

The Heart of Texas

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear CTHA Members,

This year has been an exciting and eventful time for CTHA. During the past few months, the Association held its first annual conference, obtained official office space on the Blinn College, Bryan Campus, and acquired the services of its first Secretary/Treasurer, Dagmar Poteet. Additionally, CTHA is collaborating with the Museum of the American G.I. to host the 2017 Fall Symposium, which will focus on Texans in World War I. As I reflect on the short history of the Association, I find it amazing at what the organization has been able to accomplish in such a brief period.

The new CTHA office will allow the Association the space needed to fulfill its mission. I hope all members will send the administration of Blinn College a heartfelt message of thanks, letting them



know how much we appreciate their support. I, perhaps more than anyone, am grateful for the new space. Since the inception of the Association, my faculty office has served as warehouse for CTHA files, cabinets, and equipment. Now that these items are stored in the new office space, my faculty office seems like a palace. I am sure that I will eventually replace the previously CTHA material with my own

items, but for now, I am enjoying being able to turn around in my office without knocking something off a shelf or the wall.



I am also pleased that we have been able to obtain the services of Dagmar Poteet as the new CTHA Secretary/Treasurer. Ms. Poteet is the Division Operation Coordinator for the Division of Social Sciences, but Blinn College has officially changed the description of her position, designating 20 percent of her time for CTHA purposes. CTHA is very fortunate to have Ms. Poteet as part of our staff, and I encourage you to welcome her when you see her at CTHA events.



Ms. Dagmar Poteet,
CTHA Secretary -- Treasurer

Finally, I hope you will be able to make the 2017 Fall Symposium, titled "Texans in WWI." The Museum of the American G.I. is co-sponsoring the event with CTHA, which is scheduled for September 23, 2017. The museum has a fine WWI exhibit in place, including a functional WWI French Renault FT-17 Light Tank. Additionally, we have seven excellent presentation scheduled for the event. For more information on the symposium and registration for the event, please see our website (www.centexhistassn.org). Also, for more information on the Museum of the American G.I., visit their website (<http://americangimuseum.org>).

Sincerely,
Kenneth W. Howell
Executive Director

2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Despite a few bumps in the road, CTHA's First Annual Conference on April 28-29, 2017 went well. There



were approximately 130 attendees present for the two-day event, which included seventeen sessions and more than forty presentations. At the presidential banquet, held at the Ant Street Inn Banquet Hall, CTHA President Larry Watson presented an engaging and informative discussion on the prophetic revelations of Sam Houston. At the Saturday luncheon, Mrs. Sharon Brass presented an interesting address on the burning of

Brenham, an act that occurred during the Reconstruction era. Following the close of the conference, some members enjoyed touring Brenham's Simon Theater, an early 20th century theater that a group of local citizens has restored to its former glory. The success of the conference is a result of the hard work of many people, included CTHA Officers and the members of the 2016-2017 Program Committee. The Blinn College facilities on the Brenham Campus proved a perfect location for the conference and CTHA appreciates the efforts of Sheri Rich, Coordinator of the Student Center and Campus Events, who did an extraordinary job with scheduling and organizing the use of the facilities. CTHA Board of Directors and Officers wants to thank all involved in the organization of this event and express their gratitude to all who attended and supported the meeting. This event sets the standard for future conferences.



MANAGING EDITOR'S CORNER



Work on the 2017 journal is right on schedule. The second volume of *Central Texas Studies* will feature three articles (by Debbie Liles, Cecilia Gutierrez Venable, and

Chuck Parsons); more than a dozen book reviews; an in-depth interview with Lamar University's Mary Scheer; and a "Notes and Documents" section. Texas A&M University Press will distribute the journal, which should arrive in your mailbox in December.

I am currently reading *Peter Bogdanovich: Interviews* (University Press of Mississippi, 2015), a terrific collection of discussions with the noted filmmaker, edited by Peter Tonguette. Cinema enthusiasts know Bogdanovich as the director of *The Last Picture Show*, the landmark 1971 film set in a fading West Texas hamlet. Critic Chris Nashawaty calls the movie a "bittersweet elegy for small-town America...a timeless classic" that "feels as tragic and aching (and racy) today as it did when it was released 46 years ago." Based on the novel by Larry McMurtry, Bogdanovich's iconic film received eight Academy Award nominations. Until next time, keep on reading!

Kirk Bane
Managing Editor

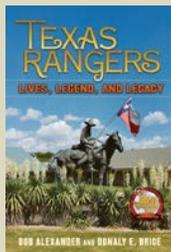
CTHA FEATURED MEMBER



Dr. Lynn M. Burlbaw, Professor of Education at Texas A&M University, is a Life Member of CTHA and has been with the Association since its inception. He currently serves on the CTHA Board of Directors, the CTHA Finance and Audit Committee, and is the Chair of the CTHA Education Committee. After earning his B. A. degree from the University of Albuquerque and M. A. Degree from Eastern New Mexico University, Dr. Burlbaw received a Ph.D. in Education from The University of Texas at Austin. He has served as a professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Culture within the College of Education at Texas A&M University since 1989. Dr. Burlbaw's expertise is in curriculum development and in the history of education. Not only is he actively involved with student organizations on campus, Professor Burlbaw is also very involved with numerous professional associations, including the American Association for Teaching and Curriculum and the Society for the Study of Curriculum History. He is a frequent presenter to history organizations in Texas, especially the Texas

State Historical Association and the East Texas Historical Association. Dr. Burlbaw's research interest are related to the history of education, social studies education, curriculum development and evaluation, computer applications in education, science-technology-and-society issues, learning and evaluation, and public history (including archaeology). CTHA is fortunate to have Dr. Lynn Burlbaw as a member and an officer of the Association.

CTHA FEATURED PUBLICATION



CTHA members will find Bob Alexander and Donaly Brice's new book on the Texas Rangers a welcome addition to Ranger historiography. Below is from the University of North Texas Press's website.

Authors Bob Alexander and Donaly E. Brice grappled with several issues when deciding how to relate a general history of the Texas Rangers. Should emphasis be placed on their frontier defense against Indians, or focus more on their role as guardians of the peace and statewide law enforcers? What about the tumultuous Mexican Revolution period, 1910–1920? And how to deal with myths and legends such as One Riot, One Ranger?

Texas Rangers: Lives, Legend, and Legacy is the authors' answer to these questions, a one-volume history of the Texas Rangers. The authors begin with the earliest Rangers in the pre-Republic years in 1823 and take the story up through the Republic, Mexican War, and Civil War. Then, with the advent of the Frontier Battalion, the authors focus in detail on each company A through F, relating what was happening within each company concurrently. Thereafter, Alexander and Brice tell the famous episodes of the Rangers that forged their legend, and bring the story up through the twentieth century to the present day in the final chapters.

2017 FALL SYMPOSIUM

The date and location for the 2017 Fall Symposium will be held at the Museum of the American G.I. on

Saturday, **September 23, 2017**. If you are going to reserve a hotel room and want to ensure that you receive the CTHA group rate, please make your reservations before **August 25, 2017**. The following presenters are schedule to speak at the event: **Gregory Ball, Jennifer Bridges, Sanders W. Marble, Paul Spellman, Emilio Zamora, John A. Adams, Jr., and Lila Rakoczy**. The staff at the Museum of the American G.I. is excited about hosting the event and has organize a special WWI display in their newly built facility, located just south of College Station on Hwy 6. Registration is now open for the event. For more information about the symposium, please visit the CTHA website (www.centexhistassn.org).

<p>SPEAKERS</p> <p>Gregory W. Ball <i>Command Historian 24th Air Force</i></p> <p>Jennifer Bridges <i>Professor of History Grayson College</i></p> <p>Sanders Marble <i>Senior Historian U.S. Army Office of Medical History</i></p> <p>Paul Spellman <i>Instructor of History Wharton County Junior College</i></p> <p>Emilio Zamora <i>Professor of History University of Texas at Austin</i></p> <p>Lila Rakoczy <i>No Man's Land Project East Texas Historical Association</i></p> <p>John A. Adams, Jr. <i>Independent Scholar & Author College Station, Texas</i></p>	<p>CENTRAL TEXAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION</p> <p>2017 Fall Symposium</p> <p>TEXANS IN WORLD WAR I</p> <p>September 23, 2017 (9:00 AM—3:25 PM)</p> <p>MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN G.I. (College Station, Texas)</p>
<p>For more information, please visit the CTHA website: www.centexhistassn.org</p>	

NOMINATIONS FOR 2018-2019 OFFICERS

The Nomination Committee for 2017-2018 is set and taking nominations from CTHA members for the following offices (2018-2019): Second-Vice President and new members of the Board of Directors. Past President, Larry Watson, is Chair of the Nomination Committee. Members can send their nominations directly to him by email (lwatson@blinn.edu). Dr. Watson will compile a list of the proposed nominees to share with the members of his committee when they meet to finalize their list of nominees to present to the Board of Directors next February.



THE 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Snapshots from the Sessions



Snapshots of the Presidential Banquet, Saturday Luncheon, and Business Meeting



CTHA appreciates Gail Swanlund for serving as the photographer at the 2017 Annual Conference. We also would like to thank Gail and Dagmar Potet for helping with registration.