EAST TEXAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

EAST TEXAS COLLOQUI

The Association gathered for the Spring meeting in Galveston on February 24 and 25. Our host, Galveston College, and our Program Chairman and Local Arrangements Chairman, Maury Darst, provided us with gracious hospitality and a good program. Albert Machel of Nacogdoches presented an entertaining program on patent medicine at the Friday evening session before we adjourned to Ashton Villa for a reception. Saturday sessions included papers by Gwin Morris on Reading Photographs, by Don Graham on The Displacement of East Texas in Movies about Texas, by Jim Jones on Restoring Old Photographs, by Fred Tarpley on Galveston and Jefferson, and by Bob Jones on The Open Days of Galveston. President Bob Bowman presided at the luncheon, and Fred Tarpley presented the Ralph W. Steen Award to Mrs. Lucille Terry of Jefferson, Dr. Robert S. Maxwell of Nacogdoches, and Max S. Lale of Marshall and Fort Worth.

The Fall Meeting of the Association will be in Nacogdoches on the campus of Stephen F. Austin State University on September 28 and 29.

The East Texas Historical Association mourns the passing of its long-time member and friend, George Traylor Russell of Mount Pleasant, who died on December 1, 1983.

Mr. Russell was born on April 12, 1906 in Titus County to Clay and Ethel Russell. He is survived by his wife, Arlene, and two sons, one daughter, and several grandchildren, brothers, and sisters.

Mr. Russell's profession lay in the practice of law, and he was active in many civic and professional organizations, including the First Baptist Church of Mount Pleasant, Temple Lodge No. 70 A.F.&A.M., the Scottish Rite and Shrine, the Texas Bar Association, Northeast Texas Bar Association, Titus County Bar Association, and he was a founding member of the Mount Pleasant Rotary Club. He chaired the Committee on History and Tradition of the Texas Bar Association which published the Centennial History of the Texas Bar, 1881-1982.

Mr. Russell studied law in the office of Judge Seb Caldwell and was admitted to the Bar in 1934. Prior to that he studied mathematics at East Texas State University at Commerce and taught in rural schools in East Texas. He was one of the better known regional historians of East Texas, and his publications include a two-volume History of Titus County, The Diamond Bessie Murder and the Rothschild Trials, Carpetbaggers, Scalawags, and Others, Census of Titus County 1850-1860, and Pioneers and Heroes of Titus County. He assisted in the establishment of a local historical museum at the Mount Pleasant City Library. Mr. Russell was a charter member of the East Texas Historical Association and remained a loyal supporter.
The White House Historical Association announces the publication of a new journal, *White House History*. It is the first publication devoted entirely to the history of the White House. It is edited by William Seale, known to many in East Texas for his work on river people and river history. *White House History* will be published occasionally and is of high quality. It may be ordered from the White House Historical Association, 740 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506, for $6.00.

The February 1984 issue of *American History Illustrated* contains an article of interest to East Texans. Ralph Walker discusses the filibustering activities of James Long, who prematurely proclaimed Texas free from Mexico in 1819, in an article entitled "Long’s Lone Star Republic." Long did this at the Old Stone Fort in Nacogdoches, had to retreat to Mississippi, and tried again at Bolivar on the Texas coast. Later he was killed in Mexico, and his wife, Jane Long, survived a difficult winter on Point Bolivar before returning to the United States. Later she came back to Texas and is known as the Mother of Texas.

Lincoln King’s students at Gary High School continue their fine work with *Loblolly*, and recently they were honored to have their title used by Thad Sitton in his book by the Texas Monthly Press, *The Loblolly Book*. Sitton, who is from Lufkin, is associated with the Texas Sesquicentennial Commission. In this book he writes about the *Loblolly*-style projects going on in Texas. All trace their origin to the *Foxfire* project begun in Georgia two decades ago.

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas announce the forthcoming publication of *Founders and Patriots of The Republic of Texas, The Lineages of the Members of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas*. For details contact Mrs. Floyd Williams, Box 97, Anahuac, Texas 77514.

Joe Malcom continues to edit the *Civil War Press Corps*, a potpourri of information about the Civil War, activities of Civil War Round Tables, restoration and preservation projects, and reviews of pertinent books. It may be ordered at 264 Hancock, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027. Each issue features The Gray Line and The Blue Line, articles which continue the struggle in a good natured way.

The Central Texas Genealogical Society announces the publication of *McLennan County, Texas Marriage Records*, Volume II (January 1871-July 1892). It may be ordered for $15.95 from the Society, Waco-McLennan County Library, 1717 Austin Avenue, Waco, TX 76701.
The Texas State Historical Association will hold its annual meeting in Fort Worth on March 1-3, 1985. Details may be obtained from the Texas State Historical Association, 2/306 Sid Richardson Hall, Austin, Texas 78712.

BOOKS, BOOKS, AND MORE BOOKS

We started this section one issue back to provide coverage and some commentary for the large number of books appearing on our state and region, particularly for those publications which are not reviewed in full for one reason or another. It seemed to work before, so we will try it again.

John H. Jenkins, *Basic Texas Books* (Jenkins Publishing Company, Box 2085, Austin, TX 78768) is the most ambitious project of its kind in some time. This is a guide to the 224 books which Jenkins considers essential for any Texas research library. They were selected from over 100,000 books about Texas that have been published since 1542. Each entry provides full biographical details, quotations about the book from scholars, a detailed description of contents, an analysis of merits and inaccuracies, if any, and other information. An annotated guide to 217 Texas bibliographies is included along with a complete index and sixty-six illustrations. It seems a fundamental acquisition for libraries and collectors.

Two books in the Greenwood Press's series of bio-bibliographies are Richard Boyd Hauch, *Crockett: A Bio-Bibliography*, and Jon Tuska, *Billy the Kid: A Bio-Bibliography* (Greenwood Press, 88 Post Road West, Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881), which provide just what the titles imply. Tuska's volume contains a 100-plus page biography, a section entitled "Billy and the Historians," a bibliography of sources, sections on Billy the Kid in fiction and film, a section of miscellany, and a chronology. Hauch's *Crockett* also has a biography entitled "The Facts" and sections on fiction, the Crockett idiom, and a chronology. Both are indexed.

*Manuscript Sources in the Rosenburg Library: A Selective Guide*, edited by Jan A. Kenamore and Michael E. Wilson (Texas A&M Press, Drawer C, College Station, TX 77843), might save the researcher a good deal of time. The Rosenburg Library is a key depository of many manuscript collections pertaining to early Texas. The Papers of Samuel May Williams and Gail Borden are among its most important holdings, but they also have many valuable sources. Recent years has brought increased use of these collections so the library has provided this guide for researchers before they arrive. The introduction contains a history of the library itself. A list of donors acknowledges those who have contributed to the collection, and the remainder of the volume is a listing and description of manuscript sources plus an index.