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Audie Murphy/American Cotton Museum Quarterly Report – October – December, 2020

During the months of October, November and December visitors to the Audie Murphy/American Cotton Museum came from 31 states. There was a total of 617 paid visitors to the Museum during this quarter. A total of 738 people signed the guest book during this quarter.

Our visitors spent 9 nights in local motels which included Comfort Suites, Best Western, Holiday Inn, Hampton Inn and Motel 6.

I had the pleasure of introducing the Lunch Break Special Speakers for this quarter. In October Dr. John Smith spoke about the American Revolution and the Millennialism movement, in November Dr. Mark Rudin gave a presentation on strategic planning at Texas A&M University-Commerce and in December Brandon Belcher from the Clymer Meadow Preserve talked about the Blackland Prairie ecoregion.

In November we decided to do Frontier Day since it was a great outdoor activity for kids and was easy for everyone to social distance. We had approximately 100 people attend. Playing games, making a craft, making butter and campfire biscuits and watching blacksmith demonstrations were just a few of the activities the kids were able to do.

For our movie nights we showed Invisible Ghost starring the Bela Lugosi and Sun Valley Cyclone starring Bill Elliott. A new temporary exhibit was installed that included Pud Kearns folk art Nativity Collection and Jack and Gladys Gray's collection of Christmas Santas.

Visitation continues to be slow but we are hopeful that once the vaccines get more widespread that things will start to pick up again. For the first time we did have just a few small tours this guarter. We had 25 students from the Parkside Baptist Academy out of Mesquite, 10 students from Troop 147 and 17 students from the CHAT Homeschool Co-op.

We thank you for your continued support of the Audie Murphy/American Cotton Museum. Your support allows us to preserve Hunt County's rich history. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to give me a call at (903) 450-4502.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Lanning **Executive Director** Audie Murphy/American Cotton Museum

JENNIFER LINDENZWI

JAN 26 2021