



2019-20

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

A N N U A L R E P O R T

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



Hello! I know that I am a new face as the interim director so I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself.

I have been at West Texas A&M University since 2002 where I started as a faculty member in the Department of Communications. I then became the Director of the Attebury Honors Program in 2008. Finally, I was asked to assume the position of Dean in the Sybil B Harrington College of Fine Arts and Humanities in 2011. As Dean, I have worked to increase the academic ties with the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum and we have had several great collaborations between the museum and faculty in Art, Theatre, History, English, and Communication.

Two years ago, I was asked to serve on the board of directors for the museum and began to learn more about the day to day operations. When Dr. Wendler asked me to serve as the interim director, I was happy to help in whatever way I could until a permanent director is hired for the position. The university is currently in the process of moving forward with a national search to find the next director.

The past several months have been an unprecedented time in our recent history and created challenges for our society as well as the museum. I have been amazed at the initiative of the museum staff and their ability to think creatively and get the museum up and running in a social distancing world. This publication gives a sense of the behind the scenes work that was going on as well as what the museum has done to adapt. I am proud of the staff for the work they did remotely as well as the work they continue to do to keep the museum in the forefront of people's minds and to keep programming going.

I hope that you and your families are doing well and I appreciate your continued support for the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Mallard".

Interim Director

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FINANCE REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

September 9, 2020

Total Assets

The total assets held by the Society at the end of August 31, 2020 were \$ 12,439,846.

This is an unaudited figure and includes current operating and endowment accounts.

Brown, Graham & Company, an accounting firm located in Amarillo, Texas has audited the financial records of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society for the past several years. In the Independent Auditor's opinion, the financial statements referred to present fairly the financial position of the Panhandle- Plains Historical Society. The past three years audited total assets as of August 31st are as follows:

FY 2017: \$11,381,425 FY 2018: \$12,076,563 FY 2019: \$12,500,795

Investments

Funds are held with the Texas A&M University System, Happy State Bank, and Amarillo National Bank. The asset allocations for investments held at the two banks are set by the finance committee of the PPHS. The asset allocation for all funds held at the Texas A&M University System is set by the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents.

Balances:

Texas A&M University System Fund	\$ 8,856,913	80.0 %
Amarillo National Bank	\$ 1,830,214	16.0 %
Happy State Bank/Bugbee	\$ 383,771	4.0 %
Other Investments	\$ 1,750	0.0 %
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	\$ 11,072,648	100.0%

Operating Funds

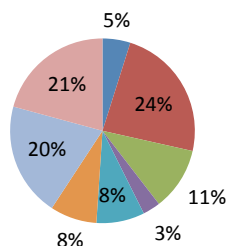
Operating funds are held in accounts at Wells Fargo, Canyon (Unrestricted and Friends of Southwest Art) and Happy State Bank, Canyon (Research Center, Petroleum Wing, Temporarily Restricted and Capital Campaign).

Operations

Another year of operations was successfully completed by PPHM on August 31, 2020. We successfully navigated a pandemic that resulted in a 10-week closure of the museum and loss of travel and tourism revenue, without drawing from any reserve of the Society. We are very thankful for our generous contributors, and arts and humanities groups around the state, such as the Summerlee Foundation, Humanities Texas, and Texas Commission on the Arts. PPHM continued to see an increase in oil and gas royalties and the Society is grateful for the continued supplementary support from West Texas A&M University. The museum has a solid foundation to continue to thrive and succeed in an ever-changing world. The board along with the staff and membership are committed to working together as we move the museum forward into a new era. It is due to the continued support of our members and donors that the PPHS is able to provide this community and State a first class museum.

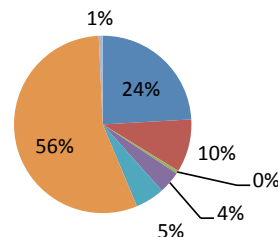
2019-20 Income

- Admissions
- Contributions
- Investment Drawdown
- Membership
- State Appropriations
- WT Supplement
- Royalties
- WT Building In-Kind



2019-20 Expenses

- Administration
- Exhibitions and Programming
- Investment fees
- Security
- Marketing/Donor Development
- Salaries
- Store Cost



2019-2020 BY THE NUMBERS

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

58

New Members

1,685

New fans on social media >



87

summer passes sold

10,514

K-12 students served >



2,010

Hours volunteers provided to PPHM >



58

First time donors

6

Curated Exhibitions

54

Loaned significant works of art from Taos school of artists to Bryan Museum's exhibition in Galveston, Texas. >



Multiple Awards of Best of Amarillo, Top 10 Best Western Museum, Amarillo American Advertising Award, WT Communications Hall of Fame Honoree >



9

Volunteers contributed 628 hours of work in the Archaeology Department >



26,000

Google Views of our Threshold
360 Virtual Museum Tour



445

articles or broadcasts
showcased PPHM



9,500

Average website visits
per month

874

people attended
staff outreach presentations

2,104

WTAMU students
visited the museum >



35

WT student
volunteers
contributed 287
volunteer hours >



17

Loaned significant
works of art by
H.D. Bugbee to
Bosque Museum in
Clifton, TX >



2019-2020 BY STATES

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



38
Visiting States

Alaska
Alabama
Arkansas
Arizona

California
Colorado
Connecticut
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Iowa
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Kansas

Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Mississippi
North Carolina
Nebraska
New Hampshire
New Mexico
New York

Ohio
Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Virginia
Washington
Wisconsin
Wyoming

DURING COVID-19

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Due to COVID-19, PPHM closed in early March and reopened to the public at reduced capacity after Memorial Day without events. These are some of the projects staff and volunteers worked on during this time.

COLLECTING EXPERIENCES:

Through the Research Center, the Panhandle community has the opportunity to ensure that future generations understand our COVID-19 experiences.

PPHM set up a page on our website encouraging Panhandle residents to submit written, photographic or video accounts of thoughts and experiences during the pandemic. These could be essays, journals, or other narratives, describing the day-to-day activities, reaction to local and national events, and thoughts on the future. So far, there have been 14 donors who have contributed seven photographs, two videos, 64 text documents, and one printed document.



#PPHMATHOME:

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum Outreach staff decided if the museum can't be open, then we would bring our museum into people's homes with #PPHMatHome.

This was a daily posting online of art, artifact and public programming video experiences to our over 17,000 social media followers across three platforms (Instagram, Facebook and Twitter). The museum posts a video of an experience focused activity such as creating a BB8 during Star Wars Day or Tissue Paper Art of Palo Duro Canyon, one of our area's most beautiful landmarks.

To increase our reach and expand our audience, we teamed up with other great museums across the state of Texas for a Joint Online Learning Initiative from March through Labor Day. Those partners include: The Grace Museum, San Angelo Museum of Fine Art, and National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature, Contemporary Abilene, Old Jail Art Center, and Petroleum

Museum. Certain weeks were themed such as Nature Week, Gratitude Week (with Teacher Appreciation and Mother's Day focus) and My Museum Collection week.



PPHM staff members collaborated during this time for a special series called "My Museum Collection." During this one week, every day a different PPHM staff member shared pieces from their own collections at home, encouraging our followers to do the same from their "museums at home". This was a newly implemented idea for our social media and was well-received by our followers. Collections shared by PPHM staff members included film cameras, teacups, vinyl records, and Southwestern art, to name a few.

VIRTUAL TRIVIA:

In addition to the family-oriented programming, PPHM launched a Virtual Trivia Night that happened weekly in May and monthly in June, July and August that targeted an adult audience.

Pub trivia is very popular in the area and without the opportunity to actually go to a pub the museum saw an opportunity to bring the trivia to the people. We educated and engaged with the community, while having fun at the same time! Prizes came from Wildcat Bluff, Golden Light Café, Pure Water, WTAMU Alumni Association, and Cake Company of Canyon.



RESEARCH CENTER:

The COVID-19 pandemic prevented outside researchers from visiting the Research Center for over four months;

despite that reduction in physical access, over 200 research assists were recorded through the closure in March.

The Research Center staff continued to provide reference services remotely during the closure, responding to 475 telephone, email, and mail requests through June 2020.

STAFF:

In addition to these projects, staff attended webinars and received additional certifications in their fields.

19-20 NEW EXHIBITIONS

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



1. ***Undressing Suffrage*** opened in the Textile Gallery on November 14th as a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in the United States and was co-curated by Anne Medlock, WT Theatre and Darby Reiners, PPHM Collections Manager (during her time at the museum).



2. ***Queen City of the Plains: Building Amarillo, 1900-1940***, curated by Warren Stricker and Renea Dauntes, opened at the PPHM Federal Building Gallery in Amarillo in January, 2020. This exhibition presents historic photographs and objects related to public buildings constructed as Amarillo grew prior to World War II.



3. ***My Heart Is Not Blind***, opened in the Harrington Gallery in February. This traveling exhibition consisted of photographic portraits of blind and sight impaired individuals by San Antonio artist Michael Nye paired with first person recordings of the subjects telling their personal stories and their perceptions of the world around them.



4. ***Baffin Island Photographs of Montie Ritchie***, curated by Warren Stricker, opened in the Alexander Gallery in February. Grandson of Cornelia Adair, co-founder of the JA Ranch, Montie Ritchie was an avid adventurer and photographer. The images in this exhibition were taken in 1950 while Ritchie participated in an expedition to Baffin Island, in Canada's far north.



5. ***A Gift of the Clay: The Legacy of Pueblo Indian Pottery***, curated by Bill Mercer, opened in the Harrington Gallery in June. The exhibition consists of 94 vessels from the PPHM collection and others on loan from the Museum of the Red River. It includes prehistoric examples as well as historic and contemporary pieces from more than ten different pueblos and masterworks by Maria Martinez, Nampeyo, Lucy Lewis, and Margaret Tafoya.



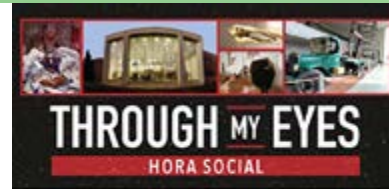
6. ***Photographer Paul Chaplo's exhibit, Amarillo Flights: Aerial Views of Llano Estacado Country***, premiered in the Bivins Gallery in July. The one-person exhibit showcases Chaplo's personal aerial photography of the high plains of the Llano Estacado, with a focus on the rugged escarpments and breaks in Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. The aerial landscape photographs are from his upcoming book. The "Amarillo Flights: Aerial Views of Llano Estacado Country" book is being published by Texas A&M University Press as part of WTAMU's American Wests series.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS

Public programming offers the opportunity for visitors who may not come in on the average day to the museum to engage with the collection in a new and unique way. Collaboration is at our core! Working with other community organizations makes every event that much more rich; we get multiple perspectives and we're able to reach different communities.

Here are highlights in programming partnerships from the last year:

- 1. PPHM Through My Eyes** - This event was a great opportunity to get together with our friends at the Amarillo Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and take a look at our community ofrendas for Dia de los Muertos.
- 2. Out of the Closet** - A new event in support of our clothing and textile exhibitions, this one gave people an opportunity to see behind the scenes of what gets chosen for an exhibition while also featuring some local vendors. Creek House Honey, Sacred Maroon, Kimberly Noland Jewelry, and the PPHM Store were great partners in this effort.
- 3. Undressing Suffrage Opening** - We were privileged to have a voter registration table at the opening of our *Undressing Suffrage* exhibit. Manned by the great volunteers from American Association of University Women's Amarillo chapter, this table was a great addition to the event along with comments by the co-curators Anne Medlock and Darby Reiners.
- 4. Artifacts COMM ALIVE**- We look forward to this collaboration with Paula Schlegel's COMM 1315 course every year. Students in this class develop marketing plans around historic teaching artifacts. During WT Family Weekend they present their pitch to passersby in the galleries and it's so much fun to watch!
- 5. Murder Mystery Dinner** - We're a few years into this collaboration with the WTAMU student group, *Improv Agents*, and every year is a new adventure of crafting a murder mystery story around an artifact or exhibition. It really is wonderful to see the creative process work with these dynamic and bright students and they work so hard to make the event an excellent offering on our calendar. This event sells out yearly.
- 6. Christmas Open House**- this highly attended, beloved yearly holiday event benefits the High Plains Food Bank. Area choirs from Canyon and Amarillo sing, volunteers from WTAMU, The Boy Scouts, area high schools and churches all help with crafts, storytelling and cookie decorating and of course Santa was in attendance.
- 7. Crafts and Drafts** - Without collaboration Crafts and Drafts would not be half as fun. We offer visitors the opportunity to try many regional brewers in one place! Pondaseta even tapped a new version of Pyrite at this event and we can't thank them enough for that special opportunity. Thanks to Budweiser, Six Car, Auld, Long Wooden Spoon, and Groovy Pop for sponsoring.



6-8 P.M. · OCT. 22 · FREE

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6



7

MAJOR PROJECTS

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

ARCHAEOLOGY:

Work continues populating the first departmental-wide database. The objective of this long-term project is to make PPHS's scientific collections more accessible for exhibits, loans, and research.

A Comanche woman's saddle (PPHS 548/18) dating ca. 1860-1875 was conserved at PPHM in July 2019 by a Dallas based firm. Also in July, stabilization was done in Amarillo for three Navajo rugs (PPHS 2011.166.109 & 112-113) that are part of the Linck Collection.

In-house conservation was done for two paleontological specimens. This includes reattaching one of the tusks on the lower jaw of a mastodon (PPHS 1113) on permanent exhibit in the Paleontology Hall and repairing the lower jaw of another mastodon (PPHS JWT 2051) in storage. The latter had a symphyseal fracture that exposed the plaster and wire meshing that were part of the original fossil preparation done in the 1930s. After documenting the damage and consulting with various experts, staff and volunteers completed conservation in February 2020. Conservation on a third specimen, a deteriorating mammoth tusk (PPHS X2019.7.411), is currently underway.



Top view of JWT 2051 before and after conservation



Bottom view of JWT 2051 before and after conservation



ART

The Panhandle Plains Historical Museum welcomed Bill Mercer as the new Associate Director for Curatorial Affairs and Curator of Art on September 23, 2019.

The major acquisition for this year was an untitled painting by Ben Carlton Mead. Donated by his daughter, Margaret Mead, this charming painting is one of Mead's earliest oils and depicts a young child seated on the floor wearing a yellow coat. Mead was one of the foremost painters in the Texas Panhandle during the early twentieth century and a contemporary of Harold Bugbee, Frank Reaugh, and Granville Bruce who was Mead's brother-in-law. Mead's paintings often show the cowboy culture and landscape of the region; so this early painting of a young child, probably copied from a magazine, is an interesting complement that shows his development as an artist.



EDUCATION

Have Art, Will Travel is a brand new program for 19-20. It fulfills the need for art education in the Panhandle region with a cross-curriculum, fun program for area children. PPHM realizes that art funding and resources in the Texas Panhandle and the top 26 counties are limited. Have Art, Will Travel allows PPHM to go directly to the students and teachers with art activities from kindergarten to twelfth grade. For this program, PPHM received a \$9,500 grant from Texas Women for the Arts. With this program we were able to reach 7 different school districts with 70 total visits.



MARKETING AND PROGRAMS SUFFRAGE PROJECT WITH KAMR

The Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum and KAMR in support of our exhibition *Undressing Suffrage* created a joint project to celebrate Women's Suffrage and the Ratification of Women's Right to Vote in August. This year marks the 100th anniversary. KAMR featured a weeklong series August 17-21 (airing on television and PPHM's social media) interviewing 16 diverse women in our community about their jobs, passions and thoughts on suffrage.



RESEARCH CENTER

Updating and improving the description of the Research Center's archival collections and unpublished works continues to be a focus, as new and previously donated material are inventoried and described according to professional standards. This includes a long-term effort to catalog the unpublished manuscripts, interviews, and oral histories in the collection, with over 1,300 completed to date. A significant project completed was the Trigg family papers, over 17 linear feet of material from the Texas and New Mexico ranching family, funded in part by financial assistance from the Moody Foundation and from family members.

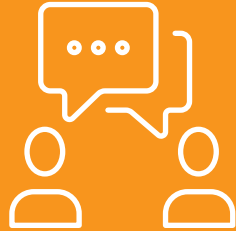
STORE

For the 2019-2020 fiscal year the PPHM Store aimed to continue to grow our online presence through social media platforms and connecting our audience with merchandise online. This past year, we continued to grow our social media following by diverse posts focusing on the museum's exhibits and programs, engaging articles and videos, and of course the PPHM Store's collection of merchandise. The next step was to make purchasing online even easier by utilizing our social media platforms - visitors can now shop the PPHM Store's selection through Facebook and Instagram. At the beginning of the year we conducted research looking into other institution's online presence. After collecting data and speaking to other museum stores, we updated our own website. Our new website is user friendly and brings our merchandise into the homes of our visitors, even after they have left us.



OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIPS

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



PPHM staff engage with the public in several different ways. In addition to working WTAMU faculty and students, community civic groups, school districts, with different state and federal agencies, visiting scholars, PPHM's expertise is often sought to assist in investigations, identify fossils and artifacts, provide specialized tours, and give other public presentations. Here is a look at key PPHM partnerships across WTAMU, our community and beyond.

PPHM and WTAMU:

- PPHM Archives and Library have a continuous digital partnership where the PPHM Archives Collection is added.

- PPHM staff served as guest lecturers and professors, Classes from all colleges are touring and visiting when on campus
- WT interns are working and learning in several PPHM departments: Marketing, Programs, Education, Archives, Collections
- Dia De Los Muertos was hosted in conjunction with the College of Education and Social Sciences with continuous growth and school groups
- PPHM provides a place for WTAMU volunteers from programs to marketing help to collections
- PPHM is a host for classes in Hazlewood and Education Classroom
- PPHM is part of WTAMU new faculty and staff orientation
- We are involved with Band Camp, Engineering Camp, Camp Tatanka
- PPHM is a WTAMU Athletic Supporter and Homecoming supporter



PPHM and the COMMUNITY:

A committee has been formed to help analyze and create programming for the upcoming PPHM STEAM LAB (see a Look Towards the Future), it includes representatives from WTAMU, Amarillo College, Canyon ISD, Amarillo ISD, Pampa ISD, and lead4ward.

PPHM served 45 school districts and 212 schools through outreach and in class programs.

For Programming and Outreach Depts., working with other community organizations makes every event that much more rich. We get multiple perspectives and we're able to reach different communities. We can't wait to nurture the relationships we made this year and continue to build new ones with other community organizations. We really can't thank everyone enough for the guidance, food, drink, man power, and ideas they have offered in support of our programming. We couldn't do it without our partners:

- Amarillo Hispanic Chamber
- Amarillo Chamber of Commerce
- American Association of University Women's Amarillo chapter

- Ben Masters and River and the Wall Documentary Crew
- Budweiser, Six Car, Auld Brewing, Long Wooden Spoon, and Groovy Pop
- Canyon Main Street and Canyon Economic Development Corporation
- Center for the Study of the American West
- Creek House Honey, Sacred Maroon, Kimberly Noland Jewelry, and the PPHM Store
- Paula Schlegel COMM 1315
- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
- WTAMU History Department

- WTAMU Theatre Dept and Improv Agents
- Amarillo Convention and Visitors Council

PPHM was featured in Amarillo Convention and Visitors Council's high impact unit this year, their most expensive campaign which accumulated 6,063,320 impressions. PPHM was featured in 3 blogs from writers that Amarillo Convention and Visitors Council brought in along with their weekly newsletter, billboards, website and other marketing initiatives.

PPHM helped host the 90th Annual Meeting of the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) held in Amarillo, October 11-13th. There were over 220 registrants from across Texas. The last such meeting held in Amarillo was in 1989.



PPHM Outreach into Texas and the USA:

- American Alliance of Museum's Accredited Institution on of 1700 museums in the nation which is 3.24% of museums. Developed and sustained by museum professionals for over 45 years, the museum accreditation program is the field's primary vehicle for quality assurance, self-regulation, and public accountability. Accreditation helps to ensure the integrity and accessibility of museum collections, reinforce the educational and public service roles of museums, and promote good governance practices and ethical behavior.
- Collaborations, Partnerships or Memberships:
 - American Bus Association,
 - Art in Embassies Program,
 - Bank of America for Museums on Us,
 - Bureau of Land Management,
 - Humanities Texas,
 - Panhandle Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists,
 - National Park Service Lake Meredith National Recreation Area/Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument,
 - National Park Service Western Archeological and Conservation Center,
 - National Tour Association,
 - North American Reciprocal Museums,
 - Texas Association of Museums,
 - Texas Travel Alliance,
 - Texas Historical Commission,
 - Texas Art Collectors/CASETA,
 - Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO),
 - Texas Archeology Society,
 - Texas Women for the Arts,
 - Summerly Foundation,
 - The Society for American Archaeology,
 - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- In Sept 2019, PPHM took 15 Goodnight Circle and Hattie Anderson members on a trip to Fayetteville/Bentonville, Arkansas to visit Crystal Bridges among many other locations. We take these trips to create a bond with our highest level of members and bring back new ideas to PPHM.

PUBLIC PERCEPTION

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

“Jason, as well as numerous members of his family, are graduates of what was then WTSU. We consider it an ideal school that provided a strong foundation for our careers. Jason wanted his Theodore Roosevelt Shotgun to be placed in the PPHM because of his love of the school, the gratefulness to his instructors and the education he acquired in the classroom and the organizations in which he participated. The PPHM is such a vital part of WTAMU and the state of Texas which embraces the history of the Texas Panhandle. Jason was a strong student of history who had a deep appreciation for the museum.” — Reva Roselius - Jason’s mother, Amarillo, TX

Having partners like the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum are vital for the Amarillo Convention & Visitor Council to be able to bring more visitors to Amarillo. Having unique attractions like PPHM that are willing to partner with the CVC allows our office to promote Amarillo as unique place to visit and helps supplement our local economy through tourism. — Hope Stokes, Visit Amarillo, Director of Branding

“Well presented information on life on the Panhandle. Covers full history of the area, including the Indian tribes, cattlemen, farmers and oil. Parking available close by and museum laid out clearly with relevant information displayed on the exhibits. Well worth a visit.”

— Symiman, visitor, Southampton, United Kingdom

My name is Brayden, and I LOVE volunteering at the PPHM! I’ve volunteered for 2 years (2018-present) for the annual Night at PPHM. It’s such a blast to act as historical characters and people from the panhandle, as well as some people from pop culture! Samantha and the rest of the staff are great to work with. I would suggest it to anyone! — Brayden Dalrymple, volunteer, Amarillo, TX

“Who knew the history of windmills or the petroleum industry could be so interesting? And lingerie could tell the story of women’s suffrage?”

— Pamela K, visitor Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

As a visiting Fulbright scholar, I greatly appreciated the time I spent at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum. The PPHM is a premier research and education facility for anyone who is serious about pursuing work that engages with the rich history and culture(s) of the American West. Indeed, the PPHM is somewhat of a “hidden gem,” especially from an international vantage point; I would strongly encourage international scholars to avail themselves of PPHM’s Research Center. I would also like to express my most heartfelt thanks for the generous support and expertise provided by Warren Stricker and Millie Vanover in particular. — Stefan Rabitsch, Fulbright Scholar, Vienna Austria

“When Scott and I entered their collection room, Dr. Arias had almost all of the carnivore skull and jaw fossils laid out on a huge table. Before me lay one of the best North American carnivore collection ever discovered. What a wonderful time I had reviewing this amazing collection with Dr. Arias. She spent most of her day allowing us to study this wonderful collection. Dr. Arias, thank you so much for your hospitality and access to one of the finest museums in the USA.”

— David Letasi, “The Rock Talk,” Visiting Researcher, Spring Hill, Florida

“When Texas shut down - museums stepped up in true BIG Texas fashion. Since Spring Break, PPHM, along with six other museums across our region have collaboratively combined resources and expanded our reach through daily virtual educational offerings. This partnership, Joint Online Learning Initiative (JOLI), has provided classes and museum experiences of all kinds for all ages and combined our virtual “followers” to massively expand our respective digital audience. We are all stronger through collaboration and PPHM is always first to say “yes” to being a good neighbor and good partner.”

— Rebecca Bridges, Grace Museum, Abilene, Texas

“As we look to the future, it’s important that we remember and celebrate our past. The PPHM is a constant reminder of the rich heritage and character of our region. The museum excels in careful documentation and artifact preservation, allowing the culture and historic events to be recorded and remembered for future generations.”

— Evelyn Ecker, Director of Business & Community Development, Canyon, Texas

WHY YOU SUPPORT PPHM

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



We have two children and five grandchildren. Whenever they were in the Amarillo area, they always wanted to go to the museum.

The museum is important to our family and to me because it gives the history of our region and it's always good to know where you come from. It's important to know what things are happening in your environment and what you can learn from. It enhances your sense of pride in the area.

We were even featured in a PPHM brochure and have a picture made in front of the art with my grandsons.

The best part for me is I am a people person. Anytime and every time I always run into people who are always interested in learning about the area but also about you as a person. I get to meet people I have not met before and I get to share my experiences. Also, I am very interested in culture. There are

so many diverse cultures that are depicted in the artifacts and pictures and interactive media in the museum...most fascinating to me are the Native American displays. In my African American ancestry, I have Cherokee Indian; so, I am always interested in the exhibits concerning Native Americans.

My favorite event was last year when PPHM had the *Unveiled* fundraiser. That was marvelous and to have everyone in a big tent in almost zero degree weather was phenomenal. That was a lot of fun.

But we have also enjoyed through the years, the different lectures in the museum. It gives you a chance to visit all the areas of the museum you don't usually go through. Who can forget that big oil derrick that's out there? And when I have visitors from other areas and countries, I always take them to the museum. — Claudia & Harold Stuart

This is the 100th year celebration of the efforts of Hattie Anderson's vision - "It is the sacred duty of ours to collect the record of life here and hand this on to the children of the future".

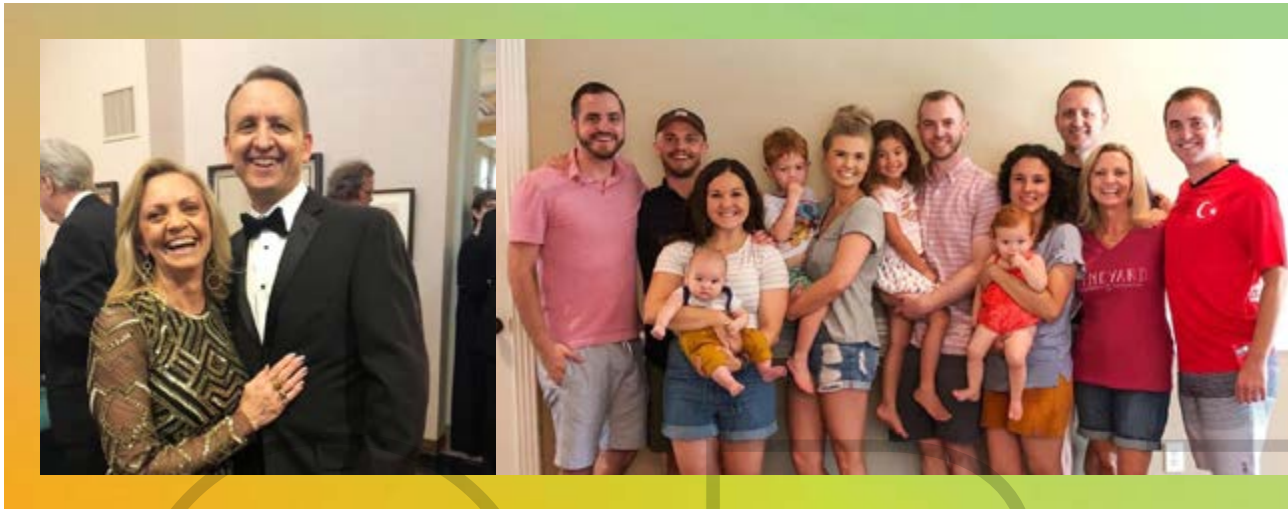
The grit and vision of settlers in the region is awe-inspiring, and capturing the tenacity and dedication of those efforts is well documented at the Museum, thru visual and written displays by well- known historians and collectors. My hope is that all facets of our region continue to be acknowledged for the impacts of diversity as we move forward.

— Lilia B. Escajeda



PPHM has become an important part of our lives. It is important to us to help preserve and protect the culture and history of this very special place. In doing so, and by attending museum events, we have been blessed to make many dear friends that share these goals and interests. As a result, going to the museum and to museum events has become a treasured part of our lives as residents of the Panhandle.

— Suzanne & David Wheeler



We have five children and four grandchildren. Our children have all chosen diverse careers. We believe PPHM contributed to their broad view and life experiences. We feel PPHM has helped foster the ideals of diversity in our children and hopefully grandchildren. My kids grew up with the museum through school or just our attendance. We enjoy the exhibits and now we take our grandkids. Their young so they like the Pioneer Town, and they really enjoyed the Native Lifeways exhibit this year.

Honestly, we love the people we have met and how we have been enlightened by attending after hours events. Each events brings a new

brushstroke to the picture of our vibrant culture, past and present. Our favorite events and exhibits have evolved over the years. When our kids were young it was the dinosaurs and now it's the beautiful artwork in the art galleries.

Not only is there the rich heritage and history of the area in our museum but the exhibits are always changing so it's fresh and new. I don't think people realize the wonderful wealth of knowledge you get as a member from speakers, partnerships with the community, the staff and the artifacts. The opportunity for interaction with others are immense.

— Audrey & Lance Jones

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A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

As we look to the future, PPHM is excited to announce two major projects that will begin next year and impact generations to come.

STEAM LAB

For most students in the top 26 counties, PPHM serves as the first point of contact with WTAMU and higher education. We host school groups from pre-k to high school. PPHM's goal is to provide more opportunities for school districts and students to participate in educational activities, thus establishing a relationship with the museum and with WTAMU.

51% of K-12 campuses in the Amarillo-Canyon area are classed as Title 1. Students

attending Title 1 schools are less likely to be exposed to cultural institutions extramurally. The cultivation of this relationship, starting as early as preK, is necessary for student success rates and retention throughout their educational career. Through our educational outreach to students in the Panhandle, we can help create life-long learners, introduce them to opportunities to which they would not otherwise have been exposed, and serve as an avenue to eventual enrollment at WTAMU.

Research shows that engaging students early in life helps contribute to their success; similar studies support this claim for students at the university level. One WTAMU student who actively participates in multiple museum

J R R E

opportunities said, “From intern opportunities to lectures, PPHM has kept me involved not only with the historical legacy of the Panhandle, but it has also reminded me of the learning community we have on campus.” It is our mission to help share the rich history of the Texas Panhandle and to be an integral part of WTAMU campus life. The relationship between the academic training and the enriching museum environment is evident in the employment opportunities PPHM provides to WTAMU students.

It is with all of this in mind that we have decided to add a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) Lab as a permanent installation. PPHM plans to renovate existing space with the input of the WTAMU Engineering - Senior Design students to create a multi-functional learning space. This space will be used to implement core science, technology, engineering, and mathematics initiatives, while also promoting the history, art and culture of our region. The STEAM Lab will feature learning opportunities utilizing the PPHM collection, such as using an artifact like a windmill to explore engineering concepts. The STEAM Lab will promote learning for all ages in a space that encourages inquiry. This installation will allow PPHM to offer highly sought after STEAM based educational programs with active involvement from community and educational partners like Canyon ISD, Amarillo ISD, Region 16 and WTAMU.

PPHM has had STEM based education for several years but many do not associate STEM and the history museum. By adding the STEAM Lab to PPHM we are intentionally bringing science, technology, engineering, and math to a history museum. To make sure we are meeting the needs of the area ISDs and higher education, we have formed a think tank to make sure all that PPHM does in the STEAM Lab is of use. The think tank consists of representatives from PPHM, WTAMU, Amarillo College, Amarillo ISD, Canyon ISD, Pampa ISD, and other area leaders. These varied viewpoints will help us a make a better and more useful STEAM Lab.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING SPACE

Adding a Collaborative Learning Space to compliment the Challenger Learning Center and the STEAM Lab will provide space to foster discussion and learning. The learning space can be used by everyone from school children to seniors and organizations for classes, parties, community events, meals, and much more. This will be a space to further discussion, cultivate ideas, collaboration, listening, and much more.

Construction on these projects will begin in 2020-2021 and we look forward to serving more children, students and families with these projects.



PPHM

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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panhandleplains.org