



NEWSLETTER

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COLUMBIAN QUINCENTENARY and NEH AWARD

The Center for Big Bend Studies (CBBS) has been awarded a grant by the General Programs Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for planning symposia and events to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's first voyage to America. October 12, 1992 will mark the anniversary of that historic event. Acculturation processes from the time of Columbus to the present in the Rio Grande borderlands region will be studied and presented in symposia to be held on the campus of Sul Ross State University (SRSU) in Alpine in 1990, 1991, and 1992. Interim activities to be conducted at other localities in the region will also be planned.

PLANNING CONFERENCE

A Columbian Quincentenary Planning Conference will be held at SRSU October 28-29. The public is invited to attend presentations on

October 28 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Studio Theatre to be given by scholars of the American-Mexican borderlands. The speakers and their topics are:

Robert J. Mallouf, Texas State Archeologist, "Pre-Spanish Human Populations and Assimilation/Extinction of Aboriginal Populations";

Ralph H. Vigil, Professor of History, University of Nebraska, "Exploration and Settlement of the Borderlands in the Age of Discovery";

Ellwyn R. Stoddard, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Texas at El Paso, "Ethnohistorical Development of Spanish/Anglo Institutions";

Joseph P. Sanchez, Director, Spanish Colonial Research Center, University of New Mexico, "The Columbian Quincentenary, the Spanish Colonial Research Center, and the National Park Service";

Jeffery T. Brannon, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Texas at El

Paso, "The Mexican Economy and the Borderland Colonias";

Gregory A. Plumb, Assistant Professor of Geography, University of Oklahoma, "Man-Land Relationships and Cartographic Considerations";

Michael Q. Hooks, Director, Archives and Records Division, Texas General Land Office, "Land Usage and Settlement Patterns";

Mary Williams, Park Ranger, Fort Davis National Historic Site, "The Influence of the U. S. Army: Fort Davis, a Case Study";

Oakah L. Jones, Visiting O'Connor Chair of Spanish Colonial History of Texas and the Southwest, St. Mary's University, "Acculturation and Defense at La Junta de los Rios";

Kenneth Perry, Director of the Archives and Museum of the Big Bend, "Cultural Resources at Sul Ross State University";

Richard Mason, Field Representative, Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University, "Historical Resources of the Region."

There is no charge or pre-registration for the presentations, but in keeping with the planning function of the conference, persons who attend will be asked to complete a survey form which will be helpful in follow-up planning for the celebration.
Questions? Call 915-837-8179.

BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK RESEARCH

In June the staff of the CBBS began research on Castolon and the operations of the La Harmonia Company on the Rio Grande between 1919 and 1961 in what is now the Big Bend National Park. Basic to the study are the papers of the La Harmonia Company and the Wayne and Robert Cartledge collections in the Archives of the Big Bend at SRSU. Ruins of settlements in the Castolon to Santa Elena Canyon area and along Terlingua Creek are also being studied. Support has come from the Department of History at SRSU; the Big Bend National Park; and from the Big Bend Natural History Association which is providing funding for sketches of historic structures. An art major at SRSU, Susan Tanner, is doing the sketching under the direction of Bob Hext, Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Art. Also, Rex Thee, a graduate research assistant, is presently working part-time on the project.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Apaches at War and Peace: The Janos Presidio, 1750-1858, by William B. Griffen, University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1988.

Castle Gap and the Pecos Frontier, by Patrick Dearen, Texas Christian University Press, Fort Worth, 1988.

The Chiricahua Apache, 1846-1876: From War to Reservation, by D. C. Cole, University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1988.

The Diario of Christopher Columbus's First Voyage to America, 1492-1493; Abstracted by Fray Bartolome de las Casas; Edited, Transcribed, and Translated, with Introduction, Notes, and Concordance, by Oliver Dunn and James E. Kelley, Jr., by University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1988.

Historical Atlas of Texas, by A. Ray Stephens and William M. Holmes, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1988.

Nueva Vizcaya: Heartland of the Spanish Frontier, by Oakah L. Jones, Jr., University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1988.

A recent addition to Big Bend literature is the Newsletter of the Big Bend Dairy Goat Association. Its first issue in June was titled "People and Dairy Goats." It is edited by George Floro, an Adjunct Professor of Sociology at Sul Ross.

Other publications which have recently circulated in the region include The Desert Candle, edited by Judith M. Brueske and published every two months by Ocotillo Enterprises in Alpine; and Big Bend Quarterly: The Magazine of Texas, West of the Pecos, edited and published by Kirby F. Warnock in Fort Stockton.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Summer 1988 issue of Riding Line, the Newsletter of the Texas State Historical Association, reported that the University of Texas at Austin and the state of Coahuila will establish a museum of Texas and Coahuila history, to be located in Monclova (the colonial capitol of Coahuila). Part of the agreement also calls for the restoration of the Mission San Juan Bautista complex, the "gateway to Spanish Texas" on the Rio Grande below present-day Eagle Pass and Piedras Negras. The activities at this site during the eighteenth century greatly influenced acculturation processes in the region.

Borderlands scholar and CBBS consultant Felix D. Almaraz, Jr. (Crossroad of Empire: The Church and State on the Rio Grande Frontier of Coahuila and Texas, 1700-1821 and other works) is on leave from the University of Texas at San Antonio while lecturing this year in Argentina as a Fulbright Professor.

J. Charles Kelley, an expert on Trans-Pecos archeology, member of the Advisory Council of the CBBS, and Adjunct Professor of Archeology at SRSU, has established a Cultural Research Management group (Blue Mountain Consultants, Box 14, Fort Davis, Texas 79734) which provides professional services relating to site surveys

required by the Texas Antiquities Code. Professor Kelley's many publications include "The Historic Indian Pueblos of La Junta de los Rios," New Mexico Historical Review, XXVII (October, 1952) and XXVIII (January, 1953).

The SRSU chapter of the Webb Historical Society was recently reactivated. Under President Rex Thee, master's candidate in history, this student organization plans to work closely with the SRSU Department of History and the CBBS on projects relating to the interpretation and dissemination of information about the Big Bend region.

The Permian Historical Society will hold its fall meeting at Kokernot Lodge on the Sul Ross campus on October 15. Among the participants will be SRSU Professor Al Tucker who will make a presentation on "The Reel Cowboy."

Sul Ross history professors Earl Elam and Judith Parsons will present papers on current research at the annual meeting of the Texas State Historical Association to be held in Lubbock in March 1989. Elam will discuss "Castolon on the Rio Grande and the Cartledge Enterprises, 1909-1961," and Parsons will present a paper on "W. B. Mitchell and the Marketing of Highland Herefords During the 1930s."

The Third Symposium on Resources of the Chihuahuan Desert Region: U. S. and Mexico, sponsored by the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute and Sul Ross State University, will be held on the campus of SRSU November 10-12. Focus will be "Desertification and Resource Depletion: Past, Present, and Future." For more information write: Chihuahuan Desert Symposium, Box 1334, Alpine, Texas 79831 or call 915-837-8370.

JOURNAL OF BIG BEND STUDIES

The first annual edition of the **Journal of Big Bend Studies** will be published by the CBBS in January 1989. Contributors to this premier issue are:

Allen Anthony, "Little Airlines in the Big Bend: Past Efforts to Provide Service for an Isolated Part of Texas";

Paul Carlson, "William Rufus Shafter with the Frontier Army in the Big Bend";

Jim Cullen, "The Big Bend's Benjamin F. Berkeley: Physician, Promoter, and Politician";

Robert J. Mallouf and Virginia A. Wulfkuehle, "An Archaeological Reconnaissance in the Northern Rosillos Mountains, Brewster County, Texas";

Ross A. Maxwell, "Big Bend National Park--A Land of Contrasts," republication with annotations by Earl Elam;

Leon C. Metz, "When the Big Bend Joined America";

Elton Miles, "Terlingua and Los Chisos: The Place Names";

Kenneth B. Ragsdale, "Cattle Smuggling in the Big Bend Region of Texas."

The **Journal** will be available by subscription for \$10. Send checks or money orders to:

Journal of Big Bend Studies

Box C-71

Sul Ross State University
Alpine, Texas 79832

In addition to the **Journal**, subscribers will receive announcements, the **Newsletter**, and other items circulated by the CBBS in 1989. Friends, Patrons, and Benefactors of the CBBS will automatically receive copies of all items. **Questions? Call the Editor at 915-837-8179.**

CBBS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The council met on September 10 and heard plans for the Columbian Quincentenary, the **Journal of Big Bend Studies**, and current research projects. Among the ideas advanced for future consideration was the formation of a "Big Bend Studies Association." Conceptually, the association, under the sponsorship of the CBBS, would publish the **Journal of Big Bend Studies** on a biannual or quarterly basis, and members of the association

would receive the **Journal** and other benefits to be determined by the Association. Readers of the **Newsletter** are encouraged to share their ideas about this proposal with the editor or members of the Advisory Council.

The members, with terms extending through August 1989, are:

Dr. Abelardo Baeza
Professor of Languages and
Director of Minority Affairs
Sul Ross State University

Mrs. Lee Bennett
Marfa, Texas

Dr. Jimmy Case
Associate Professor of
Political Science
Sul Ross State University

Mr. Jim Cullen
Alpine, Texas

Dr. Earl Elam
Professor of History and
Director, CBBS
Sul Ross State University

Colonel Russell Gardinier
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Associate Professor of Art
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Sul Ross State University

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Fort Stockton, Texas

Dr. Gary Jackson
Professor of Business
Administration and Chairman of
the Department
Sul Ross State University

Dr. J. Charles Kelley
Adjunct Professor of
Archeology
Sul Ross State University

Dr. Robert Overfelt, Jr.
Associate Professor of History
Uvalde Area Study Center
Sul Ross State University

Ms. Judith Parsons
Assistant Professor of History
and Special Assistant to the
President
Sul Ross State University

Mr. Kenneth Perry
Director of the Archives and
Museum of the Big Bend
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Mr. Robert Rothe
Chief, Interpretative and
Visitor Services
Big Bend National Park

Mr. Norman Spears
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Sul Ross State University

Dr. Albert Tucker
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Director of Teacher Education
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Vice President for Academic
Affairs
Sul Ross State University

Dr. Jack Humphries, ex officio
President
Sul Ross State University

CENTER ENDOWMENT

The endowment of the CBBS has been established in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents, Texas State University System and the laws of the State of Texas. Income supports office operations and projects sponsored by the Center. No state funds are appropriated for this purpose.

Contributions may be tax deductible and will be promptly acknowledged by the University and the Center. All gifts, regardless of amount, are sincerely appreciated. The following categories are suggested:

* FRIENDS -- \$20 to \$99

* PATRONS -- \$100 to \$999

* BENEFACTORS -- \$1,000 & up

Please send contributions to the address below.

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ROOM 103

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