



Dallas County Pioneer Association

Founded 1875. Reorganized 1979

FALL 1984

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

WELCOME: To our new members, add these to your membership list:

Mrs Marie McMahan
5229 Longleaf Dr.
Garland, Texas 75042
276-3739

Mrs Clytes A Cullar
1222 Ferndale Ave
Dallas, Texas 75224
943-8339

OUR NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 6, 1984, at Northlake Wyatt's Cafeteria. Our speaker will be Carl Sorenson. He talk will be about Early Norweign settlements in Dallas County. Meeting will begin at 7pm Dinner on your own before hand.

Mary and Earl Cullum have invited all Pioneer members to the 110th anniversary celebration of the Oak Lawn United Methodist Church on Sunday Sept. 16th. Visit their Sunday School Class at 9:30, Church services at 10:40 followed by an outdoor ceremony designating Oak Lawn Church a Historic Landmark, then "Dinner on the grounds". At 6:30 P.M. there will be a pageant depicting 110 years of history of church and Oak Lawn community. Bring your friends. Parking is in the rear of the church.

We have a home. The address is Dallas County Pioneer Association, P. O. Box 12496, Dallas, Texas 75225. This will give us an address that will not change each election.

On Sunday, July 15th 35 members and guests of the Association met on the 7th floor of the Central Dallas Public Library, the Texas/Dallas History and Archives, They were introduced to the to the exceptional collection in this section by Lucile Boykin and Marcelle Hull. If you missed it, you owe it to yourself to visit them.

With thanks to Dr. Ruth Arnold Hibbard, the Dallas County Pioneer Association is listed on the computer listing of Civic Organizations by the Dallas Public Library. It also lists our box address.

If you will volunteer to serve on a telephone committee or on an editorial committee, please call Bill Jacoby at 351-6338.

I have appointed a Nominating Committee composed of the following people: Chairman, John Nelms, members Sylvia and John Nelms, Emily and Russell Surles, and Porter Cochran. Please give your nominations for President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian to one of these members.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1984, joint meeting with Dallas Historical Society at the Hall of State, Fair Park to tour the Historical Society's holdings. Exact time has not been determined as yet, but it will be in the afternoon porbably around 2pm. Plan now to attend.

The article printed on the back of this newsletter has been reprinted with the permission of the Dallas Morning News and writer Connie Pryzant, our thanks to them both.

Frankford families reunited

Descendants recall former Texas hub

By Connie Pryzant
Metro Northwest Bureau of The News

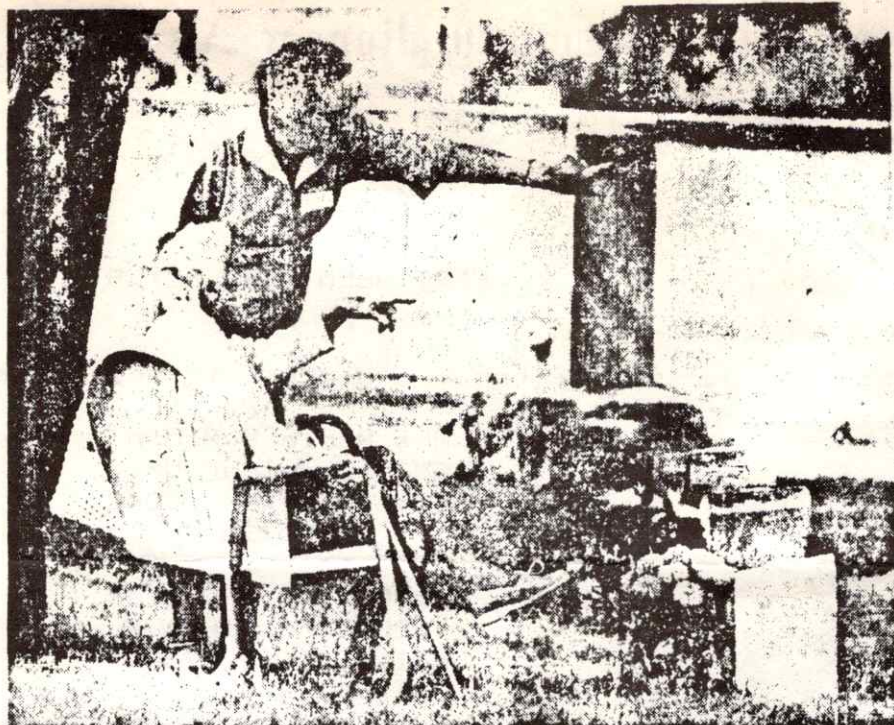
More than a century ago, Frankford was a day's trip by wagon from Dallas and a day's trip from Trinity Mills. With a post office and several businesses, the town enjoyed its reputation as a turn-of-the-century Texas hub.

Today, all that remains of Frankford is a church and cemetery — and memories for the families whose names match those on the gravestones.

"This place is very dear to my heart," Doris McKamy Skelton said. "I used to spend every summer here."

Mrs. Skelton was one of nearly 100 friends and family members who on Sunday attended the annual Decoration Day at the cemetery, where many North Dallas County pioneers are buried.

What used to be Frankford,



The Dallas Morning News: Terry Van Sickle

Ada Dickerson Craig, 96, and her niece, Virginia Wells Wheeler, chat in the shade of the old Frankford cemetery Sunday. In

1899, Mrs. Craig's brother, Robert, was the first person for whom a funeral was held at the Frankford Church.

once a stop for travelers on two major trails, can be reached only by following a gravel road in the Bent Tree North subdivision in

Far North Dallas.

Mrs. Skelton's father, Lionel Simpson McKamy, was named after Lionel Simpson, one of the set-

tlers of Peters Colony, which included what is now north Dallas County.

Please see FAMILIES on Page 20A.

Families recall days in Frankford

Continued from Page 19A.

During previous Decoration Day observances, Mrs. Skelton said, "we'd cook for days. Different families would put food out, but we finally quit because it became so famous."

The picnicking custom, however, was revived Sunday. The event's organizers set up a tent and served barbecue before a brief memorial service at the church.

Mrs. Skelton's son, John, said he also remembers summers when Bent Tree wasn't even a twinkle in a developer's eye.

"This was way out in the country from Dallas," said Skelton, a Dallas businessman. "When I was a teen-ager, I would ride a horse out to where Valley View is. That was the closest place to get a cold drink."

John Wells, a member of the cemetery board, said Frankford once supported a doctor, a blacksmith and several stores. The

town stretched west of the church along Weber Road to what is now Addison Road.

Frankford lost its identity in the early 1900s, when the Cotton Belt line of the St. Louis Southwestern Railroad bypassed the town for what is now Addison. The post office and the original church followed the railroad, and the community that grew one mile southwest of Frankford was named Noell Junction, after founder Sidney Noell.

"My grandchildren are the fifth generation to live in the Addison community," said Milton Noell, grandson of Sidney Noell.

Milton Noell's mother and grandparents used to live on a farm in what is now an apartment community in south Addison. Noell, one of Addison's first mayors, was born on the farm where Addison's old city hall stands on Belt Line Road. He is the owner of Addison's old cotton gin, near the corner of

Belt Line and Addison roads.

"I kept the first fire engine in my shop, and I made the first two ambulance calls in Addison," said Noell, who was active in the incorporation of Addison in the 1950s.

Noell Junction lost its name because another post office in Texas was called Knowl. The name was changed to Addison — after postmaster Addison Robertson — to avoid confusion.

Another family represented at the cemetery is the Coits, for whom Coit Road is named. The first man to be buried at the cemetery was John Coit, a lawyer from South Carolina who organized a regiment from Dallas during the Civil War and served as colonel.

"In the early days of Frankford, this was the cemetery for the whole area," Noell said. "People from (what is now) Carrollton, Richardson, Hebron, Addison, Dallas and Lewisville and all points in between were buried here."



Dallas County Pioneer Association

Founded 1875. Reorganized 1979

P O Box 12496
Dallas, Texas 75225

Nancy Lennon
3500 Dartmouth
Dallas, Texas 75205