West Texas Historical Association Tour
Saturday Afternoon April 5, 2014 Odessa Meeting
Transportation Included

Gaze upon Tom Lea’s WPA mural-- *Stampedede*

*We was camping on the Pecos when the wind began to blow,
And we doubled up the guard to hold them tight,
When the storm came roaring from the north with thunder
And with rain,
And the herd stampeded off into the night.* From “Little Joe the Wrangler”

Tour the White-Pool House Museum.
Visit the Parker House Ranch Museum
Be inspired by the Presidential Museum and Leadership Library

Reflect on art in the Ellen Noel Art Museum

Play with Stonehenge

. . . or watch the sunrise.

Dine and Be Entertained at the Barn Door and Pecos Depot Steakhouse
**Tom Lea’s WPA Mural—Stampede.** Painted by the well-known El Paso artist, Tom Lea, for the Odessa, Texas Post Office, it was completed in 1940 as one of the New Deal projects. This immense oil on canvas mural measures 5 ½ by 16 feet and simply has to be seen in person to be fully appreciated. The lightning streak against a coal black sky with the worked-up herd moving underneath is spellbinding.

**The Parker Ranch House Museum** is Odessa's newest addition to the historical records of Odessa. In 1935, the Jim and Bessie Parker family moved into this modest house. It represents the lifestyle of a prominent ranching family, who served the communities of Andrews and Ector counties since 1907. This restored modest house was once the headquarters of a ranch that took over 175 sections in Andrews and Ector Counties. Owned by the Parkers from the 1930s to the 1950s, this home features exhibits regarding the life and times of this family.

**White-Pool House Museum** stands as the oldest remaining structure in Odessa, Texas that was built in 1887, restored in 1979-1984. Rooms in the house are interpreted in two major periods: The 1880's "Pioneer Era" representing the time of occupancy by the White family, and the 1930's "Oil Boom Era", representing the time of occupancy by the Pool family. The museum complex features an Eclipse windmill and wood tank, barn replica, farm out-buildings, and an outhouse of handmade blocks from 1887. The barn also houses a permanent collection of horse drawn equipment. The White-Pool House was donated to Ector County for historical preservation in 1978. The White-Pool House Friends, a non-profit organization was formed in 1986 to preserve the historic heritage of the house and buildings on the grounds. The outside walls are red brick with plaster masonry over wooden lattice boards inside. The rock-lined cellar is made of native caliche rock found on the West Texas Prairie.

**The Presidential Museum and the Leadership Library** is unique among the presidential libraries in that it is dedicated to the Office of the President rather than an individual president. Originally open in 1964 in downtown Odessa the museum moved to the campus of the University of Texas, Permian Basin in 1999. The Hall of Presidents gallery offers visitors an opportunity to view objects related to individual presidents. The collections of artifacts include campaign memorabilia of presidents and presidential hopefuls. Also shown is the intricate Dishong collection of First Lady inaugural gown miniature replicas. The Library of the Presidents contains more than 3,500 volumes of subjects relating to the presidents and the office of the presidency. Students, scholars and the general public invited to use the reference facility for research.

**The Ellen Noel Art Museum** is the cultural oasis of Odessa since its opening in 1985 as the Art Institute for the Permian Basin. The Ellen Noël Art Museum of the Permian Basin is the culmination by Odessans to build a fine arts museum. The Museum was renamed to honor the leadership and philanthropy of Mrs. Ellen W. Noël. The American Association of Museums accredits the Museum. With 22,120 square feet of gallery and office space, including a storage wing for the growing permanent collection the Museum has three impressive galleries of varying sizes and configurations that allow for exhibitions of varied works, each in its own unique setting. Admission to the galleries is free.

**Stonehenge.** Built in 2004 by creative Odessans the impressive Stonehenge replica stands on the eastern edge of the UTPB campus. Formed by 20 stone blocks it is nearly full-scale with only the height of the stone blocks a tad shorter than the originals. The tallest original stone measures 22 feet with the replica only measuring 19. Purportedly one of the creators of the stonehenge in Odessa said "The stones are free, you take what you can get."

**Barn Door and Pecos Depot Steakhouse.** Tour members will have dinner at one of Odessa’s favorite places to eat with entertain tailored especially for the WTHA members. A ghost story no less.