



# WEST TEXAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

92nd Meeting at Amarillo College  
April 10—11, 2015



**In Memoriam:**

**F. E. “Ab” Abernathy, Nacogdoches  
Jack Lofton, Archer City  
Mary Ann McCuistion, Vernon**

**Officers:**

**Bill O’Neal, Carthage. President  
Diana Hinton, Midland, Vice President**

**2015 Program Committee:**

**Troy Ainsworth, Chair, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail  
Association, NM.  
Peggy Hardman, Socorro ISD, Socorro, NM.  
George Torok, El Paso Community College, El Paso.  
Leland Turner, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls.**

**2015 Local Arrangements Committee:**

**Garry Nall, Amarillo, Co-Chair  
Annette Nall, Amarillo, Co-Chair  
Paul Matney, Amarillo College  
Robert Hall, Pittsburg  
Lynn Whitfield, Lubbock**

**Sponsors:**

**Amarillo College and Paul Matney  
Amarillo Convention and Visitor Council  
Center City of Amarillo Inc. and Beth Duke, Executive Director Sponsor of the  
Friday Evening Presidential Reception**

**Cover:** On November 2, 2013 the Comanche and members of the Quanah Parker family returned to the panhandle to commemorate the installation of a Quanah Parker Trail arrow for Potter County at Mary Emeny’s Wildcat Bluff.

**Photograph courtesy of Holle Humphries.**

Saturday Awards and Business Lunch:  
12:30–2:00 PM, Oak Room, College Union Building  
Amarillo College



Presidential Address:  
WTHA President Bill O'Neal “

“West Texas:  
Laboratory and Playground  
for Historians”

2:00 PM Saturday Afternoon Tour of Amarillo

Back Cover: The Lighthouse rock formation in Palo Duro Canyon State Park.



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**Amarillo Convention and Visitor Council**

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West Texas Historical Association  
92nd Annual Meeting—Amarillo College

Friday, April 10

**Registration:** 8:00 A.M. – East entry foyer of Dutton Hall.

**Silent Auction:** 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. 201 Dutton Hall. To benefit the Student Scholarship Fund – Viewing and Bidding

**Vendors/Exhibitors:** 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P. M. 101 Dutton Hall

Session I, 8:30-9:45 AM

**Ghost Towns and Cemeteries: The Eclipsing of Life for West Texans and Their Settlements** 103 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Philip Pope, Texas Tech University

James B. Hays, Brownwood, “Walthall and the Early Settlement of Southern Runnels County”

Mildred Sentell, Snyder, “Black Gold and the Ghost Town of Burnam, Garza County, Texas”

Christena Stephens, Sundown, “How Mortality Records Can Provide a Historical Picture of a German Community”

**Smuggling and Violence on the Texas Frontier during the Civil War and Reconstruction** 105 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: John Caraway, Cisco College

Jim Matthews, San Antonio, “Confederate Smuggling on the Rio Grande Border, 1862-1865”

Nicholas K. Roland, University of Texas at Austin, “The Bandera Hanging Tree: Murder and Memory on the West Texas Frontier”

Mike Patterson, Edwards Plateau Historical Association, “Jennie Coalson: Frontier Heroine of Kimble County”

**Trailing Cattle Through West Texas and Beyond**

205 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Bruce Glasrud, San Antonio

Marisue Potts, Motley County Historical Commission, “Winchester Quarantine: Challenges of the Potter-Bacon Trail”

Jeff Bearden, Great Western Trail Organization, “The Identity Crisis of the Great Western Trail”

Jim Gray, “The Kansas Cowboy,” and Kansas Drovers Assn., “On the Trail to Kansas with Doc Barton—1872”

Session II, 10:00-11:15 AM

**Quanah Parker’s Legacy in Texas and Oklahoma**

103 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Bruce E. Parker, Quanah Parker Society

Holle Humphries, Quanah Parker Trail, “Elvis Has Been Sighted at the Laundromat, George Washington Slept Here, and Quanah Parker was Born Simultaneously in Both Texas and Oklahoma: Parsing the Truth as to Quanah Parker’s Presence, Travels, and Fame”

Christopher Freeman and John Hensley, Midwestern State University, “Two Worlds, One Big Pasture: Quanah Parker and Burk Burnett: The Social, Economic, and Cultural Implications of Anglo/Indian Associations in the Oklahoma and Texas Borderlands”

**Reflecting on Texas Archaeology: Past, Present, and Future**

105 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Lynn Whitfield, Texas Tech University

William A. “Andy” Cloud, Center for Big Bend Studies, Sul Ross State University, “Archaeological Research in the Big Bend of Texas: A Historical Overview”

Tamra Walter, Texas Tech University, “Foreign Frontiers and Native Homelands: Spanish and Indigenous Interactions at San Saba”

Scott Brosowske, Courson Archaeology and Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, “North of the Llano: Middle Ceramic Period Research between the Arkansas and Canadian Rivers”

**Buffalo Robes, Foot and Mouth Disease, and Wool**

205 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Christena Stephens, Sundown

Dick Brown, Tijeras, New Mexico, “Charles Jesse Jones: Legendary Buffalo Hunter”

Richard Hancock, Norman, Oklahoma, “Combatting Foot and Mouth Disease along the Texas-Mexico Border, 1946-1954”

John Caraway, Cisco College, “Texas Beauties in Sheep’s Clothing: San Angelo and the Miss Wool Pageant, 1952-1972”



**Women's History Luncheon:** 11:30 AM-12:45 PM, Oak Room, College Union Building, Amarillo College The event is an open forum lunch for anyone interested in Women's History and will highlight current research trends and topics. Attendees should sign-up via the conference registration form @ [wtha.org](http://wtha.org). For more information, contact [Marisue.Potts@wtha.org](mailto:Marisue.Potts@wtha.org) or [Cecilia.Venable@wtha.org](mailto:Cecilia.Venable@wtha.org).

Session III, 1:00-2:15 PM

**Historic Hotels of the Plains and Panhandle: A Spectrum of Preservation Stories**

103 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Michael Grauer, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum

Barbara Brannon, Texas Plains Trail Region, "A Grande Dame Shines Again: Big Spring's Hotel Settles during Eighty-Five Years of Boom, Bust, and Boom"

Robert Goodrich, Proprietor, Herring Hotel, Amarillo, "The Historic Herring: Past, Present, and Future"

Dan L. Smith, Fort Worth, "Automobiles and Architecture: The Abilene Courts on the Bankhead Highway"

**The Value of Digitization Projects: Research Without Getting Your Hands Dirty**

105 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Freedonia Paschall, Texas Tech University

Sheon Montgomery, Texas Tech University, "Bringing the Vietnam War to the Desktop: Exploring the Virtual Vietnam Archive"

Austin Allison, Texas Tech University, "Sifting through the Dust: The Process of Digitizing West Texas' Aging Newspapers"

Rob E. King, Texas Tech University, "Extra! Extra! But How Much Extra?: Description of Digitized Objects after Processing"

**Center for Big Bend Studies' Archaeology in the Big Bend and the White Buffalo of J. Wright Mooar**

205 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: William A. "Andy" Cloud, Sul Ross State University

Roger D. Boren, Sul Ross State University, "The History and Rock Art of San Esteban Rockshelter, Presidio County, Texas"

Richard W. Walter, Sul Ross State University, "Archaeology at the Fulcher Site (41BS1495): A Multi-component Open Campsite along the Lower Reaches of Terlingua Creek, Brewster County, Texas"

Drew Bullard, Scurry County Historical Commission, "J. Wright Mooar and the White Buffalo"

Session IV, 2:30-3:45 PM

**The Life of Cornelia Adair**

103 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University

William Green, Canyon, Texas, "Cornelia Wadsworth Ritchie Adair: Early Years and Marriages"

Dollie Lookingbill, West Texas A&M University, "Cornelia Out West: A Hunting Trip and the Formation of the JA Partnership"

Maureen Hubbart, West Texas A&M University, "The Hobart Letters: Cornelia Adair's Management of the JA Ranch"

Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University, "Cornelia's Transatlantic Connections: The Later Years"

**Native Americans in Texas: Their Contributions and Lifeways**

105 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Virginia Scott, Wolf Creek Heritage Museum

Steve Houser, Texas Historic Tree Consortium, "Indian Marker Trees"

Sherry Robinson, Albuquerque, New Mexico, "The Quiet Heroes of the Battle of Palo Duro Canyon"

Antonio Pruneda Bill, Jim Wells County Historical Commission, "José Maria Bill, Indian Captive-Army Guide"

**Wichita Falls Chapter of Western's International**

205 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Leland Turner, Midwestern State University

Jesse Beckham, Wichita Falls, "The Boot: Inception and Continuation of Boot Manufacturing in Nocona, Texas, at the Hands of Enid Justin"

Cody Bradley, Wichita Falls, "The Influence of the Southern Great Plains on the Texas Political Process, 1875 to 1891"

Bill Steward, Wichita Falls, "Eck Roberson: Panhandler Fiddler"

Session V: 4:00-5:15 PM

**East Texas Historical Association Session**

103 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Scott Sosebee, East Texas Historical Association

Mari Nicholson-Preuss, University of Houston-Downtown, "Baugh Knows: Lubbock's Forgotten Pioneer Doctor"

George M. Cooper, Lone Star College-Montgomery, "Loewenstein's of Rockdale"

Gene Preuss, University of Houston-Downtown, "Bastrop, Brownwood, and Beyond: West Texas and the 1948 Bastrop Decision"



## **Texana Personalities**

105 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Robert G. Weaver, Texas Tech University

Pat Parsons, Luling, “Reverend Andrew Jackson Potter: Gambling on Salvation in West Texas”

Hubert Welch, Jr., Abilene, “Tracking the Trail of R. H. Stuckey (1855-1936)—West Texas Architect”

Jim Hammond, Fort Belknap, “Killing the Sheriff: The Mysterious Murder of Andrew Jackson Royal”

## **West Texas Military Aviation, Building a World Class University, and Crime**

205 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Wes Sheffield, Burlison

Jay Burns, Ector County ISD, “West Texas Military Aviation History—A Wind Blown Affair”

H. Allen Anderson, Texas Tech University, “A Bowtie Maverick in West Texas: Grover E. Murray and the Emergence of Texas Tech University”

Lana Barnett, Tulia, “‘They Needed Hanging’—Crime and Punishment on the High Plains of Texas”



**Photograph Courtesy of Holle Humphries**

Part of Julius Woeltz's New Deal era mural in the J. Marvin Jones Federal Building of Amarillo showing plains tribes on a buffalo hunt.



West Texas Historical Association

Founded 1924

### FRIDAY EVENING

- 6:00 PM Reception Honoring President Bill O'Neal at the Bivins House downtown (1001 S. Polk Street) **hosted and sponsored by Center City of Amarillo Inc. and Beth Duke, Executive Director.**
- 6:30 PM Banquet at The Loft of the Christian Life Center of the Polk Street Methodist Church, 1401 S. Polk Street – President Bill O'Neal Presiding.
- 7:00 PM Keynote Speaker, Bill Neal, Awarding Winning Western Author.

## **“Courtroom Gladiators of Yesteryear: Tales of Those Audacious Frontier Lawyers”**



Bill Neal (left, in above photo) practiced criminal law in West Texas for forty years: twenty as a prosecutor and twenty as a defense attorney. Getting Away with Murder on the Texas Frontier was named Book of the Year for 2008 by the National Association for Outlaw and Lawmen History, in 2007 and 2008 won the Rupert N. Richardson Award for the best book on West Texas history from the West Texas Historical Association, and was a finalist for both the Violet Crown Award by the Writers' League of Texas and the Spur Award by the Western Writers of America. Neal grew up on a ranch near the famed Medicine Mounds in Hardeman County and now lives with his wife, Gayla, in Abilene, Texas.



Saturday, April 11

SATURDAY MORNING. Registration. 8:00 – 11:00 A.M

Silent Auction. 8:00 to 10:00 A.M. 201, Dutton Hall.

Session VI: 8:00-9:15 AM

**A Prof's Prof: A Timely Tribute to Paul Howard Carlson and His Versatile Body of Work** Ordway Hall (auditorium)

Session Chair: David J. Murrah, Rockport

Susan Dickey, Jackson, Mississippi, "Paul Carlson: The Young Teacher and Military Historian"

Leland Turner, Midwestern State University, "Paul Carlson: Ranching Historian"

Scott Sosebee, Stephen F. Austin State University, "Paul Carlson: Native American Historian"

Monte Monroe, Texas Tech University, "Paul Carlson: Editor and Mentor"

Session VII: 9:30 AM-10:45 PM

**The Hardin Brothers in West Texas: End of the Gunfighters** 103 Dutton Hall

Session Chair and Commentator: Bill Neal, Abilene

Chuck Parsons, Luling, "John Wesley Hardin in El Paso"

Norman Wayne Brown, Snyder, "Bad Blood"

**Everything You Need to Know to Conduct a Successful History Harvest,** 105 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Warren Stricker, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum

Suzanne Campbell, Angelo State University, and Sarah Nezamabadi, Humanities Texas, "How To Plan Implement and Complete a History Harvest." The need to record local history and its significance to a community serves as session's cornerstone. Practical tips and suggestions will be offered for local and county historical societies to encourage residents to share their family history to build and archive a sense of community and place.

**Panhandlers of Note: Cowboy, Crooner, and Sausage King** 205 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Lynn Whitfield, Texas Tech University

Andy Wilkinson, Texas Tech University, "Robert Burns in Boots: Buck Ramsey, Cowpunch Poet and Singer"

Joe W. Specht, McMurry University, "Amarillo by Morning: The Life and Songs of Terry Stafford"

Robert Reitz, Dallas, "70 Percent Sausage, 100 Percent Ham—The Musical Life of Plainview's Own, Jimmy Dean"

Session VIII: 11:00 AM-12:15 PM

**Dust Bowl Days** 103 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Deirdre Trotter, Texas Tech University

Jean A. Stuntz, West Texas A&M University, "Letters from the Dust Bowl: Caroline Henderson's Life in the Oklahoma Panhandle"

Garry Nall, Amarillo, "The Dust Bowl Experience in the Texas Panhandle"

Mary Jarvis, West Texas A&M University, "Dust Bowl Information, Artifacts, and Collections in the Texas Panhandle"

**Boosterism, Capitalism, and Development in West Texas** 105 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Patrick Maille, Oklahoma Panhandle State University

Deborah Liles, University of North Texas, "Capitalism in the 1850s along the Northwestern Frontier of Texas"

Rob E. King, Texas Tech University, "Discovering the Life of William P. Florence through Materials in the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library"

Becky Matthews, San Antonio, "Wouldn't You Like to Be a Pepper?: Frances Exum Edwards and the Amarillo Dr. Pepper Plant"

**South Texas Historical Association Session** 205 Dutton Hall

Session Chair: Chuck Parsons, Luling

Mary Jo O'Rear, Corpus Christi, "Sibley's Shadow and the Battle of Nueces"

Cecilia Guterrez-Venable, University of Texas at El Paso, "Reverend Brown, The Stork: Texas German Adoptions after World War II"

Carroll Scoggin-Bricefield, Somerville, "Come Hell or High Water: Clinton, South Texas Ghost Town"