

SOUND BITES

Fall 2006



**TOHA Board of Directors
2006-2007**

Dr. Chester R. Burns
Galveston TX
(409) 744-6983
chetbaby@earthlink.net

Dr. Bobby Johnson
Nacogdoches, TX
(936) 564-2170
mracb@cox.net

Judith Linsley
Beaumont, TX
(409) 832-1906
jlinsley@mcfaddin-ward.org

JoAnn Pospisil (President)
Houston TX (713) 798-4501
pospasil@bcm.tmc.edu

Dr. Beverly J. Rowe
Texarkana, TX
(903) 794-6380
bjbhurst@yahoo.com

Dr. Kyle Wilkison
Plano, TX
(972) 881-5834
kwilkison@ccc.edu

**Dr. Vernon L. Williams
(Vice President)**
Abilene TX
(325) 674-2150
vwilliams@acu.edu

Diane L. Ware
Houston TX
713/798-4501
dware@bcm.tmc.edu

Rebecca Wright
Houston TX
281-990-0007
rebecca.a.wright1@jsc.nasa.gov

Confronting the Past, Understanding the Present, Planning the Future

**Oral History Association
Little Rock, Arkansas
October 25-29, 2006**

TOHA is a co-sponsor of this year's annual meeting of the Oral History Association and is planning several ways for you and your colleagues to benefit from this important national conference.

The theme for OHA 2006 is "Generational Links: Confronting the Past, Understanding the Present, Planning the Future." The conference center is the Peabody Hotel, located in downtown Little Rock just blocks from the new William J. Clinton Presidential Center.

Rebecca Sharpless, TOHA co-founder and charter member and current OHA president, will preside at OHA 2006.

In addition to workshops, paper sessions, plenary meetings, and keynote speakers, OHA will provide opportunities to tour historic sites in Little Rock, including the Old State House Museum, Central High School, and the William J. Clinton Presidential Center. Learn more at <http://www.dickinson.edu/oha>.

Find inside this issue of *Sound Bites*

a special insert featuring

TOHA Connections with OHA 2006, including

- ❖ **An invitation to mix and mingle with TOHA friends**
- ❖ **Information on lodging**
- ❖ **Detailed information on valuable workshops**
- ❖ **A registration form for OHA 2006**
- ❖ **Announcements of presentations by TOHA members**

Keeping in Touch: Member News

In its recent meeting, the Board of Directors elected TOHA's officers for 2006-2007: **Jo Ann Pospisil**, president; **Vernon L. Williams**, vice president. Bushels of thanks belong to outgoing president **Rebecca Wright** for her strong leadership over the past year.

Buddy Frazer, of Dallas, will present a free Technology Workshop on oral history recording techniques on December 2 at the Dallas Historical Society, located in the Hall of State at Fair Park. Frazer, who also presented this workshop in July, had thirty years' experience in high-tech engineering before opening a video production company in 2001. His projects include family histories, historical documentaries, tributes, and video tours of old structures. He produced the audio recordings for the Dallas Historical Society's "Heroes" exhibit. For more information on the upcoming workshop, contact Buddy Frazer at 972-387-1918 or E-mail him at info@mpfservices.net.

Michelle M. Mears began work on August 21 in her new position as University Archivist at the University of North Texas in Denton. In addition to managing the collections of the University Archives, Mears is responsible for preserving and making available for use the collection of more than 1,600 oral history interviews created by members of the **UNT Oral History Program**, including former director **Ronald E. Marcello**. The UNT Oral History Program, under current director **J. Todd Moye**, is a sponsoring institutional member of TOHA. As UNT Archivist, Mears will also oversee the records of the Oral History Association.

Dr. Bruce Ashcroft and co-author Dr. Joseph L. Mason announce publication of *Operation Dragon Comeback: Air Education and Training Command's Response to Hurricane Katrina* (Air Force History and Museums Program, U. S. Air Force, Washington D.C., 2006), which is based on oral history interviews with the men and women of the Air Education and Training Command who aided in the aftermath of last year's horrific hurricanes. In his foreword for the book, USAF General William R. Looney III stated, "The historians of the command interviewed many of the people directly involved, and the authors allowed the participants to tell the story in their own words. In addition, these pages preserve some of the lessons we learned, both things that worked and things that needed to be improved, and for that reason should serve the reader well as we prepare for the potential of another catastrophic storm in the hopefully distant future." The study is also available online under the Publications tab at <http://www.aetc.randolph.af.mil/ho/>.

In August, the **Baylor University Institute for Oral History** bid farewell to **Rebecca Sharpless**, its director since



1993, as she assumed a teaching faculty position in the Department of History at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. Rebecca began work in the Institute as an undergraduate student assistant in the late 1970s and served as assistant director before taking a leave of absence to pursue her doctorate degree in 1987. She became the Institute's second director in 1993, replacing Thomas L. Charlton. Rebecca helped found TOHA in 1982 and served as its secretary-treasurer from 1982 to 1987. She has served OHA in many capacities, including executive secretary, council member, first and second vice president, and now, president. TOHA appreciates all Rebecca has done for the cause of oral history at Baylor, throughout Texas, over the U.S., and around the world.

Dr. Jennifer Ross-Nazzal, historian for the NASA Johnson Space Center, will present a paper September 19 at a national symposium focusing on the societal impact of space flight. For the Washington, DC, conference, sponsored by the National Air and Space Museum and the NASA Headquarters History Office, Jennifer will present "From Farm to Fork: How Space Food Changed Food Safety Standards" in the session on Commercial and Economic Impact. Her paper is expected to be included in the publication of the conference proceedings, scheduled for release in 2007.

Barbara Dent, curator of the El Paso Medical Heritage Foundation Collection, reports publication of portions of her interview with army surgeon Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Robert M. Hardaway III in the July 2006 issue of *ARMY, The Magazine of the Association of the United States Army*. In 2004 Dent interviewed Dr. Hardaway, son of an army surgeon and father of two physicians, a son and a daughter, both serving in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, about his own distinguished medical career. Included in the interview are recollections of his experiences as ward officer on the surgical service of North Sector General Hospital in Hawaii in 1941, where he treated the first American casualties of World War II wounded at Pearl Harbor, and his creation of the world's first shock trauma unit during his tenure as director, Division of Surgery, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Washington, DC. After retirement from the army in 1975, Dr. Hardaway became professor of surgery at the Texas Tech School of Medicine in El Paso, where he taught until 2003. The transcriptions are housed with the El Paso Medical Heritage Foundation and the Ft. Bliss Museum in El Paso.

2006 Mary Faye Barnes Award for Community History

Gary McCaleb



Dr. Gary McCaleb, (second from left in photo) vice president of Abilene Christian University (ACU) and a former Abilene mayor, received TOHA's Barnes Award for excellence in community oral history on August 2, 2006. The presentation ceremony took place in the ACU television studio on the set of "McCaleb & Company," an interview program produced by ACU and aired on AISD-TV. Host of the event was TOHA director and ACU professor of history **Vernon L. Williams** (second from right in the photo), a 2002 recipient of the Barnes Award. The award presenter was TOHA lifetime member and former director **Stewart Caffey** (far right in photo). Following the presentation, Dr. McCaleb entertained the audience with stories of inter-

esting people and places he had encountered while doing interviews. J. R. Kessler (far left in photo), ACU television producer, then commented on McCaleb's contributions to oral history.

Caffey had nominated McCaleb for the Barnes Award, citing his creation of fifty-five videotaped oral history interviews for the Abilene Centennial Project. McCaleb interviewed men and women who described the growth and development of Abilene and their personal experiences as lifelong citizens. Among those interviewed were other former mayors, popular sports figures, and the man who is credited with inventing the wind chill factor. The oral history tapes are housed in The Grace Museum history archive. In addition, McCaleb hosts local leaders and longtime Abileneans as guests on his television program.

A professor of management and organizational behavior, McCaleb is also director of the Center for Building Community and author of two books on community life and work. The purpose of the Center for Building Community is to propose solutions to the crises of community that exist at all levels of society. McCaleb has brought to Abilene and his television show nationally-known personalities and politicians to discuss community building.

Nacogdoches African American Heritage Project

The African American Heritage Project is a collaborative effort between the Department of History and the Center for East Texas Studies at Stephen F. Austin State University (SFASU) in Nacogdoches and the Black Heritage Association of Nacogdoches. Founded in 1998, the Heritage Project seeks to collect oral, written, and pictorial documentation related to the role of African Americans in the history and culture of Nacogdoches and East Texas. Materials gathered through the project, including the oral histories, are archived and made available to researchers through the cooperation of the Center for East Texas Studies and the East Texas Research Collections of the Steen Library at SFASU. School children as well as graduate students have been introduced to the materials collected by the project, and research papers and at least one thesis have already resulted from their interest in the collection.

Oral histories gathered for the project explore black churches and schools throughout Nacogdoches County and have supported the restoration of the historic Zion Hill Church, a fine example of black church architecture in Texas. In town, oral histories have been gathered focusing on the Shawnee Street neighborhood and the former all-black E. J. Campbell High School. In 2003, the project began an expansion program into neighboring counties.

TOHA board members will present the Barnes Award to the Nacogdoches African American Heritage Project at a reception hosted by Dr. Jere Jackson, director of the Center for East Texas Studies, on the afternoon of September 21, 2006, the opening day of the fall meeting of the East Texas Historical Association.

Calls For Papers & Grants

The editorial board of *Sound Historian: Journal of the Texas Oral History Association* welcomes your submissions of articles for potential publication. For instructions and cumulative contents of the journal, visit the TOHA homepage at <http://www.baylor.edu/TOHA> or contact the editor, **Kenneth E. Hendrickson Jr.** at 940-397-4150 or E-mail ken.hendrickson@mwsu.edu.

OHA has initiated an **Emerging Crisis Oral History Research Fund**, offering grants up to \$3,000 to support oral history research in crisis situations in the U.S. and abroad. Grants can be used for travel, per diem, or transcription costs—but not for equipment purchases—for research in places and situations in which a longer application time schedule may create problems, including but not limited to wars, natural disasters, and political and/or economic/ethnic repression. Contact OHA at 717-245-1036 or E-mail oha@dickinson.edu for more information.

TOHA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 21 – 23, 2006 -- East Texas Historical Association, Nacogdoches

Join TOHA board members on the afternoon of September 21 to present the TOHA Barnes Award to the Nacogdoches African American Heritage Project at a reception hosted by Dr. Jere Jackson, director of the Center for East Texas Studies. Stay for the ETHA program meeting at the Freedomia Hotel. TOHA members on the program include **Dan K. Utley**, **Kenneth E. Hendrickson Jr.**, **Rebecca Wright**, **Jennifer Ross-Nazzal**, **Sandra Johnson**, and **Bobby H. Johnson**. TOHA members are heavily involved in ETHA's leadership, with **Dan K. Utley** as first vice president and **Beverly J. Rowe** as second vice president.

Learn more at <http://www.easttexashistorical.org/>.

September 29, 2006 – Texas Heritage Living History Weekend – Kerrville

TOHA is invited to the tenth annual Texas Living History Weekend hosted by the Texas Heritage Music Foundation (THMF) on Friday, September 29, from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM on the campus of Schreiner University in Kerrville. Every September, THMF and the surrounding community commemorates Jimmie Rodgers's birthday with some fifty artists reenacting, demonstrating, and educating while entertaining over 2,500 students, Kerrville residents, and tourists.

THMF believes in the power of stories and songs and helps preserve their tradition and value for future generations. For more information, contact **Kathleen Hudson** via E-mail at kat@maverickbbs.com or visit THMF online at http://www.texasheritagemusic.org/LHD_current/LHD_main.htm.

October 25-29, 2006 – Oral History Association, Little Rock, Arkansas

February 16 – 17, 2007 – East Texas Historical Association, Beaumont

March 8 – 9, 2007 – Texas State Historical Association, San Antonio

TOHA session: "Texas Traditions: Ranching, Restoration, and Repast," Jo Ann Pospisil, chair. Specific date and time will be announced in January.

March 30 – 31, 2007 – West Texas Historical Association, Abilene

Check It Out!

TOHA is looking for program ideas and soliciting papers for potential joint session programs for the following meetings in 2007 and 2008. Contact the named TOHA Board member (information on newsletter's front page):

- East Texas Historical Association (**Beverly Rowe**)
- West Texas Historical Association (**Jo Ann Pospisil**)
- Southwestern Social Science Association (**Vernon Williams**)
- Texas Community College Teachers Association (**Beverly Rowe**)
- Texas State Historical Association (**Vernon Williams**)

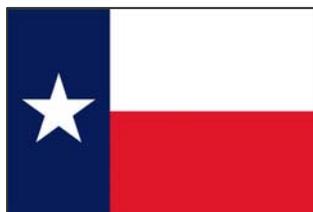
STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

Recognizing the potential for developing future oral history leadership, the TOHA Board of Directors has approved a student membership category, available for \$5.00 a year.

Direct your favorite students of oral history to the Membership link on our Web site for a printable copy of the membership form: <http://www.baylor.edu/TOHA>. Students must include a teacher's signature with the membership form.

TOHA looks forward to hearing from students of all levels and encourages their participation.

OHA 2006: TOHA CONNECTIONS



Look for the Lone Star

Early **Thursday evening, October 26, from 5:30 to 6:30 PM**, TOHA and friends will gather in the **Peabody Hotel's Atrium Lobby Lounge** to connect and reconnect. We welcome all newcomers and guests to this meet-and-greet time with TOHA members.

Look for the Texas flag on one of the tables in the open atrium off the hotel's main lobby. TOHA directors will be there to greet you. Purchase your refreshments of choice at the Lobby Bar and come back to the TOHA table to share your stories.

If you like, at 6:30 PM, walk with TOHA to the Old Statehouse Museum, just next door, and enjoy OHA's Presidential Reception, chaired by our own **Rebecca Sharpless**. The Presidential Reception is free to OHA registrants and culminates at 8:00 PM with a special 40th anniversary program featuring former OHA presidents, including TOHA's **Charles Morrissey**.

Do the Duck Walk

OHA 2006 conference headquarters is the Peabody Hotel, Three Statehouse Plaza, in downtown Little Rock. The conference rate is \$122 per night, single or double, and the rooms are plush. Watch the famous Peabody Ducks in their daily marches down the red carpet to the Lobby Fountain at 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

Ask for the OHA conference rate when making reservations, and make those reservations as soon as possible. September 24 is the deadline for the conference rate.

Call the Peabody at 501-906-4000 for reservations. For directions and more information on the hotel, visit <http://www.PeabodyLittleRock.com>.

Alternate accommodations are available within walking distance of the conference hotel at the Doubletree Hotel on West Markham Street or the Courtyard by Marriott on President Clinton Avenue.



Promote TOHA membership

Did you know that TOHA owes its beginnings to an OHA annual meeting? On October 9, 1982, forty Texans gathered in the Menger Hotel in San Antonio during the annual OHA meeting to organize an association to promote oral history activity in Texas.

Many people not affiliated with TOHA will be attending the OHA meeting from Texas, as well as Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

Please wear the enclosed TOHA button when you are at OHA—or any other appropriate meeting, for that matter—and let people know that TOHA is here to serve them in many special ways. The button directs people to our Web site, which provides a great deal of information about TOHA and oral history, but our best connection with newcomers to oral history is a personal word and friendly welcome.

OHA 2006: WORKSHOPS

Sign up for the workshop(s) of your choice on the enclosed 2006 OHA Annual Meeting Registration Form. Some workshops have limited seating, so act quickly.

INTRODUCTION TO ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWING

Sponsored By TOHA

Wednesday, October 25, 2006, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, with lunch break 12:00 NOON – 1:15 PM

A full-day practical workshop covering the most vital information needed to get started with oral history interviewing: project design, legal and ethical considerations, equipment choices, and pre-interview preparation. Interactive learning will focus special attention on interviewing techniques that facilitate memory recall through insightful questions.

Participants also will learn creative ways to preserve and share oral histories.

Workshop Leaders: **Lois E. Myers**, Interim Director of the Baylor University Institute for Oral History and manager of the Institute's Web site, has been teaching oral history workshops since 1988. She is TOHA secretary-treasurer and co-editor of the *Handbook of Oral History*. **Rebecca Wright**, current TOHA board member and past president, is the History Coordinator for the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston. During the past nine years, she has directed oral history projects for NASA that feature transcripts from more than 450 people. She also directs NASA's oral history Web sites, community outreach, publication efforts, research staff, and resources.

Cost: \$55 OHA members/\$65 non-members. Advance registration is required.

INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL AUDIO FIELD RECORDING

Wednesday, October 25, 2006, 9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

A general introduction to current and next-generation digital field recording options for practicing oral historians. Examines a wide variety of digital formats, the computer's role in interfacing with digital field recording equipment, a variety of hardware and software options, budgetary needs for relevant equipment, and the formulation and implementation of a future technology plan for ethnographic digital audio research collections.

Workshop Leaders: Doug Boyd, Program Manager for the Kentucky Oral History Commission, has a background in recording studio production specializing in digital audio restoration. Andy Kolovos, Archivist and a staff folklorist at the Vermont Folklife Center, presents and consults widely on ethnographic archives, audio field recording and digital preservation.

Cost: \$40 OHA members/\$50 non-members. Advance registration required. Note that participants registering for both the morning recording and afternoon preservation technology workshops will get the reduced combined rate of \$65 OHA members/\$75 non-members.

ORAL HISTORY AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY: PRESERVATION

Wednesday, October 25, 2006, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

An introduction to current archival best practices for the preservation of multimedia digital resources created by oral historians. Provides guidelines to insure the longevity of the research collections of oral historians who are working without the support of professional archivists, be they independent oral historians, academic researchers, graduate students or public oral historians in institutional environments. Covers the fundamentals of digital preservation, with a special consideration of the demands of digital multimedia materials; obsolescence cycles; digital storage options; file formats; file management; analog to digital conversion for preservation and access purposes; technological needs for appropriately processing digital audio, images and video for archival and preservation purposes; and a special focus on digital audio preservation as it relates to the use of hard disc and Compact Flash card based audio recorders.

Workshop Leaders: Doug Boyd and Andy Kolovos (see above)

Cost: \$40 OHA members/\$50 non-members. Advance registration required. Note that participants registering for both the morning recording and afternoon preservation technology workshops will get the reduced combined rate of \$65 OHA members/ \$75 non-members.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT PLANNING

Wednesday, October 25, 2006, 9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

Covers the process of project management for community-based oral history projects. Examines the logistics of both completed and current community-driven oral history projects, including those related to the 2005 hurricane disasters. From the perspective of a research center and repository, the workshop will address a project's life cycle, from inception, feasibility, project strategy and design, and execution to completion, and post-deposit processing; issues in project management, such as politics, community, economy, financing, timing, standards, technology, objectives, copyright, and public access; and organization of projects, covering structure, division of tasks, planning and control, public relations, and result-orientation.

Workshop Leaders: Jennifer Abraham, Director of the Louisiana State University Libraries T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History. Curtis Austin, Co-director of the University of Southern Mississippi Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage

Cost: \$20 OHA members/\$30 non-members. Enrollment limited to 20. Advance registration required.

ORAL HISTORY FOR THE FAMILY HISTORIAN

Wednesday, October 25, 2006, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Designed to help individuals, community historians, and scholars effectively plan, conduct, and preserve family oral history interviews, in keeping with guidelines established by the Oral History Association.

Workshop Leader: **Linda Barnickel** is a public librarian in Nashville, Tennessee, who has authored the new OHA pamphlet *Oral History for the Family Historian* being published in Winter 2006.

Cost: \$15 OHA members/\$20 non-members.

ORAL HISTORY IN THE CLASSROOM

Saturday, October 28, 2006, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, with lunch break 12:00 NOON – 1:15 PM

Ways to integrate oral history sources and projects into the classroom and how an oral history project enables students to meet national and state standards of learning. Over twenty projects from grade to graduate school will be modeled. Interactive format and will hands-on exercises, as well as discussions about oral history as an educational and historical methodology.

Workshop leader: **Glenn Whitman** of the St. Andrews Episcopal School has been conducting The American Century Project (www.americancenturyproject.org) with his students for the last fourteen years and is the author of *Dialogue with the Past: Engaging Students and Meeting Standards Through Oral History*.

Cost: \$15. Enrollment limited to 20. Advance registration is required.

WRITING ORAL HISTORY

Saturday, October 28, 2006, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, with lunch break 12:00 NOON – 1:15 PM

During the morning session, workshop leaders will outline principles and practices for transforming interviews into publishable texts and discuss mechanisms for getting books published. During the afternoon, workshop participants will discuss each other's work in light of the morning presentations. Participants must submit 5-10 pages of a work in progress, ranging from transcript to polished manuscript, for prior circulation to all registrants. Send 15 copies to Linda Shopes (Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North St., Harrisburg, PA 17120) by September 22. Please include an address where workshop materials can be sent. Participants are also advised to read "Preparing Interview Transcripts for Documentary Publication: A Line-by-Line Illustration of the Editing Process," by Michael Frisch (from his book *Shared Authority: Essays on the Craft and Meaning of Oral and Public History*).

Workshop Leaders: Linda Shopes, historian at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, co-edits, with Bruce Stave, Palgrave's Studies in Oral History series; served as co-contributing editor for oral history at the *Journal of American History*; and was book review editor for the *Oral History Review*. Deborah Gershenowitz is editor for history and law at New York University Press, was book review editor for the *American Historical Review* and editor for history at the Palgrave imprint of St. Martin's Press, where she established the Palgrave Studies in Oral History series.

Cost: \$40 OHA members/\$50 non-members. Enrollment limited to 10. Advanced registration required.



TOHA's OHA Program Stars

Eleven TOHA members are listed as program participants for OHA 2006. Support their presentations in Little Rock by your attendance at the following times:

Day/Time	Format/Title	TOHA Presenters
<u>Wednesday 10/25</u> 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Session 1: Workshop Introduction to Oral History Interviewing (see p. 4)	Lois E. Myers Rebecca Wright , co-leaders
<u>Thursday 10/26</u> 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Navigating the OHA (for OHA Newcomers) Presidential Reception Presidential Memories: OHA Presidents Remember 40 Years of the Association	Rebecca Sharpless Rebecca Sharpless , chair Charles Morrissey , speaker
<u>Friday 10/27</u> 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Session 30: Paper Session Documenting Disaster: Hurricane Katrina Oral History Projects Session 31: Roundtable Who Gets the Last Word? Using Oral History to Document University Life Session 32: Paper Session President Johnson, the FBI, and the Civil Rights Movement Session 47, Paper Session, sponsored by the OHA Committee on Diversity Creating Archives of “Gratitud” y “Sentimiento”: Southwest Mexican American Farm, Labor, and Mining Communities Session 51, Paper Session From Kit Carson to Vietnam: Threads in the American Military Experience	Gene Preuss , chair Lois E. Myers , panelist J. Todd Moye , commentator Maria Flores , chair Kristine Navarro , presenter Title of paper: “Interviews that Paint a Picture of Bracero Life” Vernon L. Williams , presenter Title of paper: “Keep the Home Hearth Burning: The Cross Atlan- tic Cultural Exchange in WWII East Anglia, 1942-1945”
<u>Saturday 10/28</u> 8:30 AM – 10:10 AM	Session 63: Roundtable “What We Do and Still Don’t Know about Oral History: <i>The Handbook of Oral History Project</i> ”	Tom Charlton , chair Elinor Mazé , panelist