

CTLS Newsletter

July 2013 No. 125

IN THIS ISSUE:

Tex Treasures Grant
Page 1

Texas Book Reviews
Page 2

Special Book Review
Page 3

**Observe the Moon
Night**
Pages 4-5

What's Happening
Page 6

**CTLS Calendar & Staff
Directory**
Page 7

From the Executive Director

By Pat Tuohy

More Grants for CTLS Member Libraries

Tex Treasures Grant

Congratulations to the Blanco County South Library District for receiving the TexTreasures Grant.

TexTreasures is an annual competitive grant program designed to help member libraries make their special collections more accessible to researchers across Texas and beyond. Projects may include such activities as cataloging, indexing, and digitizing materials.

Texas Reads Grant

Congratulations to the Nueces County Keach Family Library in Robstown, Cedar Park Public Library, and the peer Memorial Library in Mission.

The Texas Reads Grant funds public library programs to promote reading and literacy within local communities.

For information on more grants go to <https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/funding/index.html>



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A Gentle Reminder

If your e-mail address changes, please let Laurie at the CTLS office know.

Laurie.mahaffey@ctls.net

We have four CTLS mailing lists: CTLS-L, CTLS Directors, CTLS News, and CTLS Workshops. It is our plan to keep them all current so that members get the information they need with no duplications.

If you or a staff member recently received an "unsubscribe" notice and you or they would like to get back on a CTLS list, just go to our website and click on "Connect with us" on the left to find the list instructions.



Fairfield Public Library came up with a clever fund raiser for new carpet.

News You Can Use

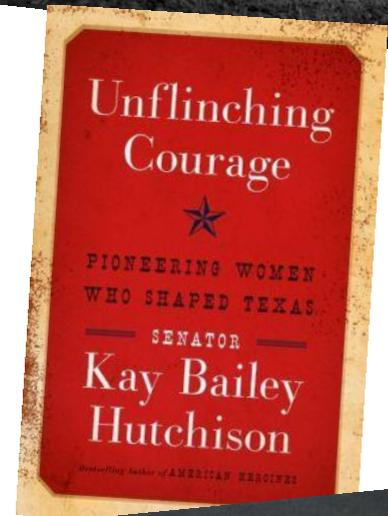
By Laurie Mahaffey

Texas Book Reviews

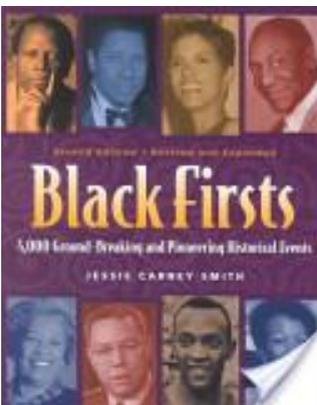
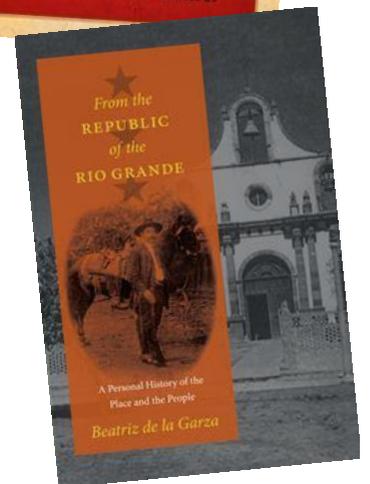
Three recent books on Texas are worth considering for your library. Inside the Wire, by Bruce Jackson, is a photographic work of Texas prison farms starting in 1964. The author was a junior fellow in the Harvard Society of Fellows, who financed his work. Given free rein by the former director of the Texas Department of Corrections, Jackson laments that he “can’t show you what happens inside the wire now.” Published by University of Texas Press, the book is \$50 and was favorably reviewed in the Austin American Statesman.



Unflinching Courage: Pioneering Women Who Shaped Texas was written by former Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison. Published by Harper at \$27.99, the book brings to life the stories of Hutchison’s pioneer ancestors and other noteworthy women who braved the unpleasant conditions to help make Texas what it is today. She brings her book up to date with recent role models Sarah Cockrell (Dallas) and Oveta Culp Hobby (Houston). Strong Texas women are worth learning about.



From the Republic of the Rio Grande, by Beatriz de la Garza, features South Texas and the northern Mexican states of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas, all of which border Texas. The reviewer states that the “republic was short-lived, from 1838 to 1840, before most of it was re-absorbed by Mexico.” Tamaulipas once extended into what we now know as Texas, specifically the Nueces Strip south of San Antonio. The author says that even though the republic didn’t last, the people of the region viewed themselves as belonging together. Another University of Texas Press publication, this \$45 book should be of interest to many libraries.



Another Book for Your Reference Shelf

Jessie Carney Smith has updated the classic work Black Firsts: 4,000 Ground-breaking and Pioneering Events in a third edition. Published by Visible Ink, the book is \$24.95. The *Booklist* reviewer calls it an “invaluable resource of African American achievements.” Events are arranged in categories such as arts and entertainment, government, and more, with subheadings in each category. With 350 photos, this is recommended “for anyone from elementary-school age to adults who are interested in African American history.”

A Special Book Review

By Margaret Waring of Comanche

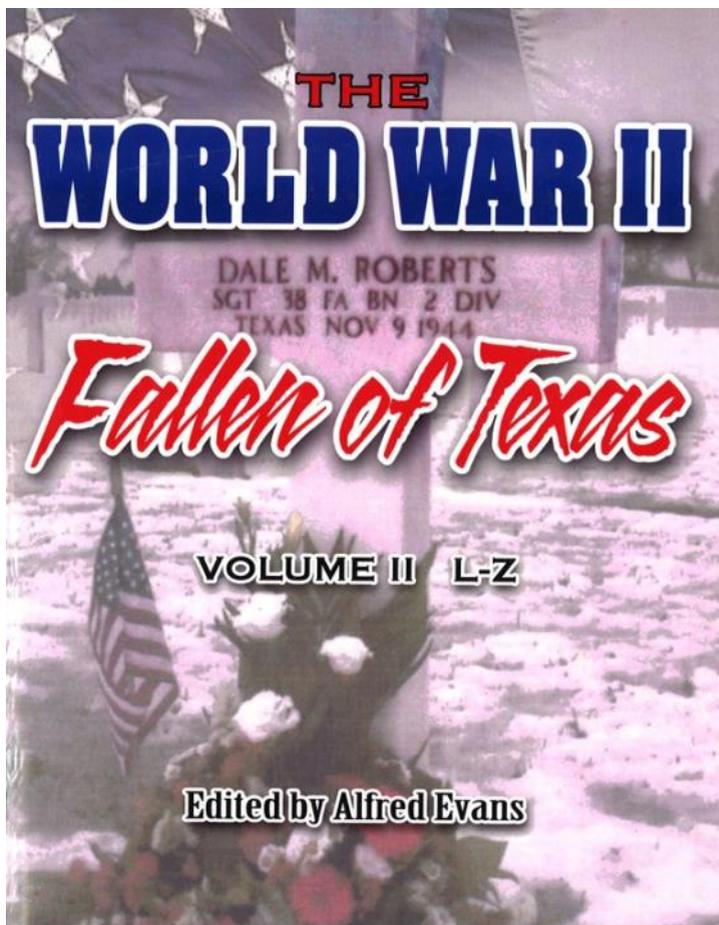
Alfred W. Evans, a long time friend from San Antonio and Comanche, published *The World War II Fallen of Texas* in 2011 and more libraries need to know about it. This unique two volume survey details the names and military information for over 22,000 Texans lost in this conflict. It is a valuable choice since it was purposely created for research collections. The fact that it is privately published is making the word spread too slowly.

Mr. Evans taught social studies for some years but he retired and has taken superb advantage of his time with this publication ever since. Those not truly familiar with the subject or the historical period can get great benefit from the informative collection of front and back matter included with the 900 plus pages.

Reprinted interesting information dated 1948 comes from a folder given to family members with hard but essential decisions to make. It explains the choices and procedures the government offered to help survivors choose suitable arrangements for the deceased military. If your library receives *Stirpes*, the publication of the Texas State Genealogical Society, be sure to see Awards Chairman William D. Buckner's warm detailed review published in June 2012. Mr. Buckner's evaluation is excellent, detailed, and he also notes the fine award the Society made to Mr. Evans' work.

Go to Comanche Public Library's home page (www.comanchepubliclibrary.com) and enjoy a bit of the autograph party staged at the volume's publication.

Mr. Evans, a Vietnam veteran, is an authority on WW II. His continued travels in Europe enhance his already deep knowledge of his favorite topic. Orders go to AWE Publishing, P.O. Box 242, Comanche, Texas 76442-0242. The soft binding has meaningful pictorial colored covers. Library price is \$80, plus shipping at \$10. A tax certificate is needed.



This is just the kind of book that our Memorial Project Funding would pounce on this for someone to purchase as a special gift presented to us.

Margaret Waring

Youth News

By Kim Lehman

International Observe the Moon Night

October 12, 2013

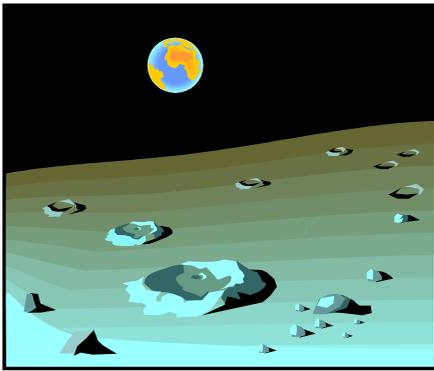
Start planning for this world wide event that occurs every October. Last year there were 577 locations in 49 countries across the world. It is free to be a part of this event and there are activities and other resources for you to use.



International Observe the Moon Night (InOMN) events are sponsored by the InOMN team to create the opportunity for people to take notice of the Moon's beauty and share that experience with one another. Through InOMN, the team hopes to instill in the public a sense of wonderment and curiosity about our Moon. For more information or to sign up as an event site, go to <http://observethemoonnight.org>.

Libraries in Texas already signed up to do this event in October

- Gibbs Memorial Library in Mexia
- San Antonio League of Sidewalk Astronomers in McAllister Park
- Rockwall County Library in Rockwall
- Gaines County Library in Seminole



Moon Kit

In the past, there were mini-grants available for an Observe the Moon Kit. I will let you know if that opportunity arises again.

Observe the Moon Resources

<http://observethemoonnight.org/activities/>

You will find a really wonderful resource called the InOMN Binder. It is full of easy to understand information and activities.

You can find flyers to advertise your event at <http://observethemoonnight.org/materials/>

Past Observe the Moon Events

Gibbs Memorial Library in Mexia

The Gibbs Memorial Library presented their second annual Observe the Moon Program at their library. They were one of a few libraries in Texas that were picked to receive a binocular, stickers and a manual from the International Observe the Moon Night in 2011.

The staff made the event exciting and memorable for the 34 participants by serving Moon Pies and "Milky Way Galaxy" Milk, giving away book bags and books about the moon. NASA shared bookmarks about the space shuttle to give away. They also had glow in the dark sticks for participants. It was a great family event. Thanks to ShienDee Pullman for sharing.

You Tube

Hear what ShienDee from Mexia has to say about the event.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFZrb6bugBc&feature=youtube>

More Past Observe the Moon Events

Larry J. Ringer Public Library in College Station

We applied for the Moon Kit and received it. The organization's intention was to make the kit available for check out, but so far we have not felt comfortable letting the telescope circulate. We intended to use it for library programming. The Moon Kit includes a book of activities and resources. We copied the moon map to hand out. The Moon Kit Resource book has some interesting moon science activities and should be helpful in planning for the science focus next summer's reading program.

The event was planned and executed by Debbie Callaway and myself as Youth Services Librarians. I think we scheduled the event from 6pm – 8pm since moonrise that day was about 5:45pm. Because the sky had some clouds and haze until about 7:30pm, preventing a clear view of the moon, we only had 100 visitors. It was really good viewing for those who waited.

We had the Blinn College physics/ astronomy team, BRASS (Brazos Region Astronomy Service Society), set up their large telescopes (about 3) in the parking

Val Verde Library System in Del Rio also participated in this event.



Samantha Simpson took this picture through the telescope!

lot and help visitors get a close up view of the moon. Since it did not involve looking toward the sun, they started at moonrise (before sunset). (Until the sky cleared they demonstrated the power of the telescopes by focusing on birds on power lines. As it got darker they were also able to focus the telescopes on other night sky planets and stars.

We had a Boy Scout Troop help direct visitors and help distribute and fill out a required visitor survey for the event.

We have a local science teacher who has been very involved in NASA. He brought his team of science students and they set up 8 hands-on science stations focused on rocketry in the library. They were also our rainy day back-up activity.



Prior to the event we also had a request for the public to submit their favorite personal moon photos to display. I thought it was a good idea but unfortunately the only entries were from staff. Thanks to Peggy Noynaert for sharing this information.

Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base Library

International Observe the Moon Night in 2012 at the Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base Library was a huge success. We want to take a moment to thank our friends at NTLP for letting us know about the grant opportunity. Dr. Raymond Bengé, Tarrant County College Associate Professor of Physics and Astronomy, was our honored guest. He shared his telescopes and gave an informative presentation on all things lunar. The children in attendance were thrilled to use the telescopes and enjoyed the other activities. Thanks to Ronnie Simpson, Library Technician and Samantha Simpson for sharing this information.

What's Happening

Let us know what you are doing at your library!

Rio Grande City Rocks!

Rio Grande City Public Library had the TAME Trailblazer visit their library this summer as part of the Science Rocks grant. The public came, along with RGCCISD Gear-Up, RGC Boys & Girls Club, and Pediatric Care Center Summer Camp. Mayor Ruben Villarreal also visited the library that day. Medina Electric Cooperative provided water bottles and a canopy. Our volunteers were from International Bank of Commerce and Law Enforcement Young Explorers (RGC Police Dept). Thanks to Norma Fultz for sharing.

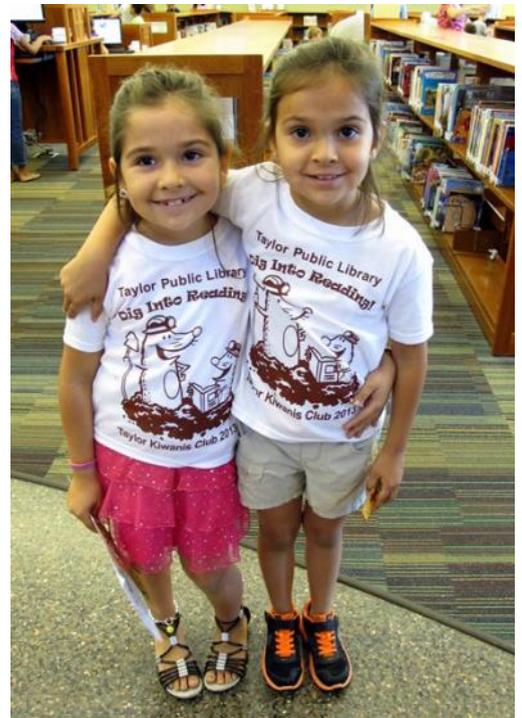


Rio Grande City Mayor Ruben Villarreal visits the library.

Taylor Taste-Off T-Shirts and More

Taylor is off to a busy summer. We had a movie on Monday afternoon with 80 in attendance (movie license, yes!), and this morning we had Bonzo Crunch perform for an audience of 227. Thursday we will have the Chip Taste-Off for the teens at 2:30 pm (fantastic program from Kim's workshop!).

The attached picture shows sisters Briana Jarosek and Ashlyn Jarosek modeling their summer reading program tee shirts, which they just earned this morning by reading 2 hours. Aren't they absolutely adorable? So excited & cute. We give out the tee shirts first because: 1. we don't want left overs; 2. it gives the kids an unofficial uniform to wear to the Wednesday morning programs. Please note--the shirts have been sponsored by the Taylor Kiwanis Club, so they get acknowledged on the shirt. Thanks to Karen Ellis for sharing.



CTLS Calendar of Events

August 16, 2013

Giving Great Customer Service
Lockhart Public Library
More information to come.

September 20, 2013

CTLS Members Meeting
Pflugerville Public Library



Have a Great Summer!

CTLS, Inc.

Connecting Texas Libraries Statewide

CTLS Staff Directory

Patricia Tuohy, Executive Director

pat.tuohy@ctls.net

Laurie Mahaffey, Deputy Director

laurie.mahaffey@ctls.net

Kim Lehman, Youth Services Specialist

kim.lehman@ctls.net

Katelyn Patterson, Office Coordinator

katelyn.patterson@ctls.net

Samantha Simpson, Vendor Program Mgr

ssimpson@ctls.net



CONNECTING TEXAS LIBRARIES STATEWIDE

CTLS, Inc
5555 North Lamar Blvd,
Suite L-115,
Austin, TX 78751
Toll Free (800) 262 - 4431
Office (512) 583 - 0704
Fax (512) 583 - 0709

We look forward to hearing from you!