



Dallas County Pioneer Association

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

NEWSLETTER FALL 1989

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 7, 1989, 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. The Program will be presented by Mr. Lee Stetson, who is a long-time member of the Southwest Historical Railroad Society and an HO model railroader, and will talk about "Dallas County Railroad History". He is a native New Yorker, a graduate of Williams College in Massachusetts, an airplane test pilot, and a former college physics instructor. He spent over 40 years with Chance Vought Aircraft which became LTV, in various positions including V-P and Controller of the Helicopter Division. He retired in 1981. He enjoys music, stamps, sports, his wife Janet, two grown daughters and five grandchildren. We welcome him to our September 7th Meeting.

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.

We had 72 registered members and guests at our June 1st Meeting, and a few late arrivals did not get registered. PLEASE BE SURE TO REGISTER. We need your support and urge you to attend as many meetings as possible. We clear our tables, pay our bills before the program, and invite guests and new members to our meetings. We do not smoke up our meeting room, or talk when others are listening to the speaker. WE ARE A FINE GROUP!

"PROUD HERITAGE: PIONEER FAMILIES OF DALLAS COUNTY" book: Still a few copies on hand - cost \$32.40 if picked up and \$35.10 if delivered. Please be sure your family has a copy.

SYMPATHY TO: Marjorie Simpson on the death of her son-in-law; to Donna Rudin on the death of her husband; and to the family of David Cullum who passed away August 6, 1989. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

NEW MEMBERS: Warren Coit, 6609 Ridgeview Circle, Dallas 75240 Phone: 239-2785. Mrs. Gerard Soelter Dickinson, 6515 Chevy Chase, Dallas 75225 Phone: 368-4745.

THE FOLLOWING DATA IS FROM NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM: Mrs. Gerard Soelter Dickinson descends from Henry Carl Soelter, born in 1866 in Hamburg, Germany, who came to St. Louis at age 5 with his parents, and later married Edith Gerard and moved to Dallas in 1888, while working for the Texas & Pacific Railroad. They resided on Pocahontas Street in Dallas and are buried at Restland. Their son Gerard Lyon Soelter, born in 1892, was later an official of the Southwestern Life Insurance Company. He married Isabel Harding and they are the parents of our new member, who is a retired rare book binder. She was born in Dallas and attended North Dallas High School. She married Andrew G. Dickinson, who died in 1975. Their sons are Gerard A. Dickinson and Peter Dickinson.

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Past Presidents

Col. John C. McCoy	1875	Col. Epps G. Knight	1910	Br. William B. Baird	1980	William F. Jacoby Jr.	1984
Maj. John H. Brown	1887	Col. Murrell L. Buckner	1943	Lloyd Miller	1981	Edna J. Hart	1986
Capt. R. Alex Rawlins	1895	John B. Nelms	1979	Col. Earl G. Cullum	1983	Sara H. McGee	1988

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST: Of interest in Dallas County history is a new hardcover book "THE OAK LAWN VISION", by Charles G. Cullum, which relates the 115-year history of the Oak Lawn United Methodist Church in Dallas. The book lists many area pioneer families, and contains over 500 indexed names. It will be on sale at the church office beginning August 28th, at \$12.50 per copy (plus \$2.50 per copy if mailed). Orders may be sent to OLUMC Book Sales, 3014 Oak Lawn Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75219.

Recently the Texas Forest Service examined the largest post oak tree in the church block, and estimated it is 176 years old. Thus it was growing there during the War of 1812, when Spain owned Texas; and when Mexico and later the Republic of Texas gained their independence. President Sam Houston passed there in the early 1840's, and the tree was 100 years old when the present church sanctuary was erected in 1913. A new church garden area is planned to centerpiece this great oak tree.

In 1850 the town of Cedar Springs was an unsuccessful rival to become the Dallas County Seat, and then it dwindled and disappeared. Now Historian A. C. Greene and Preservationist James Pratt are leading a historic preservation effort there, and considering plans for an archeological dig in the area. Lillian Cullum Tate, Elizabeth Troth Rodgers and Catherine Adams Boettcher, who later lived at the old Cedar Springs site just north of the Oak Lawn Community, are also involved in this community effort.

After serving as District Clerk in 1846, John J. McCoy was District Attorney in 1856, and a State Legislator in 1863. Edward C. Browder served as District Clerk from 1850 to 1864; and Alex Harwood as County Clerk 1850-1854 and 1873-82. James M. Patterson was Chief Justice 1854-66; and Nathaniel M. Burford was District Attorney and Judge in 1856 and 1875. He commanded the Confederate 19th Texas Cavalry Regiment during the Civil War. Nicholas H. Darnell was a legislator 1859-61 and commanded the 18th Texas Cavalry during the war. Trezevant C. Hawpe was sheriff 1850-52, and commander of the 31st Texas Cavalry during the war. Captain John J. Good commanded the 1st Texas Artillery Battery, and returned to serve as District Judge in 1866. Colonel B. Warren Stone commanded the 6th Texas Cavalry.

James P. Goodnight was County Assessor 1858-61 and 1866-68. N. R. Winniford was sheriff 1867-70. John H. Cochran was County Assessor-Collector 1862-66, a legislator 1873-84, and speaker in 1878. N. O. McAdams was sheriff 1862-66, and a County Commissioner 1876-88. Z. Ellis Coombs was County Judge in 1866 and a legislator in 1884. R. E. Burke was County Judge 1878-94 and then a Congressman 1894-1902. Charles B. Gillespie was Assessor-Collector 1882-90 and a Dallas City Commissioner 1907-10. Epps G. Knight was Tax Collector 1896-1902, and Dallas Chief of Police in 1904. W. C. McKamy was a legislator 1896-1902.

Among listings in the 1883 Dallas City Directory were the following:

- Weston Hardware, 513 Elm Street
- Huey & Philp Hardware, 647 Elm Street
- St. George Hotel, 714 Main Street
- Dallas City Hospital, Lamar & Columbia
- Browder Springs Ice Works, Browder Street
- Dallas Iron Works, Ross & Orange
- McElhare Ice Cream, 814 Main Street
- Carnes Insurance, Main & Poydras
- Oram Jewelers, 612 Elm Street
- City Steam Laundry, 706 Commerce
- Griffiths Lumber Co., Commerce & Leonard
- Craddock Liquors, 413 Main Street
- Gaston Livery Stable, 729 Main Street
- Bowser Machinery Co., 316 Elm Street

Dallas Conservatory of Music, 703 Elm Street
 Watkins Music Company, 737 Elm Street
 Bauman Milliner, 706 Elm Street
 Dun Mercantile Company, 602 Main Street
 Bradstreet Mercantile Company, 703 Main Street
 Hamm Meat Market, 124 Bryan Street
 Dallas Times Newspaper, Main & Sycamore
 Craddock Opera House, 413 Main Street
 William Boll, Physician, 828 Main Street
 McCown Photographer, 505 Main Street
 Cohn Pawnbroker, 708 Main Street
 Doyle Plumber, 705 Elm Street
 Aldridge Printing Company, 623 Elm Street
 Apollo Restaurant, Main & Poydras
 Prather Real Estate, 114 Lamar Street
 Texas Trunk Railroad, 203 Main Street
 Schoellkopf Saddles, 830 Main Street
 Carter Stockyards, Elm & Good
 Craddock Salon, 415 Main Street
 Woods Lyceum Theater, 718 Main Street
 Dallas Telephone Exchange, Main & Murphy
 Western Union Telegraph, 601 Elm Street
 Douglas Tailor, 703 Main Street
 Ed C. Smith Undertaker, 1031 Main Street
 Barbier Vegetables, 315 Main Street
 Dallas Vinegar Works, 415 Market Street
 U. S. Postoffice, 734 Main Street
 City Water Works, Commerce & Lamar
 Shumate Wagon Yard, 311 S. Lamar Street
 Ursuline Academy, 49 Bryan Street
 Dallas Female College, Live Oak & Pearl
 Masonic Hall, Main & Murphy
 Texas & Pacific Railroad, Lamar & Pacific
 Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railroad, Commerce & Murphy
 Houston & Texas Central Railroad, Wood & Austin
 Nat Burford, U. S. Commissioner, 313 Main Street
 Rev. Robert C. Buckner, Editor, Texas Baptist, 127 Camp St.
 Rev. W. H. Hughes, Lamar St. Meth. Church, Pearl & Live Oak
 Olin Wellborn, U.S. Congressman, Elm & Austin

Even in 1890, Dallas was considered a banking center with promise. There were five national banks - the Fourth National, the Ninth National, Bankers and Merchants National, Central National and North Texas National. There were several private banks and no state banks at that time.

In 1905, The Texas Banking Law was passed and most private banks secured state charters. In 1909 the capital and surplus of our banks were almost six million and the total resources were almost thirty-four million. At that time the American Exchange National Bank was our largest. At the close of business, November 1909, the capital and surplus was \$1,500,000.00, the deposits were \$8,785,831.88. Total resources \$11,729,886.72. This was then the largest bank in Texas. Spindletop with oil had not started Houston growing. This bank pioneered bank advertising. It paid \$40.00 for a page advertisement in the Southwestern Merchant magazine with their statement. The list of the following officers and directors will tell you its large depositors. OFFICERS: Royal A. Ferris, Pres.; C.C. Slaughter, VP; E.M. Reardon, VP; E.J. Gannon, VP; G.H. Pittman, Asst. Cash.; R.E. Gahagan, Asst. Cash; H.H. Smith, Asst. Cash.; John N. Sompson, VP; A.V. Lane, VP; and Nathan Adams, Cashier.

DIRECTORS: L.L. Blaylock, Sam P. Cochran, Henry C. Coke, W. B. Worsham, W. C. Connor, O. E. Dunlap, E. H. R. Green, A. A. Jackson, E. M. Kahn, J. H. McDonough, T. S. Miller, Paul Waples, B. E. Yoakum, G. W. Owens, H. J. Pettengill, Simon Philp, W. H. Thomas and L. S. Thorne.

The second largest bank in 1909 was the Guaranty State Bank & Trust Co. with assets of \$1,908,122.18 with a 50% cash reserve. Officers were D. E. Waggoner, President; Sam J. McFarland, J. S. Rice, Vice Presidents; M. H. Wolfe, Vice President; Edwin Hobby, Cashier.

SICK BAY: Let's all remember all of our members who are ill and especially Jackie Jacoby and Russell Surles. Russell did not feel too well last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. PLEASE keep us advised of any illnesses. Thanks.

Please make your plans now to attend our September 7th meeting. We hope that all of you have had a nice summer.

Mary M. Cullum, Secretary

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