

de Stolfe

Journal ●●●●●●●●

September 30, 2019 | 8.3





Contents

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Covers activities happening in June through August 2019

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On The Cover



On my way back from Colorado in June, I stopped at the usual windmill near Capulin, New Mexico. Here's what's across the street.

We live in the 21st century! Anywhere you see a web link like this, click it to go automatically to the webpage that it references! (Try it now!)

www.tophandgraphics.com/rg/journals



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Comments by RG



Producer, RG de Stolfe

In the last issue, I wanted to make a clear distinction that the contents of the issue only covered a specific period, namely March through May. That was on purpose not because I had too much content, but because of several things that happened later that needed to be in a separate issue. Now, we pick up covering June through August.

Starting in late May and going into early June, I got a different car, a change that was unexpected and not planned. My previous car was a 2006 Chevy Impala. Through a particular circumstance, I was able to look into a special resource to inquire about vehicles. The vehicle I first inquired about became unavailable. Through a series of events, I was able to get a completely different, but comparable, vehicle. So, I bought it, drove it home, and drove up to Colorado a short time later. See more information about the car purchase on another page of this journal.

On Saturday, June 15, I drove up to Colorado. I first went to Lubbock for a few stops (after first stopping in Slaton) then continued on through the usual route I take to Colorado Springs. The main purpose of the trip was to go to Leadville for the Temple Israel Hebrew Cemetery cleanup weekend they have every year. I was in the Springs for a couple of days, then I was going to go to Leadville for a few days and come back that Sunday. So I was on my way to Leadville on Tuesday, that is until I had some car trouble. And well, you will just have to read about that story elsewhere in this issue.

I left Wednesday with a rental car to Leadville. I bought some plants from Lowe's in the Springs and took with me to work on the flowerbeds in front of the museum (see another page for more info about that project). I was in Leadville through Sunday to work on several projects (again, refer to other pages about the Leadville portion of the trip). On Sunday, I came back to the Springs, then left to go home on Tuesday, June 25 with my car.

Well, back in Snyder, I stayed home for the Fourth and didn't do too much. I had the day off from work. I was able to watch fireworks from my front porch. (Again, more on that on another page.)

Well, things went on like typical for another week until an utter bombshell hit! I came back from an extended lunch on Friday, July 12 to a very quick series of events that caused a complete implosion. Very quickly after coming back from lunch (because it was also payday), the director and the president of the museum board brought me into the office and without much chitchat basically stated that the museum was in a critical financial state and had to make some swift, drastic changes. The changes included eliminating half of the museum staff and closing the 1818 Arthouse (which was a satellite art gallery operated by the museum). The curator position was one of the three positions eliminated, hence my job ended. There is quite a bit more to this story you can read, again, elsewhere in this issue.

You can read more about the points on this page scattered throughout this issue.



Word for Life

Get Wisdom, Get Understanding (Proverbs 4:5-7)

There is a scripture in the Bible that historically and even today is greatly abused because the verses are grossly misunderstood! Some very conservative denominations heavily base doctrine on this type of understanding even to the point that it is restrictive and suffocating. There are two places with almost identical passages, both in the book of Proverbs.

Proverbs 6:10-11

- 10 *A little sleep, a little slumber,
A little folding of the hands to sleep—*
11 *So shall your poverty come on you like a prowler, and
your need like an armed man.*

Proverbs 24:33-34

- 33 *A little sleep, a little slumber,
A little folding of the hands to rest;*
34 *So shall your poverty come like a prowler,
And your need like an armed man.*

First, any scripture taken out of context is abuse. Let's look at the context of each of these two similar scriptures to gain a better understanding of the overall meaning.

The book of Proverbs was written mostly by King Solomon, who was one son of King David. God blessed Solomon with the gift of wisdom more than any other person.

"29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. 30 Thus Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the men of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. 31 For he was wiser than all men..." (1 Kings 4:29-31)

He wrote much of Proverbs later in his life while reflecting upon what he did in his life. He made mistakes. He did stupid things. He desired things that were not good. He wrote these proverbs as a way for other people not to make his mistakes, and they are solidly based on God's laws as recorded in the Bible. Let's take a look at the context of each.

For Proverbs 6, the full passage is 6-11 with the heading of *The Folly of Indolence*. The heading alone should give more context. Indolence means an avoidance of activity or exertion, and folly means not having any good sense. Therefore, these verses explain about changing a lazy habit, not about someone having a lazy day or about going through some sort of problem or misfortune. In addition, this is wisdom literature. It is another way to strongly suggest paying attention to and doing what is stated. The mistake that many people make is to beat these verses into a person's life with condemnation and threats of "God fire" to the point that the person is mentally strung out and doesn't care anymore, because they have long given up trying to satisfy the perceived law. Some people simply cringe at even the suggestion of that scripture because of such a negative connotation that has been attached to it. Anything told to another person, especially correction, without love is abuse.

The full passage of Proverbs 24 is verses 23-34, and particularly 30-34, with the heading of *Further Sayings of the Wise*. In those last five verses, King Solomon visited his fields and vineyards that were attended by lazy men and found them overgrown with weeds and in disrepair. That is what the poverty and need terms refer to. Certainly, he would have done away with those people and replaced them with ones who had a correct work ethic.

The overall thought here is that if we are habitually lazy, sluggish (not medical), and complacent, we cannot expect to live a life of prosperity and live righteously. However, even with this habitual laziness, by no means does someone have a right to manipulate other people to control them or condemn them even if they are clearly acting foolish. As Christians, followers of The Way, we are first and foremost to love. If we act apart from love, we ourselves become disqualified even if we are right.

(Refer to 1 Corinthians 9:27 for a comparison.)

How Many Books Of The Bible Can You Find?

I once made some remarks about hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu. Kept some people looking so hard for facts and to others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the books were not capitalized. To others it was a real job. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. We want it to be a most fascinating task for you. Yes, there

will be some really easy to spot. Others might require judges to determine. We will admit it usually takes a minister to find out, and there will be loud lamentations when you see how simple it is. A little old lady says she brews tea so she can concentrate better. See how well the members of your family can complete. Relax now. There are fifteen in this paragraph.

See last page for the answers.

Saddle Break

Earthquakes in Snyder, Texas?

Apparently, Snyder had an earthquake on Friday, July 26, 2019. Actually, there were two very small quakes located along the north county line. I looked on a map to see where these locations were, and very clearly, Google maps showed the area to have a bunch of oil wells! The area is called the Fuller Oil

Field, and basically, that tells me that the quakes probably have more to do with the oil field than they have to do with any fault lines! However, there is a minor fault line called the Llano Front fault that Snyder is near. Of course, all this is minor compared to the scare of two very large quakes in southeastern California on July 4 and July 6 that was felt in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and into Mexico. (See below)

No damage reported after 2.3 quake registered in county

The first earthquake in Scurry County of 2019 was recorded Friday night.

The law enforcement center did not receive reports of damage after a 2.8

magnitude quake was recorded 15½ miles north of Snyder at 6:35 p.m.

The last earthquake registered on the Richter scale in Scurry County was on

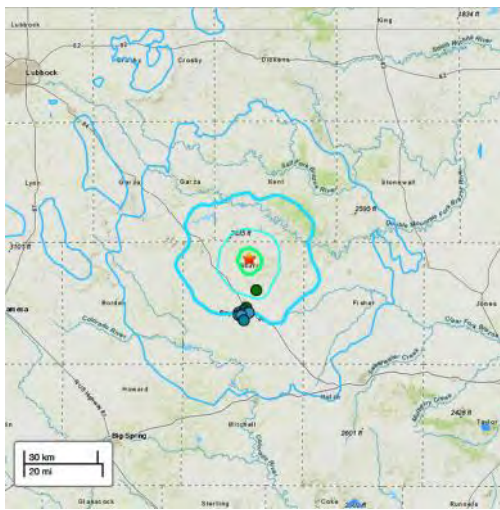
Oct. 31 — a 3.1 magnitude quake.

The largest earthquake in county history was a 4.3 magnitude quake recorded on Sept. 11, 2011.

Snyder Daily News, Weekend edition, July 27, 2019.

Update

On Monday, September 30, Snyder had a very brief, stronger tremor registered as a 4.0 quake. Happening a little after 4:45 PM, the quake only lasted two or three seconds. With where I was, I thought someone slammed a door that caused the wall to rattle. However, other people in other buildings felt something too. Two more quakes occurred within 14 hours of the first one and a fourth one occurred the next day. The USGS map showed the quakes in the Fuller oil field in north Scurry County, same general area as the quakes in July.



California Earthquakes

In a startling turn of events, California had quite a shakeup with unexpected earthquakes centered near Ridgecrest. The first quake of 6.4 occurred on July 4. The next quake was a 7.1 on July 6. Hundreds of aftershocks followed in the 5s or less range. The quakes were felt from Los Angeles to Las Vegas. People's videos posted on social media showed pools turning into waves, house interiors violently shaking, and anything hanging swaying.



Saddle Break

America's Test Kitchen Turns 20

America's Test Kitchen, and it's later spinoff, Cook's Country, are now celebrating 20 years of being on the air. The show was first hosted from the beginning until 2016 by Christopher Kimbell, and since then has been cohosted with Julia Collin Davison and Bridget Lancaster, who were previously on air test cook presenters. A special twentieth anniversary episode will broadcast in November. Check local schedules for exact schedules.



Duluth Trading Company Turns 30

I was part of the original group of employees that was with the Lubbock DTC store, the first in Texas. In the last week of September, the company made the announcement of being in business for 30 years! You can read more about their history here: www.duluthtrading.com/duluth-lore.html



HGTV Buys & Remodels BB Home

Well, the TV network HGTV bought the home used for the outside shots of the popular show *The Brady Bunch*. The inside of the home was just a regular home, since the inside shots were actually recorded on fabricated sets in sound stages. When the home came up for sale, ultimately HGTV bought the home and decided to remodel the inside to reflect the inside of the sets, but as actual working rooms in a real home. In September and continuing into the fall, a series of episodes called, *A Very Brady Renovation*, documented the process in typical HGTV style. If you have access to the HGTV network, you can stream previous episodes to view the process of the renovation.



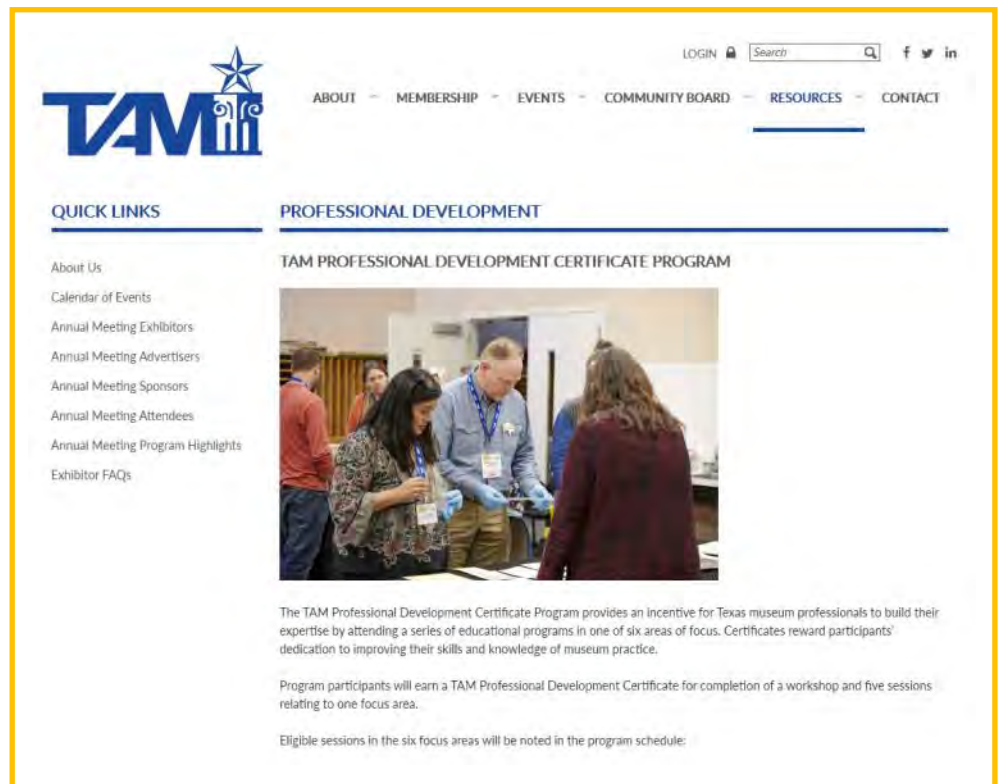
The Brady Bunch Turns 50

This very iconic sit-com first presented on September 26, 1969 on ABC. It lasted until 1974 with a total of 5 seasons and 117 episodes.

Saddle Break

Unexpected Photo

Just recently, someone told me that they saw me in a photo on a website. Here is the photo in a screenshot of the website. TAM is the Texas Association of Museums, the same organization where I went to the annual meeting in El Paso in April, the basis of two thirds of the last journal. The photo was taken during the Paper Conservation workshop that I attended as a pre conference activity. I told about the workshop in the last issue as well. This was a nice surprise.



The screenshot shows the TAM website with a navigation menu (ABOUT, MEMBERSHIP, EVENTS, COMMUNITY BOARD, RESOURCES, CONTACT) and a search bar. The main content area is titled "PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT" and features a section for the "TAM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM". A photo shows several people at a workshop table. Below the photo, text describes the program's purpose and requirements.

QUICK LINKS

- About Us
- Calendar of Events
- Annual Meeting Exhibitors
- Annual Meeting Advertisers
- Annual Meeting Sponsors
- Annual Meeting Attendees
- Annual Meeting Program Highlights
- Exhibitor FAQs

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TAM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The TAM Professional Development Certificate Program provides an incentive for Texas museum professionals to build their expertise by attending a series of educational programs in one of six areas of focus. Certificates reward participants' dedication to improving their skills and knowledge of museum practice.

Program participants will earn a TAM Professional Development Certificate for completion of a workshop and five sessions relating to one focus area.

Eligible sessions in the six focus areas will be noted in the program schedule.

Full Professorship

Just recently, we can now call him Professor McConaughey. Why? That's because he was just recently made a full professor of practice for the Department of Radio-Television-Film in the Moody College of Communication of the University of Texas in Austin. If you thought he already was, that is because prior to now, he was a visiting professor teaching since 2015.

If you think that's all right, all right, all right, then read more here:

<https://news.utexas.edu/2019/08/28/matthew-mcconaughey-joins-moody-college-faculty/>

(And I know you just thought that the way he says it!)



Professor Matthew McConaughey

New Car

In very early June, I got a different car. My previous car was a 2006 Chevy Impala. The new vehicle is a 2013 Buick La Crosse. Now, how this happened is somewhat a mystery!

Through a particular circumstance that I'm not going to specify here, I was able to look into a special resource to inquire about vehicles. So in late May, I searched and inquired about a newer year Impala with a dealer in San Angelo, Texas. San Angelo is about 1.5 hours south-southeast from Snyder, so not very far. Ultimately, that vehicle became unavailable and the salesman found another compromable car and had somehow obtained a preapproval for me! This baffled me for sure, but I wasn't going to complain about it. The details of the process included needing to put some money down and to trade in the Impala. In addition, the monthly payment was higher than I wanted, but it would be for three years.

On Monday, June 3, I drove down to San Angelo and went to the dealership. I test drove the car and went through the crazy paperwork (which was actually through a digital touch screen) then left with the vehicle. I generally put zero trust in auto dealers nor in salesman for the long history of their less than trustworthy ethics, even if their actions are not technically illegal. Okay, so I drove home after a few stops and now have a newer vehicle.

You will read later in the journal about a big issue I had with the car, further proving of my distrust of dealers to be ethical, transparent, and responsible!

Nice Number

My 2006 Impala hit the 100,000 mark on April 25, 2018 (as I reported in the June-July 2018 issue of the de Stolfe Journal Candid). Well, on May 5 of 2019, I hit the all ones, 111,111! So that was a little over a year. Of course, now I have a different vehicle, which was over 104k when I got it. That means I'll be able to get to another 111,111 in the near future!



This is the car I had, a 2006 Chevy Impala.



This is the new I car I got, a 2013 Buick La Crosse.



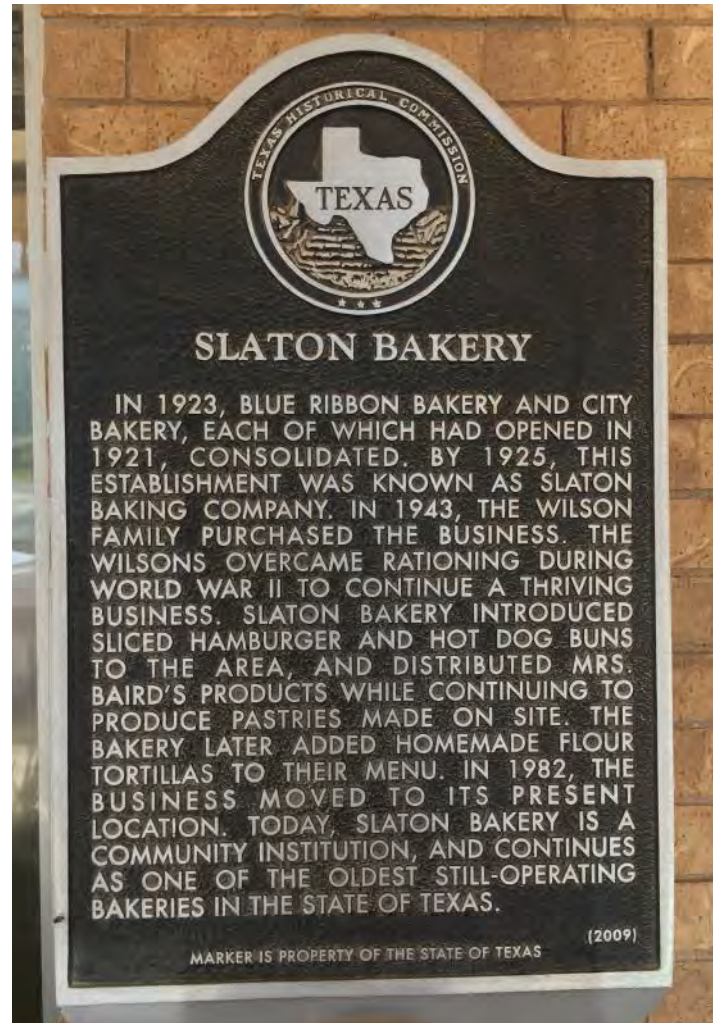
Colorado Visit

For a couple of months ahead of time, I planned to go to Leadville like I have every year when I didn't work there during a summer. (So far since 2014, it's been three years working there for the summer, and three years that I haven't worked but still went up for a weekend during the summer.)

On Saturday, June 15, I left Snyder and went up to Lubbock. I had a few things to do before continuing on. Just before I got to Lubbock, I stopped in Slaton to go to the Slaton Bakery. It turned out that early that morning some buildings right behind the bakery caught fire and ultimately became a total loss. The long strip building that the bakery was in was not damaged from fire, but was heavily damaged from overnight hours of smoke from the fire (as well as the other businesses next to it). So obviously, I could not buy any baked goods, but the owner did give me a sealed bag of cookies they make in a different facility. (They were called Guns Up cookies they make to celebrate Texas Tech University.)

I did a few things while I was in Lubbock then continued upwards to Colorado starting with I-27. I did my usual route from there to Amarillo, Clayton, Raton, and up to Colorado Springs with very few stops. I got in to Colorado Springs after dark. I planned to stay in Colorado Springs for a couple of days and leave to Leadville on Tuesday. Sunday was Father's Day, so I took dad to lunch at Mimi's Bistro, which is an American restaurant that focuses on more French style cooking. Sunday and Monday was spent doing various things. I did go and buy plants and mulch at Lowe's to take to Leadville rather than to make special trip from Leadville to Summit County to get the plants like I did in previous years. That way I had them ready to go when I got there.

On Tuesday, June 18, I went to have lunch then left in the early afternoon to head to Leadville. I was only about halfway across town before my car suddenly started steaming. I found a place to pull off into a parking lot to see what was going on.



This is the Texas historical marker about the Slaton Bakery.

Apparently, I was low on radiator fluid, and so I filled it up and was about to leave when it started steaming again before I even left the parking lot. So, I pulled back into a parking spot and started guessing what was going on. Well, I made a bunch of calls and ultimately called Onstar for a tow. By this point, it was starting to rain and lightning. About three hours later, the tow truck finally arrived. After talking with dad, the car was towed to a mechanic place dad used and dad picked me up to go back to the house. Obviously, I wasn't going to Leadville on Tuesday! I called them in Leadville to tell them and made arrangements for me to come Wednesday.

Colorado Visit

Okay, so my arrangements were to get a rental car and continue on to Leadville while dad would deal with having my car checked out with the mechanic. On Wednesday, the rental car place picked me up at the house and took me back to the office. I took care of the paperwork and ended up driving the “compact car” you see to the right! They said it was all they had left on such short notice! Well... don't you know that was fun to drive! I've never driven a Ford before, and this was a 2019.



My compact rental car.

I had to go transfer the plants and mulch over to the truck and get some lunch, then went on my way again for try number two. The drive went well and smoothly as I expected and arrived in Leadville by the later afternoon. It takes roughly three hours to get there. We unloaded the plants, and I got settled in for the rest of the evening. We went over to Casa Blanca for dinner, which is a Mexican restaurant I ate at fairly often when I was working in Leadville. It's nothing like Texmex, but it was good and filling.

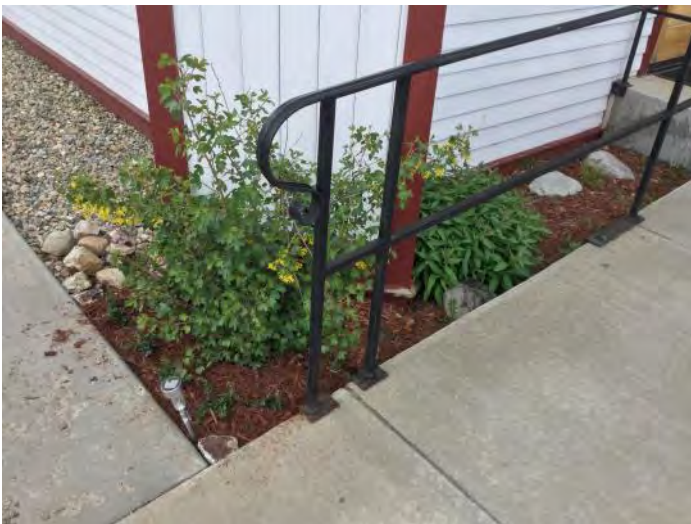
The next day, I got up leisurely and went over to City on a Hill for some coffee and a pastry then headed over to the museum. I worked on weeding, planting, and mulching for the afternoon. Even simple tasks like weeding and planting plants are exhausting when you are at 10k feet! I just paced it out until I was done. In the evening, three of us went over to Quincy's for dinner. I have reported about this place before. It is a steak place in one of the historic buildings. They have a very limited menu that changes based on the day, much like old style restaurants. For Thursdays, the meal was filet mignon. Fridays and Saturdays are the prime rib or sirloin. I mostly went for sirloin because they serve it with two types of gravy. All meals come with salad, baked potato, and a roll. There are five locations, all within about two hours of each other, but I have never eaten at any of the other locations

On Friday, I again went over to City on a Hill for some coffee and a pastry, then went over to the museum. I was going to work on processing the new artifacts, but with the Shabbat service the next day, I decided to wait until later Saturday to start. By the early afternoon, I went to walk around town a little, especially with the Leadville BBQ fest going on. I stopped at Western Hardware and bought a few antquy things, namely some old photographs. I did not intend to have any BBQ mostly because the lines were way too long and because it was expensive and you were required to buy tickets to pay for the food. I ended up not eating any of it Friday nor Saturday. Instead, I went over to High Mountain Pies for one of their delicious sandwiches that I've had many times before! In the early evening, a bunch of us, a group of at least 10 of us, were gathered together for a Shabbat dinner. This is a typical gathering of a specific group people on the Friday of the annual cleanup weekend, though this year was much larger that it typically is.

Colorado Visit

In the past when I would work on the Temple Israel museum garden, I usually did it in early June, and it would have several weeks to get established and flower. Well, with only two days before the Shabbat service on Saturday, I had to create an “instant garden” to make it look nice. Well, the established plants were not yet blooming either because of the excessively long winter that happened this year or simply because they flower later into the summer. Either way, the only flowering plants for the garden were what I brought. Of course, all the plants would

continue to grow and flower through the summer. I also added something new that I never put into the garden before, and that is the solar lights. I have many at home (you can see them elsewhere in this issue) and they were cheap enough at Dollar Tree to get enough to put in the corners of the garden plots. They always add a nice aesthetic for a night glow in a garden. Well, it snowed Saturday night and snapped the lighter weight plants, but I understand that most of them eventually came back and flourished later in the summer.



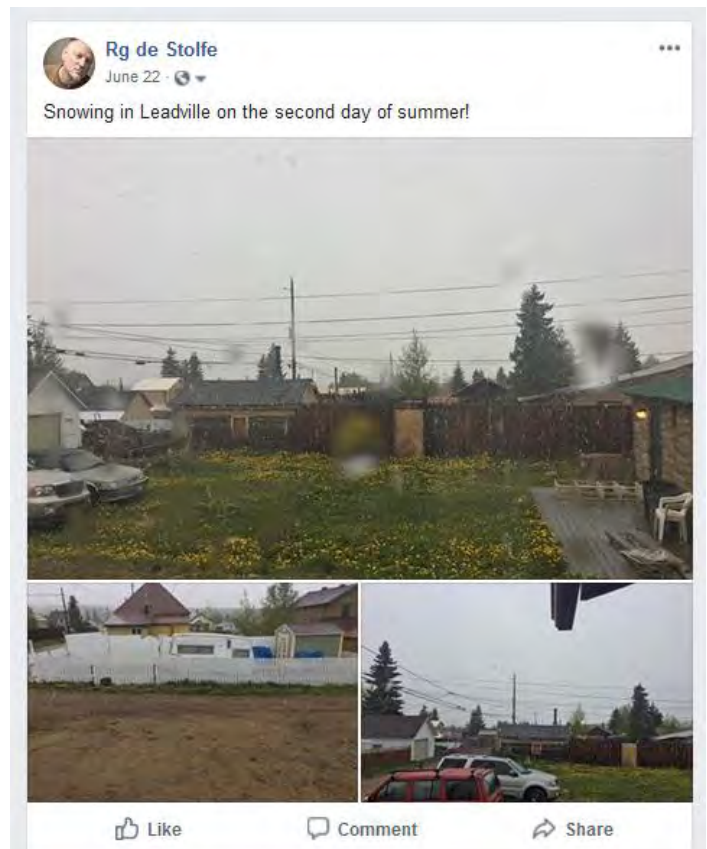
Colorado Visit

Saturday was the first of two main events of the annual weekend (a Shabbat service and the cemetery cleanup). The Shabbat service started at 10 AM. I ended up arriving well after it started mostly due to the lodging. I was staying at the home of the president of the museum. He had several rooms and all of them had people in them, but only one bathroom for the three rooms (while the owner had his own bathroom). And besides that, it had a ball and claw tub. It does have a shower outfitted in it (you know the kind you'd see a hundred years ago with a curtain and a "rain head"?), but if you have ever taken a shower in one of those, first just climbing into it is a feat, while also having to duck down your head to get under the showerhead! And that is also besides feeling like you are constantly going to tip over the tub! Well, the point is that I got to the service. Afterwards, they had an oneg, like every year, and the rest of the afternoon was spent doing whatever people wanted. The morning and early afternoon was nice weather, but the day kept getting more cloudy and cooler.

For the afternoon, I started working on processing the artifacts by gathering together information and entering it into the museum database. By the time the museum closed, the weather turned cold with a chance of snow. I went back to the house where not long after, it had started snowing. Yes, snowing, in late June! Well, that is not unheard of for it can snow anytime of the year at 10k feet. But the winter in Leadville this year was exceptionally longer than usual. (That was likely the last significant snowfall until this coming October.) Several of us walked over from the house in the snow, which had accumulated by this point and was driving, to meet up with a group at the Treeline restaurant, which was a new restaurant that opened in 2017 not long after I started working that summer. It is quite good, but it is also the type of restaurant where everything is priced separately and there are no "combo meals"! You order individually what you want. Afterwards as we were walking back to the house, the snow had stopped, but it was cold enough that the snow accumulation was going nowhere for the night.



These are the Rocky Mountains to the west of Leadville. The snow is left over from winter.



I posted on Facebook that it was snowing.

Colorado Visit

The other activity of the weekend was the cemetery cleanup. Most of the years I worked for the museum, I was at the museum during the cleanup, except for 2017 when I attended to take photos and video for a project I wanted to do. Because of the cold, snow, and mud, I basically decided to skip going to the cemetery, partly because of that and partly because of the whole getting ready thing with the bathroom. Instead, I went over to the museum. I don't recall going anywhere for anything to eat. I spent the afternoon photographing the artifacts and more museum stuff. After the cleanup, the leftover food came back over to the museum. In typical fashion, I was able to take home some of the leftover food and the president kept some as well. The rest of it went over across the street to Saint George Episcopal Church for their meal program. By the late afternoon, I was done and soon left to go back to the Springs. I first, went over to City on a Hill to pick up my order of bacon cheddar biscuits, which I somehow managed to make last for two months, thank you very much! A little ways south of Leadville, I stopped by the Arkansas River right where the road crosses over and took some photos and looked at an interesting marker. I continued on back to the Springs. It was late enough that I stopped at Rudy's BBQ before getting back to dad's house.

I planned to stay another full day (Monday), then go back to Texas on Tuesday. While I was gone, the car got fixed and there were three specific things that needed fixing. First, the steaming was caused by a hole in an elbow joint of the radiator system and the fluid splurting out onto the hot engine compartment is what caused the steaming. Second, the mechanic considered the tires to be "critically low" and since the mechanic place was also a tire place, they automatically check tires. So, I ended up getting four new tires. Lastly, the car was in bad need of a tuneup. Okay, so if you have any clue about what these things cost, then you know that all this was expensive! Well, the really big issue with all of this is the fact that these things should have been taken care of by the auto dealer before selling the car! This is currently a huge source of contention with dad, and it is still an ongoing thing of what kind of resolution this will come to.

On Monday, I did a few leisurely things and finished up some things. I knew before I left the Springs, I wanted to visit a few places. I went over to Zoë's Kitchen again for lunch with a neighbor, stopped over at Trader Joe's for a few things, and stopped at Lowe's to get a couple of plants I liked for my own garden at home. The Lowe's stores in Colorado have a huge variety of awesome plants since Colorado is a great place for growing various flowers.

I left the Springs Tuesday, June 25 and did a couple of errands before leaving town, specifically to get some coffee at Dutch Brothers and stop at the store for a few random things. On the way back, I did a planned stop in Raton, New Mexico to pick up some artifacts that someone wanted to donate to the Scurry County Museum. The museum has a policy that potential donations need to be reviewed and approved before accepting them, hence why I had to pick them up. They had moved from Snyder before the items were approved. I stopped at the usual windmill place in Capulin, New Mexico. Right across the street from the windmill and barn is where the photo on the cover was taken, and right where I usually park when I go to take the photos. Besides stops for gas, I got back to Lubbock by dark. For dinner, I went over to the new Rosa's Café south of town then went my way back to Snyder. I got back before midnight.



Not the best photo, but the mocha iced coffee with almond milk was good!

Colorado Visit



This sign on the road indicates that the river is the Arkansas River, but the river is also the usual dividing line between the Louisiana Purchase (on the east side) and the Texas Annex (on the west side)



DeLIMITations is a project by David Taylor and Marcos Ramírez ERRE. The purpose of the project is to trace and mark the original 1821 northern boundary between what was then the newly independent Mexico and the western territories of the United States by installing 47 sheet metal markers that mimic the existing stone monuments currently along the border between El Paso/Juarez and San Diego/Tijuana. As you can see, this is almost halfway being the point #21.



Fourth of July in Snyder

Not long after I got back from Colorado was July 4th. I stayed in Snyder. I had no plans to go anywhere, especially since it was a Thursday. I had the day off, but still worked on Friday. For a particular job “as required” duty, I spent a couple of hours Wednesday evening at Towle Park. Across the lake from the park was a carnival. I didn’t go to the carnival, but I did get a photo (below). Snyder planned to have fireworks shot from Towle Park after it got dark. My apartment is less than 1 mile from the park and with it being at the NW side of the complex, I was able to sit on my porch and watch the fireworks. They ended up being a little lower in the sky than I thought they’d be, but since I didn’t have to go anywhere, I certainly wasn’t going to complain!



The Fourth of July carnival near Towle Park in Snyder.

Unfortunate Results

The summer started out good. I got back from Colorado and spent the Fourth of July in Snyder. I kept working at the museum as usual getting work done and planning for future exhibitions and other plans for my areas of responsibility. Little did I know what was going to happen about a week later! The day was Friday, July 12, 2019. It was a payday, and I planned to get lunch at a local BBQ restaurant and to go over to another place to finish some museum work I started earlier in the week. It was an extended lunch to do all of that. I got back in the mid afternoon and almost immediately had a total bomb drop even before I got back to my office. When I got back, something was already happening that I was questioning, especially since the president of the board was there. The director called me to her office and was turning off the lights to the museum. In the office, that was when she went straight to the point saying the museum was spending money at a rate they could not sustain and had to make cuts. So, long story short, half of the staff of the museum was let go (three people: two full time, one part time) and the 1818 Arthouse, a satellite gallery on the town square was closed permanently. Needless to say, I was one of the three. About two weeks later another employee (a position that was kept) left the museum for a different job elsewhere. The museum also cut open hours to three days a week at three hours each



day. Much of the crash and burn effects of this cut was a result of issues left from the previous director that ultimately could not be fixed. Overall, a full decade's worth of effort to build up the museum to something greater than it was completely vanished.

More than anything, I am disappointed. I took great risk, time, money, and effort to move to Snyder explicitly for this job intending to be there for many years to come doing what I have searched for 15 years to find to do. And now, that hope is all gone.



The Event That Wasn't

In the recent International Coffee Day special issue of the de Stolfe Journal, I presented a somewhat cryptic message on page 20 with a title of "The Event That Wasn't". If you just read the previous page, you then know that after the museum let me go, all the exhibitions and events I was planning suddenly became cancelled. One such event I was planning was for International Coffee Day. I planned to have a special social event for the museum members that included one of the board members trained as a barista to make coffee drinks and have

international pastries and French music playing in the background. I was also planning to have a mini exhibit about coffee. I'm certain it would have been a good event. I even had the postcard designed and ready to print the day before I was let go. That is the postcard shown here and in the journal special issue.

I was really excited to have this event and the upcoming exhibitions I was planning. It is exactly like taking a pin to balloon.



Coffeehouse Tasting & Social
With Barista

Celebrating International Coffee Day*

Saturday, September 28, 2019 · 10 AM - Noon

Please RSVP (flip to back)

Learn about what makes an expert cup of coffee and sample different roasts and brew styles.

Also International pastries!

*International Coffee Day is Sunday, September 29, 2019

WAKE UP! WITH COFFEE

During the social, view the new mini exhibit **WAKE UP! WITH COFFEE** exploring the different ways of grinding, brewing, and serving coffee using artifacts from the collection.



A Trip to Midland

In the recent July issue, I mentioned on page 23 that I had originally planned to return home after the TAM conference in El Paso by going I-10 to I-20 and stopping at the Petroleum Museum in Midland. For a variety of reasons, I abandoned the idea and ended up going to Santa Fé instead as I had reported. After a few months, I finally planned a specific date that would work near the end of July. Whoever from the museum who wanted to go, we would carpool and go visit the Petroleum Museum. After the huge breakup with the SCM, I still planned to go visit the museum... but would go by myself instead.

I met up with the director there, who I saw in El Paso, and we talked for a while. Then, I toured through the museum. It is quite a museum with a variety of galleries and collections ranging from historical to geological, science, art, and even race cars! There is an indoor part and an outdoor park. It was a hot day as you would expect for late July. I spent a good two or three hours there. Afterwards, I had lunch and stopped at the giant H-E-B in Midland before going back home to Snyder.



Most of the museum is a suggested path, but you can go in various directions. This is generally the first part of the tour of the museum right after a short video. This part shows about the ancient seas of the area that would contribute to the oil deposits in the Midland/Odessa area.

A Trip to Midland



Various oil company related artifacts of the 20th Century.



A Trip to Midland



I had no idea that pump jacks could be so small!



*"Speed. I am speed."
Lightning McQueen*



10 Years on Facebook

So back in 2009, I was considering to create a social media account with some “product” out there. For the format I wanted, I narrowed it to Facebook and MySpace. After reviewing the two, I decided on Facebook for it’s security features. To the right is the first post I made on July 25, 2009.

In June 2009, I went with the coach and several other people and the team to Casper, Wyoming to go to the College National Finals Rodeo held there every year. The TTU Rodeo Mens Team made it to the finals. I spent about a week there. Overall, it was a good visit.

In typical modern manner, Facebook created a little animation video celebrating my ten years on Facebook.

Facebook started in 2004.



Here are a few screenshots of the animation video celebrating my 10 years on Facebook.

YOUTUBELAND

YouTube

By now, everyone should be familiar with YouTube even if just what it is. But if for some reason you are not familiar with it, I'll tell you quickly about it. YouTube was founded on February 14, 2005. Not long after, Google bought it in November 2006. Technically, YouTube is a social medium. However, what is different about this one from other social media is that its focus is for video. The main idea is that anyone can create a YouTube account and create their own channel. Exactly like a TV with network channels or cable with ten million channels, YouTube is like a digital counterpart of that for the common man. Now, it had morphed a bunch over the past 14 years, particularly with commercialism cannibalizing a lot of its use, but the system is still the same for every day people. And once wifi and especially video capability on phones and tablets became standard and used regularly, it is even easier to create and upload content. Since then, YouTube has also added the capability for a live broadcast through a streaming system. Many channels will create recorded videos and also have live stream sessions. These pages include both of these formats with some of the channels I like.



It's A Southern Thing

I currently have about two dozen channels on YouTube I follow and watch when new videos are posted. Although only about a dozen of them I really look forward to watching. One channel I like is called It's A Southern Thing. They have only been around less than three years, but they have become very popular. Most of their videos are short comedic skits of a variety of true authentic southern topics that post quite frequently. The beauty of most YouTube channels is that people can leave comments (if you are a registered user). After watching a video skit called, If Your Neighborhood Had Nightly News, they "reported" about a missing cat called Mr. Pickles owned by one of the "reporters" in the "neighborhood". At the end of the "news", the "anchor" stated that if anyone knew the whereabouts of Mr. Pickles, please "contact the station". So, I decided to have some fun and posted a message under the video!



#itsasouthernthing
If Your Neighborhood Had Nightly News



RG de Stolfe

Mr. Pickles was seen just briefly over behind the Bojangles near the edge of the neighborhood with his tail twitching from the smell of fried chicken. But, he quickly dodged a car in the drive through lane and flew into the rhododendrons behind the restaurant.

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YOUTUBELAND

Townsend's

I mentioned on the last page that YouTube can show edited videos that are uploaded and that it can do live streams, which is a more recent phenomena. (Do dooo dododo... sorry... had to do it.) Well, one channel I watch (of many) has both formats! I watch videos by a company located in Indiana called Townsends. I have reported about them before in my journals. Most of their educational videos are recorded and edited then uploaded on to their YouTube channel, and they are quite regular and frequent. But also, once a week on Friday afternoons, they have a live stream program where they can interact with the viewers and present information and answer questions as they are being asked. They have been doing this regularly now for about two years. Before that, they would just accumulate questions sent in by email or comments left on their YouTube channel and answer them in a short video once a week. While watching one live stream in early July, I posted a question about an earlier video they posted in May. Here was the question: "What did you do with the bark canoe? I am assuming that it will not stay floatable for very long once the wood dries out." Their moderators presented my question and John (the owner in the photo) gave a high quality answer for 2.5 minutes!



Above: This screenshot was from a video showing the steps of how to make an elm bark canoe in the 1700s.

Below: A screenshot during the live stream at the Nutmeg Tavern answering the question I asked.



PERCETON
900,000 Let's Celebrate! Live From the Nutmeg Tavern -

RG's Newest Video on YouTube

For about the past five years, I have made various videos that I have posted on my YouTube channel. My newest one published on August 24, 2019 and is called Vitesses du Vent. This is French translating as the *Speeds of Wind*, which will be very obvious in watching the video. Take a look!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=oFIVPP41Wjc



This Old House Turns 40

If you followed my journals from the 90s, you will know that I occasionally wrote about the home improvement show *This Old House*. 2019 is the 40th year of it being on TV, with the first episode on January 1, 1979. To celebrate the occasion, TOH revisited a few of the homes they worked on over the 40 years during the 40th season in 2018-2019. Then in July and August, they presented each season premiere of the 40 years, one every day on YouTube and on their website, as a countdown to a special episode starting on August 17 covering the 40 years. I started watching the show in the late 80s as I recall and watched it through most of the 90s, but lost touch with the show by the late 90s for nearly 15 years until about 2012. I only saw the show occasionally within that time. When I started watching the show again, I was surprised to see a new host who had already been on the show for a while! Pretty much since then, I've watched every episode of the show.



Watch TOH's 40th Anniversary Special on PBS!

Above: The three hosts of This Old House. l-r: Bob Vila, 1979-1989 (10 seasons); Steve Thomas, 1989-2003 (14 seasons); and Kevin O'Connor, 2003-present (16+ seasons).



Scooby Doo Turns 50

The very first episode of Scooby Doo aired on September 13, 1969. Since then, the franchise has had a strange and varied history of reboots and redesigns over the last 50 years. Here are the different iterations of the franchise, specifically, the animated full length episodes on TV.

There is A LOT of information about the various ways Scooby Doo existed and far too much to put here. Take a look at the Wikipedia page for info.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Scooby-Doo_media

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Scooby-Doo, Where Are You! | 1969–70 |
| 2 | The New Scooby-Doo Movies | 1972–73 |
| 3 | The Scooby-Doo Show | 1976–78 |
| 4 | Scooby's All-Star Laff-A-Lympics | 1977–78 |
| 5 | Scooby-Doo and Scrappy-Doo | 1979–80 |
| 6 | Scooby-Doo and Scrappy-Doo | 1980–82 |
| 7 | The New Scooby and Scrappy-Doo Show | 1983–84 |
| 8 | The 13 Ghosts of Scooby-Doo | 1985 |
| 9 | A Pup Named Scooby-Doo | 1988–91 |
| 10 | What's New, Scooby-Doo? | 2002–06 |
| 11 | Shaggy & Scooby-Doo Get a Clue! | 2006–08 |
| 12 | Scooby-Doo! Mystery Incorporated | 2010–13 |
| 13 | Be Cool, Scooby-Doo! | 2015–18 |
| 14 | Scooby-Doo and Guess Who? | 2019 |



Historic Newspapers

Here is an article I found from the Herald Democrat, July 5, 1892 issue. This article shows why you want to have burros in your traveling or in your ranching activities, but also why you want to be nice to the burros! Please note that this article is very descriptive with some graphic imagery but also that no burro was harmed as explained in this this article.

An Interesting Burro.

It Proves to Be Worth More Than a Consumer of Tin Cans.

Paso Del Norte, Mex., July 4 —A diminutive burrow, or Mexican jackass, which has been used in this country for some time as a means of transportation, has shown that it is good for something besides carrying burdens and eating tin cans. The burro in question is one of a train of the little pack animals which make regular trips up the river and in doing so they pass through a country where wolves and coyotes abound in great numbers. As a rule the packers are little troubled by the wolves, but the coyotes are their constant companions about the camps, and the burros have become so accustomed to seeing the howling pests that they pay little attention to them except to drive them away with a kick when they venture too near to where the burros are feeding.

The largest species of wolf known in this part of the country is a huge, gaunt animal, almost black, and is known as the lobos wolf by the natives. These animals are rarely seen, as they frequent the timber portions of the mountains, and very seldom venture on the plains away from the shelter of the dense woods. The lobos wolf is a very

savage animal when in close quarters, and will attack burros or small ponies frequently, and often when there are several in the band they will kill the burro and make a meal of him. The little donkey spoken of previously had had several experiences with coyotes, and had become an expert with the use of his heels against the depredators, until he began to like the idea of fighting wolves and coyotes, and would attack coyotes every opportunity offered.

One evening after the pack train had been unloaded and the donkeys were grazing near a wooded stream at the foot of the mountains the driver noticed a wolf approaching the burro from the edge of the timber. He was just about to shout at the intruder when he noticed that the burro was ready to begin the fight on his own accord and thought he would wait to see the result of the battle. As soon as the wolf noticed that the burro was after him he advanced with jaws snapping and all the while he gave a snarling sound. He made at the donkey and just as he leaped at the burro's throat the latter's heels whirled around and came against the wolf's side with a thump that sent him rolling on the ground.

This performance was repeated time and again, and at last the wolf realized that things were not going

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This performance was repeated time and again, and at last the wolf realized that things were not going his way, and he went about the battle in a little different manner. The last kick of the burro had stunned him a little, and when he recovered himself he approached the donkey carefully and made a feint as if about to spring at his enemy. The burro's feet flew back and up, but the wolf dropped to the ground and escaped, and then, just as the feet were in the air, he made a desperate leap at the burro's neck, under the flying heels, but here he was badly mistaken, as he was in the hinder end of the donkey, for as he approached the head the burro opened his jaws and grasped the wolf by the back and shook him as a dog does a rat. The first of the burro's teeth slipped, and the wolf sprang away losing a part of the skin of the back, but was no ways daunted and renewed the attack at once.

The wolf was now thoroughly enraged at the repulse, and went at the burro with all the cunning of his nature. He circled around the donkey as fast as he could run, but always met either the heels or head of the plucky little animal, until at last he thought he saw another opening and made another dash at the throat of the burro. The jackass now seemed suddenly transformed into a wild beast, and rushed at the approaching wolf, grasped him by the back, and with one convulsive closing of the jaws, crushed the bones and killed the wolf instantly. The burro was not satisfied with this, but continued to kick, bite and stamp the mangled remains until hardly a semblance of the wolf remained.

The wolf that was killed is the largest of the wolf kind that has ever been seen in this part of the country and was almost as large as a mastiff. The lobos wolves are a peculiar species and resemble hyenas in form and habits. Their jaws are stronger and heavier than those of the ordinary wolves, and they have the ghoul-like habit of digging up fresh made graves and eating the dead.

Historic Newspapers

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Watch for Coyotes!

I found this photo on Facebook of a sign in a California park warning people about the presence of coyotes. Take a look at the additional details listed at the bottom of the sign.

Call Animal Control if you see dangerous coyote activity such as:
Coyote carrying box marked "ACME"
Coyote detonating explosives/TNT
Coyote in possession of giant magnet
Coyote holding sign such as "detour" or "free bird seed"
Coyote in possession of a catapult
Coyote dropping anvil from hot air balloon

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department
Redwood City
1400 Roosevelt Ave
Redwood City, Ca
Ph. 650.780.7250

**WARNING
COYOTE ACTIVITY**

 Coyotes are wild animals and can be dangerous. Do not encourage them to approach. They are smart, fast & will take what they can get.

All Pets **MUST** be kept under direct control for your safety and the safety of the animals.
**KEEP THEM AT A DISTANCE!
NEVER FEED COYOTES!**

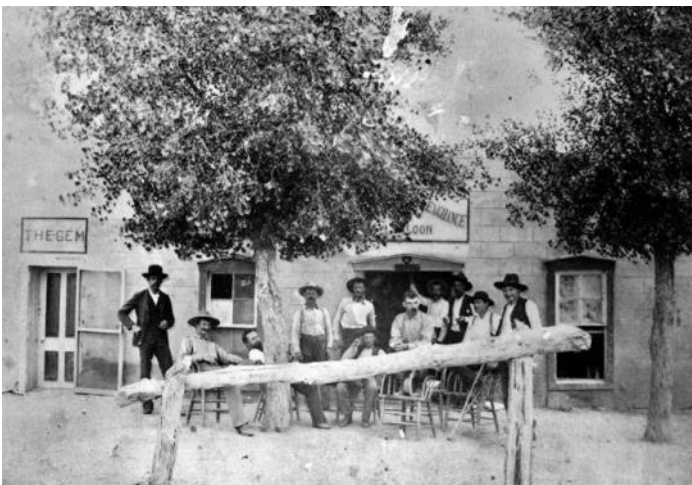
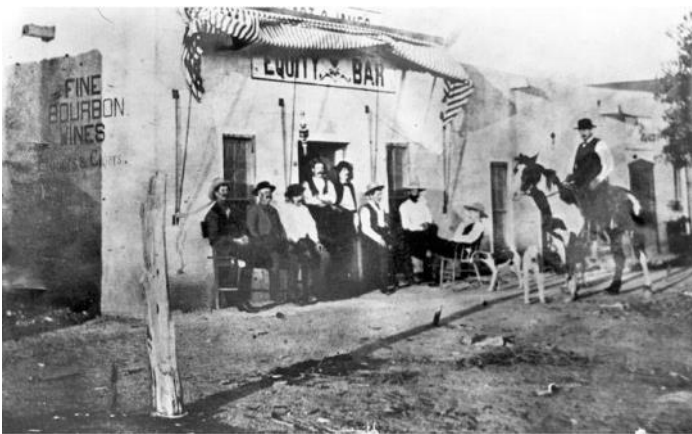
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Coyote detonating explosives/TNT
Coyote in possession of giant magnet
Coyote holding sign such as "detour" or "free bird seed"
Coyote in possession of a catapult
Coyote dropping anvil from hot air balloon

Parks Make Life Better!
Police Dispatch 650.780.7118

Old Tascosa Saloons

One year ago in September, I stopped at old Tascosa, which is now the Cal Farley's Boys Ranch northwest of Amarillo, while I was on the way up to Colorado. I reported about all that in the September 2018 issue. One detail I did not talk about in that issue were some well known photos shown on this page. These are the saloons of that old town, as most towns had many saloons at that time. There is no misunderstanding that most old time cowboys liked their whiskey and various other hard liquors.

The three photos to the right were taken by legendary Erwin E. Smith in 1907. These particular cowpunchers worked on the LS Ranch near the town. It is unknown what bar it is, but it could be the Equity Bar (below, different photo, date unknown). Cowpunchers worked on the LS and LIT ranches of the area. The very bottom photo in this column shows a bunch of unidentified Texas Rangers outside a saloon, circa 1885.



Random Things

40 Lacking Skills People Need to Know!

How to...

- ◆ write a letter
- ◆ make a phone call (on any phone)
- ◆ take a message
- ◆ get to know an older person
- ◆ play with a baby
- ◆ sew on a button
- ◆ make a genuine apology
- ◆ read slowly
- ◆ hammer a nail
- ◆ shake hands
- ◆ introduce yourself
- ◆ take notice of needs around you
- ◆ make scrambled eggs
- ◆ balance a checkbook/spreadsheet
- ◆ see a job through to completion
- ◆ write a thank you note
- ◆ do laundry
- ◆ take care of a garden
- ◆ fix something instead of replacing it or throwing it away
- ◆ plan a healthy meal
- ◆ hang a picture
- ◆ wash dishes by hand
- ◆ make a budget
- ◆ wait and save for something
- ◆ check tire pressure
- ◆ ask meaningful questions
- ◆ read a map (not GPS)
- ◆ find a book in the library
- ◆ seek counsel from someone more experienced
- ◆ care for a pet
- ◆ select a meaningful gift
- ◆ set a table
- ◆ iron a shirt
- ◆ give someone the benefit of the doubt
- ◆ weigh out the pros and cons of a decision
- ◆ have good table manners
- ◆ read a recipe
- ◆ attend a concert or performance
- ◆ do something well without requiring credit
- ◆ be kind

The Red Creeks

When I went down from Snyder to San Angelo in early June, I drove a road I had never been on before. The way was mostly empty, just containing of the ruralness of Texas. There was one particular thing I had to stop to photograph simply for the predictability and the hilarious absurdity of it! Here they are, these signs identifying some waterways.



Random Things

Sometimes You See Things

So, my drive home from work was rather short, a matter of several blocks. But when leaving, I had to drive through the parking lot and around part of the campus to get to the main road. Sometimes while I was leaving I would see something.

There is a golf course right by the campus with grass, trees, and a small river running through it. At the end of May, I was on my way home when I saw this good sized turtle (perhaps 8"-10"?). The golf course might be where it was coming from. I put him on the grass for concrete is no place for a turtle!

In early July, I was leaving campus and saw a spot on the road. I quickly knew what it was. I stopped and took this photo (and some video) of this nice fuzzy spider. (called a Texas Brown Tarantula) It was walking across the road and it was nice enough to stop for me while I got the photos! Then, it went on it's way. Realize that tarantulas are basically harmless to humans despite their size.

As I was leaving the museum in mid July, I saw this other spider near the building. I understand that it is called a Wolf Spider. Notice the front leg missing.

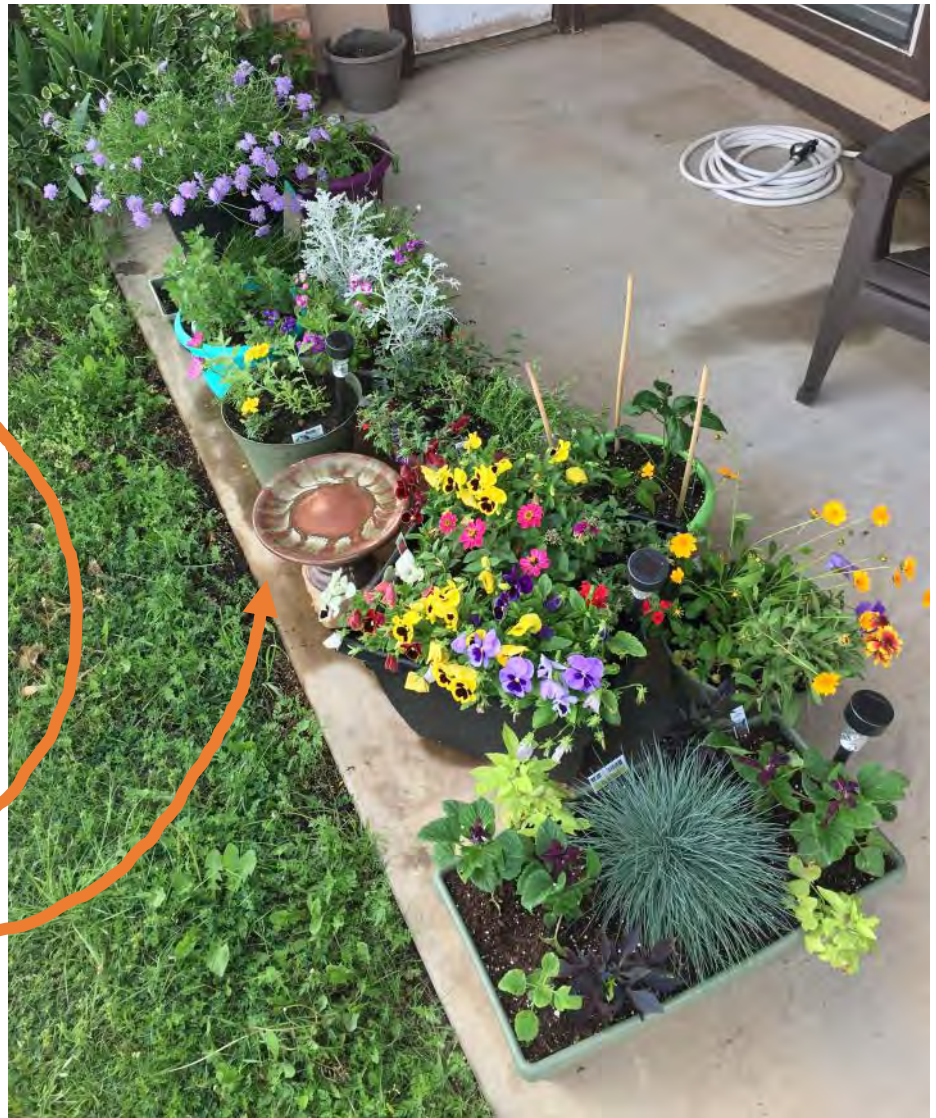


2019 Garden

April 29, 2019—These photos show the garden in late April. I rearranged the whole thing from the month prior that I showed in the last issue. I did change a few things again in June with the addition of a few other pots.

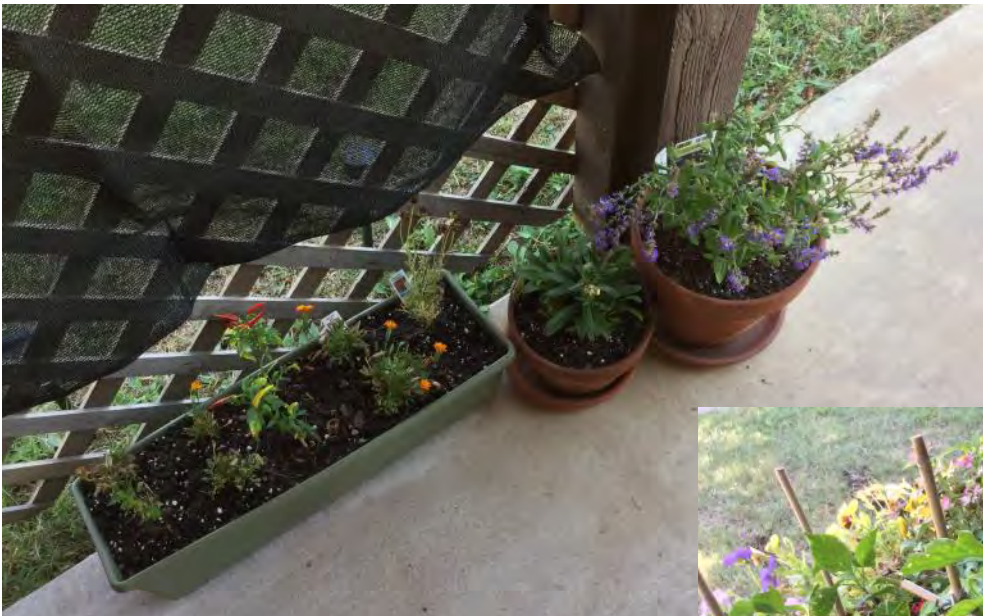
If that small birdbath looks somewhat familiar, it is because it is the same one from 2013 that was at dad's house! I reclaimed it last year to put in my garden.

Also, I took the black shade fabric and put up on the lattice to help block some of the wind and western light of the summer. It has worked pretty well!



Snyder Garden

These photos show the garden on July 5, 2019. By this point, I added some new plants, some new pots, and cleared out the plants that didn't make it. By this point, I have several veggies: cherry tomatoes that a coworker gave me, cayenne peppers, bell peppers, Hungarian peppers, and peppermint. I needed to make bamboo cages for the tomatoes and peppers. Unfortunately, the birds got a lot of the tomatoes and two of the bell peppers. For some reason, they never touched the cayenne peppers!



Snyder Garden

These photos show the garden as of August 28, 2019. The garden looks nicer in person than it ever does in photos. With the summer heat finally under 100, the garden seems to be responding better. Some of the flowers are budding again and the peppers are flowering again for another round of harvest after probably another month. I have been most impressed with the sweet potato vines. They are the light green and purple plants in the lower left. They don't make tubers, it's just called that.



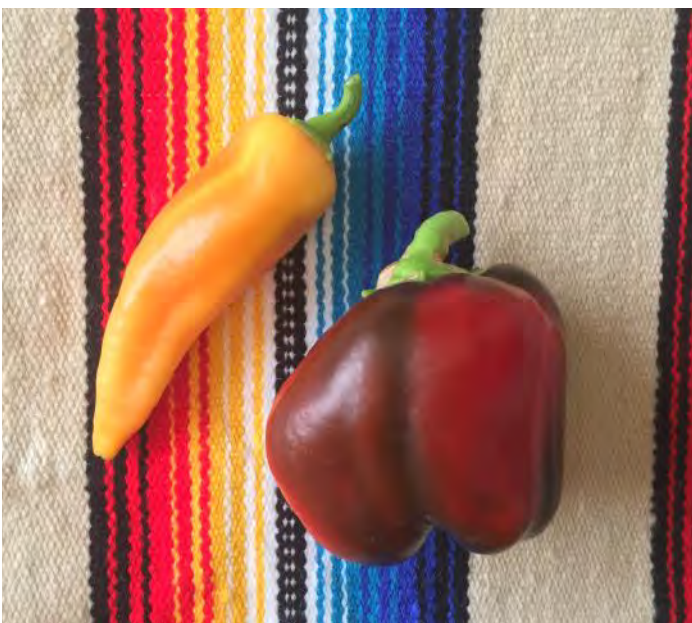
Garden Harvest

The only vegetables I had in my garden this year are several varieties of peppers and a cherry tomato plant a coworker gave me. I also have some mint, but that's not a vegetable. With the next round of flowers and peppers starting to grow, I'll have some more to report in a couple of months.



Sadly, the birds ruined these bell peppers.

I did salvage these peppers from the birds!



Same cayenne pepper. Looks like a seahorse!

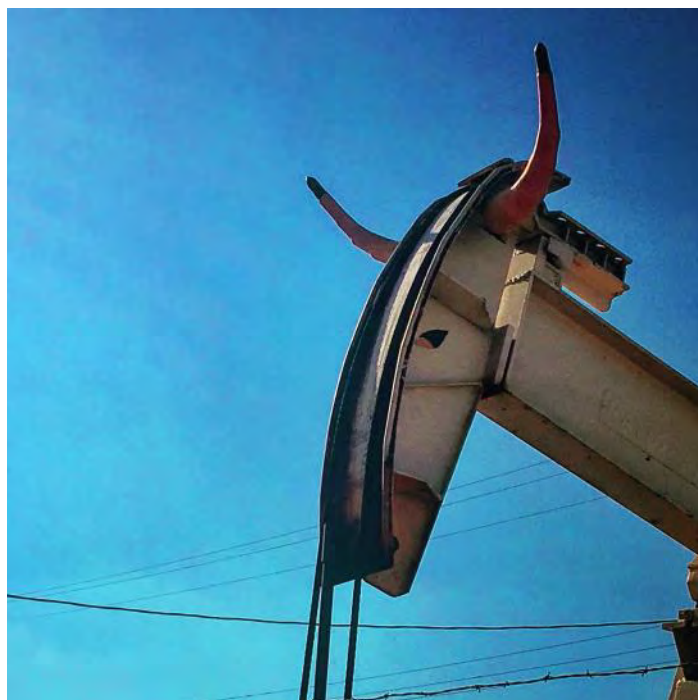
Hungarian pepper.



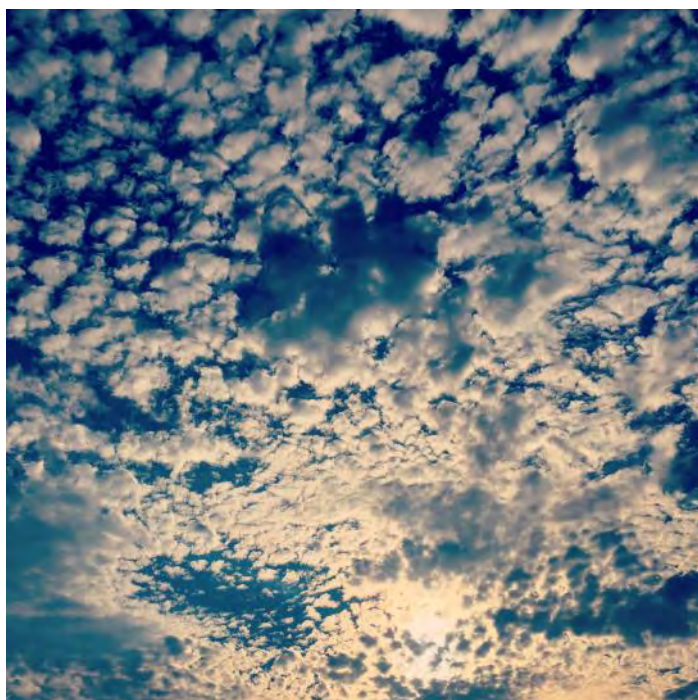
RG's Instagram Photos



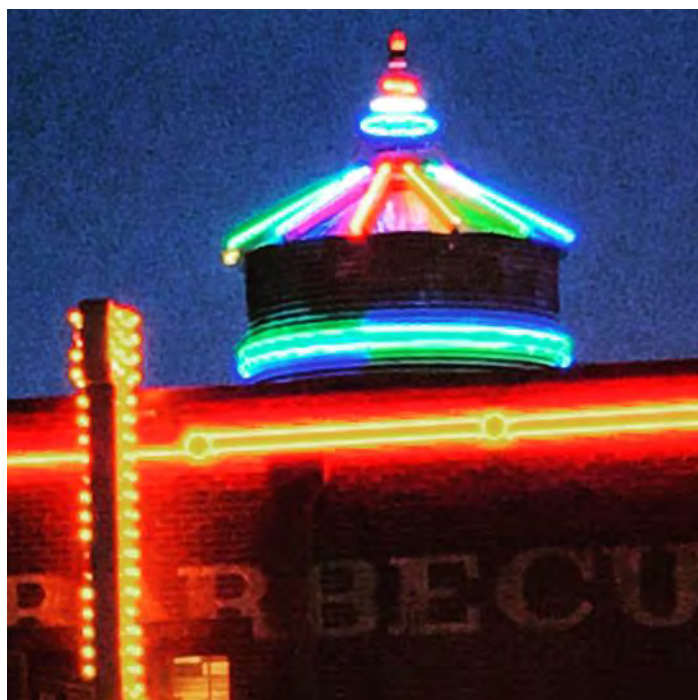
Barely Afforded



Texas



Afternoon Sky



Barbecue

RG's Instagram Photos



Pattern



Upright prairie cone

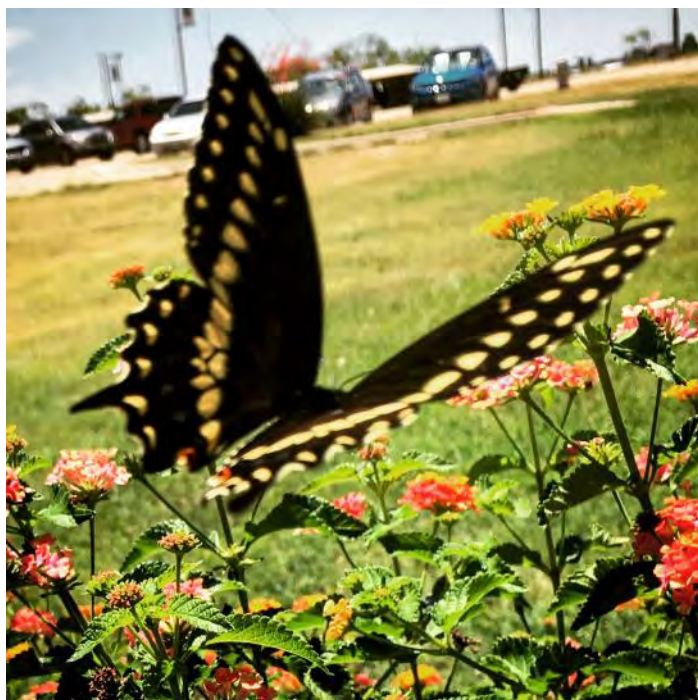


More caladiums



Pink hibiscus

RG's Instagram Photos



Black butterfly



My little friend... Not!



Nice little spider.



Battle scars

RG's Instagram Photos



Being Happy



Grrrrrrr...



Lemons

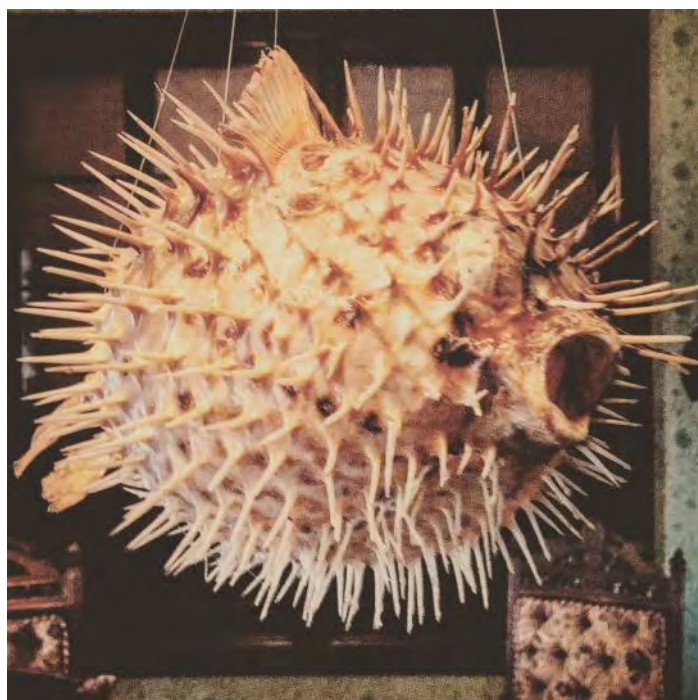


Exotic seahorse

RG's Instagram Photos



Hatch chilis



Not a cactus!



Pincushion and honey bee



Ball

Funny Texas

I came across these on Facebook and thought they were too funny not to show! There were more than these, I just picked the funniest ones that would fit.

Geographics



The blue spot is Austin.

Boomhauer is a character on King of the Hill.

Language



Politics



The blue spots include Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, Houston, El Paso, and south Texas/Rio Grande.

Cyan is the coast and Midland/Odessa/I-20 area. Green is the Austin area. Yellow is south Texas and El Paso (street tacos, ha, ha, ha...). The gray spot at the top is Amarillo area.

What You Do For A Living



Final Thought

de Stolfe
Journal.....

TWO CAR LOADS OF HORSES SHIPT TO MEXICO FOR WAR

Clark and Rumbaugh, the horse buyers, have this week shipt two car loads of horses purchased in this section to Snyder, Texas, where they are to be sold either to the Mexican government for use in the war or to the rebels who are marching toward the Mexican capital.

The horse business has been very good here of late and animals of good quality are bringing excellent prices. It would pay our farmers to grow good horse flesh.

Montrose Daily Press. [Colorado] July 24, 1913. Page 1.

Books Of The Bible: Answers

I once made some **remarks** about hidden books of the Bible. It was a **lulu**. **Kept** some people **looking so hard for facts** and to others it was a **revelation**. Some were in a **jam**, **especially** since the books were not capitalized. To others it was a real **job**. But the **truth** finally struck home to **numbers** of readers. We want it to be **a most** fascinating task for you. **Yes, there** will be some really easy to spot. Others might require **judges** to determine. We will admit **it usually** takes a minister to find out, and there will be loud **lamentations** when you see how simple it is. A little old lady says **she brews** tea so she can concentrate better. See how well the members of your family can complete. Relax now. There are fifteen in this paragraph.

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