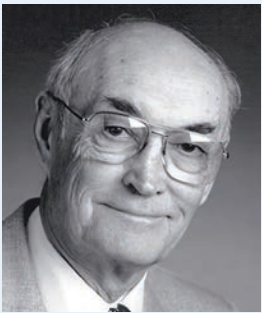


Remembering Carl Chilton



Carl S. Chilton, Jr.
May 23, 1923 - Oct. 22, 2023

The Brownsville Historical Association was saddened to hear news about the passing of Carl S. Chilton, Jr. in late October of this year. Carl Chilton was a businessman, community leader, local historian, author, and supporter of the BHA.

Chilton was born May 23, 1923, in Roswell, New Mexico. His family moved to the Rio Grande Valley the following year. They lived in Harlingen and eventually Port Isabel. Later, he went onto attend Texas A&I College in Kingsville (present day Texas A&M University–Kingsville) before his studies were placed on hold by World War II after two years in Kingsville. Chilton served in the U.S. Army Air Corps flying B-26 twin-engine bombers. The 9th Air Force Division was stationed in France flying missions over Germany from 1944 to 1945. Chilton would later publish *Memories of a Military Pilot: 1942-1945*, based on letters he wrote to his parents during his years in the military.



Carl Chilton at book signing event for "Brownsville Families book in 2012"

In late 1945, Chilton was discharged from the military and resumed his college education at The University of Texas at Austin and graduated in 1947 with a degree in accounting. He returned to Brownsville a year later and began teaching in a program for returning veterans at Brownsville Junior College (present day Texas Southmost College). Then in 1950, he passed the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination and started working with Bill Long, another CPA, eventually forming Long Chilton, LLP accounting firm in 1951. The firm grew to have offices in Brownsville, Harlingen, and McAllen. After 37 years, Chilton retired from Long Chilton in 1988.

After his retirement, Chilton dedicated more time to his writing. He authored some successful books on accounting practices as well as magazine articles on similar subjects and weekly local history articles for *The Brownsville Herald*. His first project in retirement was tracing his family tree back to 1775 and generating a family history that involved extensive research in Missouri. Following this personal project, Chilton went on to author several Brownsville history books on a variety of subjects. These included *A History of*



Brownsville Families
Carl Chilton Book Signing Event • 11/11/12





Presentation in December 2014 for Brownsville, the "First 100 Years 1848 to 1948".

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College, Brownsville First United Methodist Church: 150 Years of Service, The Port of Brownsville, 70 years of Airport History in Brownsville, Water and Power for Brownsville, The History of Gladys Porter Zoo, Historic Brownsville An Illustrated History, Brownsville Families, From Steamboats & Stagecoaches to Jet Aircraft, Fort Brown: First Border Post, Brownsville the First Hundred Years, Saint Joseph Academy 150 years: The Spirit Lives On, and Brownsville's Rivers and Resacas.

Carl Chilton's passion for history and Brownsville was evident not only in his books but also his actions. He personally delivered portions of his book sales to the BHA as well as personal items for the BHA's collections. His legacy will live on in his books, his commitment to BHA museums and our local history.

Winter Walking Tours

Cost: \$10 for BHA members and \$15 for non-members.
Sorry, no refunds. Rain or shine.

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

When: Friday, January 12, 2024
Time: 11 a.m.
Where: Meet at the Brownsville Heritage Museum
1325 E. Washington Street
RSVP by calling: (956) 541-5560

FORT BROWN

When: Saturday, January 20, 2024
Time: 11 a.m.
Where: Meet at the Brownsville Heritage Museum
1325 E. Washington Street
RSVP by calling: (956) 541-5560

ST. CHARLES DISTRICT

When: Friday, February 9, 2024
Time: 11 a.m.
Where: Meet at the Historic Brownsville Museum
641 E. Madison Street
RSVP by calling: (956) 548-1313

WEST SIDE PARKS

When: Saturday, February 17, 2024
Time: 11 a.m.
Where: Meet at the Historic Brownsville Museum
641 E. Madison Street
RSVP by calling: (956) 548-1313

OLD CITY CEMETERY

When: Saturday, March 23, 2024
Time: 11 a.m.
Where: Meet at the Historic Brownsville Museum
641 E. Madison Street
RSVP by calling: (956) 548-1313

Welcome! **NEW BHA MEMBERS**

Jesus De Leon
Raul Garza III & Noelda de los Santos
Joseph Hollmann
Jack Horner
Kathryn Keeling
Gayle King
Kelly McCarthy
Leslie Meyer
Alfonso & Tine Ortiz
Cheryl & LeRoy Paulson
Rebecca Perales

Shannon & Dante Pensa
Kathleen & Bill Real
Roberto Rivera
Andres Shane
Chris Townsend
Patricia Williams
Rocio Rodriguez, Jorge Tijerina, & Family
Lillyvet Treviño
Alice Garza & Mahandran Rajasurriar

Sponsorships help make this newsletter possible!

Please call us at (956) 372-1515, to inquire about newsletter sponsorship opportunities, or visit our website at www.brownvillehistory.org for more information.

BROWNSVILLE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

1325 E. Washington Street, Brownsville, Texas 78520
956.541.5560 Fax: 956.435.0028
www.brownvillehistory.org

Thank you to you 2023 BHA Sponsors



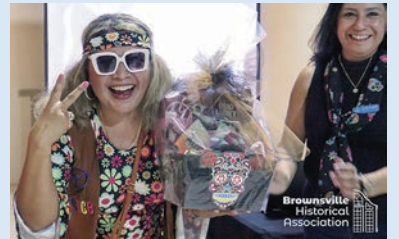
..... Historical Happenings



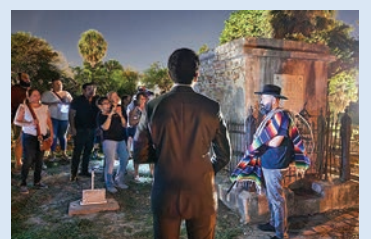
Presentation and Book Signing: *Dining with the Dead: A Feast for the Souls on Day of the Dead* by Mariana Nuño Ruiz and Ian McEnroe



Shades of Haunted History Walking Tours



Historical Happy Hour: Halloween Costume Contest



Murder, Mystery, Mayhem Tour



Exhibit Opening Reception BISD Student Exhibit: *Día De Los Muertos*



Historical Happy Hour: Wine Tasting



FIESTA Y CULTURA!

JAN. 9, 2024 - JUNE 7, 2024



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 47
Brownsville, TX

Brownsville Historical Association
1325 E. Washington Street
Brownsville, Texas 78520