

# La Vista de la Frontera



Newsletter of the Center for Big Bend Studies  
Sul Ross State University

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## ARCHEOLOGY BIG BEND STYLE

### NUMEROUS DISCOVERIES UNEARTHED DURING ARCHEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL

Summer school—Big Bend style—allowed Sul Ross State University archeology students to bring home some historic homework.

Prehistoric atlatl dart points, stone tools, matting, grass bedding, and sotol leaves with teeth marks—all dating from 1000 B.C.–500 A.D.—were some of the items discovered during this summer’s archeological field school.

The field school, offered through the Sul Ross Behavioral and Social Sciences Department and taught by archeologist Robert Mallouf, enabled students to carry out scientific investigations at two very different sites in the Big Bend. Students, including Pauline Hernandez, Andrea Ohl, Jason Bush, Candace Covington, Dan Stoye, and Robert Tidwell, worked the first three weeks at a prehistoric burned rock midden (plant baking pit) on a ranch in the Glass Mountains owned by Homer Mills of Alpine. The last two weeks were spent at a rockshelter containing rock art, located on Harry “Hat” Turner’s land in Sunny Glen Canyon near Alpine.

Staff included Brandon Young, a graduate student at the University of Texas at San Antonio, who was a teaching assistant for Mallouf; Marty Estrada, logistics; and cooks Shawn and Lorisa Blackshear.

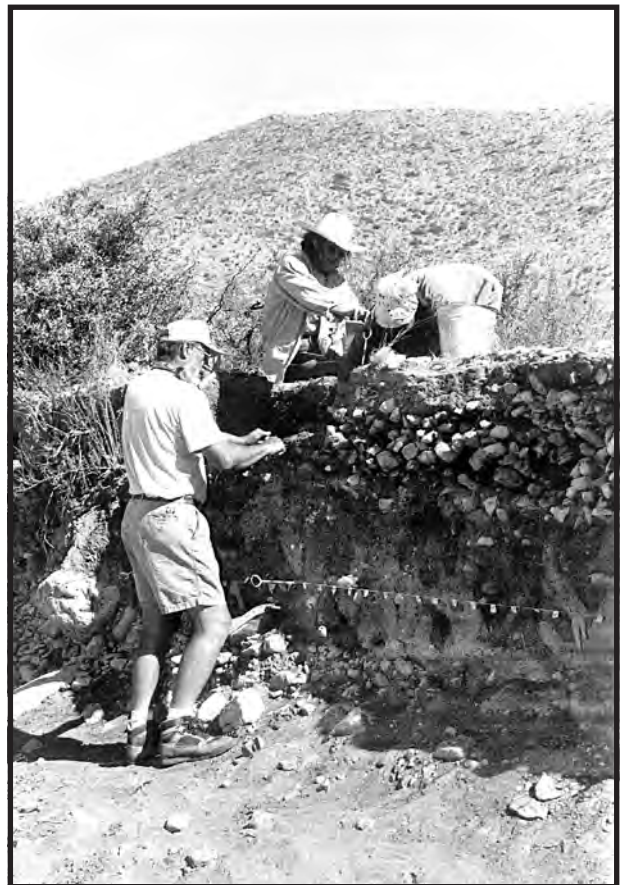
Mallouf said the buried ring midden site was chosen because it is endangered by erosion. The site is located on a tributary of Gilliland Canyon which runs northwest-southeast through the Glass Mountains.

“It was exposed by a severe flood in 1991 and only half of the ring midden is left. The other half washed into the creek bed. The next time there is a big flood in this drainage system, it could all be washed away,” said Mallouf, Sul Ross faculty member and director of the SRSU Center for Big Bend Studies.

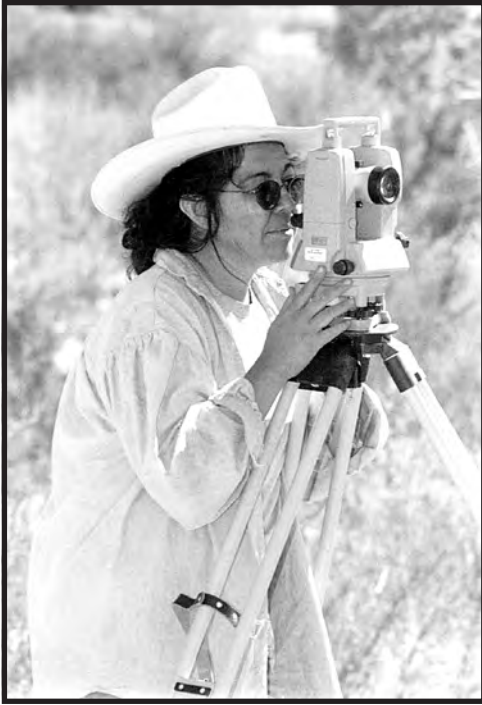
A huge, multiple oven feature that is 14.5 meters in diameter, the midden was made by prehistoric hunters and gatherers between 1000 B.C. and 500 A.D., according to Mallouf.

“We base the dating on several Paisano dart points found during excavation. Charcoal samples are also being submitted for radiocarbon dating,” he said, and added that the dig was complicated for the students because of the unrelenting sun and the complicated structure of the oven midden.

“The oven was originally constructed within a natural feature, an old arroyo cut,” Mallouf said. “It was an open work area with a huge baking oven. A large pit was dug by the Indians and lined with rock. Wood was then burned in the pit to make a thick bed of hot coals, which were then covered with thin stone slabs. Food (probably sotol heads and lechuguilla bulbs) was next layered into the pit, then covered with



*Robert Mallouf (left) and students excavate a ring midden in the Glass Mountains.*



*Archeology student Pauline Hernandez uses a theodolite to map a site during field school.*

vegetation, rocks, and dirt and left to bake two to three days. The intense heat caused stones lining the pit to break up.”

Mallouf explained that burned and fractured stones were dug out to extract the food. As broken rock was thrown out, the pit was relined, and the baking process repeated over and over. As new pits were dug into older pits, the baking process left a complicated deposit for archeologists to study. The dig explored the original large baking pit, several meters in diameter, and a number of smaller pits dug at various times in other areas of the feature.

“Because of the prolific plant foods, this canyon system was a great hunter-gatherer area,” Mallouf said, “as well as the only relatively easy route through the Glass Mountains. Lechuguilla, sotol, yucca, agarita bushes, and lots of medicinal plants grew throughout the area, both in the past and in the present. The area provided a combination of easy access, excellent food plants, game animals, good campgrounds, and good water sources at that time.”

At the base of the midden, field school students found the ancient living surface used by the prehistoric Native Americans. They found five dart points, one arrowpoint, and other stone tools and tool-making debris at different stratigraphic levels in the site.

To ease the effects of the sun, the students set up tents by a bunkhouse where the Blackshears prepared meals and a stock tank was close by for swimming.

“We did have to put up a fence around the bunkhouse and stock tank to keep the friendly cows out,” Shawn Blackshear said.

Excavation also took place at Bedichek Rockshelter, named by Victor J. Smith, pioneer archeologist of the Big Bend/Trans-Pecos area, for Roy Bedichek, a well-known author and naturalist. Smith, an early self-trained archeologist, first investigated this shelter about 1930. He was an industrial technology teacher at Sul Ross from the 1920s to 1950.

Located high up on a rhyolite rock bluff in Sunny Glen Canyon, the rockshelter contains large amounts of prehistoric cultural debris down the front slope. The rock art at the back of the shelter consists of red pictographs.

“The rock art stylistically appears to be Late Prehistoric. It has been damaged over the years by white chalk drawn on and around the pictographs,” Mallouf said. “Also, someone sprayed lacquer on them, and the lacquer has darkened with age.”

Hat Turner allowed the class to do contour mapping (plane table mapping) and also conduct scientifically controlled test excavations at the site to determine age and kind of the cultural deposits.

“The class found a series of stratified occupations, the oldest on the bottom, which dates to at least 1000 B.C. (evidence of Late Archaic),” Mallouf said. “As at the ring midden, we maintained detailed horizontal and vertical controls and know the levels, depths, and associations of all recovered artifacts. We mapped the artifacts in situ (in place in the ground) and mapped the rock art to scale. Pauline Hernandez made exact scale drawings and colorings of the rock art.”

Evidence indicated that the inhabitants were hunters and gatherers. Matting, grass bedding, and cordage (strings woven of lechuguilla fibers) were found. The students also found quids (Mallouf said that the natives chewed the bases of sotol leaves and threw down the remains on which you can sometimes see the teeth marks), atlatl points, other stone tools and tool-making debris, as well as charcoal from fires.

In addition, the class conducted an archeological survey along Sunny Glen Creek and recorded an additional 20 new archeological sites.

*continued on page 4*



*Students conduct controlled excavation at Bedichek Rockshelter in Sunny Glen Canyon.*

## PUBLIC OUTREACH

### CBBS Educational Tour at Big Bend Ranch State Park

On November 3, 1998, Robert Mallouf and William “Andy” Cloud of the Center for Big Bend Studies, Sul Ross State University, led an educational archeological tour for a select group of high school students at Big Bend Ranch State Park. The 24 student participants were 10th and 11th graders from inner city schools in San Antonio and Houston. The tour was organized by Jim Carr of the Korima Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to “sharing the future of the Big Bend Ranch State Park.” The inner city students were spending a week at the park while being instructed on desert survival techniques, archeology, geology, and river rafting.

The archeological tour began at the park headquarters with a brief overview of the archeology of the park. Then the group was taken to a nearby site, Cerro de Bulido, located on top of a small mesa or butte. The site contains stacked stone features (house foundations) attributable to the Cielo complex, a Late Prehistoric to contact period (ca A.D. 1330–1680) cultural manifestation found across most of the Texas Big Bend and for an unknown distance southward into northeastern Chihuahua and northwestern Coahuila. Artifactual materials found at the site also indicate use during the lengthy Archaic period. Additionally, the site contains remnants of linear stacked stone walls positioned in such a manner to suggest defensive uses. This site proved to be particularly well suited for an educational overview of archeology in the park.

Next, the group was taken to Cuevas Amarillas (also known as Las Cuevas) along the main park road, a site regularly used for interpretation by park personnel. The students were

shown an intact ring midden, a rockshelter, mortar holes, bedrock metates, and pictographs at the site. Shade created by the rockshelter was embraced by the students during lunch, much as it had been by other peoples during prehistoric and historic times.

Then the group was taken to the southern boundary of the park along the Rio Grande. Three sites were visited along the river: a site with an extremely large and well-defined ring midden, a small village site containing pithouse features, and the Polvo site (a large village site near Redford, Texas, with pithouses and other features). Although the group had become weary by the late afternoon, they remained attentive at each of the sites as various features and artifacts were used to explain the different lifeways that were practiced through time in the region.



*Robert Mallouf explains a Cielo complex structure to high school students from San Antonio and Houston.*

### Multicultural Events Sponsored by CBBS

The Center for Big Bends Studies celebrated Mexican American week and Black History month during 1998 by cosponsoring symposiums with the Sul Ross State University’s Spanish Club and Black Student Association. The symposiums were directed towards exposing the unique Hispanic and African American cultures in the Trans-Pecos area of West Texas.

On February 19, 1998, the Center co-hosted a symposium with the Black Student Association in recognition of Black History Month. Hosted by Francis Jones, the symposium featured four presentations by members of the student body and faculty. Francine Innis, an African American student at Sul Ross, opened with a brief lecture on what it meant to be African American followed by a presentation given by Allen Morris and Floy Healer from Fort Davis National Historic Site demonstrating their traveling trunk exhibit. Dr. Marilyn Brady, a former researcher at CBBS, gave a lecture on her research of African Americans in the Trans-Pecos focusing on the colonial period. The symposium came to a conclusion with a lecture by Bruce Glasrud, Dean of Arts and Sciences, on his recent publication entitled *African Americans in the West: A Bibliography of Secondary Sources* (CBBS 1998).

The following May, the Center co-hosted a celebration of Mexican American week with the Spanish Club which featured Sul Ross State University’s Ballet Folkórico de las Américas and Mariachi de la Paz on May 5, 1998. Introduced by Robert Mallouf, lectures were given by Dr. Andrea Purdy on “The Corrido as Oral History” followed by John Klingemann of the CBBS on the Borderlands Oral History Project being conducted by the Center. Directed by Nicola Mulholland, the Ballet Folkórico de las Américas delivered a wonderful performance of traditional Mexican dances such as Jesusita en Chihuahua from the northern regions of Mexico and Tilingo Lingo and Jarabe Tapatío from the south. Members of the Ballet Folkórico de las Américas included Joshua Cabrales, Gina González, Cynthia Hood, Katherine Machuca, Eric Mast, J. J. Muníz, Amanda Nieto, Judith Pardo, Senaida Ramírez, Kelvin Ranson, Vanessa Spencer, and Monica Villegas. Members of the Mariachi de la Paz included J. J. Muníz, David Evans, Johnny Milan, Rick Ruíz, Tony Lujan, Joe Prieto, and Veronica Rodríguez.

## SRSU Joins Mexico-North Research Network

During May 1998, Robert Mallouf and William "Andy" Cloud of the CBBS traveled to Chihuahua City, Mexico, to attend the first annual meeting of the Mexico-North Research Network (MNRN). The Network is an international, nonprofit association of institutions that cooperate to promote exchange and collaboration on research, education, and development projects in northern Mexico and the southwestern United States. Sixty-eight individuals affiliated with 20 Mexican and 14 U.S. institutions attended the six-day meeting. Emphasis of the MNRN is on the social sciences and humanities, particularly the disciplines of cultural anthropology, archeology, cultural geography, museology, and related areas of study. The MNRN promotes exchange and collaboration among member institutions and their students and faculty; assists in the dissemination of scientific findings; increases opportunities for training and multilevel education; and assists agencies, organizations, and local residents in improving the social and cultural conditions in the regions. Participating institutions pay an annual membership fee of \$2,000. In addition to Sul Ross State University, some joining institutions include the University of Texas at Austin, Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Northern Arizona University, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Hampshire College, Smithsonian Institution, University of Texas at San Antonio, Universidad Regional del Norte, and numerous others.

The Center for Big Bend Studies is now accepting papers to be presented at the 6th Annual Conference, October 15–16, 1999. Presentations should focus on prehistoric, historic, and modern cultures of the borderlands region of the United States and Mexico, with emphasis on the area encompassed by Trans-Pecos Texas and north-central Mexico.

Papers accepted for presentation will be considered for publication in *The Journal of Big Bend Studies*, Volume 12.

Please submit an abstract of 200 words or less by August 15, 1999.

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### *Archeological Field School continued from page 2*

"We recorded seven other prehistoric rockshelters and open campsites along the creek," Mallouf said. "We also recorded two historic house sites dating from the 1880s forward." At one of the earliest historic sites, shards of "flown blue" ceramic earthenware were found, "like pieces of plates and saucers, likely broken family heirlooms, that could go back to the mid-1800s."

"Our work revealed two different kinds of sites and environments hunters and gatherers occupied during the same time period [about 1000 B.C.–500 A.D.]," Mallouf said. "Different sites had different functions. In this case, one was for plant processing, out in the open. It was chosen for the plants that were there to process. The other was a shelter from the elements, a great place to live. It was warm in the winter, cool in the summer. It was a shelter from the wind with soft deposits to sleep on and a floor easy to dig pits in. It was also located up high and provided good visibility."

Mallouf stressed his appreciation for the support of both landowners, saying, "they laid out the red carpet for us."

Both Turner and Mills expressed satisfaction with the excavations.

"There are a lot of things yet to be discovered," Turner said. "I've always had an interest in archeology, and I've learned a lot from Bob and from what he has shown me." Turner said he has been interested in archeology as an amateur and during the past two to three years has found metates and

manos (stones used for grinding foods) and numerous stone tools of all kinds.

Mills said that the summer work was the first real dating/excavation done on the ranch, which has been owned by his family since the 1920s. The only data available are the points collected by the Mills family, mostly during the 1950s to 1960s when they lived on the ranch. Mallouf is using them for baseline data.

"The bulk of our collection is Archaic points, dating 2,000-6,000 years ago," Mills said. "A few go back 10,000 years."

Mills found the ring midden excavation especially interesting and visited the site during the dig. He is looking forward to getting the radiocarbon dating information.

"We have had possession of the land roughly 70 years," Mills said, "and finding out that the Indians were there 10,000 years ago makes our time seem insignificant. It is hard to imagine them living there all those years."

Plans for the Mills Ranch include continued research by Young who assisted Mallouf with the summer field school. His thesis work for the University of Texas at San Antonio, being done through the Center for Big Bend Studies at Sul Ross, will focus on the ranch. Future work at Bedichek Rockshelter will be continued by professional archeological staff of the Center for Big Bend Studies.

Reprinted from *The Skyline* 76(8): 6, October 22, 1998.

## BORDERLANDS HISPANIC ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

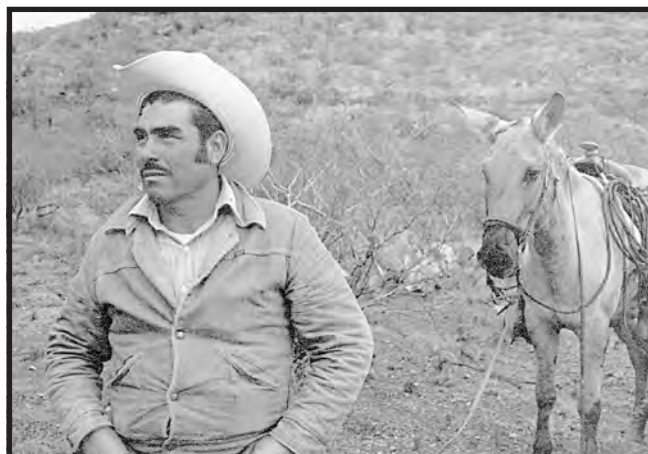
Over a year ago the Center for Big Bend Studies (CBBS) initiated a program designed to recover cultural as well as historical information about Hispanic culture in the Trans-Pecos area of West Texas. Known as the Borderlands Hispanic Oral History Project, its purpose is to preserve, through taped interviews, the rich transcultural heritage experienced in West Texas as well as in portions of northern Mexico. The project will ultimately result in a publication to be published by the CBBS.

Currently under the direction of John Klingemann, the program has been running successfully for more than a year. To date more than 30 people have been interviewed from different parts of the Trans-Pecos. Each interview has been transcribed, translated if needed, and photos copied. Recently the Center received a grant from the Summerlee Foundation in the amount of \$20,000 to further the project. Other proposals have been submitted and are in the process of being reviewed.

During the summer of 1998, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department contracted with the CBBS to carry out extensive oral history research on Big Bend Ranch State Park. More than 15 people were interviewed (both Hispanic and Anglo) to recover information dealing with the history of the ranch and its inhabitants. Additionally, more than 400 private photographs of the ranch and its workers were copied. To further the recovery of this information, Curtis Craven, a film producer, was brought to the ranch to film some of the interviewees in their home environment. John Klingemann was the on-screen interviewer, while Craven filmed. Nearly a week was spent in the field filming the interviewees at Big Bend Ranch State Park



*Harris Smith and daughter Celia on horseback at the Smith Ranch in the early 1930s. Celia Anne Hill was interviewed about her father's ranch.*



*Andrés Hernández with his horse at Big Bend Ranch where he worked as a cowboy along with other Mexican nationals from El Mulato, Mexico.*

and the nearby village of El Mulato in Chihuahua. The week-long project was a resounding success.

Currently, the project is focusing on the Hispanic culture in southern Brewster County. Mining towns such as Boquillas, San Vicente, La Linda, Pantera, and Study Butte are being intensely researched to obtain information needed to formulate questions for future interviews. A preliminary reconnaissance of the Boquillas–San Vicente area has been completed and trips to La Linda, Pantera, and Study Butte are planned.

The main exhibit at this year's *Trappings of Texas* was the Cowboys of Big Bend Ranch. The Museum of the Big Bend, in cooperation with the Center, used information gathered during the Borderlands Hispanic Oral History Project as well as gear loaned by people who were interviewed. The exhibit focused on the customs of ranching along the border from the early 1900s to the late 1960s. Several people as well as Ft. Leaton agreed to loan the museum cowboy gear to demonstrate the local culture. The exhibit was on display in the Museum of the Big Bend throughout the *Trappings of Texas* weekend.

The Center is still looking for more names to add to their list of candidates for interviews. This project is intended to increase the knowledge of the rich history, culture, and contributions of Hispanics in the borderlands. To obtain a copy of the questionnaire or to nominate a potential interviewee, please contact John Klingemann at the Center for Big Bend Studies, Box C-71, Alpine, Texas 79832, telephone (915) 837-8676, or e-mail [jkli014@sulross.edu](mailto:jkli014@sulross.edu).

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**Mark your calendars! The CBBS 6th Annual Conference is going to be October 15–16, 1999.**

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## NEW CBBS PUBLICATION: *ROCK ART OF THE CHIHUAHUAN DESERT BORDERLANDS*

The Center for Big Bend Studies, Sul Ross State University, is pleased to announce a new publication on rock art studies of the Chihuahuan Desert borderlands. The volume contains eight papers on prehistoric and historic rock art of the region, and includes descriptions and analyses of both petroglyphic and pictographic art. Included in this work are examples of rock art in very poorly studied areas of the borderlands, such as far northern Coahuila, northwestern Nuevo Leon, and northwestern Chihuahua, as well as the Texas Big Bend. Among the research issues addressed are symbolism in cultural systems, ritual use of landscapes, cultural and temporal affiliations, systems of classification, and ceremonial implications. Authors of this volume include well-known rock art specialists such as Francisco Mendiola Galván, Polly Schaafsma, Solveig A. Turpin, and Kay Sutherland. 125 pp., 115 illus. (black and white). See order form on page 20 to order

• *Research on the Natural Accretion Covering Pictographs in the Lower Pecos*

by Jon Russ, Richard P. Timm, Cynthia Kenny, Kirkland Hodge, and Warna Kaluarachchi

• *A Recent Reconnaissance of Rock Art Sites in Chihuahua and Southern New Mexico*

by Francisco Mendiola Galván

• *The Paquimé Rock Art Style, Chihuahua, Mexico*

by Polly Schaafsma

• *Cerro del Diablo, Janos, Chihuahua: A Historic Apache Site?*

by Roy B. Brown

• *Mesoamerican Ceremony among the Prehistoric Jornada Mogollon*

by Kay Sutherland

• *The Rock Art of Coahuila: A General Survey*

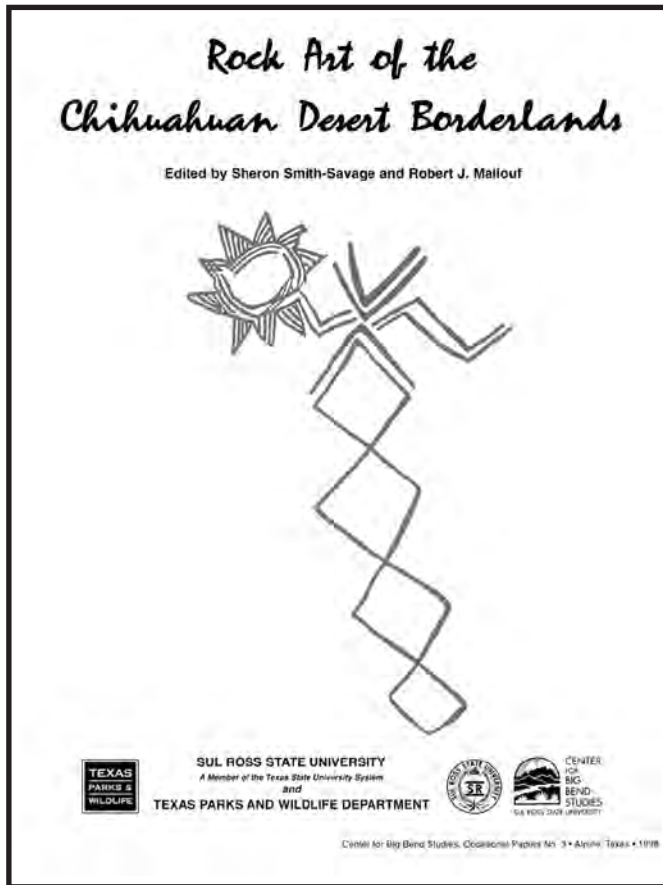
by Terry T. Sayther

• *Toward the Definition of a Style: The Chiquihuitillos Pictographs of Northeastern Mexico*

by Solveig A. Turpin, Herbert H. Eling Jr., and Moisés Valadez Moreno

• *A Review of Rock Art Research in the Big Bend of Texas*

by Miriam A. Lowrance



### NEW PUBLICATION FROM MEXICO

Martha Rodriguez' new book *La Guerra entre Barbaros y Civilizados: El Exterminio del nomada en Coahuila 1840-1880* has just been published by the Centro de Estudios Sociales y Humanisticos in Saltillo. It is a 287-page paperback written in Spanish. Rodriguez' earlier book *Los Indios de Coahuila durante el siglo XIX* sold out without ever reaching the American market and is now out-of-print. A limited supply is now available for \$25 plus \$1.58 postage. If you are interested, please make your check payable to Solveig Turpin and mail it to Solveig Turpin, PRC26-R6900, University of Texas at Austin, 78712, and your book will be mailed immediately. If you are affiliated with a college or university that should have this book in its library, please pass this on to your librarian.

### COMMUNICATIONS WITH SISTER ORGANIZATIONS IN MEXICO

A variety of interactions, including exchanges of publications and information, as well as several on-site visitations have occurred recently between the CBBS and sister organizations in northern Mexico. These include the Archivo Municipal de Saltillo in Coahuila, and the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Centro de Información del Estado de Chihuahua, and Instituto Chihuahuense de la Cultura in Chihuahua. CBBS advisory council member, Dr. Rubén Osorio, who is a resident of Ciudad Chihuahua, continues to provide invaluable support and assistance to the Center in efforts to establish and maintain lines of communication across the Río Bravo del Norte.

## BOOK REVIEW

### *Curanderismo: Mexican American Folk Healing*

by Robert T. Trotter II and Juan Antonio Chavira, with forward by Luís de León

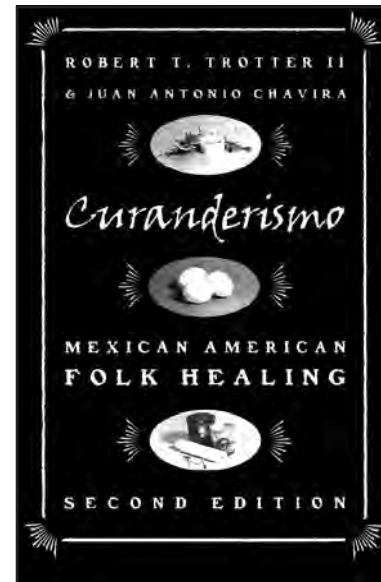
The University of Georgia Press, Athens, Georgia, Second Edition 1997

Originally published in 1981, this 1997 second edition of *Curanderismo* offers a crucial perspective on the practice and importance of the Mexican-American health care system of the Texas-Mexico borderlands. The original publication of *Curanderismo* challenged many preexisting myths in medical and anthropological literature that viewed the phenomena of *curanderismo* as a form of social pathology, superstition, and a product of a fatalistic and paranoid people who failed to cope with the challenges of modern American society. The reissue of Trotter and Chavira's *Curanderismo* demonstrates the continuing interest in Mexican-American religion, indigenous health care systems, and borderlands' culture.

The term *curandero*, a practitioner of *curanderismo*, is rooted in the Spanish verb *curar*; to cure. *Curanderos* have long been the major source of health care for the Mexican-American peoples of Texas-Mexico borderlands. Trotter and Chavira examine the history of *curanderismo* as rooted in six important influences: Judeo-Christian religious beliefs, symbols, and rituals; early Arabic medicine and health practices; medieval and later European witchcraft; Native American herbal lore and health practices; modern beliefs about spiritualism and psychic phenomena; and scientific medicine.

Trotter and Chavira present three major theories of healing as described through extensive interviews with *curanderos* themselves. This is a major strength of the book. Whereas earlier histories represent an outsider's perspective of the *curandero*'s world, this book presents an insider's view of the author's three-year apprenticeship into *curanderismo*, and relies heavily on oral interviews with the *curanderos* who provide their own perspective on their methods and practices.

The first level of healing resides in the material level, the realm of *curandero* manipulation of the physical environment, use of Christian symbolism, rituals, and herbal- and fruit-based remedies. The second of these theories resides on the spiritual level and focuses on the spiritual basis of illness and recovery. Revolving around a belief in spirit beings who inhabit another dimension of existence, *curanderos*, who have the gift of working on the spiritual level, practice *mediumship*, or the establishment of a communicative link with the spiritual world. Rejecting such negative connotations with labels such as "witch doctor," "medicine man," or "spiritualist," Trotter and Chavira present *curanderismo* as an indigenous form of shamanism, thus allowing for a comparative framework in which to perceive the world of the *curandero*. The third theory



deals with the mental level of *curanderismo* and is probably the least understood among western anthropologists and observers. Focusing on the subconscious layer of the human experience, the *curandero*'s emphasis on *vibraciones mentales* (mental vibrations) seeks to uncover the psychological basis for the patient's illness and a reliance on the power available to the individual mind rather than reliance on spiritual entities and modalities. Clearly absent in this level is Christian symbolism and an emphasis on the mental disciplines associated with eastern religions such as Buddhism and western secular thought associated with Jungian psychology.

The reissue of *Curanderismo* testifies to the continuing interest and resilience of Mexican American and borderlands' culture. A major theme of the book is the continuing importance of the *curandero*, despite the emergence of medical facilities and services along the Rio Grande and United States-Mexico border. Rather than viewing *curanderismo* as a historical phenomena, Trotter and Chavira present a living and vibrant, yet adaptive cultural practice.

Growing interest in holistic healing, the dramatic increase in the availability of herbal medicines, and the integration of spiritual and natural healing practices so long rejected by the American medical profession, make this book a must read for any doctor or pharmacist trained in the sterile and desecralized western medical tradition. The current availability of this paperback edition will also serve as an important resource for historians and anthropologists alike, as well as the general reader interested in Mexican American and borderlands' cultures.

## BOOK REVIEW

### *Gente Decente: A Borderlands Response to the Rhetoric of Dominance*

by Leticia M. Garza-Falcón

University of Texas Press, Austin, 1998

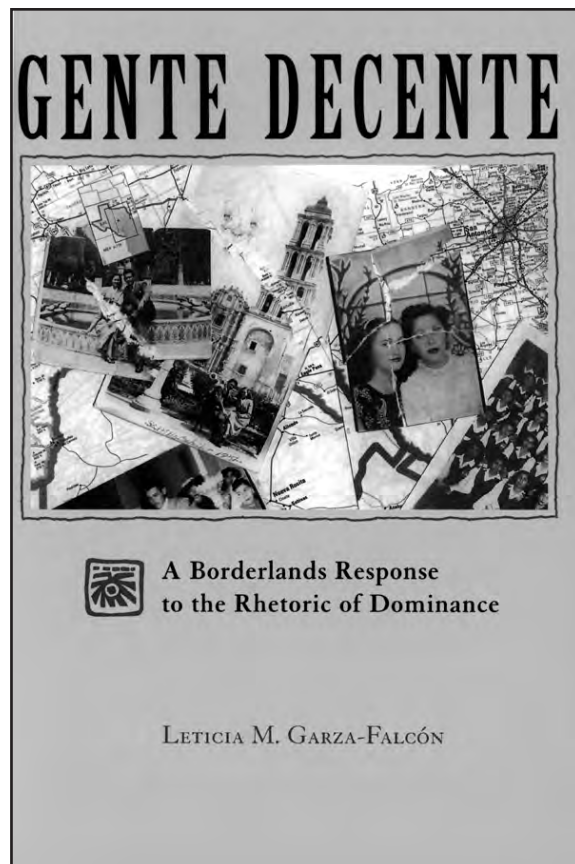
The increasing interest in United States–Mexico borderlands studies has engendered much new literature on the subject. Leticia M. Garza-Falcón’s recent offering, *Gente Decente: A Borderlands Response to the Rhetoric of Dominance*, represents the emerging view which seeks not to transplant one intolerant view for another, but rather to assist in accommodating the necessary and inevitable cultural transition that is taking place along the border. In order to do so Garza-Falcón first points out the inconsistencies and untruths that have been promoted in the historiography (or “rhetoric”) of the dominant Anglo-American culture since the 1836 Anglo/Tejano revolt against the Mexican dictator Antonio López de Santa Ana. She then demonstrates the errors which that rhetoric has promoted and describes the resultant harm done to affected minority school children and populations.

Garza-Falcón believes that the Anglo-American myth of manifest destiny, a role that white school children have been taught to believe, was carried to fruition solely by their forebearers, and has been molded to exclude the contributions of Hispanics as well as other non-Anglo ethnic groups. Foremost in perpetuating this fallacy was Texas historian Walter Prescott Webb who, in addition to his Anglophilic historiography, contributed significantly to the promotion of his ideas by composing history textbooks and by working for the adoption of those books by the public schools systems of Texas. Garza-Falcón says:

At the crux of Webb’s thesis is a reinforcement of a national identity associated with a people struggling against odds which are eventually overcome. The story sounds innocent enough, except that it is also a story of exclusion; the struggle of the “others,” those who get in the way, are not taken into account (Garza-Falcón 1998:33).

The result has been to inculcate in minority children a sense of either non-participation in the American drama, or a belief that their ancestors acted negatively in the forming of the nation.

While a few Mexican-American scholars, such as Américo Paredes and Carlos Castañeda, were teaching at the University



of Texas during the first half of the twentieth century, their voices were too-often unheard by those in the dominant culture. Into this void stepped Mexican-American *literati* who, through fiction and historical narrative, recorded important portions of the Hispanic experience in Texas. In this book Garza-Falcón reviews the work of novelists Jovita González, María Cristina Mena, and Fermina Guerra as well as narrator Beatriz De la Garza, all of whom made contributions during the period.

The author points out what she believes may have gone wrong with cultural relations along the Rio Grande border, backs up her thesis, and then gently nudges the reader into considering her viewpoint. *Gente Decente: A Borderlands Response to the Rhetoric of Dominance* is a fine read and a valuable addition to any United States–Mexico borderlands collection.

**Glenn P. Willeford**  
Historian





## BOOK REVIEW

### *Crossing Rio Pecos*

by Patrick Dearen. Foreword by Paul Patterson.

Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, 1996

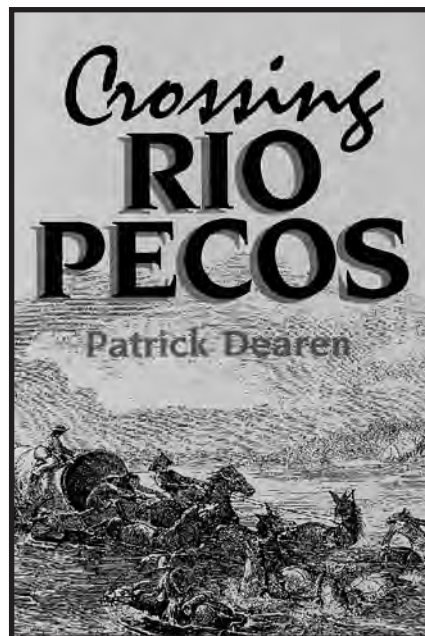
Patrick Dearen knows the Pecos River and its environs. He knows it from backpacking on the upper reaches in New Mexico. He knows it from canoeing its lower canyons. He knows it from talking to old timers. He knows it from careful research in libraries, archives and newspapers. Dearen's intimate knowledge of the Pecos and that portion of West Texas which it bisects permeates *Crossing Rio Pecos*.

Dearen maintains that to know the history of the handful of places where the Pecos River can be crossed by people and animals is to know the history of the river. The crossings were "man's only intimate contact with a deadly river otherwise walled by barrier banks" (Dearen 1996:1). The modern automobile traveler cruising down the asphalt at seventy plus miles an hour may question "barrier banks"? "deadly river"? Today the Pecos can be crossed almost without noticing—a river tamed by dams and irrigation, perhaps, Dearen maintains, even a river dying. Sluggish, polluted, its banks in places overrun with salt cedar, the Pecos is more ignored than feared by the late twentieth century traveler.

This was not always the case. Gold-seekers and stage coach drivers on their way to California, cattle drovers pushing herds into New Mexico, outlaws and lawmen, army detachments protecting routes and settlers, and settlers themselves venturing into the Trans-Pecos region approached the Pecos, often short of water, with mixed fear and longing. Finally they had reached water, but the possibility of quicksand or sickening from the alkaline water were frequent fears. Dearen quotes Hallie Stillwell, who crossed the Pecos with her family about 1902,

I had heard enough about the Pecos River, through the talk of the family, that I was dreading it. . . . I'd heard so many bad tales about people getting caught in the quicksand and having problems crossing. . . . [as] we approached it, I was in fear and trembling (Dearen 1996:8).

The first chapter "River of the West" is an eight-page gem of a brief history of the Pecos and the country it divides. It is packed with brief facts about the river and the people who dart in and out along its banks. Anyone looking carefully at a map may notice that the headwaters of the Pecos are only a short distance as the crow flies over the mountains of New Mexico from the upper reaches of the Rio Grande and that both rivers will travel a long distance, 926 miles for the Pecos, before the two actually intersect.



The bulk of the book is devoted to the individual crossings or "gateways" as Dearen also refers to them. The major crossings in West Texas start at Pope's Crossing near the New Mexico border, then Emigrant Crossing, the notorious Horsehead Crossing, followed by Spanish Dam Crossing, Pontoon Crossing, and Lancaster Crossing, northwest of Fort Lancaster. Dearen devotes a chapter to each of the major crossings and then a chapter to "Other Crossings," some of them truly obscure. It is difficult to imagine that people managed to cross the Pecos in what is now West Texas at any point Dearen has not located.

The decision to relate the story crossing by crossing results in the book's only real weakness—a kind of chronological seesawing that sometimes has the reader jumping in time from decade to decade and then back again in the space of a few paragraphs or even in the space of a few lines. There is also the sense that Dearen has located every extant account of anything that ever happened at each crossing and included it in the chapter. The result is lots of information, some of it fascinating, but at the price of readability. Readers familiar with Dearen's other works on the region, such as *Castle Gap and the Pecos Frontier*, may be disappointed that the combination of legend and fact that made such an intriguing narrative in the earlier books is absent here. Nevertheless, this is an important book, the back cover of the book calls it the "definitive study of these gateways," probably an accurate assessment of the book. Certainly, *Crossing Rio Pecos* is a book that anyone seeking information on West Texas in the nineteenth and early twentieth century will need to consult.

**Judith Parsons**  
Associate Professor of History  
Sul Ross State University

## Dr. Albert Tucker 1938–1999

Dr. Al Tucker, 60, retired professor and former chair of the Sul Ross State University education department, died of an apparent heart attack Friday, January 22, 1999, in San Marcos, Texas. He was a member of the Center for Big Bend Studies' Advisory Council since 1989 and on the Editorial Advisory Board since 1995.

Tucker, a member of the Sul Ross faculty from 1985–1998, moved to Brownwood in July 1997 to become the director of research and continuing education at Howard Payne University. In addition to teaching, preaching, and compiling research, he wrote extensively, was a singer and musician, and enjoyed western movies and cowboy songs.

Tucker was born March 18, 1938, in San Marcos. He received a bachelor's of science degree (1959) from Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, an M.R.E. (1962) from Golden Gate Seminary; a master's of education degree (1970) from the University of Texas at El Paso; and an Ed.D. (1982)

from Texas Tech University, Lubbock. Prior to joining the Sul Ross faculty he taught three years at Howard Payne, for several years in the El Paso and Lubbock public schools, was an assistant principal in El Paso and a music education director in Southern Baptist churches in California.



He gave numerous professional presentations in music and reading, published several articles in *The Journal of Big Bend Studies* and for the West Texas Historical Association, and also wrote for other publications. Tucker was a member of the Alpine Community Band, preached in local churches, was a past president of the Rotary Club, and a Mason.

## Colonel Russell J. Gardinier 1921–1999

In 1993, Col. Russell Gardinier (USAF, Ret.) published a book, *End of the Line*, in which he discussed episodes of his life and that, now, after his death in January, is a lasting testimonial to his life's experiences. He was a geographer by training, with a degree from the University of Wisconsin; he was an Army Air Corps bombardier in World War II who was shot down on his twenty-seventh mission in the Mediterranean and spent several months in an Italian prisoner-of-war camp before escaping; he was a member of the committee of officers in the 1950s that established the curriculum for the Air Force Academy; and he served in the Pentagon as Chief of the Electronics Branch, Air Force ACS/Intelligence Service. People who knew him in retirement in the Big Bend country where he lived, first in Presidio and then in Fort Davis, will agree, I think, that a commendation he received from the chief of his division aptly described the man and the officer:

This officer's major strength is a forthright, aggressive and affirmative approach to intelligence problems with which he is confronted. He is able to achieve this aggressive result while still maintaining a pleasing personality which engenders a spirit of cooperation from all those with whom he is associated. I know of no weaknesses this officer has.

Col. Gardinier was a widely traveled and well-read man with interest in many subjects. He worked for a "think tank" in Pennsylvania for a few years after his retirement from the Air Force. Then he and his wife Becky moved to the Big Bend country where his love of history and geography led him to Sul Ross and enrollment in several graduate seminars during the 1970s. It was my good fortune to have him as a student. Together, and sometimes with others, we "explored" the Rio

Grande area of the Big Bend, made excursions into Mexico, and discussed the potentials this vast area offered for historical research. In one of my seminars on the Spanish Borderlands, he presented a graduate paper in which he outlined a plan for a center that would combine research, archival and museum collecting, and publications concentrating on the history of the region. That paper was the basis for a proposal subsequently presented in 1974 to the administration of Sul Ross State University for a center that would incorporate the Museum of the Big Bend, the archives (at that time undeveloped) in the Wildenthal Library, and historical research and publications. It would be more than a decade before the Center for Big Bend Studies would be formally developed, but Gardinier's ideas were fundamental in its establishment.

Col. Gardinier served on the Advisory Council of the Center for Big Bend Studies from its inception to his death, and his article, "The Physical Geography of a Significant Border Region," appeared in the first issue of *The Journal of Big Bend Studies*. He also was a past president of the Fort Davis Historical Society and was involved in activities of the Friends of Fort Davis.

I was honored to be asked to write the Foreword to his book in 1993. What I said then is appropriate, I feel, as a lasting tribute to this fine man—airman, scholar, friend:

I came to appreciate in this man a love of country that knew no bounds, a commitment to family life that could, a half century later, bring tears to his eyes when he spoke of his sweetheart whom he left behind when he went off to war, and a loyalty to friends that is uncommon.

Earl H. Elam

## ***Dorothy Cotten Daugherty 1926–1998***

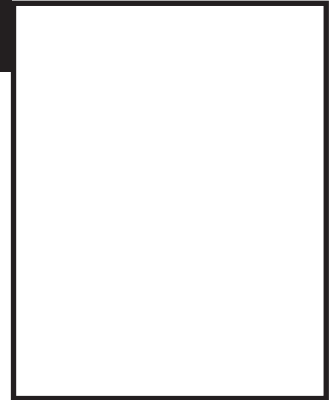
Dorothy Cotten Daugherty, first child of W.B. and Blanche Commons Cotten, was born October 12, 1926, on the Cotten Ranch in Yoakum County, Texas. She passed away May 25, 1998.

Dorothy attended public schools in Andrews, Texas, and was valedictorian of her graduating class in 1944. She received a scholarship at Sul Ross College and earned a B.B.A. degree in 1948. Dorothy met her future husband Franklin W. Daugherty, an Alpine native, and they married in 1945. After his return from service in the U.S. Army Signal Corps with the occupation forces in Japan, they owned and operated the Grandview Courts (present-day Siesta Country Inn) until it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. C.D. McCollister.

While her husband was studying at the University of Texas for M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in geology, Dorothy also attended

the University of Texas. During the times he was doing field work in Mexico for his thesis and dissertation studies she attended Sul Ross and earned a M.A. degree.

In 1963 they moved to Canyon, Texas, where her husband was head of the Department of Geology and she was an Assistant Professor in the School of Business at what was then West Texas State University. From Canyon they moved to Alpine in 1979 and built a home on Sunny Glen Road on ranchland that had been in the Daugherty family for three generations.



## ***John A. (Jack) Hedrick 1938–1998***

The Texas and New Mexico archeological communities lost a stalwart supporter and longtime friend with the passing of Jack Hedrick on October 2, 1998, in Van Horn, Texas. Jack was born on April 11, 1938, in Jewell Ridge, Virginia, and was brought up in El Paso, Texas, where he graduated from Austin High School in 1956. He studied geology and archeology at the University of Texas at El Paso and served as a meter technician with the El Paso Electric Company until his retirement in 1993. From 1993–1995 Jack worked for the University of Texas at El Paso in connection with the Fort Bliss Directorate of Environment Curatorial Facility.

Exploring archeological sites in West Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona with his parents as a child initially spurred Jack's interest in archeology. In 1953, at the age of 15, he became an active member of the El Paso Archaeological Society (EPAS) and embarked on what could only be termed a love affair with the past. He was still serving as lab director and Education Committee chairman for EPAS at the time of his death. Joining the Archaeological Society of New Mexico (ASNM) in 1962, Jack served on the Board of Trustees and Certification Council, and in 1974 was awarded the first ASNM certification as Field Archaeologist—an award conferred only five times in 25 years. In 1962 he also joined the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) where he served as regional vice president for many years, and was actively involved as lab director and/or crew chief on numerous annual field schools. The Board of the TAS named him a Fellow of the Society (posthumously) at their annual meeting in 1998.

Jack was also one of the founding members of the Texas Archeological Stewardship Network, which was formed by the Office of the State Archeologist, Texas Historical Commission, in 1984. And, as if that were not enough, he served on the El Paso County Historical Commission and volunteered for the Wilderness Park Museum in El Paso.

Jack's standing and reputation as an avocational archeologist was impeccable. He was frequently approached by professionals seeking advice and/or assistance with projects in his region. He had in-depth knowledge of regional lithic and ceramic artifacts, and was particularly well versed on the archeology of the Plateau area in the vicinity of Van Horn, Texas, where he conducted archeological research for over 25 years. Jack's love for the Van Horn area, where he spent every possible moment of his free time identifying and recording sites and private collections, was expressed through a series of his publications beginning in the 1970s. It was in fact to Van Horn, on October 2, 1998, that I took a group of students from Sul Ross State University to spend a day visiting sites with Jack. In his usual gracious manner, Jack provided the students with a lecture on Plateau archeology, stressing the need for them to carry on the work that he had begun. Among other sites, we paid a visit to Deer Shelter, which contains an impressive and unusual pictograph discovered and reported by Jack in 1989, and we ended the day at the Lobo Valley Petroglyph site. As we parted ways in the evening, Jack seemed somewhat preoccupied but pleased with the day's events. He gave me a big smile as we shook hands. He passed away that same evening in Van Horn. It is perhaps fitting that Jack's last site visit was to the Lobo Valley site—a place he knew well, and one of the most spectacular sites to be found in the region. In my mind's eye, Jack will be forever searching the rough terrain of the Plateau for archeological sites—that is, doing what he liked best.



*Robert J. Mallouf*

## NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM OF THE BIG BEND

### New In The MBB Gift Shop

- u Embossed cards, bookmarks, and matted prints from the John Saunders Gallery, Albuquerque, NM.
- u Wind chimes made from agate slabs and suspended from deer horns.
- u Earrings made from dinosaur bone and various types of agate.
- u Touch Me Stencil kits.
- u New cookbooks: *Sensational Chili*, *Sensational Mexican*, *Sensational Salsa*, *Sensational Barbeque*, *Vegetarian Mexican Recipes*, *Low-Fat Mexican Recipes*.
- u Color reptile and bug bookmarks.
- u A variety of Oaxacan wood carvings including lizards, turtles, cats, angels, chickens, snakes, and more.
- u Horned lizard sculptures.
- u Pauline Hernandez colanders, small salsa bowls, large bowls with a lid and various plates and platters (see profile of Hernandez on page 13).
- u The Museum of the Big Bend gift shop is located in the museum gallery. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Visa and MasterCard accepted. Come see our ever-changing variety of books, gifts, and educational materials. Center members receive a 10% discount in the gift shop.



### Upcoming Exhibit Schedule Museum of the Big Bend

**February 27–March 28**  
*Trappings of Texas 1999*

**April & May**  
*Blades of the Sky; Plows of the Dirt*

**May 18**  
International Museum Day Open House

**June–August**  
*History of Baseball in Alpine*

### Mystery Men of Leather

#### *New Acquisitions to the Collection of the Museum of the Big Bend*

Recently the museum purchased two rifle scabbards and a pistol scabbard for the collection. What makes these leather artifacts so unique is that they were made in Alpine in the early 1900s and little is known about the men who made them.

Two of the items were made by G. H. Yates of Alpine Saddlery. Yates is thought to have been a distant cousin of “Cap” Yates—an early rancher. According to Alpine resident King Terry, Yates had a shop on Holland from approximately 1919 until 1935. It is thought that Yates specialized in repair work.

The other rifle scabbard was made by J. G. Crawford. According to Dorothy McMillan he was John Gilliam Crawford who had a full-time shop in Alpine in the 1920s. This shop was the forerunner of the original Big Bend Saddlery.

In a photograph in the Archives of the Big Bend there is a sign painted on a window that shows a J. Crawford, Saddle Maker, headquartered in a local dry goods store in Alpine. This photo is dated around 1914. It is not known if this is the same J. Crawford who made the scabbard in the museum collection.

Very few items made by early Big Bend saddle makers and leather crafters are known to survive today. If you know of any other items or have information about either Yates or Crawford, we want to hear from you. Every tidbit of information helps us shed light on the unknown history of the Big Bend.



### Volunteer Opportunities Available

Do you have four hours a week with nothing to do? The Museum of the Big Bend has volunteer opportunities available. Volunteers contribute to the operation of the museum in many areas including reception, education, exhibits, and collections. Volunteers learn new skills relative to museum work and meet people from all over the United States and other countries. Spice up your week by becoming a museum volunteer. If you or someone you know may be interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact the museum at 837-8143.

## NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM OF THE BIG BEND

### Pauline G. Hernandez — Multidisciplinary Artist

Local Alpine artist Pauline G. Hernandez is working her way towards a life goal of working for the Smithsonian Institute. Like many multitalented people, she has taken numerous twists and turns on the road of life.

Hernandez was born in Alpine and graduated from Sul Ross State University with a B.F.A. in 1987; her immediate goal was to experience life in a big city. In 1988 she moved to San Antonio where she worked and steeped herself in the culture and art world of the city. Then the company she worked for transferred her to a remote location southwest of Hawaii. For three years Hernandez worked for Raytheon Services on the island at the arts and crafts center where she had her own studio space.

One day fate sent Hernandez on a new road when she decided to work with clay that had been set aside in the center since the 1940s. Her original pottery creations soon were in demand and continue to be today.

When she returned to Texas, Hernandez worked with three other potters in Austin for Feats of Clay. There she learned much more about pottery and how to run a business. During this time period she also worked part-time for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a camp reservationist.

Hernandez returned to Alpine to care for her grandmother, an act of love that brought with it a renewal of her love for the Big Bend. "I feel a cultural bond with both the past and the present auras here."

This woman of many talents is currently writing a children's book about the area, still creating numerous water color images, and persuing a masters degree in art and archeology while turning out her colorful and imaginative pottery. According to Hernandez, "My style developed from life and cultural experiences. I choose to create art work that is hopeful and light!"

Hernandez's pottery is for sale in the Museum of the Big Bend gift shop.



*Alpine Normal School, July 11, 1919.*

*Alpine Public School.*



Both of these photographs were copied from the private collection of Mrs. Celia Ann Hill. She was interviewed for the Big Bend Ranch State Park Oral History Project and provided a wealth of information on the Smith Ranch. Her father, Harris Smith, is in the photographs. He was a graduate of Alpine High School prior to becoming a prominent rancher in south Presidio and Brewster Counties (see story on page 5).

## CURRENT CBBS PROJECT UPDATES

The Center for Big Bend Studies (CBBS) has been busy since the first of the year on a variety of different Cultural Resource Management (CRM) projects. The Big Bend National Park survey project continues to be the focus of these efforts due to its scope and longevity. Other projects continued from last fall and winter consist of the Northern Montague County Historical Society (NMCHS) Project, the City of Alpine Sewer Line Project, the Diamond Y Spring Preserve Gas Pipeline Project, and the Big Bend Ranch State Park Reconnaissance Project. A brief survey project just outside the small community of Study Butte was also initiated and completed last summer.

### Big Bend National Park Project

The survey in Big Bend National Park continued in earnest last spring with 50 days of fieldwork. The 8-person field team surveyed approximately 6,000 acres and recorded 134 sites (132 new sites and updates on two previously recorded sites). The team worked primarily in the foothills of the Dead Horse Mountains on the east side of the park (Control Block C—99 sites), but also surveyed portions of the Basin (Judgmental Quadrant #3—22 sites) and the area around Lost Mine Peak (Control Block D—6 sites), as well as finishing a small area on the west side of the park (Judgmental Quadrant #2—7 sites).

Of particular interest was finding the project's first Paleoindian (ca. 11,600–8,500 years before present) projectile point. This specimen was found on an open campsite along the western edge of the Dead Horse Mountains (Control Block C) which contained very eroded hearths and abundant patinated (weathering on the surface of silicious stones caused by lengthy exposure to the elements) lithics. The site is in a basin setting adjacent to a dry arroyo, although this drainage probably contained water during the occupation of the site. The projectile point is too fragmentary to be assigned to a particular type, but does contain attributes similar to those commonly found among



*Crew records a small rockshelter in the western foothills of the Dead Horse Mountains.*



*A special-use site on a high ridge overlooking Ernst Basin is carefully documented.*

Plainview and Midland types. Thus, one component at the site may be approximately 9,000–10,000 years old.

Another exciting find from Control Block C involved two separate sites found on high ridge noses overlooking Ernst Basin. These sites contained ephemeral stacked stone walls, associated stone cairns, and a virtual absence of associated artifacts. Several of these walls were built up against boulders or exposed bedrock creating small “enclosures,” and one of the sites had a single piece of debitage (waste flakes and spalls from the manufacture of stone tools) located between the enclosure and the cairn. The location of these sites, the ephemeral nature of the features, and the dearth of artifacts are all suggestive of prehistoric special-use locales, possibly “vision quest” sites.

A number of rockshelters with intact deposits were recorded last spring, most located in the Dead Horse Mountains quadrat (Control Block C). Two of these sites contained interesting stone features—one may be a prehistoric structural remnant of some type, while the other is a stone cairn that may mark a prehistoric interment. A Late Archaic (ca. 1000 B.C.–A.D. 700) dart point fragment was the only artifact found in the rockshelter with the cairn. Several rockshelters and boulder shelters were also located in the Basin and Lost Mine Peak areas. Most of these shelters contained intact evidence of minimal or sporadic usage, although several had relatively thick deposits of cultural debris. Four of the rockshelters in Control Block C contained prehistoric and historic rock art (pictographs, petroglyphs, and etchings). Many of the painted motifs (pictographs) are faint and indecipherable, while the pecked (petroglyphs) and etched motifs are generally much more intact. Geometric designs dominate the prehistoric motifs and names and dates comprise the vast majority of historic artistry.

Evidence of historic cultural activities were found in all of the areas surveyed, but were especially prevalent along the western edge of the Dead Horse Mountains (Control Block C)

## CURRENT CBBS PROJECT UPDATES



*Crew member Andrea Ohl with large pavement fire-cracked rock feature in Control Block C.*

and in the Basin (Judgmental Quadrat #3). While the sites along the edge of the Dead Horse Mountains generally appeared to date from the early 1900s through the 1930s, the sites in the Basin dated primarily from the 1930s through the 1950s. A segment of the original Old Ore Road, several ephemeral ranch roads, and a historic trail were located in Control Block C. A number of campsites and cairns that attest to a historic presence in this area were found along these passageways. A historic water tank, a candelilla wax camp, and possible turn-of-the-century surveyor's camps are other types of sites from the historic period found in Control Block C. The historic sites in the Basin consisted of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp (1934–1941), several CCC dumps, an early well and associated water tank, an interesting and unusual small stone reservoir, and a probable 1970s campsite. The well, water tank, and stone reservoir are thought to date to the 1950s and are located along an early trail in the park, referred to locally as “Killer Trail” due to its steep grade. The well and water tank were constructed to provide water for park personnel and visitors in the Basin. The reservoir may have been an attempt to provide well water for the wildlife during the lengthy drought of the 1950s. Artifactual materials and park records suggest these historic features were abandoned sometime in the 1960s.

These data provide evidence of settlement and use of the surveyed areas during both prehistoric and historic times. The western foothills of the Dead Horse Mountains (Control Block C) were sporadically used during prehistory, with most of the sites being small and located in rockshelters or on terraces adjacent to the canyon drainages. Prehistoric sites located on the ridge tops were confined to lithic scatters or special-use sites. Historic sites were absent from the foothill zone, although an occasional isolated artifact indicated a minor presence. The basin areas immediately adjacent to the foothills, however, were more favored during prehistoric and historic times and sites occur in a very patterned manner. Apparently afternoon shade and wind protection were some of the primary factors affecting prehistoric site locations in this area, as the sites are clustered along the edges of the basins. The historic sites are generally

clustered along the roadways that cut through the central areas of the basins. The survey areas in the high Chisos Mountains (Control Block D and Judgmental Quadrat #3) also contained scattered evidence of occupation during prehistory, with meadows, small flat areas, boulder shelters, and rockshelters consistently being used. Unlike most areas of the park, some of the Basin contains flat areas where abundant colluvium has completely covered sites. In these areas shovel testing was used during the survey for site identification. Historic use of the Basin in the survey area consisted of the CCC camp and related sites and early park development of this area.

The CBBS is simultaneously working on two separate reports for this project, each scheduled for completion in fall 2000. These consist of the first volume in a series of technical reports containing background information and laying the groundwork for the project. The second report will assimilate data from the project to date (391 sites), providing information useful to park personnel for management of the surveyed areas.

### **Northern Montague County Historical Society (NMCHS) Project**

The CBBS completed the NMCHS project last winter after short, intense work sessions in both January and February. The CBBS involvement was designed to select, describe, and photograph artifacts for planned use in a new museum at Nocona, and to assist with the interpretation of those artifacts. The selected specimens were from the Benton-Whiteside Collection, an important collection of artifacts with an extensive array of materials from Spanish Fort, where a significant battle occurred in 1759 between the Spanish (aided by Apaches) and confederated Wichita tribes and their Comanche allies. CBBS staff members and students who participated in these endeavors were Robert Mallouf, Andy Cloud, Ellen Kelley, Marty Estrada, and Linda Potter. As a result of this project, the CBBS has a wide array of slides of very unique specimens for teaching purposes.

### **City of Alpine Sewer Line Project**

Fieldwork for the Alpine Sewer Line Project was completed in February 1998 when the CBBS tested two of the four sites found along the right-of-way with 1-x-1-m units. CBBS staff involved in the testing were Andy Cloud, Kelly García, John Klingemann, and Marty Estrada. Testing confirmed that cultural deposits at these sites were shallowly buried and very sparse. The other two sites along the sewer line route were either completely surficial or damaged by ground clearing activities, precluding the presence of buried deposits. Thus, construction associated with the sewer line should not damage or destroy significant cultural deposits at any of the sites. Write-up for the project was completed last spring and the report was accepted by the Texas Historical Commission in early July 1998, clearing the city to proceed with the project. The CBBS recently submitted a charcoal sample from one of

## CURRENT CBBS PROJECT UPDATES

the sites for radiocarbon analysis to Geochron Laboratories in Cambridge, Massachusetts. This sample yielded a date of 30 B.C. ± 85 years, indicating the presence of a Late Archaic component at the site.

### **Diamond Y Spring Preserve Gas Pipeline Project**

While this project was formally completed in December 1997, when the letter report was finished, the Nature Conservancy graciously allowed the CBBS the opportunity to continue work at the buried site identified during the course of the investigation. The CBBS (Andy Cloud and Marty Estrada assisted by volunteers Bob Taylor and Kirsten Lund) continued that excavation in January 1998, uncovering a few more pieces of patinated lithic debris, but failing to identify any cultural features. Last spring Dr. Lynn Loomis of the Range Animal Science department at Sul Ross State University used the site for a class project. Dr. Loomis's soils class performed detailed analyses of each strata exposed in the profile, thus clarifying the depositional history at the site. John Karges, West Texas Land Steward for the Nature Conservancy, has expressed his willingness to allow the university continued access to the site for research purposes. Andy Cloud of the CBBS hopes to use the site this spring for further instructional and research avenues.

### **Big Bend Ranch State Park Project**

The manuscript for the archeological reconnaissance conducted in fall 1996 at Big Bend Ranch State Park was completed last spring and was positively reviewed by the Texas Historical Commission last summer. Final corrections on the

manuscript are being completed, and it should be going to press soon. The project focused on impacts to archeological sites from both livestock- and human-related disturbances in select areas of the park.

### **Study Butte/Rough Run Gravel Quarry Project**

A small CRM project was taken on and completed by the CBBS last summer on the outskirts of Study Butte in southern Brewster County. The CBBS was contacted by Overland Corporation of Ardmore, Oklahoma, in early July about clearance of a gravel quarry. The proposed quarry areas are situated on two high, gravel-covered Pleistocene terraces overlooking Rough Run, a major tributary of Terlingua Creek. Although the proposed quarry was located on private land, the gravel was scheduled for use in Big Bend National Park on a highway project, thus kicking in the federal requirements for an archeological investigation. Andy Cloud and Kelly Garcia of the CBBS performed the survey in a single day and identified two archeological sites in the primary quarry locale. The sites consisted of a small open campsite with a single eroded hearth and a historic habitation complete with a house foundation and other features. The prehistoric site is too eroded and ephemeral to provide further data, but the habitation site contains a wealth of structural and artifactual information useful in reconstructing historic lifeways. The presence of hole-and-cap tin cans, solarized glass, and the absence of square nails in the material culture observed at this site suggests a date of occupation beginning in the 1910s. Other artifacts indicate the occupation was probably terminated some time in the 1930s. A letter report was prepared by Andy Cloud, Principal

### **Call for Applicants Paid Research Internships at the Smithsonian Institution**

Two paid research internships are available for the summer of 1999 to participate in a joint project of the Smithsonian Institution's Office of Education and Department of Anthropology in Washington, D.C. Interns will conduct research on the Smithsonian's textile, photographic, and film collections from northern Mexico and the southwestern United States. The results will be incorporated into several Smithsonian research, public education, and outreach projects, including the development of a Website on the theme of "Frontiers in History."

The internship will provide students an opportunity to learn techniques of collections-based research, to develop skills in conveying the results of this research to diverse audiences, and to gain a familiarity with a wide range of museum practices.

The internships are open to upperlevel undergraduates (juniors and seniors) and graduate students. A basic

competency in the Spanish language is required. Previous experience working with textiles or in museums is desired but not required.

The internships are for 10 weeks, beginning as early as May 31, 1999, and concluding no later than August 20, 1999. Undergraduate students will receive a stipend of \$2,500 for the 10-week period, graduate students a stipend of \$3,000, plus air and ground transportation to and from the Washington, D.C. area. Assistance in locating housing will be available.

The application deadline is April 16, 1999. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of their academic achievements, the relevance of the internship to the realization of their educational and career goals, and their competency in Spanish. To apply, please submit a letter explaining why you wish to participate in the internship, a resume, a certified copy of your academic transcripts, two letters of recommendation, and an indication of your level of competency in Spanish to: Smithsonian Office of Education, Attention: Jennifer Jackson, Arts and Industries Building, Room 1163, Washington, DC 20560-0402. Application materials can also be faxed to Jennifer Jackson at (202) 357-2116.



## CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

The **Texas Association of Museums** is holding its annual meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, March 24–27, 1999. Contact the Texas Association of Museums at (512)328-6812 or check out their website at <http://www.io.com/~tam/>.

The **West Texas History Association** will be held in Lubbock on March 26–27 1999. For more information contact either Dr. Paul H. Carlson at [k6phc@ttacs.ttu.edu](mailto:k6phc@ttacs.ttu.edu) or Dr. Tai Kroidler: [litdk@lib.ttu.edu](mailto:litdk@lib.ttu.edu).

The University of Nebraska's **Center for Great Plains Studies** presents its 23rd Annual Interdisciplinary Symposium "The Great Plains Music and Dance Festival" to be held April 4–11, 1999, in Lincoln, Nebraska. For more information contact the Center for Great Plains Studies at (402)472-3082 or e-mail: [cgps@unlinfo.unl.edu](mailto:cgps@unlinfo.unl.edu). Check out the Center's web page at <http://www.unl.edu/plains/>.

The 1999 **International Rock Art Congress** will take place on the campus of Ripon College, Ripon, Wisconsin from May 23–31, 1999. The national host is the **American Rock Art Research Association**. For more information contact ARARA-IRAC 99, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 87521-0026. For reservations for room/board/banquet contact Lisa Stone, Ripon College, 300 College Street, Ripon, Wisconsin 54971; e-mail [stone@ripon.edu](mailto:stone@ripon.edu).

The **American Association for State and Local History** is proud to be partnering with the Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums for its 59th Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, September 29–October 2, 1999. Annual Meeting Programs will be mailed to all members of both AASLH and MAAM during the month of June 1999. If you are not a member of AASLH and would like to receive an annual meeting program, e-mail them at [membership@aaslh.org](mailto:membership@aaslh.org).

The **Western History Association** is holding its 39th annual conference in Portland, Oregon, October 6–9, 1999. The theme for this year's conference is The American West: Promise and Prospect. For more information contact the Western History Association at phone (505)277-5234; fax (505)277-6023; or e-mail [wha@unm.edu](mailto:wha@unm.edu).

The **Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute**, Sul Ross State University, will be holding its 5th Symposium on Resources of the Chihuahuan Desert Region: United States and Mexico on October 7–8, 1999. Presentations on topics pertaining to the natural sciences and the Chihuahuan Desert region including Zoology/Wildlife Sciences, Botany/Agriculture, Physical and Historical Geology, Paleontology, Ecology, and Parks and Recreation will be given. For more information contact CDRI, P.O. Box 905, Ft. Davis, Texas 79734 or e-mail: [manager@cdri.org](mailto:manager@cdri.org). You can also visit CDRI's web site at <http://www.cdri.org>.

## CBBS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Center held its 5th Annual Conference on the Sul Ross campus in Alpine, Texas, November 13–14, 1998. Approximately 150 people attended. Thirty-two presentations were given over the two-day event.

The Saturday luncheon presentation was given by Oakah Jones, noted historian and member of the CBBS Advisory Board. The title of his presentation was *Indians Residing in*



*CBBS Director Robert Mallouf kicks off the Friday night social by cutting the cake.*

*Selected Spanish Frontier Communities: Examples of Acculturation.*

The 6th Annual Conference is in the planning stages for this year. **The conference has been moved to the middle of October due to scheduling conflicts. The weekend of October 15–16, 1999, is slated for the conference.** As plans progress we will send out information updates. We hope you will attend and continue this fine tradition.



*Houston Hendryx (left) presented a talk on the Junior Historians and Lindsay Hendryx read her paper that was given at the 1998 Junior Historian Fair.*

In an effort to improve our services to our members, we have sent out a survey for you to complete. These are important to us and we ask that you take time to fill it out and mail it back to us. We appreciate and value your input.

The **Texas Archeological Society**'s annual meeting will be held in Fort Worth, Texas in late October. For further details, check their website at <http://www.txarch.org/>.

## CBBS STAFF

The Center for Big Bend Studies has a new administrative secretary—LaNetta Barnes. LaNetta was hired in July to replace Robin Hughes who moved to Houston.

LaNetta was raised back and forth between Alpine and Terlingua in the summers and Corpus Christi in the humid springs, falls, and winters. She developed a love for Alpine's and Terlingua's dry climate and as an adult, chose to reside with her family in Terlingua.

After working as the Terlingua Elementary School secretary for two years, she decided to return to Corpus Christi and attend Del Mar Junior College. Her intentions were to return to Terlingua as a teacher for the newly built high school. The two years she was away, she longed to return to the Alpine-Terlingua area. She moved back to Alpine to attend Sul Ross State University.

She now finds herself dedicated to the Center for Big Bend Studies. "What could be better than working for a group of people who study the area I love?"



*Elizabeth Will (left) and JoAnn Garza (right).*

## New Workstudy Students

The Center has two new workstudy students. Elizabeth Will is a freshman who was born and raised in Alpine. She is active in the Habitat for Humanity and the Freshman Leadership program. She started working for the Center last summer. JoAnn Garza, who is also a freshman, grew up in Idalou, Texas. She is studying business management at Sul Ross. She chose Sul Ross because she likes the small-school environment and loves the Big Bend country.

The Center for Big Bend Studies fosters interdisciplinary scholarship of the diverse prehistoric, historic, and modern cultures of the borderlands region of the United States and Mexico, with emphasis on the area encompassed by Trans-Pecos Texas and north-central Mexico. The Center is committed to the recovery, protection, and sharing of this region's rich cultural legacy through dynamic programs involving research, education, public outreach, and publication.



*La Vista de la Frontera*  
Editor  
Kelly S. García

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## Faculty and Students Record Rock Art

Students and faculty from the Art Department and the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences at Sul Ross State University have recently begun detailed site mapping and recording of rock art at an important rockshelter in Presidio County. Led by art professor Bob Hext and CBBS director Robert Mallouf (archeology), the group completed preliminary work at the shelter in February, 1999, and will be returning this spring to finish the recording process. The project entails instrument mapping of the large shelter and production of detailed, colored scale drawings of the rock art.

# ORDER FORM

Please enroll me as a Center Associate in the Center for Big Bend Studies for June 1998–May 1999. I understand that as an associate I will receive:

- Current volume of *The Journal of Big Bend Studies* (volume 10)
- Invitations to openings and member-only receptions
- 10% Discount on Conference Registration
- 25% Discount on CBBS publications (except back-issues of the *Journal*)
- 10% Discount on all items in the Museum of the Big Bend gift shop
- Newsletter—*La Vista de la Frontera*

**Center Associates Membership @ \$20.00**

## Center for Big Bend Studies Publications

<p>_____ Volume 4 (1992) @ \$15.00 per copy</p> <p>_____ Volume 7 (1995) @ \$15.00 per copy</p> <p>_____ Volume 9 (1997) @ \$15.00 per copy</p> <p>_____ Volume 10 (1998) (see membership above)</p> <p>_____ Volumes 1–3, 5, 6, and 8 are out of print</p>	<p>_____ Archeological Reconnaissance on Big Bend Ranch State Park (out of print)</p> <p>_____ Rock Art of the Chihuahuan Desert Borderlands @ \$20.00 (\$15.00 for Center Associates)</p> <p>_____ African Americans in the West @ \$20.00 (\$15.00 for Center Associates)</p> <p>_____ The Sanderson Flood of 1965 (out of print)</p> <p>_____ Index for Volumes 1–8 @ \$5.00 (free upon request for Center Associates)</p>
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## CBBS Endowment Fund

Gifts to the CBBS endowment fund make a lasting contribution to the projects of the Center. The principal of the gift is never spent, and 10% of the interest earned each month is returned to the principal. The remainder of the interest income is used to help with projects and operations of the Center. The endowment is managed by Sul Ross State University in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Board of Regents, Texas State University System, and applicable state laws. The degree to which the activities of the Center will progress and fulfill its mission is directly commensurate to the resources that are available, and income from the endowment is essential. Gifts of any amount are greatly appreciated. They are categorized as follows:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Friends \$10 to \$99
- \_\_\_\_\_ Patrons \$100 to \$999
- \_\_\_\_\_ Benefactors \$1,000 and up

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (This amount is tax deductible; do not apply tax to this amount.)

## T-Shirts and Coffee Mugs

T-shirts are imprinted with a forest green CBBS logo. Coffee mugs are white porcelain with a burgundy CBBS logo on both sides.

\_\_\_\_\_ T-shirts @ \$14.95 each    Size   XXL only      Color   Tan only  

\_\_\_\_\_ Coffee Mugs @ \$6.00 each (price includes shipping)



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Add \$3.00 shipping for first book and \$.50 for each additional book ordered.  
 Add \$1.00 shipping for t-shirts. Tax included in prices.

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### ***CHANGE OF ADDRESS?***

Please contact LaNetta at (915)837-8179 or e-mail her at lbarnes@sulross.edu if you have an address or status change. Thank you for your cooperation.



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