



ELPASOHISTORY.COM

El Conquistador

Spring 2017



El Paso County Historical Society

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Welcome to 2017...

Hello everyone. We are happy to present our spring 2017 edition of *El Conquistador*! We know we are sending this a bit late, but our tardiness is a testament to how active we have been at the Society since January 1. Please take a look through this issue and discover how we have been promoting our amazing heritage.

For previous issues of *El Conquistador*, please visit

www.elpasohistory.com/conquistador.

Thank you! And please enjoy.

El Paso County Historical Society 2017 Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Trish Long
Second Vice President	Robert Diaz
Recording Secretary	Mike Martin
Corresponding Secretary	Sarah Duenas
Treasurer	Bill Hooten

DIRECTORS

2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019
Dr. Howard Campbell	Ed Pine	Dr. Brad Cartwright
Geoffrey Wright	Russell Booth	Rich Dugan
Terry Pasqualone	Patricia Esparza	Joseph Longo
Charlie Dodds	Don Flores	Steve Peters
Linda East	Sam Gaytan	

El Paso County Historical Society Daily Volunteers

Kathy Pepper
Miranda Waddle
Melissa Hutson

We want to thank every member of our all-volunteer board of directors, as well as those who help run the Society each day. We could not share this city's captivating legacy without their help.



President's Message

2017 marks my fifth year at the El Paso County Historical Society. There has been much change during that time, all for the better.

We have a new website and an increased presence on social media. We have many more daily visitors to the Burges House and more phone calls and email than ever before.

We have started a new “Members Area” on our website where we are posting content only available to our members. We’re excited to have all sixty years of our quarterly publication *Password* digitized and available to members. We are continuing updating content so let us know if there is something you would like to see added.

Our Immediate Past President, Jim Fashing, was able to raise some funds to have the exterior of the Burges House painted and work done to our rock wall.

This year we are continuing with some much needed repairs. The Burges House Commission is working on some much needed repairs around the house. We have to replace an HVAC unit and need some roof repairs. If you can contribute to this effort please contact us at the Society.

None of what we do would be possible without our volunteers. We have a great group that keeps the Society going and are always looking for new recruits. If you have a few hours to spare and are looking for an exciting place to volunteer we’d love to have you.

I’m looking forward to another productive year.

Trish Long, President

EPCHS UPDATES

Ongoing Digitization

For over a year and a half, our volunteers have diligently worked to inventory, organize, and store our collection of over 20,000 photos, thousands of documents, hundreds of maps and books, and scores of artifacts—all pertaining to the history of El Paso and the Borderlands. This process has not been easy. Thankfully, however, we are making significant progress and continuing our work with Past Perfect, a standard software program in the museum industry. As we continue using this software to digitize our holdings and keep better track of our membership, we will be better suited to share El Paso's vast and stunning history with you.

Website Improvements

In November 2015, we launched our new website: www.elpasohistory.com. Since then, its user interface and access to material have greatly improved. This year, all 60 years of *Password* were uploaded to the site, along with other various research files. Members can access all of this material from the comfort of their own homes by logging into the "Members Area" of the website. If you do not yet have login credentials, please email us at info@elpasohistory.com. You can also view numerous galleries containing images from our collections. Moreover, if you use Facebook, you can keep up to date with Society news daily. Please visit www.facebook.com/epchs, and like us today!

Burges House

The El Paso County Historical Society, as you know, is headquartered at the former home of Richard Burges and his daughter, Jane Burges Perrenot, at 603 W. Yandell. We are incredibly lucky to be here. As such, we ensure that the structure is maintained and repaired so that it remains charming and inviting to the public, and continues to stand as a testament to the work and life of the Burges Family. This year, former EPCHS president Fred Evans was appointed chairman of the Burges House Commission, the institutional governing body responsible for overseeing work on the residence. Our treasurer and Burges descendant Bill Hooten and immediate past president Jim Fashing, along with the other members of the Commission, are currently working to update and repair our HVAC system, upgrade utilities, and mend the roof, which is not only aged, but suffered hail damage late last year. Without their effort, this beautiful home of ours would surely not be the jewel we all know it to be. If you would like to contribute to the Burges House Restoration Fund you may send a check to the Society with note designating the funds for that purpose or donate online at our website.

Recent Events

Since September 2015, we have held numerous events on an array of topics. The 2017 lecture and discussion series kicked off on January 28, and we are currently planning programs for the rest of the year. Please see some highlights below.

Good Neighbors? The Relationship between El Paso, Juarez & Fort Bliss in Jan. 1943, presented by Moriah Johnson

On January 28, Moriah Johnson, a UTEP graduate student in history, presented her paper on the relationship between El Paso, Juarez, and Fort Bliss during the tumultuousness of World War II. Her research highlighted the perspective of the war as told by the El Paso Times. This event was held in conjunction with the UTEP History Department's Center for History Teaching and Learning, directed by Dr. Brad Cartwright and managed by Teacher Education Assistant Kathryn Guerra.



Recent Events

Women's History Month Symposium, facilitated by Joseph Longo; panelists Barbara Angus, Barbara Clawson, Pres Derk hoop Kathy Pepper, and Carolyn Breck.

On March 4, Joseph Longo facilitated a question and answer discussion with four of El Paso's prominent women, each who has greatly contributed to this area's history.



EPCHS 63rd Birthday Party

On March 18, the El Paso County Historical Society celebrated its 63rd birthday with an open house and birthday party. Jesus Diaz, a local middle school student, presented his El Paso History Day award winning documentary, we served grilled burgers and hot dogs, and held an El Paso trivia contest. We want to offer special thanks to Jesus's parents who grilled!

Recent Events

Presidents at the Pass II: Truman to Johnson, presented by Hon. William E. Moody

Last year, presidential historian Judge Bill Moody presented *Presidents at the Past: Presidential Visits to El Paso*. There was a problem nevertheless. The research was so extensive, there was not enough time to cover every president Judge Moody planned to discuss. This year we asked him to return and present a sequel to his initial work. On April 1, he discussed visits made by Presidents Truman, Eisenhower (when he was Army Chief of Staff), Kennedy, and Johnson, along with important events like Kennedy's plan to visit Dallas, Texas, which were solidified here, and the Chamizal Treaty.



The Ranchers of White Sands, presented by Dale Owen

On April 8, local historian and rancher Dale Owen presented a family history highlighting his days as a youth growing up in the ranches of White Sands, New Mexico. Particular attention was paid to his grandfather Dr. Love.

El Paso History Day

El Paso History Day, the local subset of the National History Day competition, remains one of the region’s greatest institutions for teaching students how to research and present historical arguments and information. Students from the El Paso region are encouraged to develop research questions and a thesis, seek answers to their questions, and organize the evidence into a coherent and well-analyzed presentation that is presented at UTEP every year. Students may enter one of several categories: Websites, Documentaries, Papers, Exhibits, and Performance.



(2nd VP Robert Diaz and Gorman Group Award Winners)

Dr. Charles Martin, along with Dr. Brad Cartwright, organized and facilitated this year’s history day. This was Dr. Martin’s seventeenth history day, and sadly, his last. He has now handed over the reins to Dr. Cartwright who we know will do a wonderful job next year. We thank both of them for their service.



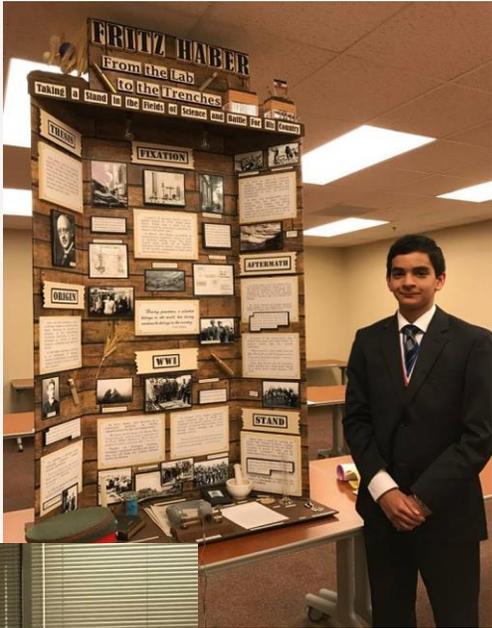
We also thank Frank and Arthur Gorman, contributors to the Historical Society, and the underwriters of the Gorman Family Essay Contest and best-in-show awards. Each year, without hesitation and with true kindness, they are quick to fund these prizes for the students. This event is a success due, in large part, to the Gorman’s efforts. (Left: Diaz and award winner Joseph Trujillo)

For more information about El Paso History Day, please visit <http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?alias=academics.utep.edu/historyday>.

AWARD	Category	Entry #	Title	Entrant(s)
Gorman Family Award Best Overall Entry - SENIOR INDIVIDUAL	Individual Documentary		Dr. King's Untold History	Joseph Trujillo (Trans Mountain Early College High School)
Gorman Family Award Best Overall Entry - SENIOR GROUP	Group Web Site		If You Wrong Us, Shall We Not Revenge?	Oriana Dominguez, Sofia Martinez, Olivia Moore (El Paso High)
Gorman Family Award Best Overall Entry - JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL	Individual Documentary		Billie Jean King: A Stand for women's Rights in Sports	Anna Yellen (Wiggs)
Gorman Family Award - Best Overall Entry - JUNIOR GROUP	Group Exhibit		Jack Johnson: Beating the Color Barrier	Francisco Dominguez & Josep Ferret (Wiggs)

El Paso History Day

2017 El Paso History Day Gorman Family Essay Contest			
Place	Entry Title	Student	School Name
5	Pancho Villa: Taking a Stand at the Mexican Border	Alexa Benitez	Wiggs Middle School
4	A Nation's Breaking Point: The Stand of the Righteous and Harmonious Fists	Asa Toves	Ross Middle School
3	The Lawrence Textile Strike	Jayna Fegans	Brown Middle School
2	The Rise of Communism In China-Mao Zedong	Morgan Kim	Canyon Hills Middle School
1	Dr. Norman Borlaug and the Green Revolution: Taking a Stand Against Hunger	Ishani Kaul	Hornedo Middle School



YMCA Spring Break Camp

Between March 13 and March 17, the El Paso County Historical Society partnered with the YMCA to host a spring break camp for kids between the ages of five and thirteen. The lessons and activities centered on illustrating El Paso's history. Below are photos of the camp.

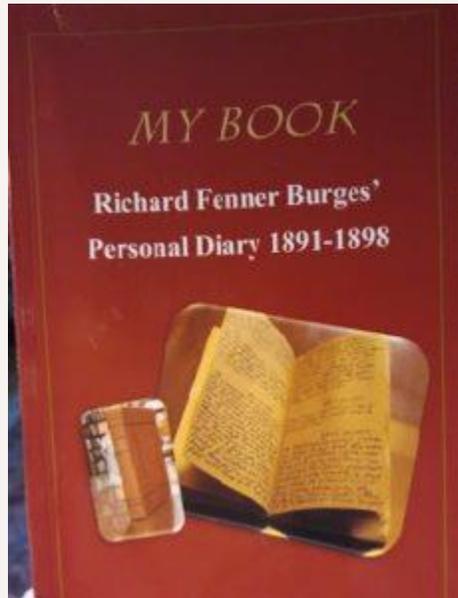


First Thanksgiving

On April 23, the El Paso County Historical Society participated in the First Thanksgiving celebration with the Mission Trail Association at the Socorro Mission.



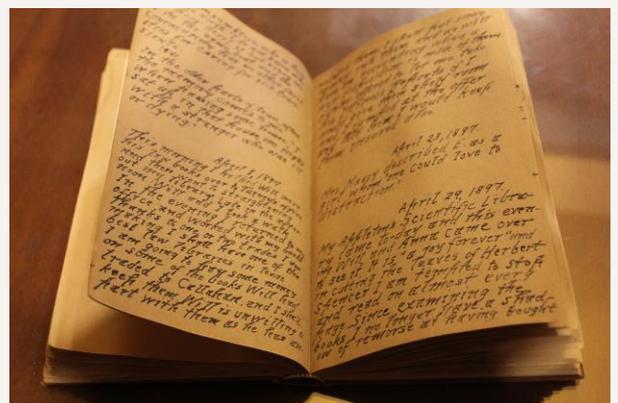
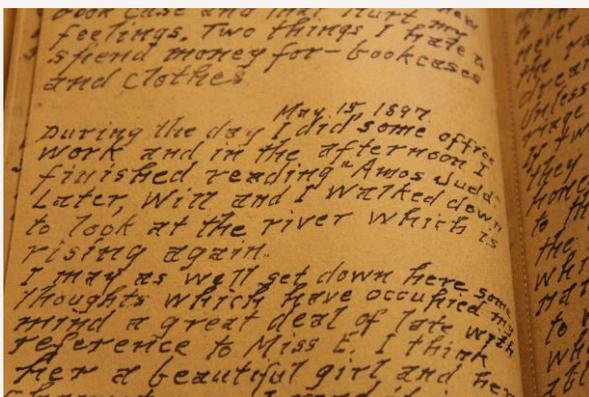
My Book: Richard Fenner Burges' Personal Diary, 1891-1898



Late last year, Barbara Clawson, EPCHS supporter and Richard Burges's great-granddaughter, located a journal written by Burges that was thought to be lost. While going through it, she discovered how complex, witty, and intelligent Richard Burges was and asked the Society if we would assist her with the diary's publication. We are happy to announce the project is complete, and copies are now available.

The diary, written when Richard Burges was in his early to mid-twenties, recounts his arrival and life in the far West Texas town of El Paso after he left his home in Seguin, Texas. Burges entered a city in flux and in upheaval, as an unruly, largely unpopulated town transformed into a major metropolis after the arrival of the railroads in 1881. As El Paso enters its formative years, Burges does too, and he views the rapid development of the city with the insight and wit befitting a man of such wisdom.

Copies are \$15 each (+Texas sales tax) and available at the Burges House (603 W. Yandell). If you would like a copy mailed to you, please call (915) 533-3603, or email info@elpasohistory.com.



Hall of Honor Nominations

We are currently accepting nominations for 2017 Hall of Honor inductees. Nominations are due by July 1, 2017, and our annual banquet will be held in November. If you would like to nominate someone for this honor, please fill out this form, and submit it to info@elpasohistory.com.

Hall of Honor Nominations

The El Paso County Historical Society accepts nominations from Society members as well as the general public for the Hall of Honor. A minimum of one living and one deceased persons will be remembered and honored at the Society's annual banquet in November. Nominations may be made for one or both categories. Nominees must be (1) outstanding men or women of character, vision, courage and creative spirit who have lived in what is presently El Paso County, (2) who have consistently done the unusual which deserves to be written or recorded, or who have created that which deserves to be read, heard, or seen, and who have made El Paso County better for their having lived in it; and (3) who have influenced over a period of years the course of history of El Paso, or by their singular achievements have brought honor and recognition to the El Paso community, and (4) who have directed us toward worthy goals and merit being remembered by all El Pasoans as an exemplary guide to our future.

All nominations must be accompanied by a biographical resume that include pertinent information about the nominee and the reasons for nominating him or her. Please include the nominee's address and phone number if living, date of death if deceased, date and place of birth, years of residence in El Paso County, profession, and name and address of nearest known relative(s). The person making the nomination must give his or her name and phone number and mail all information to Chairman, Hall of Honor Selection Committee, El Paso County Historical Society, P.O. Box 28, El Paso, Texas, 79940 or at info@elpasohistory.com by July 1 of each year.

HALL OF HONOR NOMINATION FORM

LIVING NOMINEE: Name _____

Address (including zip code) _____

Birthplace _____ Years Residence in El Paso _____ Profession _____

Nearest Relative _____ Address _____

DECEASED NOMINEE: Name _____

Address (including zip code) _____

Birthplace _____ Years Residence in El Paso _____ Profession _____

Nearest Relative _____ Address _____

NOMINATOR:

Name _____

Phone No. _____ Date _____

Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday 10am-2pm; most Saturdays; by appointment



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