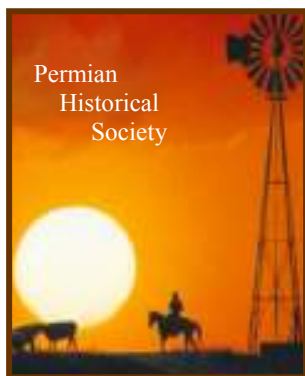


Permian Historical News



Permian Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and recording the history of the Permian Basin of West Texas

Welcome to Our Online Newsletter

We Hope to Save on Postage and Printing

As you know, postage has increased again. In an attempt to save some money, we are sending our newsletter by email. We hope you approve. Please read and download this newsletter as a reminder of our spring meeting date—**15 April 2006**—and place—**Petroleum Museum** on Interstate 20 at the southern edge of Midland, Texas.

President's Letter

Dear friends,

First, I want to welcome you to our annual Spring Meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 15, at the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum in Midland. The meeting will get underway with registration and visiting at 9 a.m. with an outstanding program of papers slated to begin at 10 a.m. We will have a fine barbecue meal with all the trimmings at noon, followed by a short business meeting which will include election of officers for the coming year.

Sadly, some of our members have left us since last spring and will be with us in memory only, having gone on to a better place where there is no illness. We need to keep their families in our thoughts and prayers, and to remember them for all the work and dedication they gave the Permian Historical Society. They are **Eileen Eiland Welch, Joe Pickle, Eddie Mae Hogg Woodward, Irene McNerlin Springer, and Frances Titus McCasland**.

I have enjoyed being your president during the past four years. The only regret is missing the Crane meeting last fall. I was recovering from my second heart by-pass surgery and my doctor would not allow me to get out of bed. However, everything worked out all right and I am back on my feet doing just about anything I used to do except run foot races, ride horses, or lift things over 30 pounds.

Thanks to some very hard work and dedication, Julia Cauble Smith and the Editorial Board have produced another fine annual for us. They have the annual publication date back on schedule as well as planning a special annual for later.

I look forward to visiting with you on April 15 in Midland, so make plans to attend. The society is only as strong as its membership.

Cordially,
Ross McSwain
President

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2006

Spring meeting of Permian Historical Society is planned for 15 April 2006 at the Petroleum Museum in Midland, Texas.

- *The Permian Historical Annual 45* will be distributed to members and sold to guests.
- New Officers will be elected.
- Good papers—about ranching, the military, movie-making, and an oil field town—will be presented.
- Barbecue will be served for lunch.

Reservations are needed for lunch. The cost is \$11.00 with reservations; \$12 at the door.

For reservations, contact:

Peggy Kelton at
PeggyKelton@direcway.com
OR
Sherry Phillips at
jfuzz2@sbcglobal.net

Elmer Kelton Praised Paul Patterson at Fall Meeting In Crane, Texas



Award-winning Western writer Elmer Kelton praised his long-ago teacher, Paul Patterson, at the fall meeting.

Image: Bud Lindsey

Permian Historical Society met in Crane, Texas, on 15 October 2005 for a program of papers, a barbecue lunch, door prizes, and a field trip to Castle Gap. Live music was provided by The Allegro Cowboy and Cowgirl Singers.

Over one hundred attendees learned about life

among the mesas of the South Country—Crane, Pecos, and Upton Counties—of the Permian Basin in earlier decades and centuries.

The first speaker at the meeting was award-winning Western writer Elmer Kelton, who praised his long-ago schoolteacher, Paul

Patterson. The field trip, led by Joe Allen, took the group to Castle Gap and a water hole used by Native Americans in the nineteenth and earlier centuries.

Permian Historical Society thanks the historians of Crane County for their work in making the meeting a memorable one.

I. C. [Tiny] Earp Reminiscenced About the Permian Basin From the 1920s to WWII

Prominent Crane County Rancher Tiny Earp told the interesting story of his life and his family's struggles in the Permian Basin during the Great Depression.



I. C. Earp is shown above recounting events in rural life of the Permian Basin before World War II.

Image: Bud Lindsey

Joe Allen Used Power Point to Talk About His Research of Castle Gap

Joe Allen presented his research of Castle Gap and its water hole that was used in the nineteenth century by Native Americans. He led a field trip to Castle Gap and the water hole after the meeting. About eighty members and guests made the trip.



Joe Allen is shown above as he gave a Power Point presentation about Castle Gap.

Image: Bud Lindsey

What To Expect At the Spring 2006 Meeting

**Permian Historical Society Spring Meeting
Petroleum Museum, Library, and Hall of Fame
1500 Interstate 20 West, Midland, Texas
15 April 2006**

Happy Hour of Visiting, Registration, Coffee, and Book Shopping begins at 9 a.m.

Program of Papers **Bud Lindsey**, moderator

A Soldier’s Story: Reconstructing the Past **James Collett**
The writer, an archeologist, presents his work in a digital slide program. His presentations in the past have proved interesting and informative.

Texon, Texas: Forging a Model Company Town in the Permian Basin
Oil Fields..... **Paula Marshall-Gray**
The writer looks at the model company town with all the amenities needed to attract stable family men to work for the company.

Behind the Scenes in the Making of the Classic Film “Giant”
in Marfa by an Extra **Lee Bennett**
The presenter lived many decades in Marfa, Texas. She and her husband worked as extras fifty years ago on the movie “Giant.” She plans to relate incidents from that experience.

Large Ranch Land Holding in Midland County, Texas **Melanie McDonald**
Ms. McDonald’s paper looks at large-section ranches in Midland County that were held intact over the near-fifty year period from 1955 to 2003.

The King Ranch As It Relates to Ranching in Crane County **Gordon Hooper**
This paper was scheduled for the October 2005 meeting, but it was held over for this meeting. The writer weaves a connection between the 150-year-old, 825,000-acre King Ranch of South Texas and Crane County ranching.

After the program of papers, lunch will be served. Door prizes, awards, and the business meeting will follow.

What About *The Permian Historical Annual 45*?

The printer promises that we will have our latest publication ready for distribution at the spring meeting.

It is a volume dedicated to the ranching families of the Permian Basin—present and past. This is a volume that members will be tempted to read on the way home.



The above image of Snap Woodward and his horse Neill appears on the cover of *Annual 45*.

Image: Peggy Kelton

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About Permian Historical Society

Permian Historical Society was originally founded in 1958 as The Texas Permian Historical Society. Chartered by the State of Texas, it holds nonprofit educational status under federal regulations. The name was shortened to Permian Historical Society and its headquarters moved to The University of Texas of the Permian Basin after 1973.

PHS is interested in the story of petroleum, of course, but it is just as focused on other regional developments and events—Native Americans and their cultures, Spanish and Mexican explorations, frontier forts and buffalo hunters, ranching and farming, stage stops and railroads, town and business developments, women and families, taverns and churches, preachers and outlaws, and gushers and dusters—from prehistoric through modern times.

You have a story and we want to hear it.



The Allegro Cowboy and Cowgirl Singers are pictured above as they entertained at the fall meeting in Crane.

Image: Bud Lindsey

Congratulations to longtime member Frances Walker on reaching her 90th birthday!

Fall 2006 Meeting: Iraan on the Pecos River in Pecos County. Please come!