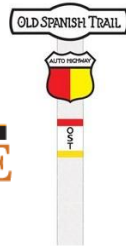


OLD SPANISH TRAIL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ASSOCIATION  
ORANGE, TEXAS OST100 CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 16 -18, 2021



## VENUES

**Hampton Inn** 2080 I-10 West  
Orange, Texas 7863  
409-883-2513

The 1921 OST conference was held in the downtown Holland Hotel, overlooking the Sabine River on Division Street. There are no hotels today in downtown Orange. No conference activities will be held in the Hampton Inn; it gives the easiest access to conference venues.

**Stark Park** Green Avenue between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets

Thursday evening historic walk will begin in Stark Park overlooked by the Stark Home and Stark Museum of Art. Philanthropist, Mrs. Lutcher (Nelda) Stark supervised the development of this park.

**American Legion Post 49** 108 Green Avenue  
Orange, Texas 77630  
409-886-1241

Built on the OST in 1927, American Legion Post 49 large reception hall will be the site of the morning conference lectures. The Orange September 1921 OST Annual Conference was held in the Holland Hotel on the corner of Division and Fifth Streets. The Holland was demolished in the late 1950s and a new Essie L Bellfield Orange Community Center opened there in 2012. This year OST cities, counties, and parishes will again come together filling the Legion Hall with afternoon OST displays and exhibits, sharing their present-day accomplishments, just as OST highway and bridge builders did 100 years ago.

**Brown Family Estate** 4205 Park Avenue  
Orange, Texas 77630  
409-883-2939

The Friday evening reception will be held in the 20-room antique filled Brown Family Estate. Although not built until mid-1950s this home was designed for Gladys Slade Brown from plans of a famous 1790's Antebellum home she saw in Natchez, Mississippi. The house, its 88 acres of land, 3-acre lake, and million-dollar maintenance trust fund was given to Lamar State College in 1976. Our guests will have access to all the beautifully furnished rooms from 6 to 8pm Friday, September 17, 2021.

**Old First Orange Baptist Church** 7925 IH 10  
Orange, Texas 77630  
409-745-1901

In the small community of McLewis, on the east end of a short remaining portion of the OST Old Highway 90 corridor not overlaid by US and Interstate Highways, modern and vintage autos of the Saturday morning Orange Conference Motorcade will be able to gather in the parking lot of the 1857 Baptist congregation. Inside the newest, post Katrina church complex we will be able to see artists renderings of each building replaced over the past 160 years of flood, fire, hurricanes, and growing membership.

[www.oldspanishtrailcentennial.com](http://www.oldspanishtrailcentennial.com)

## THURSDAY HISTORIC WALK

Thursday, September 16, 2021

### GREEN AVENUE HISTORIC WALK

**7 to 8pm** Fine family mansions and churches from the 19th Century still exist on Orange corridors of the OST. Join our pleasant one-mile evening stroll from Sixth Street corner of W. Green Avenue, at Stark Park with KOGT broadcaster, news writer, and newly appointed Orange County Historical Commission Chair, Margaret Toal sharing history of buildings that would have been seen by early OST travelers.

## FRIDAY SYMPOSIUM, EXHIBITS, EVENING RECEPTION

Friday, September 17, 2021

### BEYOND THE ROAD SYMPOSIUM

**8am to Noon** In American Legion Post 49, speakers knowledgeable about early road building, Orange industries and culture will provide insight into the 1920s time period.

**8am - 10am Complimentary BREAKFAST BUFFET** in the Lecture/Exhibit Hall

**8am – 8:20am Charlotte Kahl** *Revitalizing and Preserving the OST*

Community activist Charlotte Kahl was appointed by San Antonio Mayor Ed Garza and Bexar County, Texas Judge Nelson Wolff to lead the planning effort for a decade-long centennial celebration of the building of the transcontinental Old Spanish Trail auto highway. After years of researching the OST, she now travels the U.S. Gulf and southern border states promoting centennial activities.

**8:30 – 9:10am Renee Benn and Rebekah Dobrasko** *Go Beyond The Road with TxDOT*

With a background in historic preservation, travel and tourism, Renee Benn now works as an Environmental Protection Specialist (Historian) for the Texas Department of Transportation. Rebekah Dobrasko is the lead historian and Environmental Program Manager for TxDOT. They will discuss the Beyond the Road program, and demonstrate different types of resources available to help you research your communities, historic roads, and road-related properties such as bridges, roadside parks, and gas stations.

**9:20am – 9:50am Jerry Pennington** *Ships – Large and Small for Peacetime and War*

Past Orange County, Texas Historical Commission Chair Jerry Pennington will share stories related by his shipbuilding grandfather, father, and uncle and other facts gathered through his own further research into the huge Orange shipbuilding industry.

**10am – 10:30am Margaret Toal** *Ghosts, Outlaws, and Villains*

Orange County Historical Commission Chair Margaret Toal would like to show the lighter (or perhaps darker) side of Orange history on the wild East Texas frontier.

**10:40am – 11:20am Joshua Cole** *Frances Ann Lutcher from Lumber Baroness to Queen of the Road*

Public Historian serving now as Interpretation and Programming Manager of the W. Green Avenue Historic W. H. Stark House, Joshua Cole will give us details of the Stark/Lutcher/Brown empire, philanthropic legacy, and Mrs. Lutcher's love of automobiles.

### HORSELESS CARRIAGES AROUND AMERICAN LEGION POST 49

During the symposium and the exhibits, classic vehicles will be driving the streets and parked near the lecture hall. Older cars will have spaces allotted directly in front the American Legion Post to depict the time period of the lecture series.

**Noon - 2pm Complimentary BUFFET LUNCH** will be available in Lecture/Exhibit Hall

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**EXHIBITS Noon to 4pm** American Legion Post 49 will be transformed into the Old Spanish Trail Exhibit Hall for the day. Join the gathering of enthusiasts informally discussing their knowledge of the history of the Old Spanish Trail auto highway and the development of vehicles that ship the freight and carry the travelers along that route. Your city, county or parish can take this opportunity to share your stories of OST corridor successful preservation and revitalization efforts.



**PLENARY SESSION 1:20 to 1:40pm** Official business meeting of the Old Spanish Trail Centennial Celebration Association (OST100) will take place in the American Legion Exhibit Hall. At this time cities, counties, parishes providing displays in the Exhibit Hall will receive their OFFICIAL OST100 CITY, COUNTY, or PARISH designation artwork by 1920s OST artist Mary Bonner.

**BROWN ESTATE EVENING RECEPTION**



**6 to 8pm** The business, professional and political leaders of Orange who strongly supported highway development with funds and lobbying efforts, held an evening "Smoker" during the 1920s OST Conferences featuring



cigars, libations and political decisions. Free hors d'oeuvres will be available for this Friday evening reception in the 20 room Antebellum antique filled Brown Family Estate. Invited guests include state and local elected officials, OST100 host organizations and partners to welcome conference attendees and the lecturers, some who have traveled great distances to educate us Friday morning on the challenges of spanning the continent with an auto highway.

**HORSELESS CARRIAGES PARKED AROUND BROWN ESTATE**

Classic autos will provide authentic atmosphere for the reception. Older cars will have spaces allotted nearest the entrance to depict the time period of the conference.

**SATURDAY DRIVE to McLEWIS, TEXAS  
and OLD HIGHWAY 90**



**Saturday, September 18, 2021**

**MOTORCADE TO McLEWIS**

**9am** Horseless carriages and modern vehicles will proceed from the Orange Sabine River Boat Ramp, 408 Pier Road, south on Pier Road and Business 90 to Green Avenue. In 1921, Old Spanish Trail autos and trucks, after departing the Sabine River ferry followed the OST west on Green Avenue, north on 16<sup>th</sup> Street, and northwest out Park Avenue on their way into Texas. The town of Pinehurst was incorporated along Park Avenue immediately west of Orange in 1955. A short portion of the OST Old Highway 90 corridor still exists 5 miles west of Orange in the community of McLewis. There we will see, as well as a narrow section of 100-year-old highway, a working lumber company, and the interior of Old First Orange Baptist Church.

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#### AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION WALK

Blue-ribbon winning American Volkssport Association (AVA) program, "Walk the Old Spanish Trail across the United States" drew to a close in December of 2017. The AVA/OST100 partnership continues to grow with 5- and 10K walks in OST cities all across the south. Anyone may follow the Orange Year Round Historic Walk AVA map this weekend.

Although all OST100 conference activities are free, registrations are required for each event. Please be sure to check all events you will be attending. If you expect to have guests with you for any part of conference, please have them register also to ensure adequate materials or foods will be available.

**PLEASE SUBMIT REGISTRATION BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2021.**

Various Orange, Texas state, county, city entities, and local organizations have generously offered their resources to enable OST100 to provide free events for this conference. As a courtesy to organizers and event coordinators, if you have registered and find you will be unable to attend, please notify us before September 10. If you or your business would like to sponsor materials, buffet meals, snacks, or receptions please see the SPONSORSHIP section below for advice.

Registration Form available on [www.oldspanishtrailcentennial.com](http://www.oldspanishtrailcentennial.com). Questions about registration, particular events, exhibits, sponsorship, etc. (210)838-5243 or OST100Kahl@aol.com.

#### EXHIBITS

Free table spaces will be available in the American Legion Hall from Noon to 4pm Friday, Sept. 17, 2021 to share your city, county, or parish accomplishments in preserving or revitalizing OST corridor roadway, businesses, or historic sites.

Please coordinate your exhibit with Charlotte Kahl  
(210)735-3503 or  
OST100Kahl@aol.com.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR EXHIBIT FORM BY  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

#### SPONSORSHIP

Conference sponsorship opportunities are available for entities that wish to partially or entirely sponsor buffet meals, snacks, social events, materials, or general overall conference sponsorship.

For sponsorship questions please contact: Charlotte Kahl  
(210)735-3503 or  
OST100Kahl@aol.com.

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