

Horseshoe Bay history book will be ready for July 4

By Lew K. Cohn Managing Editor The Highlander on Friday, June 18, 2021



Jim Jorden, left, and Linda Lambert received framed certificates of appreciation from the city for spearheading a history book project which chronicles 50 years of Horseshoe Bay.

The 50-year history of the city of Horseshoe Bay is the subject of a new book that will be available for sale at the annual Horseshoe Bay Property Owners Association Fourth of July celebration.

Linda Lambert and Jim Jorden, the editors of “The Story of Horseshoe Bay, Texas — 1971-2021,” appeared before the Horseshoe Bay City Council at Tuesday’s regular meeting to discuss progress on the book and to be honored for their work.

The book chronicles the past five decades of growth and development along the site of the former Coke Ranch on Lake LBJ, where cousins Norman and Wayne Hurd began building the worldclass Horseshoe Bay Resort in 1971 and how the Lake LBJ Municipal Utility District grew into what is the City of Horseshoe Bay today.

In fact, the subtitle of the book is “How the vision of two cousins transformed Hill Country ranch land into a lifestyle community free from suburban complexities and how the commitment of an engaged citizenry sustained that vision for fifty years.”

In fact, it was Eileen Hurd, Wayne’s widow, who, after seeing a similar book published about Lakeway, suggested to Jorden the book be written with the approaching golden anniversary of the resort.

“This project began in June 2019 when Eileen Hurd saw a need to celebrate Horseshoe Bay’s 50-year history and to update past publications and Eileen recruited Jim Jorden as administrative coordinator for the book in 2019,” said Lambert, whose husband Bob was the city’s first mayor, serving eight years from 2005 to 2013.

Joining Jorden and Lambert as authors were members of the Horseshoe Bay History Group, who contributed various chapters for the book. They include Vicki Adcock, Jean Anderson, Caroline Bates, Janice Cleavinger, Mike Brittain, Cynthia Clinesmith, Mary Daniel, Julie Farmer, Michelle Herring, Eileen Hurd, Steve Jordan, Jeff Koska, Tom Kundinger, Bob Lambert, Jodi Lehman, Maris Lynne Long, Mike Maine, Ron Lynn Mitchell, Ruth Newman, Alice Pawelek, Jerry Pawelek, David Pope, Louraine Robertson, Cleo Tapp, Don Wood and Ann Wright.

Photographs came from Adcock, Andrea Davis, Herring, Linda Lambert, Diana M.Lott Photography and Eric Siegmund. Helping Jordan and Lambert edit the book was Long, who passed away earlier this year.

“We are incredibly grateful for the willingness of so many residents who helped with this project. This book would not have happened without their enthusiastic cooperation,” Linda Lambert said.

Jorden said 1,000 copies of the book were ordered Tuesday morning and it will be printed in an “8 ½ by 11 format,” similar to a book Jorden wrote on the history of the Fuchs House in Horseshoe Bay.

“The book has 216 pages, 150 color photos and 28 authors,” Jorden said. “In addition to that, Linda conducted 17 interviews with people who have lived here since 1970 and there are 17 stories written by people who moved here in the 1980s or 1990s. If I could pick one word to describe this book, it would be ‘comprehensive.’”

“It is on order and expected to arrive in my garage on July 1. The books will be available at Quail Point Lodge at the Fourth of July celebration.”

Clinesmith said the city will have a link on the website about how to purchase the book once it is ready for sale. The Horseshoe Bay City Council lent a hand in getting the book published by investing \$6,000 in city funds to underwrite the cost of printing the first 500 copies of the book.

Clinesmith thanked Lambert, Jorden and “the whole committee for doing this and putting the energy into it.”

“All six of my grandkids have spent every summer of their lives for the past 20 years. As they start moving into adulthood, this is a memory moment for them. It may not mean as much to them at age 19, but the day will come they will be glad they had this, because they were a part of that history,” Clinesmith said.

“If someone hadn’t captured that and told that for them, then it wouldn’t be there. It is a good story, even for me, having lived here half of the 50 years the community has been in existence, and I have learned so much just from what I have read.”

Framed certificates were presented by Clinesmith to Lambert and Jorden in appreciation of their work in spearheading the project.