

**Permian
Historical Society**

The University of Texas of
the Permian Basin Campus

Fall 2005



Permian Historical News

Permian Historical Society To Meet At Sixth Street Community Center in Crane, Texas, on 15 October 2005

Next Meeting: 15 October 2005

Place: Sixth Street Community Center, Crane, Texas

Location: On Grandfalls Highway West of the High School Football Stadium

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The fall meeting is scheduled to start at 9:30 A.M. with registration and coffee. A full program begins at 10:00 A.M. and runs to noon, when Johnny's Barbeque in Odessa will cater a lunch for \$10 to those who pay in advance and \$12.50 to those who pay at registration. Contact **Peggy Kelton**, P. O. Box 901, McCamey, TX 79752 or 432/652-8738 or PeggyKelton@direcway.com for lunch reservations.

After lunch, Joe Allen will lead a tour of Castle Gap, the famous landmark located south of Crane and off the highway to McCamey. Since the road requires high-centered vehicles, Crane hosts will provide transportation for the tour.

Peggy Kelton suggest that you dress representing the Gold Rush days to current times, but be comfortable for the trail ride to Castle Gap.

There is no charge for the meeting and visitors are welcome.

About the Spring 2005 Meeting

Permian Historical Society's Spring 2005 meeting at the Petroleum Museum in Midland was considered a complete success. An interesting program was presented. **Mary Lou Midkiff** of Midland gave a PowerPoint presentation about her ranching family in the Permian Basin, showing many family photographs. Mary Lou brought copies of her new book to display. **Damon Kennedy** of Midland gave a history of the Fort Worth National Bank, a financial institution that was heavily involved in West Texas ranching. **Bud Poage** of Rankin brought his collection of cowboy spurs and told stories about them. **John Kennady** of Grady School District in Martin County talked about the restoration of the Our Lady of Mercy Convent in Stanton, Texas, a subject of much research for the speaker. Dr. J. Tillapaugh of The University of Texas of the Permian Basin spoke about the home of President Bush in Odessa.

After the program, attendees enjoyed a wonderful barbeque lunch that was catered by K. D.'s Barbeque in Midland. Attendees seemed to appreciate the remodeled Petroleum Museum as a meeting site.

Permian Historical Society Fall Meeting
Sixth Street Community Center
Grandfalls Highway, Crane, Texas
15 October 2005

9:00 a.m. Happy Hour with visiting, registration, and coffee **Crane County Historians**
Stop by the book display; buy books to support PHS fund-raiser and local writers

9:30 a.m. Welcome to Crane **Charles Stroder**

Program of Papers **Bud Lindsey**, Program Vice President, moderator

About Paul Patterson **Elmer Kelton**

The famous writer of Western fiction and native of the Permian Basin comes to praise his school teacher of long-ago days.

The King Ranch As It Relates to Ranching in Crane County

..... Written by **Gordon Hooper** and read by **Evelyn Stroder**

Hooper weaves a connection between the 150-year-old, 825,000-acre King Ranch of South Texas and Crane County ranching.

Earp Family History Segment **Tiny Earp**

As part of a ranching family, the writer tells of the good times and bad experienced by his family in the Permian Basin.

Indian Water Hole: 1878 **Joe Allen**

Allen traces events around a historic landmark in Crane County that is unknown to most residents and researchers of the Permian Basin.

Casting of ballots for Best Presentation Award that will be given at the Spring 2006

Meeting **Donna Bell**, chair

Visiting and book shopping are encouraged until lunch is served.

12:00 noon **Lunch catered by Johnny's Barbeque of Odessa**

Entertainment by the Allegro Cowboy and Cowgirl Singers

Prizes—Door, Costume, Permian Basin Longest Resident, Best Presentation

Award **Peggy Kelton and Donna Bell**

Best Article Award for *The Permian Historical Annual* 44, presented to

the **Rev. Dr. Stanley J. Cosby**..... **Sue Ann Damron**

Short general business meeting

..... **Bud Lindsey**, moderator in place of the recovering president, **Ross McSwain**

Call For Papers

Permian Historical Society Program Committee welcomes papers to be presented at the Spring 2006 and Fall 2006 meetings. Contact **Bud Lindsey** at budro@crcom.net. Both scholarly papers and reminiscences are accepted. *The Permian Historical Annual* publishes reminiscences which need no documentation. Scholarly papers to publish should be documented, well researched, and clearly written. You may contact the editor, Julia Cauble Smith, at cauble@cox.net for more information.



News of Permian Historical Society

Necrology

Eileen Eiland Welch, longtime member of Permian Historical Society and treasurer for eighteen years, lost her life to cancer on 8 September 2005. She was born 15 January 1928 to Troy and May Eiland and became part of a longtime Midland County family. She graduated from Midland High School in 1945 and married **Charles Ray Welch** of another longtime Midland County family in 1946. She played the piano and organ for church services and her three young sons—**John, Troy, and Scott**—sat quietly on the first pew while she took more lessons on the organ during the week. Eileen and Charlie were dedicated to volunteer service in the civic, public, and church life of their community. Eileen appreciated history and genealogy; she was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas as well as other lineage groups.



Eileen Eiland Welch

Image: Bud Lindsey

Permian Historical Society lost another good member and friend. Eileen was one of the three members who kept the organization going in the late 1990s when it faced hard times.

The Charlie and Eileen Welch Memorial 4-H Scholarship Fund has been established for memorials at the following places:

The Commercial State Bank
Attn: Paul Evans
407 North Big Spring
Midland, TX 79701

Hospice of Midland
911 West Texas Street
Midland, TX 79701

Allison Cancer Center
2200 West Illinois Street
Midland, TX 79701

Entertainment For the Fall Meeting in Crane, Texas

Dr. Terrance Shults and a group of cowboy singers known as the **Allegro Cowboy and Cowgirl Singers**, plan to entertain attendees at lunch during this fall meeting. They may be persuaded to sing for those who arrive early at the meeting. You will enjoy this!