



Paisanos:

This is it—2009, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Texas Folklore Society. Some things have changed quite a bit since the Society first began, but other things are much the same, including this newsletter. For now, it's in the same format and, as always, it features a dues notice, member news, information on the next meeting, and lots of other good stuff. Read on.

### TFS Essentials

**\*\*\*[This is your first notice to pay your annual DUES for 2009.]\*\*\***

I don't know how to say it any plainer, but each year we struggle to get even our long-time members to pay their dues in a timely manner. As always, a dues form is enclosed; please update your personal information and return it when you pay your dues. If you didn't receive a dues form, you've already paid (by paying in November or December of last year, or by being a lifetime member). If you don't pay your dues by the end of August, we'll send you a "final reminder." *Send your payment for dues to our office in Nacogdoches.*

Send them as soon as possible to make sure you receive this year's book, *Celebrating 100 Years of the Texas Folklore Society: 1909-2009*. Last year, current members received *Death Lore: Texas Rituals, Superstitions, and Legends of the Hereafter* before Christmas. I hope you enjoyed it, even if it was a little different.

### TFS Folks

**Jean Schnitz** attended the **Texas Heritage Living History Weekend** again last fall, along with **Lee and Acayla Haile, Herb Arbuckle, and Carolyn Arrington**. The event will be held on September 25<sup>th</sup> this year, and **Kathleen Hudson**, who always makes a generous contribution as an honorarium for our involvement, is asking for members to be there to spread the word about the TFS. If you'd like to take part in a panel on Texas music (or any other topic), contact her at [kat@maverickbbs.com](mailto:kat@maverickbbs.com). She expects up to 2,000 people to come through, and she may have some students take part in the open discussion.

**Kay Arnold** represented the TFS at the **Texas State Book Festival** in Austin again, with the help of **Jean and Lew Schnitz, Charles and Vee Williams, Elizabeth Duncan, Vicky Rose, Lori Najvar**, and a new student member, **Lauren Goodley**. They passed out a couple hundred brochures, and at least two new members joined on the spot. **Kay** wants me to note that only three of the volunteers were local (from the Austin area); everyone else came from Boerne, Dallas, Elgin, or beyond to help out.

The TFS had a great panel at the East Texas Historical Association meeting in Nacogdoches last September; **Henry Wolff** and **L. Patrick Hughes** gave papers, and I even did an impromptu presentation on the TFS turning 100.

**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**Mary Margaret Campbell** has a new poem titled “Listening in the Fog” in the 2009 *Texas Poetry Calendar*. One of her poems from the 2007 calendar, “Ventanas Llorando,” will be included in an anthology of works from the first ten calendars, *Big Land, Big Sky, Big Hair: Best of the Texas Poetry Calendar* ([www.dosgatospress.org](http://www.dosgatospress.org)).

We mourn the passing of several members: **Lisa Cross, Mary Vance, Paw Paw Pinkerton, and Bill Stein**, who just presented a paper at the meeting in Lubbock last year. They’ll all be missed.

## **TFS Events**

We’ve had several members buy memberships for friends and family in the past year. If you would like to buy a gift membership for someone you think would like to join the Society, we’ll send a welcome packet telling them about membership benefits, upcoming meetings, publications, and other relevant information. Teachers, tell your students what a great bargain a student membership is—their dues are half the price of the book they’ll receive. As always, encourage them to attend a meeting and give a paper. If you ever need *brochures* to distribute to potential members, just let us know.

Several students are giving papers at the upcoming meeting (thanks again to **Greg Smith**), and we ask for volunteers willing to sponsor them. **Fran Vick, L. Patrick Hughes, and Cynthia Savage** have done so in the past, but we need more people who are interested in supporting these young folklorists by contributing \$200 for travel expenses. Call or email our office if you want to be added to the list.

The annual meeting will be in Nacogdoches this year, and **Janet Simonds** and I are serving as local arrangers. This is a special meeting, and we’re doing our best to make sure that you enjoy it. Do your part by bringing someone along with you, sponsoring a student, buying a gift membership, or volunteering to help at the meeting when you arrive. Use the enclosed registration form to confirm your attendance and make reservations for the tour, banquet, and a lunch we’re offering on Saturday. We want this to be a meeting everyone will remember. Also, we’ll have some magnetic boards set up to display favorite photos from past meetings—bring pictures you’d like to share (clearly marked so that you can retrieve them afterwards) and you’ll be able to “tack them up” without damaging them.

**Bill Neal** will host the meeting in Abilene next year, so let him know if you can help out. Also, please consider serving as a local arranger in the future. We’ve met in over thirty different cities, but there are lots of places we haven’t been for a long time. If you want to host a meeting in your home town, contact a Board member so your offer can be introduced and accepted at the meeting.

Our commercial vendors (such as book publishers) make a contribution for tables at the meeting, but if you need some table space to display books, tapes, or crafts, the Society will provide a couple of tables that individual members can share. This is subject to availability and space, so if you would like to request a table, notify us in the main office as soon as possible.

Finally, please send any news items or announcements you want me to include in the June Newsletter. I’ll take it via email, newspaper clippings, or letters—or, just call me and I’ll make a note for the folder. Share your activities and achievements with the entire TFS family.

See you in Nac in April,

## TFS Business

### 2009 TFS Meeting Information

The Texas Folklore Society will meet in Nacogdoches, Texas, on April 9, 10, and 11 for its 93<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting. We met here last in 2000—my first trip to the Piney Woods and Stephen F. Austin State University.

All events will be at the Fredonia Hotel. Contact information is:

Fredonia Hotel <b>800-594-5323</b>	200 North Fredonia or <b>936-564-1234</b>	Nacogdoches, TX 75961 fax: <b>936-564-0231</b>
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Ask for the **TFS Group Rate** by March 9 to get the discounted rate: \$90 plus tax (unless you have a personal tax exemption form). The regular check-in time is 3:00 p.m. and checkout has been extended to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.

This hotel has a new owner, and she and her staff have made some remarkable improvements. You'll be surprised. The hotel has a full-service restaurant, and an outdoor swimming pool, and each guest room has a coffee maker and access to high-speed wireless Internet. Here are a couple of other options, but remember, our *group rate* depends on filling up a minimum number of rooms in one hotel:

Holiday Inn Express	3807 South Street	877-863-4780
Victorian Inn & Suites	3612 North Street	936-560-6038

The Fredonia Hotel is at the corner of Hospital Street and North Fredonia, in the center of town. Check the TFS web site for detailed driving directions, but here are the basics: If you're coming in from the north or south on Hwy 59 (North Street), Hospital Street is one block north of Main, which is also Hwy 21, if you're coming from the east or west. You'll see the sign on North Street. You can't miss it.

Meeting registration will be on the first floor near the Convention Center—look for the signs. Nacogdoches is billed as the Oldest Town in Texas, so there are lots of interesting buildings and historic markers to see, but we also have great restaurants, and plenty of shopping and other entertainment. You'll find maps and brochures in your goodie bags at Registration, which begins Thursday at 1:00 p.m. and lasts until 7:00 p.m. Registration on Friday will be from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Yes, our registration fee is still just **\$10**.

If you arrive early enough on Thursday, join us for a guided bus tour of Nacogdoches. Janet will serve as our tour guide. Meet in the lobby by 2:45; we'll leave the hotel parking lot at 3:00 p.m. and try to return by 6:00 p.m. The tour will include a stop by the TFS office on campus, for those who are interested. Space for the tour is limited to 30, but we'll have the office open on Saturday as well.

The Friday night banquet will offer a choice of fish or chicken; tickets are **\$25** for adults and **\$8** for children twelve and under, including tax and gratuity. The East Texas Historical Association has donated beer and other beverages for the Hoot, and we'll even provide some snacks to go along with the drinks. Of course, we'll have the usual coffee and pastries for in the mornings and at breaks.

If you'd like to have a bite to eat before heading home on Saturday, mark your registration form. Each year many of us gather together in a local restaurant close to the hotel for one last opportunity to share a meal and enjoy each other's company. Instead of testing the seating capacity or patience of wait staff this year, we're reserving Liberty Hall for a catered barbeque lunch at noon on Saturday. Join us.

**93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Texas Folklore Society**  
**Nacogdoches, Texas—April 9-11, 2009**  
**All paper sessions in Convention Center “B” at the Fredonia Hotel**

**Thursday, April 9**

1 to 7 p.m. Registration, first floor lobby near the Convention Center  
3 to 6 p.m. guided bus Tour of Nacogdoches  
8 p.m. Hootenanny, *Convention Center “A”*

**Friday, April 10**

8 to noon Registration, first floor lobby near the Convention Center  
8:15 a.m. Welcome: TFS President L. Patrick Hughes and Roger Van Horn, Mayor of the City of Nacogdoches

Session 1 (8:30 to 10:00 a.m.) Chair: Donna Ingham, Spicewood  
“Black Diamond, Black Diamond, I Cry,” Henry Wolff, Jr., Victoria  
“African-American Folklore and the Texas Folklore Society,” Bruce Glasrud, Seguin  
“Skills of the Rivermen: Ways and Means of Market Fishermen, 1930-50,” Wildwood Dean, Bonham  
“J. Frank Dobie’s Brush Country Roots,” Jean Granberry Schnitz, Boerne

Session 2 (10:30 a.m. to Noon) Chair: Fran Vick, Dallas  
“Back in Ought ’Sixty,” F. E. Abernethy, Nacogdoches  
“The Hidfolk of Texas,” Claire Campbell, Bryan  
“Today I’ll Think About the Rain: The Music of Ruby Allmond,” Jerry Lincecum, Sherman  
“It’s All About the Buckle: Mr. Charlie’s Wonder Wagon Enters the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” Charles Williams, Dallas

Noon: Officers’ Luncheon, *Raguet Room*

Session 3 (1:30 to 3:00 p.m.) Chair: Margaret Waring, Comanche  
“Sometimes I Get Lonesome for Lonesome: The Last Words of Paul Patterson,” Joyce Gibson Roach, Keller  
“The Guadalupe Mountains of West Texas: Fertile Fount of Folklore,” A. C. Jameson, Llano  
“By Early Candlelight: Masonry Moves A Community,” Archie McDonald, Nacogdoches  
“Yolanda Leyva: El Paso’s Ph.D. *Curandera*” Meredith E. Abarca, El Paso

Session 4 (3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) Chair: Carol Hanson, Cedar Hill  
“Texas Booklore: If it Ain’t Folklore, Then What the Heck is It?” Al Lowman, San Marcos  
“Getting Here is Half the Fun,” Lee Haile, Tarpley  
“The Night the Chupacabra Came to Cuero,” Linda Wolff, Victoria  
“How Did Possum Walk Get Its Name?” Woods C. Swinburn with Melvin Mason, Falba & Huntsville

Cash Bar: 7:00 p.m. *Convention Center “A”*

Banquet: 8:00 p.m. *Convention Center “A”*

Entertainment by Attoyac Valley String Ensemble, with Hootenanny following the banquet

**Saturday, April 11**

Session 5 (8:45 to 11:30 a.m.) Chair: Miché Untiedt, Nacogdoches  
“Blind Lemon Jefferson,” Megan Burns, Pearland  
“The Life of Leadbelly,” Seth Quiñones, Friendswood  
“The Blues Mothers,” Jacklyn Cortiaus, Friendswood

Business Meeting: President L. Patrick Hughes presiding

“Naijas in Texas,” Carol Nnabuife, Houston  
“Scottish Dancing in Texas,” Sara Nagy, Friendswood

Closing Ceremony: President L. Patrick Hughes