



## Tom Lea Month • 2017

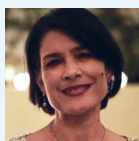


**PRESENTERS | SPONSORS | XII TRAVELERS**



# Meet the PRESENTERS

*Enjoy the perspectives of scholars, artists, students  
and notable members of our community.  
For more information on presenters, visit [TomLea.com](http://TomLea.com).*



**BARBARA GONZALEZ CIGARROA** was born one of 10 children in the border town of Laredo, Texas. Growing up in and attending public schools in one of the most poverty-stricken areas of the United States, she graduated summa cum laude from Harvard College and earned a joint JD-MSW degree from Washington University School of Law and the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. She has worked as an immigration attorney in New York City and in El Paso, Texas, and currently serves as an immigration judge. In *A Mexican Dream and Other Compositions*, Barbara brings to life the remarkable stories of four generations of her family including her parents, whose values and resolve inspired their children and grandchildren to excel.



**COMPADRES THERAPY, INC.** believes in teaming with health and education professionals to explore the healing and educational effect of the human/animal bond. Compadres is a nonprofit corporation that offers custom-built equine services to the client. Its purpose is to provide equine-facilitated activities and therapies to those in the community with special needs and those who are economically disadvantaged. Compadres also provides services to those who would benefit from the experience of the human animal bond.



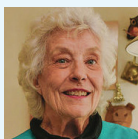
**TOMÁS CUEVAS** holds a Ph.D. in Management Sciences from the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. He did his post-doctoral studies at the Universidad de Girona, Spain. Dr. Cuevas is a research instructor in the Tourism Program of the Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juárez with interests in cultural heritage, tourism development, and management of cross-border and urban/rural tourism



**EL PASO SHERIFF'S POSSE** – In 1936, El Paso was a small border town recovering from the rum-running days of Prohibition. On Friday, November 13, 1936, the Sheriff sent out an invitation to a select group of El Pasoans, inviting them to meet and form a Sheriff's Posse, the second of its kind in the nation. Their first official act was to escort and protect the Sun Carnival Queen as she proceeded through the streets of El Paso. The Sheriff's Posse became a fixture on the scene in El Paso. 2017 presenters include Laura Aguilar, riding coach & trainer, and Christine Scott of Little Red Riding Hood Stables; and cowboy music with Michael Martin.

---

COVER IMAGE: Tom Lea, *Stampede* mural, 1940. Oil on canvas, 5.5' x 16'.  
Post Office, Odessa, Texas. Image courtesy of Tom Lea Institute.  
On Loan to the Ellen Noel Art Museum, Odessa, Texas.



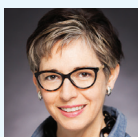
**KATHRYN FLYNN** has spent years tracking down and cataloging projects and artwork produced by New Mexicans who participated in New Deal Era (1933-1943) programs. Without her passion for preserving history, a chapter of New Mexico's past would have been lost beneath layers of paint, in dilapidated boxes, and on dusty shelves. She has documented paintings, buildings and murals, embroidered theater curtains, music, and writings. The federal programs for those in the arts fostered immense talent including Tom Lea, and left a body of work that influences people today. She was named one of the *10 Who Made a Difference*, and recognized as a *Santa Fe Living Treasure* in 2016.



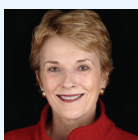
**DODY FUGATE** is a retired researcher and curator at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology in Santa Fe. She was curator of the H.P. Mera Research Collections for 24 years. Ms. Fugate has a Master's Degree in Archaeology from the University of Arizona as well as one in Museum Management. Fugate was born into a Southwestern family and has spent her life researching and writing about the people and history of the Southwestern United States and Northern Mexico.



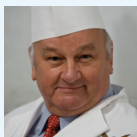
**JOHN HAMILTON**, director of the 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss Museum, served as the Air Defense Artillery Command historian from September 2004 through May 2009. He was an infantry officer from 1971 until his retirement from active duty in 1994 as a Lieutenant Colonel. Mr. Hamilton holds a Bachelor's Degree in History from Texas A&M University and a Master's Degree from the University of Southern California. His publications include *Blazing Skies*, *Air Defense Artillery on Fort Bliss Texas, 1940-2009*, and history articles.



**SHANNON HARRIS** works for Texan by Nature, a non-profit founded by former First Lady Laura Bush devoted to empowering Texans to conserve natural resources. Shannon's role is to manage three programs: one exclusively devoted to the recovery of monarch butterflies, one created to highlight the best conservation projects in the state, and a symposia series on conservation-related topics. Shannon is a native Texan with a background in program management and research at the Center for Sustainable Development and the School of Architecture at The University of Texas at Austin. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Geography and a Master's Degree in Sustainable Design from UT Austin.



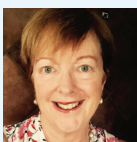
**ADAIR MARGO**, founder of the Tom Lea Institute, was the chairman of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities during the eight-year tenure of President George W. Bush. During her term, Margo focused on international cultural diplomacy originating with Mexico. She traveled with First Lady Laura Bush to Paris, France, for the United States' reentry into UNESCO in 2003 and was appointed by Secretary of State Colin Powell to the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO. Adair Margo received the Aguila Azteca, the highest recognition given by the Mexican Government to a non-Mexican citizen, in 2007. In 2008, she received the Presidential Citizens Medal from President George W. Bush who cited her "rallying of support for the cultural agencies and strengthening of international relationships from Mexico to China." Recent publications include *The Notebook of Nancy Lea* and *Tom Lea, Life Magazine, and World War II*.



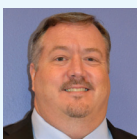
**ROLAND MESNIER** began his career as an apprentice to his older brother, working at a small patisserie in exchange for room and board. Mesnier was later hired as the pastry sous chef at the iconic Savoy Hotel in London. In April 1976, Roland came to the United States as executive pastry chef at The Homestead, a venerable resort hotel in Hot Springs, Virginia. In 1979, First Lady Rosalyn Carter hired him as White House executive pastry chef. He served under five presidents and retired in 2004, returning several times over the next two years to work on special projects for the Bush family. Since 2006 he has traveled the United States and around the world giving speeches, judging pastry competitions, and participating in fundraising events and book signings.



**BRADFORD PATTERSON** is the director for Community Heritage Development of the Texas Historical Commission, leading the staff dedicated to helping communities create and support their historic preservation infrastructure through the Main Street, Certified Local Government, and Texas Heritage Trails Programs. He has significant experience in historic preservation and architecture, having completed undergraduate architectural work at Miami University and a Masters of Architecture degree with a Certificate in Historic Preservation from the University of Texas at Austin. With the Commission since 1996, Mr. Patterson has handled architectural review and compliance, tax incentives, grant administration, ADA compliance, historic county courthouses restoration, economic impact analysis, and disaster-related response and recovery efforts for historic structures.



**DEBBIE RINDGE** founded the consulting firm Mirari in 2007, providing research, appraisal, lecturing, and curatorial services. In her career in academia she was associate professor and chair of the Art Department at North Central College near Chicago, Illinois; assistant professor at New Mexico State University; and a Fulbright Scholar in American Art at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in History and Art History at the University of California Santa Barbara and a Master's Degree in the History of Art at Ohio State University.



**JEFF ROMNEY** is the director of the El Paso Museum of Archeology. He attended Brigham Young University, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology with an emphasis in Southwest Archaeology and Native American Studies. While at BYU, Jeff worked with the Museum of Peoples and Cultures where he led several collections, research, and conservation projects. In 1995, Jeff transferred to Salt Lake County's Parks and Recreation Department as museum specialist at Wheeler Historic Farm, where he oversaw the curatorial, education, and development programs. Jeff was the director of development at the El Paso Museum of Art from 2006 until 2016, when he became director of the El Paso Museum of Archeology.





**DAN SHILLING**, a former high school teacher, joined the Arizona Humanities Council in 1984 and was named director in 1989, a position he held until 2003. He has served on more than 40 boards and commissions, including the Arizona Tourism Alliance and Grand Canyon Association.

Dan guided Arizona's early research on cultural heritage tourism, editing three publications and earning several honors, including the Arizona Office of Tourism *Person of the Year Award* and the Museum Association of Arizona *Distinguished Service Award*. Starting in 2004, Dan directed a three-year, federally funded project on place-based tourism, which resulted in three national conferences and the book *Civic Tourism: The Poetry and Politics of Place*. Dan holds a Ph.D. from Arizona State University, from which he received the *Distinguished Alumnus Award*, the school's highest honor.



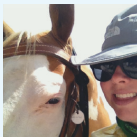
**GREGORY Z. SMITH** is the mayor pro-tem of the city of Las Cruces, New Mexico. He was born at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, the son of an Army artillery officer. He studied architecture at and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Design from Texas A&M University

as well as a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction degree from the University of Texas at Austin. After 20 years teaching elementary school, Greg returned to Las Cruces, where he started a residential design business and quickly became involved in several local non-profit organizations.



**DR. ALAN TYROCH** is professor and founding chair of surgery at the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine/Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso. He is chief of surgery and trauma medical director at University Medical Center of El Paso. He is a fifth-generation native Texan.

Dr. Tyroch earned a Bachelor's of Science in Microbiology from Texas A&M University and a Doctorate of Medicine from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. He completed a surgery internship at Baylor College of Medicine (Houston), a general surgery residency at the Phoenix Integrated Surgery Residency Program (Arizona) and a trauma/surgical critical care fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco - Fresno Campus.



**MELISSA WARAK** teaches modern and contemporary art at the University of Texas at El Paso. Her research focuses on art and music of the 1950s and 1960s. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in 2014. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in English and Art History

from Vanderbilt University and a Master's Degree in art history from the University of Texas at Austin. She has also taught modern and contemporary art at the University of Houston and Sam Houston State University.

# Meet the SPONSORS

## BILL & RONDA APPLETON

**A** native of El Paso, Bill Appleton grew up on Frontera Road in the Upper Valley. He was drafted in 1965 but discharged for asthma soon after. Bill attended UTEP, earning a degree in business in 1969. “In those days it was not a question of ‘what would I like to do,’ it was a question of ‘how do I make a living?’ What opened up is what I took.”

The carpet business came first, a job he had for three years. When Hugh Trotter, a man who attended his church, offered him a job at a moving company, Bill said yes. One of the salesmen working there had a pretty neighbor named Ronda Horton, who lived on the West Side and taught school in Canutillo. Meeting Ronda was one of the greatest things to happen to Bill – the first being meeting the Lord – and they have been married for 40 years. On April 1, 1981 – after Bill and Ronda had moved to Phoenix to run a moving company – Hugh called to see if Bill would like to buy his company. At that time the size of the company was about \$800,000 per year in revenue and about 20 employees. If Trotter had not financed the purchase, no acquisition would have been possible. “Hugh Trotter is still one of my favorite people,” he says.

Renamed Spectrum Relocation, the company grew to 10 branches in Texas (now eight), and developed seven other companies to handle the complexities of packing, loading, shipping and delivery of household goods. It started subcontracting for the Department of Defense and multi-national corporations such as Hewlett Packard. “We’ll get a call saying, ‘We’ve got to move our executive from San Francisco to Bangalore, India,’ and we’ll take care of it,” Bill says. At its peak, Spectrum had \$70 million in annual revenue and employed about 400 people. With changes in U.S. military presence overseas – 300,000 in Germany in 1985 down to 50,000 today – Spectrum continues to “adapt and overcome.” Today it employs about 250 people – including Bill’s daughter, Lizzie, and son-in-law, Bret Moon – and handles about 10,000 relocations a year.

Bill Appleton is a grateful man with a deep faith. As he reflects on the course of his life, he says, “The Lord took care of me.”

## AT&T

**T**HE history of AT&T dates back to the invention of the telephone itself. The company was established in 1879 by Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone. Bell also established American Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1885, which acquired the Bell Telephone Company and became the primary telephone company in the United States.

For more than 140 years AT&T has provided communications tools and technologies for people and businesses the world over. With more than 37,900 employees working in Texas, over 1.5 million hours of personal time given by AT&T employees and retirees in Texas to community outreach activities, and \$64.7 million contributed by the Company and its Foundation from 2012-2016, AT&T is a valuable community partner. Wherever their employees and customers live and work, AT&T supports projects, makes connections, and addresses community needs. “AT&T’s support of Tom Lea Month and the Institute allows us to extend our reach throughout Texas and beyond,” says Adair Margo, founder of the Tom Lea Institute.



## ROBERT & MAUREEN DECHERD

**R**OBERT and Maureen Decherd's storied families create multiple trails through the histories of El Paso, the state of Texas, and the nation – and into the lives of Tom and Sarah Lea. Robert's maternal grandfather, Robert Ewing Thomason, served as El Paso's mayor. Ewing was Tom Lea Sr.'s law partner, a federal judge, a U.S. representative, and a vice chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee during WWII. Robert's parents, Isabelle and Ben Decherd – then chairman of the A.H. Belo Corporation (parent of The Dallas Morning News) – owned the painting *Maclovio Sánchez and That Grey Mule*. Not long after Ben's death, Lea gave Isabelle a larger-than-life ink portrait, *My Friend Ben*, which ultimately became Robert's own, as did the chairmanship. He now serves as a director of A. H. Belo and as a director of Kimberly-Clark Corporation (since 1996). He also chairs Parks for Downtown Dallas, the successor organization to The Belo Foundation, and is working alongside the City and the Parks Department to build four new urban parks in downtown Dallas.

Robert and his wife, Maureen, also inherited the friendship with the Leas. Says Robert, "Even as a 10-year-old boy, before knowing much about Tom Lea's visual art, I was reading his books – first *The Brave Bulls*, then *The Hands of Cantú*." Adds Maureen, "I especially loved Tom and Sarah as people. They lived a larger life." Robert and Maureen purchased the painting *Rio Grande*. In 1997, they donated it to the El Paso Museum of Art. Says Robert, "We gave the piece hoping to stimulate more Tom Lea collectors to let go of their paintings. We wanted far more people to experience his art."

Four years later, newly inaugurated President George W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush requested loan of the painting from the El Paso Museum of Art. The Decherds attended the celebration for the redecorated Oval Office, where the painting hung for the whole of Bush's tenure. In 1989, family members and The Belo Foundation underwrote renovation of the West Texas Room in the Hall of State at Fair Park in Dallas, where Lea's murals enrich the renamed G.B. Dealy Library walls. Says Micki Costello, TLI board chairman, "The Decherds' support also funded our traveling World War II exhibit and book. Their consistent generosity has been awesome!"

## EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY

**E**L PASO Electric first began serving its customers on August 30, 1901. It was then known as the El Paso Electric Railway Company. Its primary business consisted of providing transportation through the streets of El Paso via mule-drawn streetcars, which were replaced in 1902 with electric streetcars. By 1925, the Company's core business had evolved to producing and distributing electricity. That year, the company changed its name to the El Paso Electric Company. Today, El Paso Electric is a regional electric utility providing generation, transmission, and distribution service to approximately 400,000 retail and wholesale customers in a 10,000-square-mile area of the Rio Grande Valley in west Texas and southern New Mexico. Its service territory extends from Hatch, New Mexico, to Van Horn, Texas.

In the 1940s, Tom Lea's close friend E.H. Will was the head of El Paso Electric. Lea gave him one of the original studies for the Pass of the North mural in the historic Federal Courthouse. When El Paso Electric first built what is now iconic – the Star on the Mountain – Tom Lea composed a poetic essay entitled *Old Mount Franklin*. First read over the radio in 1951, the essay still holds a place in the hearts of El Pasoans.

As a long-time sponsor of Tom Lea Month, El Paso Electric is supportive of the Institute's mission and its educational programs that reach audiences of all ages and encourage the exploration of regional art, history and culture.

## DAN & JOANN LONGORIA MATTRESS FIRM

**I**N 1997, Dan and Joann Longoria left a thriving Houston market to develop the Mattress Firm franchise (with business partner Alberto Estrada) in West Texas and New Mexico. They chose El Paso as a base, and opened the first store at I-10 and Viscount, then quickly a second on Sunland Park Drive. “El Pasoans told us that east-siders wouldn’t drive to the west, and vice versa,” Dan explains. “We had no idea what the Border economy was like,” he says, both smiling and shaking his head. “Levi Strauss had just closed. But we opened both stores to a great welcome!”

On their first business visit to El Paso – just for the day “to look at the market” – their real estate broker said he was taking them to the “best restaurant in town.” “We ended up enjoying the best Mexican food ever at Lucy’s in the King’s X,” Dan says. “And we just kept being surprised at the hidden jewels. We felt – and still feel today – El Paso is a unique city. We thought it could be one of our most successful markets for the Mattress Firm chain and that is exactly what happened!”

Twenty years later, the El Paso-New Mexico Mattress Firm franchise has opened its 28th store in the region – with more in the works – and employs more than 150 people in full-benefit positions. (The Mattress Firm Corporate chain has more than 1,500 stores nationally.)

## TEXAS MONTHLY

**T**EXAS *Monthly* enters its fifth decade as the state’s most prestigious publication with spirit and style. First published in 1973, *Texas Monthly* sought to provide a single communal voice to a state whose population was spread out among far-flung cities and a vast land mass. The timing was fortuitous: liquor-by-the-drink laws had newly passed and a boom in restaurants – and concomitant sense of sophisticated urban bonhomie – exploded throughout Texas cities. Only a year before, Southwest Airlines had launched, connecting Texas city-dwellers and reinforcing the state’s growing sense of economic clout. Into this world, *Texas Monthly* debuted, edited and written by a staff of Texans who enthusiastically took on all aspects of life in Texas – from current politics and hot-button issues to fabled cowboy culture, from big-city lifestyle topics to touchstones of the Texas myth such as boots and big hair. With its first issue, *Texas Monthly* was a success – and its mission has never wavered: to report on all of the state and every aspect of the state.

In pursuing this mission, *Texas Monthly* has always kept a focused eye on El Paso – from ongoing coverage of the city’s cultural and civic life to recommendations about where to eat. Tom Lea and his legacy also run like a thread in *Texas Monthly* – in recognition of the artist’s standing as the foremost communicator of the state’s visual landscape. As a 1983 profile of the artist noted, Tom Lea was “famous for his murals.” In the August 1994 issue, Anne Dingus wrote about Lea’s battle paintings, calling the works “the most extensive and authentic body of American art of World War II.”

Celebrating Texas, its vibrant cities, its remarkable artists – that’s what *Texas Monthly* is all about.



## SARAH FARMS

**S**ARAH Farms is a family-owned dairy with a history dating back to the 18th century. Their mission is to be the number-one dairy supplier in the southwest providing on-time deliveries of the highest quality dairy products at the lowest sustainable prices; to continue to grow their business by providing the best quality service and price to their customers; and to provide a safe and friendly workplace for their associates.

Sarah Farms is named for Hein Hettinga's only daughter, Sarah. GH Dairy is named after the Hettinga's oldest son, Gerben. The family is a seventh-generation dairy producer, dating back to ancestors in the Netherlands in 1711. In 1994, Hein Hettinga opened the first processing plant in Yuma, Arizona. GH Processing opened in 2005 to supply California standard milk to southern California. The newest plant, GH Dairy, opened in 2008 in El Paso, Texas, and supplies milk to Texas and New Mexico. The company is still family owned and operated. All three plants produce the Sarah Farms brand dairy products with pride.

In addition to their support of the Tom Lea Institute and its educational programs, Sarah Farms has a history of community involvement. They recently partnered with the El Paso Chihuahuas to launch a "We Love Milk Promotion," a community initiative that encourages students to be healthy and drink milk. "The El Paso community has been very good to Sarah Farms and we love being a part of it. We are honored to work with the Tom Lea Institute and help preserve El Paso's rich history."

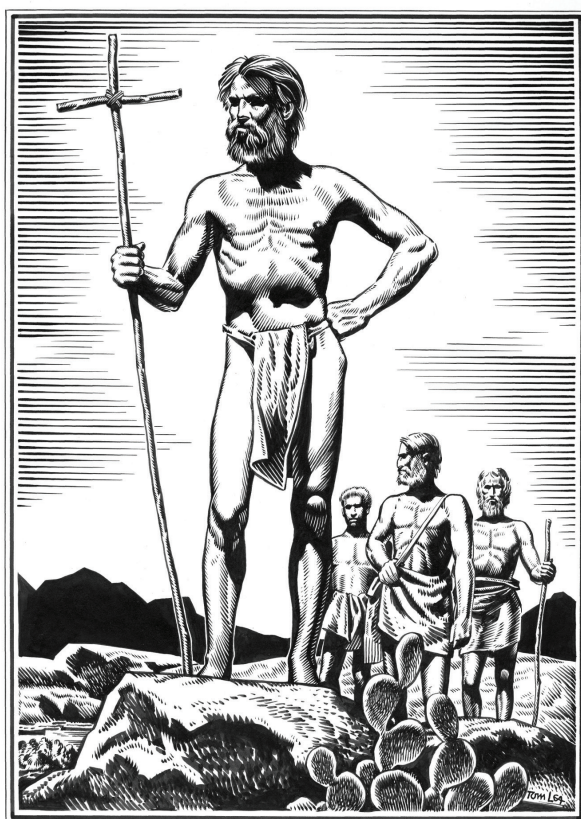
## THANKS TO THESE GENEROUS SPONSORS



# Honoring our XII TRAVELERS

*Established by the Tom Lea Institute in 2011 through the leadership of founding member J.P. Bryan, the Society of the XII Travelers is comprised of the first twelve \$100,000 donors to the Tom Lea Institute.*

*The \$1.25-million-dollar endowment will provide a percentage of the annual operating costs of the Tom Lea Institute.*

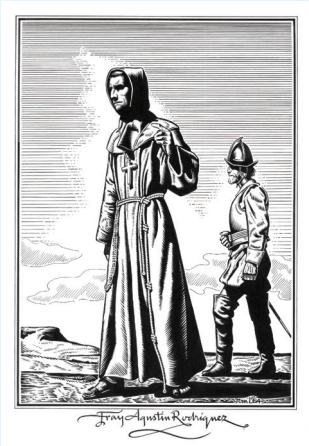


*Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca*

*Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca Travelers*

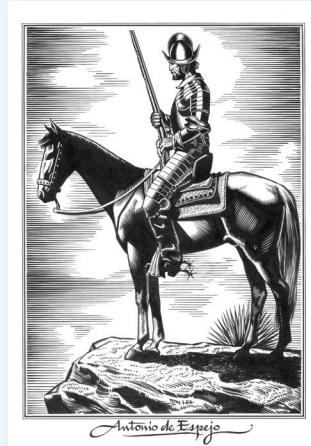
J.P. & Mary Jon Bryan,  
Houston





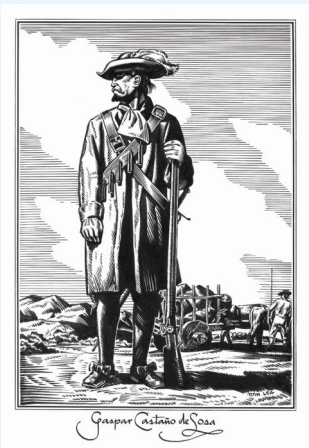
***Fray Agustin Rodriguez Traveler***

Betty Ruth Wakefield Haley,  
El Paso



***Antonio de Espejo Travelers***

George W. & Laura Bush,  
Dallas



***Gaspar Castaño De Sosa Travelers***

Jack & Evonne Cardwell,  
El Paso



***Juan De Oñate Travelers***

Woody & Gayle Hunt,  
El Paso



***Garcia de San Francisco Travelers***

Dee & Adair Margo  
El Paso



***Don Diego de Vargas Travelers***

Rick & Ginger Francis,  
El Paso



Tom Lea, *Looking South*, 1983.

Watercolor, 12 ½ x 15 ½. Collection of Rick Amstater. Image Courtesy of Tom Lea Institute.

Tom Lea  
INSTITUTE