

Greater Onalaska Heritage Society



Meets on the fourth
Monday of each month
at the Onalaska City
hall complex FM 356
South at 6:30 p.m.
Visitors are welcome
to attend and learn of
our current programs
For more information
call 936-646-5000
Monday through Friday
9 a.m. til 5 p.m.



**Our Ongoing Fund Raiser
Fine Fruit Butters, Preserves,
Jams and Jellies.**

Packaged especially for the Heritage Society these pint jars make wonderful gifts as well as daily treats for your family.

Included in the selection are such unique blends as Wild Elderberry, Raspberry-Rhubarb spread, Gooseberry Jam, Fig Preserves, Strawberry-Rhubarb spread, there are Apple, Peach, Cherry butters that have only 3 grams of sugar and are ideal for diabetics. Additionally there is Honey and Sorghum for your pancakes and rolls served during that special holiday meal or at breakfast as a family treat,

Come by Onalaska City Hall and select your favorite, take a few home and send some off to friends and family as a reminder of the "country" days of yore.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(Type or Print)

NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY, ZIP

Phone - Home _____

Business _____

Cell _____

FAX _____

email address

Committee Preferences (circle your choices)

Publicity

Social Activities

Membership

Grant Writing

Fund Raising

Historical Preservation

other

Membership Fee \$25 per year

Make check payable to Greater Onalaska Heritage Society

Donations Accepted, Memorials, Tributes. All are welcome to join us in our efforts at preserving the past for the future.



**Greater
Onalaska
Heritage
Society**

**Dedicated to
preserving
our
Roots
and
History**

The Greater Onalaska Heritage Society Inc. is a non-profit corporation organized in 1991 for the purpose of historical research, acquisition, restoration and preservation of historical sites, buildings, and artifacts, accumulation of historical data and publishing of historical books and articles, and other activities associated with the history of the Greater Onalaska Area of Texas, in Polk County whose officers and directors are public spirited men and women of the Area serving without pay and contributing of their time and judgment to the end that this institution may best serve the purposes for which it is designed.

Originally the Society was given the old First Baptist Church building built in 1906. We had the building moved across Beaumont Street to its present location. As we have learned, it is quite expensive to maintain let alone restore this building. The plans for the building, now named Heritage Hall, and grounds is to be converted into a Multi-Functional Community Service Center. It seems especially important to address the needs of the citizens of the area with a way and means to focus in and on and learn of civic and cultural matters, with exposure to the arts, history, and genealogy, music and theater.

A broad purpose community service center could help encompass, aid and abet these needs with a meeting place for local organizations, and civic clubs, music study groups and recitals, little theater, museum, etc.

There are fund raisers throughout the year. We helped the Apalachicola Band of Creek Indians with a Food Fest on the grounds of Heritage Hall. In the past, some of our local talent put on a "Grand Ole Opry" for everyone's enjoyment. At the present, we have worked on a cookbook with some old recipes, participate with a float for the Easter and Christmas parades, participated in the 100th Birthday Party for the Onalaska Area, and are currently selling fireworks at New Years and the Fourth of July, along with selling wonderful jams and jellies year round at Onalaska City Hall and various events in the City.



While the building is known officially the "First Baptist Church" through its early years it served many purposes, both Baptist and Methodist Congregations used the facility until the Methodists build their own meeting place and from the photo above it is clear that it served as the early school for the children of the area.

Onalaska conducted a sesquicentennial project and was able to reproduce over thirty photographs from the 1900-1930's and place them as a collection, on the walls of our library. Many visitors have remarked that their grandparents and other relatives have told stories about life in early Onalaska.

It is with this proud heritage already in place that the Heritage Society seeks to gather active members and support to continue guarding the past in an effort to bring knowledge and pride to this and future residents. Wont you please come join us in this program?