

Dallas County Pioneer Association

Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979
P. O. Box 12496
Dallas, Texas 75225

NEWSLETTER

FALL 1987

Past Presidents	
John R. Nelms	1979
Bill Baird	1980
Clayd Miller	1981
Earl Cullum	1983
Bill Jacoby	1984

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 3, 1987, Wyatt's Cafeteria, Northlake Shopping Center, Northwest Highway at Ferndale. Eat 6:00 P.M., pay cashier and sign attendance register. Program begins at 7:00. Mrs. Ernestine P. Sewell of Commerce, Texas, will discuss "La Reunion After the Dossolution" and the part played by its members in the History of The Greater Dallas Community. Much of her material comes from early SANTARRE FAMILY LETTERS she has translated from the French. All living SANTARRE DESCENDANTS are invited to attend and will be recognized.

The DCPA is dedicated to preserving the history of Dallas County and those who settled here before 1880. Anyone interested may join, regardless of when your family came. Dues are \$10.00 initiation fee and \$15.00 per year, or \$150.00 for Life Membership. A couple pays \$15.00 initiation fee and \$25.00 per year, or \$250.00 for Life Membership.

"PROUD HERITAGE: PIONEER FAMILIES OF DALLAS COUNTY" book sales still going well - cost \$32.18 if picked up and \$34.68 if delivered. If you or your family have not purchased yours, we urge you to do so now while we have a few copies left.

We had 96 members and guests at our June meeting and plan to go over the 100 mark at September meeting. We need your support, so please make an effort to attend as many meetings as possible. We clear our tables and pay our bills before the program, and invite guests and new members to our meetings. We don't smoke up our meeting room, or talk when others are listening to the speaker. We are the finest group anywhere!

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES: Robert W. Sears, 1711 South Jackson, #21P, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74107, Phone: (918) 599-7573. B. Porter Cochran, 14802 Enterprise #35-B, Dallas, Texas 75234, Phone: 241-8778 & 241-8679.

NEW MEMBERS TO ADD TO YOUR 1987 ROSTER: Welcome! Leanne Pilcher, 1017 N. Gloucester Street, Irving, Texas 75062, Phone: 252-6351; Donald Frederick-Huffines, Sr., 414 Fairview, Richardson, Texas 75081, Phone: 235-7641; S. Frances Bell, 2113 Vail Drive, Garland, Texas 75042, Phone: 495-2340; Bette Frank (Mrs. Ross Frank, Jr.), 3111 Rosedale, Dallas, Texas, Phone: 369-2777.

PREX-NUJ: We represent the early pioneers of Dallas County, and thus are responsible for preserving as much of its history as we can. You should clip and save items of history from your newspapers or other publications - anything about historical buildings, artifacts or people. Each clipping should be identified with the source (newspaper or magazine) and date. The clipping or a copy should go to the Pioneer Association files, to build our historical records. Bring them to next meeting or mail to Postoffice Box listed above. (If you haven't already figured it out, our President "Prex" uses this term to nudge "Nuj" you to do something. Please do this).

PLEASE NOTE: September meeting room will be available at 5:00 P.M. for eating, visiting, so come early if you can for fellowship and getting better acquainted.

PLEASE NOTE: Completed Membership Certificates are available for the following members. Please attend our next meeting and get yours. If you cannot attend, please send \$1.25 to the secretary to cover cost of mailing tube and postage. She will mail it to you. Thanks.

Donna Garrison Christensen
John Noel Harris, Jr.
Mary Genevieve Taylor Harris
Margarita Bohny O'Brien
Linda C. S. Rogers

Mary Sue McDonald Rogers
Judith Pace Shoecraft
David Exall Stewart
Christopher Benjamin Thevenet
Deborah Anne Welch Thevenet

THE FOLLOWING DATA IS FROM NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORMS: Linda Shaddock Rogers descends from Peter Renno (b. 1832) and his wife Mary Jarvis (b. 1835) of Canada, who with their son Joseph Renno (b. 1860 Ill.) arrived in Dallas in 1879 and lived near the Cumberland Hill School site. Peter worked for the Dallas Belt Street Railway Company. Joseph married Josephine Fruntreyhouse (1865-1957), and their son John Renno (1888-1972) married Roxie Peacock (b. 1907). Their daughter Naomi Renno (b. 1925) married Jack Shaddock (1925-1973) and they became the parents of Linda.

W. Glenn Williams descends from Baxter Manton Bell (b. 1823 Tenn.) who came to Duck Creek (Garland) in 1870 and owned the first steam-and-mule-powered cotton gin there. He and his wife Lou Spurgin had son William Baxter Bell (1864-1959) who married Mary Blankenship (1867-1934). Their daughter Lillie Bell (1893-1984) married J. Frank Williams in 1912 (1892-1972) and became parents of Glenn.

Dorothy E. Ball Miller, wife of Rev. Marlin H. Miller, descends from Rev. James L. Truss and his wife Priscilla Dulaney, who came from Alabama to Long Creek (Mesquite) after the Civil War. They brought their son Enos Truss (b. 1836) who married Mary Elizabeth Courson. Their daughter Eleanor Jane Truss (1860-1941) married in 1880 Rev. Samuel E. Hatter (d. 1910). Their daughter Ruth P. Hatter (1898-1983) married in 1919 Brice Edward Ball (1898-1967) of Forney, and they became the parents of Dorothy.

Donald Frederick Huffines is a sixth generation Texan, descended from his great grandfather Christopher Columbus Huffines (1857-1932), great-great grandfather George Washington Huffines (1826-63), and great-great-great grandfather John Huffines (1800-1875). All three of these came from Kentucky to Dallas County in 1852-53, and settled in the Richardson/LBJ-Hillcrest-Preston area, as we know it today. G.W. Huffines was killed at Chickamauga during the Civil War. In 1864 John Huffines and his family founded the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church (at LBJ and Hillcrest). Twelve family members served in the Civil War, and three of them were killed.

S. Frances Stratton (Mrs. Don Lowell) Bell also descended from John Huffines and George Washington Huffines who came to Dallas County in 1952-53 (above); and from George's son Winfield Scott Huffines (1858-1939) and Winfield's daughter Vera F. Huffines (1900-1976) who married William Statler Stratton (1898-1975), father of Frances.

Bette Galloway (Mrs. Ross) Frank descends from her grandfather Benjamin Franklin Galloway (1833-1910) and her father Bedford Forest (as spelled on application) Galloway (1873-1949) who was born in his parents' covered wagon which had just reached Duck Creek (near Garland) enroute from Tennessee in 1873. Benjamin Galloway served in the Civil War in Company G, 19th Tennessee Regiment, in the battles of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge (in 1863) and Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin, and Murfreesboro (1864).

SYMPATHY TO: Past President Bill Jacoby and family on the death of his cousin George L. Clark, one of the four men killed in plane crash in Wyoming June 28th.

HISTORICAL DATA: After Dallas County organized and officers were elected and installed, a crude courthouse was erected on the square. Dallas was part of the Nacogdoches Judicial District, presided over by Judge William B. Ochiltree. At the first census in 1850, Dallas County had less than 3,000 residents. The town layout was a half-mile square. When the town was chartered in 1856, all the shops and stores faced the courthouse square. When the last vacant lot was filled, the people considered the town finished. An acre of ground sold for less than \$200.00.

In 1857 John C. McCoy was District Attorney and B. H. Henderson was Sheriff. W.R. Masten was County Clerk, Edward C. Browder was District Clerk, and Thomas C. Williams was Assessor-Collector. The Dallas Herald was the local weekly newspaper. The 1857 Texas Almanac listed eleven postoffices in Dallas County: Dallas, Cedar Hill, Havana, Duck Creek (Garland), Farmers Branch, Lancaster, Locust Shade, Pallace Hill, Scyene, Pleasant Run and Prairie Creek.

During the Civil War the Tucker-Sherrard Firearms Factory at Lancaster manufactured .44 caliber Confederate "Texas Dragoon" revolvers, engraved with a Lone Star and the words "Texas Arms". J. H. Sherrard was the plant blacksmith and L. S. Perkins the engraver. John C. Crockett was Superintendent and A. S. Clark was plant foreman. The Texas Dragoon was a copy of the famous Colt Dragoon revolver.

Pat Garrett came to Dallas County as a drifting cowboy in 1869, and left with a cattle drive six years later. He became Sheriff of Lincoln County, New Mexico, where he shot and killed the infamous outlaw "Billy the Kid".

Dr. John Henry Holliday came to Dallas in 1872 and joined Dr. J. A. Seegar at 502 Elm Street. Holliday didn't do well as a dentist, and soon began gambling at Bogan's Saloon. In 1875 Holliday had a gunfight with a saloonkeeper, but neither was hit. Holliday quickly left town, and drifted west to become Wyatt Earp's deputy "Doc" Holliday in the famed Battle of the OK Corral at Tombstone, Arizona. (Wyatt Earp may never have gotten to Dallas, but in 1878 he tracked train robber Mike Roark to Fort Worth where he finally caught him).

Jessie James and his brothers and Younger cousins came to Dallas County in 1874, and stayed at a farm between Scyene and Mesquite until time to "move on". Later Jesse's brother Frank James lived in Dallas, and roomed at the home of Dr. Arch M. Cochran at 404 Griffin Street. Frank was no longer "wanted", but he still kept his shades in his room closed tightly. Dr. Arch Cochran was later active in the Dallas County Pioneer Association, and an unsuccessful candidate for Governor of Texas.

John Wesley Hardin left a trail of dead victims throughout Texas, until in 1878 he and his outlaw cousin Manning Clements ended up in the State Penitentiary at Huntsville. Fifteen years later Hardin was released and became a lawyer at El Paso. There, fittingly, he was shot to death.

Sam Bass, a Denton County cowhand, robbed trains in early 1878 at Mesquite, Eagle Ford, Allen and Hutchins. The gang got less than \$2,000.00 in the four holdups, and a Dallas posse trailed them to Terrell, Kaufman, Ennis, Waco and finally to Round Rock, where Bass was shot to death. Willis Jenkins, brother to Dr. Arch Cochran's wife Mollie, was a member of that posse.

Alvin Owsley, later a prominent name in Dallas, and Jim Courtright, Marshal at Ft. Worth, were also in that posse. Courtright was later killed in a shoot-out with gunfighter Luke Short on the street in Ft. Worth. George Mellersh, who lived in Oak Lawn where the Melrose Hotel now stands, was a passenger on a stagecoach Bass robbed near Ft. Worth, before the train robberies. Bass got \$70.00 in the holdup, but missed the large sum of money Mellersh had in his clothing.

COMING EVENT: Many Dallas Residents have at one time or other attended Oak Lawn Methodist Church which will celebrate its 113th Anniversary on September 20, 1987. This will be the "Homecoming" at Oak Lawn and all are invited to attend. Sunday School at 9:30 A.M. and Church Service at 10:40.

An 1872 Barron Family Bible has been donated to the Oak Lawn United Methodist Church Archives. Barron children were born between 1878 and 1898 at Troup in Cherokee County. Anyone interested in this family should contact Church Historian Earl O. Cullum.

SICK BAY: B. Porter Cochran had major surgery August 12th. Doing well at this writing. Would appreciate cards and telephone calls. President Edna Hart's husband in hospital. We wish each of these loved ones a speedy recovery. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

HELP US REACH OUR 100 MARK IN ATTENDANCE THIS MEETING! We're looking forward to seeing you.

Mary M. Cullum, Secretary

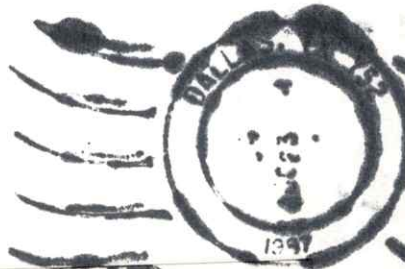


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P. O. Box 12496

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