

THE CHISHOLM TRAIL HERITAGE MUSEUM

CUERO
TEXAS

R O U N D  U P

FALL
2006

WWW.CHISHOLMTRAILMUSEUM.ORG

SHOP! SHOP! SHOP!
PREVIEW AUCTION ITEMS INSIDE

DON'T FENCE ME IN! AND OTHER LIFE LESSONS INTERPRETIVE CONCEPT PLAN LAYS FOUNDATION FOR MUSEUM'S MESSAGE

The CTHM has begun work on an Interpretive Concept Plan and has engaged some of the state's most respected historians to assist in the task. Noted Texas historian and retired Smithsonian curator **Lonn Taylor** spent Friday and Saturday, August 18 and 19 in Cuero working with approximately 20 regional "stakeholders" and Museum board members to determine the concept plan for developing the story of the Museum.

As Taylor explained in the workshop, "the most difficult part of creating an exhibit is crafting the one-sentence concept statement that will determine what the exhibit is about." Condensing a full day's worth of ideas by 20 participants is not an easy task, but Taylor's report produced the following statement, "Don't Fence Me In and Other Life Lessons: How fortitude, ingenuity and skill created an open-range ranching and trail driving industry in the country along the Guadalupe River Valley, and how those qualities are still deeply ingrained in that region's heritage."

Taylor, who is now retired in Fort Davis with his wife Dedie, spent 18 years at the **National Museum of American History** at the **Smithsonian Institute** in Washington, D.C. This program, which entails the development of the Interpretive Concept Plan, is made possible in part by a grant from **Humanities Texas**, the state partner of the **National Endowment for the Humanities**. With offices in Austin, Humanities Texas "supports and develops public programs grounded in history, litera-



COMMUNITY AT WORK

Board members and "stakeholders" (friends of the Museum) gathered in August to lay the foundations of an Interpretive Concept Plan.


From front right to left and then left to right around the rear of table: Missi Thomas, Gary Dunnam, Bob Parvin, Ron Walker, Kay Walker, Mickey Pillow, John Hildebrand, and Helen Walker. Also present: Erwin Wright and Pat Elder.

ture, philosophy and other disciplines of the humanities." The grant award was drawn from a federal grant made available through *We the People*, an initiative designed by the **National Endowment for the Humanities** to strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture.

Bruce Shackelford, another noted Texas historian, has also been retained to assist the Museum in the creation and execution of the Interpretive Concept Plan. Shackelford served as content consultant for the Frontier Texas! museum project in Abilene, Texas and most recently as guest curator for an exhibit that opened earlier this summer at the Witte

Museum in San Antonio titled, *A Wild and Vivid Land, Stories of South Texas*.

Shackelford's work with the Museum will entail exhibit content planning and development; production, including proper archival presentation, lighting and mounting; and final review of the Interpretive Concept Plan.





In support of the Plan, the Museum's Board is committed to collecting and preserving artifacts, memorabilia and crafted work relating to this region's historic contributions to the nation's great cattle drive era. 



Historian Lonn Taylor leads a group in discussion about the future Museum's goals, audience and message.

INTERPRE-WHAT?

An Interpretive Concept Plan, or "concept outline," is a document that includes the following:

-  A statement of the exhibit's goals, intended audiences and interpretive philosophy
-  An outline of the exhibit's contents
-  A list of artifacts that might be included to support exhibits
-  Suggestions for public programs that will reinforce the Museum's message

RESTORATION CONTINUES

CUERO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION GRANTS \$25,000

The **Cuero Development Corporation (CDC)** recently awarded the CTHM construction funds to continue its plan for restoring the exterior of the historic Knights of Pythias Hall. **The grant award, in the amount of \$25,000, will enable the Museum to execute Phase IV of its seven-phase Restoration Master Plan and its goal of restoring all four façades of the structure by the end of this year.** Specifically, the funds will be used to restore the rear (West) façade of the structure, including cleaning and re-pointing the brick, then removing cinder block infill and replacing original doors and a window in those openings.

Shelley South, Director of the Cuero Development Corporation, remarked, "The CDC is excited to participate in a project designed to revitalize our community. The project will not only benefit the citizens of Cuero as a multi-purpose facility, but will serve as an added attraction for visitors to

our town, strengthening the economic health and vitality of our local economy. We are thrilled with the opportunity of partnering with the Museum in creating such a worthwhile asset for the community."

"The CDC is excited to participate in a project designed to revitalize our community."

The Cuero Development Corporation is an economic development branch of the City of Cuero with a mission to "promote, develop and enhance economic and community development activities" for the community.

Earlier this year, the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** awarded the organization \$3,000 in matching funds for architectural planning and construction documents. **Cuero Visionaries in Preservation** has

contributed \$5,000 in additional funding, which will be added to the funds set aside to complete Phase IV.

By implementing and completing Phases I and II in 2005 / 2006, the CTHM mitigated many of the building's endangerment issues, which included severe deterioration of second floor windows and water penetration into the building through cracks in the exterior brick and mortar. The **Texas Historical Commission** recognized the need for immediate attention to these endangerment issues and in 2004 awarded the CTHM \$25,000 from the **Texas Preservation Trust Fund**.

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum greatly appreciates the financial participation of the CDC, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and Cuero Visionaries in Preservation for their assistance in continuing development of the project and helping to build a brighter economic future for Cuero and the greater Golden Crescent Region of Texas.

SUMMERLEE FOUNDATION GIVES SUPPORT FOR CONCEPT PLAN

Dallas-based Summerlee Foundation recently announced approval of a grant in the amount of \$7,500 to the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum for the development of its Interpretive Concept Plan.

The Interpretive Concept Plan, currently in development, will define the content and story line of our exhibits, and guide the message we deliver to our future audience. The Plan will:

- include development of exhibit content;
- elicit information from the region's diverse communities about topics and artifacts to be included in those exhibits; and
- determine the scope of the exhibit.

This information will then be used as a guide for script preparation and design documents for the permanent collection.

The Summerlee Foundation, which supports research and educational projects in the history of Texas, is a strong advocate of collaborative projects between historical organizations. "It makes good sense for historical organizations to share resources to meet mutual objectives in such fields as interpretation, conservation, publications, oral histories and school programs," states the organization. To date, the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum has partnered with several other local cultural and educational institutions, including the **Cuero Heritage Museum**.

For example, in 2003, the two museums presented *Photographs and Paragaphs*, a traveling exhibit created by the **Institute of Texan Cultures** in San Antonio. The exhibit, which was also sponsored by the **Cuero Cultural and Heritage**

Foundation and the **Cuero Chamber of Commerce**, was highlighted with a lecture by Dr. Jenny Lind Porter, who spoke on the life of famed author **O. Henry** and his life in South Texas.

In another collaborative effort, the CTHM partnered with the Cuero Cultural and Heritage Foundation in 2005 to bring Texas historian Bruce Shackelford to Cuero. Shackelford presented a lecture titled *The Return of the Centaur – Spanish Horsemanship in Mexico*. Both lectures were made possible in part by a grant from **Humanities Texas**, a state agency partnering with the **National Endowment for the Humanities**.


Earlier this summer **Humanities Texas** awarded the Museum \$7,500 in matching funds from a federal grant program, *We the People*.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GATHERS STEAM

Beginning in late 2005, the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum Board of Directors launched a capital campaign to raise construction and development funds, towards the goal of opening the Museum in early 2009.

The fund raising goal of the 2006 – 2008 Capital Campaign, for individuals, ranches, and local businesses, is \$300,000. As of the end of September 2006, the Campaign has raised \$110,000 in pledges and contributions, about 37% of the multi-year goal for individuals, ranches and local business. In this newsletter, we proudly include a list of the fine individuals and firms that have contributed to date. Thank you, one and all!

However, the total Capital Campaign fund raising goal is \$2.75 Million dollars, including a \$1M endowment fund. To help meet this goal, the Board of Directors is actively pursuing funding and grants through private foundations and government agencies to help meet the total capital requirements of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum. Encouraging progress is being made.

Towards this end, we are keeping the focus on our goal: to open a world class heritage museum for the Crossroads region before the end of the decade. **Contact any Board member to make your pledge today, or leave a voice message at (830) 236-5533.** 



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

AS OF SEPTEMBER 2006

Pioneer Circle

\$10,000 and Above

R. F. Blackwell Estate
William and Franke Albrecht
Bill and Nancy Blackwell
Robert Oliver
Margaret (Missi) Thomas
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Texas

Pioneer Circle

\$5,000 and Above

David and Diana Burrow
Mrs. Lem Duderstadt
Pat and Karyn Elder
Trust Texas Bank
Anne Friar Thomas
Helen R. Walker
Ron and Kay Walker

Pioneer Circle

\$2500 and Above

Mrs. G. Graham Hamilton
John and Carol Hildebrand
Ben and Tina McCarthy
The Steen Family
Susan Wallis

Trail Blazers

\$500 and Above

Michael and Tempy McLeod
Travis and Peggy Basham
John & Anne Cain and
Jim Easterling
East End Builders:
John Hamilton/ Chip Dence
Dan and Candy Glidden
Dr. James Herbst II
Brad and Janet James
Richard Lucas
Charles and Melba McGlothlin
Linda Schibi

Capital Campaign Patrons

Ricky and Lindy Gohmert
Susan Massey
Stephanie Blackwell
Bill and Verlinde Doubleday
Red and Gay Griffin
Mark and Lou Houser
Patricia Leske
Fred and Virginia Stoldt
Bill Fly
Travis and Irene Meitzen

MEMORIALS

Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Albrecht
Billy and Joyce Albrecht

W. D. "Billy" Albrecht
Sue Sulsar
Dan & Candy Glidden
Bobby & Patsy Goebel
Robert Oliver
Rick Gohmert
The Steen Family

James "Jimmy" Allison
Steen Family

E. D. Bawcom
Jeff Steen

Alec Beck
Jeff Steen

Bobby Burrows
Jeff Steen

Claire Brown
Jeff Steen

Gene Brown
Jeff Steen
Mark A. Brown

Vincent Buckley
Jeff Steen

Catherine Luby Davis
Jeff Steen

Dr. Thurston Dean
Jeff Steen

Vernon Glass
Robert Oliver

Blair James
Mrs. Blair James

Bill Krause
The Steen Family

Rev. Chester Polk, Sr.
Anne Friar Thomas

Rollie Simon
Carolyn Kruger
Anne Friar Thomas

Red Spears
Jeff Steen

N. A. Steen
Ann Rice

Clyde Steen
The Steen Family

Ms. Jesse Thompson
Jeff Steen

Phillip Weathers

Bill & Nancy Blackwell
Sue Sulsar

Mary Wofford
Gale & Gay Oliver

HONORARIA

David & Diana Burrow
Temple & Kathy Dickson

Meredith Fisher
Robert Oliver

2006 MEMBERSHIP

We extend our deep appreciation to those who have supported the Museum this year. – the Board of Directors

\$500.00 POINT MAN

William & Franke Albrecht
Travis & Peggy Basham
Paul & Jill Crozier
Temple & Kathy Dickson
Errol John & Shirley Dietze
Freund Funeral Home, Inc.
Lester & Burdine Giese
Dan & Candy Glidden
Ilene Gohmert
Paul & Dorothy Guthrie
Allan & Neva Irwin
Susan Peck Massey
Fred Pottinger
Darrell & Carol Rangnow
Shannon & Gay Ratliff
Bill & Katherine Reilly
Ken & Mary Sample
Linda D. Schibi

\$250.00 SWING RIDER

Margaret M. Allums
David & Debra Baros
Sidney I. Barfield
Bill & Margie Bell
Bill & Nancy Blackwell
Lovel & Avis Ann Blain
Dr. & Mrs. Louis Boening
Jimmy & Betty Ann Borchers
David & Mignon Brown
Mark & Bonnie Brown
Frank & Martha Burns
Paddy & Bettye Burwell
John & Anne Cain
Louis & Mollie Carter
Paul & Cathy Celauro
Jackie & Yvonne Childs
Charles E. Cole, III
Barry & Judy Copenhaver
Gail Dino
Mrs. Lem Duderstadt
Sid Duderstadt
Wes & Sandy Dukes
Blake & Kathy Dunn
Pat & Karyn Elder
Hershal & Trudy Ferguson
William & Mary Beth Finney
Walter & Judy Fisher

Meredith B. Fischer
Bobby & Patsy Goebel
Rick & Lindy Gohmert
Pat & Patricia Hedgcoxe
Skip & Terry Henkel
Dr. James R. Herbst II
John & Carol Hildebrand
David & Binnie Hoffman
Jaqueline Hyden
Chuck & Roseann Jacob
Kirk & Polly Laging
Gaye Gilster Lee
Jamie & Shannon Mann
Tommy & Margie Mayfield
Judy A. McAda
Bob & Mary McCurdy
Mike & Temp McLeod
Billy & Linda Miller
Denis & Sheryl Mueller
Gale & Gay Oliver
Robert Oliver
Will Oliver
Randy & Rhonda Pakebusch
Charles & Jaque Papacek
Tim & Ann Pennell
Chris Pelligrino & John Teinert
Nathan & Suzie Post
Joe & Wanda Reuss
Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt
Bucky & Dee Sager
Joe & Gayle Sanders
Joe & Rosemary Sheppard
Robert & Helen Shook
Tod & Lonna Slone
David & Mary Sue Sparks
Lias "Bubba" Steen
Sharon Steen & Gary Dunnam
Don Stiles, Sr.
Don & Linda Stiles, Jr.
Clint & Sue Stiles
Dr. Sharon Stubblefield
& Daniel Jezioro
Victoria Auto Auction
Helen R. Walker
Bibba Wilde
Earl & Darlene Wyatt
Michael R. Zuber

\$100.00 DRAG RIDER

Curtis & Betty Jo Afflerbach
Mrs. W. D. Albrecht
Ted & Frances Aven
Joe & Peggy Bear
Michael & Debra Benge
Bill Braden
Robert & Angie Briggs
J. Gandolf Burrus
John & Anne Cain
James & Mary Cloughton
John & Emily Davis
James & Judy Evans
William C. Foster
Doris Freer
Russ Goins
James & Ann Hedrick
Tommy Honeycutt
Mrs. Blair James
Roy & Selda Johnson
Steve Klahn
Joe Loiacono
Tim & Sylvia Matthews
Lewis & Charlotte McFadin
Jimmie & Sue McMahan
Alton & Sara Meyer
Charles & Jean Nagel
Margaret Dunn O'Connor
Mickey & Gwen Pillow
Dorothy B. Ploeger
Henry & Jean Ann Sheppard
Sue Sulsar
Anne Friar Thomas
Bruce Wiggs & Patrick Kurtz

\$100.00 CROCKETT CARDWELL STORE (BUSINESS)

The Garden Path Nursery
Wagner's Hardware/
Gram's Attic
Weldon Ranches
(Stayton & Mildred)
Austin Fine Properties

\$50.00 WRANGLER

Bill & Margie Bell
Charles & Mary Katherine
Borchers

Chris & Teri Chambers
Jim & Margaret Conrad
Charles E. Cusack, Jr.
Terrell W. Dahlman
Clete & Kathleen Ernster
Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Frazier
Arlen & Sally Goebel
Sara Hopkins
Floyd & Tommie Howerton
David & Kristen Jesulaitis
Robert & Kerry Rhotenberry
Rip & Tracy Rutherford
Julianne F. Speer
Rayelynn Speer
Jo Betsy Vaught
Carlos & Tricia Verastegui
Ruth Weathers
Robert Webb

\$25.00 BUCKAROO

James A. Alcott
Carroll J. Brincefield
Judy Easley
J. W. Grant
Jamie Hancock
Bonnie Chisholm Helten
Linda Henderson
Mrs. D. G. Jacob
Patrick H. Keefe, Jr.
Peggy Ledbetter
Mary Katherine McCurdy
Matthew McCurdy
Iris Morrow
Jo R. Plume
Clara Prater
Ben E. Prause
LeOlive Rogge
Zenna Snowden
Helen L. Willingham
F. W. Wilson

Did You Know?

*Memberships are now annual,
renewing each January.*

**Contact Sue Sulsar to join:
(830) 236-5338**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Chisholm Trail Heritage
Museum's mission is to
preserve the ranching and
Western culture of
South Central Texas through
interpretive exhibits, research,
and educational programs.

The CTHM
is a 501(c)(3) corporation.

www.chisholmtrailmuseum.org



CHISHOLM TRAIL HERITAGE MUSEUM
Box 866
Cuero, Texas 77954

DON'T BE LATE!

**Taste of the Trail III
Saturday Nov. 11, 2006**

TASTE OF THE TRAIL III Silent Auction

Sneak Preview of Silent Auction Items

Check out this list of unique collector's items, jewelry, decor items, works of art and Western-inspired pieces. They're going, going, *gone!* to the most generous Museum supporters at Taste of the Trail III on November 11, 2006.

Western Art at its Best

Talented artist Roberta Wesley uses an alkyd medium to create the luminous, detailed colors of realism in her work. A beautiful addition to your collection of Western art.

Generously donated by Bobby & Patsy Goebel

Squash'd Blossoms Designs

Unique art work in these hammered petals and ferns, three 9 x 12 designs, matted and framed.

Generously donated by "it's anne original" – Anne Cain

Country Music Legends Keepsake

Three of your favorite female country artists' autographs on a framed Texas bandana, along with the latest CDs from LeeAnn Rimes, Martina McBride and Le Ann Womack.

Generously donated by 7-C Unlimited, Steve & Phylis Canion

Antiques & Western Décor

Find that one special piece to complete your country home at Kleider-Shranks Antiques.

This \$ 200.00 gift certificate to this charming Cuero Antique Store has been generously donated by Dunn Services, Inc.; Blake & Kathy Dunn

Latin Décor

Add warmth and color to your dining table with a beautiful woven runner. Generous size, with deep Guatemalan hues and tassels.

Generously donated by a Friend of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum

Horse & Hide

This unique aged pine wood with hand tooled bench and cowhide seat would look great in your foyer, den or office.

Generously donated by Ranch House Spirits & Gifts, Don & Linda Stiles

Santa Fe Style

Turquoise & Coral – always in style! This wonderfully embellished belt will be "in" for years and years.

Generously donated by Cricket & Company, Victoria, TX

Wildflowers Galore!

Enjoy the beautiful colors of nature in this original wildflower painting. Pairing South Texas cactus with the bold colors of wildflowers makes this one feel "close to home."

Generously donated by a Friend of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum

Ange du Bois

"Angel of Wood" from the Mississippi River. This beautiful drift wood angel with bark wings was lovingly created by New Orleans artist Anne Cain.

Generously donated by "it's anne original," Anne Cain

Ranch-style Dining

Set your table with "Brands" pattern from Montana Lifestyles (16 piece service for 4) and 4 chargers.

Generously donated by Kleider-Shranks Antiques, Linda Ruschhaupt

Poker Night for "The Girls"

Betting, Bellinis, and a wonderful array of hors d'oeuvres are in order for a fun-filled evening with you and five friends. A local "expert" will teach you the rules and strategies of Texas Hold 'Em (held at the charming Farm House Cottage in Cuero).

Generously donated by Lindy Gohmert and Sue Sulsar

Handcrafted Copper

Find a place for this pair of unusual copper light fixtures. Truly "one of a kind"!

Generously donated by Texas Country Realty, Rick & Lindy Gohmert

TASTE OF THE TRAIL III Silent Auction

CONTINUED

Fun Cowboy Décor

These wonderfully kitschy cowboy lamps are true conversation pieces, and will look great in any room of your "camp house!"

Generously donated by a Friend of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum

Southwestern Style Pillow

Enjoy the comfort and make a statement with this distressed leather pillow.

Generously donated by Double D Home, Yoakum, Texas

Classical Garden Art

The natural look and feel of this pair of poured and formed cement wall planters will enhance any garden wall.

Generously donated by a Friend of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum

À la Provence

Enjoy the beautiful colors and style of the South of France in these French tile trivets.

Generously donated by Anne Cain

Ride 'Em, Cowboy!

A moment in time: See how the real cowboys rode in this framed photograph of a turn of the century working cowboy on his trusty paint pony.

Generously donated by a Friend of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum

"Soup's On"

Enjoy this signed, matted print of a watercolor chuck wagon scene painted by Finis Collins, one of the "Watercolor Gang" and artist of *Remembering our Heritage* (see Live Auction!).

Generously donated by Finis Collins and Robert Oliver

1851 Colt "Peacemaker" Lamp

This hand-crafted lamp is supported by a base made from horse shoes and decorated with Texas stars.

Hand made by our very own De Witt County Sheriff.
Generously donated by Jode and Gina Zavesky

Flatware and Napkins with Tray

A total of thirteen five-piece place settings of beautiful flatware, including knife, dinner fork, salad fork, soup spoon, and coffee spoon. Wrapped with chic, brilliantly

striped cloth napkins and presented on a serving tray.

Generously donated by a Friend of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum

Fine Dining

Gift certificate for dinner for two at the exclusive **Café Annie** in Houston.

Generously donated by John Cain

Ride in Style

Dress up your horse with this beautiful set of decorated leather reins.

Generously donated by a Friend of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum.

Decorate Your Country Home

This rustic basket arranged with antlers, berries, feathers, and dried accents will add that "extra touch" to your country home.

Generously donated by Expressions Floral and Gifts, Victoria, TX; Carol Plentl and Holly Weber

Bring Your Own Saddle

We will provide this custom-made pair of Tapaderos.

Generously donated by a Friend of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum.

Catch 'em in Style

Advertise your business on six (6) Columbia Fishing Shirts embroidered with your company logo. Choose from long or short sleeved styles, any color, any size.

Generously donated by Watermark Corporate Apparel & Promotions, Jason Elder

Traditional Christmas

Set a beautiful Christmas spread with an elegant traditional centerpiece gracing your dinner table, made by the top floral arranger in Houston, Bobby Esparza.

Generously donated by Bobby Esparza

Golf & Gourmet

Enjoy a round of golf and a breakfast or lunch for four at the beautiful Club at Club Sonterra in North Central San Antonio.

Generously donated by Kevin & Stacey Semtner

TASTE OF THE TRAIL III Live Auction



Don't miss your opportunity to give to the Museum, and enjoy terrific trips, hunts, and one-of-a-kind art and collector's items.

Finis Collins Limited Edition Prints

Finis Collins created this original limited edition print for the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum. Titled *Remembering Our Heritage*, the image size is 22 x 32 inches. Limited edition of only 175 prints (all are signed and numbered). The Museum has selected four prints, which have been handsomely framed, to be auctioned at this event.

Framing underwritten by Errol John Dietze, Bill Blackwell and Robert Oliver.

Pasture Golf: The Legendary Cow Chip Classic

Duffers, watch your step out there! But, don't miss this opportunity to buy a team to the legendary Cow Chip Classic! Saddle your gang, and head for the "links" at Windy Hill in Westhoff, Texas. The Steen Family and the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum Board of Directors will again be your hosts for another zany afternoon of Texas-style boot stompin,' club swingin,' strictly non-regulation pasture golf.

Each Pasture Golf team may have six players. This event is date-specific. There will be three Pasture Golf teams auctioned at this evening's event.

Donated by the Steen Family and Directors of the Museum.

Spurs that Jingle Jangle Jingle III

One-of-a-kind spurs created by Mr. R.F. Ford of Water Valley, Texas. Ford noted, "I had been shoeing horses for 22 years, always around horses and broke a lot of horses as well," before he made the switch to full-time spur making in 1984. Mr. Ford was the recipient of the Academy of Western Artists Award for Spur Maker of the Year in 1996.

Grab this rare opportunity to own a piece of this living legend's work: a magnificent pair of spurs, custom-made for Taste of the Trail.

Organized by Bucky Sager, Cuero, Texas.

Dove Hunt

Ten lucky hunters can enjoy hunting dove on a lease near the Karnes County line near Yorktown, Texas. Your hosts will provide a game dinner for your party.

Donated by Brad James, Lovel Blain and Steve Urbanovsky.

The Stars at Night

Brad Braune, celebrated San Antonio cowboy and Western artist, has generously offered a romantic artwork titled *The Stars at Night*. This signed and numbered 32 x 44 inch limited edition giclée print is handsomely showcased in a custom-crafted, mission-style frame. Museum quality printing and acid-free archival mounting.

Donated by Brad Braune, San Antonio

Custom Spurs

Spur collector Bucky Sager and local spur maker Jimmy Koranek offer this unique opportunity to design your own custom pair of spurs – personalized with your initials or ranch brand.

This offer made possible by Dee & Bucky Sager and Bucky's Discount Liquors

Cattle Drive & Roundup at Bellevue Ranch

Friday Evening: Cocktails and light supper

Saturday: Cattle Drive and Round-Up

Cowboy breakfast (and cowboy lunch) provided by Joe Adams and the Friar-Thomas Ranch chuck wagon cooks. Tim Pennell, Pat Elder and William Finney will provide horses and Ted Aven will provide a wagon for a cattle drive and round-up.

Katherine Reilly will photograph the weekend's events. Celebrity chuck wagon cook, Clifford Teinert

TASTE OF THE TRAIL III *Live Auction* continued

will provide Saturday's dinner meal.

Sunday: Happy Trails Cowboy Breakfast

Your friendly cowboy hosts will serve up a fitting finish to this unforgettable weekend! Date specific.

Generously donated by Ann & Tim Pennell, Robert Oliver, Karyn & Pat Elder, Mary Beth & William Finney, Frances & Ted Aven, Clifford Teinert, and Katherine and Bill Reilly.

Hand-hitched Horsehair Quirt

The "Old Montana Prison," built by convict labor and commonly known as "Deer Lodge" was established in 1871. With plenty of time on their hands, Montana prisoners have established the fine tradition of hitching horsehair – one such beautiful detailed example offered at this year's Taste of the Trail.

Generously donated by David Hewitt of Austin.

San Antonio Weekend Getaway

Savor a romantic weekend in San Antonio with luxurious accommodations at the historic Menger Hotel, with dinners at the River City's hottest restaurants. Add more goodies – to be announced – and top off with a special brunch at The Club at Sonterra, just north of San Antonio.

Generously donated by a Friend of the Museum

Bronze Stagecoach

Nothing gives timeless beauty to an interior quite like an equestrian bronze. Capturing motion and story in fluidly cast and burnished metal, this dramatic sculpture is of a stagecoach rushing over rocky terrain, drawn by a team of six.

Generously donated by Kay & Lee Tillman

Training Table: Dine with Coach Bum Phillips

Bum Phillips, one of the legendary football coaches of our time, has generously offered to share an evening of game day memories and a memorable meal with the winners of this very special live-auction item. This auction item must be redeemed in 90 days from date of purchase.

Organized by Mickey Pillow, Goliad, Texas.

Go West, Gals! Double D Ranch Wear

DeWitt County is home to one of the country's foremost designers of popular Western fashion, Double D Ranch Wear. This outstanding item includes a complete outfit: leather jacket, pullover, skirt, and accessories.

Custom studding on rich brown leather adds city chic to the rough 'n' tumble jacket. Metal finishes and texture lend character, and you give it the attitude!

Layer the jacket over a metallic knit shell in pewter

and a skirt in tiers of silk charmeuse and lace. A multi-strand silver necklace and studded leather belt provide the dramatic finishing touches. Turn up your style volume, and live out loud in Double D Ranch Wear! *Generously donated by the Double D Family.*

Steaks & Hay

An exclusive offering for 20 people to gather for a county-style steak dinner and fixin's – prepared and served on a ranch that was settled in DeWitt County nearly two centuries ago. Your post-dinner experiences will include an unforgettable scenic tour over the historic Friar ranch, settled in the 1840s.

Generously donated by Anne Friar Thomas, Missi Thomas, Joe Adams and hosted by the Directors of the Museum.

52 Card Raffle: Alpine Getaway in Vail, Colorado

Life is good without the crowds and high-season prices: bring the family to this exclusive luxury condominium for one week (seven nights), June 1 through August 31, 2007. Grab some summer fun: white water rafting and fishing, hiking and mountain biking, fabulous restaurants and shopping, and spa access.

Generously donated by a Friend of the Museum

Gulf Coast Getaway Week

Wondering where to *really* get away? This auction item offers a week "off the grid" in a prime coastal enclave. Gather the gang at this well-appointed bay house located 14 miles north of Port Lavaca, on Carancahua Bay. Stay is for one week, Monday to Sunday. Three bedrooms, three baths; six to eight guests.

Donated by Diana & David Burrow

Three Elegant Country Repasts

Bid for specially hosted meals for ten lucky guests at three unique private homes in the countryside, along the Sandies Creek and Cheapside Road:

❖ **Celebrating the Tuscan Harvest: Querencia Ranch**
Savor some of Kay Walker's favorite recipes from her studies at the famed Villa Castelletti Cooking School in Tuscany, Italy.

❖ **Spring Picnic at Wildwood**
Enjoy the native wildflowers and a sumptuous lunch served under century-old live oaks at Wildwood, along the banks of pristine Sandies Creek.

❖ **Bellevue Ranch: My Big Fat Greek Ranch Dinner**
Traditional Greek and Eastern Mediterranean dishes paired with classic wines. Served under the stars, if weather permits.

Generously donated by Kay and Ron Walker, Robert Oliver, and Bibba Wilde.