

33rd Annual Texas Hispanic Genealogical and Historical Society

Thursday, October 11, 2012

TOURS (2)

(1) HISTORICAL SITES AND MUSEUMS TOUR 8 A M to 5 P M

Depart the Hilton Garden Inn at 8 A M on your way to the **Palo Alto Battlefield Historical Park**. It was here that the Battle of Palo Alto took place on May 8, 1846. It was the first major conflict that soon precipitated the Mexican American War. On March 30, 2009, the site was redesignated a National Historical Park and the park was expanded to include the **Resaca de la Palma Battlefield**.

As you leave the Palo Alto Site, enjoy the scenery as you make your way to the **Museums of San Benito**. Here you will visit the **San Benito History Museum**, the **Freddy Fender Museum** (San Benito was his hometown), and the **Texas Conjunto Music Hall of Fame and Museum**.

A short ride and you'll be in **Harlingen**. Tour the **Harlingen City Cemetery** in which the first burial took place in 1909. The Historical Marker placed on the site was based on the research by Betty Murray. Part of the document which was submitted in applying for a historical marker reads: "*The legal description does not do justice to the beauty of the area. Mesquite trees and other native trees abound. The grave markers in the different sections vary as to the ethnic background of those interred. There are many large stones, beautifully crafted and some small headstones, in sections one and two which are to the right and left of the road leading from F Street. According to the early map of the cemetery these two sections included the "American Section" to E Street. And the map indicated the land east of the E Street road to D Street included the "Mexican Section."*(6) ("*American*" and "*Mexican*" are not the author's verbiage.) This was the division until April 2, 1947." In 2008, the Rio Grande Valley Hispanic Genealogical Society transcribed all the headstones of the entire cemetery.

STOP FOR LUNCH IN HARLINGEN (not included in price)

After lunch, enjoy a bus tour through **Harlingen** to view the downtown murals. The **30 murals** portray early life in Harlingen including the depiction of the theaters of yesteryear, a tile mural of the "History of Mankind and Mexico", and a mural featuring Bill Haley and the Comets (Bill Haley was a resident of Harlingen.)

Depart Harlingen on your way to the Stillman House Museum and the Brownsville Heritage Complex. Both have been renovated in the last three years and allow visitors a glimpse into the world of the Stillmans and Brownsville's past. The Stillman House exhibit rooms contain selected artifacts, maps and photographs relating to the Charles Stillman era (1835-1880s) in Brownsville/Matamoros and ranches. This also includes Juan Cortina's sword.

Depart Brownsville and arrive at the Hilton Garden Inn by 5:00 P M.

\$45.00

MARK HISTORICAL SITES AND MUSEUMS TOUR ON THE REGISTRATION FORM

(2) SUNSET DINNER CRUISE

Board the bus and depart from the Hilton Garden Inn at 5:30 P M and arrive at the Wahoo Saloon Dock. Board the *Southern Wave Catamaran* for a Sunset Dinner Cruise. You will relax on the cruise on the Laguna Madre Bay and feast on shrimp and beef or chicken fajitas. You will enjoy the amazing sunset on this 2 hour cruise. Your bus will be waiting to transport you back to the Hilton.

\$60.00

MARK SUNSET DINNER CRUISE ON THE REGISTRATION FORM