

WT Texas travels

By Jessica Chia



Victorian era-attired servers attend to guests at the afternoon tea held on the lawn of the Barton-Satterwhite Home as part of Calvert's annual Victorian Tea and Gala. Photo from Calvert Chamber of Commerce.

Calvert embraces Victorian times

Calvert, the small town tucked beside State Highway 6 an hour from Waco, will offer visitors the chance to step back in time for a weekend of Victorian-themed events Oct. 6-7.

The town of nearly 1,200, which has 47 blocks listed in the National Register of Historic Places, has been largely preserved as it was at the turn of the 20th century and will serve as the backdrop for the 12th Annual Victorian Tea and Gala.

"We have one of the most authentic Victorian events anywhere," said Susan

Shaw, event co-chair. "We have the Victorian buildings. We have the Victorian music. The bed and breakfasts are top-notch, and it's very festive."

The activities begin at 11 a.m. Oct. 6 with the Vintage Parade, which will feature horses, wagons and vintage cars, followed by a performance by equestrian drill team Texas Ladies Aside.

Handmade pottery, jewelry, refurbished furniture and tasty kolaches are among Calvert's shopping and dining offerings. Many local merchants dress in period costume and hold sales the weekend of

the event.

The Victorian Gala will begin at 7 that evening in Virginia Field Park, located a few blocks from Highway 6. The gala will feature Victorian-era finger foods, music, dancing and a costume contest for the best period dress.

"We encourage people to think outside the box," Shaw said. "It's really easy to put together a costume, but if they don't want to, nice dress is OK."

The Celtaire String Band will provide musical entertainment, and guests will have the opportunity to participate in



reels (a folk-style dance) and other traditional Victorian dances.

Participants unfamiliar with the styles of dance are talked through the steps, Shaw said.

"If you can walk, you can do it," she said, adding that dancers don't have to have a partner to take part.

Visitors interested in learning about Calvert's historic district can go on a hay-

ride tour at 11 a.m. Oct. 7, before the afternoon tea begins at the Barton-Satterwhite Home at 2:30 p.m.

Shaw said the tea is the biggest draw for out-of-town visitors.

Tea guests can win door prizes, participate in a tea hat contest or a game of croquet, eat sandwiches and pastries, and listen to live classical chamber music.

Last year, more than 125 people attended the Victorian Tea and Gala. Visitors are encouraged to make overnight accommodations and event reservations at least a week in advance.

Admission to the gala costs \$65 per person and admission to the tea costs \$35 apiece, although admission for both events can be purchased for \$90.

Victorian Tea Gala

What: Victorian-themed events, including dances and an afternoon tea.

Directions: Take State Highway 6 East to Calvert. Signs in town will direct visitors to various locations.

Travel time: About one hour.

Phone: Call the Calvert Chamber of Commerce at 979-364-2559.

Reservations: Call 512-468-8317 or email victoriancalvert@gmail.com.

Online: victoriancalvert.com



**CLIFTON
TEXAS**

Calendar of Events

Saturday, November 10

Clifton Swirl 6-9pm

Texas wine tasting event - downtown Clifton
For more information www.cliftonswirl.com

Wednesday, November 14-15

Norse Smorgasbord

Saturday, November 24

Heritage Sausage supper.
Zion United Church of Christ

Friday, November 30

Lighted Christmas Parade
For more information call 254-675-3720.
Arts of Christmas Reception
Bosque Arts Center

Saturday, December 1

Norwegian Country Christmas

Lighted Christmas parade, Tour of Homes, special museum exhibits, Arts of Christmas, Norwegian foods and crafts are all part of this holiday event. For more information call 254-675-3720.



Calendar of Events



Sunday, September 9-30

BOSQUE ARTS CLASSIC

National Judged and Juried
Art Show, 254-675-3724 or
www.bosqueartscenter.org

Saturday, September 29

NORWEGIAN PIANIST

KNUT ERIK JENSEN
6pm - Reception
6:30pm - Concert Begins
For more information 254-749-6292

Thursday, October 4-7

TEXAS FILM WEEK CLIFTEX THEATRE

Enjoy 3 great Texas Independent
movies all in one week.
www.cliftextheatre.com

Friday, October 19

Preview Bosque Museum Docent
Estate Sale 5pm-7pm

Saturday, October 20

Fall Fest

Annual event with arts & crafts,
entertainment, classic car show,
children's area, Sunset Ministries
Quilt Auction, Bosque Arts Center
Art Show & Sale, BARK Motorcycle
Run

21st Annual Quilt Auction

Annual benefit auction held
at Clifton City Park Armory for
Lutheran Sunset Ministries
sponsored by the Sunset
Volunteer Auxiliary.

Approximately 100 quilts are
auctioned. Specialty items are sold,
box lunches are available,
and a quilt raffle is held at the
event.

Downtown Market on Main Street
10am-6pm - Downtown

Tuesday, October 31

Trick or Treat with Main Street 5-7pm



For more information visit www.visitclifton.org