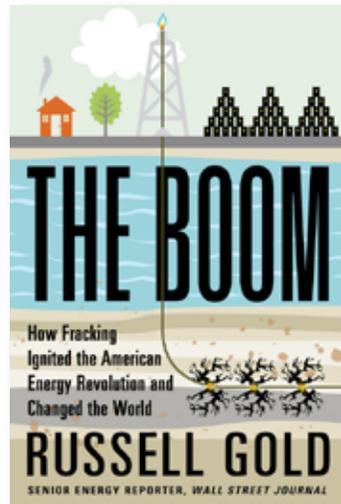


The LinkLetter

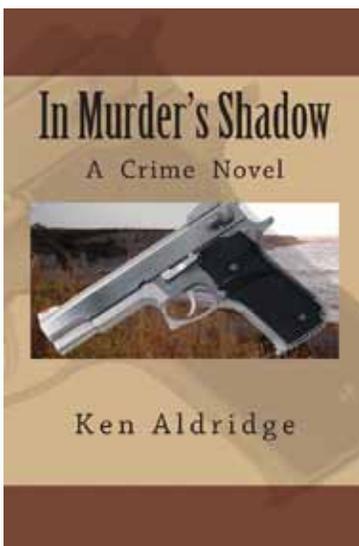
Connecting Friends with Friends of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries • August, 2016

Highlights of the Friends Programs, 2015-2016

The first meeting of the Friends on September 11 featured award-winning *Wall Street Journal* writer and author, **Russell Gold**. His book, *The Boom*, offered an exciting and fascinating exploration of one of the most controversial and promising sources of energy – fracking. First invented in 1947, hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, has not only become a major source of energy, but is also changing the way we use energy, and the energy we use. *The Boom* follows the twists and turns in the development and adoption of this radical technology. Questions from the audience followed along with a reception and book signing.



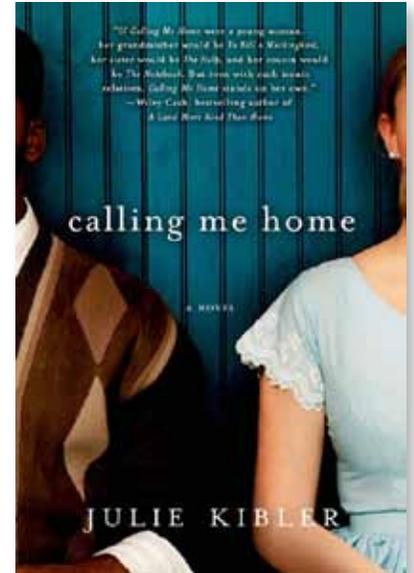
On October 16, author and former FBI special agent, **Ken Aldridge**, presented his book, *In Murder's Shadow: A Crime Novel*. An American scientist and his family are murdered by the KGB. Alex, their teenage son, fearing for his life, escapes the grasp of the Russians by stealing his best friend's identity.



His flight results in a nationwide manhunt by the KGB as well as the FBI. The story sheds light not only on some of the secret operations of the KGB and the FBI, but also on the strengths and foibles of the people working for these agencies. **Lea Worcester**, University Librarian, presented "Mysteries in the Archives." This collection from the UT Arlington Special Collections features photographs of mysteries and crimes that researchers have explored and books

that have been published based on their research from this collection.

On November 13, author **Julie Kibler** presented *Calling Me Home* in which eighty-nine year old Isabelle McAllister has a favor to ask her hairdresser Dorrie Curtis. Isabelle wants Dorrie, a black single mom in her thirties, to drop everything to drive her from her home in Arlington, Texas, to a funeral in Cincinnati, Ohio. The tale of a past forbidden love that is revealed in this novel might help Dorrie find her own way. Many questions were elicited from the audience and friendly exchanges were enjoyed.



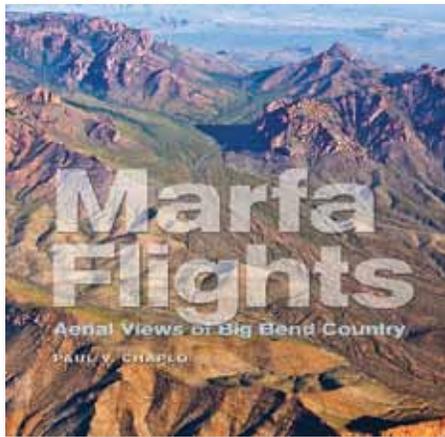
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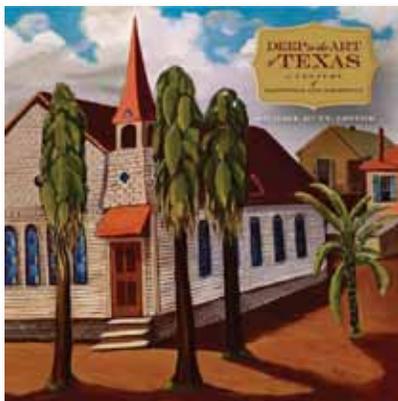
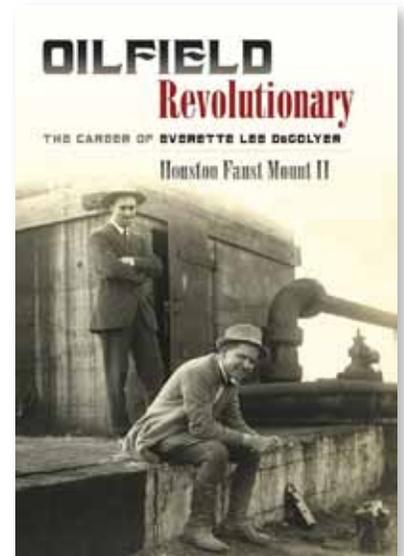
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Friends Programs *continued*

Paul V. Chaplo presented the beautiful photos from his book *Marfa Flights: Aerial Views of the Big Bend Country* at the program on December 4. Not only did we see the photos in his slide show, but we also got to look at the framed originals on display in the parlor. Mr. Chaplo captured the exquisite shapes, textures, and colors of the craggy, weathered landforms that usually are only seen from the ground. He made us feel that we were with him—hanging precariously out of the open door of the plane—as he took these magnificent photographs revealing the fierce beauty of the landscape. Afterwards, the Friends enjoyed a special holiday performance by the UTA Jazz Trio.

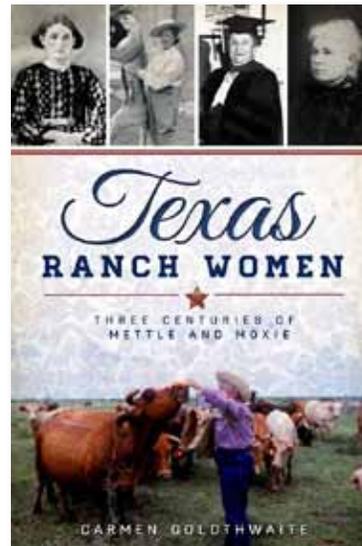


On February 12, **Houston Faust Mount III** spoke about his book *Oilfield Revolutionary: The Career of Everette Le DeGolyer*. Wearing many hats, DeGolyer left his stamp on oil exploration and his name on a number of philanthropic institutions including the DeGolyer Library at SMU. Though trained as a geologist, he played an important role in the national politics of energy. The Dallas Arboretum now encompasses the land he once owned.



On January 15, editor **Michael Duty** discussed *Deep in the Art of Texas, A Century of Paintings and Drawings*. The book encompasses the monumental collection amassed by J. P. Bryan, who determined that he would collect only those artists who had actually participated in the settlement of Texas rather than artists who

imagined the events after they were history. Thus, as Michael Duty observes, this book “constitutes not just a tour of Texas artists, but a virtual tour of the romantic history and vast geography of the state itself.”



Carmen Goldwaithe, author of *Texas Ranch Women: Three Centuries of Mettle and Moxie*, talked about her book on March 11. She described Texas women who swapped bread for meat with peaceful Indians and shot cannons through doorways to ward off the hostile ones. “Texas would not be Texas without those remarkable women,” Goldwaithe said.

Continued on page 3



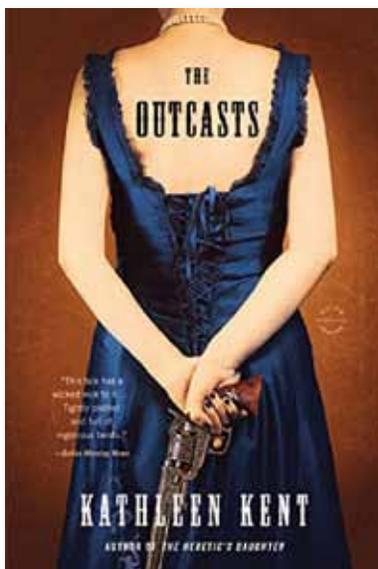
Houston Faust Mount III signs books for Julia Bergen (left) and LaVerne Knezek.

Parking

The Maverick Garage behind the UT Arlington Central Library has changed ownership. The Friends will still have free parking privileges, but **you must submit your name and license plate number in advance to be entered into the parking system.** You only need to do this once a year, or again if you change cars. Send your information to: LibraryFriends@UTA.edu or call UTA Libraries at 817-272-1413. If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Houston at khouston@uta.edu

Friends Programs *continued*

Kathleen Kent spoke about her book, *The Outcasts*, on April 22. This Western thriller set in Reconstruction-era Texas was named the American Library Association's 2014 Top Pick for historical fiction. Kathleen told us of her own family history associated with the Salem witch trials. The great repartee between the author and the audience enhanced a fascinating and informative program.



Closing this year's Friends programs on May 13 was a delightfully interesting and humorous presentation by author **Debra Winegarten** about her book, *Oveta Culp Hobby: Colonel, Cabinet Member, Philanthropist*. Oveta had a lifetime of stellar achievement. During WWII, she was asked to build a women's army from scratch and she did. President Eisenhower chose her as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. When she wasn't serving in government, Oveta worked with her husband, former Texas governor William P. Hobby, to lead a media empire that included the *Houston Post* newspaper along with radio and TV stations. This is the first biography of Oveta Culp Hobby and it was awarded 2015 Best Biography by the Texas Association of Authors.



Mark your Calendar for Friends Programs, 2016 - 2017

2016

- | | | |
|---------|--|------------------|
| Sept. 9 | <i>The Bankhead Highway in Texas</i> | Dan Smith |
| Oct. 14 | <i>Shoot the Conductor: Too Close to Monteux, Szell, and Ormandy</i> | Anschel Brusilow |
| Nov. 4 | <i>Sport and Spectacle in the Ancient World</i> | Don Kyle |
| Dec. 2 | <i>Texas Tradition Chorus</i> | |

2017

- | | | |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| Jan. 13 | <i>The Big Brain Puzzle Book</i> | Terry Stickels |
| Feb. 17 | <i>The Other Slavery: The Uncovered Story of Indian Enslavement in America</i> | Andrés Reséndez |
| Mar. 24 | <i>Blue Texas: The Making of a Multiracial Democratic Coalition in the Civil Rights Era</i> | Max Krochmal |
| Apr. 14 | <i>No Asylum</i> | Steve Sherwood |
| May 19 | <i>Leopold Eidlitz: Architecture and Idealism in the Gilded Age</i> | Kate Holliday |

Watch your mailbox and email for updates and more program information.



The Friends offer outstanding works presented by the authors for all in our community to enjoy and to learn. If you have attended in the past, we hope you will continue to do so. If you have not, we encourage you to join us for many evenings of enjoyment and the opportunity to meet new Friends.

– *Jeanie Browning*
2nd Vice President,
Friends Advisory Council

From the President's Perch

For the first time in the history of our organization, the Friends created a budget. It took quite a bit of digging to find out what specific expenses we've incurred in the past because the Development office and the Libraries don't share a common accounting interface. But our treasurer, Mary Castle, in cooperation with Shante Hackworth, Budget Manager for University Libraries Administration, was able to reconstruct our financial commitments and build a budget from the bottom up. We've depended on University employees with a long association with the Friends to manage our expenses, but that leaves us in the dark when personnel changes. So, at last, the budget is under the control of the Friends.

We planned a budget of \$20,000 and we spent it. We paid for program invitations and flyers, honorariums, receptions, police security, the STAR Award, certain Honors College Road Trip expenses, Advisory Council luncheon meetings, and memorial flowers.

One item that was not budgeted was a gift to the Libraries. At the Advisory Council meeting on March 24, council members discussed the source of funds for a gift. Should it be a budgeted item from membership dues or from a special financial campaign? It was decided that the gift should come from funds derived from membership dues; that way, all members participate. The Council voted unanimously to give a gift to the Libraries after all expenses for 2015-2016 have been paid. The gift would be the amount in the Friends' account in excess of \$10,000. On July 12, I informed Dean Bichel of a \$1,500 gift from the Friends to be used for books. These books could be in any form (print or digital), for any of the Libraries, and selected at the Dean's discretion. She gratefully acknowledged the gift and promised to generate a digital bookplate thanking the Friends for each book purchased and to provide a list of all titles acquired with our gift.

Our annual road trip with the Honors College was a success. After having to cancel the trip last year to Palo Duro Canyon



because of an ice storm, I was thrilled that Friends signed up for all of our allocated seats on the bus to Austin. Unfortunately, a few had to cancel at the last minute for personal reasons, but we covered our expenses!

Because the Road Trip is always scheduled in February, we haven't scheduled regular programs in that month. Yet participation in the Road Trip is limited to approximately 25 Friends, so many members are left out. This year we added a program in February as well as one in May. For the same dues as in previous years, members can now attend nine programs a year instead of seven.

At our last two events this year, we distributed a questionnaire about the programs.

Many people responded and members of the program committee for 2016-2017 took the information into account. All nine programs for next year are booked! As you read the titles on page 3, you'll see that we have programs for both sides of your brain, for those who love fiction as well as non-fiction, for those who want more UTA professors to present, for those who love history, and for those who love politics and social causes.

A piece of information I took to heart from the program questionnaire was that some of the remarks leading up to the scheduled program ran long. That's why I'm stopping this article now. It's been my pleasure to work with 32 individuals on the Advisory Council during my two terms as president. I am excited that five more people are joining the council next year. This influx of new members-at-large reflects the vitality of the Friends' mission and the commitment of these volunteers to support the work of our organization. I'll end by thanking all you members for encouraging me these last two years. It has been an honor to serve you.

– *Melissa Deur*
President, Friends Advisory Council

Friends of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Advisory Council

Advisory Council Members September 1, 2015 - August 31, 2016

Executive Committee

Melissa Deur, *President*
Julie Alexander, *1st Vice President*
Jeanie Browning, *2nd Vice President*
Carol Lehman, *Secretary*
Mary Castle, *Treasurer*
Kit Goodwin, *Parliamentarian*

At-Large Members

Shirley Applewhite
Roger Broom
Penny Castillo
George Green
Evelyn Hellier
Lynne Prater
Benedict Termini
Trudy Termini
Nancy Wood
Judy White-Pardee
Lea Worcester

Ex-Officio Members

Rebecca Bichel
Dean of the Libraries
Suzanne Byke
Associate University Librarian
Evelyn Barker
Directory of Marketing and Communications for the Libraries
Mark LaVelle
Assistant VP for University Development
Jennifer Hawthorne
Senior Associate Director for University Development

Advisory Council Members September 1, 2016 - August 31, 2017

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Melissa Deur, *Parliamentarian*

At-Large Members

Roger Broom
Penny Castillo
George Green
Larry Harris
Evelyn Hellier
Dan McKay
Mary McKay
Barbara Prabhu
Ben Termini
Trudy Termini
Judy White-Pardee
Nancy Wood

Ex-Officio Members

Rebecca Bichel
Dean of the Libraries
Kelly Visnak
Associate University Librarian – Scholarly Communications
Brenda McClurkin
Special Collections, Department Head
Evelyn Barker
Director of Grants and Special Projects Department
Mark LaVelle
Assistant Vice President for University Development

From your Friendly Editor

In the fall of 2017, the Friends will celebrate its 30th anniversary. It has been my privilege to be involved with this group since it began 29 years ago. Over the years, there have been many wonderful programs. This year the programs were outstanding and I am looking forward to the lineup the program committee has put together for next year.

On a cleaning spree this winter, I decided to tackle the bookcases in the office. I divided the books into four categories:

1. Books I have read and want to keep
2. Books I have read and don't want to keep
3. Book I haven't read and want to read
4. Books that I haven't read and will never read

I boxed up the second and fourth categories to give away. In the group of books that I hadn't read were several that I had purchased at Friends meetings over the years. I put them in a stack for my winter reading material. This newly discovered treasure trove of reading material included a variety of subjects.

Gamblers and Gangsters by Ann Arnold, which chronicled criminal activity on Fort Worth's Jacksboro Highway in the 1940s and 1950s, was of particular interest to me. I grew up in Fort Worth where I recalled hearing the adults whisper about mob killings and the evil establishments on Jacksboro Highway. I will admit that in high school some of us visited the Skyliner night club on the infamous Jacksboro Highway, which by the 1960s was quite tame.

I decided to continue reading about gangsters, which led me to read **The Life and Times of Bonnie & Clyde** by E. R. Milner. I found his use of notes and references most informative. The evening that Milner spoke, I purchased two copies of his book—one for myself and the other as a gift for my cousin, Jimmy, who is a retired bobby in Edinburgh, Scotland. He enjoyed reading about this American crime spree story.

After so much violence, I decided to take a break and read something lighter. **Texas Dames: Sassy and Savvy Women Throughout Lone Star History** by Carmen Godthwait was a good choice. Her stories of these amazing trailblazing women begins in 1769 with the story of Angelina, who was the only Texas (or at that time Tejas) woman to have a river named after her. Godwaith ends her book with stories about Texas women in politics and public service.

The next book I picked up was **Out the Summerhill Road** by Jane Roberts Wood. This beautifully written murder mystery was



definitely a page turner. Wood creates very believable characters in this work of fiction.

Gardens of New Spain: How Mediterranean Plants and Foods Changed America by William W. Dunmire combines two of my interests, which are gardening and cooking. When the Spanish began colonizing the New World, they brought with them the plants and foods of their homeland. We have them to thank for bringing us wheat, melons, grapes, vegetables and many varieties of Mediterranean fruit.

If you look at the photo above, there is one book I have yet to read. It is the **Diaries of Adam & Eve** by Mark Twain. Oh well, that can wait for another day.

And speaking of reading, I encourage you to read about the Friends annual trip with Honors College Students. One article is written by a Friend and the other by an Honors College student. It is interesting to have the two different perspectives.

Two of our council members, Julie Alexander and Mary Castle, wrote a wonderful travelogue about their trip to Australia and New Zealand. Their descriptive writing is accompanied by beautiful photography.

Thank you to all of you who contributed to this issue!

– Carol Lehman
Secretary, Friends Advisory Council



The **LinkLetter** is published annually for the Friends of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries.

Contributors to this issue are:

Julie Alexander, Roger Broom, Jeanie Browning, Mary Castle, Melissa Deur, Carol Lehman, Barbara Williams Prahbu, Gerald Saxon, C. D. Walter, and D. Aidan Wright.

You are the Libraries' Best Friend!

The Friends of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries has sponsored an entertaining and informative series of programs and excursions for members of the University and the Arlington community since 1987. These events have provided a wonderful opportunity for alumni and retired University staff and faculty to return to campus, and for people who have no affiliation with the University to come to the campus—often for the first time as a guest of a Friend.

Please renew your membership for the 29th year of programs, which starts with the first event on **Friday, September 9**.

It's easy to renew online with a credit card or by mail with a credit card or check. If you are a UTA faculty or staff member and currently pay by payroll deduction or would like to do so, please contact Meridith Randall at Meridith.Randall@uta.edu or 817-272-5297.

Your membership benefits include the following:

- Invitations to an outstanding speakers' series that brings authors to campus to discuss their recent works. Each talk is followed by a reception where members can gather to enjoy refreshments and discuss the program.
- Opportunities to attend outings to locations of special interest. Recent trips included visits to the Alamo and missions of San Antonio, the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library in Austin, the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, Larry McMurtry's warehouses of books for sale in Archer City, and the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock.
- Library card entitling the cardholder to circulation privileges.

Your membership in the Friends supports a unique community partnership that enriches the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries' services and presence through:

- Sponsorship of annual awards given to two students in the Ronald McNair Scholars Summer Internship Program for their outstanding research papers and oral presentations. The Friends has contributed more than \$25,000 to fund an endowment to support the McNair Scholars Award.
- Presentation of the annual STAR (Super-Talented, Appreciated, and Recognized) Award to a library staff member who has played a significant role in moving the Libraries forward in terms of services and/or outreach.
- Support of an endowment that funds the addition of materials to the Libraries' collection to honor the promotion and achievements of members of the faculty.
- Sponsorship of programs featuring authors and community leaders.
- Support of the Libraries' ongoing needs to serve students and faculty.

Membership renewals will be sent based on your membership anniversary date. You will receive a reminder one month prior to your expiration date. For example, if you renew in July 2016, you'll receive a renewal reminder in June 2017.

Extend Your Support of the Libraries

Your membership dues do not support the Libraries. Dues sustain the Friends' programs and receptions. Most members join the Friends for the programs and social interactions. But if you are committed to the Libraries and the students and faculty who rely on its resources, **please consider making a donation** to the UT Arlington Library Fund (550622) in addition to paying your membership dues.

Friends of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Membership Levels

	Annual Fee	Spouse/Partner
UTA Student	\$10	\$10
Friend	\$55	\$20
Patron	\$100	included
Benefactor	\$250	included
Library Circle	\$500	included
1895 Society	\$1,000*	included
Life Member (one time fee)	\$5,000	included

*Members at this level are also recognized in UTA's 1895 Society.

To renew by mail, please print the form on page 8 and mail with your check or credit card information to:

The Friends of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries • Box 19198 • Arlington, TX 76019-0198

Renew online by clicking the link below:

<https://giving.uta.edu/Giving-FOL>

The Friends of the UTA Libraries: A Creation Story

I have been asked to write a brief article about the creation of the Friends of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries. Well, looking back nearly thirty years is a challenge, even though I study history all the time. The difference here is that I am not normally a part of the story. This time I am, at least in part, because I was there at the founding of the Friends and helped to get the group started.

But I'm getting ahead of myself. The impetus for the Friends came from Charles Lowry, former director of libraries at UTA. When Lowry came to Arlington in July 1985 to lead the library, he brought with him the idea of developing a support organization for the library. When I joined the library staff in October 1986 as assistant director for special collections, one of the first responsibilities Lowry gave me was to coordinate the efforts on campus and with the community to start a friends group. In short, I was supposed to kick-start the group, and Lowry wanted it done in a year.

On November 16, 1986, UTA President Wendell Nedderman and his wife Betty hosted a reception on the sixth floor of the Central Library. The reception had a few purposes: first, to welcome Lowry and me to campus; second, to formally open a major exhibit that had been mounted in Special Collections titled "Mejico y Tejas: A Cartographic History, 1513-1850"; and third, to have Decherd Turner, then director of the Humanities Research Center at UT Austin, talk about library friends' organizations in general. More than two hundred people attended the reception, prompting Lowry to announce that there would be a campaign the next year to form a friends group for UTA. The gauntlet had been thrown—publically!

In the spring of 1987, Lowry and I met with Elizabeth Leatherwood and others in the university's Development Office to explore the creation of a support organization. Leatherwood was excited about the prospect and promised to identify individuals in the community who would share this interest and be willing to help. President Nedderman and Bill Baker, vice president for academic affairs, lent their support to the idea as well. True to her word, Leatherwood organized an interim advisory board for the organization. The first advisory board consisted of longtime supporters of the library, UTA alums, and community leaders. The group included James Cribbs, Elizabeth Fagerstrom, Margaret Galloway, Jenkins and Virginia Garrett, Bob McFarland, Connie Meyer, Cheryl Moore, Mary Perry, Cherry Rainone, Dessa Spidle, Richard Stevens, Gloria Van Zandt, John Walker, and Jane Yarbrough. Charles Harrell, associate director of libraries, Lowry, and I were the library liaisons to the board.

In short order, the board, called the Friends of the UTA Libraries Advisory Council, elected Van Zandt, a leading local



realtor, as president, and Spidle as vice president. Under Van Zandt's leadership, the Council adopted a set of bylaws, approved a membership program, prepared and distributed brochures about the Friends organization (an interesting note: current Friends' Advisory Council member, Carol Lehman, designed the first brochure and many that followed!), and planned the first public program.

Knowing how important the first program would be in attracting an audience and hopefully the membership core for the organization, a great deal of effort went into its planning. After much discussion, the board decided to invite Liz Carpenter to be the Friends' first speaker.

Carpenter was the ideal choice. She was a popular journalist and a great speaker; she had a high profile, having been Lady Bird Johnson's press secretary in the LBJ White House; she had a new book to promote (*Getting Better All the Time*); and, as a member of the Robertson family of Salado, she had UTA ties, since the Robertson papers were housed in the library's Special Collections and her first cousin, Malcolm D. McLean, was a staff member compiling and editing the papers for publication. (Another interesting note: *McLean's Papers Concerning Robertson's Colony in Texas* series includes nineteen volumes and is the most voluminous publication about a single topic in Texas history!)

On October 30, 1987, the Friends sponsored Carpenter's talk, selling tickets to the event. More than two hundred people attended the program and the reception and autograph party that followed. Ninety copies of her book were sold that night and the Friends group received good press coverage. The Friends followed up with a number of other programs that first year, including a talk by internationally known book dealer John H. Jenkins on December 11, 1987; a presentation about maps and the myths some of them advance by Dennis Reinhartz of the university's history faculty on April 15, 1988; and a book talk and autograph party by author and radio personality Alex Burton on June 3, 1988.

Based largely on the positive response of the community to the programs and the hard work of the Advisory Council in soliciting members, Friends membership grew that first year to 242, far exceeding our expectations. Now, looking back, it is hard to imagine that nearly thirty years have gone by since Charles Lowry initiated the idea on the UTA campus. Many of the initial leaders and members are no longer with us, but I am sure they would take pride in having created an organization that has impacted the library and its services in so many different ways.

– *Gerald D. Saxon*
Associate Professor of History, UT Arlington

Editor's Note: This article is a reprint from the June, 2015 issue of the *LinkLetter*.

McNair Scholars Award

2015 Winners Announced at November Friends Meeting

Ryan Stevens and Sara Watson were named the 2015 McNair Scholars Award winners. At the Friends program on November 13, Melissa Deur, president, introduced the scholars and presented them with an award in the amount of \$500 each. The students spoke briefly about why they picked their topic, what “aha!” moments occurred during the process of research and conducting experiments, and how being a McNair scholar affects them.

Ryan is a Biology major who was mentored by Dr. Qing Lin, Department of Psychology. The title of his research paper and presentation was: *“Bumetanide Demonstrates Amelioration of Learning and Memory Deficits Induced by Ketamine Administration in a Neonatal Rat Model.”*

Sara Watson is an Anthropology major who was mentored by Dr. Naomi Cleghorn, Department of Anthropology. The title of her research paper and presentation was *“Comparative Analysis of MSA to LSA Transitional Technologies in the Cape Floral Region, South Africa.”*

Update

Ryan Stevens will graduate from UTA in 2018 with a B.S. in Biology as well as an M.B.A. After that he intends to pursue an M.D./Ph.D.

Sara was awarded full funding at the University of California (Davis) and will begin the graduate program in Anthropology in Fall 2016.

History of the McNair Scholars Program

The U.S. Congress created the McNair Scholars Program to pay tribute to Dr. Ronald E. McNair, a scientist who perished aboard the space shuttle Challenger in 1986. The goal of the McNair program is to assist promising students from first-generation or under-represented backgrounds to enter the professoriate. It was founded on the premise that neither socio-economic nor minority status should prevent talented students from pursuing a career in teaching and research at the college or university level.



– Dr. Ronald E. McNair (1950-1986)

The UT Arlington program began in 1990. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, it is one of approximately 150 McNair programs at public and private colleges and universities throughout the United States. The program at UT Arlington works with a minimum of 34 eligible undergraduates each year. It recruits new participants from all majors each fall for spring admission. The McNair program provides guidance, mentoring, and academic support for research and other scholarly activities, thereby preparing Scholars for a successful transition to graduate study culminating in the Ph.D. and a career in the professoriate. The director of the McNair Scholars Program at UT Arlington is Dr. Joan Reinhardt.



Above from left to right: Judges Roger Broom and Kit Goodwin, Sara Watson, Ryan Stevens, and Dr. Joan Reinhardt, Director, McNair Scholars Program.



On December 9 at the McNair Scholars Program office, Melissa Deur (left) presented plaques to the McNair Scholars Award winners Ryan Stevens and Sara Watson. Dr. Joan Reinhardt (far right) is director of the McNair Scholars Program.

History of the Friends McNair Scholars Award

In 2004-2005, the Friends of the UT Arlington Libraries Advisory Council voted to create an award to recognize outstanding student research achievement at the University. Today that award—known as the **McNair Scholars Award**—is a fully funded endowment, which provides the annual scholarship monetary awards. The Friends continue to support the McNair Scholars Program by judging the written research and oral presentations. The judging committee is comprised of three members of the Friends. One judge must be a former McNair Scholars Award judge; one must be a current member of the friends Advisory Council; and one must be a current member of the Friends’ general membership. This year’s judges were: Shirley Applewhite (not pictured), Roger Broom, and Kit Goodwin. For the presentation on August 4, 2016, the judges will be Julie Alexander, LaVerne Knezek, and C.D. Walter.

The Friends thanks these volunteer judges for their serious commitment.

2016 STAR Recipient: Krystal Schenk

Krystal Schenk received this year's STAR Award, which is an annual award given to a Library staff member who is Super, Talented, Appreciated, and Recognized.

Members of the UT Arlington Library Employee Recognition Committee evaluate and recommend STAR Award nominees based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Achievement on the job
- Excellence in job performance
- Service to the Library
- Bright ideas resulting in efficiency in operations or
- An activity, special project, or outreach pursuit, which has been especially effective and/or noteworthy

STAR winners receive a plaque and a monetary award from the Friends, and their names are added to the list of past STAR winners on a plaque in the Library's administration offices.

This year's winner, Krystal, a Library Specialist, accepted the interim role of Web Developer. She went above and beyond by deploying the new library Drupal website, applying patches and refining the site, troubleshooting issues (night and day), supervising students, and training content editors. She also created new websites for Scholarly Communications and the UTA FabLab.

Krystal demonstrated outstanding leadership throughout this time period, including presenting at conferences. She previously demonstrated leadership by heading up the SharePoint implementation for UT Arlington Libraries.

Congratulations, Krystal!

– C.D. Walter

Content Librarian, Math Liaison
Marketing & Communications, UT Arlington Libraries



Melissa Deur (left) presents Krystal Schenk with a plaque.



From left to right: Krystal Schenk, Robert C. Samson, and Antoinette Nelson.

My Weekend with LBJ



Barbara Williams Prahbu

It really wasn't as salacious as it sounds. Actually there were 42 of us: 26 Friends of the UT Arlington Libraries and 16 Honors College students. Not an orgy, but the 11th annual Road Trip co-sponsored by the two entities. On Saturday, February 27th, we went to the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library in Austin and on Sunday to LBJ's Texas White House in Stonewall. We all spent the weekend with LBJ.

Architecturally, the LBJ Library is most impressive. Built in 1971 and located on the UT Austin campus, it's a ten-story concrete block dedicated to the 36th president's political career. Like most presidential libraries the public areas are filled with huge photos (and interactive exhibits) of the president with his colleagues and family; an historical perspective of his 32 years in government: as U.S. Congressman from Texas; as U.S. Senator; as Vice President and as President. There is an informative description of each of the photos and many have phone banks where a viewer can pick up a telephone to hear an actual recording of the president's own words. There are also eight or ten videos (from five to 15 minutes long) extolling the accomplishments of the president and his administration. On the tenth floor there is a reproduction of the White House's Oval Office. If you've ever been to a presidential library you know what that looks like—they each have one. Down the photo-lined hall is the First Lady's Gallery and Lady Bird Johnson's office. It's done in red and white and noticeably less opulent than the Oval Office. I thought the white sweater on the back of her chair and the few papers on the floor gave it a feeling of immediacy, as though she would soon be returning to work. Only three floors are open to the public—the rest are for research and storage of presidential papers. It was a most informative visit.

We spent the evening in Fredericksburg. The following morning our bus took us to the Lyndon Baines Johnson National Historical Park. This 2,700-acre ranch contains sites that help tell LBJ's life story. There is the one-room Junction School that he attended at



Friends peer in to Air Force One-Half. Photo by Melissa Deur

age four; a reconstruction of his birthplace; the home of LBJ's grandfather; and the Johnson Family Cemetery (where generations of Johnsons are buried, including the president and Lady Bird).

There's also the Show Barn that houses registered Hereford cattle (descendants of LBJ's original herd); several vintage cars; an airplane hangar and airfield; and an airplane called Air Force One-Half (much smaller than Air Force One)

There are many buildings on the ranch, but to me the family home of the Johnsons—the Texas White House—was the most interesting. It was originally built in the mid-19th century, but has repeatedly been updated and enlarged. Today the two-story building is about 8,000 square feet with six bedrooms, five bathrooms, dining room, kitchen, sitting room, living room, and a large office. The house is not fancy—a typical ranch house with lots of phones and the electronic devices that LBJ favored. Much of its charm resides with all the artifacts that are displayed throughout. They were gifts to the Johnsons from heads of state, colleagues, and family members. Our guide, a member of the National Park Service that manages the ranch, explained that all the buildings, their contents, and even the cattle, belong to the American people.

All in all, a delightful weekend thanks to UTA and LBJ.

– Barbara Williams Prahbu
Friends member



LBJ Library. Photo by Steven Grove ©



Lady Bird and LBJ's tombstones. Photo by Charles Deur

Annual Friends and Honors College Road Trip

Hill Country Adventure

In February, members of the Honors College ventured out into the part of Texas known to some as the “Hill Country.” We traveled with the Friends of the UT Arlington Libraries. I was there to document the sights and experiences of the trip.

Our first destination, which started bright and early, was the presidential library of Lyndon B. Johnson. The LBJ Library was beautifully designed: the main hall had a high lofted ceiling in a room that seemed to be made of marble. The gleaming stone staircase leads to the base of an enormous wall of red bound documents from the Johnson Administration along with stories of books behind glass walls.

The museum was highly informative as well. It provided new insights into the Johnson Administration and America in the 1960s: LBJ’s Great Society project, his impact on the Civil Rights movement, his struggle with Vietnam, and his programs to help the environment. One could tell the museum was also trying hard to combat the poor opinion that many Americans hold about LBJ. My grandmother’s remark that he “was the crookedest man to ever get into the White House, but he got things done” seems to be a generalized sentiment. Also, the museum tried to downplay the dislike that he garnered because of the Vietnam War through the exhibits that kept insisting that LBJ tried hundreds of ways to extricate the U.S. from Vietnam, but to no avail.

The upstairs of the library contained the Oval Office of Johnson’s time and Lady Bird’s office. There were also some very interesting photographs of Barack Obama and the First Family from their visit to the LBJ Library. There was, in fact, a photo of Obama looking at an exhibit posted next to that exhibit. It was an interesting way to view the march of time and the continuity of the presidency.

LBJ was famous for his ability to get things done by being pushy and in your face, oftentimes even literally.

We continued on our journey to the small town of Fredericksburg. It was a delightful place and we all wished we had more time to experience the charms and sights of that historic Texas-German town. The students went out to dinner together. We sampled the local German cuisine at Auslander. The food was delicious, and the schnitzel burger was a hit.

After dinner we strolled up and down Main Street and saw the old buildings, peeked in the windows of closed shops (it surprised



Honors College students at Auslander. Photo by Steven Grove©

us to learn that almost everything closed down at about six o’clock), and passed by many venues with live music. The most intriguing shop we visited was an upscale furnishings store called Vaudeville. It was cutting-edge in its styling and everything had remarkable craftsmanship: gold-laced glass sets, micro-etched dodecahedrons as conversation pieces, cowhide chairs, a brass bike, origami wall decorations, extensive abstract wood sculptures, a wood carved chair that was sleek and followed a minimalist style, and, if one had such an inclination, gold-edged tins to keep cannabis in. A veritable wealthy hipster’s dream.

The next day we were back on the bus, heading for the LBJ Ranch. The countryside around it was beautiful: rolling hills of a rich green with horses, goats, and Hereford cattle grazing in the distance. The Texas White House, where Johnson conducted his presidential affairs when he tired of the Capital, was spacious yet homey. It had the air of a grandparent’s home writ large. However there were telltale signs that this was the President’s house. There were telephones everywhere, a phone in every room of the house, three in some, including the bathroom and one attached to the dining table so Johnson could talk with one hand and eat with the other. If anyone needed a mobile phone, it was President Johnson. Both the living room and the bedroom had three television sets that would be turned to the three existing channels at the time so Johnson would be up-to-date on what the media was saying about him.

The LBJ ranch turns out to still be a working ranch, though most of it has been farmed out to other people. On our way out, our bus driver was kind enough to show us how to rope a cow in the Show Barn. It reminds you that you’re in Texas when even the bus driver can throw a lasso.



– D. Aidan Wright

Honors College student
Aidan graduated in May with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies (History, Theatre, and Creative Writing) and a minor in Spanish.



An Honors College student poses with a life-sized photograph of LBJ and gets the Johnson Treatment. Photo by Su Myint ©

To learn more about the Honors College go to:

<https://www.uta.edu/honors/>

Organizations of Interest to Friends

Listed below are some organizations that may be of interest to members of the Friends.

The Texas Map Society

The Texas Map Society (TMS) was organized in November 1996 to foster the study, understanding, preservation, restoration, and collection of historical maps as well as the general history of cartography. Membership only requires an interest in maps of any nature or focus. Members participate in special events and programs. TMS is one of only a few such societies in the United States and the only one in Texas. Membership benefits include:

- Semi-annual meetings featuring:
 - Presentations by map collectors, scholars, and enthusiasts.
 - Tours of interesting map resources around Texas.
 - Workshops on preservation and conservation concerns.
 - Sharing of interest and expertise by members and representatives from other Societies.
- The *Neatline*, a newsletter published twice a year by the Texas Map Society for the enlightenment and enjoyment of TMS members and the general public.

For free first-year trial membership, contact Treasurer Lynn Starnes at info@summerlee.org or Secretary Ben Huseman huseman@uta.edu

For more information about TMS, please visit:

<http://www.texasmapsociety.org>

The Society for the History of Discoveries

The Society for the History of Discoveries (SHD) was formed to stimulate interest in teaching, research, and publishing the history of geographical exploration. Founded in 1960, the Society includes members from several academic disciplines as well as archivists, non-affiliated scholars, and laypersons with an interest in history.

The scope of the Society's activities encompasses the discovery, exploration, and mapping of the earth's land and sea surface from earliest times to the present. Fields of specialization include the history of European expansion, cartography, navigation, colonial settlement, biography, and bibliography.

The SHD annual meeting is generally held in the fall and is two to three days in duration. At this meeting, members are given an opportunity to present, hear and discuss papers on subjects in their fields of specialization. Field trips to local areas of interest are often scheduled before or after the meeting.

For more information about SHD, please visit:

www.sochistdisc.org/

The Fort Worth Civil War Round Table

Members of the Fort Worth Civil War Round Table (CWRT) often indulge their passion for history and Texana through programs and membership in the Friends of the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries. The Friends frequently offers programs of mutual interest and showcases the University's nationally renowned Special Collections, a repository of original historical documents and cartographic history of Texas and the greater Southwest.

Membership in the Fort Worth CWRT is likewise of interest to the Friends. The Fort Worth chapter has a membership consisting of authors, scholars, and those with a general interest in the history of the Civil War. CWRT meets on the second Tuesday of the month, September through May.

CWRT fellowship before meetings is always enjoyable and gives members an opportunity to ask questions, share insights and experiences. Programs are entertaining and informative, featuring experts often seen on the History Channel, C-Span3 and PBS Civil War programs. For example, past programs have featured: "Bud" Robertson, Gordon Rhea, Ed Bearss, Wiley Sword, Steven Woodworth, Jack Waugh, Terry Winschel, Allen Guelzo, Kent Masterson Brown, Brooks Simpson, Peter Cozzens and others. Programs focus on a specific aspect of the Civil War—such as a leader, battle, or politician—and last from 45 minutes to an hour, with ample time for Q & A. The CWRT stresses that "there are no sides on a round table" and do not espouse any particular viewpoint.

– Roger Broom

Member, Friends Advisory Council

To find out more about meeting locations, times, programs and membership opportunities, please visit:

www.fortworthcwrt.com/

or contact:

Jim Rosenthal, President, CWRT

jimrosenthal5757@aol.com, or (C) 817-307-9263.

The Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lectures

The Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lectures were established in 1965 by members of the UTA Department of History to honor the distinguished Texas historian, Walter Prescott Webb. Webb, who died in 1963, was an American historian noted for his groundbreaking work on the American West. Each year, the Department of History sponsors a lecture series that is open to the public.

For more information about the lecture series, please visit:

www.uta.edu/history/webb.html

Texas State Historical Association

Founded as a private, nonprofit educational organization on March 2, 1897 – the 61st anniversary of the Texas Declaration of Independence – the Texas State Historical Association has long been regarded as the nation's most dynamic regional history organization. Reinforced by more than one hundred years of scholarship and educational programs, its mission is to foster the appreciation, understanding, and teaching of the rich and unique history of Texas. TSHA, through its programs and activities, encourages and promotes research, preservation, and publication of historical material affecting the state of Texas.

For more information about TSHA activities and membership, please visit:

<https://www.tshaonline.org>

Recitals in Irons Recital Hall

The UTA Department of Music showcases performances by students, faculty, and visiting artists in Irons Recital Hall. Most of the events are free and all are open to the general public. To view the recitals schedule, go to "Performances and Events," then click on "Events Calendar" at the following link:

<http://www.uta.edu/music/index.php>

For information about the
**Tenth Biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures
on the History of Cartography**
and the
Fall Texas Map Society Meeting,
see page 16.

TEDxUTA

The ethos of The University of Texas at Arlington has always been to provide an atmosphere that will help nourish connections and ideas that will help our local and foreign communities. With this ethos in mind, our passion for enlightening, enriching and inspiring others led us to contribute to the advancements of our vibrant city and university by bringing TED* caliber talks to our community. Through the creation of TEDxUTA, leaders, solution seekers and the merely curious will be able to congregate in an event that will not only stretch the boundaries of their mind, but also challenge them to pursue new insights into old and new topics.

For more information about TEDxUTA, please visit:

www.tedxuta.com

*TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, which started as a four-day conference in California 25 years ago. TED has grown to support those world-changing ideas with multiple initiatives.

Ben and Trudy Termini Distinguished Anthropologist Lectures at UTA

Ben and Trudy Termini, members-at-large on the Friends Advisory Council, established an endowed lecture series hosted annually by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. The lecture series has attracted distinguished speakers including the world-renowned anthropologist Johann Reinhard, whose discovery of the "Juanita" mummy at 22,000 feet in the Andes changed the face of Andean anthropology. Typically held in the spring, the lectures invite experts working in varied anthropological disciplines – biological, sociocultural, archeological, medical, and forensic. The lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, visit:

<http://www.uta.edu/socio-anthro/Website/Anthro/Events/Termini>

Tenth Biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography *Profiles in Cartography: Mapmakers and the Greater Southwest* and

Texas Map Society Fall 2016 Meeting

UT Arlington Central Library Sixth Floor

NOVEMBER 11 -12, 2016



PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKERS

Spanish Missionary Maps of the Greater Southwest

Gabriel Martinez-Serna, Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS), Monterrey, Mexico

Cartes tres Curieuses: French Mapmakers and the New World

Jason Wiese, Associate Director, Williams Research Center, The Historic New Orleans Collection

Frontier of Science: Jean Louis Berlandier's Exploration of the Northern Mexican Frontier, 1826-1851

Russell M. Lawson, Professor of History, Bacone College, Muskogee, Oklahoma

Mapping Deseret: Nineteenth-Century Mormon Cartography in the Southwestern Borderlands

Richard Francaviglia, Professor Emeritus, University of Texas at Arlington

The Cartographer as Popularizer:

Herman Moll and the North American Greater Southwest

Dennis Reinhartz, Professor Emeritus, University of Texas at Arlington

The Rio Colorado of the West:

Nineteenth-Century Exploration and Cartography

Imre Demhardt, Professor & Garrett Endowed Chair in the History of Cartography, University of Texas at Arlington

The Great American Atlas Boom, 1850-1890: Mitchell, Colton, and Johnson and the Mapping of the Southwest

Royd Riddell, Riddell Rare Maps and Fine Art, Dallas, Texas

The Draftswoman's Pen:

Art and History on Eltea Armstrong's Maps of Texas

Mylynka Kilgore Cardona, Map Curator, Texas General Land Office, Archives and Record Division

For further information and registration see: <https://www.regonline.com/Garrett-2016>

ACCOMPANYING EXHIBIT

Enlightenment Cartographers and the Southwestern Borderlands

featuring over seventy original 18th century maps

September 15, 2016 - January 15, 2017

Special Collections • Sixth Floor • UT Arlington Central Library

Meeting attendees are invited to the

The North Texas Book and Map Show

November 11-13, 2016 • Arlington Convention Center • 1200 Ballpark Way • www.bookfair.us

Above Map: Tobias Conrad Lotter after Guillaume Delisle, *America Septentrionalis*, engraving (hand colored), 46 x 58 cm. (Augsburg: Lotter, between 1758 and 1778). *UT Arlington Libraries Special Collections*

Friends Visit “Down Under” for a Fascinating Trip

Australia

Why Australia and New Zealand? you may ask. This trip had been on my bucket list for a long, long time. In talking about our next vacation with Mary Castle, my frequent travel companion and partner in crime, I realized that Mary was up for the challenge. We chose to go in October and November because that's late spring.

We wanted to get into the interior and see the Outback, not just tour big cities. Our list for Australia included Alice Springs, Uluru (the Aboriginal name for Ayers Rock), and the Great Barrier Reef. After looking at several tour companies, we settled on Odysseys Unlimited. One key feature of their tours is that we could arrive at a hotel and then stay there for 2, 3, or 4 nights using it as a hub for activities.

For anyone thinking about this trip, there are several things to keep in mind: (1) It is a long way to Australia and it's a long time sitting in an airport or on a plane. Our first destination was Cairns but Qantas does not have a direct flight, which further lengthened our trip. The time from getting to DFW three hours early for an international flight to landing at Cairns took 31 hours. (2) Australia is much larger than you think it is. We think of it as a large-ish island sitting at the bottom of a map, but it's an entire continent about 2/3 the size of the United States. This meant more airports. (3) You want to stay as long as possible because, chances are, this will be your only trip. We were gone for 23 days. When we arrived, we were on day three of our vacation. We lost a day crossing the International Date Line, but we found it when we returned home.

Cairns, pronounced like the “Cannes” Film Festival, is located on the northeast coast and has a tropical feel. One of our tours was on an historic 100-year old railway where we traveled through tunnels, bridges, and a World Heritage Rainforest to the mountain village of Kuranda, elevation 1100 ft. The Djabugay Aboriginal peoples have lived in this region for over 10,000 years. Rather than return by train, we rode a Skyrail gondola, which took us up to 1780 feet to glide just feet over the rainforest canopy.

Cairns is considered one of the gateways to the Great Barrier Reef, which is a Natural World Heritage Area running more



Mary Castle (left) and Julie Alexander (right) in gondola over rainforest .

than 1250 miles along the coast of Queensland. We took a day-long excursion by boat to Michaelmas Cay (pronounced “key”). The Cay is a bird sanctuary and is considered one of the most important nesting sites in the Southern Hemisphere. After arriving at the Cay our boat anchored offshore and those who wanted to swim, snorkel, or dive were taken to shore by dinghy. I stayed on board the boat and chatted with others while Mary snorkeled.

While in Cairns we both tried Morten Bay Bugs at a very nice open-air restaurant near the ocean. The “Bugs” are actually crustaceans and taste somewhat like a cross between a crab and a lobster, with slightly sweet tasting meat. Absolutely delicious!

From Cairns we flew to Alice Springs, which is the capital of the Australian Outback and located very close to the center of the country. Here the climate was hotter and dryer than Cairns, with the vegetation beginning to be more desert looking, but also with many tropical plants growing in yards.

We visited the ANZAC Hill Memorial, which is dedicated to Australian and New Zealand Army Corps soldiers who fought in both World Wars, The Royal Flying Doctor Service, which provides medical service to the Australian interior covering an area greater than the size of Western Europe, and the School of the Air, which is how the pre-K through 9th grade students in the Outback receive their education.

The lessons are broadcast over 521,000 square miles covering most of the Northern Territory, the northern area of South



Great Barrier Reef from the air.



Sky Rail over the rainforest.

Australia, and eastern area of Western Australia. In the beginning, the lessons were provided over two-way radio broadcasts, but since 2006, the program is offered by satellite. There are two weeks during the year when all the students come to Alice Springs for a face-to-face with their teachers and classmates.

After the 9th grade, the children can leave their homes and move to a boarding school in one of the cities to finish high school. However, some of them will drop out, especially if their parents cannot pay for boarding school and/or they are needed to help run the station. The Australians use the word “station” as we would use “ranch.”

On our second day in Alice Springs, we went to a “dreamtime” tour in the Outback. We met with a group from the Warlpiri Aboriginal tribe where they had a display of their various artworks for sale. The paintings are done in a “dot” style. Our host for the event prepared kangaroo tail for us on an open fire. The flavor was fine, but a little greasy.

When the Aborigines prepare kangaroo, they bury it in the ground with hot coals, as the Hawaiians would prepare pig. However, as this takes a long time to cook, they will cook the tail over an open fire for the children to snack upon.

From here, we traveled farther into the Outback to Simpsons’ Gap, a prominent desert waterhole and Aboriginal spiritual site.

Our second evening meal in Alice Springs was a “bush” dinner under the stars in the desert, complete with an Aussie ballad singer and an amateur astronomer who showed us the various constellations of the Southern Hemisphere. A good comparison would be a Cowboy Cookout on the open range. It was classy enough to have tables and chairs, plus Australian wine and beer.

We left early the next morning and drove by bus to Yulara Village, which is the closest hotel to Ayers Rock. The six-hour bus ride was through varying countryside, which changed constantly, as the closer we got, the less vegetation we saw. The land became pure desert and the color of the dirt and sand was very red, which is the color of Uluru. The stations were farther apart and there were very few cars on the road. It was on this road that we actually saw camels and kangaroos in the wild. Not many animals were visible, as it was getting close to 100 degrees and most were hiding in the shade of rocks and tall brush.

As we were driving, we passed a car that was on the side of the road. Our bus driver immediately pulled over and determined that



Julie mounted on a camel.

two ladies were dealing with a flat tire. There is an unspoken rule in the Outback that you never leave people stranded in the desert. In summer, they could die from the heat and lack of water. (Our tour director was constantly after us to drink water, and kept large containers, plus bottles of water for us at all times.) Our bus driver made sure the women had water and then he changed their tire. If they had not had a spare tire, I am certain we would have taken them with us to the next place where they could get help.

Along the road we stopped at a Road House that was also a camel farm. Here we had our first (and maybe only) camel ride. Only six of us out of 23 were brave enough to take advantage of this opportunity. It is NOT like riding a horse! On a camel, you sit up very high, must adjust to the camel’s odd gait, and bump along when it runs.

Uluru, formerly known as Ayers Rock, is a sandstone monolith that stands 1142 ft. and has rock art drawings made by various ancestral indigenous people. It and the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is the traditional land of the Anangu Aboriginal peoples.

For our first visit to Uluru, we left in early evening to drive around the rock and then go to a site where the tour group had set out a champagne table with dips and snacks to have while we were waiting for the sun to set. We had an incredible viewing of the sun setting on the rock with all the wonderful changing shades of red.



Walpiri artists.

Then a brief shower produced a rainbow that appeared to end on top of Uluru.

Important trivia fact about bush flies: They are so prominent in Alice Springs and around Uluru that everyone on the tour was given a fly net, which fits over your hat and ties under your chin. It was a necessity to wear a hat and tons of sunscreen, as it was over 100 degrees! The reason that bush flies are attracted to humans is that they are seeking moisture wherever they can find it: tears, saliva, and your ears, nose, and sometimes sweat. They only bother people during the daylight and when the sun goes down, the population of flies disappears until a few minutes after sunrise.

Our second visit to Uluru was before sunrise the next morning. The national park had built a viewing station for tourists to watch a sunrise. Actually, the sun is at your back so that we were facing the Rock as the sun rises. Once again, the shading and coloring of this giant red rock sticking up out of the sand as the sun intensifies its color is amazing. It was worth getting up at 4:15 am. Afterwards, we visited the Aboriginal Cultural Centre.

Another interesting fact: The Anangu peoples consider Uluru to be a sacred site and they are considered by the Australian government to be the traditional owners. However, it was not until 1985 that they were given a deed to the land. Later the Aborigines leased it back to the government and are participating in a joint management program. One current bone of contention is that the Aboriginal owners do not want tourists to be allowed to climb the Rock because of its spiritual importance to them. They are trying to reduce the number of climbers through educational programs and an understanding and respect for the Aboriginal laws and culture.

Our last stop in Australia was Sydney where we toured on bus and on foot. We took a bus through the Royal Botanic Gardens, around Darling Harbour, Mrs. Macquarie's Point, Rose and Watson's bays; went on a luncheon catamaran sail in beautiful Sydney Harbour; walked along Bondi Beach and watched the surfer dudes and dudettes. This is where the expression "Between the Flags" originated, as the surf is so rough that the lifeguards can only see swimmers if they are in the water between the two flags that designate their line of sight.



Sydney Opera House by night.



Uluru (Ayers Rock) in late afternoon.

We walked around and explored much on our own. We visited museums, St. Mary's Cathedral, and the beautiful Queen Victoria Building, which is now an upscale series of department stores.

We traveled to the Featherdale Wildlife Park to see up close and personal the koalas, dingoes, wallaby, kangaroos, and a large variety of native birds. We had our pictures made with a koala, but we could not hold one.

A sad fact: The population of the wild koalas is declining at a rapid rate in Australia. This is due to development, cars, dogs, disease, and climate change. When the continent gets hotter than normal summer heat, koalas simply dehydrate and die. Over the past 20 years, the numbers have dropped by 40% in Queensland and 33% in New South Wales.



Koala at Featherdale Wildlife Park.

As we wanted to see a performance in the Sydney Opera House, we went to see the play "Arms and the Man" by George Bernard Shaw. The Opera House has several venues under its roof and can have different events happening simultaneously. It is the performing arts venue for the opera, theatre, and the symphony.

On Day 13, before our flight to Christchurch on New Zealand's South Island, we had a late morning tour of the Sydney Opera House.

– Julie Alexander
1st Vice President, Friends Advisory Council



Julie and Mary at Tasman Glacier.

New Zealand

New Zealand consists mainly of two large islands and many small ones. It sits on two tectonic plates, which means there is a great deal of geological action. The North Island is volcanic while the South Island has the spine of mountains uplifted from the plates. New Zealand is about the size of Colorado and slightly larger than the United Kingdom. The landscape is one of contrasts from sub-tropical to sub-Antarctic.

We began this leg of our journey on the South Island with a tour of Christchurch, a very “English” town, with many parks and gardens. However, the devastation caused by the 6.3 earthquake in 2011 was still evident with portions of buildings and churches standing in ruin. Our stops included the Botanic Garden and the Restart Mall. The ReStart Mall sprang up in the main business district after the earthquake. Shops are cleverly housed in converted shipping containers.

On route to Mount Cook National Park, we stopped at Moralee Farm for an opportunity to learn about sheep farming and to view sheep shearing and a sheep dog demonstration. Traveling on to the Park took us along beautiful lakes and the snow-capped mountain peaks of the Southern Alps. At 12,316 feet, Mount Cook is the highest peak and was used by Sir Edmund Hillary for training to



Julie in Queenstown Gardens.

ascend Mt. Everest. Julie and I took a boat on the terminal lake to Tasman Glacier, New Zealand’s largest glacier. The glacier is shrinking at an alarming rate, raising the lake level as a result.

The next destination was Queenstown, after a stop at the famed Kawarau Bridge, the world’s first public bungy operation, where we watched people plunge 142 feet into the river gorge. Queenstown is a resort situated on beautiful Lake Wakatipu and nestled in the Remarkables mountain range. It is called New Zealand’s “adventure capital” and caters to sports enthusiasts who enjoy jet boating, paragliding, white water rafting, skiing and hiking.

During our leisure time, we enjoyed strolling through the Queenstown Gardens where a number of heritage trees were planted by the first mayor in the 1860s as well as a native plant section and a rose garden. At the Kiwi Birdlife Park, we were just barely able to see the famed, endangered kiwis in a darkened room simulating night for the nocturnal animals. We learned about another uniquely NZ animal, the tuatara, a reptile resembling a lizard whose ancestors flourished 200 million years ago.

A day trip along a scenic drive to the rugged Fiord National Park culminated with a cruise on the Milford Sound. The weather was rainy and cold but not unusual for an area that can get over 200 inches of rain a year. The area around the 14 fiords is uninhabited dense rainforest with sheer rock walls carved by glaciers.

Rotorua, on the North Island, was our next stop. It is the cultural center for the indigenous Maori people. The scents of sulphur and steam coming from the ground are the first indications of the geothermal activity beneath Rotorua. As Julie and I explored the town, we saw a common sight: steam or hot water flowing from culverts and cracks in the streets.

We visited the Te Puia Thermal Reserve with its geysers, mud pools and hot springs. For centuries the Maori have used the thermal properties in everyday life: to cook, bathe, preserve food and develop paints and dyes. The Rotorua Museum of Art and History is located in the original Bath House that opened in 1908 and is surrounded by the Government Gardens. People from all



Wood Carver at Maori Arts and Crafts Institute.



Damaged building awaiting rebuilding in Christchurch.

over the world travelled here to benefit from the thermal spring water. The spa experience is still available in facilities located on the shore of Lake Rotorua. The Maori Arts and Crafts Institute located at Te Puia houses national schools for training Maori crafts people in the traditional arts of wood, bone and stone carving as well as weaving with natural fibers.

A highlight of our trip was the hangi dinner and performance. We learned the protocols for entering a Maori village and experienced the traditional welcome ceremony before visiting the meeting house (marae) where Maori entertained and informed us about their history through songs, dances and stories. The original hangi cooking method used an earthen pit with food placed on hot rocks and covered to steam. Our dinner used the same principles but was a modern version as you can see from the photo. The food was excellent.

On our way to Auckland, we stopped at Ruakuri Cave. The entrance to the cave was relocated to protect the sacred Maori burial grounds and is a multi-story, downward spiral to the bottom of the cavern. Features in the cave include rare limestone formations, waterfalls and underground rivers large enough for rafting and fossils of sea creatures, but the main attraction is the glowworm colony. The glowworm is the larvae of a fungus gnat and spends about six to 12 months in the larvae form. The larvae spin sticky strings of silk hanging from the nest and glow to attract prey. To protect the glowworms, the quality of air is monitored for carbon dioxide, temperature and moisture to determine how many visitors are allowed.



Te Puia thermal field, Rotorua.

Our final destination was the lovely city of Auckland, which sits on an isthmus between two bodies of water and has two harbors. It is nicknamed “City of Sails” because there are more yachts per person than anywhere else in the world. After a panoramic tour of the area, we visited the Auckland Museum, New Zealand’s first museum, founded in 1852. There was hardly enough time to fully explore the outstanding and unique natural history collections or the prized Maori and Pacific Islander collections. Julie and I did make it to one art gallery before leaving the next day.

Our return trip began at 4:00 a.m. on November 1 and involved many hours of flight and airport lines. Despite the rigors of travel to and from Australia/New Zealand, nothing can overshadow the wonder and enjoyment we experienced seeing and learning about this amazing part of the world.

– *Mary Castle*
Treasurer, Friends Advisory Council



Modern-day hangi cooking.



Milford Sound.

Remembering a Friend

Ellen Carr Emery



Mary Ellen Carr Emery, 83, a loving wife and mother, passed away Monday, June 20, 2016, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Mary Ellen was born in Tucson, Arizona on February 17, 1933. She graduated from Arlington Heights High School in 1950 and Texas Tech University in 1957, and received her masters degree from New Mexico State. Mary Ellen taught in Albuquerque, Denver, San Angelo and Hurst-Euleless-Bedford ISD. She was a member of the HEB ISD Retired Teachers, past president of the UTA Friends of the Library and a member of Colleyville Friends of the Library. She organized and served as president of the DFW Delta Gamma Alumnae Association. She was a lifelong member of Delta Gamma sorority for 62 years. She was an avid reader. Her favorite pastime was hiking in the mountains of New Mexico and Colorado. She loved to travel with her husband in their Airstream trailer and visited all 50 states, Canada and Mexico. She and her husband, Jim, traveled to over 20 countries in Europe. She loved her family, her husband, Jim, and her son, Van and his family. She was married to her beloved husband for 53 years.

Mary Ellen was preceded in death by her parents, Ellen and Joe Carr; daughter, Diane Emery; sister, Beverly Carr Dwyer; and brother, Joe Carr Jr.

Survivors: Husband, Jim Emery; son, Van Emery and wife, Newell Ann; grandchildren, Clara and Oliver; nieces, Sharilyn Wilson and Leigh Mires; sister-in-law, Karen Carr and daughter, Ava; and nephews, Joe and Michael Carr, and Scott and Chris Emery; brother-in-law, Gary Emery and wife, Linda.

Memorials: In lieu of flowers, the Emery family encourages you to give to a charity of your choice, or to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in honor of their daughter and sister, Diane.