As part of its contract with the University of North Texas, the Texas State Historical Association agreed to raise $500,000 in support of a $1.5 million endowment to create a chair in Texas History. At its annual meeting in March, the Association proudly announced that J. P. Bryan, the leader of the Texas State Historical Association’s fundraising efforts, secured pledges of $600,000 to create the Lone Star Chair in Texas History.

In addition to himself, J. P. Bryan has confirmed the following donors to the Lone Star Chair: Jeff Haynes of Alpine, Monroe Garrison of Houston, Margaret Vonder Hoya of Dallas, and Chris Reeder of Dallas. Their pledges fulfill TSHA’s initial obligation to the University of North Texas, but J. P. Bryan is still working on adding additional donors. The Association is most grateful to J. P. Bryan and to all the donors for the Lone Star in Texas History Chair.

J. P. Bryan’s star has long shone brightly with TSHA. He was TSHA president for the year 1982–1983, established the Mary Jon and J. P. Bryan Leadership in Education Award that is presented annually by the TSHA to an outstanding Texas History educator, and chaired the TSHA Auction of the Century in 2006. J. P. wrote the foreword for the award-winning At the Heart of Texas, by Rick McCaslin. His roots in the history of the state can be traced to Emily Austin Bryan Perry, sister of Stephen F. Austin. J. P.’s interest in Texas history was instilled by his father, J. P. Bryan Sr., TSHA president 1965–1967, and by his Aunt Hally Bryan Perry, and was encouraged by former Association director, H. Bailey Carroll.

When the TSHA chose to affiliate with the University of North Texas, the decision was due, in part, to the institution’s dedication to Texas History research. The endowed Chair will support a professorship in the field of Texas History at UNT, which is important to the future of TSHA and the university in their ability to attract and retain leading scholars.

A formal ceremony is planned later this year to commemorate the establishment of the Lone Star in Texas History Chair.

“We are immensely grateful to J. P. Bryan and the Lone Star in Texas History Chair donors for their generous and visionary gifts,” said TSHA Executive Director J. Kent Calder.

Randolph B. “Mike” Campbell, TSHA Chief Historian and UNT Regents Professor of History added, “These gifts to fund the Chair in Texas History will stimulate new scholarship and thinking and will contribute to increased understanding of Texas history and culture.”
More than 650 history scholars and enthusiasts assembled for the 113th Annual Meeting on March 26–28, 2009, at the Palmer Events Center in Austin. The meeting included thirty-three informational sessions covering a wide range of Texas history. In addition, an array of events—presentations, award presentations, receptions, and banquets—contributed to the memorable meeting.

At noon on Thursday, the festivities began with the Women in Texas History Luncheon. Mary Kelley presented the Liz Carpenter Award to Bruce Glasrud and Merline Pitre, co-editors of *Black Women in Texas History*. Then, noted author, TSHA Fellow, and St. Edwards University professor, Paula Mitchell Marks discussed “When Will the Weary War Be Over?: The Civil War Letters of the Maverick Family of San Antonio.” Dr. Marks recognized several members of the Maverick family she had invited to attend the luncheon and hear her address.

Hosted jointly by the Texas A&M University History Department, Texas A&M University Press, and TSHA, the Presidential Reception was held Thursday evening to recognize incoming President Walter L. Buenger.

Early Friday morning, Richard B. McCaslin, Chair of the History Department at the University of North Texas, described obstacles he encountered in “Collectors’ Challenge from the Dark Corner of the Confederacy: The Great Hanging at Gainesville, Texas” at the Book Lovers’ and Texana Lovers’ Breakfast.

At noon Friday, Second Vice-President Dianne Powell presided at the Fellows Luncheon. Eleven awards and fellow-
ships were presented as TSHA officially recognized significant contributions to the study of Texas history. Joyce Roach, chair of the Fellows committee, announced the 2009 Fellows: Merline Pitre, Patrick Cox, and Stephen L. Hardin. Information about the 2009 Fellows and a complete list of the 2009 Awards and Fellowships appears on the TSHA website and will be printed in the Collections section of the July issue of the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*.

Friday’s events concluded with the Presidential Banquet to honor 2008–2009 President Frances B. Vick. Before the “East Texas Supper” was served, she delivered a presentation about a colorful East Texas relative in her talk titled "Martin Parmer, Some History and Some Stories of the Ring-Tailed Panther.”

In the manner of true East Texas hospitality, Ms. Vick arranged for door prizes to be donated by the University of North Texas Press so that one lucky person at each table received a copy of *Boardin’ in the Thicket: Recipes and Reminiscences of Early Big Thicket Boarding Houses* by Wanda A. Landry.

Book publishers introduced new works and displayed old favorites in the book exhibition. Offering superb items headlined by personally-guided tours of Texas museums and historic sites, the Silent Auction raised funds to support the Annual Meeting.

Mark your calendars now for the 114th Annual Meeting to be held March 4–6, 2010, at the Marriott Quorum Hotel in Dallas.
Welcome Officers and New TSHA Board Members

During the Annual Meeting’s business meeting, Walter L. Buenger was inaugurated as TSHA board president and Dianne Powell ascended to the position of vice president. In addition, elections were held and new board members were named. TSHA is honored to have Merline Pitre serve as second vice president. Dr. Pitre is a Professor of History and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Behavioral Sciences at Texas Southern University in Houston. The three of them join past presidents Frances B. Vick and Frank de la Teja in comprising the 2009 TSHA officers.

The membership elected Gayle Strange, chair of the Board of Regents of the University of North Texas System, to begin a three-year term on the board of directors. All bring valuable knowledge and a common love of history and TSHA to the board. Details about the new board members and their many accomplishments will appear in the Collection section of the July issue of the Southwestern Historical Quarterly. The issue will also feature board members who have agreed to serve a second three-year term and those members who have fulfilled their tenures.

2009 TSHA Board of Directors

Officers

Walter L. Buenger
College Station
President

Dianne Powell
San Antonio
First Vice President

Merline Pitre
Houston
Second Vice President

Frances B. Vick
Dallas
Past President (2008)

Frank de la Teja
Austin
Past President (2007)

Board Members

Caroline Castillo Crimm, Huntsville (2007–2010)

Joe R. Fulton, Corpus Christi (2008–2011)

John Schoellkopf, Dallas (2008–2011)
Gayle Strange, Denton (2009–2012)
Lonn Taylor, Fort Davis (2006–2009)
Cecil E. Weller Jr. (Eddie), Houston (2007–2010)
John Crain, Dallas—Honorary Life Member
Jenkins Garrett, Fort Worth—Honorary Life Member
TSHA WEBSITE

right now on

TSHA Items on Ebay

Have you seen the Ebay button on the TSHA Home Page? Clicking it will lead you to the items TSHA has available for purchase on Ebay. Both auction and “Buy it Now” items are posted. Current auction offerings include a group of six issues of the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* from the 1940s. Hurry to place your bids before they are gone!

Find Award-Winning Texas History Books

When you click on the “Site Search” in the left menu of the TSHA Home Page, you can see a rotation of Texas History books that have won TSHA awards and books by TSHA board members. Clicking on a book provides ordering information through Amazon.com.

Have you investigated the list of TSHA Award recipients listed in the Awards section of the website? When you click on a particular award, the list of recipients appears. All books listed in blue can be purchased. Hovering over a particular book causes a pop-up to appear with ordering information through Amazon.com. Remember that purchases made within an hour after clicking to Amazon.com from the TSHA site will benefit TSHA.

Visit www.TSHAonline.org to See What’s New!

PUBLICICATION NEWS

Sacred Memories: The Civil War Monument Movement in Texas

by Kelly McMichael

Viewed as symbols of a community’s sense of itself, the values it holds dear, and its collective memory, war memorials provide more information about the period in which they are erected than the period of the war itself. *Sacred Memories: The Civil War Monument Movement in Texas* by Kelly McMichael tours Civil War monuments throughout the state and tells the story of each monument and its creation. She explores Texans’ motivations for erecting Civil War memorials, focusing on the human story of each monument and the characters involved in its creation.

Kelly McMichael, Ph.D., is the associate director of the Center for Learning Enhancement, Assessment, and Redesign at the University of North Texas.

To Order, Visit www.TSHAonline.org or Call 1-800-826-8911
The Walter Prescott Webb Historical Society met on March 27–28 in conjunction with the TSHA Annual Meeting. The business meeting, chaired by Patricia Richie of Jacksonville College, was attended by chapter representatives from Sam Houston State University, San Jacinto College-South Campus, Lamar University, Lee College, Jacksonville College, and the University of Houston-Downtown. Chapter members discussed past and upcoming activities for the year.

In Saturday’s opening session, papers published in the Society’s 2009 *Touchstone* by Ryan Treesh of the University of Houston-Downtown, Elizabeth Stockett of Lee College, and Ronald Traylor of Southeastern Louisiana University were presented.

During the final session, Garna Christian of the University of Houston-Downtown received the David C. DeBoe Memorial Award for his dedicated sponsorship of the Webb Society Chapter at his institution. The C. M. and Cora Caldwell Memorial Awards for outstanding research and writing were presented to students. In the Junior Division—those with less than 60 hours—First Place went to Megan Burns, Second Place to Clara Ramirez, Third Place to Amelia Giles, and Fourth Place to Alan Garcia. In the Senior Division—undergraduates with 60 or more hours—First Place went to Lori Glauspe, Second Place to Brandon Goodwin, Third Place to Autumn Vaughn, and Fourth Place to Joseph Middleton. In the Graduate Division, Leigh Ann Shelfer won First Place. All 2009 Caldwell Award entries will be considered for publication in the 2010 issue of the Society’s journal *Touchstone*.

The Webb Society would like to encourage ALL college or university students to participate in the Caldwell Writing Competition. For more information about the Webb Society or the Caldwell Writing Awards visit http://www.tshaonline.org or call at (940) 369-5200.

The 2009 edition of *Touchstone*, the Journal of the Walter Prescott Webb Historical Society, is now available. Published annually in March in cooperation with the Honors Program at Lee College, its primary focus is the publication of college students’ research on Texas history. It also includes articles by Webb Society sponsors.

The single-issue price is $9.00, including tax and shipping. For more information, contact Steve Cure at (940) 369-5200 or SteveCure@TSHAonline.org.
Leadership in Education Award

At the Awards Banquet during the Annual Meeting, an outstanding educator received the Mary Jon and J. P. Bryan Leadership in Education Award. Tim Draves of MacArthur High School in Northeast ISD accepted the honor designated by the Leadership in Education Award committee chaired by Danny Corbett. Designed to recognize and reward educators at the secondary and post-secondary level who utilize leadership and innovative techniques in the study of history, the $5,000 Leadership in Education Award is the largest offered by TSHA.

We gratefully acknowledge the continued financial support of this award by TSHA members, Mary Jon and J. P. Bryan. TSHA encourages everyone to nominate the outstanding educators in their communities for this prestigious honor. Information on the nomination process is available on our website at: www.TSHAonline.org/Education.

Junior Historians Discover History in Dallas

On April 3–4, members of the Junior Historians of Texas joined staff and guest speakers for their 70th Annual Meeting. Nearly 300 students, sponsors, and chaperones visited sites in Dallas including the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza and Dallas Heritage Village at Old City Park. Participants learned about oral history and heard firsthand accounts of the events of 1963 while visiting the Museum on Friday evening. On Saturday, following the presentation of Chapter projects and history fair entries, the group met at Dallas Heritage Village. The Village’s Junior Historian chapter served as interpreters for the tour while dressed in period clothing.

Following the tour, participants took part in the organization’s General Assembly and Awards Luncheon. The luncheon was highlighted by remarks from guest speaker Michael Hazel on the “History of Big D” and from Executive Director Kent Calder. Attendees applauded the recipients of numerous awards distributed for individual, group, and chapter research as well as chapter achievement. In addition, awards for outstanding sponsorship were presented to deserving educators who make the program possible for their students. Ted Sanders of Katy won the David C. DeBoe Memorial Award for outstanding sponsorship of a Junior Historians Chapter. The Dorman and Ruth Carolyn Winfrey Sponsors Award—given since 1991—went to Helen Bradley of Irving, a special honor in light of Dr. Winfrey’s recent passing a week previously.

The Junior Historians of Texas program continues to be grateful to the Summerlee Foundation and Summerfield G. Roberts Foundation for their generous support, making possible this year’s annual meeting and a resurgence of the time-honored program.
The Riding Line is published quarterly by the Texas State Historical Association as an update for its members.

J. Kent Calder
Executive Director

Terri Killen
Riding Line Editor and Director of Special Events

Steve Portch
Director of the Digital Gateway

David Degnan
Administrative Manager

TSHA MEMBERSHIP

Special Savings on 2008–2009 Texas Almanac

The Texas State Historical Association announces a Special Five and Ten Sale on the Texas Almanac 2008–2009, while supplies last.

Shipping is $5.00 for the first issue and $1.00 for each additional issue within the continental United States. Rates are available for shipping outside the continental U.S. Sales tax is charged where applicable.

First published in 1857, the Texas Almanac has been the ultimate resource about life in Texas for 150 years. Printed in full color on glossy paper, the 2008–2009 edition includes over 245 color photos from the Gulf of Mexico to the West Texas mountains and color relief maps of Texas and each of Texas’ 254 counties.

The Texas Almanac is your source for all things Texan.

Order your copy online at www.TSHAonline.org or call (940)369-5200.