

TIL

The Texas Institute of Letters
Paisano

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Newsletter, February 2005

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW FOR THE
TIL AWARDS BANQUET**

The banquet will be APRIL 29–30, at the STEPHEN F. AUSTIN HOTEL in Austin, where we will honor T. R. Fehrenbach with The Lon Tinkle Award for Excellence Sustained Throughout a Career.

The Stephen F. Austin Hotel is located at 701 Congress Avenue, reservation number is 512-457-8800.

Reservations must be made by April 8, 2005, to guarantee the rate of \$100 per night.

The Friday night reception will be at the Charles Moore House, 2101 Quarry Road at 6:30 p.m. The banquet on Saturday will begin at 7 p.m., where new members will be introduced, followed by the book awards ceremony.

On Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m., new members will read selections from their work at the Stephen F. Austin Hotel.

SEE ENCLOSED FORM FOR BANQUET AND DUES

NEWS OF MEMBERS AND OTHERS

James Ward Lee will speak at the annual Texas State Historical Association meeting in Fort Worth, March 3–5, at the Thursday Luncheon on the topic “Reading Will Ruin You.”

Laura Wilson will lecture on “Formal and Reportage Portraits by Laura Wilson,” at the Meadows Museum Auditorium at SMU.

Jack Jackson has been awarded the Presidio La Bahia periodical award for his article, “The 1780 Cabello Map: New Evidence that There were Two Mission Rosarios, and a Possible Correction on the Site of El Puerte del Cibolo” in the October 2003 issue of the Southwestern Historical Quarterly.

Randolph Campbell, Donald Chipman, Richard Lowe, and Frank de la Teja participated in the recent meeting of the Philosophical Society of Texas meeting in Denton, hosted by president of the Society, Al Hurley.

Frank de la Teja was honored with Preservation Profile in the Texas Historical Commission’s newsletter, The Medallion.

Felix D. Almaraz Jr., coordinated an international symposium in Amarillo in September, “The Franciscan Presence in the Borderlands of North America,” cosponsored by the Texas State Historical Association. At a gala event, hosted by La Prensa Foundation during Hispanic Heritage Month, Almaraz was the first recipient of the Ruben Munguia Award “in recognition for contributions to the art of writing.”

Jesse Sublett’s memoir *Never the Same Again: A Rock n Roll Gothic*, was published by Boaz/Ten Speed. The book primarily focuses on Jesse’s adventures with rock n roll, cancer, murder and writing. Austin media was very supportive and the LA Weekly raved about the book. NPR’s “Day to Day ” did a feature on Jesse and the audio version of the book should be out now from Timberwolf, including some music tracks. TIL will be most familiar with his band, the Skunks, from the late 1970s and 1980s.

Tom Zigal has a new suspense novel coming out, *The White League*, set in New Orleans, which will be published by The Toby Press in February.

Kay Cattarulla co-wrote and co-produced together with KERA-TV’s Rob Tranchin the documentary, “Sweet Tornado: Margo Jones and the American Theater.” The one-hour program will be broadcast in Dallas and nationally.

Robert Bryce has a second book out, *Cronies: Oil, the Bushes, and the Rise of Texas, America’s Superstate*. He appeared on Fresh Air with Teri Gross. Reaction to *Cronies* was positive with Texas Monthly calling it a “scathing indictment.” You can find reviews and articles on his web site: www.robertbryce.com

Audrey Slate is working on the history of Paisano. She writes that the graduate dean offered her a research assistant, which will be a big help. She has had trips to the Southwest Writers Archive

and the Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas offers related subjects for the upcoming book.

The new Arts & Letters Live season reports in the Dallas Morning News that Salman Rushdie, Anchee Min, Alexander McCall Smith, Chris Van Allsburg, Augusten Burroughs, Sue Monk Kidd, and Frances Mayes will be featured. The Texas Bound series include Texas Stories: A Woman's Mind including works by Jane Roberts Wood, Laurie Lynn Drummond and Steve Martin. Texas Stories: Turning Points include stories by Betty Wiesepepe and Amanda Eyre Ward. Texas Bound in Fort Worth includes readings of the works of Sarah Bird. Go to www.DallasMuseumofArt.org and click on Experience section to get more information on ticket prices.

SOME THINGS TO PONDER

Publishers Weekly has named longtime publishing reporter Sara Nelson as editor-in-chief. According to the press release, former editor Nora Rawlinson “has decided to leave the organization to pursue other interests.” The magazine’s recently-appointed publisher William McGorry tells the NYT, “We felt we were looking for a new perspective.” He says they are trying to make the publication “a more compelling read.”

The Times observes, “Publishers Weekly has faced many of the problems confronting general newsweekly magazines, including growing competition from daily electronic publications and Internet sites that cover the same ground.

AND

A WSJ column raises for the public a question often heard in the trade: why is a reviewer in Kirkus and PW “allowed to hide his face in the cloak of anonymity?” One possible reason is that unsigned reviews “suggest a magisterial, objective, authoritative source, unsullied by personal biases. Yet the opinions actually on offer in these magazines are every bit as quirky, perverse and prone to bias as they are in publications where the writers must take responsibility for what they say.” And in a few examples cited, the author of this piece maintains that “the magazines’ politics tend to be predictably liberal” and it shows through in the reviews. (Thought you writers might like to know about this! —editor)

—from Cader Books

Dear Member:

The TIL would like to compile a membership list that offers more than names and addresses of members, something that would be more useful to all of us and serve as a better means of extended identification and communication between us. It will also help us with information for press releases about you and the organization. We do get inquiries about you and us. With your cooperation, we'd like to put such a list together.

Here is the information we would like from you, which requires only a few moments of your time and filling in the blanks:

Name: _____

Year in which you became a member: _____

Brief biographical information, your profession, notable books or other writings, literary productions: _____

(Use extra pages if needed)

Address (Business and/or home): _____

E-mail: _____ (IMPORTANT TO GET NEWS AS FAST AS POSSIBLE)

Web Page _____

Phone: (home and/or office: _____

The entries, we expect, would look something like this:

Opus, Austin Crockett (1989)

Novelist, historian, poet, short story writer, book designer, essayist,
book editor, press director, professor of ancient history, Pan
Texas University, San Houstonlas. Gone With the Alamo (1950)
TIL Jones Award. President, Texas Historical Association.

1836 Mission

Archer City TX 76767

acrock@utep.edu

214-310-1845 (h) 214-310-1865 (o)

Send to Fran Vick, 6335 W. Northwest Hwy. #618, Dallas, TX 75225

TIL BANQUET 2005 RESERVATION

NAME _____

NAME OF GUESTS _____

I will attend the Friday night reception _____ YES _____ NO

How many guests? _____

_____ Banquet tickets @ \$50 each \$ _____

2004 DUES 2004 2004 DUE

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

TIL DUES \$50.00
PAISANO FUND _____

FRED WHITEHEAD MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check payable to Texas Institute of Letters and send to: James Hoggard, Department of English, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX 76308

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