

# Inside the Gates



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DRT Library

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## Bi-National Conference Scheduled March 24-25, 2005

What happened during the Texas Revolution on the Rio Grande? What effect did residents expect to have on the politics in Mexico City? How did their views differ from that of Anglo colonists? Meet with historians from Texas and Mexico to discuss *The Texas Revolution on the Rio Grande* at a bi-national conference Friday, March 25, at the Menger Hotel, San Antonio, Texas, hosted by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and organized by staff of the Alamo and the DRT Library. The conference will be preceded by a reception Thursday evening at the Alamo where a special exhibit of Samuel Maverick's papers, owned by the DRT Library, can be viewed.

Speakers include: Miguel González Quiroga, *Nuevo Leon in the Texas Revolution*; Dr. Stanley C. Green, *The Texas Revolution and the Rio Grande Border*; Dr. Joseph E. Chance, *José Maria Carvajal and the Struggle for Texas Independence*; and Dr. Félix D. Almaráz, Jr., *Santa Anna and His Generals*. Dr. Richard Bruce Winders, Historian and Curator of the Alamo, will serve as moderator.

**Miguel Angel González Quiroga** is a professor of history at the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León. Between 1997 and 2000 he served in the Congress of the State of Nuevo León, and between 1994 and 1997 on the City Council of ciudad General Zuazua in Nuevo León. He has degrees in Latin American history from the Universidad de las Americas in Puebla, Mexico, and a degree in history from the University of Houston, Texas. Gonzalez has done extensive research and has over fourteen publications with a focus on the commerce and economic history of the Texas/Mexico border and on the economic history of his native state of Nuevo León. He serves as translator from Spanish to English and English to Spanish of books and articles for his university's press.

Employed at Texas A&M International University, Laredo, since 1970, **Dr. Stanley C. Green** has been actively involved in the local historical community, serving as one of the founding members and first president of the Webb County Heritage Foundation and a founding member of the Webb County Historical Commission. Some of his publications are: *The Republic of Mexico: The First Decade* (1987); *Laredo: An Overview, 1755-1920* (1982); *History of the Washington Birthday Celebration* (1999); and the prologue to *La Guerra Mexico-Estados Unidos. Su Impacto En Nuevo León* (2003) in addition to various booklets written on border history for the Webb County Heritage Foundation. Dr. Green received his master's and doctorate degrees from Texas Christian University and spent two years in Mexico City as a Juarez-Lincoln Fellow.

**Dr. Joseph E. Chance** is a mathematician with a keen interest in 19<sup>th</sup> century Texas history, specifically the Mexican War period. He received his doctorate in mathematics from the University of Texas and served as chairman of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Texas, Pan American, from 1986-1995. His publications include: *My Life in the Old Army: the Reminiscences of Abner Doubleday* (1998); *The March to Monterrey: The Diary of Lieutenant Rankin Dilworth, U.S. Army* (1996); *Mexico Under Fire: The Diary of Samuel Ryan Curtis, 1846-1847*; *The Mexican War Diary of Captain Franklin Smith* (1991); *Jefferson Davis's Mexican War Regiment* (1991); and *The Second Texas Infantry: From Shiloh to Vicksburg* (1984). Dr. Chance is author of a weekly newspaper column, "History by Chance."

A former president of the Texas State Historical Association and of the Texas Catholic Historical Society, **Dr. Félix D. Almaráz, Jr.**, is author of several award-winning books including *Knight without Armor, Carlos Eduardo Castañeda, 1896-1958* (1999); *Tragic Cavalier: Governor Manuel Salcedo of Texas, 1808-1813* (1971, 1991); *Faces of the Borderlands: Cisneros 2000* (1999); and *The San Antonio Missions and their System of Land*

*Tenure* (1989). He also edited *Madero in Texas* (2001). In recognition of scholarly contributions to Borderlands history in North America, the Government of Spain conferred to Almaráz the Medal in the Order of Civil Merit in 2003. In Mexico he has received such accolades as El Aguila de Tlaltelolco (1979), Capitán Alonso de León medal and diploma (1979), Francisco I. Madero Award (2003), membership in the Colegio Coahuilense de Investigaciones Históricas (2004), and associate membership in the Academia Mexicana De La Historia (2004). Regionally, Almaráz has earned distinction as Piper Professor (Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation, 2003), member of the Texas Institute of Letters (2002), and recipient of the Rubén Munguía Award in Writing (La Prensa Foundation, 2004). He is professor of history at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

**Dr. Richard Bruce Winders**, historian and curator at the Alamo since 1996, earned his doctorate from Texas Christian University in 1994. A specialist in the areas of early American military and the Southwest, Winders has published: *Mr. Polk's Army: The American Military Establishment in the Mexican War* (1997); *Crisis in the Southwest: The United States, Mexico and the Struggle over Texas* (2002); *Davy Crockett, The Legend of the Wild Frontier* (2003); and *Sacrificed at the Alamo: Tragedy and Triumph in the Texas Revolution* (2004). He also served as assistant editor on an encyclopedia entitled *The United States and Mexico at War: Nineteenth Century Expansionism and Conflict* (1998).

Registration for the Bi-National Conference includes Thursday's reception, refreshment breaks, and Friday's luncheon. The pre-registration fee is \$45; on-site registration, March 25, is \$55 (luncheon seats are not guaranteed with on-site registration). Registration for the Thursday evening reception only is \$15. Checks are payable to the DRT Library and are to be mailed to: the DRT Library, P. O. Box 1401, San Antonio, TX 78295-1401. Rooms are available at the Menger Hotel, 204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas 78205, (210) 223-4361, at the Bi-National Conference discount of \$99 per room, single or double, plus 16.75% tax. The rate applies from 3/22 to 3/27, based on availability; the deadline is February 24. Attendees are responsible for their own reservations.

Partial funding for the conference has been received from the DRT Native Texan License Plate Fund.

## The Alamo Story

### 16<sup>th</sup> Texas History Forum held October 15

Sixteenth Texas History Forum attendees assembled October 15 to hear how fact and fiction blended into an iconic legend impacting generations as five scholars discussed "The Alamo Story."

Presentations in this second full-day seminar included *The Alamo: An Icon for All Ages* by Dr. Michael Soto; *Telling the Alamo Story* by J. R. Edmondson; *Whose Present, Whose Past? Popular Expectations and the Challenge of Interpreting the Alamo* by Dr. Linda Salvucci; *Print the Legend: A Century of Alamo Movies* by Frank Thompson, and *The Alamo in American History* by Dr. H. W. Brands.

**Dr. Michael Soto** began the day's program with a discussion of the social meaning of the Alamo, outlining the history of the Alamo's unique place in cultural life in *The Alamo: An Icon for All Ages*. Native Texan **J.R. Edmondson** enthusiastically described the challenge of sifting through old legends and new theories to relate the Alamo story to a new generation. His book, *The Alamo Story:*



Left to right: Dr. Michael Soto, Dr. Linda Salvucci, DRT Historian General Elaine Vetter, Jack Edmondson, Frank Thompson, and Dr. Bruce Winders. Not shown is Dr. H. W. Brands.

*From Early History to Current Conflicts*, has been praised as the "most readable" of historical accounts devoted to the Texas shrine. **Dr. Linda Salvucci** explored the shifting historical reputations of key participants such as William Barrett Travis and Juan Seguin on the one hand and a more general impulse to redefine heroism in light of September 11, 2001, on the other in *Whose Present, Whose Past? Popular Expectations and the Challenge of Interpreting the Alamo*. Author, comedy writer, and film historian **Frank Thompson** entertained while he educated everyone with *Print the Legend: A Century of Alamo Movies*, illustrated with film clips and slides, tracing the history of the Alamo on film from the 1911 production *The Immortal Alamo* to the latest \$100 million 2004 epic *The Alamo*. Well-known historian **Dr. H. W. Brands** concluded the program with *The Alamo in American History*, in which he examined how the Alamo came to epitomize not only the Texas spirit but also a crucial aspect of the American spirit. **Dr. Richard Bruce Winders**, historian and curator at the Alamo since 1996, moderated the forum

# Texana Treasures

Gifts received June 1, 2004 through October 31, 2004

*Special thanks to all those who donated toward our endowment fund for general operating expenses, and to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Riefenstahl, Grapevine, for establishing the June Franklin Naylor Acquisition Fund; to Mr. and Mrs. Billy Price, Houston, and Bob and Carol Steakley, Odessa, for their generous gift of a laptop computer; and to Dr. and Mrs. Jerome Weynand and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weynand for their donation of an 1855 Colton map of Texas.*

## General Contributions:

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## Phantom Dinner Fundraiser:

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### DRT Chapters support Library's operating endowment

In September all DRT chapters received a letter from Frances Pryor, Library Committee Chairman, requesting financial support for the Library's Parker Endowment Fund, which provides money for general library operations.

Each chapter giving \$100 or more by December 31, 2004, receives a photographic print of the Texas Declaration of Independence given to the library in 1979 by New York Congressman Hamilton Fish, Jr., in the name of his wife, Billy Lasater Fish. Some chapters chose to donate the print to a local school, thus fulfilling one of the requirements for the DRT Achievement Award.

This copy of the declaration was one of the first printed after the convention meeting at Washington-on-the-Brazos approved and signed the document on March 2, 1836. In their haste to produce the printed version, the names of two signers were inadvertently omitted. The printed copies were dispersed, and one of the signers of the declaration, Charles B. Stewart, sent a printed copy to Henry Hamilton Schieffelin, a New York businessman. The document remained in the family's possession until its donation to the DRT Library, one of about a dozen known copies.

Chapters supporting this project are:

**Alamo Couriers Chapter, San Antonio**  
**Alamo Heroes Chapter, San Antonio**  
**Alamo Mission Chapter, San Antonio**  
**Baron de Bastrop Chapter, Bastrop**  
**Caddel-Smith Chapter, Uvalde**  
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**President Houston Chapter, Huntsville**  
**Sidney Sherman Chapter, Galveston**  
**Stenson-Simpson Chapter, Rockport**

Texana Treasures Continued:

#### In Kind Donations:

World Post Technologies

#### Material Donations:

**Thomas and Helen Pool:** *Thomas Jefferson Smith of Fort Bend Co., Texas* by Thomas and Helen Smith

**Thelma Morgan:** *San Jacinto Descendants Records*, additions

**Myra Lee Adams Goff, Karen Goff Boyd and Patricia Goff Arnold:** *The Eberlys and Martins of Texas* by Myra Lee Adams Goff and Karen Goff Boyd

**Paul and Bonnie Miller:** *Church records of Panna Maria, Texas* by Edward J. Dworaczyk

**David Haynes:** *Index of San Antonio Pictorial Publications, Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century* by David Haynes

**Laura Maverick Graves Avery:** *Letters of Laura Wise Maverick and her daughter Laura Maverick Graves (Rotay), 1903-1924;* and *Black Velvet and Diamonds: The Life of Emilie Virginia Chilton Maverick* by Laura Maverick Graves Avery

**Rannveig Krokdal/Greystone Television:** *Remember the Alamo* by Greystone Television & Films – Videotape, complimentary.

**Ronita De Cordova Miller:** *Ella McKinney Papers*

**Jorita Hagins:** Photographs of Lightfoot Family

**J.D. Walsh, VP Finance, Burleson Family Association, Nancy O'Massey:** *Burleson Family Association Bulletin Volumes 1-19, ver. 2.1, SN:1151* – Compact Disc

**Mary Sue Wisdom:** *Theodore Gentilz: Artist of the old Southwest* by Dorothy Kendall and Carmen Perry

**Ansen Seale:** *Texas Cavaliers King Antonio LXXXII Investiture Ceremony*- Color panoramic photograph

**Alfred E. Ehm, The Municipal Street Railway Company, Inc.:** *A souvenir of San Antonio's Streetcars* by Alfred E. Ehm and Jay Moore – 2 copies

**Joseph Tovares, WGBH:** "Remember the Alamo" by Joseph Tovares – Videotape, complimentary copy

**Charlie R. Fleming:** *Richardson Perry land records*

**Donald P. Goodman:** *Pioneer Mothers (Sheet Music)* by Mary Daggett Lake and Carl Venth (copy), given in honor of **Nola Maudine Goodman**

**Eugene George:** *Mardith Schuetz papers*; also *The Indians of the San Antonio Missions, 1718-1821* by Mardith Keithly Schuetz

**Ginger Harvey:** *Antique maps of Texas, 1834-1950* – 2 copies

**Richard and Linda Goff:** *Holland-Grissett-Bell: a Texas pioneer family, 1821-2004*

**Barbara Dielmann:** Leo M.J. Dielmann papers, additions

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weynand and Dr. and Mrs. Jerome Weynand:** *New map of the state of Texas* by J.H. Colton & Co., 1855

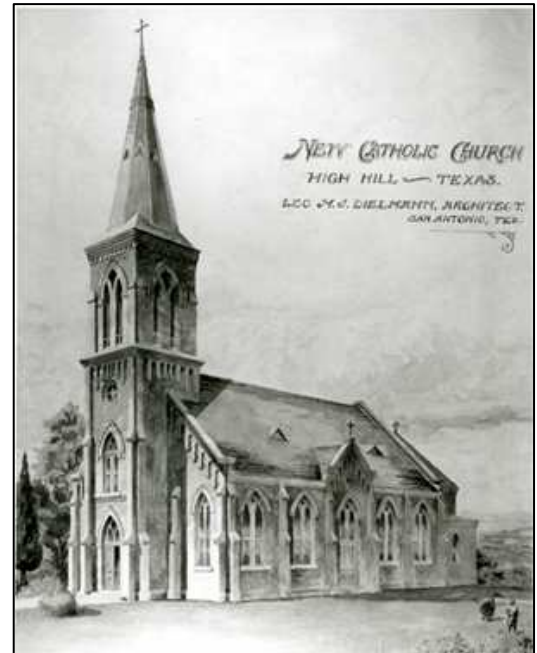
**Elliott Young:** *Catarino Garza's Revolution on the Texas-Mexico Border* and *Remembering Catarino Garza's 1891 Revolution: An Aborted Border Insurrection* both by Elliott Young, complimentary copies

**Ann Tobin:** Tobin family papers; also *Pinacoteca del Dr. Aureliano Urrutia*

## *The Leo M.J. Dielmann Papers*

One of the library's deepest collections of personal and professional papers has accumulated through a fruitful four-decade relationship with two generations of a generous San Antonio family. San Antonio architect Leo Maria Joseph Dielmann (1881-1969) made the first donation of his papers in 1964, giving the library his family and business records, architectural drawings, books, memorabilia and photographs, initiating a series of gifts that continues to the present.

Dielmann was a native of San Antonio, the son of German immigrant parents John C. and Maria Gros Dielmann. Following the completion of his education in San Antonio schools, including a degree from St. Mary's College, Leo Dielmann studied architecture in Idstein, Germany, returning to work on building designs for his father's construction company, and, eventually, his own architectural practice. His designs included a wide range of structures, including businesses, institutional facilities, residences and, most significantly, churches. Some outstanding examples in San Antonio include the Post Chapel at Fort Sam Houston (1909), Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church (1911), Sacred Heart Chapel at Our Lady of the Lake University (1922), and the Post Chapel at Randolph Air Force Base (1930). Other notable structures are St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fredericksburg (1906), Nativity of Mary Catholic Church in High Hill (1906), Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Corn Hill (1913), St. Michael's Catholic Church in Weimar (1914), and St. Mary's Catholic Church in Brenham (1935). These and other buildings are documented by beautifully rendered presentation drawings, hundreds of sets of detailed plans, and photographs of the projects during and after construction. In addition, the papers include material related to the Dielmann family's involvement in church and community, particularly state and local Catholic organizations, the Order of the Sons of Hermann fraternal organization, and Leo Dielmann's service as a city alderman and on the board of directors of the San Antonio Public Library.



From their arrival in the library, the Dielmann papers have been a rich source for researchers and have provided the basis for journal articles, academic papers, and book projects. The already large body of material was greatly enriched in 1994 with the donation of additional drawings, photos and papers by Leo M.J. Dielmann, Jr., himself a noted architect. The library was also the beneficiary of memorial contributions requested by the family on the passing of Leo Dielmann, Jr. in 2000. While the processing of this vast addition is ongoing, several groups and individuals have already used the material in the restoration of some of Dielmann's architecturally significant buildings.

When the first material from Leo Dielmann arrived in 1964, librarian Carmen Perry was prophetic when she wrote in her letter of thanks "I can assure you that researchers will bless the Dielmann family for years to come." That this seed has grown into an even greater body of source material has increased those blessings many fold.



## Members of Charles S. Taylor Chapter, DRT, Dallas, visit the DRT Library and the Alamo on November 30

On November 30 members of the Charles S. Taylor Chapter of Dallas boarded a Southwest Airlines flight to San Antonio and a special trip to our DRT Library. Elaine Davis, Library Director, planned a program for the Chapter and the Alamo Committee granted permission for our meeting in historic Alamo Hall.

**Charles S. Taylor Chapter, DRT, Dallas:** Mary Carolyn Trent, President, Dr. Richard Bruce Winders, Historian and Curator at the Alamo, and Christine “Chili” Sanders, tour organizer, chat on the grounds following a tour of the Alamo Complex by Dr. Winders. Others enjoying the day included: Roberta Menger Byrd, Grace DeuPree, Martha Francis, Carol Hooper, Darleene Kincheloe, Natalie Ormish, Shirley Smith, Susan Swinson, and guest D. Harold Byrd Jr.

Excitement was the order of the day! Most of us had not been aware of our own DRT Library. After coffee and cookies in Alamo Hall, Warren Stricker, DRT Library Archivist, gave a very well prepared talk, an overview of library holdings with a visual computer presentation. This certainly increased our knowledge of this very special treasure of DRT. Nancy Marion of the

Library Committee and President of the Alamo Mission Chapter told the history of Alamo Hall and some of the beautiful items within. Only one of us had ever visited Alamo Hall, so this was another special event of the day. Martha Utterback, Assistant Library Director, gave the history of many of the DRT’s paintings by early Texas artists which are displayed in the Library. Library staff then assisted those members who wanted to research the collection.

Lunch is always important, and the chapter enjoyed the buffet at the Menger Colonial Room and shopping the Menger shops. Then members saw the Imax presentation: “Alamo – The Price of Freedom”.

Dr. Bruce Winders, Historian and Curator of the Alamo, gave us an in-depth tour, explaining the many “lives” of the mission and the evidence of many changes made to the structure to accommodate the use of the moment.

Of course, no trip is complete without shopping. We had our Christmas lists and took full advantage of the Alamo gift shop. Then we boarded our transportation to the airport and headed back to our ordinary lives.

Everyone was very gracious and welcoming. We heartily recommend a field trip to the Library and the Alamo for any Chapter interested in learning more about DRT and our Texas heritage.

– Submitted by Christine “Chili” Sanders

## 19<sup>th</sup> century Texas newspapers on microfilm added to the library’s collections

Various 19<sup>th</sup> century Texas newspapers were purchased on microfilm in July through funding provided by the library’s Lavinia Griffith Memorial Fund (22 reels), the Semmes Foundation (5 reels), and the library’s duplication fund – 3 reels in memory of Julia Semmes and 3 reels in memory of Maury Maverick. Newspaper titles included the *Northern Standard*, the *Telegraph and Texas Register*, the *Texas National Register* and the *Texian Advocate*. A complete list of titles and dates is available in the library.

## Gift of microfilm containing first person accounts from the Mexican-American War, 1846-1848

Approximately 500 microfiche containing personal narratives, histories of specific units, general reference works, state and federal adjutant general’s office reports, and state histories of the war were given to the library by Fred and Elaine Davis. Published by LexisNexis in the fall of 2004, a guide to the collection is expected this spring.