The 2017 Bonham Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards was held on February 25th at the Multipurpose Complex at 5pm. Congratulations to our winners:

Citizen(s) of the Year
Barbara McCutcheon, Tom Thornton

Business of the Year
Renlita

Public Servant of the Year
Karola Brookshire

Agriculturist(s) of the Year
Harold and Sharon Cook – Specialty Farming
Kenny and Marsha Sewell – Farming and Ranching

Volunteer of the Year
Deana Staton

New Member of the Year
Rebel Roots Boutique

We gratefully acknowledge and celebrate these outstanding businesses and citizens.

The evening began with delicious hors d'oeuvres by the Breakfast Stop and mix & mingle wine tasting hour with selections from Homestead Winery, Firelight Vineyards, Paris Vineyards, and Landon Winery. Attendees could browse the raffle items, auction items and door prizes before settling down for the dinner catered by Dina's Catering.

Thanks to the work of the Banquet board—Deana Staton, Melissa Wallace, Angil Titsworth, Samantha Lumpkins, Brandi Powers, Staci Murden—the venue had a great ambiance with new chair coverings, sashes and even a red carpet!

The Lauri Blake/Richard Glaser table won the table décor competition. Congratulations on your win and thank you to everyone that also competed with their decked out tables!

The banquet is also an important fundraiser for continuing, daily function of the Chamber. Attendance, table sponsorships and auction/item contributions help support our efforts. We are excited to let you know the 2017 Awards Banquet raised $20,000!

Item Sponsors

Table Sponsors
Bethlehem Baptist Church, Blain Services Company, Bonham Chrysler, Brookshire’s, Century 21—Harvey Properties City of Bonham, Cole Title Company, David Keene, Fannin Bank, Fannin County Leader, Fannin Federal Credit Union, Farm N Home Casualty, Jerry Magness, Legend Bank, Malinda Allison, McCraw Oil, Rebel Roots Boutique, Renlita Custom Opening Solutions, Richard Glaser, Lauri Blake, 1st United Bank, Texas Farm Bureau Insurance, TMC Bonham Hospital, Weichert Realtors Solid Ground, Wise Funeral Home/Bonham Festival of Flight
2016 Citizen(s) of the Year Barbara McCutcheon, Tom Thornton

Barbara McCutcheon
After a 36-year career that began August 15, 1978 as a part-time employee of the Bonham Public Library and included 21 years as head librarian, Barbara decided to retire to allow her to spend more time with her family and in her garden. This also allowed her more time to devote to her passion. The restoration of the Fannin County Courthouse. Barbara is a wealth of information about Fannin County history with an emphasis on Bonham history. She had as a mentor the late Tom Scott who knew everything there was to know about the history of this area and would be very proud of her. Barbara is on the Board of Directors at the Fannin Federal Credit Union and volunteers at the Fannin County Museum of History and the Fannin County Historical Commission. Barbara is an asset to her fellow citizens of Bonham and loves to share her knowledge and passion.

Tom Thornton
Tom was born and raised in Bonham. He worked in the Dallas area for 35 years as a teacher, coach and principal. Tom moved back to Bonham after his retirement and became active in the community by joining the Tourism Board, Ft Inglish Society and the Texas Historical Commission. He has been instrumental in getting the statue of James Butler Bonham restored, moving the Texas Centennial marker and restored with a new Texas Seal. Tom, along with Barbara McCutcheon, was also instrumental in helping to get the Courthouse restoration Bond issue passed. Tom’s committee and adult Sunday school class he teaches at First Presbyterian heads up the “Spirit of Giving” event that reaches out to the community with the sharing of gift giving at Christmas time.

2016 Business of the Year Renlita

Renlita was founded in October of 2005 by Byron and Beverly Royse. The company began from the spare bedroom of their North Carolina home with one computer, one telephone and one great vision. In 2008 Renlita relocated to Bonham from North Carolina and established manufacturing in their 1st Street facility. Within 60 days of being in Bonham, Renlita established 7 new jobs and began shipping their first products manufactured in Bonham. Over the past 9 years Renlita has grown from 7 employees to 30 employees, expanded their facility from 24,000 sq ft. to 48,000 sq. ft., and grown their overall business by 406%. Renlita now manufactures and sells counter-weight balanced vertical operating window, wall, and door systems to all over the US, Hong Kong, Qatar, Turkey, Russia, and Kuwait. Accepting the award were Byron and Beverly Royse.
**2016 Public Servant of the Year Karola Brookshire**

The previous servant of the year winner, John Skotnick has known Karola for years since she worked at the local Crisis Pregnancy Center here in Bonham. She always gave 100% to her efforts and job there. She demonstrated her love, care and concern for those she gladly served.

After that position, Karola joined the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, Adult Protective Services. She threw her heart and soul into that work, seeing it as a mission more than a job.

Karola has actively participated with the Fannin County Jail Diversion MHMR monthly meeting. Her efforts have helped to dramatically improve the relationship and interaction of the APS with Texoma Community Center, our local mental health authority. Her willingness to work to help veterans has directly influenced the impact that Veterans Affairs here and in Dallas, has on local elderly veterans.

Karola gives far more than what she is paid. She is available 24 hours a day 8 (yes 8) days a week. She is one of those people who amaze you when simply answering her phone. She always sounds like she is wide awake and was patiently awaiting your call. Karola’s common sense, rational approach to life and her work, has made her truly indispensable to this community. She is the face of public service and epitomizes exactly what it means to serve the public.

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**2016 Specialty Crops Agriculturist of the Year**
**Cook’s Farm and Ranch**

2321 County Road 1305
Savoy, Texas 75479

Cook’s Motto "KNOW YOUR FARMER"

The Cook’s pasture raised animals on the farm they run in Savoy are raised on a natural diet that does NOT include hormones and antibiotics - ever. They raise their animals on pasture and feed a custom blend grain NON-GMO and NON-SOY that is very expensive and hard to find. Taste the difference of pasture raised meats! Their egg layers and Broilers chickens naturally love and eat: grass, grains, bugs. They also sell NON-GMO, NON-SOY farm fresh eggs. They sell at the Sherman Farmers Market every Saturday 9am to noon, Tuesday 3pm to 6pm and on the farm. Feel free to contact them anytime with any questions. Its best to call 903-449-6282 or text, they’re so busy here on the farm during season it may take awhile to get back with you...Just keep trying or Email them at cookranch09@gmail.com. You can always get them on FACEBOOK at: www.facebook.com/CookRanch.HGV.com

**2016 Ranching and Farming Agriculturist of the Year**
**Kenny (and Marsha) Sewell**

2321 County Road 1305
Savoy, Texas 75479
2016 Volunteer of the Year Deana Staton

The volunteer of the year is an individual, chosen by the Chamber, who has been active in both the Chamber and the Fannin County community. While they have not all been official chamber members, they have all contributed their valuable time, ideas and, in many cases, their own money to promote an event that the chamber has put on for the good of the community.

Deana Staton continues that tradition in that she has been a tremendous asset to the Bonham Chamber over the past year by becoming a member of the highly successful Christmas Committee. She also took the lead in making this year’s banquet a great experience as the chair of the 2017 Banquet committee. Events such as this don’t just happen, it requires hundreds of hours consisting of both the preparations before and the all important clean-up after the event.

Deana also works with the Pack 54 Cub Scouts even though their kids have moved on from this citizen building volunteer organization. Serving as the Secretary/Treasurer of the committee that are involved in on a weekly basis of helping grow the next generation of responsible, community oriented individuals and leaders.

2016 New Member of the Year Rebel Roots Boutique, Owner Melody Hammett

Three years ago, the Bonham Chamber started honoring a new member of the year. The award goes to any new member of the Bonham Chamber of Commerce who has joined in the past year. While all our new members over the past year are valued and appreciated, the winner of this award goes above and beyond by becoming whole heartedly involved in some of the great programs and services that the chamber provides to the community.

This year’s winner, Rebel Roots owner Melody Hammett, became a part of the Christmas/Holiday committee this past year and was a big part of making the event such a success. From offering herself and her children to help where needed, to allowing the use of her building to take Pictures with Santa on a cold December day, she has been an asset to making the Chamber work of the community.

With her desire to become more involved in the community and having displayed her commitment to work with others and put forth new ideas to make events such as the Christmas/Holiday program bigger and better each year, the Board of Directors also appointed Melody Hammett to the board to fill out an unexpired term.
Photos Courtesy of Allen Rich at
www.ntxe-news.com/artman/publish/article_105125.shtml

Friday, May 19, 2017
Legacy Ridge Country Club
10:00 AM

Mark Your Calendars
**NEW MEMBERS**

**Blain Service Company**
7258 N Hwy 78  
Ravenna, TX 75476  
903-583-4018  
www.blainservices.com  
HVAC/Electrical—Sales, Service and Installations for Residential and Commercial.

**Primary Residential Mortgage, Inc**
2800 Corporate Dr #102  
Flower Mound, TX 75028  
214-736-9466  
www.prmitx.com  
We are a mortgage bank that specializes in residential purchase and refinance mortgage.

**Friends of Bonham Snap Center**
210 E 6th St  
Bonham, TX 75418  
214-738-9975  
Provide support to the City of Bonham Senior Center and especially the Meals on Wheels program.

**Renlita**
200 East 1st ST  
Bonham, TX 75418  
903-583-7500  
www.renlitadoors.com  
Renlita is a custom engineered and fabricated vertical acting door manufacturer.

**The Eye Center**
422 N Center  
Bonham, TX 75418  
903-583-9585  
The Eye Center provides both quality and personalized eye care to ensure the patient’s vision needs are met as well as maintaining the health of their eyes.

**Individuals**
Robert Carrel

**Renewing Members**

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<th>Calvary Baptist Church</th>
<th>Creative Arts Center</th>
<th>Cable One</th>
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<td>Tyrosys</td>
<td>Country Village Apartments</td>
<td>Karen Butler</td>
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<td>Willow Wild Cemetery</td>
<td>Bonham VFW Post 4852</td>
<td>Texas Farm Credit</td>
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<td>Legacy Ridge Country Club</td>
<td>Morning Star Academics</td>
<td>McClanahan &amp; Holmes</td>
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<td>Hickory Bar-B-Que</td>
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<td>Fannin County Crisis Center</td>
<td>Los Amigos</td>
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<td>Bonham Building Supply</td>
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<td>Danny’s Appliances</td>
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<td>Bethlehem Baptist Church</td>
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### 2017 STAR CHAMBER MEMBERS

#### GOLD MEMBERS
- **American Bank of Texas**
- **Bonham Chrysler**
- **Brookshire's Food Store**
- **Legend Bank**
- **North Texas Municipal Water District**
- **Oncor**
- **TMC Bonham Hospital**

#### Bronze Members
- American Best Care Hospice
- Americas Best Value Inn
- Atmos Energy
- Blain Service Company, LLC
- Bonham Independent School District
- Bonham Land and Ranches, LLC
- Cable One
- Century 21 Harvey Properties
- Cigna
- Clayton Homes
- Cole Title Company
- Custom Glass and Mirror
- David Stanley Construction LLC
- Fannin Bank
- Fannin County Leader
- Fannin Federal Credit Union
- Farm N' Home Casualty
- Hofmann Mraz Home Care
- Majestic 6 Theatre
- Massey's Music
- McClanahan & Holmes, LLP
- McCraw Materials
- McCraw Oil & Kwik Chek
- Morning Star Academy
- Northeast Medical Home Health
- Rebel Roots Boutique
- Renlita Custom Opening Solutions
- S&S Commercial Drywall, Inc.
- Weichert Realtors Solid Ground
- Warrior Tire
- Wise Funeral Home

### 2017 Board of Directors

#### OFFICERS
- Angel Titsworth, Chair
- Harley Smith, Chair Elect
- Bruce Burnham, Treasurer
- Deana Staton, Secretary

#### DIRECTORS
- Kristy Agerlid
- Randy Bowen
- Amanda Burnett
- Melody Hammett
- Beverly Kinslow
- Staci Murden
- Jeff Robinson
- Melissa Wallace

#### STAFF
- Dale McQueen
- Susan Purcell

*2017*
MARCH

March 4, 11, 18, 25 - Dutch Oven and Outdoor Cooking, Bonham State Park

March 4 - Emergency Preparedness Fair, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

March 4 - Allen Bowles Gun Show, Multipurpose Complex

March 4 - Women’s History Month Open House, Sam Rayburn House

March 7 - Bois d’Arc Ecotourism Map Reveal, Bonham State Park

March 9-11 - Trade Days

March 10 - Agricultural Lease and Law Seminar, Ag Ext

March 13-17 - Creative Arts Spring Break Camp

March 18 - Tree ID and Crating with Leaves, Bonham State Park

March 25 - Art in Simpson Park

March 25 - 9th Annual Recycling Fundraiser benefiting Texoma Community Center, Sherman

March 25 - Chi Lambda Banquet

The Bonham Chamber of Commerce Website and click the “Community Events” calendar header for the entire Fannin County Community Calendar
2017 Member Investment Schedule

General Memberships

- Non-Profit: $35
- Individual: $100
- Business: $175

General Member Benefits:
~ Directory listing on website
~ Ribbon Cuttings
~ Directory Listing in Print
~ Monthly Newsletter and Member Email Blasts for special business promotions
~ Included on General Membership banner at Annual Banquet, Festival of Flight and Golf Tournament

Bronze Memberships

- $300

Bronze Member Benefits:
All benefits afforded to General Memberships, PLUS:
- Free Lollipop
- Free Link from Front page of Chamber Website to your website
- 1/3 page ad in printed Directory

Gold Memberships

- $1,000

Gold Member Benefits:
All benefits afforded to General & Bronze Memberships, PLUS:
- Free Lollipop
- Full page ad in printed Directory
- Individual Banner displayed at major Chamber events
- Membership Plaque presentation and Recognition at Annual Banquet
- Chamber Golf Tournament
- Hole Sponsorship

Bonham Area Chamber of Commerce
327 N Main—Bonham TX 75418

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bonhamchamber@cableone.net