I bring you greetings from Abilene, Texas, where things are somewhat in a state of change. Camillo Browder graduated; therefore, I was on my own this summer until Erin Allan from Crane joined me this fall. I cannot thank Camille enough for what she has done for the Association over the past four years, and in particular, while I was away in England last fall. It is difficult to find a young person of her calibre, but I think Erin will fit in with the group just fine. The second major change is that Dr. Ken Jacobs and I, for the first time in twenty-three years, are not putting the Yearbook together. That job goes to Dr. Paul Carlson and Andy Young at Texas Tech University.

For those of you who missed the annual meeting in Lubbock you missed a great time. On Friday afternoon April 11, at 3:00 p.m., the office of the Editor of the West Texas Historical Association, located in the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library, was officially dedicated by B W Aston, Executive Director; Paul Carlson, Editor; William Tydeman, Director of the Library; and the membership in attendance. It was really a grand moment for the Association to have an institution that fully appreciates the worth of the Association, and one that is willing to provide such wonderful facilities.

The Association also held its sessions in the meeting rooms of the new library. Frederick Rathjen, Paul Carlson, Tai Kreidler, and the entire staff of the Southwest Collection went above and beyond the call-of-duty to ensure the success of the Seventy-Fourth Annual meeting and that each of those involved have a pleasant experience. If you happen to be in communication with any of these people, thank them for their efforts.

Next year, the Annual Meeting will be held in Abilene, Texas, and I only hope that we can do half as well. We presently are looking at two dates: April 3-4 or April 17-18. If you have your druthers, let me know. Full information will be coming later. For those of you that may be working on papers, you can send your proposals to me, and I will see that they reach the appropriate committee persons.

We encourage all members to participate in the annual meetings of the Association either by presenting a paper, chairing a session, or being a member of the audience. I promise you it will be a rewarding experience. Also, I encourage you to promote membership in the Association. It is one of the best buys on the market, and you will do your friends a good deed to introduce them to the Association and the Yearbook. Also, if you would like to invite the Association to your region of West Texas, let me know, and I will forward your invitation to the Board of Directors. We like to look at possible sites two or three years in advance.

At the Annual Meeting we established a Family Membership, e.g. husband and wife, for $20. This includes only one Yearbook, but it does eliminate two separate dues or the question of which one gets to join this year! By the way, all materials for the Yearbook, unless otherwise directed, should be sent to Dr. Paul Carlson or his Associate Research Editor Andy Young at the following address:

West Texas Historical Association Yearbook
Southwest Collection
P.O. Box 41041
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, Texas 79409-1041
(806) 742-9076  FAX (806) 742-0496
E-Mail: wthayb@itacs ttu.edu

All orders for the Yearbook, dues, etc. will still be sent to me at Hardin-Simmons. I hope that The Cyclone finds you in the best of spirits and that you are having a

B.W.
Recommendations from the Board of Directors to the Membership:

The Board of Directors met on October 11, 1997, at Snyder, Texas. Seventeen members were present and passed the following recommendations of the Long Range Planning Committee. The following, in places, has been abbreviated, but a full text will be available at the spring meeting where everyone will have the opportunity to comment and vote.

Before discussion on the Recommendations of the Long Range Planning Committee began, Harry Snapp proposed the following resolution which was passed by a unanimous vote of the Board:

"Whereas, the Yearbook has been and remains the most important, permanent, and enduring historical contribution of the West Texas Historical Association, resolved, that the Board of Directors of the W.T.H.A. reject the recommendation that 'Income from the Endowment should not be used to subsidize the publication of the Yearbook' and affirms that the timely annual publication of the Yearbook in its current hardcover format with its page size and number of pages similar to previous Yearbooks of the Association shall have first priority on both the dues income of the Association and such additional financial support from the Association's Endowment as might be required for the printing, binding, and mailing of the Yearbook."

1. The W.T.H.A. will remain an organization that encourages both non-professional and professional historians to become active members, to publish in its Yearbook, to participate in its annual meeting, to serve the Association, and to promote the history of West Texas.
2. The annual meeting will be held each spring at a West Texas city, a place determined by invitation and by the Executive Director and the Board of Directors.
3. The Yearbook will retain essentially its current format. Its editorial offices will remain in the Southwest Collection/Special Collections building. The editor, as per the Association's agreement with Texas Tech University, will remain a member of the Texas Tech History Department.
4. a. The Cyclone, presently being produced by Jodella Dyreson, who has done an outstanding job with little help or direction, should have a regular publication schedule of twice a year.
   b. Within two or three years, The Cyclone should move to another level taking on the appearance of a slick paper, magazine format with popular articles from old Yearbooks, minus the notes; with more pictures; some book reviews; and notes on activities at museums, archives, historical pageants and other historical events.
   c. Also, perhaps in the near future, the newsletter should be moved to Texas Tech where it can be coordinated with the publication of the Yearbook and become the primary vehicle for promoting the Association.
5. a. That the Association undertake an aggressive membership drive spearheaded by the Board of Directors and a membership committee. Each member should also be involved in promoting the Association in their own local area.
   b. The Association also undertake a campaign to increase the Endowment of the Association. The basic form of this campaign to be worked out by a committee and the Board.
6. a. A good portion of the income from the Endowment (not less than 10%) should be returned to the principal so that the Endowment can continue to grow. Additional income should continue to be used for awards, honors, special recognition, research and other worthy causes.
   b. Relatedly, the Association needs to codify its Endowment. We need to establish an Endowment policy and put it in writing, including a statement in the Constitution and By-Laws.
   c. A flyer needs to be printed for publicity purposes, stating the name, purpose, and operating procedures of the Endowment.
7. The Association should move to secure funding grants to establish a formalized publication program to publish diaries, special offprints related to West Texas, or local projects.

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8. Perhaps the Association, in the near future, could establish various summer activities, such as providing a speakers bureau, sponsor field trips, etc.

9. a. That the final move of all Executive Offices of the Association to the Texas Tech Southwest Collection/Special Collections offices be made by September 1, 1998.

b. That Paul Carlson be named interim Executive Director of the Association and serve in such capacity from September 1, 1998, until such time the Association names a permanent Executive Director, and that Paul Carlson would not be a candidate for the position.

10. That all changes agreed to by the membership be implemented by appropriate changes in the By-Laws and presented to the Board and Membership in an appropriate manner.

News

W. Stewart Caffey of Abilene was selected as the local recipient of the prestigious George Washington Honor Medal of the 1996 National Awards Program of the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Eakin Press recently published Cowboys: Contemporary Ranch Life along the Clear Fork of the Brazos by Lawrence Clayton of Hardin-Simmons University. It features photographs by Sonja Irwin Clayton. The Texas State Historical Association elected Harwood P. Hinton as a Fellow on March 8, 1997. Dr. Hinton recently contributed five articles to the four-volume Encyclopedia of the American West (Macmillan, 1996). The Southwest Collection of Texas Tech University has announced that for the first time the records of the Southwest Conference are available to researchers. After diligent effort, the staff of the Southwest Collection finished processing the 850 film and video items and the twelve rolls of microfilm that chronicle the history and evolution of the Southwest Conference. This represents one of the finest collegiate sports research collections in the nation. The public can use these materials in the Holden Reading Room of the new Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library.
The Cyclone

West Texas Historical Association

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Mildred Sentell, Snyder

Vice-President
Harwood P. Hinton, Austin

Executive Director
B.W. Aston, Abilene

Editor
Paul Carlson, Lubbock

Associate Editor
B.W. Aston, Abilene

Book Review Editor
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The Cyclone Editor
JoDee Dyreson, Ogden, Utah

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Lou Rodenberger, Abilene
Frederick W. Rathjen, Canyon

In Memoriam:

Dr. Monte R. Lewis
of Howard-Darne University

Dr. J. Milton Nance
of Texas A&M University

New Addresses:

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Southwest Collection
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Texas Tech University
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