**President’s Comments**: Round Rock Preservation extends best wishes for the New Year to our members and contributors. Your continued support is important to Round Rock Preservation, as our 501c3 nonprofit organization works to save significant & threatened historic places throughout the City of Round Rock.

Our project for 2017 remains unchanged- to save the Round Rock-Harris Stagecoach Inn from demolition.

Shirley Marquardt, President

**Harris Stagecoach Inn Relocation Project.** The RM 620 Road Safety Project threatens the Harris Stagecoach Inn with demolition if the City of Round Rock does not relocate the inn prior to the start of the road project. The City has already issued a permit for demolition to the City’s Transportation Directorate after the request for Certificate of Appropriateness Process failed to find a new owner and funding for the relocation. The RM 620 project is expected to begin sometime during 2017.

During 2016, the City of Round Rock spent $26,000 to conduct a Round Rock Stagecoach Inn Relocation Feasibility Study. The study was finalized on December 5, 2016. The major purpose of the study was to determine costs to the City to relocate the Inn. The report will now be briefed to City Council, who at some point will decide if the relocation costs are affordable.

We received a copy of the report under the Public Records Act. There were no surprises in the report. The report found two firms; that both confirm, the Inn can safely be located to a new site. Only the original inn would be relocated and the new additions would be removed prior to the relocation.

The report evaluated two possible relocation sites. One site is the Bathing Beach Park to the south of the Sansom House facing Chisholm Trail Road. The second site is within the Commons Site to the south of the current location.

The estimated cost to relocate the Inn to the Bathing Beach Site is $758,107 and the cost to relocate the Inn within the Commons Site is $614,722. That cost includes initial work, new site preparation, stabilization, and basic rehabilitation of the Inn. The increased cost for the Bathing Beach Site is due to crossing the railroad tracks and taking the Inn over the Bridge on Chisholm Trail Road. Eliminating the Stabilization/Mothballing Stage would reduce the costs by 20%-30%.

Rehabilitating the new interior will cost $100-$200 per square foot & could include construction of partition walls and doors and restoration of the fireplaces and reconstruction of the mantels. These costs were not included in the study’s relocation costs.

The City continues to seek a new owner or a new purpose for the Inn. The small size of the original Inn could hamper finding a new owner. The study also recommends no interior restroom facilities because of the small size of the interior.

Our vision is to have the City of Round Rock use the Inn as a Chisholm Trail Crossing Interpretive/Welcome Center. The Inn would then be an education site for school children, provide history of Old Town and the Harris Stagecoach Inn. The Inn would be furnished with Chisholm Trail Era furnishings and artifacts. It would also include a “Made in Round Rock” gift shop. Possibly the members of the Baca Center would volunteer to staff the Inn along with one city employee. The timing is right, since 2017 is the 150th Anniversary of the Chisholm Trail (1867-2017).

The City informed us the Feasibility Study will not be briefed to City Council during the month of January. We will keep you informed when the report is placed on the City Council Agenda.

**Memberships.** As of January 1, 2017, Round Rock Preservation has 15 paid memberships. We need help in increasing memberships. Round Rock Preservation has IRS Contribution Deductibility meaning membership dues (less goods and services received because of a membership) are tax exempt to the full extent of the law. Invite your friends, family, and businesses to join Round Rock Preservation.

**Current Membership List:**

Roy & Cecelia Adair

John & Ramona Beasley

City of Round Rock

Phebe Davol

Kelly A. George

Kerstin Harding & Steve Sweat

Donald & Shirley Marquardt

Alex & Susan McLeod

Randy Nutt

Kim Olson Perkins

Frank & Renee Petsche

Ellen Skoviera

Clark & Milena

Karen Ruth Thompson

David & Shirley Tynan

**Donations:** While over 1,000 individuals signed the petition to ask the City of Round Rock to fund the relocation of the Inn, the publicis slow to fund the Stagecoach Inn Relocation Project.

As of January 1, 2017, 17 donors have contributed $2,073.11 for Round Rock Preservation Projects. We need help in growing contributions. Every dollar helps make the goal of relocating the Inn possible.

**Current Donor List:**

Wag.a.Bag (Nancy Rabb)

Participants of Chalk Walk

Frank & Jane Digesualdo

Dell Your Cause

Michelle Duhon

Dan Flaherty

Rebecca Harris

Kirsten Lawley

Donald & Shirley Marquardt

Frank & Renee Petsche

Dale Rickels

San Antonio Conservation Society

Lynda Smith

Jill Souter

David & Shirley Tynan

Richard Wiseman

Jennifer Wood

Information is available at our Website. [www.rrpreservation.org](http://www.rrpreservation.org). Payment of dues and donations can be made on-line or mailed to Round Rock Preservation, PO Box 369, Round Rock, TX 78680-0369. The IRS EIN is 81-2339800.

We will conduct our Annual Membership Meeting in the Spring (date to be announced). We are seeking three members, who want to serve on the Board of Directors. If you want to serve on the Board, let us know by submitting your name to us at roundrockpreservation50@yahoo.com.

**FUNDRAISERS**. Prior to conducting a major fundraiser, we need to increase the size of our membership, so we have the volunteers necessary to conduct the event. If you can volunteer to help with a fundraiser, send me an e-mail at roundrockpreservation50@yahoo.com.

**CHALK WALK**. Round Rock Preservation participated in the Round Rock Chalk Walk this year and gave information to attendees, who stopped by our art space. We are not professional artists; however, our space drew lots of attention (especially from the children). Janet Ho, a local artist, provided us a color page that we used to create our chalk design. We made copies of the page and distributed it to the children. They quickly recognized the color page was the design on the street. It was all possible due to the art work received from Janet Ho.

**Photo Album Available**. We have seven Round Rock Stagecoach Inn Photo Albums (which includes history about the Inn & its historic owners). Each album sells for $50.00 plus postage of $6.45. If interested, mail us a check with your mailing address or order on-line at our website, [www.rrpresentation.org](http://www.rrpresentation.org).

**Closing Remarks**: Our organization is in good financial standing; and we are recognized as a public charity with tax deductibility by the IRS. We have our finances stored in a local bank in a checking account & our mail delivered to the post office.

While Round Rock Preservation seemed slow at growing memberships and donations; we must remember, Round Rock Preservation was founded less than 8 months ago, & the IRS recognized our organization as a public charity only 6 months ago.

We collected sufficient membership dues during 2016 to cover start-up costs (IRS nonprofit recognition fees, State formation fees, domain fee, website fee, and post office fees). The only known operating costs during 2017 is postage and post office box rental fees (since our website and domain fees were paid for a 2-year period).

We have 100% of the donations in the bank reserved for our Round Rock Preservation Project; therefore, we are starting off 2017 with sound footing and strong hopes of growing our membership and donations.

With your continued support during 2017, it will be possible to accomplish our goal of relocating the Round Rock Stagecoach Inn.

**FACEBOOK.** Follow us on our group Facebook page: Save the Round Rock TX Stagecoach Inn.

[www.roundrockpreservation.org](http://www.roundrockpreservation.org)

roundrockpreservation50@yahoo.com