Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr. Funds $3 Million Endowment

Former Texas Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr. has established a $3 million endowment at the Center for American History at The University of Texas at Austin to support any activity, program, film, collection, acquisition, project, or publication in the general field of Texas history. The Dolph and Janey Briscoe Fund for Texas History is the largest gift that any individual has ever given the Center.

"We are deeply grateful to Governor Briscoe for this magnificent gift," said Dr. Don Carleton, director of the Center for American History. "The Dolph and Janey Briscoe Fund will make it possible for the Center to greatly expand its efforts to facilitate, encourage, and support research and teaching in the field of Texas history."

Briscoe cites his passion for Texas history and his enthusiasm for the Center’s Texas History Collection as the impetus for the endowment.

"The history of Texas has long been a passion of mine," said Governor Briscoe. "Accordingly, I have been an avid fan of the Center for American History on behalf of the cause of Texas history. I believe that the outstanding work that the Center carries out should be continued and expanded."

Dolph Briscoe was governor of Texas from 1973 through 1979. He graduated from the University in 1942 and served in the U.S. Army in southeast Asia during World War II. From 1949 to 1957 he served in the state legislature. His wife, the late Janey Briscoe, was a regent of the University of Texas System from 1981 until 1987. Governor Briscoe donated his personal and gubernatorial papers to the Center, and serves on its Advisory Council. He played a key role in making the John Nance Garner Museum in Uvalde a division of the Center. Dr. Carleton is helping Governor Briscoe write his memoir, which will be published by the Center in 2008.

A guide to the Briscoe Papers is located at www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/utcah/00066/cah-00066.html
Documentary Film Honors Cain Foundation

The Center for American History premiered “A Force for Good,” a film documenting the history of the Effie and Wofford Cain Foundation and its founding families, on February 5, 2007, at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin. The foundation, formed in 1952 by Wofford Cain, provides grants and contributions primarily to scientific, medical, and educational institutions.

More than 200 guests attended the event to honor the philanthropy of the Cain Foundation and the benevolent work of board members James Cain and Frank Denius. A lifelong benefactor of the University, Denius received the Santa Rita Award in 2007 and is Chairman of The University of Texas Veterans Stadium Committee. He landed on Omaha Beach during the Normandy invasion in World War II, and is one of the nation’s most decorated World War II veterans.

“The Center is extremely pleased to have been part of the effort to document the history of this organization and the philanthropy that has touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of Texans,” said Center Director Dr. Don Carleton.

Guests enjoyed conversations with members of the Cain and Denius families and representatives from the Center for American History, as well as producer/writer Lucy Frost and director/director of photography/executive producer Lew Adams. Among the evening’s special guests were President Emeritus Peter Flawn and former UT football coach Darrell Royal.

To obtain a DVD of the film, contact Center Associate Director Ramona Kelly at 512/495 4696.

James Farmer’s Freedom Ride” Presented in Honor of Black History Month

Farmer’s Freedom Ride,” each Saturday throughout the month of February at the LBJ Library and Museum. The screenings were free and open to the public.

Farmer, a native Texan and pioneering civil rights leader, was the grandson of a slave and founder of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE). Under his direction, CORE organized and led an interracial bus journey through the South designed to compel the federal government to enforce laws prohibiting interstate bus segregation.

The 22-minute black and white film documents “an expedition into America’s conscience,” said Farmer, who narrated the film.

The film is part of the James Farmer Papers, which the civil rights activist donated to the Center for American History in 1987. The collection consists of more than 47 linear feet of manuscripts, printed materials, and photographs that richly document Farmer’s professional activities in the civil rights movement from 1942 until his death in 1999.

A guide to the James Farmer Papers is available at www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/utcah/00004/cah-00004.html
The Center for American History honored rock and roll photographer Tom Wright, whose photograph archive is part of the Center’s collections, at a reception on March 16 at the Headliner’s Club in Austin. Wright’s work spans more than four decades and chronicles the careers of legendary rock groups, including The Who and the Rolling Stones.

About 150 supporters, family members, and friends gathered to acknowledge Wright’s contribution to rock and roll history. His longtime friend and legendary guitarist of The Who, Pete Townshend, co-hosted the event with Dr. Don Carleton and was the event’s guest speaker. Joe Walsh (James Gang and the Eagles) and Ian McLagan (the Faces) also spoke.

The Center acquired the Tom Wright Photograph Collection in 1990. The collection’s strength is its intimate perspective on the musical performances of many of the icons of the American rock and roll scene. Wright’s photographs are not only candid snapshots of rock legends but revealing portraits of musicians in various stages of their development.

Photographs from the Tom Wright Photograph Collection are featured in Wright’s new book, “Roadwork: Rock and Roll Turned Inside Out,” published by the Hal Leonard Performing Arts Publishing Group.
The Photography of Russell Lee
Featured in Exhibit and Program

The Center for American History sponsored a panel discussion and exhibition in March to celebrate the work of acclaimed photojournalist and former UT Austin photography professor Russell Lee. Lee donated his entire photo collection and copyrights to the Center before his death in 1986.

The panel discussion was held March 27 at the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center on the UT Austin campus. Guest panelists included UT Professor Emeritus J.B. Colson; documentary photographer Dr. Vme Edom Smith, director of the “Truth With a Camera” workshop in Norfolk, Virginia; and Alan Pogue, director of the Texas Center for Documentary Photography. Dr. Don Carleton served as master of ceremonies and moderator. Photo Curator Linda Peterson previewed the Center’s Web pages dedicated to the Lee Collection.

The exhibit, curated by Lynn Bell, featured previously unpublished photographs from the Lee Collection and was on display throughout the months of April and May at Flatbed Press and Gallery in east Austin.

The two events coincided with the publication of the Center’s new book, “Russell Lee Photographs: Images from the Russell Lee Photograph Collection at the Center for American History,” published by UT Press. Peterson led the staff team that selected the photographs in the book and the exhibit, in addition to writing the book’s introductory text.

“The legacy of Russell Lee’s documentary photography is profound,” said Carleton. “Russell evidenced a singular compassion for the human condition — in his work with the photographic unit of the Federal Farm Security Administration during the Depression, his controversial study of Spanish-speaking people in Texas, and his political work as a photographer for the Texas Observer. The generous donation of his personal negative and print collection was the foundation event that led to the Center becoming one of the nation’s major repositories of news and documentary photography.”

The Lee Collection consists of more than 27,000 photo negatives, 3,639 prints, and 708 slides. A Web feature about Lee’s work is available at www.cah.utexas.edu/feature/lee/
Exxon History Project Spotlighted During Campus-wide Event

ExxonMobil CEO Rex Tillerson and approximately 150 other guests gathered for a special presentation on the Center’s Exxon History Project during the campus-wide ExxonMobil Day, April 21, 2007.

Carleton regaled the audience with excerpts from the Center’s new book, "Ross Sterling, Texan." Sterling was the principal founder of the Humble Oil and Refining Company, which eventually became the largest component of the ExxonMobil Corporation.

The Center is the home of the ExxonMobil Historical Collection, which documents the company and its predecessors, subsidiaries, and affiliates worldwide. The Collection traces the history of ExxonMobil’s corporate ancestors: Exxon, Mobil, Standard Oil Company (NJ), Socony, Humble Oil and Refining Company, and Magnolia Petroleum Company.

A rich new Web site featuring historical documents, photos, television commercials, a timeline, and finding aids from the Center’s ExxonMobil Collection is now available at www.cah.utexas.edu/feature/exxonmobil/index.php. The Center launched the site in March to coincide with ExxonMobil Day. Be sure to check out four commercials produced between 1962 and 1964 for the Humble Oil and Refining Company, including the historic "Put a Tiger in your Tank" campaign, at www.cah.utexas.edu/collections/exxonmobil_video.php.

Dr. Don Carleton updated the audience on the $1.2 million Exxon History Project, which entails writing and publishing the fifth volume of Exxon’s official corporate history. Dr. Joseph Pratt, Cullen Professor of History and Management at the University of Houston and former chairman of that institution’s history department, will author the book for the Center. Volume five is scheduled for completion in 2010 and will be published as part of the Center’s Focus on American History Series.

According to Pratt, "In the years covered in our volume, the rise of OPEC, the nationalization of many of the world’s richest oil reserves, and the onset of a cycle of boom and bust oil prices transformed the petroleum industry. Our goal is to explore how the company successfully adapted to extreme industry challenges of the recent past."

Items from the ExxonMobil Collection are available on the Web. Dr. Don Carleton and Rex Tillerson. Photos this page courtesy of Mark Rutkowski.
Legislature Celebrates Henry B. Day at the Capitol

In partnership with the Honorable Leticia Van de Putte, Texas Senator, District 26, the Center for American History honored the legacy of Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez on May 3, 2007, at the Texas Capitol.

Members of Congressman Gonzalez’ family, Texas legislators, and representatives from UT gathered to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Congressman’s election as the first Mexican American in the Texas Senate. May 3 also marked the ninety-first anniversary of his birth.

Among the day’s activities were a breakfast reception hosted by Senator Van de Putte, the reading of a special Senate resolution proclaiming May 3, 2007, as “Henry B. Gonzalez Day at the Capitol,” and an exhibit of items from Congressman Gonzalez’ political career, which spanned more than four decades.


“With his lifelong commitment to public service and a better life for all people, Congressman Gonzalez left a legacy of achievement that shaped the American economy and society in the last half of the twentieth century,” said Dr. Patrick Cox, the Center’s associate director for Congressional and Political History. “We were honored to help recognize one of our country’s most beloved public servants.”

The Center is the repository of the Henry B. Gonzalez Papers. Selected items are posted at www.cah.utexas.edu/feature/0611/index.php

Center Co-Sponsors Historic Natchez Conference

The Seventh Biennial Historic Natchez Conference was held February 7 - 10, 2007, in Natchez, Mississippi, and the Center’s staff and collections were well represented.

As a founding sponsor, the Center has participated in the Natchez Foundation’s Biennial Conference since its inception in 1994. Assistant Director Brenda Gunn shared images from the Center’s Natchez Trace collection in her presentation, “Patent Medicine in the Old Natchez District.” Dr. Don Carleton gave the final presentation at this year’s conference, which highlighted the role of archival collections in researching and interpreting the history of the Natchez region and the American South.

The Center’s Natchez Trace collection is one of the premier resources for the study of Southern history.
Miniature Quilts Exhibited in Center’s Museums

A new quilt exhibit, "Put a Roof Over Our Head," opened on February 5, 2007, courtesy of the Alliance for American Quilts. The exhibit consisted of 74 house-shaped quilts crafted across the U.S. and three other countries to celebrate the Alliance’s move to its new headquarters in Asheville, North Carolina. The exhibit was divided among the Center’s three museums in Bonham, Uvalde, and Round Top, Texas.

“With the Alliance for American Quilts, we’re working to acquire, document, preserve, and present information about quilts and quilt history,” said Assistant Director for Research and Collections Brenda Gunn. “The nonprofit Alliance for American Quilts is a network of scholars, curators, quilt artists, librarians, archivists, and others from around the country dedicated to recognizing quilts as works of art and as pieces of history. We are honored that our Winedale Center for the Quilt is one of three regional centers with which the Alliance has formalized partnership arrangements.”

The Alliance and the Center are also collaborating on The Quilt Index, a centralized, online repository of photographs and information about quilts in public and private collections (www.quiltindex.org). By late 2007, the Index is expected to include more than 15,000 photographs and records.

For information about the Center’s quilt initiatives, call Mary Evelynn Sorrell, assistant director for Winedale, at 979/278 3530 or visit www.cah.utexas.edu/museums/winedale_quilts.php

“Last Best Hope” Wins International Hugo Award

“Last Best Hope: A True Story of Escape, Evasion, and Remembrance,” a PBS documentary film made possible in part by the Center for American History, recently received a Silver Award in the documentary film category at the forty-third annual Hugo Television Awards ceremony in Chicago. Executive producers Ramona Kelly, who is associate director at the Center, and David Grosvenor accepted the award on behalf of their film team. “Last Best Hope,” a co-production of KLRU-TV, premiered nationally on PBS on October 30, 2006. The film is an official selection of the Mendocino Film Festival (Best Feature-length Documentary and the Audience Choice Award), Calgary Film Festival, Jackson Hole International Film Festival, Dallas Video Festival, Texas Independent Filmmakers Festival (People’s Choice Award), and Worldfest.

“This historically significant film tells the little-known story of the Belgian resistance in its efforts to harbor and repatriate American and other Allied airmen downed within the borders of occupied Belgium during the Second World War,” said Center Director Dr. Don Carleton. “The Center, whose mission is to sponsor and facilitate research in U.S. history, is pleased to have been instrumental in bringing to the public this World War II story of courage and sacrifice.”

Original footage shot for the film will be archived at the Center for scholarly research purposes.

An original component of the annual Chicago International Film Festival, the Hugo Television Awards recognize outstanding productions that achieve both technical excellence and creativity. Last year’s Silver Hugos in the documentary film category were awarded to “No Direction Home: Bob Dylan,” produced by WNET-TV in New York, and “American Experience: Fidel Castro,” produced by WGBH-TV in Boston.

The Center for American History, in collaboration with leaders in the video and computer game industry, has formed the UT Videogame Archive, the newest addition to the Center’s extensive Media Collection, which documents and preserves contemporary and historical media for research and educational purposes.

“Several key individuals in videogame development and related enterprises who recognize the importance of preserving the history of game development – and particularly the role that Texas has played in it – approached us last fall about establishing an archive dedicated to the evolution of the videogame industry,” said Dr. Don Carleton, director of the Center for American History.

“After a series of conversations with Richard Garriott (NCsoft), Warren Spector (Junction Point Studios), George Sanger (The Fat Man and Team Fat), and Bill Bottorff (Austin Business Computers), we all agreed that the Center is the ideal home for this archive,” Carleton continued.

“We have an international reputation for high caliber and accessible media collections, and we are situated at the heart of the Texas videogame industry.”

“The new archive will enhance the potential for collaboration among University departments with emerging videogame curricula,” added Brenda Gunn, assistant director for Research and Collections. “This is a natural opportunity for the study of popular culture, art, technology, business, and the preservation of digital information to intersect on the UT campus.

“The UT Videogame Archive joins a number of U.S. and European initiatives already in the works to preserve material related to the history of videogame industry,” Gunn noted. “The Center’s archive will enhance the global study of the videogame industry by highlighting the influence of Texas-based developers and entrepreneurs.”

In its efforts to build an archive of scholarly and cultural interest, the Center plans to gather materials from all sectors of the industry. In addition to games and equipment, archival materials of interest include paper and digital documentation relating to the conception, development, planning, management, marketing, scripting, technology, design, and other aspects of the videogame arena.

More than 50 game developers, programmers, and University and City of Austin representatives, as well as individuals from organizations serving the videogame industry, launched the UT Videogame Archive at a reception hosted earlier this year by the Center.

At the event, Garriott, Spector, and Sanger announced their plans to contribute their personal materials to the new archive.

“The fact is that the history of the videogame business is being written every day and, sadly, being lost just about as quickly,” said Spector.

Luckily, we’re a young enough medium that nearly all of our serious practitioners are still alive and available to be interviewed and invited to contribute to the archive.”

Next steps include a September 4th event to raise awareness of and financial support for the UT Videogame Archive.

“Dozens of developers right here in Austin are eager to place their material with us as soon as we have the infrastructure in place,” said Carleton.

Information about the archive will be updated as available at www.utvideogamearchive.org.

For an invitation to the September 4th event benefitting the new archive, email ramonakelly@austin.utexas.edu.
Renowned Photographer Darryl Heikes Donates Photo Archive to the Center

Darryl Heikes recently selected the Center for American History as the permanent repository for his photographic archive. For four decades, Heikes’ photographs have appeared in leading publications worldwide including the New York Times, the New York Daily News, the Washington Post, and U.S. News and World Report.

His work documents great moments in politics, the Olympics, and world events from 1959 to 2001. He has photographed all the American presidents from Harry Truman to George W. Bush.

Heikes logged more than 100,000 miles aboard Air Force One during his 30 years in Washington. He covered President Nixon’s visits to the Soviet Union and the Middle East, President Ford’s summit with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev in Finland, President Carter’s Middle East shuttle diplomacy, President Reagan’s meeting with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Finland, and President George H.W. Bush’s trips to meet with world leaders.


“He was a master at gaining access to his subjects and finding a unique vantage point for his compelling images,” said Associate Director for Media Alison Beck, who worked with Heikes to transfer his archive to the Center.

“A Deadline Every Minute,” the exhibit featuring selections from the Heikes Collection, is on display at the Center’s Research and Collections Division in Austin through September 15.

Center Acquires Journalist Jack Newfield’s Papers

Veteran journalist Jack Newfield made a career out of exposing abuse and scams in his native New York City. For 24 years. Newfield wrote for the Village Voice, where he helped define the idea of the alternative press. He later worked for the Daily News, the New York Post, the New York Sun, and other publications. Additionally, he wrote ten books and produced documentary films.

In January 2007, Newfield’s widow, Janie Eisenberg, donated approximately 200 boxes of research files, notes, correspondence, and heavily annotated calendars that Newfield amassed during his three decades of work. Newfield’s subject matter included local and U.S. social and domestic issues. But he also wrote frequently about boxing, baseball, music, and the counterculture.

Newfield greatly admired Robert F. Kennedy Jr., and wrote a book about Kennedy’s 1968 presidential campaign, “Robert Kennedy: A Memoir,” that he later developed into a documentary. The Newfield Papers are a substantive addition to the Center’s American News Media Archive.
The papers of Cliff Edom, who coined the term “photojournalism,” are now part of the Center for American History archives. Donated by his daughter, Dr. Vme Edom Smith, the Cliff and Vi Edom Collection documents the vital role photography has come to play in journalism.

Cliff Edom earned a degree in journalism from the University of Missouri, where he organized and led the first accredited photojournalism department in the country. Vi Edom, his wife, was the assistant manager for the Missouri Press Association for 30 years.

As a team, Cliff and Vi Edom co-founded three important programs that have continued through the years: the Pictures of the Year contest (1943); Kappa Alpha Mu, a national honorary fraternity for photography (1944); and the Missouri Photo Workshop (1949).

“Thousands of photojournalists have graduated from the workshop. Its faculty has included Russell Lee, Flip Schulke, and Bruce Roberts, whose photography collections are also held at the Center,” said Center Associate Director Alison Beck.

The Edom collection includes 70 linear feet of photographic prints, slides, newspaper clippings, albums, books, periodicals, awards, correspondence, and camera equipment.

J.B. Colson Named Senior Fellow

UT School of Journalism Professor Emeritus J.B. Colson has been named Senior Fellow at the Center for American History. Colson teaches a graduate course in the history and criticism of photography. He inaugurated the University’s photojournalism program for students at the bachelors, masters, and doctoral levels. Students from the program have won 13 Pulitzer Prizes. Colson played a key role in persuading Russell Lee to give his photograph collection to the Center. In 2006, Colson donated his papers and more than 2,000 books about photography and photojournalism to the Center’s Research and Collections Division.

Texas House Speakers Oral History Project Now Featured on the Web

The Center for American History launched a new Web site, the Texas House Speakers Oral History Project, on April 30, 2007. The site contains extensive documentation on the individuals who have served as Speaker of the Texas House as well as biographies and resources on every Texas House Speaker in the state’s history.

"From William E. Crump, the first House Speaker in 1846, to Tom Craddick, the current Texas House Speaker, this Web site contains the most extensive information on the history of the people who have shaped the history of our state,” said Center Director Dr. Don Carleton.

In November 2003, in cooperation with Speaker Craddick and his wife, Mrs. Nadine Craddick, the Center launched “A Speaker from Its Own Members: A Project Documenting the History of the Speakers of the Texas House of Representatives.” Center historians Dr. Patrick Cox and Dr. Michael Phillips interviewed Speaker Craddick and nine former Texas House Speakers: Reuben Senterfitt, Jim T. Lindsey, James “Jimmy” Turman, Ben Barnes, Gus Mutschler, Rayford Price, Bill Clayton, Gibson D. “Gib” Lewis, and Pete Laney. In addition, Mrs. Craddick and Mrs. Nelda Laney, wife of former Speaker Pete Laney, were interviewed. These interviews are now part of the Center’s Texas House Speakers Collection.

A list of related resources at the Center, including books, manuscripts, archival resources, photographs, recordings, and videos, is included in the bibliographic guide for each Speaker.

For more information, contact Dr. Patrick Cox, associate director for Congressional and Political History, at 512/495-4533 or pcox@austin.utexas.edu or visit www.cah.utexas.edu/projects/speakers_bib_note.php
Rare Ranching Artifacts Travel to Uvalde

The John Nance Garner Museum in Uvalde, Texas, now features an exhibit of rare ranching artifacts and documents that depict cattle ranching from early Spanish Colonial Texas to the twentieth century. The exhibit, "Lone Star Treasures: 200 Years of Ranching in Texas," includes items rarely seen outside of the Center’s archives in Austin.

Visitors to the exhibit are invited to view rare documents such as the "History of Cattleraising in San Antonio" (1762, Bexar Archives), with sketches of early cattle brands. The exhibit also features several saddles from the 1800s, the XIT Horn Chair and Footstool (ca. 1890), as well as other ranching artifacts from the James Frank Dobie Collection.

"Ranching played an important role in shaping the diverse history of our state, from its beginning in the early Spanish Colonial Texas, to the 1877 formation of the Cattle Raisers Association of Texas, to the long cattle drives that originated in south Texas," stated Dr. Patrick Cox, associate director of the Center for American History. "This exhibit highlights some of the seldom seen documents and artifacts from this important era in Texas history. We are very proud that we were able to bring this exhibit to Uvalde and the surrounding communities which are so historically rooted in ranching."

"Lone Star Treasures: 200 Years of Ranching in Texas" will be on display at the Garner Museum through August 18, 2007. For more information, contact the museum at 830/278 5018.

Friends Gala Raises Record Amount


"I have worked with many Friends Groups," said Center Director Don Carleton, who served as the featured speaker for the dinner and fundraiser. "None surpasses the Friends of Garner. You guys stay with it and support what you believe in."

Carleton also had high praise for the bank and former Governor Briscoe. "First State Bank is a great friend to the museum, and we appreciate your gracious hospitality this evening," Carleton said, thanking bank president Lewis Bracy Jr. "And what can I say about Governor Briscoe that has not been said before? He is a true Texas treasure, a dedicated public servant whose works have had a profound impact on the lives of Texans," Carleton added.
"Lone Star Treasures" Exhibited in Bonham

Priceless Texas historical documents from the Spanish Colonial era through the Revolution of 1836 were featured in a recent exhibit, “Lone Star Treasures: From Colony to Republic, Early Texas Ephemera,” at the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum.

The exhibit contained a wide variety of documents from the extensive Texana collection at the Center for American History, including the first large-scale map of Texas, by David H. Burr in 1834, and the official battle map of the Alamo fortification drawn by the commander of engineers for Santa Anna’s army.

The display also featured the official letter from the Spanish governor to Moses Austin allowing for U.S. settlement in Texas and the diary of William Barret Travis, Texas’ commander at the Battle of the Alamo. Other exhibit items included José Enrique de la Peña’s firsthand account of Davy Crockett’s execution and an original 1836 printing of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

The recipient of the Friends of Sam Rayburn 2007 H.G. Dulaney Public Service Award is Bonham native and Fort Worth attorney Dee J. Kelly. The Friends of Sam Rayburn honored Kelly at the Third Annual Friends of Sam Rayburn Awards Banquet on May 12 at the Legacy Ridge Country Club in Bonham, Texas. H.G. Dulaney, in whose honor the award was created in 2005, presented the award to Kelly.

U.S. Congressman Ralph M. Hall presented Kelly with a flag flown over the nation’s Capitol.

Kelly’s commitment to public service is well known throughout Texas. He currently is president of the Sam Rayburn Foundation and serves on the board of Texas Christian University; The Jane and John Justin Foundation; Performing Arts Fort Worth, Inc.; The Van Cliburn Foundation; and the UT Southwestern Moncrief Cancer Center. He also serves on the Center for American History Advisory Council.

Congresswoman Kay Granger was the banquet’s featured speaker. Representing the twelfth Congressional District of Texas, Congresswoman Granger is the highest-ranking Republican woman in the House of Representatives.

The banquet is the premier event hosted by the Friends of Sam Rayburn and serves as the organization’s annual fundraiser.
Winedale Renovation Projects Are Underway

The Winedale Visitors Center and Administrative Office greeted 2007 with fresh coats of interior paint in its original three-tone pattern, along with interior and exterior renovations. Center Assistant Director Mary Evelynn Sorrell, who is the new head of Winedale, promptly installed an exhibition of folk art toys and painted chests from Winedale’s ample collections.

Hazel’s Lone Oak Cottage, which serves as Winedale’s Interpretive Center, also received a fresh coat of paint and new siding. The Wagner Dormitory shows the most dramatic change, however, with a new exterior stairway and upgraded fire and safety improvements. In addition, all exterior surfaces were examined and repaired or replaced as needed, and the exterior paint was restored to its original color.

Construction of Brenham, a recognized preservation construction firm, performed the renovation work. The Winedale staff has also conducted an extensive cleanup of the property. With wildflowers in full bloom, visitors are enjoying Winedale’s fresh new look.

Historic Quilts Assessed by Experts

Kate Adams, retired associate director of the Center, and Jan Tauber Wass, a quilt expert and textile historian, examined 98 quilts in the Winedale Collection during an intensive week in January. Adams is now adding the results of the examination to the national Quilt Index database as one aspect of the Center’s partnership with the Alliance for American Quilts.

The examination focused on recording the physical details of each quilt, including size, pattern name, construction, date created, quilting patterns, unique embellishments, inscriptions, block styles, fabric and fiber types, bindings, and battings.

“This collection represents the wide variety of quilts made in America, from the calamanco wool wholecloth quilts of the early nineteenth century to contemporary masterpieces,” said Wass. “The quilts represent major trends in quiltmaking. The potential for research, exhibition, and publication is very strong for this collection.”

The week-long review was made possible through the generous financial support of University alumnae Karey Bresenhan and Nancy O’Bryant Puentes, co-authors of “Lone Stars: A Legacy of Texas Quilts” and the founders of the International Quilt Festival.
Ross Sterling, Texan
By Ross S. Sterling and Ed Kilman
Edited and revised by Don Carleton
Ross Sterling was one of the most successful Texans of his generation. In this volume, editor Don Carleton uses the original oral history dictated by Ross Sterling to Ed Kilman to present the former governor’s life story in his own words. Sterling’s reminiscences provide an important primary source not only on the life of a Texan, but also on the history of Houston and the growth of the American oil industry.

The Texas Book: Profiles, History, and Reminiscences of the University
Edited by Richard A. Holland
“The Texas Book” knits together personality profiles and historical essays along with first-person reminiscences to create a highly readable history of UT. Many fascinating characters appear in these pages, including visionary president Harry Huntt Ransom, contrarian English professor and Texas folklorist J. Frank Dobie, legendary regent Frank C. Erwin, and founder of the field of Mexican American Studies Américo Paredes.

Kindler of Souls: Rabbi Henry Cohen of Texas
By Rabbi Henry Cohen II
In 1930, Rabbi Stephen Wise named Rabbi Henry Cohen as one of “the ten foremost religious leaders” in the U.S. As more than 10,000 Jews arrived in Galveston during the early nineteenth century, Cohen helped many find jobs and begin their new life in America. “Kindler of Souls,” which is part of the Center’s Focus on American History Series, was written by Rabbi Cohen’s grandson, Rabbi Henry Cohen II.

Russell Lee Photographs
Foreword by John Szarkowski
Introduction by J. B. Colson
Photos selected and arranged by Linda Peterson
Russell Lee is widely acclaimed as one of the most outstanding documentary photographers of the twentieth century. Lee’s images of American life hold a preeminent place in one of history’s best known and most useful photographic collections. This is the first book to show Lee’s full range and quality, featuring early work from New York and Woodstock, political campaigns, images of Italy, the Spanish-speaking peoples of Texas, and quintessential scenes of small town life.

COMING THIS FALL
Extraordinary Circumstances: The Presidency of Gerald R. Ford
By David Hume Kennerly
Introduction by Tom Brokaw
Essay by Richard Norton Smith
Gerald R. Ford stepped into the American presidency during a constitutional crisis that many believed was the country’s worst since the Civil War. “Extraordinary Circumstances” is a stunning collection of behind-closed-doors images by President Ford’s personal photographer, David Hume Kennerly.
How You Can Support the Center

Public funds provide a small portion of the annual operating costs of the Center’s many education programs, exhibitions, conferences, symposia, publications, historic structures, and grant-funded initiatives. With the help of financial contributions from our friends and supporters around the world, the Center is continuously able to expand our work in preserving Texas and U.S. history. Monetary gifts are tax deductible. For more information, contact Associate Director for Communications and Development Ramona Kelly at 512/495-4696 or ramonakelly@austin.utexas.edu.

Please consider the following methods of contribution and give generously today.

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Austin, Texas 78712-0335
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The Center has a number of endowments, most of which are restricted to support particular collections or initiatives. An endowment can be established or increased in one payment or paid in installments over time.

MAKE A PLANNED GIFT
Please also consider designating a future gift to be paid to the Center through your estate. For more information, visit the University’s Gift Planning Web site at www.utexas.edu/supportut/giftplanning/

DONATE A COLLECTION OR ARCHIVAL MATERIAL
For information about donating a collection or items of historical significance, please contact Associate Director for Research and Collections Brenda Gunn at 512/495-4385.

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