



Permian Historical Society

The University of Texas
of the Permian Basin Campus
4901 East University Blvd.
Odessa, TX 79762

Newsletter Editor J. C. Smith: cauble@grandecom.net
Dr. J. Tillapaugh: gradstudies@utpb.edu

PHS Officers

Peggy Kelton, President
Betty Cash, V P-Program
James Collett, V P-Membership
Sue Ann Damron, Secretary
Sherry Phillips, Treasurer
J. Tillapaugh, Investments
Ross McSwain, Retiring President

Directors

Crane County: Genny Townsend (2009)
Crockett County: Patsy White (2010)
Ector County: Richard Cummins (2009)
Howard County: Roger Goertz (2009)
Martin County: Mary Prudie Brown (2010)
Midland County: Mary Lou Midkiff (2010)
Reagan County: Ann Schneeman (2010)
Terrell County: Charlena Chandler (2011)
Upton County: Donna Bell (2010)
Winkler County: Shelley Shackelford (2011)

Editorial Board

The Permian Historical Annual

Dr. J. Tillapaugh, General Editor
Peggy Kelton, Evelyn Stroder,
Jim Collett, Ross McSwain
Lane Bond, Book Review Editor
Sylvia Caldwell Rankin, Graphics Editor

PHS website: PermianHistoricalSociety.org

Webmaster: Les Blalock

President's Letter

Dear Fellow Historians,

At last we are nearing time for our spring meeting. We once again have five outstanding presenters lined up. Three presentations lean towards the Old West—a slide show about the Western town of Crane; another presentation about the ranching Midkiff family; and the history of a 100-year-old family ranch in Howard County—so we chose our theme to be Western. Dress accordingly if you please—you know I will.

One presentation relates to World War II—the history of WASPS at Avenger Field in Sweetwater—while another traces the voluntary desegregation at West Texas community colleges. You will not want to miss this meeting.

We will once again have delicious food catered by **The Bakers of Stanton** for \$10 to those pre-registered attendees and \$12.50 for those without reservations.

The meeting will be at the Petroleum Museum in Midland and will open at 9:30 A. M. on **25 April 2009**. Upon registering there will be breakfast treats and visiting, which we call our *Happy Hour*, followed by a short Board of Directors meeting before the presentations begin at 10:00 A. M.

We will have door prizes, prizes for the best dressed cowboy and cowgirl, and the awarding of a certificate for the best presentation at the fall meeting. There may be other surprises so mark your calendar now. **Make your reservation with me** for 25 April 2009 at the Petroleum Museum in Midland beginning at 9:30 A. M. We'll have the light on for you.

Sincerely,

Peggy Kelton

Make reservations today!

Box 901, McCamey, TX 9752 (432/652-8738)

peggykelton@gmail.com

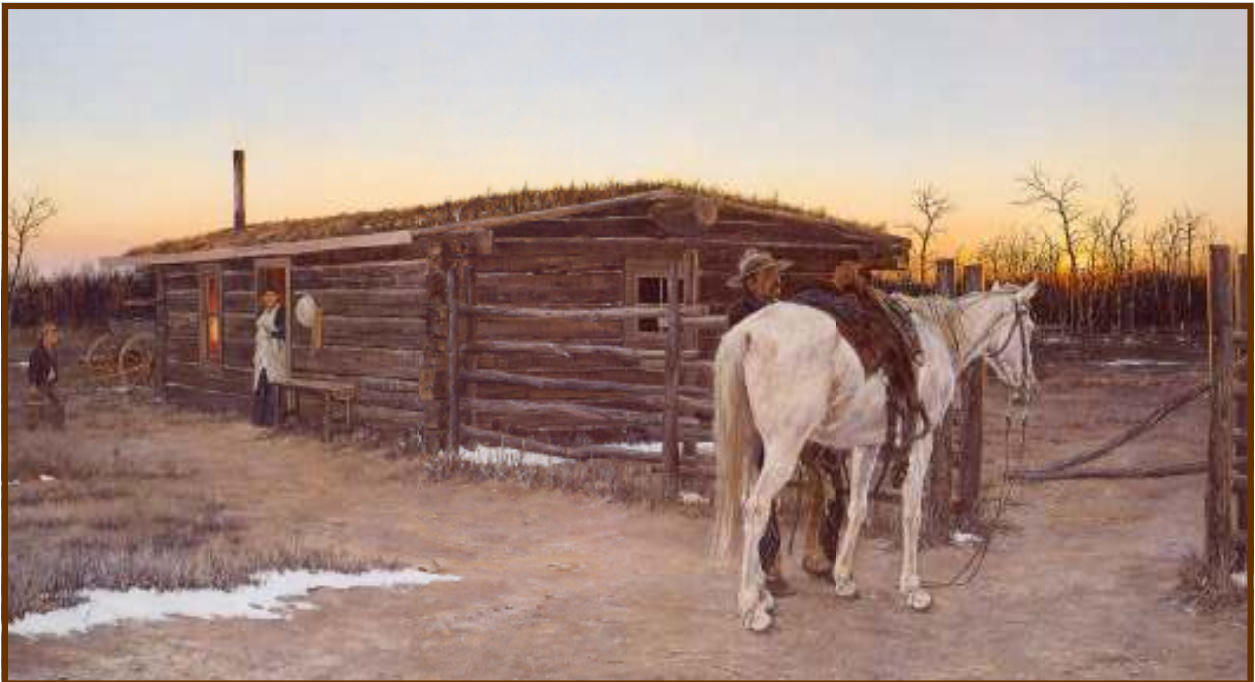
March is Women's History Month

This is a month when famous women lives even in this new century. Those of us of history are praised for their contributions to who are native West Texans remember those our nation and it is good to recognize those women as our mothers, grandmothers, teach-women. But ordinary women are worthy of our ers, and friends.

praise as well, especially ordinary women of We salute the ordinary women of the the West. Western frontier who made the dusty plains a

Countless ordinary women lived here beautiful place to live—physically and spiritu- in the Permian Basin in the last quarter of the ally. They gave their descendants the guidance nineteenth and all of the twentieth centuries. needed to make good lives and to continue the As they spent their lives in tedious labor, they work of building and improving the West.

helped men in the extraordinary tasks of build- Our thanks and praise goes to the ing ranches, farms, schools, churches, libraries, ordinary women who helped build the Permian and businesses that continue to improve our Basin of West Texas.



Above: "Home for Supper," a 1976 painting by Gordon Phillips (1927-) owned by The Anschutz Corporation, pictures an ordinary woman at the door of her ranch cabin after preparing supper for her family on a winter evening. Her days were long; her work was hard; and, her death from childbirth, disease, or exhaustion came early.

**Permian Historical Society Spring Program
Petroleum Museum, Midland County, Texas
25 April 2009**

Happy Hour and Program of Papers

9:30 A. M. **Registration and Happy Hour** Coffee and Breakfast; Visiting; Viewing of displays
Book buying to benefit PHS

9:45 A. M. **Board of Directors Meeting**

10:00 A. M. **Program of Papers** **Betty Cash**, Program Vice President, moderator

Crane, Texas: Then and Now **Evelyn Stroder**
This presentation is a slide show. The presenter spent years working on the history of the town that was created by an oil boom. She and her husband, Charles, live in Crane, where they came to teach school in the 1950s.

Lillie Midkiff: Pioneer Mother **Mary Lou Midkiff**
The author discusses her second book about her husband's pioneer ranching family. The focus this time is on the mother of the well-known Midkiff family.

West Texas and College Desegregation: A Case Study **Daniel Cade Allen**
This is the second paper presented to PHS by this graduate student. His paper is a positive approach to the voluntary desegregation in the 1950s of Howard College and Odessa College.

The Flache-White Ranch: A Chronicle of the Land and Its People **Martha White Kallus**
The speaker's Power Point presentation traces the history of her family that has ranched in Howard County for 100 years. This promises to be an interesting history.

Women's Airforce Service Pilots and Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas ... **Peggy Elliott and Mariana Nemir**
In February 1943 at Avenger Field—formerly known as Sweetwater Airport—in Nolan County, Texas, women began training as pilots in the Women's Airforce Service Pilots, or WASP. Avenger Field remained a WASP base until December 1944, having trained over one thousand women as pilots. Thirty-seven of them died in service.

Remainder of the Meeting

Casting of ballots for Best Presentation Award from this program to be given at Fall 2009 meeting
Donna Bell, chair

Visiting and book shopping until **The Bakers of Stanton** serve a lunch of pork loin and/or roast, mashed potatoes with gravy, a vegetable side, rolls, dessert, and iced tea for \$10!

After Lunch: General Business Meeting **Peggy Kelton**, presiding

Awards and Prizes

- Best Presentation Award from Fall 2008 Meeting
- Best Costume Awards
- Door Prizes

**Permian Historical Society will meet in Fort Stockton, Pecos County, for its fall meeting
on 10 October 2009. Please know you are invited.**

Presentation Requirements For PHS Programs

Acceptance Rules

Presentations for regular spring and fall meetings of Permian Historical Society are accepted from anyone who has an interest in regional history—county, amateur, or professional historians. In selecting papers for programs, the Executive Committee gives priority to those presentations that will be submitted for publication in *The Permian Historical Annual*. If PHS accepts a presentation and the presenter chooses to publish the paper or presentation, PHS has first right to publish or to reject the work. If a presenter knows he or she will publish the paper with another organization, the presenter should submit the work for presentation at **that** organization rather than at PHS.

Content of Presentations

Presentations must be based in the Permian Basin and/or its fringe counties. That is, the sites and events must closely relate to the Permian Basin—its history, historical characters, social institutions, and physical features.

Presentations Not For Publication

There is space on regular programs for one or two presentations that are not intended for publication as articles. Power Point presentations can be published as photographic essays and are accepted as such. Writers of reminiscences are welcome to submit for publication in *The Annual*.

Presentation and Publication

The Permian Historical Annual publishes **only** previously unpublished material. If a paper using the same research material has been published with another organization, the text must be totally rewritten by the author for submittal to *The Annual*. However, presentations are accepted for meeting programs that **have** been given previously to other groups. No one tells a story or reads a paper the same way twice! One may read a documented paper, tell a reminiscence or a research finding, or present a PowerPoint before a regular meeting that has been presented to other groups.

Any presentation that is submitted to *The Annual* will be carefully considered for publishing by the Editorial Board, but the editors reserve the right to ask for a rewriting or to reject articles that do not meet the requirements of the publication.

Proposals for Papers

Paper proposals must be sent to:

Program Vice President Betty Cash

P. O. Box 1088, Iraan, Texas 79744

bbtcash@yahoo.com

432/639-2705

or

PHS President Peggy Kelton

Box 901, McCamey, TX 79752

peggy.kelton@gmail.com

432/652-8738

Announcements and News

New Webmaster

Les Blalock of Ector County is now the new webmaster for Permian Historical Society. He maintains a web site with information about the organization including its purpose, bylaws, meetings, and other items of interest.

Contact Les at les@cableone.net or les@ector911.org with any information that should be posted to the PHS web site. Access the site at:

PermianHistoricalSociety.org

New Editor for *Annual 49*

Dr. J. Tillapaugh, a member of the founding faculty at The University of Texas of the Permian Basin has agreed to become the General Editor of *The Permian Historical Annual 49*. He has worked on the Editorial Board for the last decade and at various times in earlier years. Anyone with questions about submittals may contact him at gradstudies@utpb.edu.

Booksellers Asked to Display

The Executive Committee asks local writers and book sellers to bring books to offer for sale at the spring meeting. Books should appeal to the interest of PHS members—Western history, natural history, Texana, cookbooks, and Western and regional fiction. Part of the proceeds goes to PHS.

New Book Review Editor

Lane Bond of Howard County has become Book Review Editor for *Annual 49* and will be recruiting reviewers at the spring meeting. Deadline for submittals is 1 July 2009. Lane can be contacted at lane@bondwebs.com or lanebond@gmail.com.

Lane replaces Charlena Chandler, who served through six volumes, giving the Book Review Section of the *Annual* new life after it had fallen into neglect many years ago. Thanks, Charlena!

2007-2009 Committees

Archives: Chair Peggy Kelton, Nancy McKinley, Jean Reid, Mary Prudie Brown, Betty Cash, Genny Townsend, and Elizabeth Heath

Awards: Chair: Dr. J. Tillapaugh, James Collett, Ross McSwain, Patsy White, and Donna Bell

Best Article: J. Tillapaugh, James Collett, Charlena Chandler, and Evelyn Stroder

Best Presentation: Chair Donna Bell and Peggy Kelton

Executive: President Peggy Kelton, Betty Cash, James Collett, Sue Ann Damron, Sherry Phillips, J. Tillapaugh, Bud Lindsey, Ross McSwain

Hospitality Chair: Jeanette Paige and friends

Investment: Chair J. Tillapaugh, Peggy Kelton, Betty Cash, Sherry Phillips, and Ross McSwain

Membership: Chair James Collett and friends

Newsletter: Acting Editor J. C. Smith, Photographers: Bud Lindsey, Lane Bond, and Jim Collett; Graphics: Sylvia Caldwell Rankin; Print Copy Mailers: Peggy Kelton, Sherry Phillips, Donna Bell, and Jeanette Paige

Permian Historical Annual *Editorial Board:* J. Tillapaugh, Gen. Ed.; Peggy Kelton; James Collett; Evelyn Stroder; Book Review Ed.: Lane Bond; Graphics Ed.: Sylvia Caldwell Rankin

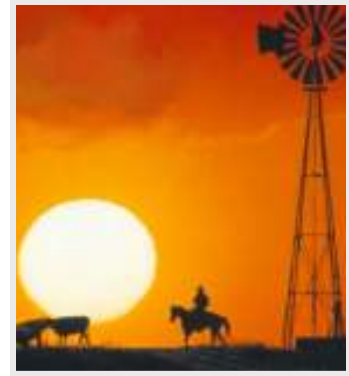
Program: Chair Betty Cash, Peggy Kelton, James Collett, Sue Ann Damron, Sherry Phillips, Dr. J. Tillapaugh, Bud Lindsey, Ross McSwain

Publicity: Bud Lindsey

Webmaster: Les Blalock



Above from left: The executive committee—Bud Lindsey, Peggy Kelton, Betty Cash, Sue Ann Damron, Sherry Phillips, and J. Tillapaugh. Thanks for your leadership!



Permian Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and recording the history of the Permian Basin of West Texas. Officers and committee members invite suggestions and recommendations for paper presentations and for articles to be published in *The Permian Historical Annual*.

Annual PHS Dues

Individuals, libraries, museums, and other organizations: \$25;
Family dues: \$30
Student dues: \$12.

PHS no longer offers Life Memberships; all Life Memberships are awarded. Life Memberships purchased before their elimination will be honored.

Dues checks should be sent to:

**Sherry Phillips
PHS Treasurer
P. O. Box 11
McCamey, TX 79752**