



DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1875, REORGANIZED 1979

P O Box 12496 DALLAS TX 75225

972-260-9334

SUMMER 2012



Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, June 7, 2012

The Point, Center for Arts and Education

Campus of C. C. Young

4847 W. Lawther Dr.

Room Opens at 5:30 Dinner at 6 PM

Meeting Begins At 7 PM

Dinner \$15.00 per person

For Dinner Reservation

call by the Tuesday before the meeting.

972-260-9334

NEW MEETING LOCATION

The Point, Center for Arts and Education

Campus of C. C. Young

4847 W. Lawther Dr.



The Point is the 3rd building on the left and you will need to drive just past the building to park.

See enclosed maps for directions.

Dinner \$15.00 per person



DCPA will show case the heritage of LaReunion Colony with a special table to display treasures and history.



JUNE PROGRAM

SPEAKER - BERT N. SHIPP

Bert Shipp is a news-gathering legend. Known and loved throughout US media circles, he is truly one of a kind. His uniquely sharp wit, combined with his unparalleled fifty years of experience in Texas's radio, print and television industries, make him an incredible gift to all who know him.

As broadcast news came of age in the turbulent decades of the 1950's and 60's, North Texas reporter Bert Shipp was on the front line. While television changed the way Texas and the world witnessed history Shipp's DFW coverage reported stories of both national and local importance.



Call for Proposals

The organizers of the Fourteenth Annual *Legacies* Dallas History Conference welcome proposals from both professional and lay historians on topics related to the theme:

Transforming Dallas

Papers are invited on significant events or people that transformed Dallas in some way, politically, economically, socially, even geographically.

All papers must be based on original research and must not have been presented or published elsewhere. The best papers will be published in a subsequent issue of *Legacies: A History Journal for Dallas and North Central Texas*. Those interested in presenting papers should submit a brief summary of their proposal by JULY 1, 2012, to "Dallas History Conference, 1515 S. Harwood St., Dallas, TX 75215," or by email to: mvhazel@sbcglobal.net. Those selected will be notified by August 1, 2012.

The Fourteenth Annual *Legacies* History Conference will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2013 at the Hall of State at Fair Park. The conference is jointly sponsored by twelve organizations: the Dallas Center for Architecture, the Dallas County Historical Commission, the Dallas County Pioneer Association, Dallas Heritage Village, the Dallas Historical Society, the DeGolyer Library at SMU, the Park Cities Historic and Preservation Society, Preservation Dallas, The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, the Texas/Dallas History & Archives Division of the Dallas Public Library, the Texas State Historical Association, and the William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies at SMU.

Save the Date

**The Fourteenth Annual *Legacies* History Conference
will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2013 at the Hall of State at Fair Park.**



Profile of Member Paul McLin

Paul McLin was born in Little Rock, Arkansas to Paul E. Mclin, Sr. and Elva Bell McLin. His father was with the Department of Army and during their many years living in Europe, Paul attended the Poitiers American High School in Poitiers, France. Later he graduated from the University of Alabama then spent his entire business career in computer programming, primarily with Southlake Corporation/Seven-Eleven.

Paul has lived in Dallas since 1968 and he recalls that a great-great aunt and great-great uncle lived in Fort Worth. They died in a tragic automobile accident and left no family. Paul and his wife, Claire, raised two children, Colon S. and Marjorie L. McLin.

Paul says that he loves Dallas County history and is very pleased to call Dallas his "home." When not busy with business or family, Paul enjoys his membership with Freemasons, playing golf and reading history. We're pleased to know Paul is very interested in Dallas history and we admire his continued support of Dallas County Pioneer activities.

submitted by Pat Randolph

FINAL FAREWELLS

Sadly, we report the loss of Pioneer members this year.

Marion Lee Halford, Sr. 1919-2012

Marion Lee Halford, Sr. died March 10, 2012 at age 92. Born to Marion Lafayette and Margaret Edmiston Halford on June 2, 1919 at the family farm in the Buckingham area of Richardson. Preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Betsy; his brother, John, and his sisters, Mary and Catherine.

Graduated from Richardson High School in 1936. Received civil engineering degree from Southern Methodist University in 1942. Upon graduation, was commissioned as US Navy officer, serving during World War II in the Seabees, building air fields from islands in the South Pacific to Okinawa.

Following the war, returned to Richardson, building his first home on Spring Valley Road and joining the consulting engineering firm, Forrest and Cotton, where he was project engineer for the Trinity Industrial District and Industrial Properties Corporation, beginning a long association and friendship with John Stemmons. Joined Industrial Properties Corporation in 1966, retiring as president in 1990.

Among his community activities was service as a board member and chairman of the board of managers of Parkland Hospital; director of Dallas Chamber of Commerce; State Fair of Texas and Southwestern Medical Foundation. Long-time member of Rotary Club. Always an advocate for civil engineering school at SMU.

Enjoyed traveling, visiting all seven continents. Survived by son, Lee Halford, Jr., and his wife, Betsy, of Dallas; and daughter, Mary Margaret Bivings, and her husband, Bert, of Peachtree City, Georgia; six grandchildren and five great grandchildren. The family thanks Karen McKenzie and Carol Miller, Lee's long-time caregivers.



NEWS

A lot of activity concerning cemeteries and pioneer history in the county:

Sharrock/Niblo Cabin

Down Highway 67 Patriot Parkway (Spur 408) veers to the right at the intersection with Illinois. Going South you will soon see Grady Niblo exit. It takes a cautious driver to face the traffic, but stay on Grady Niblo past a new development, around a curve in the road; somewhere along here this road turns into Kiwanis Road. This is near Camp Wisdom Boy Scout Camp and the Girl Scout Camp Kiwanis!

In this area is where one of the original cabins and other buildings are remaining on the original site where they were built in the 1840's. Peters Colonist Everard Sharrock sold this land to go to California in 1853. Several others owned this site until the Niblo family bought it in 1934. They owned it until it was sold to the City of Dallas Park Department in 2005.

Thanks to Willis Winters with Dallas Park and Recreation Department, who loves preservation as much as we do and as money becomes available the cabin, barn, well, and other sections of the Everard Sharrock Jr.'s Farm will be restored. The structures are now covered with a large tarp, and braced from further deterioration and wind damage. This site is really a historic treasure!

Pet Memorial Cemetery

In Cedar Hill a Pet Cemetery, where beloved pets (dogs, cats and a few horses) had been buried for over 50 years, was abandoned by the owner and taxes had not been paid for several years. (While you are questioning taxes? cemeteries are exempt?? let me explain.)

Cemeteries for humans are tax exempt - but cemeteries for animals the land is not tax exempt! Due to the unpaid taxes Dallas County listed the cemetery site to be sold at auction from the Courthouse steps! A nonprofit group was quickly organized, a fund was raised and this group was high bidder. The person bidding against them did not know it was a pet cemetery. When he realized what was going on, he stopped bidding and later made a donation! They had raised enough money to pay off the unpaid taxes and are busy with arrangements to fence and level the property. They not only saved the site but will maintain it. They are currently getting a large marker and War Dogs who are allowed to come home with the troops will be given space for a dignified burial spot.

This Pet Cemetery was listed by the Texas Department of Transportation on the map I helped modify a few years ago as it is near Highway 67 in Cedar Hill. I delivered a copy of the map to the event that was involved with the fund for the War Dogs Memorial Marker. This area is full of Dallas County History!

Other Cemetery News

Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery on Haymarket Road near the Trinity River will be before the City Plan Commission soon as it is being presented as a Dallas landmark! The Free Will Baptist Church is gone but the cemetery containing the graves of the members, some thought to be freed slaves will be protected by this designation.

In Coppell the vacant land north of Belt Line on Denton Tap had been used for several things most recently it had been once used as a "trailer park." It is now being developed for a housing addition. This valuable land had been kept off the real estate market for many years. About 200 feet west of Denton Tap is the pioneer Bullock Cemetery with early Coppell families. Mary Evelyn Cozby and her brother who was mayor of Coppell are buried here and had always protected the site when alive. In the past the city of Coppell, of all towns in Dallas County has been very careful when development encroached on cemetery sites. It is expected that will happen here, also.

On April 29, 2012 the cemetery long known as the Tornado Cemetery in Cedar Hill area is now recognized and has dedicated its Texas Historical Marker. Early history of Dallas County mentioned the 1856 tornado that wiped out the small village known as Cedar Hill. Mention was made of the victims in the newspapers of that day, but as time passed by the cemetery site was forgotten and practically lost. Wanda Pitt a member of the Cedar Hill Historical Society decided it was time to do something about this. She diligently searched and researched the Dallas County Deed Records, (some errors here, too) interviewed and read all articles she could find and finally discovered the actual remaining old fence, propped up by vines and trees of the Crawford Cemetery. This history is mentioned in Volume III of "Dallas County History from the Ground Up."

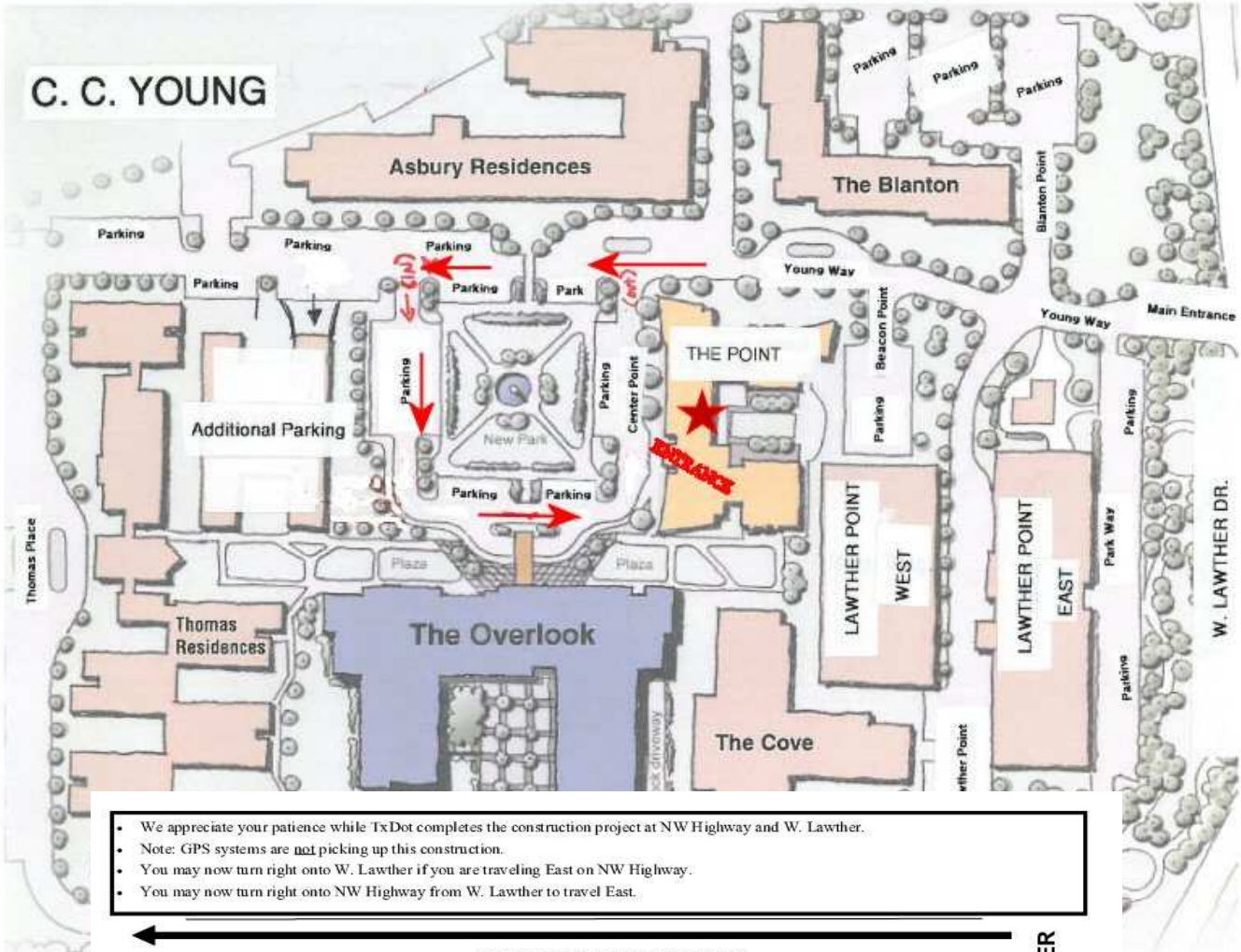
DCPA's "stuff."

A team of DCPA members spent hours assembling, sorting, returning items to rightful owners of some of the "stuff" stored in David's Office Building. David procured a book shelf and some of the books that have been given to DCPA through the years are now standing on the shelves.

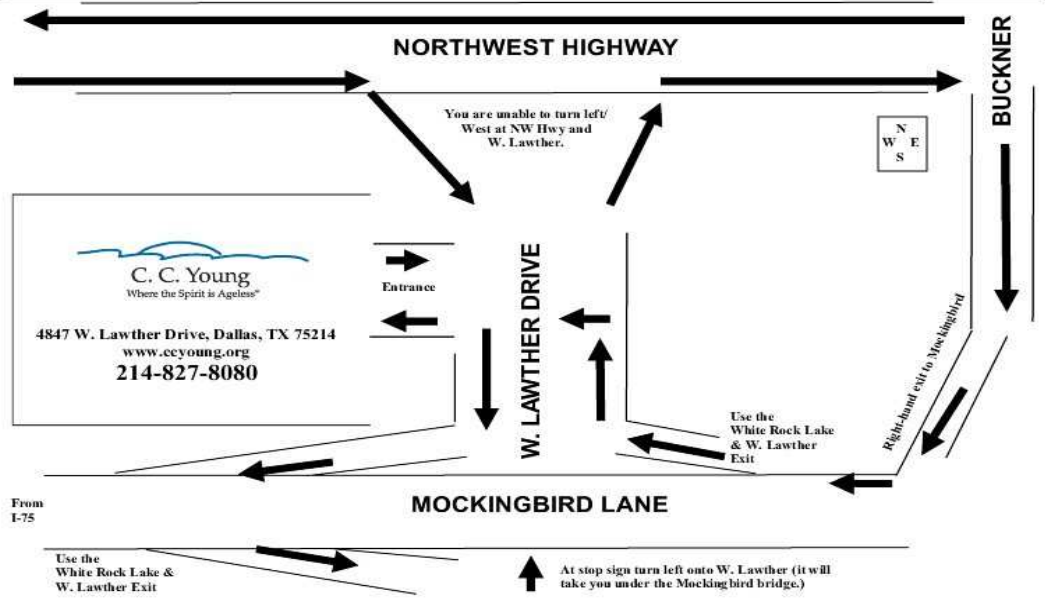
Submitted by Frances James



DIRECTIONS TO The Point Center for Arts and Education Campus of C. C. Young



- We appreciate your patience while TxDot completes the construction project at NW Highway and W. Lawther.
- Note: GPS systems are not picking up this construction.
- You may now turn right onto W. Lawther if you are traveling East on NW Highway.
- You may now turn right onto NW Highway from W. Lawther to travel East.



DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

P O Box 12496
Dallas, Texas 75225-0496

NEWSLETTER



DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

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We're on the web!

www.dallaspioneer.org

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President	David Vilbig
Vice-Pres	Howard Cox
Secretary	Marsha B. Leach
Treasurer	William Vilbig
Historian	Eva Jane Morgan
Membership	Open
Programs	Committee
Telephone Committee	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Sunshine Committee	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Publicity & Newsletter	Pat. B. Randolph
Newsletter Publisher	Barbara Vilbig

The Dallas County Pioneer Association is dedicated to preserving the history of Dallas County and those who settled here before 1880. Any person who is interested may apply for membership regardless of when they, or their ancestors, came to Dallas County. Contact any officer for an application.

Membership Dues

\$20	Per Year	\$200	Life Membership
\$30	Couple	\$300	Couple Life Membership

The Association meets quarterly for dinner and a program at 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each March, June, September, and December. The meeting room opens at 5:30 p.m. for fellowship and dining. The program starts promptly at 7 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

New Phone Number 972-260-9334

EMAIL

dcpa1875@gmail.com