



DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1875, REORGANIZED 1979

P O BOX 12496 DALLAS TX 75225

972-260-9334

WINTER 2018



**RESERVATION REQUIRED
IF YOU INTEND TO EAT!**

**Quarterly Meeting
Saturday, December 8, 2018**

**The Point, Center for Arts and Education
Campus of C. C. Young
4847 W. Lawther Dr.
Room Opens at 9 AM Brunch at 9 AM
Program Begins At 10 AM**

Brunch \$15.00 per person

**BRUNCH RESERVATION
call by the Tuesday before the meeting.**

972-260-9334

DECEMBER PROGRAM

THE BEEMAN FAMILY

Join us for our next meeting at C. C. Young on Saturday, December 8 at 9 am. Susanne Starling, A DCPA member, will tell us about the Beeman family, one of the earliest families to arrive in Dallas County. They arrived in Dallas County in 1842, with some of them serving as marshal and tax collector. A few descendants of the Beeman family will be in attendance at the meeting.

Susanne has lived in Dallas for over fifty years. She has taught for DISD and in the Dallas County Community College system at El Centro and Eastfield College. Travel is one of her favorite hobbies as she has lived for a year in London, traveled around Europe, Mexico, Canada, Alaska, Africa, China, Australia and New Zealand. During the Sesquicentennial in 1986, she traveled by wagon train in East Texas for a week.

Susanne enjoys reading and is an author. She wrote a biography on Warren A. Ferris, a Texas surveyor, entitled Land is the Cry! She has also done research and had several articles appear in Legacies magazine.

Please join us for breakfast at 9 am and the program at 10 am. If you plan on attending breakfast, make sure you have your meal reservations in by Tuesday evening, Dec. 4 at 972-260-9334. See you then!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings,

Your Executive Committee met and has voted to participate in the Legacies Dallas History Conference in January, 2019. We will have a table at the conference to sell books and attract new members. If you can help work the table please let me know. In order to continue to support events like this we need to balance our budget. We have done better this year financially due to books sales and bringing in new members. However, we will still end the year in the hole. Therefore we need to ask for your help. We will stop mailing the newsletter at the end of 2018 and email them so we need your email addresses. Please send an email address to our Secretary Marsha Leach at mcleach1@juno.com in order that you do not miss out on the newsletter. This will save our group on mailing and printing cost. If you do not have an email ask one of your friends or children to send in their email and print out the newsletter for you. We only send out four a year so I'm sure they would be happy to help you.

Please remember to invite your friends and acquaintances to come with you. It's easy to get new members! All you have to do is tell people about our organization.

Respectfully,

Jim Bookhout, President

OLD LAGOW SCHOOL HOUSE GRAVE YARD

Also known as Lagow Cemetery, Dallas, Texas

One acre was donated in 1883 by Richard Lagow of the Lagow League for cemetery purposes. The current street address of Lagow Cemetery is 3510 Carpenter Ave., Dallas, Texas. Recently a City of Dallas Code Compliance Officer contacted a young descendant of Richard Lagow to ask if she would be interested in taking care of the Cemetery. In her search for information, she contacted Jim Foster and was referred to Frances James. Frances and the Cemetery Committee members were able to give her information that was helpful. The descendant is considering her role in the continuing story of the Cemetery. Richard Lagow (1841-1885) and wife, Nancy Ann Murchison (1843-1887) are buried at the W. W. Glover Cemetery along with Beeman and Hunnicutt friends and relatives. There are no Lagows known to have been buried in the Lagow Cemetery. With several descendants of the Lagow family being members of Dallas County Pioneers Association, perhaps there will be a renewed interest in both the Lagow Cemetery and the W. W. Glover Cemetery.

Kathy Ann Reid
November 10, 2018



Tis the Season to Shop The History of the Sanger Brothers

Sanger Brothers, a pioneer Texas dry-goods wholesale and retail firm, was established by Philip, Isaac, and Alexander Sanger, as well as the other sons of Elias and Barbetta (Mandelbaum Heller) Sanger—Lehman, Jacob, David, and Sam. Isaac, the principal founder of the business, served an apprenticeship in a German mercantile house before moving to New Haven, Connecticut, in 1852 to work at his uncle Jacob Heller's clothing store. In 1857, with the help of his former employer, Isaac opened the Baum and Sanger store in McKinney, Texas, at a time when McKinney had become a market center for fur trappers and ranchers and was larger than Dallas. Lehman joined his brother at the McKinney store in 1859. Soon the brothers moved to Weatherford, Texas, then a new trading center, and in 1860 Lehman set out to manage a subsidiary store in Decatur. By 1858 Sanger Brothers began to advertise, and after the Civil War the Sangers initiated a policy of opening stores along the Houston and Texas Central Railroad. Beginning at Millican, the northern terminus, they moved on to Bryan (location of the first store to be called Sanger Brothers), Hearne, Calvert, Bremond, Kosse, Groesbeck, Corsicana, Dallas, and Sherman. By 1872 the Dallas store was managed by yet another Sanger brother, Alexander, who was an experienced bookkeeper. As more Sanger brothers, including Jacob and David, arrived in the United States, the stores henceforth were managed largely by members of the family.

Isaac attended auction sales of merchandise in New Orleans until 1868, when the business became the first in Texas to establish a buying office in New York. This office enabled Sanger Brothers to purchase a wider array of stock than was available on the Houston-Galveston-New Orleans market and to obtain price discounts and other advantages. The brothers maintained detailed sales records that included size, color, fabric, price, and frequency of sale for each item, and sent them to Isaac in New York for use in making subsequent purchases. In 1874 the firm opened a wholesale division, which hired drummers to visit outlying retailers and gave the firm access to a group of smaller merchants as regular customers. At the same time it consolidated, closing stores in Bryan, Bremond, and Corsicana, and later in Sherman and Calvert, in response to the panic of 1873. By 1875 the company's annual sales reached \$750,000. Next, the brothers restructured their organization, imposing a departmental system in which each department kept separate records and competed with the rest. The company also began to extend credit, using mortgages as collateral, a practice through which the Sangers eventually accrued considerable acreage and diversified into real estate. Free home delivery to Dallas customers—another Sanger first—began in 1879, and by 1881 an advertising department had been established. Among the firm's early salesmen were Frank James, brother of the legendary outlaw Jesse James, and Herbert Marcus, founder of Neiman-Marcus. Sanger Brothers made early efforts at employee training and in 1886 established the fifth Employees' Savings and Loan Association in Texas. In 1889 the company began to publish the Sanger Brothers' Monthly Magazine, designed as a literary publication but used largely as an advertising organ. By 1891 the company was selling through mail order. Though a store in New Birmingham that opened in 1889 failed after three years, by 1892 Sanger Brothers had 250 employees and an annual sales volume of \$2 million. Unlike major department stores in the East, Sanger did not offer furniture and general household merchandise until the early 1900s, but continued to add new stores with innovative facilities in them, including gas fixtures, electricity, telephones, and passenger elevators. Sanger Brothers was the first firm in the state with these amenities. Like other business leaders who took a paternal role in their communities, Alexander Sanger enhanced the firm's public image. While Philip managed details of the business, Alexander became a booster and benefactor who helped to organize the Dallas State Fair and the Dallas Public Library, participated in civic activities, and eventually established a night school for workers. In time, he was known to Dallasites as "Uncle Alex."

According to some scholars, Sanger Brothers' decline can be attributed to the lack of aggressive leadership that resulted from keeping the firm too long under family management. Between 1893 and 1908 the Waco store grew little, while the Dallas store increased disproportionately to 140,000 square feet with 650 employees. The 1893 panic hit the company during a large expansion program. Philip Sanger died in 1902 and was replaced at the head of the firm by Alexander. Lehman died in 1912. By World War I the credit-based wholesale aspect of the business had caused a shortage of operating capital. With the help of local bank loans, the firm survived the crisis, but competition increased and profits declined. In 1918, when Sanger expanded to Fort Worth and Isaac died, the company incorporated, with Alexander as president. In the 1920s, by which time 2,000 employees were on the payroll, the company faced serious financial difficulties despite sales of \$30 million, a 1922 Golden Jubilee Sale that ran for fourteen business days and brought in significant profits, and the closing of the wholesale department in 1923. With no executive prepared to take over top management at the time of Alexander's death in 1925, the company reorganized with Philip's son-in-law Clarence Linz as president and hired a management specialist, Gregory E. Toole. Recovery efforts failed, however, and in 1926 St. Louis-based Stifel, Nicholas, and Company purchased Sanger Brothers. The surviving company, known as Sanger Investment Company, moved to the Southland Life Insurance Company building. Sanger Brothers retained its name until 1987, when Federated Department Stores, owner of Foley's, changed the name.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Leon Joseph Rosenberg, *Sangers: Pioneer Texas Merchants* (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1978).



The Sanger Harris department store building was the downtown store of the Sanger Harris department store chain. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building was built in 1884 and is bounded by Elm, Lamar, Main and Austin Sts.



CEMETERY REPORT

CEMETERY REPORT #8 – 09/28/2018

1. The ABRAHAM CARVER CEMETERY is located in the middle of SAND SPRINGS PARK in the 10200 block of Sand Springs Road in southeast Dallas. There are six generations of the Carver family buried there. The first was Abraham Carver in 1883 and the last, Chris Carver in 1946. A wrought iron fence surrounds the cemetery and the grounds are very well cared for. The fence is showing signs of rust and a few of the bars are missing. The Texas Historical Commission marker placed in 1985 is still there.
2. About a half a mile farther south at the corner of Masters Drive and Bruton Road, is another Carver Cemetery. This is the ALBERT CARVER CEMETERY. This family came to Texas in 1856, twelve years after the Abraham Carver Family. This cemetery is being cared for by Joe and Laurel Cole. The wrought iron fence around the cemetery has been the victim of several accidents. A portion of the fence along Bruton Road is damaged now. The Coles are hoping to get the City of Dallas to extend the barricade farther down Bruton Road before they mend the fence again. The earliest grave dated 1885, is for the infant son of J. B. and Ophelia Carver. The Texas Historical Marker was put in place in 1985 and is still in place.
3. The FROST/BENNETT CEMETERY at 1416 S. Belt Line Road in Mesquite is in the front yard of MEADOW OAKS ACADEMY. It is surrounded by a chain link fence and was clean and cared for. The entrance is marked with a stone "Dedicated to the memory of those buried in unmarked graves". But there are plenty of tombstones still in existence.
4. About two miles farther south is the LAUREL OAKS MEMORIAL PARK at 12649 Lake June Road in Balch Springs. This is an active cemetery, but, if you drive thru to the back, you will find the BEN-NETT FAMILY CEMETERY, now called BENNETT FAMILY GARDENS. The old tombstones are beautiful. This peaceful place overlooks the Lyndon B. Johnson Frwy and the Balch Springs Social Security Office.
5. Another mile farther south is the COMMUNITY/DUNBAR/BALCH SPRINGS CEMETERY located behind the Senior Center at 3006 Balch Springs Road in Balch Springs. This sad little cemetery has a very interesting past. Kathy Ann Reid will be writing about it for the next newsletter. Part of the cemetery is surrounded by a chain link fence but many graves have been located outside the fenced area. Only parts of three headstones remain. The other known graves are marked with cinder blocks. The cemetery is continually vandalized. We believe the land is now owned by the City of Balch Springs.
6. The old MESQUITE CEMETERY at 406 Holley Park Drive in Mesquite is still an active cemetery. It is located next to the lake in CITY LAKE PARK. The earliest marked grave is that of Britannia Santifee Chapman in 1859. It was designated a Historic Texas Cemetery in 2001.
7. There is one other cemetery reported to be located at the southwest corner of Hickory Tree Road and Lake June Road in Balch Springs. The CORY CEMETERY may be lost to history. One reported address is 11848 Lake June Road. None of the business owners at the intersection had knowledge of a cemetery. But maybe one of you remember it. If you have information, my email address is mcleach1@juno.com.

Submitted by Marsha Leach

DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President	Jim Bookhout
Vice-Pres	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Secretary	Marsha B. Leach
Treasurer	William Vilbig
Historian	Eva Jane Morgan
Membership	Sheryl Curlee
Programs	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Telephone Committee	Jane Beaver
Sunshine Committee	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Publicity & Newsletter	Open
Newsletter Publisher	Open

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 on the first Thursday of each March, June, September, and on the first Saturday of December.

Visitors are welcome.

Phone Number 972-260-9334 **Email** dcpa1875@gmail.com

Web Address www.dallaspioneer.org