

# La Vista de la Frontera



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

A Member of the Texas State University System



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## DAUGHERTY ESTABLISHES ENDOWMENT

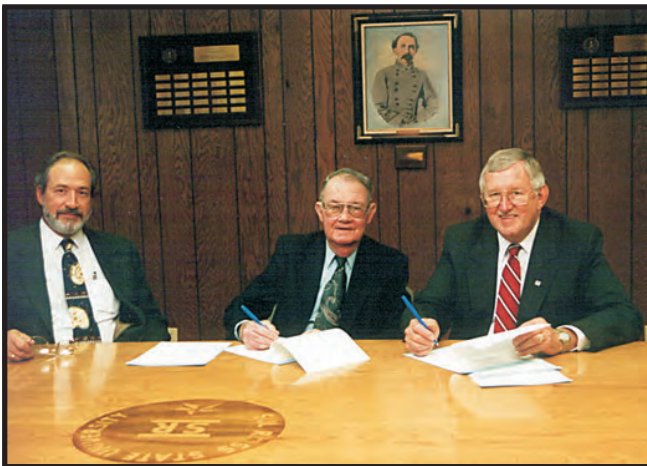


Franklin W. Daugherty, CBBS advisory and editorial Board member, has established a \$25,000 endowment to benefit the Center for Big Bend Studies. The Franklin W. and Dorothy Cotten Daugherty Memorial Endowment and Memorial Excellence Fund was established in memory of his wife Dorothy Cotten Daugherty, who passed away May 25, 1998. Fund allocations will include CBBS publications, research projects, and other related activities.

"Frank has been a long-time supporter of the Center and Sul Ross," said Robert Mallouf, CBBS director. "We often call upon him for his expertise in history and geology and for insight into many other subjects. The Center will benefit from his generous financial contribution as well."

Both Daugherty and his late wife are Sul Ross graduates. Frank graduated in 1950 with a bachelor of science degree and Dorothy earned both bachelor's (1947) and master's degrees (1960). He worked as an independent geologist and for a brief time was superintendent of the Lone Star Mercury Mines near Terlingua. Frank received a master of arts degree from the University of Texas in 1959 and a Ph.D in geology in 1962. He was a geology professor and department chair at West Texas State University, Canyon, teaching there for 14 years until his retirement in 1977.

Dr. Vic Morgan, president of Sul Ross State University, noted that Frank's "... love



*(l-r) Robert Mallouf, Franklin W. Daugherty, and Sul Ross President, Vic Morgan sign documents establishing the Franklin W. and Dorothy Cotten Daugherty Memorial Endowment and Memorial Excellence Fund*

of the history and geology of the vast Chihuahuan Desert of Texas and Mexico is evident in this endowment which will provide for the study and documentation of the culture and heritage of this region. This constitutes a major step in enhancing the Center's activities and programs."

In 1996, Daugherty was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Sul Ross Ex-Students Association.

## LIBRARIES DONATED

The Center for Big Bend Studies is pleased to announce the acquisition through donation of two valuable libraries which add greatly to the research and reference facilities available at the Center. The first collection was donated by Mrs. Carrol Hedrick of El Paso, Texas, widow of the late John A. (Jack) Hedrick, avocational archeologist and strong supporter of the Center. Along with their extensive library of Texas and Southwestern archeological interest, the Center was the recipient of artifact collections derived from Jack's long-time archeological research in the Van Horn area. These include regional lithic and ceramic collections along with appropriate notes, maps, photos, and provenience data.

The second library was donated by Mrs. Hester Davis, widow of the late Leslie Davis, who was a long-time supporter of the El Paso Archaeological Society. This collection includes books of anthropological and archeological interest mainly in Texas, the Southwestern United States, and Mesoamerica. The library has an impressive number of out-of-print classics and the Center is most fortunate to be the recipient of such donations.

These two libraries expand greatly the core of reference materials available to staff and qualified researchers and we look forward to creating a first-rate research library at our new quarters in Ferguson Hall.

## CBBS to Sponsor Texas Archeological Society Field School 2000: THE VIEW FROM THE CHIHUAHUA TRAIL

As 1868 came to a close, the heavy wagons creaked and groaned under the weight of cargo headed for Chihuahua. From San Antonio the wagons had followed the Chihuahua Trail along the Military Road to the west through Fort Clark, Camp Hudson, Fort Lancaster, and Fort Stockton. From Fort Stockton the trail had turned southwest to Burgess Spring (now Alpine) and the Big Bend, following Alamito Creek to Presidio, and ultimately on to Chihuahua City. The lumbering train was entering the valley of Alamito Creek and following the trail toward Tinaja San Estéven. A bluff-rimmed mesa walled the valley to the east, and to the west were high ridges and hills. Legend had it that a group of hapless Mexican soldiers had been killed years before at the tinaja by the Apache. It is said that each year on the date of the battle if you will climb to the crest of the bluff above the tinaja at sunset, you can hear the voices of the dying soldiers echoing from the small rock canyon (Mellard 1973).

You too might chance to hear the soldiers' lament if you join us on the Alamito for the Texas Archeological Society's Field School 2000, as you will be camped less than a quarter of a mile from the historic Chihuahua Trail (the wagon ruts of which are still visible in the bedrock) and the famous tinaja and large rockshelter of San Estéven (San Esteban). Located only a few miles south of Marfa, Texas, and north of La Junta de los Rios, FS 2000 will take place in an area of considerable historical significance. Alamito Creek, the largest Texas tributary of the Rio Grande in the Big Bend, was a major north-south route of travel both prehistorically and historically. Prehistoric pithouse village sites of the La Junta Phase (A.D. 1200–1400) are known to occur up the Alamito at least as far as Casa Piedra, only a few miles downstream from the field school headquarters. Subsequent to Cabeza de Vaca's sixteenth-century sojourn into the Big Bend, this important stream was explored by early Spanish *entradas* into La Junta de los Rios at Presidio, Texas. This area and region were historically the stomping grounds of the Jumano, Mescalero Apache, and Buffalo Soldiers as well, and the last of the great Apache warchiefs, Victorio, was killed only a short distance to the northwest at Tres Castillos in Chihuahua.



*Wagon ruts in bedrock marking one section the Chihuahua Trail north of Tinaja San Estéven.*

Although very poorly known archeologically, the immediate area of the field school contains a wide variety and temporal range of cultural sites, including rockshelters with rock art, open prehistoric campsites, tool-stone quarries, cairns, historic ruins, a historic dam and canal system (all dry)—even a historic railroad camp where Hispanic workers walled-up natural rockshelters for habitations. Throw in a mammoth locale (probably a natural death) for good measure, and you have an idea of the range of sites that will be available for study, all within a mile or so of our field headquarters. A total of some 200,000 acres, all privately owned, will be accessible for Field School use, however.

Headquarters will be established at an unoccupied ranch complex within a few hundred meters of a paved farm-to-market road. The complex includes a well-maintained house with adjoining sheds, a large metal barn, and other facilities. Utilities and water are both available at the ranch, and there is plenty of level space surrounding the complex for the set-up of tents, trailers, campers, and portable toilets. The closest motels are in Marfa, about 15 miles to the north. We expect to have a good line-up of evening speakers and special programs. It should be noted that June–August is the “rainy season” in the Big Bend and occasional fast-moving thunderstorms are anticipated (less than a 50–50 chance), so come prepared. It will be hot, but not downright murderous as in La Junta to the south, as we will be at a considerably higher elevation. Bring canteens, sunscreen, hats, and long sleeve, light cotton shirts. All participants will be expected to comply with normal TAS procedures regarding private property. We are fortunate to have gracious and interested landowners for this session, and we plan to follow their stipulations to the letter.

The Texas Archeological Society's Field School 2000 is being held in conduction with Sul Ross State University's Archeological Field School which will begin on May 30 and end on July 3, 2000. The SRSU Field School can be taken for six credit hours. The TAS Field School will be held June 10–19, 2000, and membership in TAS is required. Center Associates who are interested in attending the TAS Field School should contact the TAS office in San Antonio or visit their website at





*San Estéven rockshelter with Tinaja San Estéven in the right background. Robert Mallouf maps the shelter while Sul Ross State University students from anthropology and fine arts classes record the rock art.*

www.txarch.org. For students or Center Associates interested in attending or visiting the SRSU Field School, contact Robert Mallouf at (915)837-8179.

#### Some Suggested Readings:

Ing, J. David, Sheron Smith-Savage, William A. Cloud, and Robert J. Mallouf

1996 *Archeological Reconnaissance on Big Bend Ranch State Park, Presidio and Brewster Counties, Texas, 1988–1994*. Center for Big Bend Studies Occasional Papers 1. Sul Ross State University, Alpine.

Kelley, J. Charles

1986 *Jumano and Patarabueye: Relations at La Junta de los Rios*. Anthropological Papers 77. Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Kelley, J. Charles, T. N. Campbell, and Donald J. Lehmer

1940 *The Association of Archaeological Materials With Geological Deposits in the Big Bend Region of Texas*. West Texas Historical and Scientific Society Publication 10. Sul Ross State Teachers College, Alpine.

Lehmer, Donald J.

1958 A Review of Trans-Pecos Texas Archeology. *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society* 29:109–144.

Mallouf, Robert J.

1985 A Synthesis of Eastern Trans-Pecos Prehistory. Unpublished Master's thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin.

1993 Archaeology in the Cienega Mountains of Presidio County, Texas. *The Artifact* 31(1):1–44.

1999 Comments on the Prehistory of Far Northeastern Chihuahua, the La Junta District, and the Cielo Complex. *Journal of Big Bend Studies* 11:49–92.

Mellard, Rudolph

1973 *The Chihuahua Trail—1868*. Anson Jones Press, Salado. (historical fiction)

Peabody, Charles

1909 Reconnaissance Trip in West Texas. *American Anthropologist* 11:202–216 (discusses the San Esteban Rockshelter).

Raht, Carlisle Graham

1963 *The Romance of Davis Mountains and Big Bend Country*. The Rahtbooks Company, Odessa.

Santleben, August

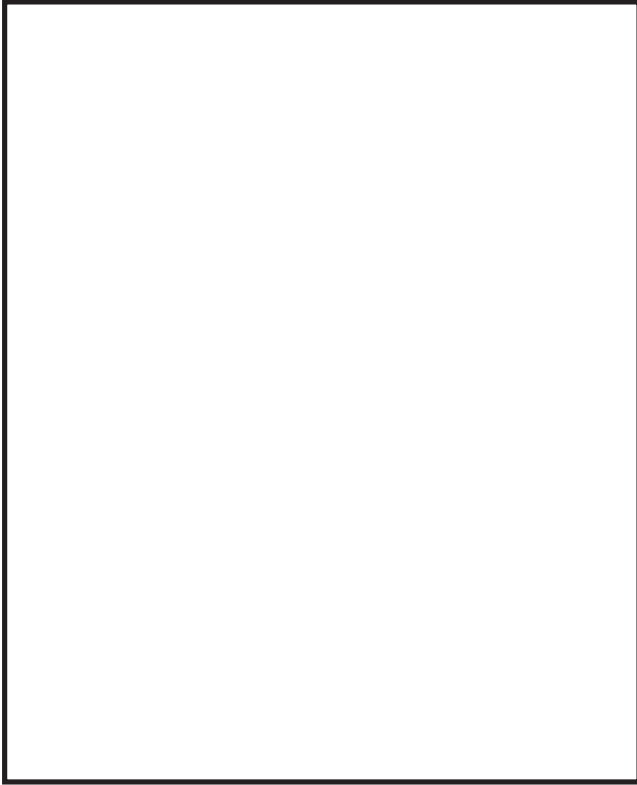
1910 *A Texas Pioneer: Early Staging and Overland Freighting Days on the Frontiers of Texas and Mexico*. The Neale Publishing Company, New York.

Thompson, Cecilia

1985 *History of Marfa and Presidio County, 1553–1946*. Nortex Press, Austin.



## NEW PUBLICATIONS



*Before the Thundering Hordes: Historia Antigua de Parras* is authored by five Mexican scholars: Father Agustín Churrucá Peláez, Héctor Barraza, Jesús Gutiérrez, Patricio Borja, and poet Manuel Sakanassi. The manuscript was originally published in Spanish for the 400th anniversary of the founding of Parras de la Fuente, Coahuila, by the Jesuit padre Juan Agustín Espinosa and others. It recounts the development of the city from its origin as small indigenous native settlements, through the arrival of the Spanish Catholic priests, to the rise of large



*Santa María de las Parras—parochial church founded ca. 1642.*



*Early twentieth-century acequia predating electricity.*

*haciendados* and the development of the wine industry, to the present status of the city of 40,000 inhabitants.

The monograph draws heavily on the historical documents of the Archivo María Mateo presently housed in the Guadalupe church in Parras and includes valuable historical insight into the folkways and customs of the early natives of the Parras Valley. Into this setting come the early Spanish explorers, along with Catholic missionaries; the narrative continues with vivid descriptions of this early contact. From this background arise the large Spanish land-grant haciendas with heavy interest in the development of vineyards and wine-producing activities. Following the Mexican Revolution and agrarian reform, the community continued to expand and develop, eventually growing into the city of Parras de la Fuente, while retaining its reliance on wine production. The manuscript concludes with a poem by Manuel Sakanassi entitled “Valley of Rustic Vines.” This fascinating study of the development of a small city situated in northern Mexico and its past and future problems promises to be worthwhile reading.

The Spanish publication was translated into English by Al Kinsall of Eagle Pass, Texas, and much of the reorganizing and editing was done by Glenn Willeford. Ellen Kelley prepared the final version

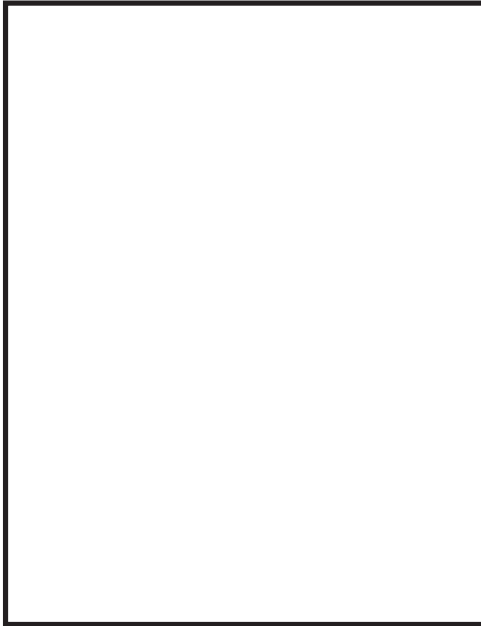
61 pages; 37 illustrations.



*Hacienda de San Lorenzo.*



## NEW PUBLICATIONS



An archeological reconnaissance was conducted in Big Bend Ranch State Park, Presidio and Brewster Counties, Texas, in September and October 1996 by the Center for Big Bend Studies, Sul Ross State University under a contractual arrangement with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The primary goals of the study were 1) to locate, assess, and document significant archeological resources in areas of, and adjacent to, Upper Fresno Canyon that might be subject to adverse impacts from ever-escalating numbers of park visitors; and 2) to determine if, and to what degree, archeological resources were subject to damage from domestic stock (Longhorn cattle) inside the park boundaries. Included among the 46 archeological sites recorded during the reconnaissance are open campsites, rockshelters, and lithic scatters. A total of 97 artifacts spanning the Early Archaic through Historic periods were recovered. The nature and extent of site impacts attributable to human activity and/or domestic stock were documented and recommendations are made to alleviate such impacts.

97 pages; 23 illustrations.

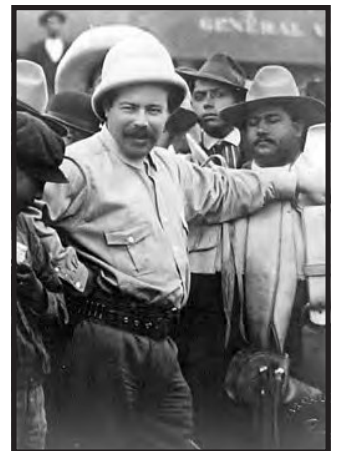
## UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Several publications are in the editing stage and are expected to be published before September. A sequel to the popular *African Americans in the West* bibliography is in the works. *African Americans in Texas*, also by Bruce A. Glasrud, expands on the bibliographic sources cited for Texas. New photographs obtained from the Institute of Texan Cultures will be sprinkled throughout.

*Cemeteries and Funerary Practices in the Big Bend: 1850 to the Present* by Glenn P. Willeford and Gerald G. Raun is also expected later this year. This monograph documents cemeteries and grave sites in the Big Bend south of Highway 90 and into Mexico. The main purpose of the manuscript is to study changing deathways among the bicultural population of the lower Big Bend. It is well illustrated with photographs taken by the authors.

Be on the look out for a new book on Francisco "Pancho" Villa by Rubén Osorio. It is a compilation of interviews conducted by Dr. Osorio in Mexico. The reader will find an interesting conclusion to the ethnic origin of Villa. Several never-before-seen photographs will be included. The book will be published with both English and Spanish in the same volume.

Watch for special flyers announcing these publications.



## BOOK REVIEW

### **Border Boss: Manuel B. Bravo and Zapata County by J. Gilberto Quezada**

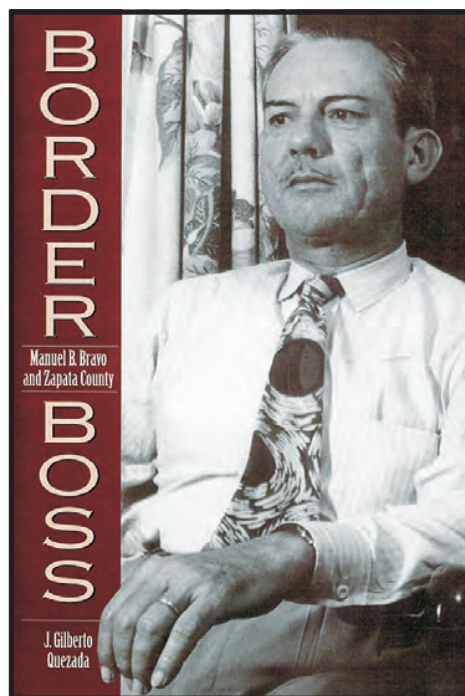
**Texas A&M University Press: College Station, Texas 1999**

J. Gilberto Quezada's *Border Boss* provides an in-depth and personal study of one of the most powerful men in South Texas politics for more than two decades, sheds light on the nature of political bossism in South Texas during the Great Depression, World War II, and the subsequent postwar era, and presents a solid biography of an important Tejano politician, one that represented the "Mexican American" generation by demonstrating important leadership roles in politics, education, civil rights activism, and as a community role model.

Manuel B. Bravo served as Zapata County judge from 1937 to 1957 and remained an influential mark in South Texas for subsequent years thereafter. Bravo's rise to county judge and Democratic power broker paralleled the political bossism so prevalent in South Texas for much of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Bravo's personal qualities derived from his ability to communicate with all people, supporters and foes alike, his strong command of both the English and Spanish language, his strong control over Zapata County's patronage system, unbending loyalty to the Texas Democratic party, and his personal honesty and integrity

He never used his influence to rob the public treasury and established and maintained a community fiscal record system. This final point distinguishes Bravo from such other South Texas political bosses as George Parr—the so-called Duke of Duval County. In addition to chronicling the life of Manuel Bravo, Quezada highlights Bravo's role in many of the important issues of his time including his role in the early formation of LULAC, his patriotic support of the American military during the second World War, promoting education in Zapata County, the construction of the Falcon Dam project, his role in defending the right of Felix Longoria and the subsequent development of the G.I. Forum, and his longtime friendships and political relationships with such Texas politicians as Loyd Bentson and especially, Lyndon B. Johnson.

Furthermore, rather than simply presenting a strictly political biography, Quezada examines the cultural, familial, and social components to political bossism, and places them within a South Texas as well as Tejano cultural framework.



The strength of *Border Boss* is Quezada's use of Bravo's personal papers which included boxes of previously unpublished letters between Bravo and Lyndon Johnson, as well as his documental history of his longtime involvement in Texas politics between 1929 and 1979. Mrs. Josefa V. Bravo, the ninety-two year old widow of Bravo, granted permission for Quezada to use the judge's papers to chronicle the life and times of one of South Texas's political bosses during one of Texas's more colorful epochs in its history. In so doing, Quezada allows the modern student of Texas politics a view into political bossism and the role that this Mexican-American generation played in the shaping of modern Texas.

**Mark Saad Saka**  
**Assistant Professor of History**  
**Sul Ross State University**

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**Mark your calendars! The CBBS 7th Annual Conference is going to be October 20–21, 2000.**

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## NEW AND TEMPORARY CBBS STAFF



**Becky Hart**

Becky is the secretary at the Center for Big Bend Studies and most likely the person you will talk to first when you come in or call. She and her husband David and daughter Abby came to Alpine in 1993. She loves the climate of West Texas and the small-town friendly atmosphere of Alpine. She enjoys bicycling, swimming and sunning at Balmorra State Park, reading, and cooking. “Unfortunately, I enjoy cooking and eating a lot more often than bicycling and swimming!”

**Sam Cason**



Sam grew up in Houston, Texas. He received a B.A. in anthropology in 1997 from the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs. He has been working as a professional archeologist for the past three years, including working with the Center on the Big Bend National Park Project. He has also worked in areas of Utah, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, and Colorado. Sam is currently working at the Center with emphasis on documenting regional sites. He plans to attend graduate school at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, in the fall.



**Frank García**

Frank received a B.A. in anthropology from Rice University in 1988. He has worked for the Center in the past as an archeologist. He is currently working with data management. His first assignment is to update and improve the Center’s web page.

**David Hart**



David grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and received a degree in Architectural Drafting and Design from Albuquerque Technical-Vocational Institute. After working in Carlsbad, NM, for an architectural firm and in Albuquerque for a solar home designer and builder, he married Becky and moved to Borger, Texas. In Borger, David worked as roadway plans draftsman for the Texas Department of Transportation. He and Becky and their daughter, Abby, visited the Davis Mountains and Alpine in 1991 and decided that they would make it their home. They are in the process of building a passive-solar, partially-underground home out of tires and cans. “I am new at the Center for Big Bend Studies and I am excited about the work being done here.”



**Ellen Kelley**

Ellen is from Carbondale, Illinois. She received a B.A. in geography in 1955 from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and a M.A. in anthropology in 1957 from Southern Illinois University. She joined the faculty/staff of SIU in 1960 as an instructor in the University Museum and Department of Anthropology, and was later promoted to assistant professor, and curator of collections and supervisor of the Museum Research Laboratory, positions she held until 1978.

She began active archeological fieldwork in 1952 in the Illinois River Valley. Her later graduate work centered in the Cache River Valley of southern Illinois, Canada de Cochiti (New Mexico), and at the Schroeder Site outside Durango, Mexico.

In 1966 she married J. Charles Kelley (then director of the University Museum and professor of anthropology) and they formed a professional research team studying the Chalchihuites culture on the northern frontier of Mesoamerica in northern Mexico. They continued fieldwork for the next 30 years.

When J. Charles retired from SIU in 1977, they moved to Fort Davis and became affiliated with Sul Ross State University. They continued in active research in northern Mexico as well as the Trans Pecos area of Texas. Ellen joined the Center staff in 1997 after J. Charles passed away.



## NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM OF THE BIG BEND

### *TRAPPINGS OF TEXAS 2000*

This is the fourteenth year that the Annual Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering and *Trappings of Texas* will be held in Alpine, Texas. The Gathering is the second oldest in the country. The three-day event features nationally known poets, musicians, and storytellers such as Red Steagall, Andy Wilkinson, Lorraine Rawls, Paul Patterson, Joel Nelson, and many others. Each year the line-up is different with new and exciting events added to the standard mix of poetry readings, storytelling, chuckwagon meals, outdoor campfire sessions, educational sessions, and *Trappings*.

*Trappings of Texas* is the oldest trappings show in the United States. It is a mix of the best-of-the-best in Fine Western Art and custom cowboy gear and features works by numerous artists from across the United States and Canada.

#### **Gear Auction**

This year's *Trappings of Texas* Gear Auction will be held Sat., March 4 at 10:00 a.m. on the museum lawn. There are many donated items including books, clothing, housewares, and custom art and gear from around the United States with something for everyone.

One of the most unique items is a magnificent longhorn skull given by the Texas Longhorn Registry. Proceeds from the sale of the skull will be divided between the Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering and *Trappings*. Quetzal donated a Tarahumara table lamp, while Judy Welch of Crosswinds sent one of her hand-painted ties.

Many books have been donated for the event. Lennoche Publishers of Wimberly, Texas, sent two sets of *Hackamore Reinsman* and *Reinsman of the West* *Bridles and Bits*. The Sid Richardson Collection of Fort Worth donated a copy of



*Rawhide whip and reata.* Photo by Jim Work.

*Remington and Russell*, while the Amon Carter Museum sent two publications on art. Various other books will be up for bid.

A number of fine western art posters, prints, and original works of art will be part of the auction offerings. These include a signed, commemorative *Trappings of Texas 2000* poster, a pen and ink by Mike Capron, a Diane Lacy photograph, and a pencil and watercolor from K. W. Whitley.

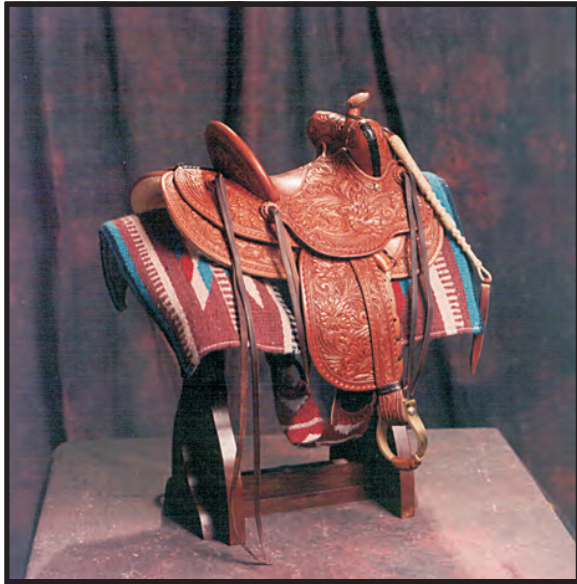
For the cowboy and cowboy craftsman numerous items are available for bid such as three magnificent horsetail hanks from Wagman Primus Group of Levittown, Pennsylvania, and a set of bevels from Wes Mastic.



*Gear auction tent outside Lawrence Hall on the Sul Ross campus.*



## NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM OF THE BIG BEND



*Hand-tooled miniature saddle.*

Photo by Jim Work.

The auction will also have many one-of-a-kind items from participating *Trappings* artists and gearmakers. These include a Billy Klapper bit, a Tate Altgelt address book, a Tom Balding short shank snaffle bit, a Vern Ballantyne rawhide bosal, a Don Butler silver money clip, a Jerry Cates bit, Wayne Franklin zipper pulls, a ranger buckle set from R. F. Ford, a Krist King 6-ft. Blacksnake whip, a pair of spurs from Marlin Spurgeon, and much more.

Henry Ogletree of Alpine has once again agreed to generously donate his time as auctioneer. The first item will go up for bid at exactly 10:00 a.m. and the auction will continue until all items have been offered. It is expected to last at least two hours so weary Gathering weekend attendees should mark down the two-night getaway package donated by Prude Ranch as an ideal way to unwind from all the excitement.

Items for the *Trappings* auction will be on view in the museum gallery starting March 3, and can also be seen at 9:00 a.m. prior to the auction, under the red tent on the museum lawn.

### Educational Sessions

This year the Museum of the Big Bend has a treat in store for all the people who come out to the Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering and the opening weekend of *Trappings of Texas 2000*. Some unique educational sessions on the Big Bend area have been arranged.

One of the more interesting sessions will be *West of the Pecos Cattlewomen: Ranch Women Speak*, a discussion of the myriad aspects of the cattle industry and ranch life from a woman's point of view. This session will be moderated by the West of the Pecos Cattlewomen president, Becky Terry. The multi-generational participants include Susan Hughes, Jody Miller, Jane Brite White, Diane Lacy, Kristan Caveness, and Hope Wilson. The session will be held in Lawrence Hall room 300, Friday, March 3, starting at 2:00 p.m.

Additional sessions will include one on the history of longhorn cows presented by the Texas Longhorn Registry. Another will showcase the Highland Hereford Association with Beau White. There will be a round table of silversmiths which will have Tom Paul Schneider, Rick McCumber, and as moderator, Johnny Weyerts. Another round table will demonstrate and talk about spur making with Rick Crow, Gene Klein, Billy Klapper, and Jerry Cates. Bob Mallouf will cover the history and archeology of ranch ruins.

A special outdoor children's session will be held Friday and Saturday on the museum lawn. Brad McGuire will demonstrate campfire cooking, and samples of longhorn meat will be available for tasting. Roping demonstrations will also be given throughout the weekend.

Please mark your calendars, March 3, 4, and 5, 2000, and plan to join us on the last frontier for this wonderful event. *Trappings of Texas 2000* will be on exhibit at the Museum of the Big Bend through April 3. For more information contact Jody Skinner at (915)837-8143.

*1999 Best of Show buckle.*



### Education Trunks Available from MBB

The Museum of the Big Bend, Sul Ross State University presents its educational trunks which were made available to public schools September 1, 1999. Native Americans, Folk Toys, Dinosaurs, Rocks and Minerals, Fossils of the Big Bend, and Big Bend are the trunks which can be checked out for instructional use in the classroom. All trunks include program instructions, hands-on materials, lesson plans, audio/visual resources, bulletin board, and classroom materials. Educators can pick up trunks at the Museum and use them for a period of two weeks. For more information call Jody Skinner at (915)837-8143.

## CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT UPDATES

### BBNP Southeast Rim Prescribed Burn Project

Andy Cloud of the Center for Big Bend Studies and three archeologists from the National Park Service's regional office in Santa Fe conducted an intensive (100 percent) archeological survey of a 310-acre tract in the High Chisos Mountains of Big Bend National Park this summer. The tract is scheduled for a management-ignited prescription burn to clear the thick understory and deadwood from the area in order to return it to a more natural fire regime. The survey, completed over a four-day stretch in early June, was centered around an area bordered by Boot Canyon, the South Rim, the East Rim, and the Juniper Canyon trail.

Six archeological sites were recorded or re-recorded during the project, as five of these had been found prior to this investigation. Five of the sites were in open settings, while the other was within a small rockshelter. All of the sites contained prehistoric components, and three also had evidence of a historic or recent presence. The sites are small, a reflection of the high setting and absence of reliable water sources in this area of the park.

Two sites contained single ring middens, prehistoric features that were used to process certain desert vegetation during the Late Archaic (ca. 1000 B.C.–A.D. 700), Late Prehistoric (ca. A.D. 700–1535), and Historic (ca. A.D. 1535–1880) periods (Greer 1965). Construction and use of these distinctive features has been gleaned from archeological and nineteenth-century ethnographic data, the latter providing the most information.

Ring middens were formed when the hearts of sotol or other plants were placed within a rock-lined pit and covered with brush, grass, and other fuel. A fire was made within the pit and the oven was then covered with grass, leaves, and soil and allowed to burn slowly for several days. When the feature was uncovered, rock and other debris covering the hearts were thrown aside. The hearts were then sun-dried, ground into a flour-like matrix with mortar hole and pestle, then mixed with water and made into cakes. The cakes were eventually cooked in the ashes and embers of an open fire (Greer 1965:51). These features were probably cleaned out and used multiple times,



*Drawings of glass trade bead from site 41BS1451.*



*View of southern edge of project area, with South Rim and lowland Chihuahuan Desert visible at far left.*

with the fire exposure eventually causing the stones comprising the oven to fracture and break into angular pieces. Once this happened, the broken stones were apparently cast aside and a new oven constructed. A circular arrangement of discarded stones, ash, and charcoal with a central depression (where the ovens had been) was created over time, thus the term “ring midden.” The two ring middens recorded during the burn project are both intact and represent the most significant findings from the survey. These features are thinly spread through the High Chisos Mountains, but are more prevalent in the desert areas of the Big Bend.

The rockshelter, located on the slopes of Boot Canyon, contains both prehistoric and historic or recent debris. There is a rock alignment immediately outside the dripline that may have been used as a series of anchors or pole supports. Such a framework could have been covered with hides during prehistory or with a tarp during more recent times and used to seal off part of the shelter entrance. A recent stone-lined hearth, complete with a charred “poker” stick, was incorporated into the alignment. Although artifactual materials at the shelter are sparse, the floor deposits appear to be intact and may hold significant data from one or more of the occupations.

Few artifacts were observed on the sites or in isolated occurrences during the survey. This is partly a result of the thick grass cover found in the mountains, but mostly because of the high setting and limited water supply in the project area which severely impeded occupation. No time-diagnostic artifacts from the prehistoric period were found, however, a glass trade bead from the Historic period was recovered from one of the recorded sites.

The glass trade bead is opaque/off-white and 4.45 mm in diameter. Based upon archival research, the specimen resembles a variety of bead thought to date between A.D. 1767–1820.

Data from the survey are being integrated into the long-term CBBS/BBNP survey project (see below). Big Bend National



## CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT UPDATES

Park is planning a number of other prescribed burns in the near future.

Greer, John W.

1965 A Typology of Midden Circles and Mescal Pits.  
*Southwestern Lore* 31(3):41–55.

### CBBS/BBNP Survey Project

CBBS has continued work on the archeological survey project in Big Bend National Park (BBNP), although the focus has shifted away from fieldwork and onto analysis and write-up due to a funding hiatus. At this time we are simultaneously working on two separate reports, one providing extensive background data for the park and the other, data recovered from the field during the course of the project. Plans for Fiscal Year 2001 include submitting the project to two separate NPS funding schemes, the three-year one as well as a new six-year scheme designed for long-term projects.

### CBBS Involvement with the Korima Foundation

Sul Ross State University has recently entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Korima Foundation (KF) of Big Bend Ranch, Inc. concerning the availability and quality of education and the environment in West Texas. The agreement stipulates that the two entities will work together to foster educational opportunities at Big Bend Ranch State Park.

Last November the CBBS participated in a pilot workshop which brought 24 inner city high school sophomores from Houston and San Antonio to the state park for a week of educational opportunities. During that workshop Robert Mallouf and Andy Cloud of the CBBS took the students on a one-day field trip to select archeological sites within and adjacent to the park, showing them the prehistoric and historic cultural manifesta-

tions of the region. Other topics taught were geology, astronomy, desert survival, and ecology.

This fall KF increased the size of the program with four workshops which were held during one week in late September and for three consecutive weeks in November. Andy conducted the day-long archeology tours for three of these workshops, while CBBS associate Andrea Ohl lead the fourth. This year the CBBS representatives spent the night before the tour at the ranch in order to interact with each group. This also allowed time the next morning for a lecture which provided important background information to the students on sites they were going to visit. Each tour was attended by enthusiastic and inquisitive students and sponsors, all of whom seemed to thoroughly enjoy their day of archeology.

### Archeological Survey at Lake Meredith National Recreation Area

The CBBS conducted an intensive archeological survey of 750 acres at Lake Meredith National Recreation Area in the Texas Panhandle in late September. Andy supervised a four-person crew which identified 15 prehistoric and historic archeological sites prior to a management-ignited prescription burn of the tract. The project area is situated northwest of the Lake Meredith Dam (Sanford Dam) in the uplands overlooking the Canadian River Valley, which is now covered by the lake. Referred to as the North Canyon–Bugbee Canyon Prescribed Burn tract, the project area is choked with grasses, forbs, mesquite trees, and other shrubs. One small community, Bugbee Shores, is positioned adjacent to the burn tract. Reducing the fuel load in the tract through the prescription burn was a means of protecting this rural community from being overrun by a wildfire.

Of the 15 sites recorded during the project, 11 have prehistoric components while four others are historic or recent in origin. The prehistoric sites consist of seven open campsites, two lithic procurement sites, and two processing locales, while the historic sites are comprised of two rock walls and two isolated open campsites. Six of these sites had been previously recorded. Several of the open campsites appeared to contain intact deposits, thus recommendations relative to the prescribed burn were directed at the potential significance of these sites.

The prehistoric open campsites varied in size. Although few time diagnostic artifacts or features were found, a single dart point fragment, two arrow point fragments, and a slab-lined house ruin indicated occupation from the Late Archaic through the Late Prehistoric periods. These sites typically contained a few hearth remnants (concentrated fire-cracked rock [FCR]), scattered FCR, dispersed flakes and chips, but lacked stone tools.

The stone material observed most often at the sites was Aliabates agatized dolomite, a material particularly favored throughout prehistoric and historic times which outcrops



*Andy Cloud points out a rock art panel at Las Cuevas Amarillas in Big Bend Ranch State Park during the Center's work with the Korima Foundation*

## CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT UPDATES



*CBBS crew poses with Lake Meredith personnel. (L-R): Mike Darin, Wes Phillips Steven Schooler, Larry Swanson, Ann Ohl, Andy Cloud, and Jim Rancier.*

nearby at the Alibates National Monument. This material was widely traded across a broad area, showing up in archeological contexts as far north as Canada and to the south into Central and South Texas.

The site containing the slab-lined house ruin had unfortunately been extensively "potted" through unscientific digging over the years. This type of feature is associated with the Antelope Creek focus of the Panhandle Aspect, which dates to around A.D. 1200–1450.

The stone procurement sites consisted of a very large site and a relatively small one, both of which occurred in eroded contexts. The stone materials being procured were a local quartzite known as Potter Quartzite. These sites contain tested cobbles, flakes, chips, and chunks, and a few crude bifaces.

The processing sites were characterized by grinding surfaces located on dolomite boulders. These sites were on the slope above the lake and consisted of both a boulder metate at one site and mortar holes in several boulders at the other. Few stone waste materials (debitage) were found at these sites.

The two historic rock walls apparently served completely different functions. The longer of the two was found on the slope above and perpendicular to the lake. It has been reported that this feature extended across the mouth of Bugbee Canyon onto the opposite slope, so we were just seeing a portion of its extent. It contained several wooden post remnants and associated pieces of barbed wire, and probably served as a fence to contain sheep during the late nineteenth/early twentieth century pastoral occupation of the area. The other wall was only about 6 m (19.7 ft) long and was found just above and parallel to the shoreline within Bugbee Canyon. Since old base maps of the lake show a historic stone house site submerged on a bench below this feature, it is most probably associated with that site. Its location and orientation above that site seems to suggest it was

used as a retaining wall of some type. It is thought to date to the early to middle portion of the twentieth century.

The historic/recent open campsites are most likely camping locales used over the last 30 years by recreation area visitors. Both contained single, intact hearths with identical shapes—circular rings of relatively large stones. One of these had associated historic/recent artifacts, while the other was devoid of any artifactual materials. After recording these two sites during the first day of the survey we encountered nine more isolated hearths with the same morphology along the rim edge, and all of those features had modern artifacts in association.

The project area was burned in October 1999 so the CBBS returned to Lake Meredith to conduct a site reassessment in January 2000. The reassessment targeted 12 of the 15 recorded sites, with the primary goal of determining the effects, if any, to the cultural resources that were attributable to the prescribed burn.

The burn was conducted with a good prescription (predetermined ranges of temperature, humidity, and wind) which resulted in minimal damage to the archeological resources present. For the most part, the only thing burned was the extensive ground cover present, which included dense and widespread grasses, forbs, and low shrubs. The mesquite within the tract was charred, with no evidence of root burning that could have compromised subsurface archeological deposits. The grasses that burned in the tract also retained their roots, again minimizing any effects to subsurface deposits and preventing widespread erosion. Since the burn resulted in very little hard wood charcoal being formed, the chance of contamination of datable subsurface features through various bioturbations (i.e., animal and insect burrows, relocation of materials by roots, etc.) is lessened. Similarly, the burn did not produce the intense kind of fire necessary to spall stones or boulders or to thermally alter stone artifacts. No ceramics were found during the survey or revisit, so potential effects from the burn to that artifact class remains unknown.



*Andy Cloud and Ann Ohl pull back vegetation to expose a historic rock wall (site 41HC173) during survey work at Lake Meredith.*



## CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT UPDATES

Since the burn did remove much of the ground cover, it provided a much better view of the surface, and as a result, three site boundaries were expanded. In conclusion, the site revisit yielded abundant data supportive of the contention that pre-

scribed fires present minimal threats to most cultural resources. However, it should be remembered that these data are from a single prescribed burn and should be used with caution until more comprehensive data is forthcoming.



# 7th Annual Conference

The Center for Big Bend Studies is now accepting papers to be presented at the 7th Annual Conference, October 20–21, 2000, which will be held on the Sul Ross Campus in Alpine, Texas.

MPresentations 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.

MPresentations should be no longer than 30 minutes.

MYou may organize an entire session with three related papers.

MPapers accepted for presentation will be considered for publication in The Journal of Big Bend Studies, Volume 13.

MPlease submit an abstract of 200 words or less by August 15, 2000.

M

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## CBBS WEB SITE

The mission of the Center for Big Bend Studies includes a commitment to sharing of this region's rich cultural legacy through dynamic programs involving research, education, public outreach, and publication. The Center's site on the World Wide Web (<http://www.sulross.edu/~cbbs>) is an obvious avenue for each of these program types.

This spring, we are focusing on updating the web site's appearance, content, and functionality. As publishers have long known, a picture is worth a thousand words. In the past, however, photos were time consuming to put on the web. But with access to slide and flatbed scanners and digital cameras, we are adding photos to our site. Some redesign and coding is also un-

derway to give the site a more consistent, polished, and professional look.

The content of the site is being enhanced with the addition of the tables of contents and abstracts of all Center publications, including abstracts for all journal articles starting with volume 8 (1996). The biggest addition of content this spring, however, will be the full text of the *Index of the Journal of Big Bend Studies Volumes I-VIII*.

Once the initial revision of the site is complete, further plans include a searchable database of Center publications by title, author, and keywords.

Compatibility is a high priority for the coding and design of the site, but the site does make limited use of JavaScript and frames. For anyone out there still using Netscape Navigator 2.0 or Internet Explorer 3.0, it's time to upgrade!

## EVIDENCE OF ANCIENT FOLSOM CULTURE DISCOVERED ON CDRI PROPERTY

The recent discovery of two Folsom projectile points on Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute (CDRI) property in the foothills of the southern Davis Mountains is shedding new light on Early Paleoindian settlement patterns in Trans-Pecos Texas. Both of the Folsom points were found during the past six months by CDRI staffer Mary Bridges. Cathy Fulton and Dennie Miller, CDRI executive director, brought the discovery to the attention of archeologists with the Center for Big Bend Studies at Sul Ross State University. Robert Mallouf, Center director, archeologist, and long-time member of the CDRI Board of Scientists, is working with CDRI staff to assess the significance of the Folsom finds.

The two CDRI points are both fragmentary but readily attributable to Folsom origins. One specimen is the distal blade portion of a point that was successfully fluted on both faces. Fashioned of gray and lavender mottled chalcedony, this specimen exhibits the fine lateral-edge retouch and edge dulling that is characteristic of completed Folsom points. The second specimen is an unground lateral-edge fragment of a very late-stage Folsom point preform that exhibits remnants of flutes on both faces. Made from a light brown, high-quality chert or chalcedony, this preform may have broken during removal of the second flute, or during post-fluting edge preparation. The configuration of the break gives this fragment a burin-like appearance, also suggesting the possibility that breakage was intentional rather than fortuitous. Similar instances of what appears to be purposeful breakage are well-documented among Folsom assemblages.

Folsom peoples (ca. 9000–8000 B.C.) are best known for their highly sophisticated stone technology and their kill sites of large bison which were ancestral to the modern buffalo. They were highly mobile hunter-gatherers who traveled in small bands, often camping in areas which provided good local

sources of high-quality toolstone and permanent waterholes that attracted game. They had distinctive, portable stone tool kits and hunted their prey on foot, their principal weaponry consisting of atlatls and/or spears. Very little is known about their use of shelters, plant resources, or other important aspects of their lifeways.

Archeological evidence of Early Paleoindians (Clovis and Folsom cultures; ca. 9500–8000 B.C.) in the eastern Trans-

Pecos region has generally been limited to infrequent, isolated finds of their very distinctive projectile

points in low-elevation basin environments. One

notable find is the Chispa Site, a large Folsom campsite which was located along the edge of an ancient lake bed in the Lobo Valley area near Van Horn, Texas. The Chispa Site was excavated during the 1950s by Dr. Joe Ben Wheat, a renowned North American archeologist and Paleoindian researcher (recently deceased). Occasional finds of Clovis and Folsom points have been made to the northeast of the Davis Mountains in the Toyah Basin as well, but a definitive campsite has yet to be identified.

The extensive area extending from the southern edge of the Davis Mountains to the Rio Grande, including the Big Bend proper, has proven somewhat perplexing for archeologists in that finds of Clovis and Folsom stone tools are virtually unheard of. A single, isolated Clovis point is known to have been discovered during the 1960s in Big Bend National Park, and until the recent CDRI discoveries, evidence of Folsom peoples in the Big Bend was entirely lacking. If other finds of Early Paleoindian artifacts have been made in the Big Bend proper, they have not yet been brought to the attention of archeologists. The CDRI finds are particularly significant in that they provide direct evidence for the use by Folsom peoples of high elevation ecological zones in the Big Bend, and additional clues as to where their ancient campsites might be located.





# ORDER FORM

Please enroll me as a Center Associate in the Center for Big Bend Studies for June 1999–May 2000. I understand that as an associate I will receive:

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*Archeological Reconnaissance on Big Bend Ranch State Park, The Sanderson Flood of 1965, and Rock Art of the Chihuahuan Desert Borderlands* are currently out of print.

## 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:

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



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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.



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Editor  
Kelly S. García

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