

October 22, 2012

Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-426-9622
F: 817-426-9390
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

If you want to brush up on your local history, the Burleson Public Library and the Burleson Heritage Foundation (BHF) have what you need.

For the last 10 months, the library and the BHF – via the Burleson Visitors Center – have been selling special edition bookmarks featuring the City’s mayors. The final mayor’s bookmark, which profiles Mayor Byron Black and current Mayor Ken Shetter, is available now for a \$1 donation. You can also buy the entire package – 10 mayor bookmarks – for \$10 at the Burleson Visitors Center but there is a limited supply of the packaged bookmarks. The library and BHF will also produce Centennial bookmarks in November and December.

The mayors include George W. Bransom (1912-1921 and 1924-1933), Norris F. Smith (1921-1923), William P. Lace (1923-1924), Arthur W. Haskew (1934-1938), George E. Bransom Sr. (1938-1948), J .M. Scott (1948-1952), C.A. “Buster” Godfrey (1952-1956), John A. Gregory (1956-1960), Jack C. Taylor (1960-1962), Robert R. Bartlett (1962-1968), Clayton A. Boyd (1968-1972), Dr. Frank G. Norwood (1972-1976), Dr. Robert E. Ables (1976-1982), Scott Butler (1982-1984), R.G. “Jerry” Butler (1984-1988), Vera Calvin (1988-1992), Rick Roper (1992-1998), Byron Black (1998-2004) and Ken Shetter (2004-present).

If you want to learn more about Burleson’s history, stop by the library or visitors center and pick up a James L. Haley’s “Burleson Century.” A hardback is \$38 and soft cover is \$27. The 240-plus page book was commissioned by the City. “Burleson Century” covers the exploration of this area, founding of the city, the Roaring 20s, the Depression, World War II, the Baby Boom, and Modern Times.

Burleson was founded in October 1881 when the original warranty deed for a town site was conveyed and recorded, but the town was not incorporated as a city until May 1912. The Centennial celebrates that May 1912 incorporation.

Haley is a noted researcher and author of Texas history, including *Texas: An Album of History*, *Texas: From Spindletop through World War II*, *Sam Houston: A Life* (which won nine historical and literary awards) and *Passionate Nation: The Epic History of Texas*. Haley also completed a history of the state supreme court, which includes some long-forgotten cases from early Johnson County.

The Burleson Public Library is located at 248 S.W. Johnson Ave. The hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday (closed on Sundays). The Burleson Visitors Center is located at 124 W. Ellison. The hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday.