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<i>Finance Director</i>	Peggy Horn
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<i>Senior Development Associate</i>	Nicole Cassier

ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008

The purpose of The Heritage Society is to preserve the complete history of the community and region through preservation and restoration of historic structures, exhibition of historical artifacts, and presentation of educational programs which focus on Houston and Harris County's diverse past, and its relationship to the present and future.

1100 Bagby
Houston, Texas 77002
713-655-1912
www.heritagesociety.org

The Heritage Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

The Heritage Society (THS) offers a wide variety of educational programming ranging from children's school tours to its lunchtime Hill/Finger Lecture Series. The Heritage Society's educational offerings are driven by the principal that through learning of our shared past, the community can build a shared future. The Heritage Society's unique setting in Sam Houston Park offers visitors a hands-on experience where history comes alive to impart its story.

Docent Guided Historic Structure and Museum Tours – Led by well-trained volunteers and staff members, the number of tour and museum visitors in 2007/2008 totaled 14,082, a 33% increase over the prior year. In addition to local and regional visitors, The Heritage Society conducted tours for convention attendees, international students, consular groups, and tourists from Australia, England, Canada, Mexico, Germany, Colombia, Spain, Ireland, Taiwan, Japan, The Netherlands, Scotland, Norway, Bosnia, Poland, Russia, Serbia, France, Korea, China, Panama, Croatia, Holland, Puerto Rico, Italy, Venezuela, South Africa and Vietnam.



John McGovern Heritage Tours for Children – Through a partnership with the John P. McGovern Foundation, free tours were provided to 1,927 students and their teachers, which is a 33% increase over the prior year. Children viewed *What In the World Is This?*, an interactive video about pioneer life in Texas. They were challenged to identify old fashioned objects such as churns, washboards, oil lamps and toys, and to understand how the objects were used in daily life. The next stop on their tour was the Duncan Store, a replica of an actual general store in Egypt, Texas, which shows a variety of late 19th century



Statements of Activities for the year ended May 31, 2008

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
REVENUE:				
Contributions	\$ 566,290	\$ 260,480		\$ 826,770
Special Events	217,803			217,803
Direct donor benefit costs	(50,011)			(50,011)
Membership dues and admissions	40,779			40,779
Investment return, net	(18,187)	(24,068)		(42,255)
Other income	34,065	7,411		41,476
Total revenue	790,739	243,823		1,034,562
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Expenditures for program purposes	579,375	(579,375)		
Expiration of time restrictions	7,450	(7,450)		
Total	1,377,564	(343,002)		1,034,562
EXPENSES:				
Program services:				
Collections and exhibits	862,449			862,449
Education programs	27,556			27,556
Total program services	890,005			890,005
Management and general	123,518			123,518
Fundraising	126,992			126,992
Total Expenses	1,140,515			1,140,515
Changes in net assets before acquisitions of collection items	237,049	(343,002)		(105,953)
Acquisition of collection items	(2,845)			(2,845)
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	234,204	(343,002)		(108,798)
Net assets, beginning year	864,656	512,453	\$ 1,092,044	2,469,153
Net assets, end year	\$ 1,098,860	\$ 169,451	\$ 1,092,044	\$ 2,360,355

FINANCES

In 2007/2008 program services expenditures totaled \$890,005 (78%), management and general expenses were \$123,518 (11%), and fundraising expenses were \$126,992 (11%). Total revenues for 2007/2008 were \$1,034,562 resulting in a change in net assets of \$108,798. The Heritage Society's endowment fund was valued at \$1,829,189 as of May 31, 2008.

Combined Statements of **Financial Position**

As of May 31, 2008, and 2007

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 321,839	\$ 63,195
Accounts receivable and other assets	34,252	31,913
Pledges receivable	96,935	315,238
Investments	1,829,189	2,024,635
Property and equipment, net	105,395	66,500
Collections	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 2,387,610	\$ 2,501,481
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 27,255	\$ 32,328
Net assets:		
Unrestricted (<i>Note 8</i>)	1,098,860	864,656
Temporarily restricted (<i>Note 9</i>)	169,451	512,453
Permanently restricted	1,092,044	1,092,044
Total net assets	2,360,355	2,469,153
TOTAL	\$ 2,387,610	\$ 2,501,481

merchandise. The Duncan Store is an interactive teaching area where students can both see and touch. The tour proceeded to Old Place, an 1823 pioneer cabin thought to be the oldest existing structure in Harris County. It is furnished to show how early settlers lived on the Texas frontier and serves as an interactive venue featuring many of the objects seen in *What In the World Is This?* The children then visited Yates House, built in 1870 by the Reverend Jack Yates, a formerly enslaved individual who settled in Houston in the late 1860s. By visiting this structure, children learned about the educational, religious and economic opportunities available to post-Civil War African Americans. The last stop on the tour was St. John Church, built in 1891 by German immigrants, where students explored the significance of immigration and rural life in Texas. Older students also visited the 1905 Staiti House, which gave them the opportunity to compare and contrast 19th century pioneer life with early 20th century lifestyles.

Cell Phone Tours – In 2007/2008, The Heritage Society launched a new programming tool – Cell Phone Audio Tours. As visitors stroll through Sam Houston Park, they can dial a number on their cell phones and listen to a brief commentary about each of the nine historic structures in the park. There is no charge for this service. Visitors to the park who choose not to participate in a docent-guided tour, who are visiting the park after tour hours, or who are visually impaired can still learn about Houston's diverse cultural history through these tours.

Traveling Trunk Shows – Fifteen traveling trunk shows introduced children to the history of Houston and Texas through presentations at public libraries, local schools, and Boy and Girl Scout day camps. The trunk shows demonstrated some of the same kinds of objects that children who visit THS would see on a tour. Costumed volunteers entertained and delighted children with stories about pioneer life, dress, and play.



Adult Community Outreach – Adult groups that are not able to visit the park experience Houston's history through The Heritage Society's adult outreach programs. During the 2007/2008 program year, more than 200 individuals enjoyed one of our traveling programs including *Steeple and Stained Glass, Sam and Margaret, 170 Years of Houston*

History and The History of Houston through Bob Bailey Studios Photographs.

Heritage Family Days – Over 370 visitors participated in four child-friendly, free of charge Heritage Family Days during 2007/2008. Family Days were coordinated thematically with exhibits in the Museum Gallery. *Sports in the Park*, held on June 10, 2007, gave children and their families the opportunity to learn about the changes that took place in sports through the 1800s and 1900s by seeing sports memorabilia in Museum Gallery and participating in a vintage 1860s baseball game. *Customs and Cultures: Houston's Hispanic Heritage*, held on September 9, 2007, offered families insight into Hispanic



culture through performances by the Ambassadors International Ballet Folklorico and Mariachi MECA. *What's That Sound?*, held on January 27, 2008, helped children and families learn about the history of sound machines and their inventors. Local collectors demonstrated vintage phonographs and radios, and

sent messages using telegraph key and Morse code. *Looking at the Past, Building for the Future*, held on May 4, 2008, enabled children to participate in crafts related to architecture and to the exhibit, *Jesse H. Jones: City Builder and Public Servant*. The Heritage Society's diverse Family Days help build audiences by featuring multi-cultural themes, cross-generational entertainment and age-specific craft activities.

Hill/Finger Noontime Lecture Series – Funded by William J. Hill and Jerry and Nanette Finger Foundation, this free lunchtime series offered interesting and educational lectures on a variety of topics. Over 420 people took advantage of Thursday noontime lectures, held on the third Thursday of each month in The Heritage Society Tea Room. Topics during 2007/2008 included: "Preserving Your History" (Harris County District Clerk, Charles Bacarisse), "Historic Houston Streets – The Stories Behind the Names" (Marks Hinton), "A Texas Legacy" (Nina Hendee), "Houston Houses Built by the Book: Sears Houses and Beyond" (Margaret Culbertson), "Milestones in Communications and Sound Recording: Artifacts and Inventors" (Dr. Robert Botto), "20th Century Technology and Recorded Music" (Art Schulze), "Edgar Lovett and the Founding of Rice" (Professor John Boles), "Jesse H. Jones" (Steven Fenberg), "Breaking Out of the Box: Conventional

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers can be found performing a variety of duties around The Heritage Society. Members of the Board of Directors tirelessly devote their time to the organization's governance and to developing policies, evaluating programming, raising funds, helping preserve and expand the collections, and planning for the future. Docents and Museum Guides go through rigorous training to learn about each historic structure's unique history and the items and subject matter presented in temporary exhibitions. Other volunteers have participated in a number of special events and projects including Candlelight Tour, Family Days, Houston Heritage Luncheon, Bayou City Arts Festival, workshops, outreach presentations, inventorying, cataloging, data entry, organizing records, marking collections items and research projects. Over 600 volunteers provided 4,394 hours of service during 2007/2008.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Heritage Society's primary partner is the Houston Parks & Recreation Department (HPARD) – without which The Heritage Society could not preserve its



houston
PARKS
& recreation
department

nine historic structures for the education and enjoyment of the public. HPARD and THS work closely together to maintain and preserve Sam Houston

Park and its historic structures, and to plan for the park's future. Another of THS' vital partnerships is with the Mayor's Office of Special Events (MOSE). Every year, the park serves as the location for hundreds of athletic events, festivals, parades, and other activities that reflect the rich cultural diversity of the Houston community. The Heritage Society works closely with MOSE to ensure that Sam Houston Park is an attractive, accessible venue for civic celebration while also safeguarding its historic character. In 2007/2008, an important result of these partnerships was the development of a master plan for Sam Houston Park that addresses security, lighting, circulation, landscaping, signage and gateways, and provides a sensible, phased schedule for implementation.



Mayor Bill White

The Heritage Society Board of Directors continued to demonstrate its commitment and dedication during 2007/2008. All of the members of the Board contributed to the Houston Heritage Luncheon, Annual Board Campaign, and Sam Houston Park Master Plan Challenge. Donations to the master plan project were matched dollar to dollar by the THS Board President William Hill.



Community support enables The Heritage Society to be a good steward of its collections. During 2007/2008, THS received donations of \$1,000 or more from Amegy Bank, Mrs. James Anderson, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. John Boatwright, Mr. and Mrs. William Bonham, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Brown, The Brown Foundation, Inc., Mr. and Mrs. John Cabaniss, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cable, Jr., Ms. Catherine Campbell-Hevrdejs, Cardinal Mechanical, Mr. and Mrs. Mario Cassier, City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance, Andrew Delaney Foundation, Devon Energy Corporation, EOG Resources, Inc., Falcon Gas Storage Company, Inc., Jerry and Nanette Finger Foundation, Gensler, Goddard Investment Group, Great Western Fossil Fuel, George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation, A Healing Touch Foundation, William J. Hill Company, Houston Antiques Dealers Association, Houston Endowment Inc., Houston Oil Producing Enterprises, Inc., Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Mrs. Joan Blaffer Johnson, Kuehnert's Auction



Friends of Sam Houston Park
1100 Bagby, Houston, Texas, 77002-2504

Gallery, Jan & J. Venn Leeds Foundation, John P. McGovern Foundation, The Robert & Janice McNair Foundation, City of Houston's Mayor's Office of Special Events, Nightingale Code Foundation, Northern Trust Bank, Port of Houston Authority, Judge Paul Pressler, Mr. Townes G. Pressler, Texas Historical Commission, Mr. and Mrs. James Tichenor, The Trammell Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tudor, Wachovia Securities, LLC, Jefferson Wells International and The Wortham Foundation, Inc.

Women Embarking upon Unconventional Paths" (Betty Chapman), "Interwoven Traditions: Africans, African-Americans and Spirituality" (Dr. Kenneth Brown), and "Historical Preservation and Historical Landmarks" (Patrick Van Pelt). During 2007/2008, The Heritage Society also began making the Hill/Finger Noontime Lectures available online. With support from Adept Word Management, Inc., lectures were transcribed and posted on THS' website.

Texas History Teachers Workshop – 2007/2008 marked the first year of The Heritage Society's "Best Little Workshop in Texas," a professional development program for teachers of Texas History. The workshop was designed to integrate aspects of Houston history into the state approved Texas History curriculum for middle school teachers. Forty-five teachers attended the workshop on Saturday, September 29, 2007. The workshop provided lesson plans, visual aids and primary resources from The Heritage Society's collections for teachers to use in their classrooms. The Heritage Society awarded six hours of professional development credit in Texas History for participation in the workshop and Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT) allowed those participants to count six hours of credit toward the TAGT Awareness Certificate. The workshop committee was comprised of veteran teachers and volunteers who planned an outstanding opportunity for area teachers.



Education Master Plan – During 2007/2008, The Heritage Society's Board Education Committee formalized an organizational Education Master Plan. Many hours of hard work went into reviewing and evaluating existing programming, identifying opportunities and challenges, and planning for the future.

Focus Groups – The Heritage Society's Education Master Plan identified the need to seek feedback about children's tours from local educators. Social Studies teachers and coordinators were invited to critique the tour program and offer suggestions for improvement. Much was learned about the needs of students and teachers. The tour program is being adapted based on this as well as on feedback from future focus groups.

COLLECTIONS

The Heritage Society's Permanent Collection includes nearly 15,000 regional items, each carefully preserved and used to tell the story of Houston and its place in Texas History. In 2007/2008, a wide array of items was accessioned into the permanent collection. Accessions of special note are:

- 1) L.E. Miller/Dissen Electrical Collection (Houston public school monthly reports, material related to the Houston Electric Company Interurban, Houston Port Commission badge of L.E. Miller with documents related to the Port of Houston) – donated by Deborah Veselka
- 2) R.E. Henrichsen Letter (detailing the effects upon Houston of the 1900 Galveston storm and a photograph of Henrichsen's store on McKinney Street) – donated by Eugene Ward
- 3) "Flag Song of Texas" Sheet Music (entered into the state-wide contest for a state song sponsored by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, published in Houston in 1903) – donated by William J. Hill
- 4) Military Companies, Camp Logan 1918 (book containing panoramic shots of Camp Logan) – from an anonymous donor
- 5) Picturesque Camp Logan (book containing panoramic shots of Camp Logan) – donated by Pat Alexander
- 6) Silk Souvenir Scarf (purchased at the camp by a recruit stationed there) – donated by Nancy Holland
- 7) Houston Drug Co. Razor – donated by William J. Hill
- 8) Fragrant Rose Coffee Can – donated by William J. Hill
- 9) Rice Hotel Keys – donated by Page Southerland Page
- 10) Haviland & Co Limoges China Dinner Set (sold at 407 Main Jno. McClelland) – donated by Frank Carrol
- 11) Walnut Fall Front Plantation Style Desk (used in the Harrisburg train station) – donated by Barry Moore
- 12) Elsie Motz Lowdon Watercolor – donated by Michael K. Brown in honor of William J. Hill.
- 13) Edison Concert Wax Cylinder Phonograph – donated by Mark Matthews
- 14) Walnut Four Poster Bed – donated by Harriet Farley



Theilen and Joanne Zumbrun. Joining The Heritage Society in presenting Candlelight Tour 2007 were A Healing Touch Foundation, William Hill Land & Cattle Co., Savage Design Group, Goddard Investment Group, The Robert and Janice McNair Foundation, Starbucks, Cardinal Mechanical, Devon Energy Corporation, Falcon Gas Storage Company, Houston Chronicle, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Phoebe and Bobby Tudor, SWCA Environmental Consultants, Zapp's Potato Chips, Jane Ellen and Ray Cable, Fiesta Mart, Inc., City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance, and the Mayor's Office of Special Events.

The Heritage Society was honored to present Leslie Keno and Leigh Keno as the featured speakers of the 2008 Houston Heritage Luncheon at The Houston Club's Texas Ballroom. The Keno brothers offered a high energy, exciting and amusing look into their lives as antique dealers. Their tales highlighted some of their discoveries of hidden



treasures complete with some amusing anecdotes about their childhood. KPRC Local 2 Anchor Rachel McNeill joined the event as Mistress of Ceremonies and Mayor Bill White praised The Heritage Society's efforts in

preserving Houston's history. *Houston Heritage Luncheon* raised more than \$115,000 for operations. The event was a wonderful success due to another dynamic duo, luncheon co-chairs Cathy C. Hevrdejs and John Jamail, Jr. Luncheon underwriters included A Healing Touch Foundation, William Hill Land & Cattle Co., Amegy Bank, Mrs. James Anderson, Jr., Cathy C. Hevrdejs, Lynne Bonham Campbell, Jefferson Wells International, John P. McGovern Foundation, Janice & Bob McNair, Evelyn & John Boatwright, Council Member Peter & Anne Brown, Betty Cabaniss, Doris Cantrell, Jane Ellen Cable, Harriet Latimer, Debra & Mario Cassier, Cy Clark, Alice Collette, EOG Resources, Inc., Falcon Gas Storage Company, Inc., Gensler, Heritage Plaza Property Services, LLC, Joan Blaffer Johnson, Kuehnert's Auction Gallery, Northern Trust, Port of Houston Authority, Camille Tichenor, Rich Walton, Janiece Longoria, Joanne Zumbrun and Sibley Kopmeier-Havlick. Additional support was provided by Dalton DeHart Photography, Doubletree Hotel Houston Downtown, The Heritage Society Quilt Committee and Jennifer de Lozier.

and Christopher Varela. Additionally, The Heritage Society Museum Gallery featured vintage holiday images of Houston from the Bob Bailey Studios Collection.

- **Jesse H. Jones: City Builder and Public Servant** (February 12, 2008 – June 1, 2008) displayed the extensive collection once owned by Jesse Jones and now held by Houston Endowment, Inc. This exhibit



included furniture and paintings along with materials about the man who was so instrumental in Houston's growth in the 20th century. Organized with the help of Houston Endowment, Inc.'s Community Affairs Officer, Steven Fenberg, the exhibit was made possible by a grant from the City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance, with additional support from Houston Endowment, Inc. Complimenting the Jesse H. Jones exhibit was the *Houston Memories* exhibit featuring images from the 1996 and 2002 calendars from the

Bob Bailey Studios Collection. The exhibit included photographs of Jesse H. Jones and some of his great architectural feats, which helped shape the Houston we know today.

FUNDRAISING

The 45th Annual Candlelight Tour, *The Sights and Sounds of the Holidays*, created a magical night for over 4,000 visitors in December, 2007. Children delighted in having their pictures taken with Santa, hearing stories, and participating in holiday craft projects with THS volunteers. Choral groups and performers serenaded visitors as they strolled along candlelit paths to tour the historic structures decorated in period holiday fashion. Candlelight Tour 2007 was more successful than ever raising over \$80,000 to fund day to day programming. *The Sights and Sounds of the Holidays* was chaired by Sally Hopper, Cathy C. Hevrdejs, Carol Tindall, Mickey Arnold, Evelyn Boatwright, Kae



In addition to the items listed above, a complete list of objects accessioned during 2007/2008 follows: a wire egg holder, wooden accordion and a metal and art glass table lamp (donated by William J. Hill); six Carnival glasses (donated by Jean Smith); a 1836 Texas Centennial commemorative plate, Houston 100th Anniversary souvenir program, Harris County Heritage Society cook book, The Merry Widow Ball Album, Colts 45 newsletter, Louis Lenoir's nurse's kit, Rook and Chessmen board games, Buck Schewitz small commemorative plates, *Houston Scene* and *Houston Panorama* games, original Heritage Society afghan and a U.S.S. Constitution framed print, which were all (given by anonymous donors); a set of three porcelain invalid cups and a Rice Hotel hand mirror (donated by Martha Lou Broussard); a wooden quilting frame (donated by Jane Ellen Cable); a child's wooden rocker (donated by Cynthia Gdula); a Cork Club menu (donated by Matt Daura); a photo album consisting of photos from various locations in Houston (donated by Dena Houston); and, an Idylwood Addition brochure (donated by Alice Collette). Additionally, numerous items were added into the Teaching and Exhibit Support collections.

Several Permanent Collection objects were de-accessioned and transferred to local repositories, making the objects more accessible to researchers. Recipients of de-accessioned items included The Heritage Society's Teaching Collection, American Legion Department of Texas, Pasadena Historical Society, Harris County Archives, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Irving Historical Society, Texas Civil War Museum and Buffalo Soldiers Museum.

During 2007/2008, as an element of The Heritage Society's American Association of Museums re-accreditation self-study, Board and staff members reviewed and revised the Collections Management and Bibliographic Access and Use policies, and Disaster Preparedness Plan. Forms used by The Heritage Society for accepting, lending, borrowing, tracking, and assessing the condition of items were also reviewed and revised as needed. Strides were made during 2007/2008 to integrate current technologies into The Heritage Society's environmental monitoring procedures. Analog monitoring equipment was replaced by digital equipment, allowing for more precise measurement of temperature and relative humidity conditions in the historic structures, Museum Gallery, storage facilities and other exhibition spaces.

Work continued to digitize historic manuscripts, photographs, drawings, maps and other documents. Long-term plans include making these one-of-a-kind fragile collection items available online for reference and education of the community.

PRESERVATION

Founded in 1899, Sam Houston Park has served as the site of one of Houston's first public schools as well as the city's first zoo. Maintained by City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Sam Houston Park remains an important present-day reminder of Houston's rich and complex history. During 2007/2008, a master plan for restoring and preserving Sam Houston Park was developed by The Heritage Society's Board Planning Committee.

The Heritage Society's Kellum-Noble House is Houston's oldest standing brick structure on its original foundation. In 2006, structural movement inconsistent with normal seasonal changes was observed and Sparks Engineering, Inc. of Round Rock, Texas was engaged to perform an analysis of the situation and make recommendations for mitigation. Two of the three phases of the project were complete during 2007/2008.



In 2007/2008, restoration work was completed on the north, east and south elevations of the 1905 Staiti House. Hull & Hull, Inc. performed restoration and repairs to the house. Deteriorating exterior siding was removed and re-milled to match the original faux masonry on the building's façade.

The construction of a wrought iron fence surrounding the north section of Sam Houston Park was completed in early 2008. The addition of the fence not only helped protect and preserve historic structures but has also provided a safer environment for visitors and volunteers.

EXHIBITIONS

The Heritage Society continued to expand its temporary exhibitions. In 2007/2008, three outstanding exhibits were available free of charge to guests. Each exhibit examined different aspects of 19th and early 20th century culture.

- **It's How You Play the Game: Professional Sports in Houston**



(June 5 – August 27, 2007) chronicled the highs and lows Houstonians experienced over the years as they supported their home teams. It featured memorabilia from Houston's professional sports teams, new and old. This exhibit was made possible by a grant from the City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance, with additional support from Stephanie Strong, Center for American History – University of Texas at Austin, Houston Metropolitan Research Center – Houston Public Library, C & D Scrap Metal, Houston Astros, Bob

Aspromonte, Keith Martin, George Scroggins, The Texas Baseball Hall of Fame, David Wilkenfeld, Giff Nielsen, Hoyle Granger, Robert Henderson, Houston Texans, Houston Aeros, John McGaughan and Bill McDonald. Complimenting the Professional Sports exhibit in the Museum Gallery was an exhibit of photographs from the Bob Bailey Studios Collection, which featured images from their 2001 Sports Calendar. This extraordinary collection of vintage photographs was donated to THS by James P. Lee and the Houston Photographic & Architectural Foundation Trust.

- **Sounds of the Past: Phonographs, Radios, and Records**

(October 2, 2007 – January 27, 2008) featured The Heritage Society's extensive collection of phonographs, records and cylinders, radios and sheet music, as well as items on loan from local collectors. This exhibit was made possible by a grant from the City of



Houston through Houston Arts Alliance, with additional support from Houston Vintage Radio Association, Post Oak Graphics, Jill Hunter