

# Texas Sacred Harp Newsletter

February - June, 2004

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## A Special Request

by Myrl Jones

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*From left: Siblings Myra Palmer, Lawson Smith, and Myrl Jones*

Last year, at the close of Jeb Owen's two-year term as President of the Smith County Sacred Harp Singing Convention, he surprised us all by requesting Lawson, Myra, and me to come to the floor and lead a song together. This was something we had never done in all of our singing experience. Jeb said he had known and sang with us most of his life. We led and directed the song on page 491, Closer Walk with God ("...I want my friends to go with me to the New Jerusalem").

We cordially invite everyone to attend the 2004 Smith County singing on March 13-14. On Saturday, we will sing in a new location: the Family Life Center of the New Harmony Baptist Church, across the road from the New Harmony Community Center. On Sunday, we will be back in the Community Center (directions on page three).

## Monthly Dallas County Singings

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- **Dallas (third Saturday of each month 1:00 – 3:00)**

Held at the First Primitive Baptist Church at 1920 Gross Road in Dallas, Texas (east Dallas). Directions: From I-30 on the east side of Dallas, take Loop 12/Buckner Blvd. Exit and go north. Continue north to the second light, and turn right onto Peavy Rd. Go to the first light, then turn right onto Gross Road. The church is on the right.

**Note: Due to a conflict with the Texas State Convention, in February we will meet on February 14 (second Saturday). In March we will meet as usual on the third Saturday (March 20).**

Contact: Bruce and Beverly Coates at 972-476-9937 or Cheryl Foreman at 972-922-5905, e-mail [cf91@yahoo.com](mailto:cf91@yahoo.com).

- **Houston (third Sunday of each month 3:00 – 5:00)**

Held at the University of Houston (entrance 16 off of Cullen Blvd.) Moores School of Music, Choral Recital Hall; Cooper and Denson books used (loaners available).

Contact: Crystal Visco at 713-910-7855, e-mail [cdvisco@yahoo.com](mailto:cdvisco@yahoo.com), web site <http://home.houston.rr.com/visco/SacredHarp.htm>

- **Austin Area (various times and locations)**

See web site <http://www.geocities.com/austinshapenote/austinsacredharp.html> for information.

## Upcoming Texas Singings

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The following singings are scheduled for February through June 2004. Maps are available online at [www.fasola.org/maps/](http://www.fasola.org/maps/), at [www.texasfasola.org](http://www.texasfasola.org), or from Cheryl Foreman (call 214-922-5905). Details, including location, directions, and contact information, are listed on pages three through five of this newsletter. Every effort has been made to present accurate information in this newsletter, but **please call the contact person** before making travel arrangements to make sure nothing has changed.

- [February 7 Baylor Singing](#)
- [February 21-22 Texas State Convention](#)
- [March 13-14 Smith County Convention](#)
- [April 3 Brazos River Singing](#)
- [April 25 Pine Grove Singing](#)
- [May 29-30 Southwest Texas Convention](#)
- [June 20 Zion Hill Singing](#)

## February 7 Baylor Singing

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- Location and Directions** **Great Hall of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary in Waco, Texas**  
The seminary is located on the Baylor campus at 1100 South 3rd Street, Waco, Texas, and is visible from Interstate 35 (look for the cross on top of the steeple for the seminary chapel).
- Other Information** The singing is from the 1991 Denson Revision; it will begin at 10:00 and end at 3:00. The Baylor School of Music will furnish lunch. Contact Donald or Diane Ross by telephone at (903) 831-7083 or by e-mail at [Dross@cableone.net](mailto:Dross@cableone.net) for additional information.

## February 21 - 22 Texas State Convention

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- Location and Directions** **College Station Conference Center in College Station, Texas**  
From Dallas take Interstate 45 south to Madisonville. From there, take US 190 west to Bryan, crossing Texas Hwy 6 Bypass in the process. In Bryan turn left, south, on Texas Hwy 6, also called Texas Ave. Turn right, west, on George Bush Drive. The Conference Center will be on the left, at 1300 George Bush Dr. The campus of Texas A&M University is just to the north of the Conference Center.
- Other Information** The singing is from the Denson book. On Saturday, the singing is from 10:00 until 3:00 and on Sunday from 9:30 until 2:30. Dinner on the grounds is provided. For more information call Jeb and Liz Owen at (979) 693-6403.
- Lodging** A block of rooms is reserved at the Best Western in College Station (1-800-267-7750). There are 15 rooms available for Friday and Saturday nights. The rate is \$69.00 and you must reserve by February 6 (be sure to ask for the State Sacred Harp Singer rate).

## March 13 - 14 Smith County Convention

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- Location (Saturday)** **Family Life Center of the New Harmony Baptist Church in New Harmony, TX**  
The church is across the street from the New Harmony Community Center (see directions below).
- Location and Directions (Sunday)** **Community Center in New Harmony, TX**  
From Tyler, take Texas Highway 64 west. Turn right on Farm-to-Market Rd #724 and drive to New Harmony. The community center is on the right. Alternatively, take Interstate 20 east from Dallas and exit at either County Rd #434 or Farm-to-Market Rd #849 to Texas Highway 110 and then west to Mt. Sylvan. In Mt. Sylvan take Farm-to-Market Rd #724 south to New Harmony.
- Other Information** The singing is from the Cooper book. On Saturday, the singing is from 9:30 until 3:00, and on Sunday from 9:30 until 2:30. Dinner on the grounds is provided. Call Myrl Jones for additional information at (903) 593-0955

## April 3 Brazos River Singing

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### **NEW LOCATION and Directions**

**Community Hall, 101 N. Chappell Hill (at the corner of Chappell Hill and Main), Brenham, Texas** (on TX Hwy 105, east of the Washington County Courthouse). The Community Hall is in a building which also houses the City of Brenham Fire Station.

From Austin: on Highway 290 W, take 290 Business (W Main St) into Brenham; W Main St. becomes W. Alamo St. Stay on W. Alamo St. as it becomes E. Alamo St. At N. Chappell Hill St. turn left; go one block and you will see the Fire Station on the left. The Community Hall is on the north side of the Fire Station, all part of the same building. The entrance is on the north side of the Community Hall.

From Houston: on 290, go north on Loop 577 (which goes by Blue Bell Creameries), turn left on E. Alamo St. E. Alamo becomes E Main St. At N. Chappell Hill St. you'll see the Fire Station; turn right on Chappell Hill St. and the entrance to parking lot is 1/2 block on the left.

From Caldwell or from Bellville: take 36 Business into downtown Brenham, and turn east on E. Alamo St and look for the Police Dept. at corner of Alamo St and Chappell Hill St. Turn north on N. Chappell Hill St and Community Hall is next to the Fire Station.

### **Other Information**

The singing is from the Cooper book; it will begin at 10:00 and end at 3:00. Lunch is Dutch treat. Contact Gaylon Powell at (512) 258-7080, e-mail [gaylon@flash.net](mailto:gaylon@flash.net).

## April 25 Pine Grove Singing

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### **Location and Directions**

**Pine Grove Church on County Road 364 near Henderson, Texas**

In Henderson, at the intersection of U.S. 79 and East Main (by the Chevrolet dealership), turn east on FM 840. Continue approximately 4 miles, then turn left on FM 2867. Continue approximately 5 miles, and then turn right on CR 364 (a historical marker sign is at the intersection). Drive one mile to the Pine Grove Church and Cemetery.

### **Other Information**

The singing is from the Cooper book; it will begin at 10:00 and end at 3:00. Dinner on the grounds is provided. The church building is 130 years old, has wonderful acoustics, and stands vacant except for this singing. The building has no electricity or air conditioning, but offers large windows to provide a breeze. For more information, call John and Emmie Morris at (903) 898-2510, e-mail [mnlmorris@msn.com](mailto:mnlmorris@msn.com), or David Rousseau at (903) 889-3344.

## May 29 - 30 Southwest Texas Convention

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### **Location and Directions**

**Bethel Primitive Baptist Church in McMahan, TX** (approximately 45 miles southeast of Austin)

From US Highway 183 just south of downtown Lockhart, take Farm-to-Market Road #20 eastbound. Drive east until Farm-to-Market Road #713. Turn right on 713. The church is on the right, just after the intersection with County Road 160, about 8 miles after leaving the highway.

### **Other Information**

The singing is from the Cooper book. On Saturday, the singing is from 9:30 until 3:00, and on Sunday from 9:30 until 2:30. Dinner on the grounds is provided. For more information call Tom Owen at (512) 398-6075 or Curtis Owen at (512) 398-2017.

### **Lodging**

Plum Creek Inn (Best Western) in Lockhart, TX, (512) 398-4911

## June 20 Zion Hill Singing

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<b>Location and Directions</b>	<b>Pine Grove Church on County Road 364 near Henderson, Texas</b> From Henderson take Farm-to-Market Road #840 southeast 10 miles towards Brachfield. Turn right onto County Road 368 at the Zion Hill Cemetery sign. Continue for approximately one mile; the church is on the left.
<b>Other Information</b>	The singing is from the Cooper book; it will begin at 10:00 and end at 3:00. Dinner on the grounds is provided. For more information, call John and Emmie Morris at (903) 898-2510, e-mail <a href="mailto:mnlmorris@msn.com">mnlmorris@msn.com</a> .

## Traveling On

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The following are upcoming out-of-state singings. **Please call the contact person** before making travel arrangements to make sure nothing has changed. For a complete schedule of annual singings across the nation, including maps and directions, go to [www.fasola.org](http://www.fasola.org).

- **Saturday before Third Sunday in March** - Hoboken Elementary School Auditorium, Church St., Hoboken GA. From US 82 eastbound, turn north on Kelly (at the flashing caution light). Cross Railroad tracks. Turn left on Chicago and enter the parking lot of the school on the right. Info: David Lee (912) 458-2493 (Cooper Revision).
- **May 1** - Shiloh Museum of Ozark History, 118 West Johnson Avenue, Springdale AR. Info: Susan Young (501) 750-8165 e-mail [syoung@springdaleark.org](mailto:syoung@springdaleark.org) (Denson Revision)
- **July 9-10** – Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View, AR – Sacred Harp singing school (taught by Hugh McGraw of Bremen, Georgia) and seven-shape note singing school (taught by Sonny Lowrance of Seguin, Texas). Info: Charley Sandage 870-591-6654, e-mail [cvs@mvtel.net](mailto:cvs@mvtel.net) .

## Web Resources

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### [www.fasola.org](http://www.fasola.org)

Information about Sacred Harp singing nationwide, including schedules, maps and directions, and links to other shape-note sites.

### [www.texasfasola.org](http://www.texasfasola.org)

Information about Sacred Harp singing in Texas, including schedules and maps to the singings.

## Questions?

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Like to subscribe? Have information to share or a suggestion for the newsletter? Contact Cheryl Foreman at (214) 922-5905 or (214) 497-9911; e-mail [cf91@yahoo.com](mailto:cf91@yahoo.com).