



THE CYCLONE



Davis and Nall Named Fellows



New WTHA Fellows, Kenneth Davis and Garry Nall.

Kenneth Davis and Garry Nall were named WTHA Fellows at the eighty-seventh annual conference in Fort Worth. Other award winners included Lemman Saunders, Best Student Essay for "Six-Man Football Comes to Texas"; David Murrah, Mrs. Percy Jones Best Article Award for "When Methodism Grew Mightily: The First One Hundred Years of the Northwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church"; and Brett Cruse, Rupert N. Richardson Award for *Battles of the Red River War*.

WTHA SCHOLARSHIP

The West Texas Historical Association proudly announces that Jennifer Dickens of Angelo State University is the first recipient of the WTHA undergraduate history scholarship. The scholarship committee received a number of applications from impressive students. They represented high schools from Wilson to Houston, as well as a couple of West Texas universities. Though it was a close competition, Ms. Dickens was chosen on the basis of her grade point average, application essay, and research experience.

WTHA has been planning and fundraising for this scholarship for a number of years. The proceeds from the silent auction held at each annual meeting go into the scholarship fund. So the entire association should take great pride and pleasure in seeing the fruition of our labors. Hopefully Ms. Dickens is only the first of many undergraduate students who will be encouraged by the award.

The Bridges of Crow's Nest Creek

By Bob Burton

The Mother Road gets the glory, but during the century that automobiles have operated in West Texas many roads besides US Route 66 have played their role in history, then faded as new roads replaced them.

These old roads left relics. Abandoned gas stations and motels, with wildlife and weeds their only remaining occupants, haunt many byways. Abilene's South 11th, today an ordinary street, is marked with several reminders that this was once a major highway. In Snyder, a Sinclair station adorns a sliver of land between the forgotten Dixie Overland Highway and the newer US 84.

Outside of cities, many former throughways survive as minor roads. Others have become mere trails in the brush. Still others leave even less, possibly only crumbling bridge abutments.



Many Bankhead Highway duckunders are still in use along the former Texas & Pacific rails, and a section of brick paving survives near Ranger. Roads of lesser renown also leave relics.

One notable remnant is abandoned highway 117 north of Borger. Through the bluffs on the north side of the Canadian, the old road threads around curves that resemble corners before descending to the floodplain with a long ramp. In places the embankment has eroded away, leaving the thick concrete slab roadway hanging in the air like a

flying buttress. Some sections have tumbled. Someday, they all will.

A few miles up the Canadian, another remnant has almost vanished. Aware that there was no highway bridge in the developing oil field, the Rock Island railroad built a deck around the rails on its trestle so autos and trucks could cross between trains. Only stumps remain.

Many highway landmarks have vanished over the divide. The town of Jericho is gone. The citizens resisted the paving of US 66 because so much of the local economy depended on travelers getting stuck in mud. But the blacktop was laid, bypassing the town, which vanished. Even today, people attempting to follow the highway's old alignment are warned not to attempt the infamous Jericho Gap.

One of the first old roads to attract my attention as a child, was state highway 70, which used to run (continued on page 2)

From the Executive Director



Dear Association Friends and Members:

As you know from our special issue, we will return to Lubbock for 2011 and Lubbock Christian University (LCU) has graciously agreed to host us on their beautiful campus for April 1-2, 2011. Association President, Keith Owen, has issued the call to West Texas historians where ever they may be to return to the High Plains.

Our conference coordinator, Robert Hall, has finalized hotel arrangements with Town Place (5310 West Loop 289, Lubbock, Texas 806-799-6226) and Arbor Inn Suites (5310 Englewood, Lubbock, Texas 806-722-2726) to accommodate attendees. Both of these hotels are conveniently located near LCU and are next door to each other. To make reservations please ask for the WTHA rate.

In this issue we honor one of the pillars of our association who did much to establish our financial stability through the creation of a permanent endowment. Again, I say that B. W. Aston was a good friend to all. He lives on in our hearts, minds, his professional legacy—The West Texas Historical Association, and in his much cherished wife, Lillie Mae. We bid him goodbye by repeating one of his familiar signoffs- “Cheers”. Cheers to you B.W.

Tai Kreidler

Bridges of Crow’s Nest Creek

(continued from page 1) all the way from Sweetwater to San Angelo, though now it has been truncated by US 277. In the Sixties, the modern highway’s ramp up to the top of the Calahan Divide was unencumbered with foliage. It was still possible to look down and see the old highway below, looking quite usable.

In answer to my query, my parents explained about the old, narrow, very crooked, “bad” road being replaced with a new one. My father had a story about riding a bus on that road while returning to his army base. It was night and the bus was late and it looked like the connection would be missed. But the driver was determined that no soldier returning from leave would miss a connection on his run. The bus careened through the darkness like a rollercoaster, and arrived on time.

A half century’s growth of mesquites has obscured the view of the old road from the Calahan ascent. However, remnants of the old alignment can be seen in several places close to the modern highway. One of the prominent locations is at the junction with highway 53. Another, one that can be driven, is at a roadside park north of Blackwell.

South of that city, the modern highway uses a causeway to cross Oak Creek Reservoir, but the old road predated the lake. Once, when the water was low, I walked down the crumbling pavement to the old creek crossing. The sturdy concrete bridge still stood, but the center span over the old channel was long gone.

South of the lake, Highway 70 is buried, literally, under US 277, except for a few miles in service as a county road. Other fragments of the old road are visible at bridges. The concrete railings on one side of the road are much different from the ones on the other side. This is because the Thirties-era bridges are still in use. They have been widened and new railings applied on the east side, but the old railings remain on the west.

Climbing the bluff south of the Colorado River, the old road rises several yards to the west of 277. There is a roadside park halfway up the hill. In the days when Texas provided stiles at these facilities, it was possible to step over and examine the old white-top with its black centerstripe. Snakes liked to sun themselves on the old pavement, but they could be avoided. Chiggers were another matter.

Still another matter was what appeared to be a graded roadbed between the old and new highways. It was not the railroad. That was west of the old highway. It is probably a buried pipeline that maps show climbing the bluffs here.



South of the town of Orient, with the faint trace of 70 running beside 277, there is a fine example of old school engineering. The tree-shrouded bridge on Crow’s Nest Creek appears ready to face centuries. Its builders proudly attached dedication plaques. They are gone, but the bridge remains. Much of highway 70, and roads across the state and the nation, were unpaved when its concrete was new. Bridges such as this, and the ones still serving, were probably the finest elements of the old highways.

Just over the hill to the south is a similar but smaller bridge on Little Crow’s Nest Creek.

On into San Angelo, US 277 disappears into the Houston Harte Freeway, but old 70 entered town by going down on Bell, over on Pulliam, and down Main. However, if a thirst still exists to see another ancient highway bridge on Crow’s Nest Creek, turn off of 277 onto US 67 and go about five miles east to encounter Crow’s Nest Creek again. There, on private property next to the railroad, is a third concrete bridge, a large relic from an era when the automobile was young.

The West Texas Historical Association

by B. W. Aston

[Reprinted from the 2000 Year Book, from a speech originally given at the 1999 meeting.]

The Beginnings

A group not unlike the one gathered here today met on April 19, 1924, to create the West Texas Historical Association. They had been brought together by a notice placed in the *Abilene Reporter News* that reads as follows:

JUDGE Rouston Campbell Crane,
Sweetwater
Rupert Richardson, Simmons College
William Curry Holden, McMurry College
L.B. Kennamer, Abilene Christian College
J.M. Radford, Businessman
Mrs. Dallas Scarborough
B.E. McGlammery, Abilene High School

The following statement is being issued signed by the above people: The signers hereof after months of consideration and after consultation with numbers of citizens of West Texas who are interested in its history and its welfare, have reached the conclusion that a West Texas Historical Association is one of the primary needs of our section.

Never before has such interest and so much thought been given to the history of West Texas than at this time, and never before has there been such a crying need and demand for facts about the history of this section of Texas . . . Source materials are daily going to waste or being destroyed because persons do not realize their value and the men and women who help make and developed the west are fast dying taking valuable historical facts with them...

At the time, no one was gathering and preserving such data. The Texas State Historical Association, founded in 1897, was concentrating its efforts on the Spanish, Mexican, and Republic Periods of Texas History.

Thirty-eight years earlier, in 1886, Judge Royston Campbell Crane, fresh out of the University of Texas Law School, hung out his shingle in the new town of Roby which at the time had 13 houses and was the seat of the four-month-old Fisher County. From Roby, he moved to Abilene,



WTHA members at 2004 conference.

and then to Sweetwater in 1889, where like many others before him who came to West Texas, he stayed and grew with the region. He was the son of William Carey Crane, a historian of note, president of Baylor University, and for whom Crane County was named. Consequently, R.C. came by his interest in history naturally.

Crane and Richardson

It was in the fall of 1923 that Judge Crane approached Rupert N. Richardson at Simmons College, where he had deposited a part of his extensive collection of historical materials, about he and Simmons College taking the lead in organizing such an organization. Whether he knew it or not, he could not have approached a more responsive person or community with such an idea. Rupert immediately brought William Curry Holden of McMurray and fellow colleague Carl Coke Rister into the plan. That was not bad company for a budding historical society to keep. Consequently, Holden and Richardson met with Crane in his home and laid out plans for an organizational meeting. It was decided that the most opportune time would be 3 p.m., April 19, 1924, at the Taylor County Court House, following the 2:00 p.m. meeting of the Texas Centennial Celebration Committee.

Dr. Richardson reported that there were a score or more at the meeting including:

Mrs. L.C. Scarborough, Abilene
Mrs. J. McAlister Stevenson, Abilene
John Hutto, public school teacher, Abilene
Judge Fred Cockrell, Abilene
Dr. J.W. Hunt, President McMurray College
Dr. J.D. Sandefer, President Simmons College
And the Reverend Yates of Roby

All of whom had already joined the plan; thus was the beginning of the West Texas Historical Association.

First Meeting and Officers

Plans were quickly formed for holding the first annual meeting in Cisco, Texas, on April 18, 1925, where a program was presented by Crane, Rister, and Holden. Also the first full slate of officers were chosen that totaled seventeen persons of which six were women. The composition of the first board showed a wide range of support involving the communities of Abilene, Anson, Baird, Breckenridge, Cisco, Colorado, Eastland, Hico, San Angelo, Spur, and Sweetwater. This diversity has been maintained down to the present with members of 1999-2000 board representing the communities of Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, Baird, Canyon, Dawn, Denton, Granbury, Irving, Lubbock, Midland, Natchitoches, La., Ransom Canyon, San Angelo, San Antonio, Snyder, and Wichita Falls.

Officers of the Association have always been a mix between professionals and non-professional historians. The officers for 1999-2000 included ten professional historians, a newspaperman, a doctor, a judge, public school teachers, librarians, a college president, a scout executive of the Boy Scouts of America and a housewife.

Past presidents of the Association have included fifteen professional historians, thirteen laymen, two lay women, and five English/Political Science professors. There have been six women presidents. In the last 55 years there have been two secretaries and treasurers. In 1967, Rupert Richardson became the editor of the Year Book. Prior to that there had been a publication committee. In 1978, B. W. Aston became the associate editor with Richardson and then in 1979, Ken Jacobs joined Aston as associate editor with Richardson as editor until his death. B. W., in 1993, became Executive Director while Jacobs became editor of the Year Book. Paul Carlson became editor in 1996 upon Jacobs' retirement.

Meeting Sites

The WTHA has always been a people oriented organization and has tried to take the annual meeting to them where they were. Over the years we have met in Abilene, Alpine, Albany, Amarillo, Anson

Baird, Big Springs, Brady, Brownwood, Canyon, Cisco, Coleman, Colorado City, Eastland, Fort Belknap, Graham, Lubbock, Midland, Monahans, Odessa, Stamford, San Angelo, Sweetwater, Wichita Falls, and Weatherford.

For 35 years, the Association conducted its meetings on Saturday with both morning and afternoon session; however, in 1974, due to the fuel crisis, the meeting ended after the noon luncheon so that the participants could return home before the gas stations closed. That brought about the decision that in the future the Association would begin its annual meetings on Friday afternoon and finish with the business luncheon on Saturday. In that manner, no one would have to travel late into the night to get home. Although we no longer have a gasoline shortage, the same format has continued as it provides the opportunity for more people to be involved both as presenters and audience participants.

Publications

The first *Year Book* was printed in 1925 with an introduction that stated that “the Association was organized to promote the study of history of West Texas, to collect and preserve its traditions, and to mark the noted and historic spots left within its borders by some of the founders of our part of the Empire State.” The price of membership was \$3.00. Today the price is \$15.00. People from all walks of life and disciplines have published in the *Year Book*. Volume III included articles by two women, which is important in pointing out that this was not a male only publication. Many of the notable historians got their start in the *Year Book*. Among them were: W. C. Holden, R. N. Richardson, J. Evetts Haley, T. R. Havins, Ralph Smith, J. W. Williams, Joe B. Frantz, C. C. Rister, Walter Prescott Webb, S. S. McKay, Ernest Wallace, Llerana Friend, Kenneth Neighbors, Dorman Winfrey, Seymour V. Connor, Elmer Kelton, Arnoldo DeLeon, David Murrah, Sandra Myres, Paul Carlson, Clayton Williams, Sr.

Our contributors have investigated just about everything in West Texas, including the expected topics: Indians and frontier defense; Spanish explorations and Spanish Missions; Texas Constitution and county histories; the cattle industry and cowboys; railroads and town histories; sheriffs and outlaws; buffalo hunters and buffalo soldiers; army airfields and prisoner of war

camp; pioneer women; and assorted other topics.

Beginning in the mid-70s, new topics began to appear in the *Year Book* indicating that there are many sides to history in West Texas. Some of the new topics include Mexican-Italians in El Paso; German band masters and high school marching bands; Friday night football in West Texas; Buddy Holly and Western music; folk architecture of a chicken ranch; vaqueros, sheep ranchers and rodeos; phantom lions and Texas drought humor; desegregation and sanitation workers struggles in Lubbock; and the one I liked best, “The Crucial Role of Prairie Coal.”



B.W. Aston at the 2009 WTHA conference.

The *Year Book* has an annual subscription of approximately 350 individuals and libraries. Included among the latter are the University of London, New York, Detroit and Denver Public; Emory, Dartmouth, Duke, Harvard, Yale, UCLA, Newberry, Indiana, Louisiana State, Brown, Northwestern, University of Arizona, University of Georgia, Arkansas State, Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Henry E. Huntington Library, Museum of the Great Plains, Wisconsin State Historical Society, Sam Rayburn Library, and the Library of Congress, and of course most of the major libraries in Texas. In putting out the *Year Book*, Tuffly Ellis gave me the best advice I received and that was once the *Year Book* was in print, don't ever look back. It helped keep me going all those years.

Today also we publish a newsletter, *The Cyclone*, which appears twice yearly. The newsletter was began in 1991 and it has expanded over the years.

Run by People Interested in West Texas

One of the things that has made the West Texas Historical Association so unique is that for all this time it has been run by people dedicated to the original charge of collecting and preserving the history of West Texas. That has not

always been a glorious task as there is a snobbery among historians as to the value of certain histories. As a graduate student at Tech, I was among those referred to as a “cow chip” historian, that is one who dealt with such mundane things as local history while others explored the more exciting fields of Europe, Asia, Africa, Ancient, Latin America, and so on. But it was Dr. Rupert Richardson who put everything in its proper perspective when he said, “All history is local history. If you live in Rome, and you study Roman history, then it is local history.” As people would say in West Texas, he cut through the balderdash and saw that all history is important.

Ego

That brings up a second unique feature about the people in this organization. There has never been an ego thing to deal with. At the annual meetings, members are just ordinary people. It does not matter if someone is a professor of stature or a homemaker, all are on an even playing field. Everyone is on a first name basis, and everyone is appreciated for their efforts in preserving the history of West Texas.

Devotion of Members

The present success of the Association can be credited to the devotion of its members to the Association and to the history of West Texas. However there are a few people that have made many of the things we do today possible-- starting with Mrs. Percy Jones of Abilene who gave an anonymous gift of \$4000 in 1972 to award a \$200 prize for the best article in the annual publication of the *Year Book*. At the meeting in Brownwood in 1974, as the new Secretary-Treasurer, I gave a deficit report on the organization's finances. J.W. Williams arose and walked to the head table and put a \$20.00 bill in my hands stating he “did not like deficits,” and before the meeting broke up, I had collected \$696. Upon returning to Abilene, Dr. Richardson and I discussed starting an endowment fund for the Association to ensure its continued existence. At the next meeting, I announced the endowment campaign of \$100,000. At the time we had \$7,969.53 in savings. Today we have approximately \$145,000. Two individuals deserve a great deal of credit for achieving that \$100,000 goal in 1992. Clayton Williams, Sr. in 1980 sent me two checks, the first for \$5000 and then a couple of months later one for \$10,000; then in December 1981, I

received a phone call from Conrad Dunagan wanting to know if the association could use \$25,000. You can guess my reply. The two donations and high interest rates helped the endowment grow rather rapidly.

Another feature in helping the endowment grow is the fact that we have never had any paid officials. As Secretary/Treasurer, I took care of everything from helping edit the *Year Book*; nursing it through publications; mailing it and collecting dues; and assisting with setting up the annual meetings and programs. All of the officers have donated their time and efforts through the years to make the Association what it is today.

Awards

The Association offers six different awards to its membership. They include the original Mrs. Percy Jones Award for best article in the *Year Book*; best Student Paper Award; Ernest Wallace Award for best student research on a West Texas topic; Rupert Richardson Award for best book on West Texas history, and Judge R. C. Crane Award for best fiction book on West Texas.

All of this for a membership fee of \$15, a price that has not been increased for at least fifteen years. Of course one of the reasons for the endowment campaign was to keep the *Year Book* at a price that anyone could afford.

Decision to Move

West Texans have always been part dreamer and part realist, and giving up the West Texas Historical Association after a 75 year association with Hardin-Simmons University was not an easy decision. Dr. Jacobs and I talked about it before we approached the board about a new home for

the WTHA. We were both approaching retirement, and there was no one at Hardin-Simmons who seemed terribly interested in the Association. We wanted to make sure that whoever took over had the same dedication that had been shown by such people in the past as Dr. Richardson, Ernest Wallace, William Holden, Ralph Smith, Clayton Williams, Conrad Dunagan, and others who kept the organization on course; therefore, we were more than pleased that the Board chose to accept the offer of Texas Tech University and the Southwest Collection to be the new home. I can think of no institution that has done more not only to preserve, but also to train and inspire young students to take pride in, to collect, and to appreciate the history of the region than the Tech History Department, the Southwest Collection, and Texas Tech University.

The complete transfer of the association took place in 1998, and it has been interesting to watch Paul Carlson and Tai Kreidler begin to implement their own style and personality on the operations of the Association. I can safely say the organization is in good hands.



B. W. Aston served the West Texas Historical Association as Secretary/Treasurer (1972-1998), Associate *Year Book* Editor (1992 - 1998),

Executive Director (1992-1998) and Life Director (1999 until his death in 2010). Few people have given more of their time and energies to WTHA. His diligent efforts resulted in a longer, more professional *Year Book* and also ensured that the Association would be on a sound financial foundation for many years to come. His devotion to WTHA and humble service set an example for those who followed him in leadership.

B. W. Aston died on March 25, 2010 at the age of 73. He was born April 27, 1936, in Fort Worth. After graduating from Technical High, B.W. served in the Air Force, then received his B.S. (1962), M.A. (1964) and PhD (1972), all from Texas Tech University. During this time, he met Lillie Mae Fields and the two married on August 26, 1961. In 1967, Aston was hired to teach history at Hardin-Simmons University, where he spent his entire professional career, serving in many capacities, from history professor to Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. He was active in other professional organization, including the Texas Folklore Society, The Southwest Council of Latin American Studies, and the National Popular Culture Society. He was also involved in community affairs in Abilene and in his local church, where he served as Chairman of the Deacons and taught Sunday School for about 35 years. After retirement, he and Lillie traveled extensively. He is now on his final journey. Happy Trails, B. W.

Did You Know? West Texas Facts and Trivia

Did you know that—

Foard County is home to one of the few remaining Depression – Era road side parks built by LBJ?

The Texas-shaped marker greeting Oklahomatites entering Texas on SH 6 now sits in downtown Quanah?

The Quanah Post Office is home to a WPA mural done by Jerry Bywaters?

Quanah is home to a beautiful train depot now museum?

Copper Breaks State Park is home to the world famous kissing longhorn?

The Three Rivers Foundation of Quanah has one of the bars from the TV series *Gunsmoke*? (Not the Long Branch—the other one)

The Goodlett high school gym has been converted into the “Gym Theater” with theater productions sponsored by Pease River Productions.

The Goodlett cotton gym has been converted into breakfast area and RV headquarters owned and operated by a retired Tech Professor

Galen Givens, one of the original Apollo astronauts, was from Quanah.

Did you know? . . . that Spearman, Texas has a world class skate board park?

Lou Dobbs was born in a small Texas town, Childress, and served a long apprenticeship in the news business, beginning as a Los Angeles Times copy editor. His career has been intimately tied to CNN, where he started as chief economics correspondent for “Moneyline” in 1980. A favorite of CNN founder Ted Turner, Dobbs quickly became a star.

Walter P. Chrysler served as general foreman of the Childress railroad shops in 1905 and 1906 before working as a master mechanic in Iowa and subsequently founding the Chrysler Motor Corporation.

NEWS AROUND WEST TEXAS

Miguel Levario, who is professor of history at Texas Tech University and a WTHA member, was the faculty winner for President's Award for Diversity and Equity at Texas Tech University.

Texas Tech University Press announces the **Lou Halsell Rodenberger Book Prize in Texas History and Literature**, to be awarded biennially for the best manuscript on or by a woman whose writing illuminates Texas history, culture, and letters, especially in West Texas and the Texas Border Region. Deadline for the first competition is *September 15, 2011*. The first winner will be announced February 15, 2012. The prize awards \$1,000 and publication. For guidelines visit www.tupress.org/rodenberger_prize or write to TTUP@ttu.edu.



The Wichita Brazos Museum and Cultural Center in Benjamin, Texas announced recently that a sheet music folio autographed by Ernest Tubb was donated to the museum. **David Garren**, the Museum Curator and Director, made the announcement at a recent meeting of the Knox County Historical Association and the Texas Plains Trail Special Stamp Cancel event. For more information on the Stubb donation and museum holdings phone or email the museum: 940-459-2229; kchc@srcaccess.net.

Scarlett Daughterty, Curator of the Hardeman County Historical Museum, announced that a pistol previously owned by the famed Comanche Chief Quanah Parker was given to the museum by a donor who lives in California. The donor's grandmother traded Chony, Quanah Parker's second wife something for the gun.

Bruce Glasrud's book, *African Americans of the Great Plains: An Anthology*, published by the University of Nebraska Press, recently won the Nebraska Book Award for Best Anthology. The volume is edited by Bruce A. Glasrud and Charles A. Braithwaite. The essays were originally published in *Great Plains Quarterly* and cover the history of blacks from slavery to the fight for civil rights.

Ribbons of Time: The Dalquest Research Site, with photography by **Walter W. Nelson** and text by **Douglas Preston** is now available for purchase in the Wichita Falls Museum of Art Gift Shop. In 1996, Walter W. Dalquest and Rose Dalquest donated a remote canyon in the Big Bend, known as the Devil's Graveyard, to Midwestern State University to be a research site in the natural sciences. *Ribbons of Time* is a deep portrait, in photographs and text, of this extraordinary series of canyons.

Keep Munday Beautiful and city leaders of Munday, Texas, are in the process of refurbishing the well known and historic "Old Rock Church" that sits on Main Street. As a part of its community wide historic building preservation program volunteers have donated time and money to replace the roof, windows, and have started work on reworking the interior. For more information or if you are interested in assisting with the project please contact Todd Wilson at todd.wilson@esc9.net.



The WTHA session at the East Texas Historical Association was a success. WTHA president **Keith Owen** presided. **Kregg Fehr** and **Michael Whitley** gave presentation a on "Ladybird Johnson's Contributions to the Environment," and **Kregg Fehr's** was on the "Cultural Implications to Texas' Environmental History." He highlighted the current wind power boom. Another fine session showcased **Paul Carlson** ("Myth and Misconceptions About the 1860 Capture of Cynthia Ann Parker") and **Tom Crum** ("Peta Nocona, Like Mark Twain, The Report of His Death Was Highly Exaggerated"). Both gave presentations that featured new revelations put forward in their new book on Cynthia Ann Parker and the Pease River "re-capture".

Gene Preuss' book, *To Get a Better School System* (Texas A&M University Press, 2009) was nominated as a finalist by the Texas Institute of Letters.

Mike Cox received the A.C. Greene Literary Award at the 10th annual West Texas Book & Music Festival in Abilene on September 25. Cox was honored for his body of work, some 17 books, including an acclaimed two-volume history of the Texas Rangers and several collections of historic Texas photos. The A.C. Greene Award is presented annually to a distinguished Texas author for lifetime achievement. The award is named for author, columnist and Abilene native, A.C. Greene.

Ron Tyler, Director of the Amon Carter Museum of American Art will retire effective April 1, 2011.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

TEXAS UNITED METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY STUDENT ESSAY AWARD. An award of \$250 for the best article written by an undergraduate or graduate student on some aspect of the history of Methodism in Texas. **Eligibility** requires that the essay, ranging from 5 to 10 pages in length, be written by a student enrolled in a college, university or seminary and sponsored by a faculty member of the institution. A nominating letter from the sponsoring faculty member and a one-page abstract of the paper must accompany the submitted manuscript. The winning essay will be included on the program of the annual meeting of the Society and will be published in the *Heritage Journal*, the Society's historical publication. Entries should be sent to Dr. Garry L. Nall, TUMHS Student Essay Chair, 7206 Versailles Drive, Amarillo, Texas 79121 or gnall@att.net **Deadline for submission: January 31, 2011**

UPCOMING**Texas State Historical Association Annual Meeting March 3-5, 2011**

The TSHA will hold its 115th Annual Meeting at the historic Camino Real Hotel in El Paso, March 3-5, 2011. Featuring Texas and Southwest history, the three-day meeting will include thirty-eight sessions, three workshops, an exhibit hall of both vintage and new books, five banquet events, a Silent Auction, and a Live Auction. Timed to coincide with the centennial commemoration of the Mexican Revolution, which begins in 2010, the El Paso location offers the opportunity to meet near sites that will be discussed in many of the sessions.

Accommodations at the special TSHA Meeting Rate of \$99 are available through the Camino Real at (915) 534-3000 or toll-free (800) 769-4300. A complimentary shuttle provides transport between the airport and the hotel. In January 2011, the Annual Meeting Program will be mailed to TSHA members and will be posted on the website. For more information, please visit the website at www.TSHAonline.org or call (940) 369-5200.

IN MEMORY...

Roy Sylvan Dunn died April 22, 2010 in San Antonio. He was born March 29, 1921, graduated from Nixon High School in 1938, and attended the University of Texas. In 1950, he earned an Archival Management degree from the American University (Washington D.C.) and an M.A. in Sociology and History. During World War II, he served as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps. After the war, he worked in Day's Drug Store in Kenedy, where he met and married Elaine McCoy. Mr. Dunn was an associate professor at Texas Tech University, the second director of the Southwest Collection, a Master Mason, and supported the American Legion, the West Texas Historical Association, the Texas State Historical Association and the University of Texas Ex-Students Association. Memorial contributions may be made to the "H. Bailey Carroll" Award or the Junior Historians Program of the Texas State Historical Association, 1155 Union Circle #311580, Denton, TX 76203-5017.

Clint Formby, 86, died July 31, 2010 in Hereford, Texas. Longtime Panhandle radio broadcaster, Formby began broadcasting daily commentary as the "Day-By-Day Philosopher" in October 1955 and was featured on NBC's "Today" show in 2007 for hosting more than 16,000 episodes of the six-day-a-week program without missing any. He eventually reached 17,000 episodes, and was billed as having "the longest-running consecutive radio broadcast by an individual in the United States." Formby chaired the Ranching Heritage Association Center at Texas Tech University, where he received his bachelor's degree. He had been a member and chairman of the Texas Tech Board of regents. His honors included Texas Communicator of the Year by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Distinguished Alumnus at Texas Tech and Panhandle Citizen of the Year by the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce. Formby was an Army veteran of World War II. His wife, Margaret, a longtime civic leader who helped create the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame, died in 2003.

David Weber died August 20, 2010 in the company of his family, in Gallup, New Mexico. He was 69 and had been battling multiple myeloma for nearly three years. David was one of the leading scholars of the U.S. Southwest, the Spanish and Mexican Borderlands, Mexico, and colonial Latin America. He was known widely, far beyond this country, for his scholarship, published in the more than seventy articles and twenty-seven books that he wrote or edited. He played leading roles in revitalizing the study of the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, in the emergence of Mexican-American history as a robust field, and in the study of the colonial Americas more broadly. He was the founding director of SMU's Clements Center and took tremendous pride in the Center's accomplishments and increasingly high profile and was particularly devoted to the former Center fellows. The importance of his work was recognized in multiple book prizes; by the governments of Spain and Mexico, by his induction into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and by other awards and honors too numerous to list. Memorial contributions can be sent to the Clements Center for Southwest Studies, SMU Office of Development, P.O. Box 281, Dallas, TX 75275, or the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

Michael E. DeBakey Library and Museum Opens at Baylor

Michael DeBakey spent 60 years with Baylor College of Medicine [BCM]. He chaired the surgery department, served as president and CEO, and as chancellor. Surgical residents who trained under Dr. DeBakey remember his ruthless pursuit of perfection and his endless stamina during brutal work days sometimes lasting the full 24 hours. His single focus was always on obtaining a positive outcome for the patient. His patients remember a compassionate, caring, and gentle man.

The grand opening on May 14, 2010, of the DeBakey Library and Museum was a triumphant day for all involved in this project which spanned decades. The Museum is beautifully designed, although only a fraction of Dr. DeBakey's career memorabilia can be exhibited in 4,735 square feet. Visiting hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM except holidays. We hope you will visit to learn more about BCM's own Texas Tornado, the Maestro, Michael E. DeBakey, M.D.

**ANNOUNCING TWO \$45,000 TEXAS HISTORY FELLOWSHIPS FOR 2011
ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Two \$45,000 fellowships will be awarded in 2011 for the finest, cutting-edge scholarship, *which must focus on Western Texas*, covering all time periods. Western, environmental, economic, and labor histories; race, cultural, ethnic, gender, and community studies; cross-disciplinary approaches are welcome. Studies using fresh primary sources, along with original insights will be given the strongest consideration. These awards are open to scholars either finishing their doctoral degrees or with Ph.D. already in hand in a field of the humanities, including scholars outside of Texas.

Our 2010 Excellence in West Texas History Fellowship recipients are:

Marie Nicholson-Preuss (Ph.D., University of Houston): *A History of Medicine in West Texas*. From pioneer doctors on horseback to high-tech modern medicine, Nicholson-Preuss examines the transition in medicine on Texas' western frontier over the last century.

Margaret Bickers (Ph.D., Kansas State University): *A History of the Canadian River in Texas*. Bickers' work examines the human impact on the Canadian River watershed and the resultant changes, from the 1890s through the end of the twentieth century. Since much of Texas' South Plains depends upon water from the Canadian River, this is a most important regional study.

Full information regarding these fellowships is online at:

<http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/wtcoll/fellowship1.html>

<http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/wtcoll/fellowship.html>

Applications are due by January 31, 2011

Send applications to:

Excellence in West Texas History Fellowship Program

Angelo State University

ASU Station #11043

San Angelo, Texas 76909

THE CYCLONE

A Newsletter for members of the West Texas Historical Association

Editors: Jim & Becky Matthews

Published twice a year by the West Texas Historical Association, Lubbock, Texas. Members also receive the *Year Book*, published each fall, containing articles, news notes, and book reviews about West Texas history. Annual membership fees are \$10 for students, \$20 regular, \$25 family, \$35 sustaining, \$20 institutional/library. All back issues of the *Year Book*, published since 1925, are available for \$15 each.

Browse back issues of the Cyclone at our website <www.wtha.org> maintained by webmaster Lynn Whitfield.



On line? Visit our Web Site
at www.wtha.org

Phone: (806)742-9076
Fax: (806)742-0496
E-mail: wtha@ttu.edu

P.O. Box 41041
Lubbock, TX 79409-1041

Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University

**WEST TEXAS HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
San Antonio, Texas
Permit No. 1527