

Luckenbach MOON



"People can't believe we have such a big moon for such a small town" —Hondo Crouch

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 9

Dedicated to Peter Cedarstacker

May 2012

May 4th - 6th



Sponsored by:
The Optimist Club of Fredericksburg
www.hillcountryrun.com

Saturday, May 19th



Jason Isbell & the 400 Unit

1pm - Lone Star Music Saturday
Dustin Welch • Javi Garcia

160th B-Day Celebration

for the 4th dang time May 26th - 28th

Saturday

Jamie Richards Band - 1pm /Vintage Baseball Game - 5pm

**Micky & the
Motorcars
& Jason Eady**



Sunday - The Gourds Ice Cream Social - 1pm



**Bob Schneider's
Texas Bluegrass
Massacre**

blacktopGYPSY opening

Monday

Chris Berardo & the DesBerardos - 1pm/Sol Patch 5pm

Check website or call for ticket info & details
www.luckenbachtexas.com



8pm

Friday Nite Dances

11th - Almost Patsy Cline Band

18th - Kick-A-Boot Band

25th - Rosie Flores



Inside
"THE MOON"

Cedar Creek Clippings	Page 3
Everybody's Somebody	Page 4-5
Luckenbach Store & More	Page 6
You Can't Forget Memories	Page 7
Luckenbach Upcoming Events	Page 8

April 13th – 15th, 2012



Thomas Michael Riley's

5th Annual Music Festival



Just another Sunday
By Walt Perryman

Another Sunday in Luckenbach and it was nice,
I love it, because Luckenbach is my paradise.

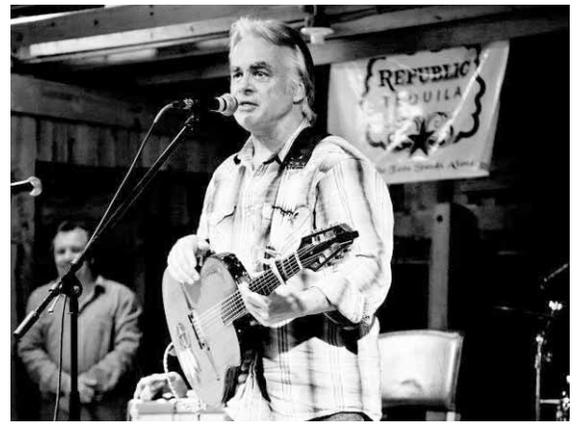
Cowboy Doug's picker circle under the live oak tree,
I cannot think of any other place I had rather be.

As they take turns in the circle singing their song,
Tourist, bikers, cowboys, dogs and chickens get along.

I came out here eleven years ago to drink a beer,
I fell in love with it and never left so I am still here.

Hondo would have called it the World's eighth wonder.
People come here from Canada and from down-under.

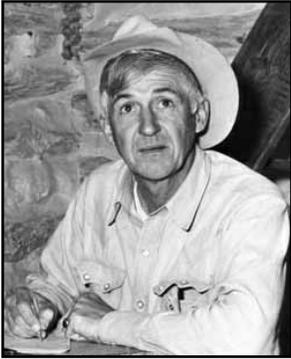
However, all of the picker circles are good, this is true,
To all of you working at Luckenbach, thank you!



Luckenbach MOON

The LUCKENBACH MOON is published monthly by Luckenbach Texas, Inc. Opinions expressed in The LUCKENBACH MOON do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the owners, directors, or staff of Luckenbach Texas, Inc. We would like to acknowledge and thank the following "Somebodies" who made this month's MOON possible:
Peter Cedarstacker aka Hondo Crouch, Becky Crouch Barrales, John Raven, C. P. Vaughn and Robbyn Dodd.

Help us keep Luckenbach legal, Please do not bring alcohol or take it off the grounds when you leave.



Note: From 1961-1973, Hondo (nom de plume, or alias, or AKA Peter Cedarstacker) wrote a social satire column for the *Comfort News*. The fictional town of Cedar Creek and all of its characters eventually became the real town of Luckenbach and all of its characters (and Luckenbach has some real characters!) The MOON reserves a special corner for Peter Cedarstacker, Writer, as a corner of wit and human insight for us today.

-Becky Crouch Barrales

CEDAR CREEK CLIPPINGS

The Cedar Creek Social Calendar is all marked up this month. No more room for celebratin'. The Band recital did it.

This is the first year to have a school band and we're all behind it. Their bugles are so loud.

We have to take kids down to the third grade to get thirteen instruments, and to me and Mama they all seem to be big bugles. The little fourth grade Spite (with the runny nose) boy next door practices at our Park Side Road and has the loudest bugle in the whole world. There are no more birds to watch at the park, bugs are under rocks and the fish in the creek have most went up stream. Those remainin' are deaf of have bad fish ears.

The recital was nice. The director wore a coat and tie. Me and Mama sat 'round and shivered with our ear muffs on, p'likin' it was cold. Bugles bug me.

Seventy-five cents was raised, I was with my tub on the refreshment comm.. (that's short for committee because it's so long) and spaghetti was served. Did you ever see spaghetti blowed thru a bugle?

The song they knew most of was "The Star Spangled Banner" but it sounded like a bugle polka. They want to learn it for to start all the girl's basketball games next year like they do on television.

The director showed us what they'd learned by lettin' 'em play, march and chew bubble gum at the same time while stayin' in step. He shouldn't have.

They blew so hard to impress us they couldn't hear the director warnin' 'em and the boy that plays that long slip horn that slides in and out his throat walked into the barbeque pit and swallowed part of it, his horn I mean. A little girl walked into a wasp nest and got wasp nest stung on her bugle finger. I thought I saw a long skinny snake comin' outa one bugle but it was hot bubble gum under pressure.

One boy walked into the giant cypress tree and chipped his big tooth. Boy did he let out a toot, and his mama fussed the bugle teacher in the coat and tie.

The rest of the kids, like following the Pied Piper marched off into the creek and the little Spite boy got bubbles in his bugle. One boy couldn't swim and lost his bugle tryin to save his life. Aren't they loud tho?

Me and Mama are savin' our ear muffs for basketball season.

Today there's the prettiest notice I ever saw in the Post Office. It Reads: "For SALE one bugle played four hours will sell or trade for white mice."-Joe Spite.

Peter Cedarstacker
Writer

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EVERYBODY'S SOMEBODY

by
Becky Crouch
Barrales

Roemer's Viewpoint, A View Re-Viewed

Like an artist would stand to view a landscape before he paints it, Ferdinand von Roemer once stood on the hills overlooking the fledgling town of Fredericksburg in 1847, taking in a distant panoramic view.

*"On the slope of the round hill where I stood lay several bleached buffalo skulls. Since the settlement of Fredericksburg had been established (1845), the buffalo had withdrawn from the region. From the summit of the hill one could see an extensive forested area and also get a glimpse of the scattered "houses" of the "city". The view to the south was obstructed by a chain of hills which form the **divide** between the Guadalupe and the Pedernales."*

That **divide** is where I live, Stieler Hill Ranch, (tallest elevation in several counties) that my German grandfather "founded" 135 years ago. A divide: when it rains, the water that falls off the south side of my roof dribbles, collects, and runs into the Guadalupe, while the water that runs off the north side of my roof runs into the Pedernales.

Roemer, known as the "Father of Texas Geology," born in Germany in 1818, came to Texas from 1845 to 1847, and wrote about his firsthand observations of the land and nature. But he was also an eye witness to the struggles and development of Fredericksburg and all the smaller farming communities around it – like Luckenbach, Grapetown and Sisterdale which came afterwards. Despite the great misery of the first two years of German immigra-

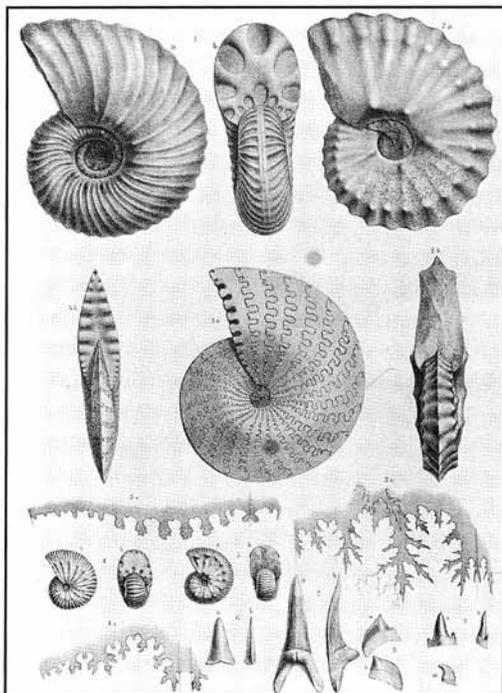
tion, 7,400 came between 1844 – 1847. The massive migration picked up steam and by 1860, 20,000 more came. We're still here today.

"Every immigrant in Fredericksburg was assigned a town lot. There were about 600 inhabitants, some in log houses, but mostly in huts, more quickly made from jamming poles in the ground and filling the cracks with clay and moss. Roofs were of dried grass. The huts disappeared into the forest. Some had linen tents. When following Main Street, one comes to the market square which appears to be large enough to accommodate a city of ten thousand but it's still covered with trees. Stumps are still left in Main Street."

I stand here now, May 2012, observing from afar, this busy and beautiful spring day in the Hill Country. Passersby are stopping their cars at Bear Creek on Highway 87 to photograph and admire the 3-acre blue pasture – a sea of solid Bluebonnets. A phenomenon after our year-long drought and 100° summer. On 87 there's a constant roar and vibration of traffic and motorcycles. Cyclers serpentine their way between Luckenbach, Grapetown and Sisterdale. Gated developments scar and dot the once "extensive forested areas". The tree stumps on Main Street have been replaced by pedestrians carrying shopping bags, tourists fighting for parking places, banners across the street advertising festivals. The Vereins Kierche landmark in the market square is now surrounded by a development that consists of statues of our famous, gardens, big covered pavilions, a May Pole, a police station and a fire station.

Like Roemer, I also take close scrutiny of nature. I recently took a two-hour ride through our pasture with my sons Sky and Kit to check the vegetation, water and trees. Too many cows and deer and heat and drought have taken its toll. After a 2-inch rain though, the pasture had on its "Sunday clothes", as Raymond Kuhlmann would say. Neighbors' axis deer have infiltrated our fences and dominate our





Fossils for Roemers
Kreidebildungen Von Texas

native white tail. We discovered many oak trees are dying from a new disease, not oak wilt or decline, but from hypoxylon cancer, which makes the tree look rusty orange with shriveled brown leaves.

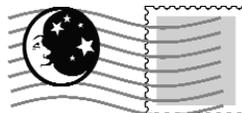
On closer view, however, the flora survives, and we saw a whole other world of forbs that deer can live on. We identified vegetation with odd names like kidney wood, bladder pod and skull cap. Milk vetch, and bastard cabbage, catchweed bedstraw, wooly bucket and horse crippler cactus, burmellia, Dakota verbena, greenbriar. Doveweed smells like camphor. Wood sorrel, possum blackhaw, linkheimer muley. We nibbled on wild garlic bulbs, onion stems, and pepper grass (tastes like a hot radish). We'll come back later for the next course: mustang grape, persimmon, agarita and wild cherry – if the birds don't get 'em first.

Our popular Hill Country is the hub of Spring Breakers, foreign traffic, tourists, and wildflower photographers. I leave you with Roemer's quote upon his departure from Texas in 1847 to return to Germany... just to remember how it once was.

"I had developed interest and love for the beautiful land of meadows which faces a bright future; and it filled my heart with sadness to be compelled to bid it farewell forever. However there remains with me agreeable and rich memories and I will always follow from the distance the further development of this country with great interest. May its wide green prairies become the home of a large and happy population."

Yes, viiting here leaves people with warm memories.

P.S. – from the book Roemer's Texas, 1845 – 1847 by Ferdinand von Roemer.



LETTERS TO THE MOON

From an Ex-Texan:

I got yer sign in an auction held during Aggie Muster and I'm keeping it. I bought it fair 'n square for two hundert but haven't used it for target practice yet - it is just so pretty. I thought about hanging it on my back house, but don't have one. I also bought it as a donation fer the Aggie alumni and penance fer insulting Willy at a gig he had for the Texas State Society on February 5, 1992. I had a bad case of foot-in-mouth that night, butt the Quervo was fine. Hope pardners can still find yer place with the sign a missing. I guess I can return it if I ever get back to the Bluebonnet Motel in Kennedy or Hotel Armstrong in Hondo or areas there about, but don't know when this will happen as that was back in 1970 when Mac and the Masonics was playing at the Dance Hall in Devine. I'm a long time gone from Midland and A&M but will buy you a tall one if'n ya get out to the DC area, that's Washington not on the Brazos.

Regards, David

Remember the Alamo - now a Virginian at Mt. Vernon

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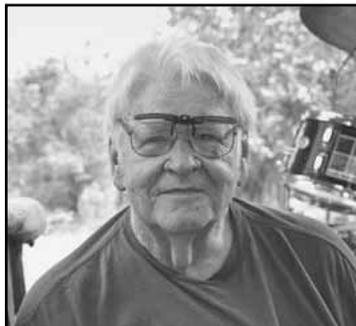
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You can't forget Memories

May 2012
Copyright John Raven



On the 24th of March past, chili came back to Luckenbach along with the Mud Daubers. The Mud Daubers are members of the wasp family that build their nests out of mud.

The Mud Daubers build their summer homes in nooks and crannies all over Luckenbach. Once they establish a home, they will keep improving it year after year.

The Mud Daubers don't care for cold weather so when the first norther blows in they all haul their little wings down to Florida for the winter. Every March, the Daubers return to L'bach just because they like it so much.

Hondo thought the Daubers welcome guest as they do eat spiders----eeeech! Spiders, scare me..So Hondo started having a party to welcome them back to Luckenbach every spring.

In 1972, Hondo and Luckenbach arranged to hold a ladies chili bust. (That's what Hondo called the Ladies Only Chili Cook-Off). The bust was a big hit. So it was held every year for over 30 years. It finally got too big for Luckenbach to hold so it moved on.

This year, Luckenbach decided to be politically correct and have a chili cooking contest for Ladies and Men. So they did.

The affair was divided into two parts. The regular cook-off was for the regular chili cooks. The "Old Time" portion was for chili like was cooked when Davy Crockett was just a kid in Tennessee. (I really don't think the division is politically correct as age discrimination is involved.. You have your "Old" timers and your "Short" timers.

I am an "Elderly" timer. By the time you read this, I will have been cooking chili for 40 years. It should be done soon.

Due to the fact that I am a revered chili head and I made threats, I was asked to be a "Celebrity Judge" for the day. No celebrities showed up so I judged what had been cooked instead.

I wandered around before judging time and observed the proceedings. (That means I watched 'em cook chili). The Old Time cooks had to have cast iron pots, real chili pots, rather than the stainless the Regular cooks use. Stainless has no flavor at all.

The Old Time gang also was forbidden to use chili powder, they had to use real, dried chiles to flavor their concoctions. The meat had to be in chunks rather than the regular hamburger.

Other than that there were no rules.

The Old Time gang mostly congregated around the Republic Tequila chuck wagon in front of the old outdoor stage.

The Regulars were out in the parking lot under the shade of their motorhome awnings.

When it was about time to judge, I hobbled over to the dance hall where the judge's benches were. The judges were elderly, some even older than me. Wow!

We seated ourselves and the guy in charge started passing the chili samples around. There were 14 samples of chili for us to investigate. I did my duty. I thought all the chilies were too salty. Just my opinion.. There were a couple or three in the line that were pretty fair chilies. I have to agree with one of the senior judges I talked to later, all the chilies tasted different from each other.

The person or persons in charge of keeping us judges happy did a good job. Cold drinks were handy and the palate cleaning snacks were very good. None of them cold tortilla strips I have spoke about.. I thought everything went very well.

Us judges were properly thanked for our work and dismissed.

The same panel of judges were the final judges for the regular chili. There were 29 samples of regular chili turned in. The first round judges weeded out the really bad samples and us final judges were presented with another 14 samples.

I am not a fan of today's competition chili. Mostly because it's made from hamburger.. Most of it tastes the same. I did do a correct job of judging. If you don't believe me, just ask the winners.... There was one sample that I would have spit out had we not been on the hallowed Luckenbach Dance Hall floor.

While the scores were being tallied by the tally wacker, I sort of wandered around. In an hour or so we all gathered back in the dance hall for announcement of the winners. There was a problem with the sound system and some things had to be repeated but all the winners got called up.. They were all happy and none of the losers offered to fight so it was a good cook-offs.



Yall mark it on your calendar to come out to L'bach next March for a bigger and better Mud Dauber Festival/Chili cook-off.

MAY CALENDAR

This schedule may change... Call or check online for info on **TICKETED** events 888-311-8990

Tue	1st	Bill Lewis-Picker Circle	5pm
Wed	2nd	Dale Mayfield-Picker Circle	5pm
Thu	3rd	Richard Vidmer-Picker Circle	5pm
Fri	4th	Hill Country Run Jimmy Lee Jones Band The Flashbacks	9am 1pm 6pm TICKET
Sat	5th	Hill Country Run Clay McClinton Cheap Sunglasses "A tribute to ZZ Top"	10am 1pm 6pm TICKET
Sun	6th	Ed Jurdi • Gordy Quist	1pm
Mon	7th	Sol Patch-Picker Circle	5pm
Tue	8th	Bill Lewis-Picker Circle	5pm
Wed	9th	Dale Mayfield-Picker Circle	5pm
Thu	10th	Richard Vidmer-Picker Circle	5pm
Fri	11th	Brigitte London Almost Patsy Cline Band - Dance	4pm 8pm
Sat	12th	Shurman Miles Zuniga • Lonnie Trevino	1pm 9pm
Sun	13th	William Clark Green • Rob Baird • Brian Keane	1pm
Mon	14th	Sol Patch-Picker Circle	5pm
Tue	15th	Bill Lewis-Picker Circle	5pm
Wed	16th	Dale Mayfield-Picker Circle	5pm
Thu	17th	Richard Vidmer-Picker Circle	5pm
Fri	18th	Brigitte London Kick-A-Boot Band - Dance	4pm 8pm
Sat	19th	Lone Star Music Saturday - Dustin Welch • Javi Garcia Jason Isbell & the 400 Unit	1pm 9pm TICKET
Sun	20th	Thomas Michael Riley	1pm
Mon	21st	Sol Patch-Picker Circle	5pm
Tue	22nd	Bill Lewis-Picker Circle	5pm
Wed	23rd	Dale Mayfield-Picker Circle	5pm
Thu	24th	Richard Vidmer-Picker Circle	5pm
Fri	25th	Brigitte London Rosie Flores - Dance	4pm 8pm
Sat	26th	160th Birthday Celebration for 4th dang time Jamie Richards Band Micky & the Motorcars • Jason Eady	1pm 9pm TICKET
Sun	27th	The Gourds Ice Cream Social Bob Schneider's Texas Bluegrass Massacre	1pm 8pm TICKET
Mon	28th	Chris Berardo & the DesBerardos Sol Patch-Picker Circle	1pm 5pm
Tue	29th	Bill Lewis-Picker Circle	5pm
Wed	30th	Dale Mayfield-Picker Circle	5pm
Thu	31st	Richard Vidmer-Picker Circle	5pm
		Monday-Friday - Jimmy Lee Jones-Picker Circle	1pm
		Most Sundays - Cowboy Doug Davis-Picker Circle	5pm

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