



Director's Leadership Letter

Dear Friends,

It has been quite a quarter for the Museum. Not only did we have an exciting opening to our *Enduring Transformation* exhibit, and a highly successful **Spring Mini-Camp**, but we also had the **Texas Association of Museum's (TAM) annual meeting here at the Hilton** (I was co-chair with Lisa Kalmus from the Sanders Corp Museum). Our trustee, **Dr. Keith Arnold, received the Jo Stewart Randel Outstanding Trustee Award at the closing TAM luncheon on March 19th** (Barbara Bush was the keynote speaker!). It was a proud moment for the Museum.

We had nearly **300 people** at the Museum on **March 17th for a TAM reception...**it was fantastic. **Ford Bell, the director of the American Association of Museums, was here and complimented our museum.** What a thrill for us! Many thanks to all our wonderful board members and others who helped us. Special thanks to **Dr. Kathryn Vaughan, Susie Cox, and Dr. Letitia Alston** for decorative preparations for the event. Thanks also to **Master Naturalists: Andrew Chow, Ginny West, Jay Pritchard, and Dr. Punnee Soonthornpoch.** And special thanks to **Floyd Jones, Bison hunter, Dave Burdett, Union soldier, Henry Mayo, Surveyor, & Don Clark, Flintknapper** who helped us at the event. Also many thanks to the following businesses who supplied food & wine for the reception: **Johnny Carinos, Olive Garden, Texas Roadhouse, Outback, Village Café, the Lucky B Bison Ranch, and JJ's Package Store.** Thanks also to the **Celtaire String Band** who performed 19th century Texan music in costume for the reception.

Of course, we couldn't have survived TAM and our Spring Mini Camp without all of our wonderful interns & staff. Thanks to: **Nina Smith, Alex Martinez, Jessica Elkins, David Lazo, Olivia, Kiki, Eva Lazo, Tara Avett, Trey Lyons, Joe Wise, Rachel Munsch, Jenna Terrell, Marilyn Stone,**

and Janie Compian. And, of course, many thanks to **MARIA LAZO** and **BESS MANNING.** They are truly wonder women!

If you haven't checked out our website ...please do. Our own **Brandi George has posted some items about the Roundup dinner and dance, raffle, art contest, and more!** She also created a beautiful banner for the TAM meeting. Thank you, Brandi! And thanks also to **Kevin George** who has spent hours adjusting the lights in our gallery and keeping our computers running!

We now have a wonderful new street sign at the Museum entrance on Briarcrest, **courtesy of Gary Manthei and Trey Thurman.** And two professional television PSAs, **thanks to Erica Maier** from Suddenlink who did the creative work and to both **Suddenlink and KBTX** for airing them.

We also have some new plexiglass & glass tops for some of our display cases thanks to donations from **Mitch Morehead** at **Acme Glass** and the expert skills of **Jason Hancock,** our new board member! New signage is in place in the gallery thanks to the **Fun Club,** and thanks to **Ron Frithiof,** we now have "Duffy", a cast replica of a subadult T-REX skull, just in time for the T-REX Roundup!

And last but not least — we received a **\$200K** grant in a partnership with the Bryan Parks Department to build an outdoor education pavilion, a covered pier, and a landscaped area around the pond in our park! **Hooray!!** This will be a great benefit for our community. Watch for more news on this in the future!

I hope to see you all at our T-REX Roundup on April 20th. It will be lots of fun for everyone, so dust off those boots & hats and join us for a chance to win some fabulous prizes.

Thanks again to YOU, for supporting your Brazos Valley, YOUR Museum!

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Temporary and Traveling Exhibitions:
Spring: Enduring Transformation
Summer: Lee and Grant
- ◆ *Summer Nature Camp* returns
June 7
- ◆ Save the Date:
T Rex Roundup Dinner and Dance April 20



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SUMMER TOURING EXHIBITIONS & NEWS

Lee and Grant



Jean Leon Gerome Ferris, *Let Us Have Peace*, 1865, c. 1920, reproduction oil on canvas, 23 x 30 inches, courtesy Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, VA

June 16-August 11, 2010

By the end of the Civil War, most Americans considered either Robert E. Lee or Ulysses S. Grant to be a hero. Although much has been written about the Civil War careers of both men, few efforts have explored their lives and meaning over an extended period of time. How should we evaluate these two crucial figures in the twenty-first century?

Lee and Grant encourages visitors to explore such questions by tracing the lives, careers, and historical impact of these two Civil War generals in relationship to each other. Drawing upon a rich assortment of documents, letters, historic photographs, paintings, prints, and other materials from nationally significant collections, *Lee and Grant* offers a biographical

comparison of the two men. This side by side examination allows visitors to make their own decisions about how to assess the historical significance of these two famous Americans today. The exhibit will include a special display of Civil War materials borrowed from local collections.

This exhibition has been made possible through NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It is brought to you by Mid-America Arts Alliance. Lee and Grant was organized by the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond Virginia.

SUMMER CALENDAR

Gallery access will be limited during the installation of the Lee and Grant Exhibition:

June 10-13, 2010

The Museum will be closed
July 4, 2010

The BVMNH Exhibits Program is underwritten, in part, by the **William Knox Holt Foundation**

This program made possible in part through Hotel Tax Revenue funded from the City of College Station through the Arts Council of Brazos Valley.



TAM honors Museum Trustee, Dr. Keith Arnold

Museum Trustee, Dr. Keith Arnold, was honored with the Jo Steward Randel Outstanding Trustee Award at the Texas Association of Museum's Annual Meeting luncheon on Friday, March 19, at the Hilton in College Station. Dr. Arnold, a prominent expert and noted author on the birds of Texas, has been associated with the Museum for 40 years, longer than any other trustee. He is now the Museum's only lifetime trustee and has supported the Museum in many ways.

A recipient of numerous awards from Texas A&M University, including the Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence, he guided the development of the Museum's collections in its early years, shared his love of birding through educational programs, and provided sound advice and financial support when the Museum faced adversity. Now professor emeritus at Texas A & M University, Dr. Arnold continues to be one of the Museum's biggest supporters. He provides advice at board meetings, helps with events and fundraising, and continues to volunteer his teaching skills and expertise. Dr. Arnold has literally devoted thousands of hours to the Museum. The Museum is very proud to congratulate him on this great honor.





SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

2nd Annual T-REX Roundup Dinner and Dance



The Museum will celebrate its 2nd Annual T-Rex Roundup Dinner and Dance on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, 6-10 pm at the Brazos Center. The evening will feature a cash bar opening at 6 pm, followed by a barbeque dinner at 6:30 pm, a performance by the Aggie Wranglers, and dancing accompanied by **Shawn Jennings and the Southern Roots Band** beginning at 7:30pm.

Activities will include the announcement of the winner of the Museum's Dinosaur Art Contest, T-Rex Roping (we'll show you how!), Cowboy Hat Contest, and Raffle Drawing for ten spectacular prizes including a \$3,050 diamond necklace donated by **The Jewelry Store**.

All proceeds will benefit the Museum's annual operating fund. Tickets are on sale at the Museum and may be purchased over the phone. Individual tickets for the dinner and dance are \$35 and must be purchased by April 13th. Tickets for the dance only are \$20 and may be purchased at the door after 7:30 pm. (Student discounts: \$5). So saddle up and support your Museum!

Educational Programs

SUMMER NATURE CAMP RETURNS IN JUNE!

Another summer filled with excitement, adventure, and discovery awaits your child at the Museum's acclaimed Summer Nature Camp. Ten weeks of fantastic exploratory classes feature exciting, immersive learning opportunities. Campers ages 4-12 explore science, animal behavior, history, and their local environment through interactive lessons and educational activities, games, and crafts. Week-long sessions are weekdays from 9 am to 3 pm, with affordable before and after-care available. Sessions begin June 7 and conclude with our special Summer Extension Day Camps the week of August 16. To learn more about topics, registration details, and fees, call the Museum or check out our website at www.brazosvalleymuseum.org.



<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
June 7-June 11	Safari 101
June 14-June 18	Dig This!
June 21-June 25	Color Our World: Art in Nature
June 28-July 2	The Great Outdoors
July 5-July 9	Where the Fish Are
July 12-July 16	NO CAMP THIS WEEK
July 19-July 23	Crazy Critters
July 26-July 30	The Six Flags Over Texas
Aug. 2-Aug. 6	My First Garden
Aug. 9-Aug. 13	Tech. 2010

Summer Extension Day Camps (SEDC) "Calling All 'Ologists"

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
August 16	Biology
August 17	Herpetology
August 18	Geology
August 19	Archaeology
August 20	Ornithology

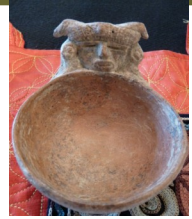


<u>SNC FEES (camp only)</u>	<u>SEDC FEES (camp only)</u>
Members: \$135/week	\$35/day
Non-members: \$155/week	\$40/day

T-REX Roundup Raffle



Drawing April 20, 2010
Raffle Ticket Price: \$10.00 each or 11 for \$100.00



RAFFLE ITEMS

Diamond & Golden Pearl Necklace - \$3,050
Donated by The Jewelry Store

Genuine T-REX Tooth - \$2,000
Donated by Jesse "Red" Burditt

Egyptian Olefin 8x10 Rug - \$700
Donated by Suzanne Holt, Interior Accents

Pre-Columbian Pottery - \$400
Insects in Amber - \$250
Donated by Ron Frithiof

Weekend at Historic B&B - \$300
Donated by River Road Ranch

Genuine Albertosaurus tooth - \$1,000
Donated by Steve M. Hilton

Giant Ammonite & Brazos Valley Fossils - \$350
Donated by Dr. Michael Sweatt

Framed Benjamin Knox Lithograph - \$225
Legends: The Legacy of the Cowboy
Donated by Benjamin Knox

Handmade Leather Cowboy Jacket - \$350
Donated by Dr. Don Clark

- *All proceeds from the raffle and T-Rex Roundup will benefit the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History.*
- *Participants need not be present to win. Rules governing the Museum's raffle are available on our website at www.brazosvalleymuseum.org.*
- *To purchase tickets, please visit the Museum. For more information, you can contact us at info@brazosvalleymuseum.org or call 979.776.2195.*

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BRAZOS VALLEY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

WHERE YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS