Both Sides of the Border
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Francis Edward Abernethy has been Secretary-Editor of the Texas Folklore Society for thirty-three years and is a retired teacher of English at Stephen F. Austin State University.

James T. Bratcher lives with his family in San Antonio. He recently rejoined the TFS after an absence of thirty years. (His Rip Van Winkle comment: “Dues have gone up!”) Bratcher’s main contribution to scholarship and the Texas Folklore Society is the *Analytical Index to Publications of the Texas Folklore Society* (Volumes 1–36), which he completed in 1973. He now writes short articles, mainly on literary topics.

Phyllis Bridges, a Distinguished Alumna in English of Texas Tech, is a professor of English at Texas Woman’s University, where she has taught for thirty-two years. She has served as president of the Texas Joint Council of Teachers of English, the Southwest American Culture Association, and the Texas Folklore Society. She is a regular contributor to the publications of the Texas Folklore Society.

Georgia Caraway is the Executive Director of the Denton County Courthouse-on-the-Square Museum and the Bayless-Selby House Museum in Denton, Texas. Georgia has a brokerage and appraisal certification from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and is the director of the Texas Institute of Antiques & Collectibles in Denton, an adult education certificate program for antiques brokers. She was an appraiser at *The Antiques Roadshow* when that popular PBS program was filmed in Dallas. Her book, *Tips, Tools, and Techniques*, gives more than a thousand ideas for the care and preservation of antiques and collectibles.

Tony Clark lives in Georgetown, Texas. Tony is now retired after teaching English in Texas and Arizona for twenty-seven years. He has written and published numerous short stories, poems, essays, and articles.

John L. Davis is Director of Research for the University of Texas Institute of Texas Cultures at San Antonio. He is a former teacher at The University of Texas at San Antonio, The University of Texas at Austin, and San Antonio College. Author of a number of books and articles, Davis is a freelance graphics designer, infrequent poet, and occasional
metaphysician. A former resident of Center Point, Texas, and London, England, he now resides in Seguin, Texas, where his wife and cats allow him to live with them.

Kenneth W. Davis, a past president of the Texas Folklore Society, is Emeritus Professor of English, Texas Tech University, and is president of the West Texas Historical Association (2003–2004). He is interested in the oral narrative tradition in Texas folklore as well as in the lore of food—and anything else about Texas lore. Kenneth is the official spokesman for Old Bell County.

Bertha Dominguez (1940–1997) wrote her paper under Elton Miles at Sul Ross in 1972, and taught school from 1970 until her death in 1997. See the introduction to her story on “Welito.”

Gloria Duarte-Valverda has taught in the English Department at Angelo State University for twenty-six years. She teaches a variety of classes, including women in literature and Mexican-American literature. Her areas of interest include Chicana writers, Mexican-American literature, and Ft. McKavett, where she grew up. She directed the exchange program with Mexico for six years.

George Ewing is a fifth-generation Texan who grew up in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and Corpus Christi, the son of a contractor who taught him the building trades. After studying and teaching electronics and radar during WWII, he finished his graduate degrees with a thesis on the temperance movement that was published as *The Well-Tempered Lyre*. Since retirement in 1992, he has done maintenance work in an apartment house for senior citizens, engaged in arts and crafts, and conducted religious services in nursing homes. He has been married to the same woman since 1946 and raised five children and one of his twelve grandchildren.

Alicia Zavala Galván is a poet, writer, translator, artist, independent scholar, and editor of Galvart Publishing. She has published six collections of illustrated poetry, three of them bilingual. As an independent scholar, she has translated a historical document written by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, the feminist poet-nun who lived during Mexico’s early colonial period. Ms. Galván has also written, produced, and acted in *Sequestered Soliloquy*, a bilingual one-act play based on the last days of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, which has been presented in universities and churches in the United States, Mexico, and Argentina.

Lou Ann Herda developed a love of legend and lore while growing up on haunted land in northeastern Oklahoma. Her Cherokee roots led to her dissertation topic and to an unexpected curiosity in nineteenth-century American history. She especially loves Texas’ colorful past and enjoys sharing stories with anyone who will sit still long enough. Lou Ann
earned her doctorate degree in 1999 from the University of Houston and resides part-time in Galveston where she teaches speech communications courses at Galveston College. She is married to Alex Herda and has two children, Taylor Lang, who willingly attends TFS meetings, and Brittany Lang, who willingly stays home in Houston.

Mary Belle Ingram is a retired librarian who is now in charge of the archives at the Matagorda County Museum in Bay City and is Historical Marker Chairman for Matagorda County.

James Ward Lee is acquisitions editor for TCU Press in Fort Worth, where he lives in heavenly bliss after forty-two years as Professor of English at the University of North Texas. He is now Emeritus Professor of English at UNT, but he does not take that very seriously, nor is he eager to re-join the U. S. Navy, where he was once a radar pussy during the Korean War. Nor is he much interested in moving back to Leeds, Alabama, even though it bears a number of resemblances to the Underworld where Sisyphus and the Duke and Lee Marvin and Steve McQueen and Fat Fullmer are.

Jerry Bryan Lincecum, a sixth-generation Texan, holds the Shoap Professorship in English at Austin College, having taught there since 1967. Lincecum has edited three books written by his first Texas ancestor, Dr. Gideon Lincecum. In 2003 Lincecum was a coeditor of Texas Folklore Society Publication #60, The Family Saga: A Collection of Texas Family Legends.

Al Lowman, in business since 1935, is now retired but marches on as Stringtown’s foremost sedentary lifestyle activist. He is past president of the Texas Folklore Society, the Book Club of Texas, and the Texas State Historical Association. Most recently he is founder and honorary curator of the Al Lowman Printing Arts Collection in the Cushing Library at Texas A&M University.

Charlie McCormick, after receiving his BA degree from Abilene Christian University, did graduate work in folklore and folklife at Texas A&M University and the University of Pennsylvania. He is now an assistant professor of English and Communications and the director of the Honors Program at Cabrini College in Radnor, Pennsylvania. He is currently completing a book on adolescent cruising on the commercial strip.

Jean Granberry Schnitz was born in Spur, Texas. She graduated from Raymondville High School in 1948 and from Texas A&I College in Kingsville in 1952. She and Lew Schnitz were married in 1958. They have three sons and three grandchildren. A retired legal secretary, she lives near Boerne. As of 2003 Jean has presented six papers to the Texas Folklore Society since 1990. She served as a Councilor on the Board of
the Texas Folklore Society 1999–2002, and was elected a Director in 2002.

Jan Seale was born in Pilot Point, Texas. She grew up in Gainesville and Waxahachie, attended Baylor, and received degrees from the University of Louisville and North Texas State University (now UNT). Scale is the author of *Airlift*, short stories; *Homeland*, essays; *The Nuts-~Bolts Guide to Writing Your Life Story*; and four books of poetry, the latest being *The Yin of It*. She is on the Speakers Bureau for the Texas Council on the Humanities.

Thad Sitton, a native of Lufkin, historian and writer, lives in Austin, Texas. He has explored the social history of rural Texas in a dozen books, including *Backwoodsmen, Nameless Towns*, and *The Texas Sheriff*. Sitton’s latest work is *Harder Than Hardscrabble*, an oral history of the farming life (University of Texas Press, 2004). His history of Texas’ freedmen’s settlements, *Freedom Colonies*, is in press at UT.

Duane L. Spiess’s formal education, provided at schools in Minnesota, Australia, Mexico and Texas, trained him for his professional life as a lawyer. The education that formed his avocation, that of putting with tractors and old trucks, was nurtured by his grandfather, a farmer and self-taught mechanic in Minnesota. As a longtime resident of Helotes, Texas, he has spent, and continues to spend, many pleasurable hours “working at his trade.”

Lucy Fischer West was born in Catskill, New York, but raised in El Paso. She has done freelance editing in the field of Southwestern history and is currently teaching freshman English at Cathedral High School. Her presentation, “Folklore by Osmosis: Three Decades with John O.,” was included in the Writer’s AudioShop The Best of Texas Folklore Volume Two. *Child of Many Rivers: Journeys to and from the Rio Grande*, a book of essays, is forthcoming from Texas Tech University Press.