

# Texas Folklore Society

P. O. Box 13007-SFA Station  
Nacogdoches, Texas 75962-3007



January 27, 2010

Paisanos:

Well, the first decade of the new millennium is over, and the Texas Folklore Society is still going strong. We're doing some things pretty differently than the founders did back in 1909, but our core values have not changed. One thing you'll notice is that you can now pay dues online or over the phone with a credit card. Check out the web site for more information. This newsletter still includes your dues notice for the current year, news about fellow members, and details on the next meeting.

## TFS Essentials

**\*\*\*[This is your first notice to pay your annual DUES for 2010.]\*\*\***

Before you do anything else, find the [colored] dues form that's enclosed and send in your dues for this year. You can update any personal information that has changed so we have accurate contact information for our records. If you've already paid (by paying in November or December of last year, or by being a lifetime member, no dues form is enclosed. The June newsletter will have a reminder for those who haven't paid dues yet, but we appreciate it if you pay them as soon as possible. If we don't receive your dues by the end of August, we'll assume you no longer want to maintain your membership and you won't receive this year's publication in the fall. *Send your payment for dues to our office in Nacogdoches.*

The book for this year will be an "extra book." Keagan LeJeune, an active TFS member, has written a book about an historical figure that became legendary throughout western Louisiana and East Texas, and we've decided to support the publication of it. *Always for the Underdog: Leather Britches Smith and the Grabow War* will be sent to all current members in November. *Celebrating 100 Years of the Texas Folklore Society: 1909-2009* went out last year, and we've had many positive comments on it.

## TFS Folks

**Herb Arbuckle** and **Jean Schnitz** represented the TFS at the **Texas Heritage Living History Weekend** on September 25<sup>th</sup>, and **Kathleen Hudson** once again made a contribution as an honorarium for our involvement. This is a really neat event that focuses on Texas music, and a couple thousand people typically attend. Check out the web site or contact **Kathleen** at [kat@maverickbbs.com](mailto:kat@maverickbbs.com) for more information.

Our presence at the **Texas Book Festival** in Austin is beginning to show results. **Kay Arnold** and many other volunteers (**Jean and Lew Schnitz, Charles and Vee Williams, Debra and Dow Cox, Elizabeth Duncan, Vicky Rose, Lucy Fischer West, Meredith Abarca, Charles Rodenberger, Elaine Davenport, Carol Hanson, Margaret Cox, and Rollo Newsom**) distributed over three hundred brochures, and twenty new members joined right there!

The TFS will be doing a panel at the **Texas State Historical Association** meeting in Dallas on March 5<sup>th</sup>. I'll be chairing the session and **L. Patrick Hughes, Wildwood Dean Price, & Charles Williams**

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will be presenting papers. **Fran Vick** already has another panel lined up for the 2011 meeting, with **Lucy Fischer West**, **Meredith Abarca**, and **Joyce Gibson Roach** doing papers.

**L. Patrick Hughes** did a presentation on Ma and Pa Ferguson and the KKK at the Bullock Texas History Museum. **Charles Clay Doyle** was elected as president of the Western States Folklore Society. **Sylvia Mahoney** was honored by the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association as that organization's 2009 Alumna of the Year.

We are sad whenever we lose any members, but this past year we mourned the passing of several very influential ones: **Dawn Cox**, **Faye Leeper**, **Charles Linck**, **Elmer Kelton**, **Lou Rodenberger**, **Charles Chupp**, and **Bess Lomax Hawes**, **John Lomax's** youngest daughter. Their contributions to literature and the study of folklore will never be fully measured.

### **TFS Events**

I encourage you to buy a gift membership for someone you think would like to join the Society, as several members already have. Better yet, invite someone to the meeting in Abilene to go along with the gift membership. We'll send a welcome packet explaining membership benefits, upcoming meetings, publications, and other relevant information. We especially need to reach out to our students and tell them what an incredible deal a student membership is. We have brand-spanking-new *brochures* to distribute, so let us know if you need some.

To help attract younger members, we recently established a student travel stipend of \$200 per student to help cover travel expenses. Thanks to **Greg Smith**, we will have several student presenters at the upcoming meeting. We have only one stipend left over from last year, so we need at least four more for this year. Previous sponsors include **Fran Vick**, **L. Patrick Hughes**, **Cynthia Savage**, **Melvin Mason**, and **John Igo**. If you're interested in contributing, call or email the office as soon as possible.

The annual meeting will be in Abilene this year, and **Janet Simonds** and I are once again serving as local arrangers. If you are close by and can help out in any way, we greatly appreciate anyone who is willing to volunteer to help with registration, setting up the book room, or any other last-minute details. Use the enclosed registration form to confirm your attendance and make reservations for the tour and banquet.

Commercial vendors (such as the UNT Press) need tables to display books at the meeting, and they make contributions to reserve them. If you would like 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 space and availability, so if you would like to request a table, notify us in the main office as soon as possible.

I expect to have two formal offers for future meetings that can be voted on at the meeting in Abilene. I'll make the necessary announcement there so that you'll know whom to contact to offer to help. It's nice to have meetings planned a few years in advance, so please consider serving as a local arranger beginning with the 2013 meeting.

Don't hesitate to send news items or announcements you want included in the June Newsletter. I'll take it via email, newspaper clippings, or letters—or, just call so I can make a note for the folder. Share your activities and achievements with the entire TFS membership.

See you in Abilene,



## TFS Business

### 2010 TFS Meeting Information

The Texas Folklore Society will meet in Abilene, Texas, on April 1, 2, and 3 for its 94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. We met there last in 1996, when a record snow storm hit the city. Let's hope that doesn't happen again.

All events will be at the Hilton Garden Inn Abilene. Contact information is:

Hilton Garden Inn Abilene	4449 Ridgemont Dr.	Abilene, TX 79606
<b>877-782-9444</b>	or <b>325-690-6432</b>	fax: <b>325-690-6492</b>

Ask for the **TFS Group Rate** by March 10 to get the discounted rate: \$99 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.

You can book your reservation online by going to the following web site (which is on our web site): <http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/ABIABGI-TFS-20100401/index.jhtml>. Or, Google "Hilton Garden Inn Abilene, TX": Select your reservation dates at the top right and click "Go." Select your room and guests, and enter the **TFS** group code.

This hotel has a restaurant, an indoor swimming pool, and each guest room has a refrigerator, coffee maker, microwave, and access to high-speed wireless Internet. Here are a couple other options nearby, but remember, our *group rate* depends on filling up a minimum number of rooms in one hotel:

MCM Elegante Suites	4250 Ridgemont Drive	(325) 698-1234
Courtyard Abilene	4350 Ridgemont Drive	(325) 695-9600

These driving directions come from information the hotel provided:

**From I-20** – Take exit 283A (Hwy 83/277 South to Ballinger & South Angelo), follow 83S about 7 miles and take the Southwest Drive exit. Continue South on access road to Ridgemont Drive. Turn right onto Ridgemont for 1 mile. Hilton Garden Inn Abilene will be on your left.

**From Abilene Regional Airport** – Take Loop 322 South to US 83-84 North. Exit Buffalo Gap Road and turn left. Turn right Onto Rebecca Lane. Turn right onto Ridgemont Drive.

Meeting registration will be on the first floor to the right as you come in the hotel—look for the signs. 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. Unlike other organizations' meetings, our registration fee remains just **\$10**.

If you arrive early enough on Thursday, join us for a tour of Frontier Texas, a unique museum that has holograms which give information on the Abilene area from roughly 1780-1880. Meet in the hotel lobby by 3:45; we'll leave the hotel parking lot at 4:00 p.m. and try to return by 6:00 p.m. Space for the trolley is limited to 30, so we may need volunteers to carry extras.

The Friday night banquet will offer a choice of tilapia or pot roast; tickets are **\$25** for adults and **\$8** for children, including tax and gratuity. We've arranged for beer and other beverages for the Thursday night Hoot, and we'll have the usual coffee and pastries for in the mornings and at breaks.

**94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Texas Folklore Society**  
**Abilene, Texas—April 1-3, 2010**  
**All paper sessions in the Longhorn Ballroom at the Hilton Garden Inn**

**Thursday, April 1**

- 1 to 7 p.m. Registration, first floor lobby between *Aggie Boardroom* and *Longhorn Ballroom*  
 4 to 6 p.m. Tour of Frontier Texas, with trolley service provided to and from hotel  
 8 p.m. Hootenanny, *Longhorn Ballroom*

**Friday, April 2**

- 8 to noon Registration, first floor lobby between *Aggie Boardroom* and *Longhorn Ballroom*  
 8:15 a.m. Welcome: TFS President Lucy Fischer West and a representative of the City of Abilene

Session 1 (8:30 to 10:00 a.m.) Co-Chairs: Meredith Abarca, El Paso, & Acayla M. Haile, Tarpley

- “A Sampling of Ethnic Cultures in Early Texas” George Hubbard, Krum  
 “Texan Knanaya Catholics and their Wedding Customs” Jenson Erapuram, Houston  
 “Giant Rattlesnakes: Folklore and Reality” W. C. Jameson, Llano  
 “Bump Gates” Lora B. Garrison, Utopia

Session 2 (10:30 a.m. to Noon) Chair: Lori Najvar, Austin

- “Dirty Secrets and Juicy Tales: The Oral History Program at the Institute of Texan Cultures” J. Rhett Rushing, San Antonio  
 “The Hanging of Chipita Rodriguez” Donna Ingham, Spicewood  
 “Legends and Ghost Stories of Old San Patricio” J. Michael Sullivan, George West & Sandia  
 “Enchanted Rock: The Legend Starts with You” Vanessa D. Honeycutt, Houston

Noon: Board Luncheon, *Longhorn Ballroom, Section C*

Session 3 (1:30 to 3:00 p.m.) Chair: Jerry Ingham, Spicewood

- “Caney Creek Night Hunting: A Saga of Dire Situations and Scared Prayers” Wildwood Dean Price, Bonham  
 “Every Thing but the Squeal—Hog Killing and Curing Meat in Texas” Kenneth W. Davis, Lubbock  
 “Texas *Tet*” Tam Nguyen, Houston  
 “Santeria—The Mysteries of La Regla de Ocha” Raquel Hernandez, Houston

Session 4 (3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) Chair: Sylvia Mahoney, Vernon

- “Back Then” Archie P. McDonald, Nacogdoches  
 “Under the Influence” Robert J. (Jack) Duncan, McKinney  
 “Sometimes I Get Lonesome for Lonesome: The Last Words of Paul Patterson” Joyce Gibson Roach, Keller  
 Comments and Reminiscences from the Members

Cash Bar: 7:00 p.m. *Longhorn Ballroom*

- Banquet: 8:00 p.m. *Longhorn Ballroom* (Induction Ceremony for new Fellow of the Texas Folklore Society)  
 Entertainment by Growler, with Hootenanny following the banquet

**Saturday, April 3**

Session 5 (8:45 to 11:30 a.m.) Chair: Lew Schnitz, Boerne

- “Secrets of the Legal Profession in North Texas, 1938-60” Jerry Lincecum, Sherman  
 “Hard Times, Honest Music: An Eclectic Sampling of Depression-era Folk Songs” L. Patrick Hughes, Austin

Business Meeting: President Lucy Fischer West presiding

- “The Wheels of Our Lives” Scott Bumgardner, Houston  
 “Three Mythical Creatures of Hispanic Folklore” Connie Ochoa, Pearland

Closing Ceremony: President Lucy Fischer West

**2010 Texas Folklore Society Meeting, Abilene, TX  
April 1-3, 2010**

\_\_\_\_\_ Registration(s) at \$10 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Adult Banquet Ticket(s), \$25 each \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Youth Banquet Ticket(s) (chicken strips and fries), \$8 each \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Frontier Texas Tour Ticket(s) (adult) \$5 each \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Frontier Texas Tour Ticket(s) (students—even college) \$4 each \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Frontier Texas Tour Ticket(s) (age 3-12) \$3 each \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\* Dues (please complete separate Dues form, if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment (circle one):      Check      MasterCard      Visa      Discover

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_      Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_      code on back \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_      [sorry, no American Express]

**Indicate your preference for the Friday night banquet:**                      **tilapia**                      **pot roast**

Name(s) for Registration: \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_

Frontier Texas Tour: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone, e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail Registration, Tour, and Banquet fees by March 10<sup>th</sup>. Make your checks payable to **Texas Folklore Society**. (This year, you can send your Dues along with your meeting fees, but please double-check the amount you're paying for everything.) Our address is **P. O. Box 13007, SFA Station, Nacogdoches, TX 75962-3007**. If you have questions or comments, contact us via email at [fs@sfasu.edu](mailto:fs@sfasu.edu), or call us at **936-468-4407**.

**Remember to tell us if you need table space to display your books, tapes, or other wares.**