

Folklore in Motion

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CONTRIBUTORS' VITAS

F. E. Abernethy is Secretary-Editor Emeritus of the Texas Folklore Society, having edited or co-edited over twenty volumes of TFS publications in his thirty-three years leading the organization. He's a world traveler, and still continues to venture to foreign countries studying cultures all over the world.

T. Lindsay Baker holds the W. K. Gordon Endowed Chair in Texas Industrial History at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, and also directs the W. K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas, a museum and research center located at the Thurber ghost town. He has written over twenty books on the history of Texas and the American West, and has previously contributed to TFS annuals.

Kenneth W. Davis, a past president of the Texas Folklore Society, is Professor Emeritus of English at Texas Tech University, from which he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English before attending Vanderbilt University for a master's degree and then a Ph.D. in English. For many years at Texas Tech University he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in American and Comparative Folklore. In retirement he remains much interested in Texas folklore and in the literature and history of the West and Southwest. He is now serving on the Lubbock County Historical Commission and is on the Board of the West Texas Historical Association.

Lucille Enix works with book and magazine publishers as a management consultant and editor, as well as with writers to help them shape creative works into publishable form. She holds a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University, and a bachelor's degree in Science from Oklahoma State University. She worked as a features writer for the *Chicago Tribune*, as a reporter

for a Washington news service, and as Features Section Editor for the Dallas Morning News, where she developed a new format for the Features Section and created the concept, format, and editorial direction for the weekly Entertainment Guide. In addition, she served as editor of Vision and Dallas magazines, and taught at Southern Methodist University. She co-authored The Ultrafit Diet (New American Library, 1990), with Dr. Joe Davis, and also Joseph Imhof Artist of the Pueblos: A Biography (Sunstone Press, 1998), with Nancy Reily. She has traveled extensively throughout the continents of Africa, South America, Asia, and Europe. Ms. Enix formed her own editorial consulting business and worked with clients in Europe, Mexico and the United States for over twenty years. Journalistic honors include: The Southwest Journalism Forum Award for Professional Excellence, two Dallas Press Club Katy Awards for Best General Interest Magazine, a Texas Medical Association Award for excellence in communication, the Women in Communication Award for outstanding journalistic contribution, and the Art Direction Magazine's Creativity Distinction Award. Before and after she retired, she became a long-distance cyclist, biking 50–100 miles per day on bicycle tours.

Newton Gaines, a physics professor at TCU, was President of the Texas Folklore Society from 1928–1929.

Carol Hanson was born and raised in Dallas, Texas—the child of August and Mary Helen Stanglin. She has four brothers and one sister—two of her brothers, Phil and David, accompanied her on the Sesquicentennial Wagon Train in May, 1986. Carol received her Masters of Library & Information Sciences from North Texas State University in Denton in December, 1979. She has been a librarian at Dallas Public Library, Zula B. Wylie Library in Cedar Hill, and the Betty Warmack Branch Library of Grand Prairie. In 2004, she returned to Dallas Public Library to be Assistant Manager at the Kleberg-Rylie Branch Library. On June 17, 1989, she

married Pete Hanson in Cedar Hill, Texas, where they still live with their son Erik. Carol joined the Texas Folklore Society in 1985, after being a member of the Dallas corral of the Westerners' organization—several members had encouraged her to attend a TFS meeting. Carol attended the 1985 meeting with Ruth Lambert, and has been hooked ever since. Most anything associated with history interests her, which explains her long-time dabbling with her family's genealogy for 20+ years; she is considered to be the family historian for the Stanglins. She also has interest in photography, scrap-booking, and gardening—and, of course, reading.

Jim Harris was raised in Dallas and taught college English in Texas, Louisiana, and New Mexico, where he has lived with his wife Mary and son Hawk since 1974. He is a runner, photographer, and fisherman. Retired from teaching, he has been the Director of the Lea County Museum in Lovington, New Mexico since 2002. He has given many presentations at TFS meetings and is a past president of the society.

Mary Harris has been a member of the TFS since 1973 and has served as President, Program Chair, Director, Councilor, local arranger, session chair, presenter, and designer of a half-dozen programs for TFS annual meetings. She is a retired classroom and special education teacher, and since earning a doctorate in Higher Education Leadership, Mary serves as Dean of the School of Education at College of the Southwest in Hobbs, New Mexico. She is married to Jim Harris, and she is the mother of Hawk Harris, who is also a long-time member of the TFS.

L. Patrick Hughes is a Professor of History at Austin Community College, where he has served on the faculty since 1977. A graduate of the University of Texas, he is an active member of numerous state and regional organizations, including the Texas Folklore Society. He is also a guest lecturer for UT's Elderhostel program.

W. C. Jameson is the award-winning author of fifty books, 1,500 published articles and essays, and over 300 poems and songs. In addition to writing, he performs his songs and music at folk festivals and concerts throughout the country. He has written the musical scores for two PBS documentaries and one feature film, and he wrote and performed in the musical Whatever Happened to the Outlaw, Jesse James? An actor, Jameson has appeared in five films, including a co-starring role in Spoils of War.

James B. Kelly was born in Ft. Worth, Texas, and raised and educated in the public schools in Sinton, Texas. He earned a BBA Degree from Texas A&M University in 1952. He was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army, and served during the Korean Conflict with the 30th Regimental Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, from 1953–1954. He worked in the ranching and insurance industries, was Chairman and CEO of Kelly Land & Cattle Company, and served as a bank director for over ten years. He retired in 2002, and he joined the TFS and attended his first annual meeting in 2000.

Jerry B. Lincecum, a sixth-generation Texan, is Emeritus Professor of English at Austin College. He holds the B.A. in English from Texas A&M University and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Duke University. A past president of the Texas Folklore Society, he has presented many papers at annual meetings of the society and co-edited *The Family Saga: A Collection a/Texas Family Legends* for the TFS in 2003. Since 1990, he has directed "Telling Our Stories," a humanities project at Austin College that aids older adults in writing their autobiographies and family histories.

Gretchen Lutz lives in Houston, where she teaches reading at Cesar E. Chavez High School. A native of Bowie, Texas, she has a B.A. in English from Texas Christian, an M.A. in English from the University of Houston, and a Ph.D. in English from Rice University, where her dissertation was on women in the F. J. Child collection of traditional ballads.

Charlie McCormick is the Dean for Academic Affairs and an Associate Professor of English and Communication at Cabrini College in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Although it's a long way from his home of Snyder, Texas, Cabrini College encourages his ongoing analysis of adolescent cruising on Main Street in Texas and beyond.

Archie P. McDonald has taught history at Stephen F. Austin State University for forty-three years, and he serves as director of the East Texas Historical Association and editor of the Association's Journal. He is a past president of the Texas State Historical Association, past vice-chair of the Texas Historical Commission, and is the author/editor of more than twenty books on historical topics and one book of humor titled Helpful Cooking Hints for House Husbands of Uppity Women.

Charlie Oden began work for the T&NO (SP) Railroad in 1940 as an extra telegrapher clerk towerman. Three years later his company promoted him to train dispatcher. He worked as train dispatcher and chief train dispatcher for the next thirty-seven years. When he began work, steam engines were pulling the trains; when he retired, diesel electric units were pulling them. When he retired, Charlie was familiar with all of the names and locations of the rail yards and side tracks and knew what the different classes of engines would pull all along the Gulf Coast, on the prairies, or over the mountains, knowledge he used in planning and moving trains. Beginning in 1955, Charlie attended Navarro College at Corsicana, S.M.U., and the University of Houston until he had accumulated 90 of the 120 semester hours required for a degree in accounting. Because the 30 hours left to graduate were all electives, Charlie elected to quit school. He has contributed to TFS publications Hoein' the Short Rows and Between the Cracks of History.

Ellen Pearson was born in 1941, in Houston, a year before Fannie Marchman began her account of her life. Raised in Waxahachie, she spent her formative years, alternately, prissing around town in a red and white Pontiac Bonneville Convertible (with the obligatory ooga horn and glasspac mufflers), and whooping it up with cowhands on the family ranch in Central Texas, working cattle on a fine string of King Ranch-bred quarter horses. She dated bad boys with double first names, all beginning with "Billy." Ellen encountered the Marchman clan through her stepdad, Riley Laurens Marchman, the grandson of Fannie Marchman. Her only Marchman memories are of the diminutive Riley G. Marchman, Fannie's firstborn, swinging his mid-sized dog around his modest backyard in Waxahachie, the dog tenaciously gripping a towel in his mouth. Ellen discovered the Matriarch of the Clan long after her death, during a visit to her brother Rusty's house in Waxahachie, when they unearthed an ancient scrapbook containing Fannie Marchman's account. She now lives on a sidehill farm in Western Massachusetts, where she enjoys the last Belgian draft horse of a long line of steady workers, plus his new companion, a bay quarter horse mare, named Brandy, who helps her to remember the days on the KbarRanch in Texas.

Barbara Pybas lives in Cooke County, Texas on a ranch twenty miles from Gainesville, bordering the Red River. She immigrated to Texas from western Oklahoma in 1949 by marrying a Marine veteran and coming fresh from Oklahoma A&M University. From that time she has been active in community organizations, county politics, and as a committee member from Cooke County for the Texas Historical Commission. She has focused on Texas History and has several stories in the Handbook of Texas/My Texas Online: www.tsha.utexas.edu/mytexas. She has been a presenter at Texas Folklore Society meetings and at the Morton Museum in Gainesville serving, as well, on their board of directors. She attends the Sivells Bend United Methodist Church, established in 1869. This small country church has been the site for three daughters' weddings and several grandbabies' baptisms. There are six Pybas children and eleven grandchildren who think the ranch is a Bed

and Breakfast. Barbara has for several years attended the Telling Our Stories classes conducted by Dr. Jerry Lincecum in Sherman, and is included in his publications.

Consuelo Samarripa shares her performing art of storytelling and pubic speaking in various venues. As a second generation Texas native born in the West side barrios of San Antonio, she shares history, folklore, personal stories, poetry, multicultural tales, and myths. Her repertoire also includes ghost stories. She has appeared in lead roles of various theatrical productions. Consuelo's programs entertain audiences in English, Spanish, and her own bilingual blends. She conducts workshops for children and adults, is on the Texas Commission on the Arts Touring Roster for 2006–2008, and is registered with the Mid-America Arts Alliance.

Jean Granberry Schnitz was born in Spur, Texas. She graduated from Raymondville High School in 1948 and from Texas College of Arts and Industries College (now Texas A&M University in Kingsville) in 1952. She and Lew Schnitz were married in 1953. They have three sons and four grandchildren. A retired legal secretary, she lives near Boerne. As of 2007, Jean has presented eight papers to the Texas Folklore Society. She has been a Director on the Board of the Texas Folklore Society since 2002, and was elected Vice-President for 2005-2006. She became President at the 90th annual meeting in Galveston, Texas, in April of 2006.

Jan Epton Seale is a poet, essayist, and fiction writer. Born in Pilot Point, where Bonnie and Clyde robbed their first bank, she grew up in Gainesville and Waxahachie. She lives in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, where she writes, teaches creative writing, and enjoys helping call attention to the unique flora and fauna of South Texas. She has authored a number of books, the latest being *The Wonder* Is: New and Selected Poems 1974-2004, published by Panther Creek Press.

Janet McCannon Simonds, born and reared in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, is the Office Secretary and Treasurer of the Texas Folklore Society, and a long-time resident of Nacogdoches. Although she studied art and design for her bachelor's degree and has a master's degree in Education, she spent most of her career evaluating and managing social service contracts (and writing lengthy reports) for the State of Texas. After retirement from the State, the fun began—first, she had a five-year adventure in the College of Education at Stephen F. Austin State University, and then she discovered the Texas Folklore Society. A life-long love of Texas history and folklore and the written word has found a very congenial home.

John O. West taught English and folklore at the University of Texas at El Paso for thirty-nine years and is a retired Professor Emeritus. His publications include *Mexican American Folklore*, *Cowboy Folk Humor*, the introduction to Jose Cisneros' book *Riders Across the Centuries*, and *Jose Cisneros: An Artist's Journey*. In 2002, he was made a Fellow of the Texas Folklore Society.

Paul Yeager is a filmmaker, television producer/director, and interactive multimedia developer. In 1999, A V Video Producer Magazine named him one of the Top 100 Producers in America. Yeager's adventures by motorcycle began in 1974, when he and his wife Janice headed for Mexico on a grossly overloaded Honda 175. The following year they bought one of Honda's new four-cylinder bikes and pounded out some 75,000 miles over the next few years. They retired that bike, had three children who grew up and left home, and then began riding again in 1999. Writing has always been central to Yeager's work, and in 2000 he began a series of stories about his motorcycle travels. These have been published in Cycle World's Adventures Magazine, BMW ON Magazine, and the premiere issue of the Iron Butt Association Magazine, among other places. Most of his stories can also be found online at www. bmwclub.org in the Ride Tales section.