Beleaguered by sweatshop-like working conditions and abysmally low wages, San Antonio’s majority Tejana pecan-shelling workers staged a spontaneous walk-off in protest on January 31, 1938. Gathered in a nearby park, they chanted “Emma! Emma!” as they called on a popular young firebrand and civil rights activist named Emma Tenayuca to lead what would eventually become one of the largest strikes in Texas history.

Emma Tenayuca’s biography and the story of the pecan-shellers’ strike are just two of the hundreds of new and updated entries now available in the Handbook of Tejano History, which officially launched on March 29, 2016, to commemorate the fourth anniversary of the Tejano Monument unveiling at the State Capitol. This latest addition to TSHA’s Handbook of Texas is the result of a two-year effort spearheaded by history professors Emilio Zamora, Ph.D., and Andrés Tijerina, Ph.D., to increase the size and scope of information available on Tejanos in the Handbook. With more than 1,200 entries on important Tejano individuals, organizations, events, and historic sites, the completed Handbook of Tejano History serves as a literary complement to the physical monument, which stands as an enduring reminder of the critical influence played by Tejanos in the development of the Lone Star State. To accompany the launch, the Association also released a free eBook, the full range of content available in the larger Handbook.

The Tejano Handbook project formally began with an announcement at the Association’s 2014 Annual Meeting in San Antonio. A subsequent writers’ workshop was organized in partnership with the staff of the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and held in Austin on June 28, 2014. In all, more than fifty historians and scholars representing dozens of academic and cultural institutions from across the state were in attendance. The enthusiastic response from the academic community quickly made it apparent that the project, originally envisioned as a one-year initiative to add at least 100 new entries, would need to be expanded and extended into a second year.

In total, more than 300 new and updated entries were submitted for
Upcoming eBook Series on Texas Women

The contributions of Texas women to the state’s history are as wide-ranging and diverse as the land itself. In examining the Lone Star State’s past from any vantage point, women are an integral part of the timeline. Be they ancient or contemporary, provincial or worldly, as individuals or groups, Texas women make Texas history. Join TSHA in recognizing the varied ways women have impacted the state’s history at home, across the state, nationally, and abroad.

Beginning June 28, TSHA will unveil a series of three free eBooks entitled Women Across Texas History highlighting important contributions women have made to the Lone Star State. The first eBook of the series, Women Across Texas History: Nineteenth Century and Before will include thirty-eight entries from the Handbook of Texas Online and will feature Margaret Houston, Petra Vela Kenedy, Mary Ann Maverick, Rachel Hamilton Hornsby, and many more. All eBooks will be available in the Digital Library accessible to members.

Texas Music Office Reception

Governor Greg Abbott was joined by Laurie E. Jasinski, Project Manager for the Handbook of Texas Music and Handbook Research Editor, and by Brett Derbes, Managing Editor for the Handbook of Texas, and his wife Kimberly Derbes at the Capitol Salute to Texas Music, an annual reception hosted by the Texas Music Office and held during South by Southwest. This year’s event took place on the grounds of the Governor’s Mansion on March 17, 2016.

The Texas Music Office (Office of the Governor) is one of TSHA’s partners on the Handbook of Texas Music and is currently developing a Texas Music Trail project which will incorporate and promote content from the Handbook’s music spin-off. A signed copy of the highly-acclaimed Handbook of Texas Music, Second Edition has been given to the Governor by TSHA and the Texas Music Office.
The Association installed the 2016–2017 officers at the business meeting on March 4 during the 2016 Annual Meeting. Stephen C. Cook was inaugurated as the Board President, Paula Mitchell Marks became First Vice President, Sarita Armstrong Hixon joined the Board as she was elected Second Vice President, and John Miller Morris Jr. continued as Secretary. Together with past Presidents Lynn Denton and John L. Nau III, they comprise the 2016–2017 officers.

The membership elected three new board members—Scott Caven, Sarita Armstrong Hixon, Monica Perales, and Alan Tully. Four board members agreed to serve a second term—W. Marvin Dulaney, Mary Margaret McAllen, John Miller Morris Jr., and Jean A. Stuntz. The Association thanked Carlos Blanton, Jeffrey Dunn, and Rebecca Sharpless for their years of service as their terms ended.

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 TSHA board members is posted at www.TSHAonline.org.

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**2016 Board of Directors**

Stephen C. Cook, President, Houston  
Paula Mitchell Marks, First Vice President, Austin  
Sarita Armstrong Hixon, Second Vice President, Armstrong  
Lynn Denton, Past President (2015), Austin  
John L. Nau, III, Past President (2014), Houston  
John Miller Morris Jr., Secretary, Austin  
Scott Caven, Houston (2016–2019)  
David A. Gravelle, Dallas (2014–2017)  

Mary Margaret McAllen, San Antonio (2016–2019)  
Monica Perales, Houston (2016–2019)  
Jean A. Stuntz, Canyon (2016–2019)  
Alan Tully, Austin (2016–2019)  
Homero S. Vera, Sarita (2015–2018)  
Emilio Zamora, Austin (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
Nearly 700 historians gathered in Irving for the 120th Annual Meeting on March 3–5, 2016, held at the Omni Mandalay Hotel and the Old Red Museum. An array of events—including an Appraisal Fair hosted by Heritage Auctions, 40 informational sessions, 3 workshops, a silent auction, and a ballroom full of exhibitors—contributed to the successful meeting.

Festivities began Thursday, at the Women in Texas History Luncheon with a presentation by Monica Perales and the announcement of the Liz Carpenter Award recipient. Excitement mounted with the news of a second award to be presented annually beginning in 2017. The Ruthe Winegarten Memorial Foundation for Texas Women’s History established the Ellen C. Temple Research Fellowship in Texas Women’s History. The fellowship was named to honor Ellen Clarke Temple for her essential role in fostering research in and laying the foundation for the field of Texas women’s history. Funding for the fellowship was made possible by a bequest from Frances Haskell Allmond to Nancy Baker Jones, her granddaughter.

After a full day of sessions, receptions in the late afternoon honored new TSHA members and the Handbook of Tejano History project. Graduate students mingled with TSHA Fellows at the Graduate Student Mixer. Later that evening, celebrants traveled to the Old Red Museum for the Presidential Reception to honor incoming President Stephen C. Cook.

On Friday the Association honored excellence in Texas history research, teaching, and scholarship as Chief Historian Randolph B. Campbell presided at the Fellows Luncheon and Awards Presentation. He announced the 2016 Fellows—Judith McArthur, Rebecca Sharpless, and Robert Utley. They were chosen by the Fellows Committee, chaired by Robert Wooster, with Elizabeth Hays Turner and George Green. Campbell went on to present TSHA’s five book awards and five research fellowships before J. P. Bryan presented the Mary Jon and J. P. Bryan Leadership in Education Awards. After the award presentations, George C. Wright, the longtime president of Prairie View A&M University, spoke about his thirty-five year career in Texas higher education. Information about the 2016 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 Presidential Banquet held Friday evening. Led by Stephen C. Cook, 2016 President, the Association recognized the year’s accomplishments of Lynn Denton, 2015 President. She then delivered the presidential address on the efforts to establish a state museum.

TSHA owes the success of this year’s annual meeting to all who participated in the meeting and most particularly to the Board of Directors, the Program Committee, the Local Arrangements Committee, and the many generous sponsors.

Did you know?

More information about many of those involved in the annual meeting is found in “Faces of TSHA” on the website at TSHAonline.org in the News and Events section. You can discover how Ellen Temple became involved with the Carpenter Award, why Lynn Denton may have chosen to discuss establishing a state museum in her Presidential address, and when TSHA Chief Historian Randolph B. Campbell became involved with Texas history.
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 programs are ideal for audiences on the go who love Texas history.

Registration is free, 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 to register for the series.

Upcoming Texas Talks

June 6 at 6 p.m.
From the Alamo to San Jacinto: Spectacular Victory from the Ashes of Defeat
Texas Talks with Bill O’Neal, State Historian of Texas
Live streaming event with Q&A to follow

Archived Texas Talks

Bill O’Neal, State Historian of Texas
Gunslingers in Texas
Gregg Cantrell, Ph.D.
Stephen F. Austin: Empresario of Texas
Jean Stuntz, Ph.D.

Did you know?

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/education/distance-learning to begin.

Put your name on the Texas town or county of your choice with the Great Texas Land Rush’s popular Adopt-A-County and Adopt-A-Town programs that help support the Texas Almanac. Use an adoption to highlight a special person or group, a school or class, a business, or even yourself. Claims can now be made for up to five years, and custom messages can specify if the adoption is “in honor of” or “in memory of” someone special.

Easy to use, the Great Texas Land Rush’s website allows searches for available counties and towns. With just a few clicks, users can Adopt-A-County on the Texas Almanac website for $200, or Adopt-A-Town on the website for $25. Hurry to reserve your favorite county or town before another name is all over it. The Official Texas Almanac Certificate of Adoption can be printed immediately or emailed to recipients for easy and instant gifts.

2016 Junior Historians of Texas Annual Meeting

The Junior Historians of Texas met for their 77th Annual Meeting in Dallas, on April 1–2, 2016. More than 120 student members and their teachers participated in the activities, and several new chapters enjoyed the annual meeting for the first time. The meeting’s activities included a Friday evening trip to the Sixth Floor Museum, where the students met with curators and toured the exhibits.

On Saturday morning, students participated in the annual History Fair and showed their documentaries and performances. Exhibits were judged while the students participated in 19th and early 20th century activities at Dallas Heritage Village led by their Junior Historians. The meeting concluded with a luncheon and awards ceremony to announce the winners of the history fair and the David C. DeBoe Award. 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.

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. This year, generous funding from the Bryans has enabled TSHA to expand the award from a single recipient to two: one at the secondary level and one at the college level. History teachers at the middle school, high school, and college levels were nominated for consideration by the Bryan Award Committee, chaired by Paula Mitchell Marks, Ph.D., with Gene Preuss, Ph.D., and Pat Richie.

During the Awards Luncheon at the
The Walter Prescott Webb Historical Society met on March 4, 2016, for the Spring Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony in conjunction with the TSHA Annual Meeting in Irving. The Business Meeting, chaired by Ken Howell of Blinn College, was attended by chapter representatives from Blinn College, Jacksonville College, Lamar University, Lee College, McMurry University, Northeast Texas Community College, San Jacinto College-Central, San Jacinto College-North, San Jacinto College-South, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, and University of Houston-Downtown. Lee College was named the 2015 College Chapter of the Year, and University of Houston-Downtown was named the 2015 University Chapter of the Year. Chapters discussed past and upcoming activities for the year and compared notes about their experiences.

At the Awards Ceremony on Saturday, the C. M. and Cora Caldwell Memorial Awards for outstanding research and writing were presented. For a full list of winners and their papers, visit www.TSHAonline.org/education/students/webb-society/300. All 2016 Junior and Senior Division Caldwell Awards entries will be considered for publication in the Society’s journal, Touchstone. The Webb Society at Northeast Texas Community College earned the Caldwell Chapter Project Award for 2016. Amy Porter received the 2016 David C. DeBoe Memorial Award for her outstanding sponsorship of the Webb Society chapter at Texas A&M-San Antonio.

The Webb Society encourages ALL college or university students to participate in the Caldwell Writing Competition.

For more information about the Caldwell Writing Awards or for information on starting a Webb Society chapter visit www.TSHAonline.org.
The Riding Line is published quarterly by the Texas State Historical Association as an update for its members.

**Brian A. Bolinger**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Randolph B. Campbell**  
Chief Historian

**Stephen S. Cure**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Collin Acock**  
Director of Development

**Terri Killen**  
Riding Line Editor and Communications Editor

**Renona Palone**  
Director of Administration and Accounting

Team TSHA Triumphs Again in 2016

Team TSHA ran 200 miles, from Gonzales to the San Jacinto Monument, in just under 27 consecutive hours in the Texas Independence Relay held April 2–3. With the generosity of members and friends, Team TSHA collected pledges and donations in support of the *Handbook of Texas*. Congratulations go to TSHA President Steve Cook for his support, to Handbook Advisory Committee Chair Andrew Torget, who spearheaded the effort and ran legs of the relay, and to Team TSHA for their victory at San Jacinto in 2016 with a record-breaking time.

We are close to achieving our fundraising goal and need your help to cross the finish line. Your donations and pledges make it possible for people world-wide to access the *Handbook of Texas*, the most comprehensive resource for Texas history.

We invite you to support Team TSHA and the *Handbook of Texas* with your generous gift.

*Triumphant Team TSHA 2016 at San Jacinto. Image by Stephen C. Cook.*

*Andrew Torget nears leg 31 on the outskirts of Houston. Image by James Allen.*

Join the victory at San Jacinto in 2016 at SupportTeamTSHA.com