The Ethician Foundation

Texas Non-Profit Foundation #30-0736697 1401 19th Street

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REPORT TO THE BOARD

Based on a request from the "Board" for a succinct report on 2014 "Foundation" activities, I hereby present the following:

- 1. Dr. Demetrious Mantzoros donated the sum of \$60,000 to the foundation. Approximately \$30,000 has been used to construct a public boardwalk on the banks of the only extant section of Town Creek in the central business district of Huntsville. Some of the remainder of the funds will be used to connect the existing boardwalk to a city sidewalk project in progress. Funds left over from the boardwalk project will be used for development of the Ethician Museum District.
- 2. George H. and Suzanne B. Russell donated both 1218 and 1220 Sam Houston Avenue plus the section of Town Creek along with an adjacent wooded lot on Avenue M across from City Hall to the foundation. The commercial property was sold to raise funds for various foundation projects and for the remainder of the property to serve as an Urban Wildlife Sanctuary. The foundation is currently negotiating with the city to lease the "sanctuary" to the city for \$1 per year.
- 3. Engineer Jerry Garcia donated a 52 foot long steel pedestrian bridge to the foundation. The bridge is currently on a road leading to the Waterwood Sewer Plant awaiting removal to either the urban wildlife sanctuary or for a creek crossing on one of the trails throughout the foundation's wildlife sanctuaries in San Jacinto County.
- 4. George H. and Suzanne B. Russell donated nearly 800 acres of wild lands on Lake Livingston to be protected under perpetual conservation easements. The foundation is in hopes that these lands will be a part of the conservation easements held by the Bayou Land Conservancy.

- 5. George H. and Suzanne B. Russell donated 6 historic buildings on University Avenue to serve as the first museums in the Ethician Museum District. The buildings consist of: The c1844 George Washington Rogers House, The c1847 Baker? House, The c1873 Kittrell House, The 1906 Ashford Funeral Home, The 1894 Josey House, and the c1940 Smither Warehouse.
- 6. The Ethician Museum of Texas Art was opened on 22 May 2014 on the 69th birthday of George H. Russell. On December 7th the museum will be open to the public during the annual Huntsville Home's Tour and the theme will be Christmas Kitsch.
- 7. Currently, the 1847-1873 complex is being wired as a part of the current plans to have it completed by George H. Russell's 70th birthday as the Ethician Museum of Kitsch. The central heat and air will be installed as soon as the wiring is completed and the building secured.
- 8. George H. and Suzanne B. Russell donated the structures known as Pelican One and Pelican Two along with the adjacent Rain Lily Sanctuary to serve as an Ethician Foundation Conference Center and the Ethician Institute for Strategic Biospheric Studies. The properties are available for use by environmental scientists, environmental non-profit groups or organizations, art historians, guests of the foundation who indicate a desire to donate to the foundation's various arts, educational, and environmental activities, and volunteers willing to work on environmental restoration projects, trail maintenance and associated activities. The structures also serve as a central location for the foundation's annual and other board meetings.
- 9. The Estate of Kenneth Lee Russell donated 20 acres on Palmetto Creek that is a strategic inholding within the Kenneth Lee and Marjorie Haw Russell Alligator Sanctuary to the foundation. The foundation has contracted to sell the property to a mission of The Universal Ethician Church dedicated to the perpetual preservation and protection of what the church calls "God's Holy Creation".
- 10.George H. and Suzanne B. Russell are currently in the process of donating two Texas Archaeological Landmarks to the foundation totaling 177 acres on the shores of Lake Livingston. That transaction should be completed the first week of December 2014.
- 11.George H. and Suzanne B. Russell have donated all of the Texas furniture and Texas stoneware currently on display in the Bob Bullock Museum in Austin, Texas to the foundation. The museum has

- informed the foundation that the objects are being returned in the near future to make room for the French ship, The LaBelle, to be displayed. Those objects will be a part of the collection in the Ethician Museum of Texas Furniture and Stoneware currently under development.
- 12.George H. and Suzanne B. Russell have donated all of their Huntsville related furniture in the Gibbs Powell House Museum to the foundation and have asked that it be returned due to the ongoing desecration of the historic surfaces in their current location.
- 13.George H. and Suzanne B. Russell have donated all of their Texas furniture in the Farris Log Cabin and The Texas Prison Museum to the foundation. The foundation has not yet decided on the disposition of those objects as of this date.
- 14. The foundation has accepted donations of various works of Texas art, objects for the Kitsch Museum, Persian carpets and other decorative objects for use in the various museums currently open or planned.
- 15.A pipeline company has graciously loaned us a John Deere 650 Bulldozer for working on our system of trails.

AREAS OF CONCERN TO WORK ON IN 2015

- 1. Many years ago, political enemies of historic and environmental preservation in Huntsville negated the part of the International Building Code that allowed flexibility in historic structure restoration. That illegal act that was done in secret under the Jane Monday regime has resulted in harassment, intimidation, and huge cost overruns associated with dealing with city roadblocks and bureaucracy that has cost in excess of a million dollars in baseless "red-tagging" of projects, and senseless requirements having nothing to do with public welfare or safety. Hopefully, sane minds will prevail in the current modernizing of the city building codes.
- 2. Waterwood Improvement Association continues to vandalize rare native plants on properties managed by the foundation for the benefit of the public. Last year WIA destroyed over 100 orchids on Waterwood Parkway before they had a chance to produce mature seeds. This year not even one orchid has been seen on the parkway due to constant mowing in violation of an "agreement" to not damage or destroy native plants on the parkway. WIA

- Contractors have been ordered to steal the foundation's signs posted on the parkway to indicate "non-mow" areas.
- 3. Bassboat Village HOA has attempted to wrongfully adverse possess parts of the foundation's Westernmost Longleaf Pine Sanctuary and has commenced a program of staging parked vehicles in the foundation's Fire Lane, burned Sabal Palms, destroyed Cypress Knees, and damaged other native plants. They have stolen signs, destroyed property boundary markers and committed other illegal acts.
- 4. Security cameras have been installed in the Rogers, Ashford, and Josey properties. A camera system has been purchased for the Kitsch Museum property and will be installed upon completion of the wiring.

WISH LIST FOR 2015

- 1. Anthony Properties owns 500 acres on the opposite side of Palmetto Creek from our wildlife sanctuaries. If we could acquire this property then the foundation would control both sides of the creek from FM 980 to Lake Livingston. This would provide amazing canoeing and kayaking opportunities while preserving an important native gene pool. We hope to be able to acquire this property for between \$1.5 and \$2 million dollars and are in hopes that a benefactor will be forthcoming.
- 2. Completion of THE ETHICIAN MUSEUM DISTRICT will cost an estimated \$750,000 so donors interested in The Arts will be needed to complete this project.
- 3. The foundation will need to work on establishing an endowment fund and expertise in obtaining grants and substantial gifts in order to carry out the missions of the foundation.

George H. Russell President

This document will be posted at www.ethicianfoundation.org.