I talk about what I did and some of the things I like about the annual event, particularly with getting special offers!

I have several pages of Random Things that don't quite fit into categories, but that I find interesting and hope you do too.

The Word For Life section continues to cover the chapters of revelation with nearing the final chapters to wrap up the series in the next issue.

I already have the next issue planned to be just as packed full of stuff as this one is and look forward to getting that issue done!

For this one, enjoy!

RG



WORD FOR LIFE

Revelation Topics - "The End Times" - Part 6

I started a Revelation Topics study with the Winter 2023 issue, almost three years ago now. Then, I refocused on specifically covering the End Times parts of Revelation with the June 2024 issue. We are finally nearing the end of the book of Revelation, but I will likely need two more issues to finish, this one and the next one, with probably a summary of the series in the issue after these two. We left off at the start of Revelation 19. We have Revelation chapters 19, 20, 21, and 22 left to cover.

I want to point out briefly one detail from the last issue. I referenced that people after the Flood were building a tower to try to reach the heavens, the so called Tower of Babel. I had mentioned that "up to that point, there was only one common language", meaning that there was only one spoken language. The reference to that one language is Genesis 11:1, which states plainly, *Now the whole earth had one language and one speech.* The people of that time then said, *Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.* (11:4) The people were rather arrogant, but they actually spoke their curse if they did not succeed, to be scattered abroad over the earth! Verse 5 then states,

5 ...the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built.

6 And the Lord said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language... now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.

7 Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

8 So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth...

It is from this scattering why we have wildly different cultures and languages across the earth, what is referenced in "every nation, tribe, and tongue".

Prior to Revelation 19, God destroyed Babylon thoroughly and with finality. The people of the earth wept bitterly over the loss, while in chapter 19, the angels of heaven said for the people of God to rejoice over its destruction as Babylon was a destructive force against the children of God. It is at this point in Revelation where the entire story of the tribulation turns!

Next, Revelation 19:7-9 states:

7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine

linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

9 Then he [an angel] said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' " And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

Believers in Christ Jesus, the saints who are forgiven and saved, are the bride of Christ. That is us! Our marriage to Jesus is God's grace of forgiveness when we get saved, and after all people are saved who will be saved, the marriage feast can then happen between Jesus and His wife, the saved people. The wife has made herself ready of clean and bright fine linen which is the righteous acts we did during our lives on earth, our obedience to God.

In reference to the wedding, in the Gospels while Jesus was still on the earth, He told a parable about the "Wise and Foolish Virgins" (Matthew 25). In short, five were wise and five were foolish, the difference here being that the foolish women did not bring extra oil for their lamps. These ten virgins were headed to meet the bridegroom for the wedding. However, the groom was delayed in coming. When the announcement came that the groom was finally coming, the lamps were almost out of oil. The wise virgins simply trimmed the wicks and added

more oil from what they brought, but the foolish ones freaked out and were told to go buy some more oil for themselves since there would not be enough to share. However, while the foolish virgins did that, those who were ready went in to the wedding with the doors being shut after them. When the foolish virgins returned to attend the wedding, they were too late! They cried out "Lord, Lord" to be let in, but they were told, *'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'* This is a similar phrase that Jesus will say to unbelievers during the Great White Throne Judgement. See Matthew 7:21-23.

Now back to Revelation. HERE IS THE TURNING POINT! Revelation 19:11-16 shows Jesus returning to the earth! Because this is the most important act to happen up to this point in Revelation, I'll provide details, as best as I am able, verse by verse.

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

Jesus ascended to the Father upon His conclusion on earth, as described the Gospels (Mark 16:19, Luke 24:51, Acts 1:9-11). But Acts 1:11 also adds, *"This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so*

WORD FOR LIFE

come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.” So in Revelation 19:11, the heavens opened. Jesus is the Faithful and True Man who successfully carried out the Father’s will on the earth to save mankind and became the righteous Judge (See 2 Timothy 4:8).

12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

Also in 2 Timothy 4:8, Paul mentions about his “crown of righteousness”, that every believer will get, which is about the only thing we truly will own. But, as grateful believers, we choose not to keep the crowns for ourselves, but to lay them at the feet of Jesus for His sacrifice for our lives. (This is also partly in reference to Acts 20:35, “*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*”) Jesus also said in Revelation 2:17, “*...And I will give him [the one who overcomes] a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.*” Jesus also has a name that only He knows.

13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

Biblical scholars are divided upon whose blood is on the robe of Jesus. Some say it is Jesus’ own Blood, some say that it is the blood of the saints that was shed, others

still note that it is the blood of the enemies from the great winepress. I do not know, but it seems more likely that the winepress description seems likely as Jesus said, “*I have trodden the winepress alone... I have trodden them in My anger... in My fury; their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, and I have stained all My robes.*” (Isaiah 63:3) Jesus is the Word of God as Jesus was present in creating the world, the reference to “Us” in Genesis.

14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

As already mentioned in Revelation 19:8, “*And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.*”, we as believers, His armies, follow Jesus wearing our clean white fine linen robes also on white horses. And don’t even give a second thought if you don’t know how to ride a horse here on earth for God gives us all knowledge that we will receive perfectly in Heaven without the earthly barriers that limit our understanding and ability now. In other words, you will KNOW how to ride the white horse perfectly!

15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness

and wrath of Almighty God.

The “sharp sword” is the Word of God, who is Jesus. Jesus will succumb the nations to Himself and subdue them to rule them with a rod of iron. The rod of iron imagery is in reference to Jesus having unwavering and absolute control and authority that no one can manipulate. What Jesus says is what is. The treading of the winepress is basically the slaughtering of the wicked. There is already a mention in Revelation 14:19-20 showing, “*19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses’ bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs [about 200 miles].*” This seems to line up with the previously mentioned robe stained with blood that Jesus Himself trampled.

16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. As God’s saved children, we are kings and lords and priests to God! Jesus is then above us in authority. “*5 To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and*

dominion forever and ever. Amen.” (Revelation 1:5-6)

Next, an angel in the sun called for the gathering of all birds to “*Come and gather together for the supper of the great God*” (Revelation 19:17) as the battle and great slaughter is about to happen. Then “*the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him [Jesus] who sat on the horse and against His army [the saints clothed in white linen, us, the saved].*” (19:19) The passage then goes on to say,

20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

The false prophet tried to deceive the nations and bring them under his wicked control. God was stern to tell the people to reject getting the mark of the beast which would lead to eternal damnation (eternal separation from God, Revelation 14:9-10). The beast and the false prophet are the first two specifically mentioned being cast into the lake of fire, which is eternal judgement. There are various

WORD FOR LIFE

other mentions of fire and brimstone in the Bible, which also allude to eternal judgement, such as when fire and brimstone rained down on Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19:24). The rest of the army gathered by the wicked were slaughtered to be a great feast for the birds. Those people inevitably were also judged to eternal separation as told in Revelation 20:12.

The beast and the false prophet were two of the unholy trinity. The third wicked one left to deal with is Satan, the fallen angel Lucifer, also known as the Devil. Now in Revelation 20, this is what happens next.

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

This is the first of two glorious judgements against Satan. With Satan bound with a great chain and cast into the bottomless pit that is sealed for one thousand years, he will not be able to deceive the nations while Jesus has His millennial

reign. The only other detail here is that at the end of the thousand years, Satan must be released for a “little while”, whatever exactly that means, and however long that is, where he can deceive again and gather together a great army of darkness. I will jump ahead to his release before coming back to the millennial reign that happens in between these two periods.

Revelation 20:7-10 tells us that Satan is let out of his prison at the end of the thousand years. He will immediately “*go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea*” (20:8). That is to say that the count of the people is innumerable, more than can be counted. They then “*surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city [Jerusalem]*”. Since vengeance is God’s (Romans 12:19, Hebrews 10:30), “*fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them*”. The last and final part of dealing with the unholy trinity and the long awaited judgement of Satan is with Revelation 20:10,

“The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.” This is the final eternal judgement of Satan and fulfills the great desire of God’s people to end and punish the enemy with

finality for his millennia of deceptions and wickedness, his killing, stealing, and destroying (John 10:10)!

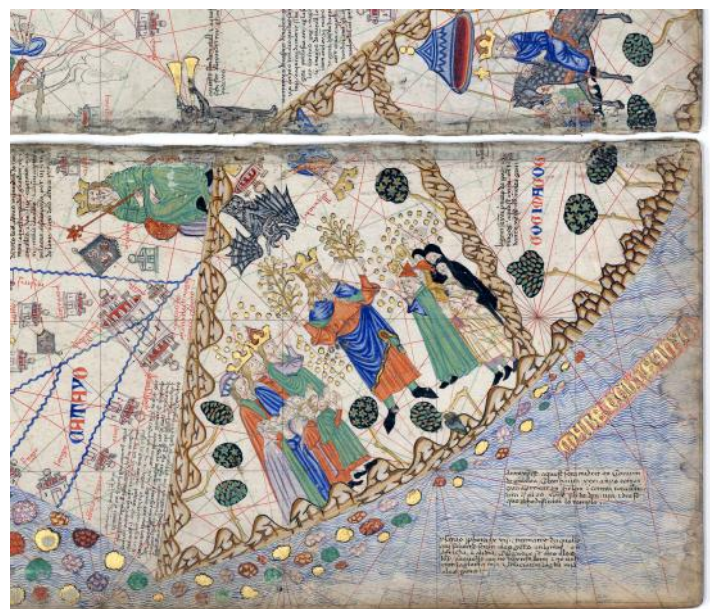
I have purposely left out Revelation 20:4-6 that discusses the millennial reign by Jesus as this section ties better with the last section of Chapter 20 and with the wonderful things that are mentioned in Chapters 21 and 22! This will be reserved for the next issue.

One last interesting detail. There is an old and famous, but valuable, atlas or map created in 1375 that is attributed to Cresques Abraham referred to as the Atlas of Catalán. This multi paneled document provides great historical references and cross references. In one corner of panel six is an interesting reference to the antichrist. The image shows

a king like figure with others believing and following him. The written text is in an old form of Portuguese that shows a title of “Antechrist” and the following transliterated text:

Antichrist. He will be raised in Goraym of Galilea, and at the age of thirty he will start to preach in Jerusalem; contrary to the truth, he will proclaim that he is Christ, the living son of God. It is said that he will rebuild the Temple.

It is interesting how the enemy will copy what Jesus did! Jesus was also 30 when he started His ministry in Jerusalem as the Son of God. The antichrist will rebuild the temple so he can rule wickedly out of it. However, Jesus will instead have His righteous rule out of His temple!



Atlas of Catalán, Detail of Panel VI
Made in 1375 AD by Cresques Abraham (1325-1387, aged 61–62, Palma, Majorca). <https://www.cresquesproject.net>

WORD FOR LIFE

Bible References Used

Genesis 11:1-9

Now the whole earth had one language and one speech.

2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there.

3 Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar.

4 And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built.

6 And the Lord said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.

7 Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."

8 So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city.

9 Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Matthew 25:1-13

25 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

6 "And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!'

7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps.

8 And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

9 But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.'

10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

11 "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!'

12 But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'

13 "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

Matthew 7:21-23

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Revelation 19:11-16

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Mark 16:19

So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.

Luke 24:51

Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.

Acts 1:9-11

9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel,

11 who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

2 Timothy 4:8

Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

WORD FOR LIFE

Acts 20:35

I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Revelation 2:17

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."

Isaiah 63:3

"I have trodden the winepress alone, And from the peoples no one was with Me. For I have trodden them in My anger, And trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes."

Revelation 14:19-20

19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.

Revelation 1:5-6

5 ...from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 14:9-10

9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

Genesis 19:24

Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens.

Romans 12:19

Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.

Hebrews 10:30

For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The Lord will judge His people."

John 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Illustrative image of five virgins who are wise by having brought extra oil for their lamps. They were then ready when the Bridegroom arrived and could go to the wedding feast.

Image source: <https://answerforchristians.org/wise-and-foolish-virgins.html>



RANDOM THINGS

Recent Special Issues Of The de Stolfe Journal

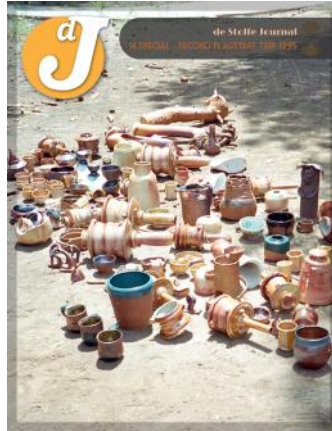
In case you did not already know, I put out three special issues this summer:

- Pink Flamingo Day
- Second Flagstaff Trip
- Talk Like A Pirate Day

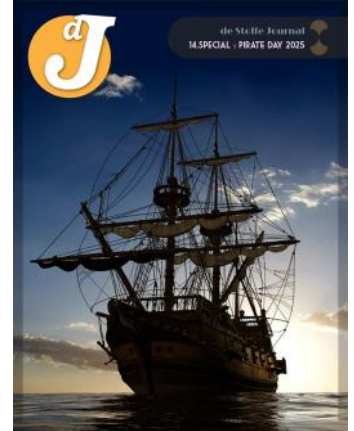
Like with all of my issues, they are available on my website, www.destolfe.com



Pink Flamingo Day



Second Flagstaff Trip-1995



Talk Like A Pirate Day

Remember these? I was at Buc-ee's in Amarillo where Blue Bell had mini ice cream cups with the little wood spoons!



Early summer is often the time to cut, dry, and bale hay. Most often, they are made into round bales, like shown in these photos I took in Granbury. They will eventually get stacked outside or put into a barn.



Taking photos of the moon with an iPhone just sucks! They never come out very well! This was on July 9, 2025 at about 9 PM.

RANDOM THINGS

Equine Neigh Bors

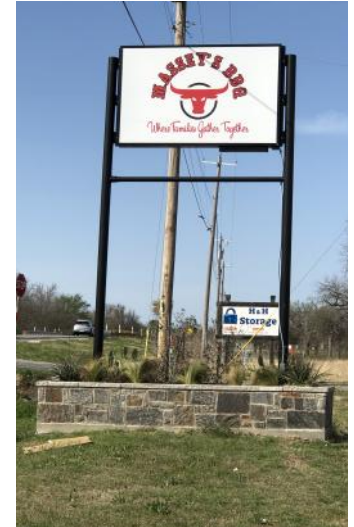
I work out of a shop in Granbury, Texas. The shop is basically a large commercial storage unit with overhead doors and an office with a bathroom. This shop also has a back door and a grassy area behind. Bordering the grassy area is a semi rural area of houses scattered in the areas to the back and the east side. The land directly behind our shop to the north is a pasture with a house and barn at the other end of the pasture. I have regularly seen three horses, each a different color, that regularly and casually wander around the pasture. I call them my neigh bors!



I guess the grass is greener on the other side!

Massey's BBQ

On March 23 while on my way to Glen Rose, I stopped at Massey's for some BBQ. I had never been there before, but the restaurant was really cool having two silos as part of the dining area. Then, on August 26, I went to a different Massey's in Alvarado. At first, I didn't realize it was related to the one in Glen Rose!



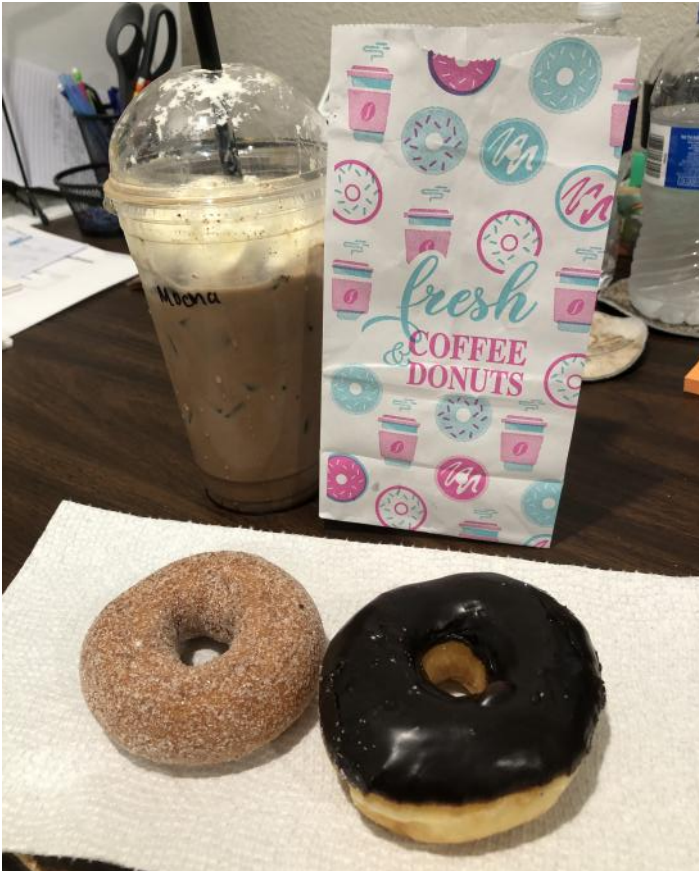
Massey's BBQ in Glen Rose, Texas

Sign for the Massey's BBQ in Alvarado, Texas.



RANDOM THINGS

Fun National Celebrations



National Doughnut Day was June 6, 2025.

National Onion Ring Day was June 22, 2025.



Campfire Meals Return!

After a long absence, campfire meals returned this summer at Cracker Barrel! I was waiting for years for them to return! I took advantage of the beef campfire meal three times this summer. It had beef, potatoes, carrots, onions, tomatoes, & corn cobs.



May 18, 2025



July 18, 2025



August 16, 2025

RANDOM THINGS

A Pleasant Easter Weekend

During the afternoon on Saturday, I drove up to Weatherford to get some rolls from Texas Roadhouse and a couple of other things. Despite a nearby tornado Saturday evening while I was on my drive back to Granbury, Easter Sunday was very pleasant. I went to Stephenville to a friend's church, then had breakfast at a local place called Peacock's Restaurant, then spent the afternoon and had an Easter lunch at my friend's house.



They have chickens, like most people who live out in the countryside. Plenty of fresh eggs!



Over The Rainbow

I was invited to watch a presentation by the Stephenville Dance Center of their dance musical called Over the Rainbow. There were two presentations of it on May 24 and on May 25. I went on May 25, and the tickets were very affordable at \$10. The presentation was at the Clyde H Wells Auditorium on the campus of Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. I was invited by the one family participating in the dance presentation, the Horners. These are the same Horners I spent Easter with as mentioned to the left. The entire Horner family (except for the patriarch!) participated in this dance musical presentation, a total of four of the five members. This presentation was fantastic! It was very closely related to the Wizard of Oz film and lasted for nearly three hours with a short intermission about half to two thirds of the way in. The music and dance styles spanned the gamut and was high energy throughout!



The lady to the left and the three children in the middle were part of the cast.

GRANBURY CEMETERY

In late February and early March, less than a month after moving to Granbury, I visited the Granbury Cemetery. Is that weird? No! Cemeteries are awesome sources of history! They are literally concrete evidences of the past,

facts etched into stone, weathered remnants of historical events, sentinels of lives long past... okay, I'm done. ;-)

I went first on February 23, and again on March 1, both times a little before sunset.

Fortunately, I had a cemetery guide I got from the Granbury Visitors Center a few days after arriving in Granbury. This guide had a map and highlighted the notable names of people interred. Therefore, I went around the

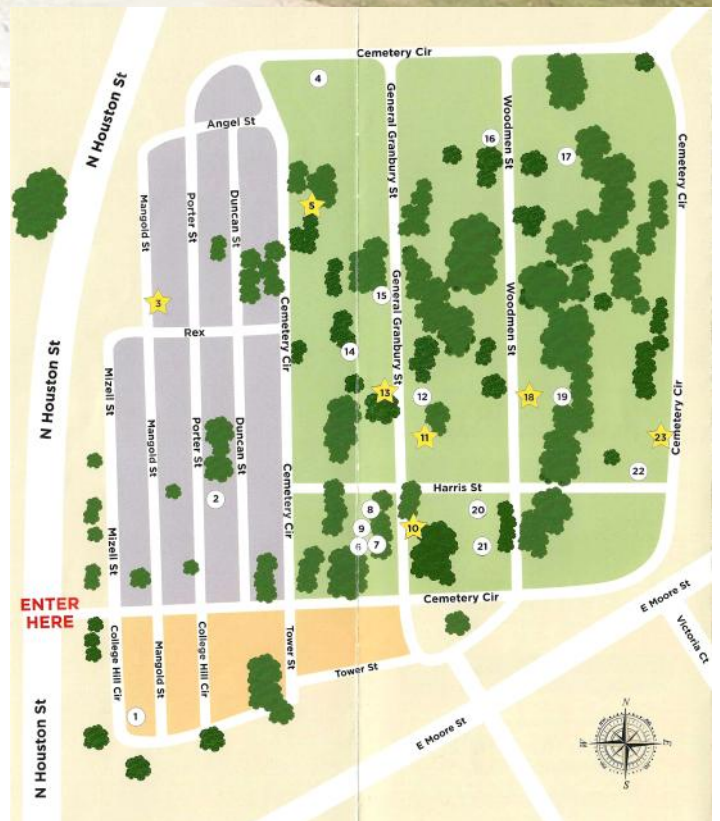
cemetery to find those notable graves. I am not including all of the highlighted graves from that pamphlet, but I am including some of the comments that were noted in the pamphlet.



Google Maps Street View

The Granbury Cemetery is located about a mile north of the town square on N Houston Street, also known as Weatherford Highway or Highway 51.

The cemetery has three sections. With the green section being the original part having the original entrance off E Moore Street.



GRANBURY CEMETERY

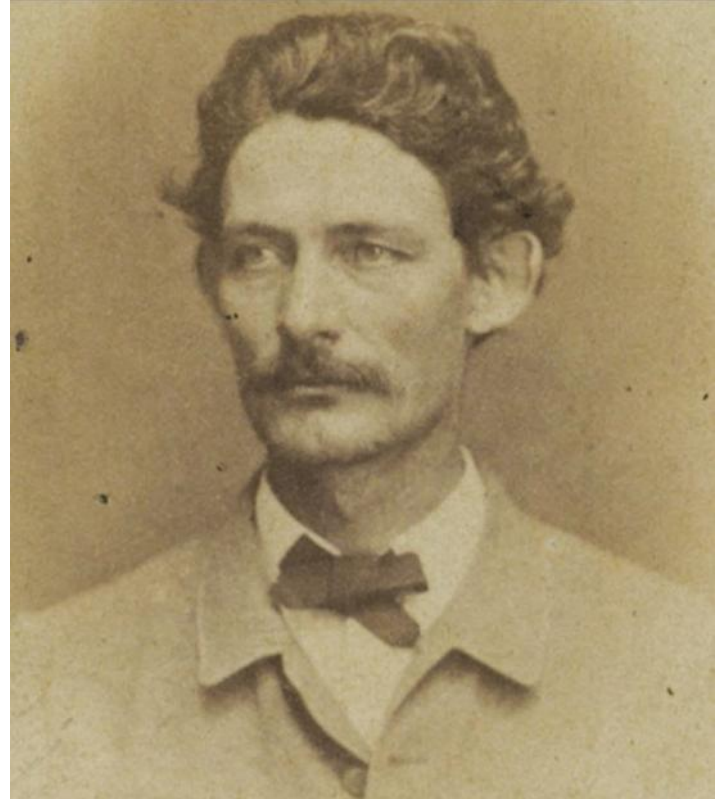
Brigadier General Hiram Bronson Granbury

Born: March 1, 1831 (Copiah County, Mississippi [SW of Jackson])

Died: November 30, 1864 (killed in action, Franklin, Tennessee [S of Nashville])

Brigadier General Hiram Granbury was part of the Battle of Franklin in 1864. He died while in action and was first buried there after the battle. He was later reinterred at the Ashwood Church Cemetery south of

Columbia (further southwest of Franklin). Later, confederate soldiers petitioned to exhume his body and have it reinterred in the Granbury Cemetery, which was done on November 30, 1893.



Hiram Bronson Granbury



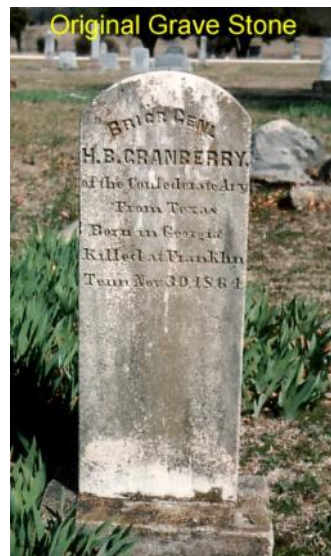
Grave plot for Granbury



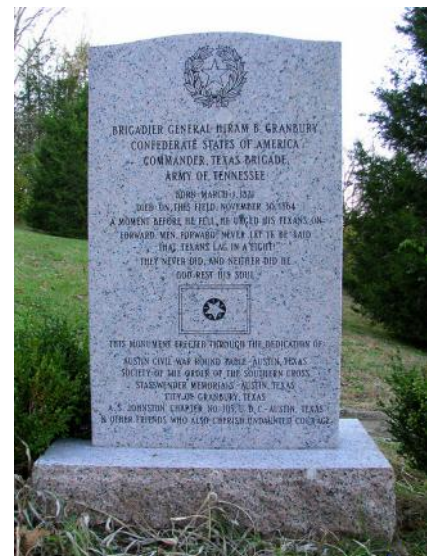
*Grave marker for
Brigadier General
Hiram B. Granbury
Granbury's Texas
Brigade, Confederate
States of America*



*Fannie Sims Granbury,
Wife of
Hiram B. Granbury*



Original Grave Stone



Other markers relating to Granbury.

GRANBURY CEMETERY

Family plot of Ashley W. Crockett

If the Crockett name sounds familiar, it is because Ashley was the grandson of David “Davy” Crockett. Extended family members are buried in the plot, with the most recent relative buried in 2017.

Davy Crockett died during the Battle of the Alamo during the Texas revolution, with his death date given as March 6, 1836. However, it is unclear whether he died during the battle or if he was executed after being captured by the Mexican Army.

After his loss during the reelection to Congress for Tennessee in August 1835, he wrote an autobiography published in 1836, which included the now famous line about the reelection, “I told the people of my district that I would serve them as faithfully as I had done; but if not, they might go to hell, and I would go to Texas.” The body of David Crockett is in the San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio.



*David “Davy” Crockett
Portrait by Chester Harding, 1834*



The family grave plot of Ashley W. Crockett, who was the grandson of David “Davy” Crockett



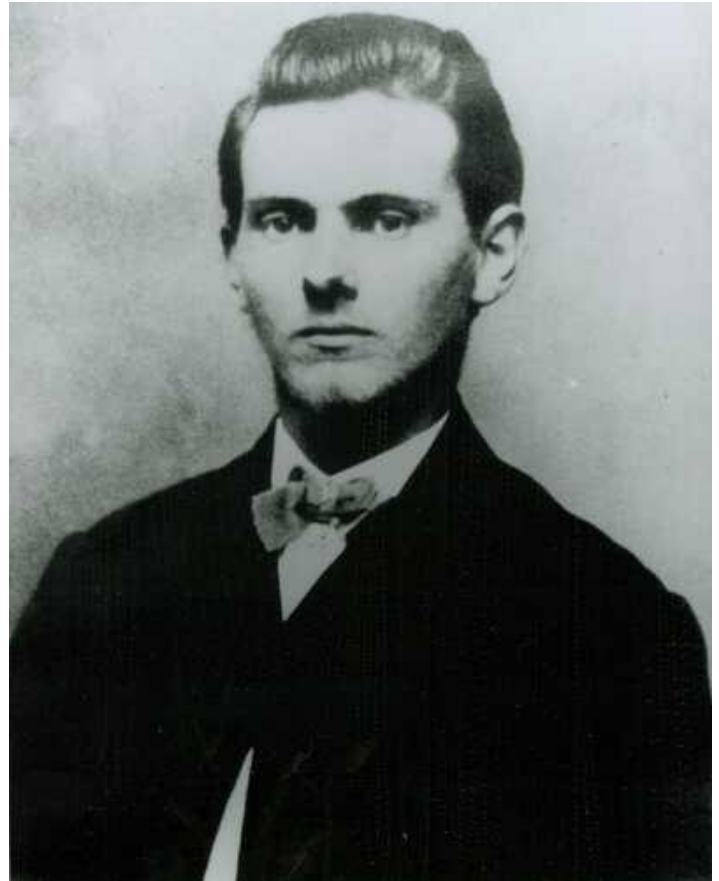
GRANBURY CEMETERY

Jesse Woodson James

Born: September 5, 1847 (Kearney, Missouri)
Supposedly Died: April 3, 1882 (Saint Joseph, Missouri)
Alternate Death: August 15, 1951 (Granbury, Texas)
“John Frank Dalton, born March 8, 1848”

This is an interesting story of multiple beliefs of how, when, and where the infamous Jesse James died! I am no authority of the life history of Jesse James, but in looking up some information about him, I have found multiple

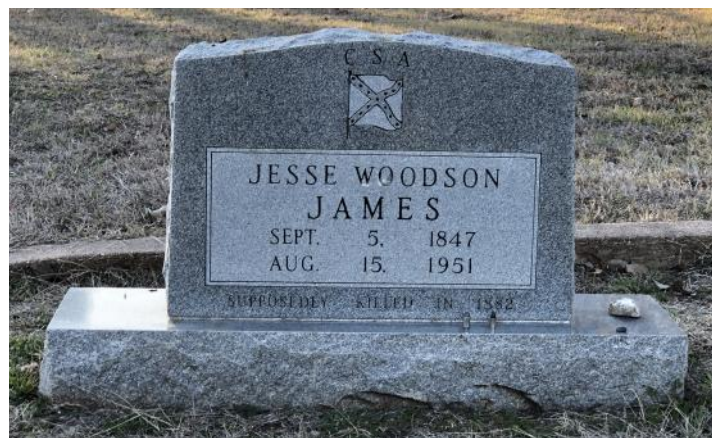
conflicting birth and death dates! I will leave it alone at this point just to highlight the grave for Jesse James in the Granbury Cemetery, but I just might need to include a separate article about him in a future issue of the journal!



Jesse Woodson James



Grave plot for Jesse James in Granbury, Texas.



*Grave marker for Jesse James in Granbury, Texas.
“Supposedly killed in 1882”*

GRANBURY CEMETERY

William Henry Holland

Born: October 4, 1882 (Granbury, Texas)
Arm severed and buried: November 16, 1895
Died: May 10, 1927 (Fort Worth, Texas)

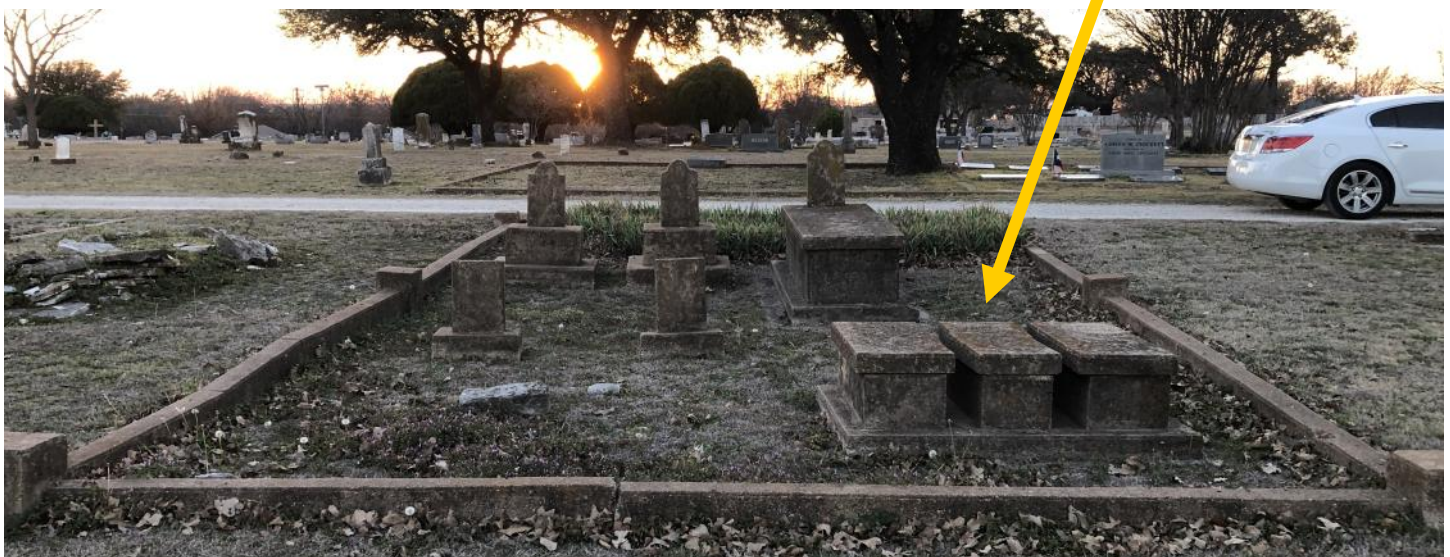
William Holland was born in Granbury in 1882, and he was a manager of the pump station for the Frisco Railroad that ran through Granbury. At the age of 13, William fell out of a pecan tree and apparently was hurt bad enough for his arm to be amputated. His arm was buried between

his infant siblings in his parents' grave plot. However, when he died in 1927, William was buried in another part of the cemetery next to the grave of Jesse James.

I don't know about you, but this story gives me Fried Green Tomatoes vibes!



Burial plot and marker for William Henry Holland



The Holland family plot where William Henry Holland's arm was buried.

GRANBURY CEMETERY

Rex Jameson

Rex was a beloved bird dog owned by Luther Young Jameson (1896-1960) and Bertha Marie Jameson (1899-1985) (married in 1928). It is

unknown when Rex lived or what breed of dog he was, but he is the only animal known to be buried in the Granbury Cemetery.



Grave plot for the Jameson family, including the grave and marker for their bird dog Rex.

Unknown Child Grave

This grave is so broken and neglected that it is unknown who was buried here! :-(-



There are many more graves in the Granbury Cemetery, and more of locally notable people. I'll probably need to include another feature about the cemetery in a future issue, especially to include the Nutt brothers.

Lucy Hix

Born: August 14, 1881.

Died: December 19, 1881.

A joyful summer turned to grief before Christmas! This stone has written, "Little Lucy Dau[ughter] of W[illia]m & M. A. Hix [...] Sleep until we meet again".



HISTORIC GRANBURY

Oddities

I wanted to highlight a couple of architectural oddities in Granbury in 2025. One is an unusual log cabin nestled among an apartment complex (marked with a **red arrow**) and another of a single long abandoned fireplace on an empty lot near downtown (marked with a **purple arrow**). I also want to mention about a long forgotten bridge (shown in **orange**) that I will cover in more detail in a future issue of the journal as I learn more about it..



Solitary Fireplace

I have wondered about lone fireplaces, like this one, standing in long abandoned places. Why not tear down the fireplace along with the rest of the house? They are lone sentinels of an earlier lost time. As for this one, these photos show the same fireplace, but of each side—a two sided fireplace— perhaps originally in a parlor and dining room for instance. Clearly, the house's foundation was raised quite a bit from ground level. The rooms were painted as the fronts of the fireboxes were clearly painted. The hearths appear to be concrete, but possibly were added later, and could possibly cover even earlier tile. It is unknown about the house itself. The chimney does look like it could have been taller as it looks cut off or patched. This relic sits among some trees across the street from the Lake Granbury beach.



HISTORIC GRANBURY

Found A Small Log Cabin

In mid July, I was driving on a road called Hill Boulevard when I drove past a small structure that was obviously out of place next to an apartment complex! I stopped and took some photos of this really cool log cabin, as shown on this issue's cover. I did not see any information about it, like a historical marker or plaque, on or around the cabin. Later, I got on Google Maps, then on Google Earth to use the historical imagery to see how the area changed over the last 30 years. Circa 2015 and prior to the apartment complex, the land had a single house with many trees and areas of grass. The 2014 Google Earth image and later images show the cabin in its current spot. The earlier images were too fuzzy to make out any discernable details, but it appeared that the cabin might have been in a different spot that I could not discern. The finished apartment complex appears in the 2019 image.

In late October, I was driving the same road and suddenly decided to stop at the apartment complex office to see if they had any information about it as the office was closed the last time I was there. It turns out that the cabin was the inspiration for the name of the apartment complex, Brazos Crossing. However, the lady at the complex did not know very much about the cabin and texted me the next day with only very little additional information. I knew there had to be more information about the cabin.

About a week later in early November, I finally got some more specific information when I went to the leasing office again where another guy who works there gave me a pamphlet stating much more detailed information about the structure and its history and in how it related to the apartment complex.

A few more days later, I went on a rabbit trail (down a rabbit hole?) to find more details and to verify the accuracy of the information in the pamphlet with official sources. However, please note that at this point I have only verified a few details about this cabin, and I am still relying on what information that was provided or that I found online.



*Front view of the cabin, different from the cover photo.
This cabin has two doors and two windows.*



The chimney is local limestone, as is the foundation.



The logs are crisscrossed with wide chinking between.

HISTORIC GRANBURY

Cabin Background Information

According to the pamphlet I got from the apartment complex, the cabin was built in 1868, and the following showed:

When Granbury became established as the Hood County seat [in 1866], Y.J. Rylee began running a ferry to transport his family along with merchants and travelers across the Brazos River to Granbury. [Note that Granbury was a very small town at this point especially just after the Civil War and during Reconstruction.] Early county records show that Rylee's son John petitioned the Commissioner's Court to grant him a license to run a ferry across the Brazos at what was then called "Rylee Crossing".

Prior to 1878 when a bridge was built, travelers had to cross the Brazos River directly by horse or wagon along the shallower parts of the river—which were impassable during a flood—or they had to take a ferry across.

Now, I was rather confused why John suddenly thought he needed a license if he had already been providing ferry services! But, I found another source stating that Y.J. divided his land, for unknown reasons, with the part having the ferry and cabin going to John. Perhaps that is what necessitated the need for a permit as Granbury grew and became more organized.

The pamphlet stated that the court established the rates:

Man, two horses, and a wagon	75¢
Man, yoke oxen, and a wagon	75¢
Man, four horses, or oxen, and wagon	\$1.00
Man and one horse	25¢
Footman	15¢

In 1878, the first bridge, a metal truss bridge, was built across the river a little further west of the ferry crossing—the only other bridge besides the famous bridge in Waco. Rylee apparently moved the cabin to higher ground after the bridge was built. (Maybe because of frequent floods?) Over time the land with the cabin was passed down and changed hands several times, and included additions to the cabin—which have since been removed—for use as a house. Fast forward to 1968, John and Mary Jo Hill inherited the property with the cabin. It is with this ownership that the next phase of ownership occurred.

Google Earth, 1995



HISTORIC GRANBURY

Historical Significance Of The Cabin

In 2018, John and Mary Jo Hill sold the land to the Brazos Crossing development, excluding a 0.139 acre piece of land with the cabin located along Hill Boulevard. The Hills donated the cabin and land to the city of Granbury to be made into a small park. According to the minutes of the Granbury Planning And Zoning Commission on February 26 of 2018, the final ruling was the cabin only would be granted a Historic Preservation Overlay only because “the cabin does not sit on its original site”, meaning that it is not in its original location as it had been moved, making it a local historic landmark, although an exclave to the rest of the historic overlay.

The cabin is Historic Landmark #33 called Ferry Master’s Cabin located on 721 Hill Boulevard. (Although the exact number seems to vary among sources.) The Granbury City Council approved the Landmark Designation (structure only) on March 6, 2018.

I found a pamphlet online, the “source” I mentioned at the beginning, providing more detailed information about the ferry and the cabin’s use.

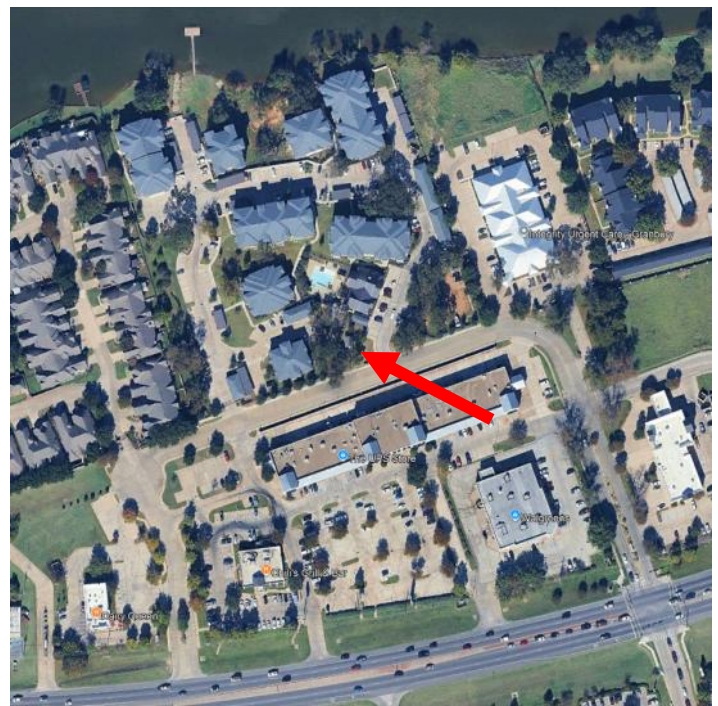
John Rylee was the river boat captain and used the cabin as the ferry master’s office, which was originally located at the bank of the river (currently under Lake Granbury). There was another ferry crossing at Stockton Bend but it was not used as frequently as the one nearer town. The land along that section of the river belonged to Y.J. Rylee and was later divided. John Rylee was given the part which the ferry office was on. [Y.J. Rylee died in 1876.]

This building has been relocated at least twice in its history. First, when the Brazos River was dammed to create Lake Granbury [between 1966 and 1969], and second during the construction of the Avalon on the Lake Apartment complex on Crawford Court [next door to Brazos Crossing circa min 2000s]. The original location was next to the river, which is currently inundated by Lake Granbury.

To be honest, I cannot imagine the process needed to move a log cabin once, let alone several times, and keep it intact! I’m sure there had to be changes or modifications over the last 150 years from the very first build of the cabin.



Google Earth, 2002



Google Earth, 2024

SPEAKEASY IN GLEN ROSE

I have covered this building before. This is the once gas station and speakeasy in Glen Rose, Texas. I first visited this building in July 31, 2021 and again on November 26, 2021. I have not been back to the building since 2021. Previously when I last visited, the building was overgrown with trees and brush. But with my visit on March 23 in 2025, the trees were cleared out, the grass mowed, and the brush totally removed! I do recall seeing a sign in the past that it was for sale, and I guess it was sold. I did a search online and discovered a video posted in July 2025 about the person who bought the property. His name is Austin Bewley and he bought the property with the intent to restore the building. According to the video, he is planning to get the property listed on the Texas and the national historic register.

The original name for the building was Sycamore Grove, and it has come to be known as “Outlaw Station”.



The Ed Young gas station “speakeasy” as photographed by RG on March 23, 2025.



This is the for sale sign on the property when I visited it on November 26, 2021



Take a look at my Broadsheet about my visit in July 2021.

LEARN MORE

- Brent Hull video about “Outlaw Station” in Glen Rose, Texas - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v145FbUpgzU>



Texas Outlaw Station Still Standing!

SPEAKEASY IN GLEN ROSE

The photos on these pages are screenshots from the YouTube video showing original photos of the building.



SPEAKEASY IN GLEN ROSE



The original building for Young's Service Station was a wood framed structure, likely the one shown in this photo, before building the one that exists now in its abandoned state.

MORE SPRING WILDFLOWERS

In the last regular issue, I focused on the bluebonnets. However, there were many other wildflowers after them from late March to May! Here is a sampling of the ones I saw in April.



Gaillardia, Indian Blanket Flower



Desert Marigold



Evening Primrose



Purple Paintbrush



Coreopsis

MORE SPRING WILDFLOWERS



Indian Paintbrush



Winecups



Red Poppy



False Garlic



Magnolia flowers (not a wildflower)



Prairie Verbena

MORE SPRING WILDFLOWERS



Culver's Root



Clasping Milkweed



Field of wildflowers and wild grasses with barbed wire fence near the highway

EARLY SUMMER WILDFLOWERS

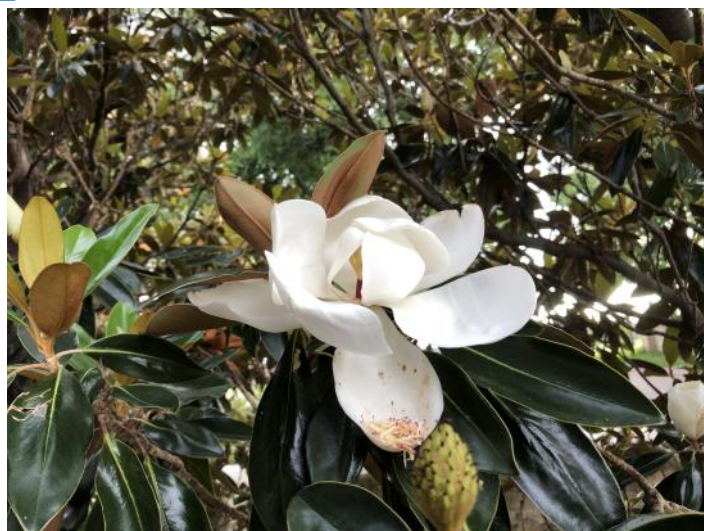
I saw the very last blooms of bluebonnets flowering on May 31, 2025! These blooms lasted for about another week before they were mowed. (I did not get any photos of them later.) These were the ones near a mailbox in group #2 of bluebonnets as shown in the last issue. This was two months later from that other photo!



Texas Bluebonnet



Indian Paintbrush



Magnolia flowers



EARLY SUMMER WILDFLOWERS



Texas Thistle



Mexican Hat (not fully open)



Pink morning glory



*Prairie
Verbena*



*Texas
Aster*



Vitex (and honeybee)



GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB

Working an Event at the Green Tree Country Club

Last year in July 2024, I worked an event at the Green Tree Country Club in Midland, Texas. This was another event with the company I worked for. It was a several day event golf tournament. It was an easy event to work and was sort of like a mini vacation as the work I had to do for the event was minimal. Our company worked another Green Tree golf tournament again in September 2024, but I was not available to work that event. Fast forward to May 2025, Green Tree had another golf tournament. (They

have two tournaments a year, by the way.) I was available to work the event again. Much of it was like the previous time, other than a few minor differences to be expected.

On Wednesday, May 14, we left around Noon from the shop in Granbury and headed to Midland. I was in my car, while our other guy was driving the truck with the screen. We made our way to I-20 from Granbury, then basically took I-20 straight to Midland, a drive of about four hours. We stopped

about halfway in Abilene for lunch at a Mexican restaurant called Mexico Viejo Bar & Grill. The only other stop we made was in Stanton for gas. The traffic was really heavy between Big Spring and Midland, especially with all of the big trucks and oil field traffic. Less than an hour later, we arrived at the country club.

Once there, we got the screen in place and set up for it to be ready for the next day. We then shut it down for the night and made our way to the hotel. I would

work the event by myself, while the other guy would continue on to another city for something else. I stayed at the same hotel as last year, a Hampton Inn. I decided to skip getting dinner since lunch was pretty filling, and I knew that I would be eating pretty well at the country club over the next few days. I also needed to get to sleep rather early because of needing to get to the country club early in the mornings (before sunrise) each of the days. So then, I got settled in the room and soon went to sleep.



Tarzan & Jane is a local series of travel centers near Midland for gas and food. We stopped at the one in Stanton on the way to Midland.



Across the street from T&J on an empty lot was this unusual sculpture of a revolver that had only been there apparently for a few months.

GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB

Thursday, May 15, 2025

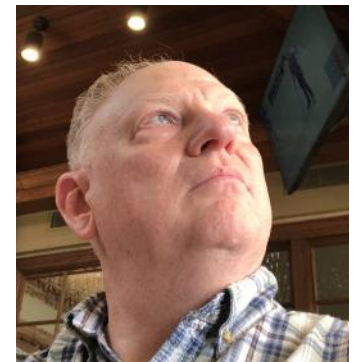
By the next morning, Thursday, I was really tired only because the beds were way too soft, and I did not sleep well on them. I got to the country club when I needed to and got the screen set up and going. I then had breakfast there of a custom omelette with some other items. After a while, I left and went back to the hotel to explain the sleeping issue, and they worked out a different room for me. I ended up getting a king bed suite that had a couch, desk, and kitchenette type of thing, a large room. It was definitely an upgrade from the two queen bed room I had. So, I moved my stuff to the new room and left again to do a few errands, including getting a haircut.

To note about the haircut. I went to Locker Room in Midland, like last year, and my barber lady did a great job! She took the time to look at my hair, and even got an opinion from another lady there, to determine how best to cut it. I left it a little bit longer on the top than I usually would to try something different, but kept the sides and the back shorter as I usually do. Haircuts there also include a wash. I thought it turned out really good.

I went back to the country club and had a light lunch. I stayed at the country club and spent the rest of the afternoon working on my computer. By the early evening, I left to go back to the hotel as there was no scheduled meal nor activities that



Before haircut



After haircut



Directional rock to the courses. Also Clock tower.



Breakfast of a custom omelette, potatoes, fruit, biscuit.

evening but they still wanted the screen up until about 9:00 PM. After getting to the room, I went to sleep for about an hour before leaving again to have a moderate dinner at Rosa's Café before going back to the country club. While there, the skies showed a fantastic sunset! Once done, I went back to the hotel for a little while before going to sleep.



GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB



The beautiful sunset on May 15 in Midland at about 8:45 PM.

Friday, May 16, 2025

Friday and Saturday are the main tournament days and the days with the longest hours. Once I got the screen up and running, a crew was setting up a low platform stage a short distance in front of the screen. Apparently, the stage was going to be part of Hawai'ian luau in the evening. More on that later. I went and had breakfast of another omelette, nearly identical to the one I had yesterday, along with some hashbrowns, a biscuit, some

cantaloupe and honeydew, and a couple of donut holes. Since the morning was nice, I wanted to get some nice photos of myself with the haircut. After a while, I got my computer and worked on various things on my computer. For lunch, they had Mexican food, but I focused on the meats and a salad. I worked on the computer for most of the rest the afternoon along with checking the screen every couple hours.



One sign for Green Tree at night.

By the early evening, the country club people were getting things ready for the luau. Since it was supposed to be a Hawai'ian night, I decided to create a simple slideshow of

several Hawai'ian island graphics. This was because on the stage would be hula dancers and guys spinning fire sticks. There was also a DJ set up a little ways to the side of the stage.

GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB

The evening activities included some golf games like a putting contest and a glass break. As we got closer to dinner, I went and got some dinner, some Hawai'ian food, but only a little bit as I was still rather full from

lunch. But I had the Hawai'ian macaroni salad and some huli huli chicken. It was not much later when the performance started with some hula girls dancing to several songs along with a guy spinning fire sticks.

(I'm sure there is a name for it, but I don't know what it is called.) The tropical backgrounds worked out really well for the performance that went on for about 30 minutes. The evening activities continued until rather

late. By 11:15 PM, I shut down everything, and I was fully drained of energy, almost hurting from all of the walking I did! I went back to the hotel for the night completely exhausted and soon went to bed.



Saturday, May 17, 2025

I got to the country club a little later this morning and got the screen set up as usual. I had to spend some time fixing a problem with the screen that started the night before, and by the time I went to get breakfast, they were tearing down the breakfast buffet. So I decided to wait for lunch and for a little while sat on the couch in lobby. While sitting there, a weird thing happened. The lights suddenly flickered on



and off then back on which apparently triggered a fire alarm. This went on for a few minutes, and it was really weird. At one point, the entire place went dark but then the lights came back on.

Very strange. It might have been a power surge or something, but there was no fire. I went to the covered porch area just to chill for a while.

After the lunch buffet was ready, I went and

had lunch. As usual, they had quite the spread of food. After lunch, I worked on the computer for a few hours back out on the patio. Sometime in the middle of the afternoon, I took a break from the

GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB

computer to take photos of Bluecat out on the grounds. (Look elsewhere in this journal for the Travels of Chatbleu!) Since this was the last day of the tournament, the awards ceremony and a fancy dinner was in the evening. They were getting the main dining hall ready for the

awards ceremony and live music afterwards. Dinner was fancy and included carved meats and various seafood. I had roast beef, wild rice, scalloped potatoes, and a wedge salad, along with rolls and tea. The event went on to about 11:00 PM. Then, I shut down the screen and went back to the hotel.



The yummy dinner on Saturday night.



Another beautiful sunset on Saturday night.

GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB

Sunday, May 18, 2025

I went back to the country club in the morning to help pack up the trailer and load it out. By about 11:00 AM, I left and headed to Lubbock. There was another event that I needed to help get set up. In addition, I wanted to get to my storage unit and take care of a few other miscellaneous things, since I had not

been in Lubbock since I left in February.

Before leaving Midland, I stopped at Black Rifle Coffee Company for some coffee and to buy some coffee for the shop. (I'm the only one who drinks it.) I also stopped to get some photos of the entrance of a place called The Tailgate, an outdoor

event center, that had some cool pumpjacks for the entrance. Also on the way to Lubbock, I got a few other photos of pumpjacks. I got to Lubbock around 3:00 PM and was really hungry since I had not eaten anything but the coffee. I went to Cracker Barrel to get their campfire meal. It has been at least five

years since they had them! I got the beef campfire meal, which was really good! I met up later with another guy at the shop to get a trailer ready for another event. I then went over to Braum's for a yogurt cone, something I did on a regular basis in Lubbock. I stayed the night in Lubbock at a hotel.

Entrance to The Tailgate, an outdoor event center in Midland.



I tried really hard to get a photo where the pumpjacks all lined up!



GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB

Monday, May 19, 2025

By mid morning, we took the screen to the event location and got it partly set up. I had a couple of other work related things to do before having the rest of the afternoon to do whatever. Since it was lunch time, I went over to La Madeleine and got my usual favorites. One of the main things I knew I wanted to do while in Lubbock was to go to my storage unit to

get a few things. I got there a little after 6:00 PM and after almost two hours later, I found a few of the things I wanted, loaded up the car, and put things back into the storage unit. From there, I had a hankering for a burger from the place where I worked before moving, Steak Express. After that, I went and got a yogurt cone from Braum's.



This was the beef campfire meal from Cracker Barrel.

la Madeleine
FRENCH BAKERY & CAFÉ

La Madeleine



Texas Steak Express



Braum's



Cracker Barrel



This is still pretty much what the storage unit looked like after loading it up in early February. These photos were taken on May 19, 2025.



This is after I claimed a few things.

GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

In the morning, I had to go back to the event venue, which was the Civic Center, to take care of a few work things. On the other end of that property, I came across some metal sculptures. They were now in their permanent spot, but they were

previously scattered in different highway locations around Lubbock over the last few years. They are four steel fabricated sculptures painted in a single color by B.C. Gilbert of Wichita Falls, Texas. Collectively, they are called Friendly

Cowboy Western String Band, which was dedicated on Friday, October 4, 2024. The blue cowboy is the main singer, the red cowboy is the upright bass player, the pink cowboy is the guitar player, and the yellow cowboy is the fiddle player. They

were constructed in 2021 and 2022.

By the middle of the afternoon, I was on my way back to Granbury, and I basically went straight home, except for a stop for gas and dinner.



Installation of four sculptures called Friendly Cowboy Western String Band by B.C. Gilbert of Wichita Falls.



Nearby is this mural on the side of the Grey Edges Studio & Art Gallery building on Mac Davis Lane. It was painted by Kelly Reyna and Sophia Villalobos of Lubbock and features Frida Kahlo. The background was originally a cobalt blue but was apparently changed to red.

GREEN TREE COUNTRY CLUB

Various Flowers Around Green Tree Country Club

During the several days I was at the Green Tree Country Club event, I saw various plants and

flowers. Here are a few of the ones I got photos of that I found interesting.



Horsetail (a variety of Rush)



Red Texas Yucca and Yellow Texas Yucca (I have also seen these in pink and orange hues.)



Century plant amidst Mexican Feathergrass



I think this is called Ice Plant with orange flowers



Trailing Ice Plant with fuchsia flowers



VARIOUS CRITTERS



Ladybug



Family of five Canada geese



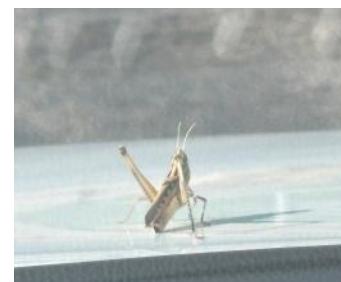
A toad that came by my trailer for a visit.



I think this was the same toad that came by my trailer a few days later.



Another toad I saw somewhere else.



Grasshopper on my car. The wind blew it off when I went fast enough!



Nice pattern on this moth that was apparently dead.



These birds were near the post office in Granbury. Vultures?



I don't see blue jays very often.



Roadrunner I saw in my RV park.

VARIOUS CRITTERS



Canada geese and fish love when people feed them tortilla chips at a restaurant called Stumpy's.



You can barely see the hoards of giant fish in the water waiting for snacks! (Catfish, I think?)



Some mallards huddled together at night on Lake Granbury in early June.



A stork or a crane I barely saw as it blended in with the night on Lake Granbury!



Bunny found in Granbury, Texas.

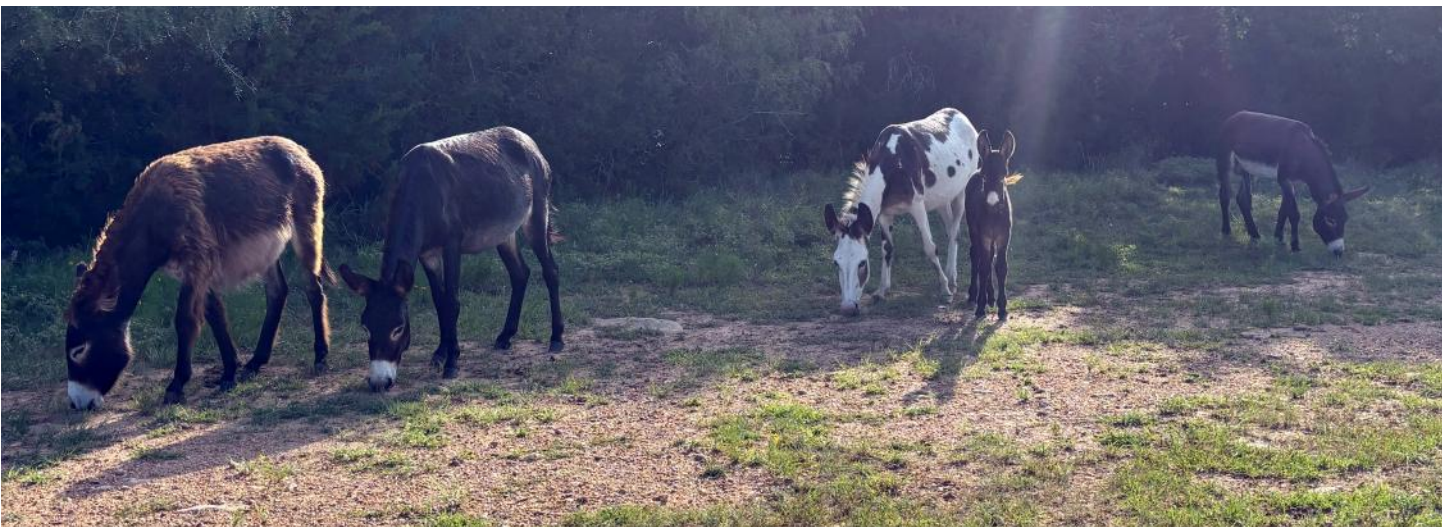


Bunny found in Leadville, Colorado.

VARIOUS CRITTERS



On the way to Benbrook, near Fort Worth, I saw this pasture of horses, part of the Benbrook Stables.



On the way to the shop where I work, I occasionally see these donkeys. There are also some longhorns there. I think this is part of some ranch as the area is quite large and still green with trees, brush, etc.



I heard this cicada, then I found it!



First live horny toad I've seen in many years!

MORE FLAMINGOS!

Over the summer, I put out a special issue for Pink Flamingo Day, celebrated on June 23, 2025.



As I go around to different places, I see flamingos in some of the strangest places! Here are a few.



MON ANNIVERSAIRE

This year in 2025, I turned 53. My birthday was low key, but it was nice and pleasant. On my actual birthday, I went to work in my usual manner, but I first went over to Starbucks to get my free coffee. I got a mocha Frappuccino, which is my favorite drink there.

My boss said he would take me to dinner, so after a while, I had a light lunch so that I would not be too hungry by dinner, but also not too full from lunch. I decided to go to McAllister's Deli because it also happened to be their free iced tea day, something they do every year. I also had a free birthday dessert, and I got a cookie.

Around dinner time, me, my boss, and a couple of other people went together to Glen Rose, a town less than 30 minutes south of Granbury. We left about 6:30 PM. They took me to a Mexican restaurant that they had been to before called Mama Mia Mexican Cuisine, El Verdadero Sabor De México.

I got a chimichanga that came with refried beans and rice, and we had chips, salsa, and a meat queso, along with iced tea. I had ordered a chicken chimichanga, but it got mixed up with another guy's chimichanga, which ended up being beef. It was all good. I ended up taking some of it home because I did not want to be stuffed as it was a lot of food and a lot of carbs!

We went back to Granbury and we eventually went and did our own things. Since I did not have a birthday cake proper, I wanted to get some cake. So I went over to HEB and got some mini cupcakes. It was a nice evening with no particular fanfare. (Which I was glad.)

Very often, the day after my birthday is a little sad or ho hum after the buildup to a birthday. But this year, I did not feel that way fortunately.

In the days before and in the days after my birthday, I planned out and took advantage of my birthday freebies. The earliest ones I get are usually at the start of July through to my actual birthday. They can last anywhere from one or two days up to a

month after my birthday. About half of my offers arrived on my birthday proper. So in the following days after my birthday, I took advantage of the rest of my freebies. See the next page to learn more about my birthday freebies!



Several of us went to Glen Rose for my birthday dinner where we went to a Mexican Restaurant called Mama Mia Mexican Cuisine, El Verdadero Sabor De México.

MON ANNIVERSAIRE

Free Birthday Stuff

Many restaurants and other stores offer free birthday perks. I have been taking advantage of these birthday freebies for decades! Even as a kid, Mom would take me places that gave free birthday things, and this is in the 70s and 80s! But on my own, I've taken advantage of them for

something like 20 years or more now. Most of these modern options require using a restaurant's app or to sign up by email through their respective websites. Almost every chain restaurant, grocery store, and gas station has an app. In the process of signing up, though, you need to

provide your birthday through that process to be able to get the birthday freebies! Just signing up for an account does not automatically give you these birthday freebies without your birth date! (How are they to know without your birth date!)

Just a side note here: I have had a few people laugh at me for getting free stuff for my birthday or even generally! These same people also think that it is not worth their time or trouble to do! Their loss!

To give you some incentives to look into these options, here are the birthday offers I got for 2025. (I took advantage of most of them.)

- Baskin Robbins: free scoop of ice cream
- Big Splash Carwash: free carwash*
- Black Rifle Coffee Company: 500 points
- Chick-fil-A: free dessert
- Chipotle: free guacamole
- Cold Stone Creamery: \$5 off ice cream
- Cotton Patch Café: free dessert
- Cracker Barrel: free dessert
- Culver's: free small custard
- CVS: \$3 Extrabucks
- Dairy Queen: free item from a list (I got burger)
- Dunkin Donuts: triple points
- Dutch Brothers: free drink of choice
- Fazoli's: free dessert
- Firehouse Subs: free medium sub
- Freddy's: free mini sundae or concrete
- Hawaiian Brothers: \$10 off box plate lunch
- HteaO: free gallon of tea
- Jason's Deli: free dessert
- Jersey Mike's: 72 points (gets a medium sub)
- Jimmy Johns: free sandwich or wrap of choice
- Kum & Go: free pastry
- La Madeleine: free pastry
- Long John Silvers: free 10 count hushpuppies
- McAlister's Deli: free cookie

- Outback Steakhouse: free dessert
- Pak-a-Sak: 100 points
- Panda Express: free item from a list
- Pizza Hut: free breadsticks or cinnamon sticks
- Publix: Free ice cream or bar cake
- RaceTrac: free small Swirl World (frozen yogurt)
- Raising Cane's: free drink
- Rosa's Café: BOGO dinner
- Rudy's BBQ: free sandwich
- Slim Chicken's: free jar dessert
- Sonic: free shake
- Spring Creek BBQ: free cobbler and ice cream
- Starbucks: Free drink of choice (on birthday)
- Subway: free cookie
- Texas Roadhouse: free appetizer or sidekick
- United Supermarkets: \$5 off a bakery item
- Whataburger: free item from a list

**Some carwashes will give a free carwash on your birthday. Just check with them.*

Also note that some of these offers might require a minimum dollar purchase or purchase of another item to get the free birthday item.

In the past, there were other places that had birthday offers that might not have them anymore or that might have brought them back. (A lot of those decisions are economy driven.)

YOUTUBELAND



I was watching one day of a Mr. Terry History reaction video covering a PragerU topic video when a familiar name came up! (His is first and last name.)



I was watching another YouTube channel by Chris Attrell, who lives in southern Canada. He travels around southern provinces and various US states looking for ghost towns. This video about the Texas panhandle included a building I have shown before!



Mr. Terry History created a Jeopardy style history showdown with popular history channels.



The Townsends channel does weekly live streams and people can post questions or make comments.

TRAVELS OF CHATBLEU



Green Tree clock tower



Directional rock



Too hot for the fire pit



Golfers running around



Driving range



Putting green

TRAVELS OF CHATBLEU



Seven pumpjacks north of Midland



Fuchsia ice plant flowers



Love some Chick-fil-A! (in Big Spring)



In Granbury



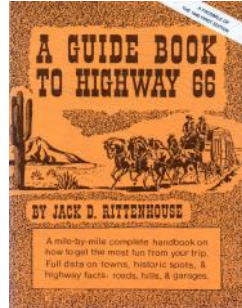
No one else here but us flamingos!

FINAL THOUGHT

100 Years Of Route 66

U.S. Highway 66 was an original highway in the United States Numbered Highway System. Highway 66 was established on November 11, 1926. Next year, the road will celebrate 100 years since its founding. Realize though that it was a few more years before the road itself was fully done! I'll cover more about the centennial next year.

Since I covered the Outlaw Station in this issue, I thought I'd give a little detail of terminology of the early days of automobiles. A great source for both the route and for the terminology is a book I've covered before called, *A Guide Book To Highway 66* by Jack D. Rittenhouse. From the book and other spoken terminology from the Mid Century, we get out our modern "gas station". The book also covers terminology for lodging, that today we generally call "hotel" or "motel".



Terms for "gas station"

- Gasoline station
- Service station
- Filling station
- Garage (*which might or might not have fuel*)
- Petrol station
- Motorway facilities

How many of these terms do you know and have used yourself? Any others I missed?

Terms for "motel"

- Auto camp
- Auto court
- Cabin
- Cabin camp
- Cabin court
- Cottage
- Hotel
- Lodge
- Motel
- Motor court
- Motor hotel
- Motor inn
- Motor lodge
- Tourist cabin
- Tourist court



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