

C L E M E N T S C E N T E R F O R
S O U T H W E S T S T U D I E S
S O U T H E R N M E T H O D I S T U N I V E R S I T Y

www.smu.edu/swcenter
Editor, **Andrea Boardman**

Volume 5, No. 1

N E W S L E T T E R

Spring 2004

From the Director:

On and off campus, Bill Clements' generous endowment of the Clements Center has had an extraordinary impact.

On campus the Center brings faculty, staff, and students together for monthly brown bag discussions of things southwestern. These informal meetings give us a chance to learn about the work of outsiders. Last autumn, for example, we heard from two of our residential fellows. Deborah Cohen talked about her work on Mexican immigration, during and after WW II, and Sylvia Rodríguez gave us an overview of her research into the elaborate system of ditches, or acequias, that irrigate the Taos Valley. The brown bag lunches also give us a chance to learn about what our own SMU colleagues are doing. In January the DeGolyer Library's curator, Ben Huseman, will talk about the Louisiana Purchase bicentennial exhibition that derives from the collection's rich holdings. Attendance at the brown bag lunches seldom dips below thirty and has ranged as high as fifty. Among the attendees are a few brave souls from off campus who find their way into jammed mid-day parking lots – Lee Burke, Don Janak, and Jackie McElhaney come readily to mind.

The Center also brings speakers to campus for late afternoon or evening lectures, which attract many people from beyond the campus community. In October, for example, James Ronda, one of the country's most distinguished historians of the West, packed the DeGolyer with a standing-room-only crowd of some 120. The Center customarily arranges to have visiting lecturers like Ronda lead seminars for faculty and graduate students, giving us an unusual opportunity to interact with scholars whom we might not otherwise encounter. Last fall the Center provided similar opportunities when it arranged to have an editor from Yale University Press, Lara Heimert, lead a seminar on scholarly publishing, and a curator from the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, Walter Brem, orient us to his institution's extraordinary holdings on the Hispanic Southwest.

Finally, the Center's impact on campus includes modest grants that assist SMU graduate students in doing research in distant collections, and grants that bring visiting scholars to do research and write at SMU. Some of those visitors receive short-term grants to offset the cost of working at the DeGolyer Library. Others are long-term residential fellows – this year Deborah Cohen (University of Chicago) and Marc Rodriguez (Princeton and Notre Dame) are with us for the academic year and Sylvia Rodríguez (University of New Mexico) was with us in the autumn term.

Whether they come to lecture, lead seminars, or research and write, these visitors bring ideas and energy to the SMU community. At the same time, work done at SMU has ripples far beyond the campus. Last year, for example, saw the publication of *The Culture of Tourism; The Tourism of Culture: Selling the Past to the Present in the American Southwest*, edited by Hal Rothman (University of New Mexico Press), and *The Future of the Southern Plains*, edited by our own Sherry Smith (University of Oklahoma Press). Each book grew out of conferences sponsored by the Center. Without the Center's initiative, these books would not exist, and is fair to say that the well-received books published by our residential fellows, ranging from Gregg Cantrell's *Stephen F. Austin, Texas Empresario* (Yale 1999) to James Snead's *Ruins and Rivals: The Making of Southwestern Archaeology* (Arizona 2001), would have been slower in coming and less interesting had their authors not had the time and intellectual stimulation afforded by a year at the Clements Center (still other book and articles are noted in this newsletter).

Both near and far, then, Bill Clements' gift has animated southwestern studies. On campus, it has supported serious research and thinking about the region. Beyond the campus, readers have benefited from publications written by scholars funded by the Center. It seems no exaggeration to say that Bill Clements' gift has made SMU one of the major centers of regional study in America.

— David J. Weber



Clements Center Fellows' Update

Bill and Rita Clements Research Fellowships for the Study of Southwestern America

The Clements Center supports three annual residential fellowships in any field of the humanities or social sciences for individuals doing research on Southwestern America. The fellowships are designed to provide time for senior or junior scholars to bring book-length manuscripts to completion. One of the features of the fellowship year is a manuscript workshop for each individual, in which two to three top experts in the field are invited to come to Dallas and critique the manuscript for both its content and for its readability, in order to attract both a publisher and the widest possible audience. In the next few months two fellows will have their workshops:



2003-2004 Fellows: Marc Rodriguez, Deborah Cohen, and Sylvia Rodriguez

On February 7th **MARC RODRIGUEZ** will meet with three visiting scholars, Neil Foley (University of Texas at Austin), Ramón Gutiérrez (University of California at San Diego) and Devra Weber (University of California at Riverside) to

discuss his manuscript, "Migrants and Citizens: Labor and the Mexican-American Struggle for Civil Rights in Texas and the Midwest, 1930-1980." Next fall Professor Rodriguez will begin teaching at Notre Dame.

On April 17th **DEBORAH COHEN** will discuss her manuscript, entitled "Bordering Modernities: Race, Masculinity, and the Cultural Politics of Mexico – U.S. Migration,"

with visiting scholars, Ana Alonso (Anthropology, University of Arizona), David Gutiérrez (University of California at San Diego), and George Sánchez (University of Southern California).

After a productive fellowship semester, senior scholar **SYLVIA RODRÍGUEZ**, returned to her position as Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico, with a completed manuscript and an advance contract in hand from the School of American Research in Santa Fe for the publication of her new book, "Acequia: Water-Sharing, Sanctity and Place."

HEATHER TRIGG (1999-2000 Fellow) reports that her manuscript, "From Household to Empire: Economic Activity in Early Colonial New Mexico," has been accepted by the University of Arizona Press, and will be published in 2005.

JULIANA BARR (1999-2000 Fellow) is finalizing her manuscript, "The 'Seductions' of Texas: The Political Language of Gender in the Conquests of Texas, 1690-1821." It will be published by the University of North Carolina Press. Her essay, "A Diplomacy of Gender: Rituals of First Contact in the 'Land of the Tejas'" is slated to appear in the July 2004 issue of the *William and Mary Quarterly*.

PEKKA HÄMÄLÄINEN (2001-2002 Fellow) wrote the lead essay for the December 2003 issue of *The Journal of American History*: "The Rise and Fall of Plains Indian Horse Cultures." The journal describes his article as "looking beyond the romantic image of the triumphant mounted Indian, Pekka Hämäläinen shows that the rise of equestrian Indian societies on the Great Plains brought Native Americans both success and disaster."



On the Road: Ph.D. Students, Recipients of Clements Center Research Travel Grants

JOSÉ RAMÍREZ, a Ph.D. candidate specializing in Chicano history, received a \$2000 Clements Center Research Fellowship for the 2003-2004 academic year. In October, he traveled to Washington, D.C., and College Park, Maryland, to conduct research for a dissertation tentatively entitled "Ambivalent Allies: Mexican Texans and the United States Government during the First World War." There, he visited the Library of Congress and the National Archives and Research Administration, where he examined the Woodrow Wilson Papers and the records of the American Expeditionary Force, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Military Intelligence Division. His research so far confirms his hypothesis that Mexican Texans and the U.S. government cooperated with each other during the war

despite a deep-seated mutual distrust.

Ph.D. candidate, **JIMMY BRYAN, JR.**, received a contract from Texas A & M Press for his manuscript "Walter P. Lane and the Masculine Ethos of Adventurism, 1817-1892," which is scheduled for publication in 2005. Bryan follows the subject's career as an adventurer in the antebellum West and traces his evolution from reckless romantic, to paternal veteran, and then to retired adventurer who re-imagined his past in order to regain lost vitality. In his Ph.D. dissertation, Bryan goes further than his Lane manuscript and examines the idea of early-nineteenth century adventurism and its relationship to U.S. expansionism and masculinity.



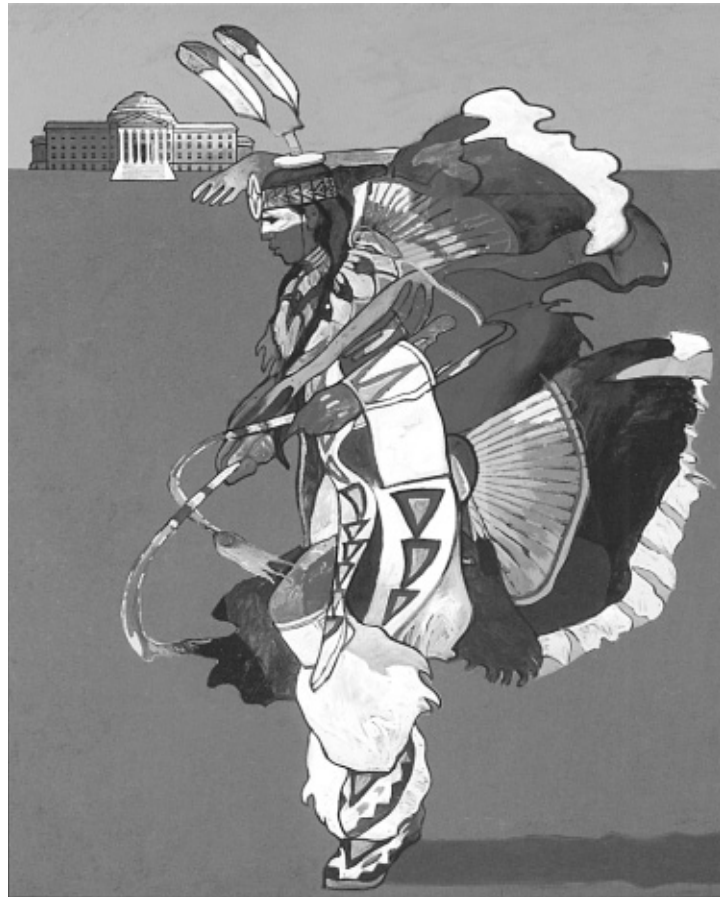
Limited Edition Serigraphs Available to Support Research

John Nieto is one of America's most dynamic contemporary artists, concentrating on themes that transcend mere representation. An innovative interpreter of his native Southwest, Nieto's dramatic compositions and bold use of color translate classic American themes into modern images that escape the boundaries of time. He created this painting, "Fancy Dancer at SMU," to commemorate the opening of the Clements Center for Southwest Studies at his alma mater in 1996. The combination of dancer and building speaks to the heritage of a university rooted to the prairie and located between the plains of Oklahoma, where the "fancy dancer" tradition originated, and New Mexico, where Nieto traces his family to the 16th century.

A limited edition of signed serigraphs (30" x 26") are being sold for \$1,000 each, plus tax and handling. A 20% discount is offered to members of Colophon/Friends of the SMU Libraries and the SMU community, which includes SMU faculty/staff (present and retired), students and alumni.

All proceeds from sales are applied towards Clements Center – DeGolyer Library Research Travel Grants. These grants are awarded to applicants who live outside the greater Dallas-Fort Worth area in order to encourage a broader and more intensive use of the rare books, manuscripts and special collections of the DeGolyer Library.

Please call the DeGolyer Library at 214-768-3231 or email bfriedri@smu.edu to determine availability.



Artist John Nieto's "Fancy Dancer at SMU"
(SMU Class of 1959, B.F.A. Studio Art)



Recent Clements Center-DeGolyer Grant Recipients:

THOMAS E. ALEXANDER, author and retired corporate executive: researching in the DeGolyer's recently acquired Stanley Marcus Papers for a biography on Mr. Marcus. (Spring 2004)

DINA BERGER, Department of History, The College of Wooster: "Pyramids by Day, Martinis by Night: The Development and Promotion of Mexico's Tourism Industry, 1928-1946." Researched in the DeGolyer's extensive collection on tourism to Mexico. (Summer 2003)

KAREN R. MERRILL, Department of History, Williams College: "Texas Metropole: The Politics of Regional Identity in a World of Oil." (Spring 2004) Merrill will be participating in a Clements Center symposium in the spring of 2005 organized by Jeff Roche of Wooster College, entitled: "From William Jennings Bryan to George W. Bush: The Political Legacies of the American

Southwest." Researching in the DeGolyer's papers of its founder, Everette DeGolyer, Sr.

WILLIAM ROBBINS, Professor Emeritus, Department of History, Oregon State University: "The Insurgent West," a prospective study of radical movements, traditions, and communitarian enterprises in the American West. Researched in the broad holdings of the DeGolyer related to the American West. (Fall 2003)

MIGUEL ANGEL GONZÁLEZ QUIROGA, Professor, Colegio de Historia, Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León: "The American Presence in Monterrey (1870-1920)." (Spring 2004)



Calendar of Events

All events are free and open to the public. Please consult our website, www.smu.edu/swcenter, or call (214) 768-3684 for details, updates and/or directions. For campus map, please see www.smu.edu/maps/

Features of the season include the Clements Center's **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**, the traditional series of **BROWN BAG LECTURES**, plus a special series commemorating the **LOUISIANA PURCHASE BICENTENNIAL** (in collaboration with DeGolyer Library and Friends of the SMU Libraries/ Colophon) and a special lecture in the **VISITING SCHOLARS SERIES** by James A. Brooks, award-winning author. Also, the Stanton Sharp Lecture Series, **EMPIRES THROUGH TIME: FROM ROME TO WASHINGTON**, sponsored by the Clements Department of History, will continue into the spring.

Annual Conference: Leading Latina Historians to Speak in Dallas

February 28th at the new Latino Cultural Center

The Clements Center is sponsoring a day-long public symposium, titled "Mapping Memories and Migrations: Re-thinking Latina Histories." The meeting will examine ways in which Hispanic women whether born in or immigrated to the United States and Canada, imprinted themselves on communities and places, large and small. John Chávez, SMU Department of History, and Vicki Ruiz, Department of History at University of California-Irvine are the organizers.

On February 28th nine historians – Mexican-American and Puerto Rican women from across the US – will come to Dallas to present their work. Their comparative topics include the lives of children, homemakers, factory workers, educators, feminists, trade union leaders, and politicians in various regions, mostly in the US, but also in other parts of North America and even Europe. These scholars are Gabriela Arredondo (University of California-Santa Cruz), Marisela Chávez (Stanford), Camille Guerin-Gonzales (University of Wisconsin), Yolanda Chávez-Leyva (University of Texas-El Paso), Maria Montoya (University of Michigan), Elizabeth Salas (University of Washington), Virginia Sánchez Korrol (Brooklyn-CUNY), and Carmen Teresa Whalen (Williams College).

Most of these scholars met last September for preliminary discussions at SMU's campus in Taos, New Mexico. While our original plan had been to hold the spring symposium on campus, the opening of the brand new Latino Cultural Center in downtown Dallas now allows us the opportunity to make this a truly citywide event with outreach to members of the community who would not ordinarily make their way to SMU. Thanks to the sponsorship of SMU's Ethnic Studies Program, and especially its director Kenneth Hamilton, the event can be held at this wonderful new facility. As with the previous symposia, the Center will arrange for the publication of the papers presented.

For more details, please see the registration form on page 7.

Brown Bag Lecture Series

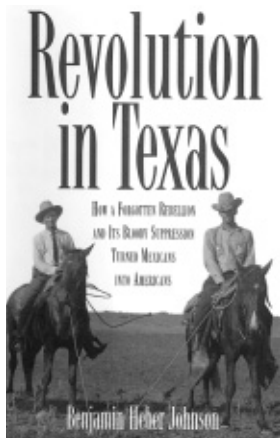
Noon to 1:00 pm in Texana Room, DeGolyer Library (6404 Hilltop Ln. & McFarlin Blvd.)

January 14, Noon to 1:00: BEN HUSEMAN, CURATOR, DEGOLYER LIBRARY: "THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE BICENTENNIAL EXHIBIT: ILLUSTRATING THE CLASH OF EMPIRES AND CULTURES IN THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI REGION" The lecture will discuss the major themes of the exhibit, followed by a walking tour to highlight the many gems drawn from the library's collection, including maps, rare books, manuscripts, and prints by Karl Bodmer, with a special concentration of materials from 1700s-1855. See section below for more information on the exhibit.

February 11, Noon to 1:00: MARC RODRIGUEZ, CLEMENTS CENTER FELLOW: "TEJANO MIGRANTS/ AMERICAN CITIZENS: MEXICAN AMERICAN MIGRANT WORKERS AND THE MAKING OF THE CHICANO MOVEMENT." In his presentation Professor Rodriguez will present a history of the Chicano civil rights movement that blends the histories of Crystal City, Texas, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, across the interstate migrant stream. Only one of the many such migrant flows originating in South Texas and Crystal City in particular, Rodriguez focuses his attention on Crystal City, Milwaukee, and Wisconsin due to the fact that it was within the Crystal City-Wisconsin stream that the Chicano Movement led by migratory farm workers saw the most sustained mobilization outside of California. This revisionist account presents a corrective to traditional one-place-bound community studies common within Chicano Movement historiography as it argues for the centrality of migrant social networks and inter-ethnic, and inter-racial cooperation in the development of "Chicano" activism after 1963.

March 17, Noon to 1:00: BENJAMIN H. JOHNSON, SMU DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY: "REVOLUTION IN TEXAS: HOW A FORGOTTEN REBELLION AND ITS BLOODY SUPPRESSION TURNED MEXICANS INTO AMERICANS": In his new book, Johnson tells the little-known story of one of the most intense and protracted episodes of racial

continued on page 5



violence in United States history. In 1915, against the backdrop of the Mexican Revolution, the uprising that would become known as the Plan de San Diego began with a series of raids by ethnic Mexicans on ranches and railroads. Local violence quickly erupted into a regional rebellion. In response, vigilante groups and the Texas Rangers staged an even bloodier counter-insurgency, culminating in forcible relocations and mass executions. Faced with the overwhelming forces arrayed against it, the uprising eventually collapsed.

But, as Johnson demonstrates, the rebellion resonated for decades in American history. Convinced of the futility of using force to protect themselves against racial discrimination and economic oppression, many Mexican Americans elected to seek protection as American citizens with equal access to rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution.

March 17, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Ben Johnson will do a book-signing in the late afternoon at the SMU Barnes & Noble Bookstore at 3060 Mockingbird Lane.

April 7: Noon to 1:00: SUZANNE BOST, SMU DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH: "PAINFUL REGIONS AND OPEN BORDERS: RETHINKING BODY AND NATION THROUGH CHICANA FEMINISM": The body can often be read as a metaphor for nation or homeland. Gloria Anzaldúa's accounts of the corporeal upheavals that accompany her diabetes, Ana Castillo's representations of disability caused by polio, and Cherríe Moraga's narrative of pre-term childbirth mirror these Chicana feminists' theories of borderlands identity and *mestizaje*. All three writers present the body as fluid, permeable, and intertwined with outside elements (medical equipment, doctors, bacteria, etc.) – defying the rigid border patrol that defends and purifies bodies/nations. In this talk, Professor Bost will analyze the ways in which Chicana feminism uses pain and illness to delineate a more *mestiza* type of national belonging and then weigh the political impact of this opening of boundaries.



Visiting Scholars Series

April 15, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. McCord Auditorium, 3rd Floor, Dallas Hall

JAMES F. BROOKS, DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF AMERICAN RESEARCH PRESS AND MEMBER OF THE SAR RESEARCH FACULTY: "THE WOMEN AND MAIDENS YOU TAKE; THE MEN AND OLD WOMEN YOU MAY KILL: GENDER, PURITY AND PROPHETIC VIOLENCE IN THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST": This free public lecture explores the gendered aspects of one of the most horrific cases of intra-Indian violence in the colonial Southwest – the massacre of the inhabitants of Awat'ovi Pueblo by neighboring Hopi villagers in the autumn of 1700. Long understood through Spanish colonial documents as an act of retribution for Awat'ovi's willingness to allow Franciscan missionaries to re-establish the Catholic church at the pueblo, it seems that deeply gendered cycles of ritual "transgressions" and extreme acts of purification may also have underlain the event. Women found themselves at the

center of intra-and inter-village tensions between innovation and tradition, and experienced the violence as simultaneously victims of and agents in cultural revitalizing. Drawing upon published Hopi oral histories, interviews with contemporary Hopis, ethnological literature, and recent archaeological evidence, Brooks argues a larger case, that we must open a space for consideration of gendered violence in the pre-Columbian southwest, which may help us to understand not only social tensions and catastrophes in Hopi history, but shifting dynamics of power and exploitation among Ancestral Pueblos across the whole of the Colorado Plateau.

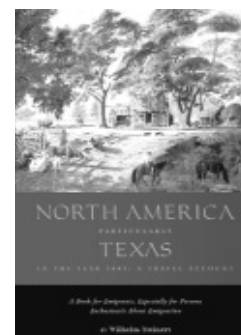
In 2002 Brooks published *Captives and Cousins: Slavery, Kinship, and Community in the Southwest Borderlands*, and *Confounding the Color Line: The Indian-Black Experience in North America*.



Wilhelm Steinert Returns

The DeGolyer Library and the Clements Center for Southwest Studies announce the first paperback edition of a Library of Texas Series best-seller: **"NORTH AMERICA, PARTICULARLY TEXAS IN THE YEAR 1849: A TRAVEL ACCOUNT, A BOOK FOR EMIGRANTS, ESPECIALLY FOR PERSONS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT EMIGRATION"** by Wilhelm Steinert. (www.smu.edu/swcenter/steinert1.htm)

Available for \$19.50 plus shipping and sales tax. Contact Betty Friedrich, (214) 768-3231 or bfriedri@smu.edu, at DeGolyer Library, Box 750396, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX 75275.





**The Louisiana Purchase, 1803 – 2003
A Bicentennial Exhibition & Lecture Series**

THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION

will be open to the public through February 27 during the library's regular hours of Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The exhibit covers: Louisiana Before the Purchase in Early Illustrated Books and Maps, 1691-1803; Exploration in the Pacific Northwest Before the Louisiana Purchase; The Purchase Negotiations and the Formal Transfer of the Territory to the U.S.: Political and Ceremonial Participants; In the Footsteps of the Lewis and Clark Expedition; Early Publications and Printed Images; A Glimpse at the Other Expeditions Relating to the Louisiana Purchase; Trade, Commerce, and Transportation in the Territory; The Louisiana Purchase Centennial Exposition in St. Louis, 1904. For more information, please call: (214) 768-3231.

The Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Lectures are free and open to the public. Receptions begin at 6:00 p.m., lectures at 7:00 p.m. DeGolyer Library (McFarlin Ave. and Hilltop Lane)

- **JANUARY 29: JAMES EARLY, SMU PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF ENGLISH: "HOW THE FRENCH QUARTER BECAME SPANISH BEFORE BECOMING AMERICAN IN 1803"**

Spanish occupation and administration of Louisiana was marked by nearly forty years of judicious government and by the nearly total rebuilding of New Orleans after two massive fires. Spanish New Orleans was cosmopolitan as the lecture will show by focusing on three individuals of differing national origins: an Irish-born general, Alejandro O'Reilly, who consolidated the Spanish occupation and the two men responsible for the three monumental public structures facing what is now Jackson Square: the French-born military engineer and architect, Gilberto Guillemard, and the Spanish-born real estate investor and philanthropist, Andres Almonester Roxas. The talk will be based on a chapter of Professor Early's new book, *Presidio, Mission and Urbanism in the United States*, published by SMU Press in cooperation with the William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies. Copies will be available for sale and signing.

- **FEBRUARY 17: JEREMY DUQUESNAY ADAMS, SMU DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY "MULTICULTURAL NEW ORLEANS: AN HISTORICAL SKETCH"**

JEREMY ADAMS is a specialist in early medieval intellectual and social history and a native of New Orleans. He combines his many talents and life experience in his book, *Multicultural New Orleans*,



Professor Light Cummins, Austin College, and his former advisee, Amy Meschke, an SMU History Ph.D. student. Cummins gave the Nov. 20th lecture in this series, focusing on Spanish and English-Speaking Louisiana before 1803.

which will provide the inspiration for this lecture on the eve of Mardi Gras. With the light and essential vision of someone immersed in the history and culture of his birthplace, Professor Adams will traverse such topics as social structures, education, literature, music, visual arts, cuisine, and carnival. Copies will be available for sale and signing.



**Empires Through Time:
From Rome to Washington**

*William P. Clements Department of History's
Stanton Sharp Lecture Series*

*For more information: www.smu.edu/history or
(214) 768-2984.*

- **FEBRUARY 25:** Lecture by William R. Louis, the Kerr Chair in English History and Culture at the University of Texas at Austin. Louis' works include *Imperialism at Bay* (1977) and *The British Empire in the Middle East* (1984). Grand Ballroom, 3rd floor, Umphrey Lee Center, 3300 Dyer St. Reception at 5:30 p.m., lecture at 6:00 p.m.
- **APRIL 5:** "American Empire, American Liberty?" A lecture by David M. Kennedy, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and Donald J. McLachlan Professor of History at Stanford University. Location: to be announced. Reception at 5:30 pm, lecture at 6 pm.



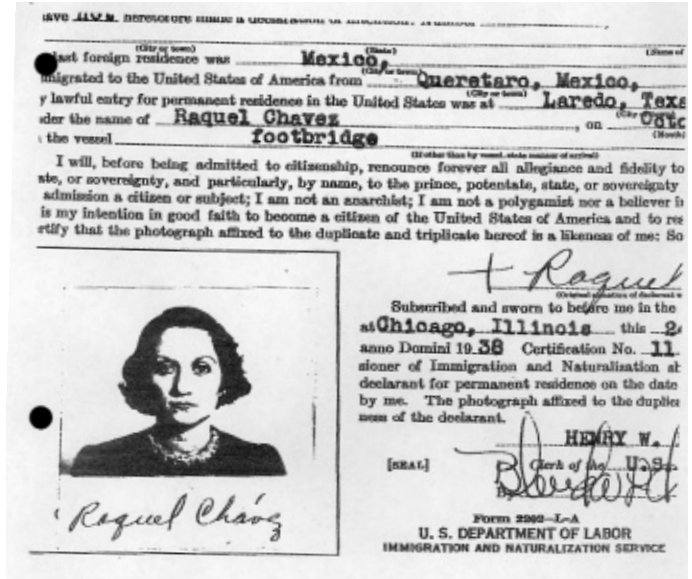
**The William P. Clements for Southwest Studies and the Ethnic Studies Program
at Southern Methodist University**

invite you to attend

**“Mapping Memories & Migrations: Re-Thinking Latina Histories”
February 28, 2004 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

*Latino Cultural Center
2600 Live Oak at Good Latimer
Dallas, TX 75204*

“Mapping Memories & Migrations: Re-Thinking Latina Histories” is a day-long symposium that looks at ways in which Latina women imprinted themselves on communities and places large and small, whether they were born in the U.S. or immigrated here. Ten Latina scholars will present their current research on topics that include the lives of children, homemakers, factory workers, educators, feminists, trade union leaders, and politicians. More information can be found on our website at www.smu.edu/swcenter or by contacting us at: 214-768-3684 or swcenter@smu.edu.



REGISTRATION FORM

This seminar is free and open to the public although registration is required.

You may complete the form below or register online at: <http://smu.edu/swcenter/registration.html>

A \$15 per person catered Mexican hot lunch buffet will be available, which must be paid in advance. The luncheon price for students is \$10.00 per person.

The conference hotel is the Radisson Hotel Central Dallas: (214) 750-6060. Ask for the “SMU Friends and Family” rate. If you book online at www.radisson.com and follow the links to Hotel Central Dallas (6060 North Central), you can book the Internet saver rate.

Name: _____

Organization or school (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Yes, I would like to have the Mexican buffet lunch. My check is enclosed in the amount of \$15 full rate or \$10 student rate.

No, I will not be having lunch but I would like to attend the seminar.

Please mail this registration form with your lunch check (if applicable) to:

**WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS CENTER FOR SOUTHWEST STUDIES
SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
P.O. BOX 750176
DALLAS, TX 75275-0176**



New Publication in The Library of Texas Series

Series editors: David Farmer & David Weber

George Wilkins Kendall, *Narrative of the Texan Santa Fe Expedition*. 2 vols. Edited by Gerald D. Saxon and William B. Taylor. (January 2004)

Kendall's *Narrative of the Texan Santa Fe Expedition*, originally published in two volumes by Harper and Brothers in 1844, is a classic of western Americana. It recounts the adventures and suffering of a small group of Texans who set out across the plains in 1841 to seize neighboring New Mexico. Operating under orders from the president of the Texas Republic, Mirabeau Lamar, the Texans were to take control of New Mexico through diplomacy or force. Instead, the poorly provisioned party reached New Mexico in desperate straits after getting lost on the arid high plains. Alerted to the Texans' intentions, New Mexico officials sent a force to meet them. Rather than receiving the warm welcome they had expected, the Texans were persuaded to surrender, taken prisoner, and marched to Mexico City. George Wilkins Kendall, the owner of a New Orleans newspaper, accompanied the Texans and shared their fate, but along the way he kept notes and sent dispatches to his newspaper. These became the basis of his remarkable book.

Kendall's *Narrative of the Texan Santa Fe Expedition* earned a wide readership. It sold an astonishing 40,000 copies in its first eight years. In 1856, Kendall

revised it, adding new material. The 1856 edition is the best and most coveted by scholars and collectors. We have reproduced that edition in the Library of Texas, and been fortunate to have it expertly introduced and annotated by Gerald D. Saxon, Associate Director of Libraries, The University of Texas at Arlington, and a specialist in Texas history of this era, and William B. Taylor, who holds the Muriel McKeivitt Sonne Chair in History at the University of California, Berkeley, and is one of the nation's leading historians of Mexico. Our edition of the *Narrative* is handsomely designed by Bradley Hutchinson, printed on acid-free paper, and indexed. No previous edition of Kendall's book has appeared with an index, making ours by far the most useful as well as the most attractive. We have printed 500 copies, of which 450 are for sale. Our edition of Kendall cannot be purchased through retail bookshops.

We have offered previous titles in the series at a price of \$55. Thanks to a generous grant from the Summerlee Foundation, we are able to offer the two volumes of Kendall's *Narrative* for \$75, plus \$6.19 Texas sales tax, \$7.00 for shipping. For details about ordering these books, please contact Betty Friedrich at (214) 768-3231 or bfriedri@smu.edu. Mailing address: DeGolyer Library, Box 750396, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX 75275.

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The Clements Center's newsletter is published semi-annually at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. For an email version of this newsletter or for more information about the Clements Center's grants, fellowships, publications and programs, please visit our website at www.smu.edu/swcenter or contact us at Dallas Hall, Room 356, (214) 768-1233 or swcenter@mail.smu.edu.



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