

78th Annual Meeting of
The West Texas Historical
Association

March 30-31, 2001

Midwestern State University
Wichita Falls, Texas

On the cover: Union Station, Wichita Falls, Texas 1953. Located near Eighth and Ohio, it cost \$100,000 to build in 1910. (Photo courtesy of Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University)

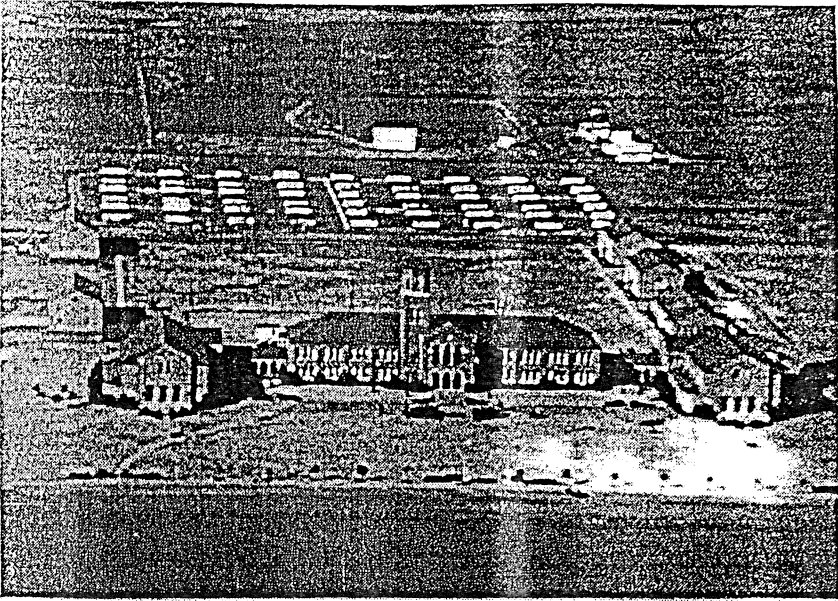
In 1876 M. W. Seeley mapped out Wichita Falls on a tract of land near the Wichita River. The site was named for a five-foot waterfall that subsequently washed away. Seeley envisioned prosperity from steamboats on the river and warehouses laden with cotton. Wichita Falls did grow to become a transportation and supply center for Northwest Texas and southern Oklahoma, but it was railroads and oil that made this happen.

Shortly after the turn of the century oil was discovered outside the city, in Clay County, and by 1913 the North Texas fields were producing forty-six percent of all the oil in Texas. Refineries began to appear in Wichita Falls, and by 1915 there were nine refineries and forty-seven factories within the city. The boom was on!

Refinery activity was at an all-time low in 1962 when the city's leaders moved to diversify the economy by attracting other types of industry. The economic base shifted to manufacturing and commercial activity, Sheppard Air Force Base, and county government.

The doors of Wichita Falls Junior College opened in September, 1922. Operated by the Wichita Falls ISD, it was the second municipal junior college in Texas. In 1937 the junior college moved to a new campus on Taft Blvd. and opened under a new name, Hardin Junior College. It became Hardin College in 1946 when junior and senior years were added. In 1950 the school became Midwestern University and post-graduate degrees were offered. The last name change, to Midwestern State University, came in 1975.

One of the largest tornadoes on record hit Wichita Falls on April 10, 1979. The storm destroyed more than twenty percent of the dwellings in town and damaged many commercial buildings, however, recovery was rapid and within three years most of the damage was repaired.



Midwestern University, circa 1950. In 1975 it became Midwestern State University. (Photo courtesy of Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University)

Exhibitors –Cheyenne Meeting Room (CSC 171*)

National Ranching Heritage Center

Texas Oral History Association

Book Club of Texas

Southwest Collection

Texas Tech University Press

2001 Program Committee

Janet Neugebauer, Lubbock, Chair

Kenneth E. Hendrickson, Jr., Wichita Falls

Troy M. Solis, Alpine

Local Arrangements

Harry Hewitt, Wichita Falls

David Gaines, Wichita Falls

***All locations are in the Clark Student Center—CSC**

Friday, March 30, 2001

12:30 p.m. **Registration.** Continues until 5:00 p.m. and will open again from 8:30-10:00 a.m. on Saturday.

Atrium-
West Entry
(CSC 160)

1:00 p.m. **Silent Auction Viewing and Bidding.** Auction items will be on display and available for bidding until 5:00 p.m. on Friday and from 8:30 until 10:00 A.M. on Saturday.

Clark
Hospitality
Room (CSC
161)

Session 1 *West Texas Personalities*

1:15 – 2:30 Monte Monroe, Texas Tech University, presiding

Wichita
Meeting
Room
(CSC
172/177)

*R. C. Crane: One of West Texas' Greatest Lay
Historians*, Rick Bates, Ft. Worth

Sheriff Gerome Shield, All Fists, No Gunpowder,
Barbara Barton, Knickerbocker

*Henry C. 'Hank' Smith: A Study of a South Plains
Capitalist, 1900-1912*, M. Scott Sosebee, Texas
Tech University (Student Essay Award Winner)

Session 2 *West Texas in the Imagination*

1:15 – 2:30 Kregg Fehr, Lubbock Christian University,
presiding

Kiowa Ex-
Students
Dining
Room
(CSC 162)

*Origins in Art Traditions of West Texas and the
South Plains*, Holle Humphries, University of
Texas

*Transcending the Moment: Local Texas Poetry
Chronicling History*, Becky Davidson, Texas
Tech University

*Tommy Hancock and Family: Musical Legends of
West Texas*, Robert G. Weiner, Mahon Library,
Lubbock

2:30 p.m. **Break**

Session 3
2:45 – 4:00

Wichita
Meeting
Room
(CSC
172/177)

Distant Voices From the Banks of the Wichita
Lynn Whitfield, Texas Tech University, presiding

*The Wichita Indians in Southern Plains History:
Identification and Historiography*, Earl Elam,
Granbury

*For Gallantry in Action: James B. Doshier and the
Battle of the Little Wichita*, Michael L. Collins,
Midwestern State University

*Beneath Arrowhead's Waters: The Story of Halsell,
Texas*, Lucille Glasgow, assisted by Mildred
Wines and Leda Roe, Henrietta

Session 4
2:45 – 4:00

Kiowa Ex-
Students
Dining Room
(CSC 162)

**The New and Old Hispanic Heritage of West
Texas**

Troy Solis, Sul Ross State University, presiding

The Culture of Candelilla, JoAnn Pospisil, Baylor
College of Medicine Archives

Brewster County, Texas and its Courthouse, J.
Travis Roberts, Jr., Marathon

*Becoming Raiders Rojos: Using Sports to Claim
Hispanic 'Space' at Texas Tech University*, Jorge
Iber, Texas Tech University

Session 5
4:00 – 5:15

Shawnee
Theater
(CSC 138)

A Tribute to Lawrence Clayton

Darlene Bellinghausen, presiding

Lawrence Clayton's Perspective on Western Fiction,
Lou Rodenberger, Baird

Lawrence Clayton: A Cowboy's Historian, B. W.
Aston, Hardin-Simmons University

Lawrence Clayton: A Man of Vision, Kenneth
Davis, Texas Tech University

6:15 – 6:45 **President's Reception Honoring**
Comanche
Suites
(CSC 135) **Clint Chambers**

Banquet President Clint Chambers, presiding
7:00 p.m. **Speaker – Kenneth Davis, Texas Tech University,**
Comanche *Local Lore and History: What the Tale*
Suites (CSC *Tells Us*
135)

Saturday, March 31, 2001

8:30 a.m. **Registration**
Atrium- West Entry (CSC 160)

8:30-10:00 **Silent Auction Viewing and Bidding**
Clark Hospitality Room (CSC 161)

Session 6 **Joint Session with East Texas Historical**
8:30- 10:00 **Association**

Shawnee Archie P. McDonald, Director, ETHA, presiding
Theater (CSC *East Texas Folklore*, F. E. Abernethy, Texas
138) Folklore Society

The Spindletop Discovery and Its Impact, Jo Ann
Stiles, Lamar University

Lumbering in East Texas, Carol Riggs, Texas
Forestry Museum

Session 7 **Tilling His Roots: Elmer Kelton in Context**

8:30 – Harwood P. Hinton, Austin, presiding
10:00 *Always Another Chance: Elmer Kelton's*

Wichita *Development of Characters and Themes through*
Meeting *His Short Stories*, Jim Matthews, San Antonio
Room

(CSC
172/177)

Gypwater and Lacy Mesquite: Gendered Views of West Texas in the Fiction of Elmer Kelton and Jane Rushing, Becky Matthews, San Antonio College

Rotten Hay from a Rotten Government, Lewis Toland, New Mexico Military Institute

Session 8
8:30 –
10:00

Weaving Pioneers, Populists, and Politics into the Fabric of West Texas

Garry Nall, West Texas A&M University, presiding

Kiowa Ex-
Students
Dining Room
(CSC 162)

The Sharecropper Frontier, Preston Lewis, Angelo State University

West Texas and Civil Rights Ordinances, Martin Kuhlman, West Texas A&M University

The Last Populist: George W. Armstrong, the Texas Election of 1932 and the 'Zionist' Threat to Liberty and Constitutional Government, Kenneth E. Hendrickson, Jr., Midwestern State University

10:00 –
10:15

Break

Session 9
10:15 –
11:30

Texas Oil: Past, Present, and Future

Kenneth E. Hendrickson, Jr., Midwestern State University, presiding

It's Not Your Father's Oil Industry Anymore, Roger Olien, University of Texas at Permian Basin.

Shawnee
Theater (CSC
138)

Today in the Oil Patch, Kent Cassity, Cassity Oil, Wichita Falls.

The Future of the Oil and Gas Industry on the Great Plains, Diana Olien, University of Texas at Permian Basin.

Luncheon *Historians as Heroes*, Clint Chambers, WTHA
Noon President, Awards and Business Meeting
Comanche
Suites (CSC
135)

Notes and Comments:



THE WEST TEXAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library Texas Tech University
P. O. Box 41041
Lubbock, Texas 79409-1041

Phone: 806-742-9076 (ext.248) e-mail: wthayb@ttu.edu
Fax: 806-742-0496 www.lib.ttu.edu/swc/westtexas

Membership in the WTHA entitles you to the most recent issue of the *YEAR BOOK* which has been published annually for over 76 years.

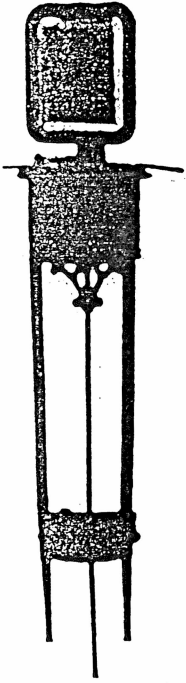
Membership also includes a subscription to the Cyclone, the WTHA newsletter. Distributed twice yearly, this publication highlights current events and acquisitions at museums, archives, and libraries located throughout West Texas. You will also be able to keep abreast of WTHA members and their current activities and interests.

As a member, you will be encouraged to attend WTHA's Annual Meeting, held each spring, and featuring a number of outstanding historians and writers.

NOTE: All membership dues are payable on November 1, each year. Any dues paid between November of one year and October of the following year will be applied to that fiscal year unless otherwise specified by the member.

FROM WITHIN THE WALLS

*An inside look at the antiques and artifacts
from the National Ranching Heritage Center's historic houses*



This unique exhibit is a compilation of antiques and artifacts from the historic structures at the NRHC. They are accompanied by history-based fictional journal entries. Together they tell of the hopes and dreams, struggles and victories of the lives of those who lived in the 18th through 20th centuries in the American West.

"... Joseph stands so erect as he shaves, despite his terrible grief that the Santa Fe Railroad's Amarillo to Lubbock line has bypassed Bartonsite by eight miles. It has gone east of us to Abernathy. Joseph says this will surely cause the downfall of our little town, so he will talk to the merchants about moving the mercantile, post office, lumberyard, hotel and school to Abernathy. We are to stay with the house here in Bartonsite. This was to be such a wonderful town, and our beautiful house the center of all social activity. Joseph is a proud man, and he has worked so hard for all that he has. We will be fine, though. I am sure of it."

*On exhibit through June 13, 2001
at the National Ranching Heritage Center*

*3121 4th Street, Lubbock, Texas
Mon. – Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 1-5 p.m.
Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day
and New Year's Day*

For information:

(806) 742-0498 • RanchHC@ttu.edu



*The National Ranching Heritage Center — Preserving the history of ranching
and pioneer life and the development of the livestock industry through the evolution
of authentic ranch structures.*

Building Our Community Together



MAKE KIDS COUNT 2001

Every Day In The A-J!

An Uncommon Value

LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

To subscribe, call 747-6397 or 1-800-692-4021
Visit us on the web at <http://www.lubbockonline.com>

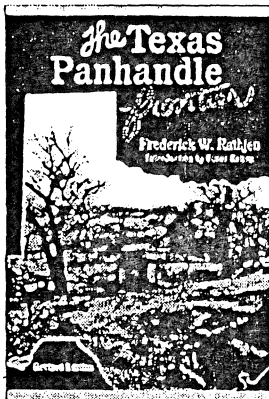
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY P R E S S

1-800-832-4042 www.ttup.ttu.edu email: ttup@ttu.edu

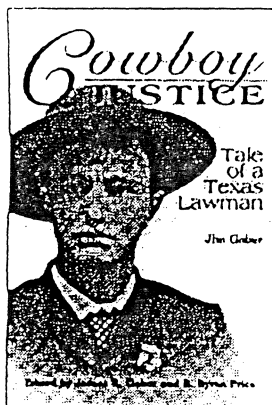
Great Western Reading



American West
248 pages, 6 x 9
(cloth) \$29.95
ISBN: 0-89672-425-5



Texas History
288 pages, 6 x 9
(paper) \$16.95
ISBN: 0-89672-399-2



Texas History/Memoir
256 pages, 6 x 9
(New in paper) \$17.95
ISBN: 0-89672-450-6



Texana
376 pages, 6 x 9
(paper) \$17.95
ISBN: 0-89672-441-7