



# DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1875, REORGANIZED 1979

P O Box 12496 DALLAS TX 75225

972-260-9334

**FALL 2013**



## **Quarterly Meeting**

**Thursday, September 5, 2013**

**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**

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## **SEPTEMBER PROGRAM**

**Mr. John Slate, City of Dallas Archivist**

**"Dealey Plaza and the Triple Underpass - Building the Front Door to Dallas"**

Slate will share in-depth history about Dealey plaza, where President John F Kennedy was assassinated nearly 50 years ago, and sign copies of his new book, "Dealey Plaza" co-authored by Dallas Park Director Willis Winters. Slate also published "Historic Dallas Parks"

Dealey Plaza is a 3.07 acre park in downtown Dallas, Texas, known both as the site of the founding of Dallas in 1841 and also the site of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 11, 1963. In 1841 frontiersman John Neeley Bryan built a log cabin on the site, on a bluff overlooking the Trinity River. The bluff was later altered in 1928 through subsequent landscaping and flood control improvements of the Trinity River by the United States Army Corps of Engineers and other entities. The area was further developed as "The Front Door of Dallas" between 1935-1942 as a vehicular park and a triple underpass constructed in part by workers from the federally-sponsored Works Progress Administration and the National Youth Administration. Until the development of Dallas' highway system, Dealey Plaza served as the major gateway to the city from the west. In 1963 President Kennedy was assassinated in the heart of the Plaza. In 1993 the United States Department of the Interior designated Dealey Plaza a National Historic Landmark District.



**The 15th Annual *Legacies* History Conference  
To Be Held at Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas**

Those attending the 15th Annual Legacies Dallas History Conference on Saturday, January 25, 2014, will have an opportunity to visit a building not easily accessible to the general public—the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, just north of downtown. The Dallas Fed invited the history conference to meet there in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Federal Reserve System.

The steering committee for the conference has announced the program for the event, whose theme is “The Unusual Side of Dallas: Unique Personalities, Impossible Dreams, and Unexpected Landmarks.” Speakers and topics will include: Adrienne Caughfield, “General Edwin A. Walker”; Jane Lenz Elder, “Virginia K. Johnson and the Dallas Rescue Home for ‘Erring’ Women, 1893-1941”; Evelyn Montgomery, “Neighborhood Heroes of the Cedars”; Cynthia Schearer, “Cosette Faust Newton’s Garden Ship of Dreams”; and Princeton Williams, “How Dallas Became a Federal Reserve Regional Headquarters.”

Following registration and morning refreshments beginning at 8 a.m., the conference will run from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Dallas County Pioneer Association is a sponsor of the history conference, along with eleven other local historical organizations and libraries. Online registration will be available at [www.DallasHeritageVillage.org](http://www.DallasHeritageVillage.org) later this fall. For more information, please contact conference director Dr. Michael V. Hazel at 214-413-3665.



DCPA Meeting December 5, 1985  
Speaker  
Margaret Ann Thetford  
Wyatt’s Cafeteria North Lake Shopping Center

**BOOK RAFFLE**

Two vintage historical volumes will be raffled off at the meeting.

Raffle tickets will be \$2.00 each or per chance.

Buy as many chances to win as you want.

They are duplicate copies of books held in the DCPA Library.

Bring your \$\$\$\$\$ and buy tickets.... Some of the books are out of print and may be quite valuable.





## **Ancestry.com Day in Texas September 21, 2013**

Ancestry Day in Texas hosted by Ancestry.com and the Mid-Cities Genealogical Society will be September 21, 2013 at the Arlington Convention Center in Arlington, Texas. The cost is \$35 for the workshop and \$5 for parking. There is an optional box lunch that will cost extra, but you can bring your own lunch if you prefer. The tickets can be purchased online.

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society  
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txmcgs/>

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## **Cemetery News**

A neighbor in Forest Hills has volunteered to go to work on the Ferris Cemetery. Warren Ferris was the surveyor for Dallas County in the 1840s and along with others surveyed many other counties in our area of Texas. He chose the corner of San Leandro and St. Francis for this site. This is in Forest Hills. If anyone feels bored sitting at home I am sure this volunteer would appreciate help. There is a Texas Historical Marker still standing, but vandals have hauled off or destroyed all but one head stone. One of the lost ones is behind the fence in a nearby residence - she says it is safer there than at the site. At least we know where it is.

Ever since last winter the month long labor (\$4000.00) at the Horton Cemetery in Arcadia Park that allowed us to see the headstones for the Hortons, one of the first families to come to the Three Forks of the Trinity is still in limbo. I hope the money will not be wasted. This site is surrounded by private property and the owner does not want heavy equipment in to possibly destroy the roadways to his mobile home park! Therefore the vines and overgrowth were terrible to hack back. My intentions are to go to the highway department and ask them to recommend the type of poison they use along the roadway to control the overgrowth so I can see about getting some of the same thing to spray all over the Horton site. Surely the DCPA has some connections that might help handle this problem.

Paul McLin (DCPA member) is on the board of the Oakland Cemetery and so is Dr. Charles Tandy. They are seriously involved in the care and maintenance of the site. Paul was able to cover the two cemetery tours last May after I had a stroke. He will probably lead the tour in May 2014 for the Dallas Historical Society, too. He knows lots of stories about our Pioneer forefathers!

The Handbook of Texas has a new section on line that is long overdue - African American! Dr. Marvin Dulaney History Professor is involved with this new enterprise. Black history has been neglected and research shows how important these early Dallas citizens were. So far many of the biographies are opening up much Dallas County History.

*submitted by Francis James*

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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](http://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](mailto:dcpa1875@gmail.com)**