Cooking in Texas:
A Discussion about
Texas Food and Cuisine

Mark Thursday, February 12, 2015 on your calendar—it will be a delicious event! The Texas Collection will host a panel discussion in Baylor’s Bennett Auditorium and then a reception in The Texas Collection following the program. The panel will discuss the quality, bounty, preparation, and uniqueness of Texas food and cuisine.

Five distinguished panelists will be involved in this informative and lively discussion: Marvin Bendele, president of Foodways Texas; Addie Broyles, food editor for the Austin American-Statesman; Lisa Fain, founder and blogger of the James Beard award-winning Homesick Texan blog and author of two cookbooks: The Homesick Texan Cookbook and The Homesick Texan’s Family Table: Lone Star Cooking from My Kitchen to Yours; Mary Margaret Pack, a private chef in Austin and San Francisco; and Elizabeth Borst White, cookbook collector and author of Sweets and Meats: Early Texas Cook Books: 1855-1936. The panel discussion is free and open to the public.

The major goals of the program are to provide greater awareness about the superb accumulation of cookbooks in The Texas Collection (which totals nearly 4,000 volumes), to highlight local food products, and to improve awareness of Waco cuisine.
Celebrating the Baylor Bears: The Baylor University Libraries Athletics Archive

Does your blood run green and gold? Then you’ll want to give a resounding “Sic ’em, Bears!” for our cooperative initiative to enhance holdings and access to all things Baylor athletics. The Baylor University Libraries Athletics Archive (BULAA) is a collaboration of The Texas Collection, Baylor Athletics, the Digital Projects Group, and University Development to preserve moving image media, photographs, athletics programs, and more, honoring Baylor’s proud athletic heritage.

Thus far, the Grant and Donell Teaff Baylor Football collection has been organized and much of it digitized, including approximately 250 videotapes and film reels documenting everything from bowl games to “The Grant Teaff Show.” In recent years, The Texas Collection has acquired nearly 5,000 pieces of moving image media from Baylor Athletics, with dates ranging from the 1940s to the 2010s. Football footage dominates this portion of the collection, but other sports are included as well, and we hope to improve our coverage of all of Baylor’s athletic endeavors.

The Texas Collection is working to inventory and preserve the moving image media we have received so select pieces can be digitized. We also are preserving physical prints, slides, and negatives, so we can digitize and make accessible the thousands of photographic images we have that tell the story of Baylor athletics. Gifts to the BULAA endowment will support student employees working on the project, preservation supplies, and necessary digital technologies to improve the accessibility of these materials.

If you have materials you think might be of interest, please contact us—we will be happy to take a look! We may already have the programs and newspapers and such that you bring, but we never know where a diamond in the rough will appear.

Papers of Renowned Christian Ethicist Foy Valentine Available

From quiet, humble beginnings in Edgewood, Texas, to being considered the “conscience of Southern Baptists,” Foy Valentine was a prominent figure in Christian ethics and Southern Baptist history. We are honored to announce the opening of the Foy Valentine Papers for research. Born in 1923 and educated at Baylor (BA ’44) and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (MA ’47, PhD ’49), Valentine was a gifted student called to the ministry—he served the Baptist General Convention of Texas and was the Executive Director of the Christian Life Commission with the Southern Baptist Convention. Valentine spent almost 40 years championing the causes of race relations, morality, Christian ethics, and poverty and played prominently in the development of Baptist attitudes around the world. The Valentine papers hold many research opportunities to those interested in Southern Baptist history.

From the Director

I hope you enjoy this latest edition of ¡Viva Texas! We are looking forward to an exciting year as we release newly processed collections, launch the new Waco History app, and celebrate the Baylor University Libraries Athletics Archive (BULAA). Our social media presence is larger than ever, with increasing numbers of researchers, virtual and in the reading room, using our materials and attending our events.

Our goal is lofty and ambitious—to become an exceptional research library encompassing all aspects of Texas history, heritage and culture. To accomplish this goal, we need your continued support, encouragement, and constructive input. For everything we do, there are costs: preservation supplies and personnel for processing, technology for digitization projects, movable furniture to enhance classroom space, and flexible funding to support acquisitions of collection materials. Won’t you support our efforts?

Check out our new online exhibition, “Capturing the Changing Expanse,” explore our finding aids on BARD, browse the images on BULAA, follow our social media outlets, and attend our events. We think you will see our enthusiasm about sharing Texas with others. We know you share that passion—thank you for your past support. We hope we can count on you to partner with us for our future.

-John Wilson
Collaboration Makes Waco History Easily Accessible

Interest in the history and culture of Texas is a pursuit that is not tied to Texas alone. The Texas Collection regularly fields research requests and hosts patrons from across the United States and the world. As such, it has been useful in recent years to find new ways to engage with the public and provide access to material online.

This summer The Texas Collection launched a new online exhibit, “Capturing the Changing Expanse: The Photography of William S. Prettyman.” The exhibit is an in-depth exploration of a rare 1889 collection of published photographs, Collection of Oklahoma Indian and Cowboy Views, taken by Prettyman as he traveled through Indian Territory. Prettyman captured a brief, turbulent moment in history as Native Americans, Texas cattlemen, and settlers lived, competed, and worked side-by-side.

Capturing the Changing Expanse

The exhibit, which can be found at blogs.baylor.edu/changing-expanse, provides access to all 22 photographs and provides historical context of the events surrounding the time and place. Over the next year The Texas Collection plans to continue producing online exhibits that will highlight and explore the vast and historically valuable holdings of The Texas Collection.

Murray and Greta Watson, Jr. Papers Ready for Research

The Murray and Greta Watson, Jr. Papers are now open for research at The Texas Collection. Stored in more than 350 boxes, the papers reflect Watson’s political career from his years in the Texas House and Senate (1957-1973). The papers are arranged into five subseries: Correspondence Subject Files, Political Materials, Literary Productions, Photographs and Maps. Materials range from pamphlets, programs, periodicals, and event photographs to voting district maps, invitations, constituent correspondence, and campaign materials. These papers reflect the dedication of this prominent McLennan County politician to his community and the state of Texas. Thank you to the Watson family for helping underwrite the preservation and personnel costs involved in making the collection accessible for research.
B3 Classroom Makeover in the Planning Stages

The Texas Collection hosts many classes, bibliographic instruction sessions, meetings, and more in our basement classroom (B3)—and the space is in need of an upgrade. Many of the classes taught in B3 are crowded. Improving the flexibility of the design and seating can be achieved with new tables and chairs with wheels. Cubbies are needed so that students can stow away their bags. A wired podium will enhance our presentation efforts, as will other technology upgrades. This space could serve the Baylor Community well. Please contact our director to discuss a naming gift for this important space.

Like, Favorite, Follow: Engaging Patrons on Social Media

For the past four years, we have been using social media to connect and engage with our patrons, and we are both excited and humbled by the response from our fans. Currently, The Texas Collection uses Facebook, Flickr, Twitter, YouTube, and a blog to highlight our resources. We frequently post on any number of subjects pertaining to Texas and Baylor. As our fan base has grown, it has become evident that social media has helped us reach a global audience, drastically raising awareness of the collection. Most posts generate thousands of views and many follow-up questions, a great way for us to build dialogue with patrons. As we have watched these social media platforms grow, we are continually amazed at how excited people get about our resources. We invite you to explore our social media because it has been an exciting way for us to connect with our patrons from all over the world.

Pro Texana: For the Love of The Texas Collection

The Pro Texana excellence fund was established in spring 2009 to support The Texas Collection in all areas—purchasing new or rare materials, expanding electronic resources, digitizing materials, hiring students or staff, and making facilities improvements.

Pro Texana donors have helped improve facilities by funding the renovation of our reading room, new computer tables for our BearCat terminals, and the repair of our 19th-century grandfather clock. Your donations have also allowed us to hold special events and programs at The Texas Collection, such as lectures by:

- James Donovan, author of The Blood of Heroes – the 13-Day Struggle for the Alamo and the Sacrifice that Forged a Nation;
- Rebecca Sharpless: “Dash of Recipes, Pinch of History,” a lecture that explored using cookbooks as historical documents;
- Mike Shoup: “Texas Blooms: Lessons from a Rose Rustler;” and
- Sherry Matthews: We Were Not Orphans – Stories from the Waco State Home, with readings by Waco State Home alumni

These are just a few of the many programs we have sponsored. Please check our website for future events and plan on attending these interesting and informative programs. Look for another presentation in February 2015 with a panel of food experts on Texas foods and cooking.

We invite you to visit The Texas Collection and see the wonderful contributions that you have made possible. If you cannot visit in person, please check out our website and spend a few moments browsing through our social media outlets.

Donations to the Pro Texana Fund may be mailed to John Wilson, Director/The Texas Collection/One Bear Place #97142/Waco, TX 76798-7142