

# R I D I N G L I N E

The Newsletter of the Texas State Historical Association

Spring 2017

## HANDBOOK OF HOUSTON



Above: J.E. Fisher Private Collection. Right: Historic Houston Photographs, Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries.



A boomtown founded by two brothers on the banks of Buffalo Bayou in 1836 has grown into a thriving giant of a metropolis focused on progress and always eyeing the future. Yet its rich history has affected people in this state and well beyond. Houston served as the first permanent capital of the Republic of Texas, hosted the state's first presidential convention for a national political party, and built Texas's first freeway and the world's first air-conditioned sports stadium. In 1969 "Houston" rang out as the first word spoken from the moon, a nod to its legacy as "Space City." Since its

founding, Houston has played a vital part in the growth and development of Texas. The first city-focused spinoff of the *Handbook of Texas* highlights Houston's unique history.

TSHA and the Houston History Alliance (HHA) proudly announced the launch of the *Handbook of Houston* at TSHA's Annual Meeting in Houston on March 2, 2017. This fifth *Handbook* spin-off project, the culmination of many years of historical research, contains more than 1,250 new and existing entries covering Houston's significant impact on the state, the nation, and world. Talk of an encyclopedic-style

collection of Houston's history began in earnest in 2008, when professional and avocational historians began discussing the idea. A partnership between the TSHA and the HHA in 2015 made the project a reality, thanks to the efforts of dozens of authors and the generous underwriting of Houston Endowment.

Lindsay Scovil Dove of the Houston History Alliance has directed the project since 2015. The new entries added to the *Handbook of Houston* represent the city's diverse culture and highlight topics such as historic events and landmarks, businesses and organizations, and biographies on community activists and leaders. Through the *Handbook*, the general public as well as school students and university researchers can come to understand the importance of Houston in Texas history. Both TSHA and HHA look forward to continuing to add to this scholarship with increased content for the *Handbook of Houston*.

As a part of this launch, TSHA offers the exclusive eBook, *Houston: Past, Present, and Progress*, as a FREE download. Featuring selections from the *Handbook of Houston* and related



Brett J. Derbes announces the *Handbook of Houston* as Lindsay Scovil Dove prepares to describe the project.



Brian Bolinger thanks Lindsay Scovil Dove for her leadership on the new *Handbook* spin-off.

articles from the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, the eBook delves into the lives of some of the most influential individuals, dominant events and places, and significant institutions of Houston's past. Discover more about NASA's Johnson Space Center, the Astrodome, and the 1928 National Democratic Convention. Delve into the contributions of the many individuals—Jesse Jones, Kezia Payne Depelchin, Felix Tijerina, and Tsunekichi Okasaki—

who worked diligently towards building a thriving metropolis. The eBook is accessible in the Digital Library and in the eBook collection at [www.TSHAonline.org/ebooks](http://www.TSHAonline.org/ebooks).

In the time-honored tradition of the *Handbook of Texas*, TSHA and HHA have made the history of Houston easily accessible to enhance the knowledge of the city's enthusiasts and introduce new generations to the great city's historic past.



Download the FREE eBook, Houston: Past, Present, & Progress.

## HANDBOOK OF TEXAS NEWS

### Handbook of Texas Women Project Announced



Brett J. Derbes announces the creation of the Handbook of Texas Women Project.

On March 2, 2017, TSHA unveiled the Handbook of Texas Women Project during the Annual Meeting in Houston. Managing Editor of the *Handbook*, Brett J. Derbes, announced the latest *Handbook* spin-off venture during the Women in Texas History Luncheon. The project director, Jessica Brannon-Wranosky, Associate Professor at Texas A&M University-Commerce, then discussed efforts to increase the chronicle of women in Texas history within the *Handbook*. The project will enhance and expand the *Handbook of Texas* with hundreds of new entries on the women who have shaped the state's politics, economy, and culture.

To highlight some remarkable Texas women and promote the Handbook Project, TSHA offers the second FREE eBook in the *Women Across Texas History* series. *Volume 2: Early Twentieth Century* focuses on 32 notable women crucial to the development of Texas.

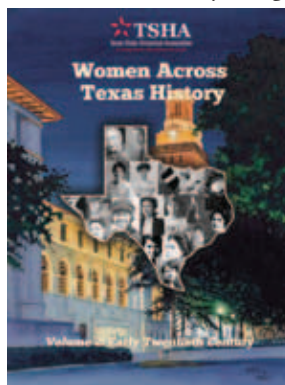
The eBook includes:

- ★ Jessie Ames, the suffragist and anti-lynching reformer who was a progressive leader and founder of both the League of Women Voters and the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.
- ★ Georgia O'Keeffe, the influential modernist painter who taught in West Texas and derived much inspiration from the vast Texas plains, conveyed through her large body of work.
- ★ Jovita González de Mireles, a teacher, folklorist, and writer, who was one of the first Texan Mexicans to obtain a master's degree and work as a professor, and was so crucial to the study of Spanish folklore that she became the first female and Mexican to be president of the Texas Folklore Society.
- ★ Lulu Belle Madison White, a civil rights activist who led the Houston chapter of the NAACP to become the largest chapter in the South, and was a vanguard in the effort to eliminate the white primary in Texas, integrate the University of Texas, and enforce

equal salaries for black and white teachers.

This latest eBook in the series joins *Volume 1: Nineteenth Century and Before* in representing some of the myriad women involved in the history of Texas through the years. Both are available in the Digital Library and in the eBook collection at [www.TSHAonline.org/ebooks](http://www.TSHAonline.org/ebooks).

TSHA has developed a Handbook of Texas Women microsite to feature tools and material—from books to content bundles like the *Women Across Texas History Series* of eBooks—especially designed for educators, students, and Texas enthusiasts.



The interactive historical marker map offers a view of many prominent women who made significant contributions to the Lone Star State. Navigating the map, the user can zoom in and out to see a global view, click on each location to learn why it is important, and navigate to

the *Handbook of Texas* to read more about the selected individual. Each pinned location offers a brief description of the woman associated with the location and an explanation as to why the location is important. Visit [www.TSHAonline.org/texaswomen](http://www.TSHAonline.org/texaswomen) to begin the journey.



# MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President Paula Mitchell Marks, Ph.D., Austin



First Vice President Sarita Armstrong Hixon, Armstrong and Houston



Second Vice President Emilio Zamora, Ph.D., Austin



New Board Member Stephanie Cole, Ph.D., Arlington

With much pride, TSHA installed the 2017–2018 officers at the business meeting on March 3rd, during the 2017 Annual Meeting. Paula Mitchell Marks was inaugurated as the Board President, Sarita Armstrong Hixon became First Vice President, and Emilio Zamora was elected Second Vice President. Together with past Presidents Stephen C. Cook and Lynn Denton, they comprised the 2017–2018 officers.

The membership elected three new board members: Stephanie Cole, Sean P.



New Board Member Sean P. Cunningham, Ph.D., Lubbock

Cunningham, and Ted Lusher. Two board members agreed to serve a second term; they were Nancy



New Board Member Ted Lusher, Austin

Painter Paup and Thomas R. Phillips. The Association thanked David A. Gravelle, Richard B. McCaslin, and

John L. Nau III for their years of service as their terms ended. With sadness, TSHA again recalled the February 16, 2017, passing of John Miller Morris Jr. who faithfully served as Secretary since 2015.

Details about the new board members and their many achievements will appear in the “Southwest Collection” section of the July issue of the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*. Biographical information about all board members is posted at [www.TSHAonline.org](http://www.TSHAonline.org). TSHA is privileged to have such outstanding board members.

## 2017 Board of Directors

Paula Mitchell Marks, President, Austin  
 Sarita Armstrong Hixon, First Vice President,  
 Armstrong and Houston  
 Emilio Zamora, Second Vice President, Austin  
 Stephen C. Cook, Past President (2016), Houston  
 Lynn Denton, Past President (2015), Austin

Jessica Brannon-Wranosky, McKinney (2015–2018)  
 Scott Caven Jr., Houston (2016–2019)  
 James H. Clement Jr., Dallas (2015–2018)  
 Stephanie Cole, Arlington (2017–2018)  
 Sean P. Cunningham, Lubbock (2017–2020)  
 W. Marvin Dulaney, Arlington (2016–2019)

David A. Gravelle, Dallas (2014–2017)  
 Kay Bailey Hutchison, Dallas (2015–2018)  
 Mary Margaret McAllen, San Antonio (2016–2019)  
 Nancy Painter Paup, Fort Worth (2017–2020)  
 Monica Perales, Houston (2016–2019)  
 Thomas R. Phillips, Austin (2017–2020)  
 Jean A. Stuntz, Canyon (2016–2019)  
 Alan Tully, Austin (2016–2019)  
 Homer S. Vera, Premont and Sarita (2015–2018)  
 J. P. Bryan, Houston, Honorary Life Board Member  
 Walter L. Buenger, College Station,  
 Honorary Life Board Member  
 John W. Crain, Dallas, Honorary Life Board Member

# ANNUAL MEETING IN HOUSTON



Stephen C. Cook and Paula Mitchell Marks at the President-Elect's Reception.

Historians from Texas and beyond gathered in downtown Houston for TSHA's 121st Annual Meeting, held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on March 2-4, 2017. An array of events—including 46 informational sessions, 3 workshops, a silent auction, and a ballroom full of exhibitors—contributed to the successful meeting.



Nancy Beck Young provides the address at the Fellows Luncheon after Chief Historian Randolph B. Campbell (seated) announced the 2017 Fellows, awards, and fellowships.



Ellen C. Temple (l) congratulates the Liz Carpenter Award recipients, Debra Linsley Liles (c) and Angela Boswell (r).

Festivities began Thursday at the Women in Texas History Luncheon with a discourse by Light Cummins, the presentation of the Liz Carpenter Award, and the announcement of the inaugural recipients of the Temple Research Fellowship in Texas Women's History recipients.

Excitement mounted with the news of the Handbook of Texas Women Project announced by Brett J. Derbes, Managing Editor for the *Handbook of Texas*, and described by Jessica Brannon-Wranosky, project manager.

After a full day of sessions, a reception in the late afternoon honored the launch of the *Handbook of Houston*. Graduate students mingled with TSHA Fellows at the Graduate Student Mixer. Later that evening, celebrants traveled to the historic Julia Ideson Library for the President-Elect's Reception to honor incoming President Paula Mitchell Marks.

On Friday, the Association honored excellence in Texas history research, teaching, and scholarship as Chief Historian Randolph "Mike" Campbell presided at the Fellows Luncheon and Awards Presentation. He announced the 2017 Fellows—Nancy Baker Jones, Carlos Blanton, and Sam Haynes. They were chosen by the Fellows Committee, chaired by Gregg Cantrell, with Rebecca Sharpless and F. Todd Smih. Campbell went on to present TSHA's five book

awards and four research fellowships before J. P. Bryan presented the Mary Jon and J. P. Bryan Leadership in Education Awards. After the award discourse, Nancy Beck Young spoke about "*Texans in Washington: From John Nance Garner to Lyndon B. Johnson*." Information about the 2017 Fellows, awards, and fellowships appears on the TSHA website and will be featured in the July issue of the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*.

A highlight of the Annual Meeting was the President's Dinner held Friday evening at the Crystal Ballroom in the former Rice Hotel on the site of the 1837 first capitol of the republic of Texas. Led by Paula Mitchell Marks, 2017-2018 President, the Association



Stephen C. Cook delivers the presidential address in the Crystal Ballroom of the former Rice Hotel.

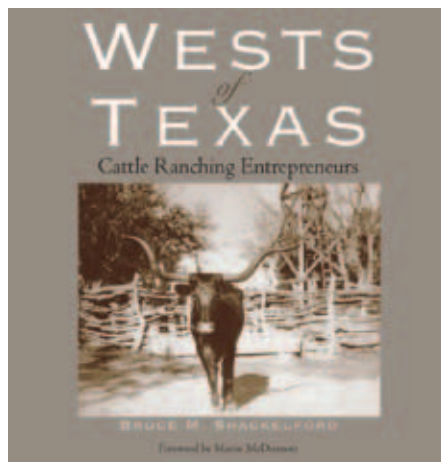
recognized the year's accomplishments of Stephen C. Cook, 2016-2017 President. He then delivered the presidential address on "The Audacious 1837 Launch of Houston at the Corner of Main Street and Texas Avenue."

After the Saturday morning sessions, the meeting concluded in Galveston with a tour of the Bryan Museum led by its founder, J. P. Bryan. TSHA owes the success of the annual meeting to all who participated and particularly to the Board of Directors, the Program Committee, the Local Arrangements Committee, and the many generous sponsors.



# TSHA PRESS

## San Antonio Conservation Society Honors TSHA Press Books



Left: 186 pp., Cloth \$45.99,  
TSHA Member Price \$41.40

Above: 230 pp., Cloth \$37.99,  
TSHA Member Price \$34.20

The Publications Awards Committee of the San Antonio Conservation Society, one of the oldest historic preservation groups in the state, bestowed two of its 2017 citations on TSHA Press books. One went to James Graham Baker's *Julian Onderdonk in New York: The Lost Years, the Lost Paintings*, a path-breaking study of the iconic Texas painter's years in New York. The other citation was for Bruce Shackelford's *The Wests of Texas: Cattle Ranching Entrepreneurs*, a multi-generational portrait of a Lavaca County ranching family. The Association congratulates the authors for achieving this honor and thanks the San Antonio Conservation Society for their recognition.

## Great Gifts for History Lovers

Share your enjoyment of Texas history with those on your gift-giving list. TSHA Press books are sure to delight everyone—from longtime lovers of Texas history to those new to the Lone Star State.

You can honor a trailblazing woman in your life with such titles as *Women in Early Texas*, edited by Evelyn M. Carrington; *Ima Hogg: The Governor's*

*Daughter* by Virginia Bernhard; or *Mistress of Manifest Destiny: A Biography of Jane McManus Storm Cazneau, 1807–1878* by Linda S. Hudson.

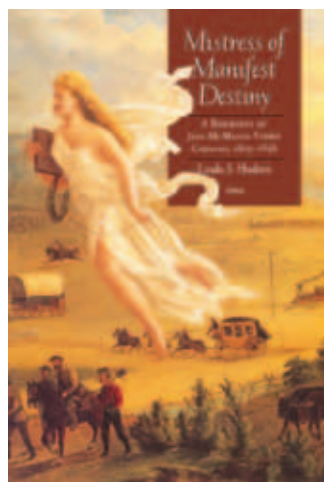
To delve into the era leading to Texas independence, consider a biography of the “Father of Texas” himself, *Stephen F. Austin: Empresario of Texas* by Gregg Cantrell. Explore the state—and beyond—with *Contours of Discovery: Printed*

*Maps Delineating the Texas and Southwestern Chapters in the Cartographic History of North America, 1513–1930* by Robert S. Martin and James Martin, and honor the rich Texas military tradition with *Valor Across the Lone Star: The Congressional Medal of Honor in Frontier Texas* by Charles M. Neal Jr.

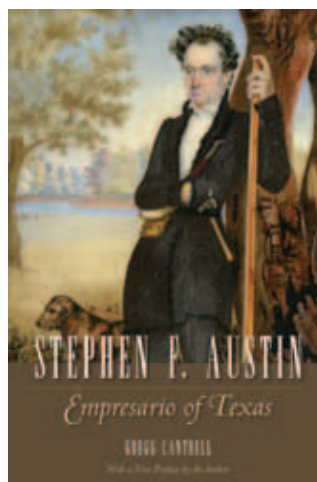
Many can be purchased as part of book bundles for additional savings.



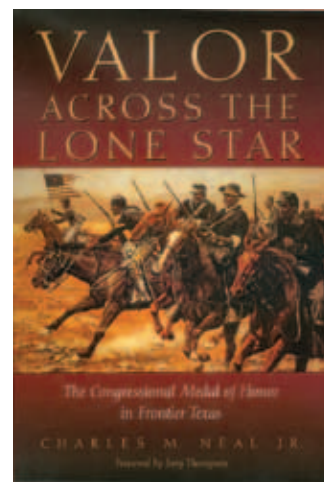
348 pp., Paper, \$12.99,  
TSHA Member Price \$11.69



314 pp., Cloth, \$19.99,  
TSHA Member Price \$17.99



496 pp., Paper, \$19.50,  
TSHA Member Price \$17.55



500 pp., Cloth, \$25.99,  
TSHA Member Price \$23.39

Visit [ShopTSHA.com](http://ShopTSHA.com) for TSHA Press books and more!

# EDUCATION

Participants in TSHA's streaming *Texas Talks* series—as listeners or as participants in the lively Q&A portions—can attest to the ever-increasing popularity of the streaming programs. Numerous live webinars occur throughout the year and allow anyone to listen to, learn from, and



engage with notable Texas historians and experts. The informative and interactive *Texas Talks* are ideal for audiences on the go who love Texas history.

Registration is free and made possible by your continued support of TSHA. We are grateful to our dedicated members,

who help us bring Texas history to life. Visit [TSHAonline.org/education/distance-learning](http://TSHAonline.org/education/distance-learning) to register for the series.

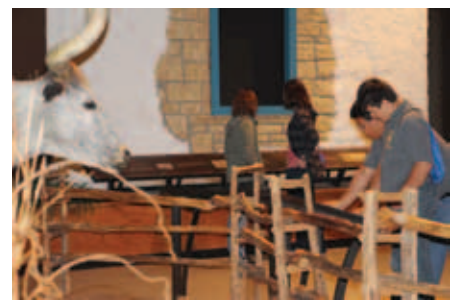
As a TSHA member, you have the opportunity to access archived *Texas Talks* in the Digital Library. Re-watch or catch a program you missed to learn from Texas scholars on a variety of fascinating topics with the click of a button. Visit [TSHAonline.org](http://TSHAonline.org) to begin.



*Junior Historians enjoy learning about the history of Dr Pepper.*



*A Texas Ranger describes the organization's history and its current role as an investigative division.*



*Students explore an exhibit at the Mayborn Museum.*

## 2017 Junior Historians of Texas Annual Meeting

The Junior Historians of Texas met for their 78th Annual Meeting, held March 31–April 1 in Waco. Student members and their teachers from across the state gathered for two days of fellowship and exploration of historical resources in Waco. The meeting's activities included a Friday evening trip to the Dr Pepper Museum, where the students met with curators and toured the exhibits after enjoying dinner,

served with Dr Pepper, of course.

On Saturday morning, students participated in the annual History Fair and showed their documentaries and performances. Exhibits, websites, and papers were judged while the students participated in more exploration of Waco. They toured the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum to learn more about the famed Texas Rangers law enforcement agency. Exploring the Mayborn Museum at Baylor University, the Junior Historians became immersed in a wide spectrum of

learning opportunities in natural science and cultural history through hands-on discovery rooms, interactive galleries, and outdoor exhibits.

The meeting concluded with a luncheon and awards ceremony to announce the student, sponsor, and chapter awards. Membership in the Junior Historians is open to elementary, junior high, and high school history clubs as well as individual students. For more information visit the Junior Historians section of the TSHA website or contact [MK.Marshall@TSHAonline.org](mailto:MK.Marshall@TSHAonline.org).

## Bryan Leadership in Education Award Bestowed

Since 1986, the Mary Jon and J. P. Bryan Leadership in Education Award has been given annually to honor outstanding history education in Texas. In 2016, the Bryans expanded the Award to include a recipient at the secondary level and one at the college level. Previously, the Award was given



*J.P. Bryan announces Bryan Leadership in Education Awards.*

to a single educator at either level. History teachers at the middle school, high school, and college levels were nominated for consideration by the Bryan Award Committee.

During the Awards Luncheon at the Annual Meeting, J.P. Bryan described the importance of educators and the study of history before he introduced the winners and presented both with certificates and the \$5,000 award prizes,



the largest of TSHA's prizes.

The secondary level winner, Justin Felux, teaches history at Claudia Taylor (Lady Bird) Johnson High School in North East ISD in San Antonio. The collegiate level winner, Dan K. Utley, is an adjunct professor at Texas State University and the chief historian for the Center for Texas Public History at Texas State. Utley was named a TSHA Fellow in 2008. TSHA is proud to honor these inspiring educators and thanks them for their service to our state.



*Bryan Award winners Dan K. Utley (left) and Justin Felux (right) with Brian Bolinger.*

## Webb Society Meeting and Annual Awards

The Walter Prescott Webb Historical Society met March 2-4, 2017, for the Spring Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony in conjunction with the TSHA Annual Meeting in Houston. The Business Meeting, chaired by Mary Lewis of Jacksonville College, was attended by chapter representatives from Jacksonville College, Lamar University, Lee College, McMurry University, Northeast Texas Community College, San Jacinto College-Central, San Jacinto College-South, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, and University of Houston-Downtown. San Jacinto College-South was named the 2016 College Chapter of the Year, and Lamar University was named the 2016 University Chapter of the Year. Chapters discussed past and upcoming activities for the year and compared notes about their experiences.

Before the Awards Ceremony on Saturday, Hector Zuniga of Northeast Texas Community College and John



*Jacksonville College receives the 2016 Chapter Project Award.*



*Webb Society students listen to presentations during the Spring Meeting.*

Michael Hoke of San Jacinto College-South presented award-winning historical papers, and Texas State Historian Bill O'Neal entertained the

attendees with a lively presentation on the leadership qualities of Sam Houston.

The 2017 C. M. and Cora Caldwell Memorial Awards for outstanding research and writing were made more poignant by the loss of Clifton M. Caldwell on April 11, 2017. He and his wife Shirley Caldwell, both of whom were presidents of TSHA, established the award named for his parents.

The Webb Society at Jacksonville College earned the Caldwell Chapter Project Award for 2016. Portia Hopkins received the 2016 David C. DeBoe Memorial Award for her outstanding sponsorship of the Webb Society chapter at Lee College. For a full list of winners and their papers, visit [www.TSHAonline.org/education/students/webb-society/caldwell](http://www.TSHAonline.org/education/students/webb-society/caldwell). All 2017 Junior and Senior Division Caldwell Awards entries will be considered for publication in the Society's journal, *Touchstone*. For more information about the Caldwell Writing Awards or for information on starting a Webb Society chapter, visit [www.TSHAonline.org](http://www.TSHAonline.org).

Plans for the 2017 Webb Society Fall Meeting in Austin are underway.

## EXPLORING TEXAS Workshop Series

July 21 Amarillo  
Aug. 7-8 Richardson

Nov. 7-8 Austin  
Feb. 6-7 Houston

TSHA will hold the Energizing Texas History Conference on August 7-8, 2017, at the Region X Service Center in Richardson. This conference for fourth and seventh grade history teachers will focus on prehistory to 1835 with timely and accessible historical content and resources from organizations and renowned scholars

with expertise in the fields of history, geography, economics, civics, and skill building.

Additional workshops are offered July 21 in Amarillo, November 7-8 in Austin, and February 5-6, 2018, in Houston. For more information and to register, visit [TSHAonline.org/education/teachers/exploringtexas](http://TSHAonline.org/education/teachers/exploringtexas).

# RIDING LINE

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## MEXICAN AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM

TSHA sponsored the Mexican American History Symposium on April 8th as the opening event of the Tejano Heritage Celebration held at the State Capitol. The celebration was held to honor Tejano culture and history and to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the unveiling of the Tejano Monument, which pays tribute to the heritage and contributions of Texas's early Spanish and Mexican settlers.

The celebration kicked off with a sold-out symposium in which professors and historians discussed topics ranging from ways to include Tejano history in public education to how textbooks can highlight Tejano history. TSHA President Paula Mitchell Marks introduced the symposium speakers headlined by TSHA's *Handbook of Tejano History* co-directors Emilio Zamora of The University of Texas at Austin and Andrés Tijerina of Austin Community College, Jesús F. de la Teja of Texas State University, Walter Buenger of Texas A&M University, and Brett J. Derbes, Matt Abigail, and Esther Rivera of TSHA.



*Andrés Tijerina addresses Gov. Abbott and those gathered at the Tejano Monument for the Tejano Heritage Celebration.*

*Emilio Zamora discusses Tejano history at TSHA's sold-out Mexican American History Symposium.*

