



Dallas County Pioneer Association

Founded 1875. Reorganized 1979
P.O. Box 12496, Dallas, Texas 75225-0496

SPRING NEWSLETTER 1992 - 01

The Dallas County Pioneer Association will hold its quarterly meeting on March 5, 1992 at 7:00 P.M. at its new location, Wyatt's Cafeteria at Forest and Marsh Lane. The meeting room is open at 5:30. Come early, eat, register, and visit before the program starts.

We welcome visitors to our meetings which are held the first Thursday in March, June, September and December.

PROGRAM FOR MARCH: Our speaker will be Rose Bi derman of the Dallas Jewish Historical Society who will speak on the Jewish contribution to Dallas history.

The December meeting was called to order by President Mattie Hughes. The invocation was given by John C. Winniford, followed by Pledges of Allegiance to the flags of the United States and Texas.

There were approximately 110 present at our last meeting, with 27 visitors including Larry McCommas and his choral group of 12 which entertained us with Christmas songs, some old and some new.

VISITORS - Registered guests were Mrs. Betty Thompson, Elizabeth Downing, Frank Schultz, Willie D. & William B. Beeman, Margaret Evans, William Adam McCommas Vilbig, Jr., Kevin Vilbig, Malta Akins, Georgia Turner, Billy Turner, Johnny E. Rogers, Marylou Buntyn, Larry McCommas, Sara Weedin, Jenny McClendon, Susan Williams, Anna Waryn, Holly Ellyson, Brandt Raborn, Jody Speer, Kim Honeycutt, Todd Hutson, Colby Crain, Heather Ellyson, Phillip J. Haverdink, Bob and Dorothy McClendon, parents of Jenny McClendon.

NEW OFFICERS - The following slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee for 1992-93 and approved by the membership, were installed by Past-President Earl O. Cullum, followed by a brief message from John R. Nelms, who reorganized and reactivated DCPA in 1979:

Mattie Hughes, President
Nancy McRae, Vice-President
John C. Winniford, Treasurer
Nona E. Williams, Secretary
Frances James, Historian

Appointed Positions:

William F. Jacoby, Jr., Public Relations
Edna Hart, Publicity
Linda Allen, Telephone/Transportation Chairman
Sara McGee, Sunshine Chairman

ROLL OF HONOR - Each year two persons who have performed outstanding service to DCPA are recommended for the Roll of Honor and voted upon by the membership. For the year 1992-93 Reverend Amos McCommas and Lucile Boykin were approved, and their names will be inscribed on a plaque for that purpose.

Rev. Amos McCommas, deceased, was an early preacher in Dallas County, and one of the first County Judges. He became the first Chaplain of DCPA in 1875 and served in that capacity until 1886.

Lucile Anderson Boykin, retired librarian of the Dallas Public Library, is beloved by all for her help and expertise during her years in the Texas History and Genealogy Departments at the library. She served as Historian for DCPA 1981-83 bringing us many interesting programs. She also served as one of the copy editors of Proud Heritage, Vol. I prior to publishing.

BOOK COMMITTEE REPORT - Book Committee Chairman, Earl Cullum advises us we are nearing the number of articles needed for Vol. II. About two-thirds of these stories have been submitted by 33 roster members of DCPA. You are **URGENTLY** requested to get your stories in by March 11 following our meeting. If you have written a story on a family, perhaps you would like to write one on an event or activity. Activity and articles of general interest will comprise no more than 25 per cent of the total number of entries submitted. **REMEMBER THIS IS OUR CONTRIBUTION TO OUR DESCENDANTS!**

The following articles have been submitted since the last listing:

Camden C. Brady
Maxime Guillot
John M. McCoy
Bert Willoughby
Robert Arons
Elsby, Fritz et al
Wm. F. Jacoby
White Rock Lake
Dallas (Mid-years)
Farmers Branch
Rowlett (City of)
Cullom Family
Wallace R. Mercer
Louie G.S. Currie
Sidney S. Noell
Colby T. Smith
James D. Stratton
Wm. Thos. Brannon
John W. Byrd
Andrew J. Pierce
Seaburn Baggett
Ahab Bowen
A. J. Duncan
William B. Owen

Herman K. Buhner
Peter Hatzenbuehler
Parkland Hospital
Albert Arons
Wm. H. Clark (1827)
Absolem T. Falls
Amon McCommas
Cedar Hill (City of)
Dallas (Later years)
Irving (City of)
Scyene Meeting Pl.
Fishburn Cleaners
George N. Walker
Miles G. Hamilton
Howard Peterman
Absolom Stratton
Dee Wilton Tuggle
John H. Brower
John J. Good
Belle Starr
U. Baggett
Wormley Carter
Zenus Ketchum
Mary Billingsley

Howard S. Edge
John C. McCoy
Trinity Navigation
Leopold Arons
Wm. H. Clark (1861)
Henry H. Jacoby
Dallas Police Dept.
Dallas (Early years)
East Dallas (City of)
West Side Dallas Co.
Will H. Hughes
Reynolds M. Lemmon
Jno. S. Hatfield
James B. Merriman
Samuel M. Ramsey
Chas. Francis Stratton
John Steven Wyrick
James Byrd
A. K. Lucas
William Wilson
Daniel Bechtol
Ewin Dice
William R. Moffett
Albert Brand

Thomas Brown
John Jordan
Leslie Stemmons
John A. Dickson
Norman W. Stone

William Cole
Robert Mansfield
James M. Certain
Isaac N. Miller

Jacob Ellis
Frank Carsey
N. C. Brite
Martin V. Miller

NEW BOOK - Joan Dobson reported on the new book DALLAS, THEN and NOW available for \$10.00.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Frances James, Historian, shared with us several items of historical interest in our neighborhood.

OLD RED, the Dallas County Courthouse, will be 100 years old in 1992.

The old F. A. BROWN house on Kelton Street is available for meetings and dinners.

The COX FARMHOUSE on Cox Lane is seeking a historical marker.

The HERITAGE FARMHOUSE at Plano is open for tours.

TRINITY FARMS near Cowboy Stadium is seeking a marker.

The KAYWOOD HOUSE on Beltline Road is seeking a marker.

The MASONIC LODGE #441, chartered in 1875, on the square in Garland is seeking a marker.

SAMUELLS FARM off Highway 80 has a picnic area and entertainment for children with animals and farm equipment.

RYLIE (CITY OF) AND RYLIE CEMETERY are seeking historical markers.

FLORENCE HOMESTEAD - Florence Schultz reported on the renovation of the old Florence home built in 1871 in Mesquite.

AUGUSTUS LETOT, one of our members, a former Merchant Marine, was belatedly awarded a commemorative medal, by the Soviet Union for his role in the Murmansk Run during World War II. A letter accompanying the medal, was written in behalf of Mikhail Gorbachev citing Mr. Letot for his "outstanding courage and personal contribution to the allied support of the people of the Soviet Union who fought for freedom against Nazi Germany".

TEXAS AGGIE - An article in the November 1991 issue of the Texas Aggie reviews the booklet, "Manhunt in Burma and Assam" written by our faithful member, Earl O. Cullum. Earl, as Provost Marshall in the China-Burma-India theater in WW2, describes his 375-day pursuit through the mountains and jungles, and ultimate capture of a convicted murderer, an escaped American soldier.

FITZHUGH-DANIEL - The Dallas Morning News issue of December 30, 1991 carried the obituary of Miss Nannie Margaret Fitzhugh, age 80, a native of Oak Cliff, who passed away the preceding Friday. She was descended from Mrs. Frances Sims Daniel, who with her children and sister, came to Texas in 1849, and purchased the land that is now Snider Plaza in University Park. Miss Fitzhugh's parents were Stephen Siler Fitzhugh and Minnie Irene Daniel of Lancaster.

SICK BAY - We are sorry to hear Jack Jackson has been in the hospital for surgery. Our best wishes to you and Aleene.

Dorothy Savage is in Baylor Rehabilitation Center recovering from a stroke. Our best wishes to her.

NEW MEMBERS: Please welcome new members Dorothy Good Berger and her husband George R. Berger, and Mrs. Opal Frances Nicholls, and William B. Beeman and his wife Willie Beeman. We are happy to have you join us. We are also glad to welcome back Sandra Neal, our secretary of several years ago and J.M. & Pearl Howell.

DOROTHY GOOD BERGER descends from John J. Good, born 12 July 1827 in Marion County Miss., who arrived in Dallas in 1851, and married Susan Ann Floyd. Their residence was what is now the corner of Floyd and Good streets. Their son, Benjamin McCullough Good born 1865 in Dallas, married Jennie Aurelia Mansfield, who is buried Grove Hill Cemetery. Their son, Floyd Mansfield Good, was born 1889 on Swiss Ave. He married Dollie P. Kaybell. The book "Cannon Smoke" written by Judge Lester Newton Fitzhugh of Lancaster carries the Civil War letters of John J. Good and his wife Susan, who was staying with her father in Dallas.

GEORGE R. BERGER is the son of Paul Albin Berger, born 1888 in Germany, who came to Texas about 1906; married in Galveston to Martha Streuble. Both are buried Grove Hill Cemetery in Dallas.

OPAL FRANCES NICHOLLS descends from William Warden, b. 1775 and his wife Jerusha Savage, who resided 1844 "12 miles north of Dallas". Their son, William Warden "Sr.", b. 1808 Kentucky married Mahulda Butler. Both died 1868 in Collin Co. Their son, Hezekiah Warden b. 1831 Mo., married Jerusha Smith Hanson 1848/49 Collin Co. Their daughter, America Parolee Warden, b. 1853 Collin Co. married Isaac Newton Vernon in 1869 Collin Co. Their son Walter Newton Vernon b. 1876 Collin Co. m. Frances Hawling Dodd. Both of whom died in Dallas Co.

WILLIAM B. BEEMAN descends from John and Emily Hunnicutt Beeman who settled in Dallas in 1842. Their son, William Hunnicutt Beeman, b. 1827 Ill., married Martha Dye. He died 1905 Dallas; she died 1912. Both buried at Beeman Cemetery. Their son, Lee Oran Beeman, b. 1862 Dallas, married 2nd Maud Alice Herrin in Dallas 1891. Their son, Wm. Oran Beeman b. 1892 Dallas married Lucile Montague Anderson, and had William Bonner Beeman.

WILLIE BEEMAN, wife of William B. Beeman, and new Associate Member was born in Lampasas, Tx.

SAM V. AKINS descends from John S. Tucker and Agnes McNew who migrated to Texas in 1848. Agnes McNew Tucker was buried Cox Cemetery 8 December 1897. Four daughters married McCommas brothers from Dallas County.

CORRECTION to profile of recent members Marilyn Miller and

Shannon L. Bowling. Both descend from Martin V. Miller & Louise J. Hinman, who came to Dallas between 1891-94 and lived at 1053 So. Central St. in 1898-99. Their son was Isaac Nelson Miller, Sr., who married Jessie Pearl Montgomery and lived in Henderson County. Son, Robert Nelson Miller married Lillie Jean Pickle. He died 1967 Dallas; she died 1984 Garland. Their daughter is Marilyn Miller. Marilyn's brother, Ben Robert Miller, married Billie Kathryn Griffin, who are parents of Shannon L. Bowling.

CONDOLENCES to Marie Brady Hunter on the death of her sister, Delois Brady Barr of Hot Springs, Ark., formerly of Dallas. Interment was at Restland Mausoleum in Dallas.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Monday, 24 March 1992 - Dallas Genealogical Society Meeting - 6:00 P.M., Computer Interest Group. 7:00 P.M. Meeting & Program, "DO YOU QUALIFY". Panel of speakers consists of Heritage and Patriotic Society experts.

Saturday, 28 March 1992 - Spring Seminar, Dallas Genealogical Society, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Richardson Civic Center. Guest speaker, Marsha Hoffman Rising, noted genealogical educator "specializing in methodology lectures".

Monday, 27 April, 1992 - Dallas Genealogical Society Meeting, 10:00 A.M., Computer Interest Group. 11:00 A.M. - Program, "PHOTOGRAPHIC & DOCUMENT PRESERVATION".

MUNGER AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

This church had its beginnings in a small frame house near the Houston and Texas Central Railroad tracks, close to Deep Elm in Dallas. A theater was across the street and several saloons and a restaurant were nearby. It is said the parishioners sometimes had to duck beer mugs, tin cans, bricks and sticks that were hurled through the air as a result of the street brawls in the area. At this same location the members found it necessary to shut out some of the noise and distractions from the street in order to hold services. They put torn sheets or rags over the windows to give them privacy. Noticing this, the street people gave the church the nickname of the "Rag Doll Church".

In 1911 the church moved to 3407 Munger and constructed a tabernacle. This was not a very well built structure, so by 1913 a building program was launched to construct a permanent church building. The city was petitioned to provide street lighting and the sidewalks around the church were the only pavement in the area. The next four years the congregation grew from 11 to 300 and the name was changed from Galilee to Munger Avenue Baptist Church.

This church continued to expand its works and improve its property. The wife of one its pastors faithfully walked the streets of the city, gathering children for Sunday School. It was recalled she

was not "spoiled to the convenience of an automobile". In 1932, a misunderstanding divided the church and there were only 286 members left. A new pastor emphasized the teaching of the Bible and introduced tithing. This eliminated the sales, pay programs, begging and soliciting at offering time. In ten years the offerings increased from \$50.00 per week to \$500.00 per week, and more than 3000 persons applied for membership in the church.

Munger Avenue Baptist Church has continued to take a lead in community projects. The senior citizens are involved in the life of the church. A Smile Committee cares for the deprived and infirm members. A large nursery school and kindergarten were started; the young men who have chosen to study the Bible were called the "Sons of Munger" and some have gone into the ministry. The pastor of this church was active in the group of citizens that controlled dissension during the years when desegregation was an issue in the city. Through the church's participation the relationship between the races was improved during this crucial period. Over 1000 members were added between 1946-1967.

Munger Baptist has been host to the Missionary Baptist General Convention of Texas and other Sunday School and church sessions through the years. The congregation is looking forward to its 100th Anniversary in 1994. (from the files of Frances James)

DALLAS COUNTY MILITARY OFFICERS 1890's

1892 One hundred years ago the "Memorial and Biographical History of Dallas County" listed then-residents, including 24 Dallas County men identified by military titles. Many others had performed military service, but appear to have not been using those titles when this volume was compiled.

Four listed as "General" include Confederate Brigadier Generals, William L. Cabell, a West Point graduate; and Richard N. Gano, a Cavalry Commander. John S. Griffith was a Texas State Brigadier. No military service record can be found for General Georg F. Alford.

Ten were listed as "Colonels", including Confederate Colonels, R. R. Lawther, Charles S. Mitchell and D. A. Williams. Both John M. Stemmons, a Confederate, and P. B. Hunt of the Union Army were wartime Lieutenant Colonels. George W. Givens served in the Mexican War, but was not listed as a Colonel. Martin W. Mann was a Union Lieutenant in the Civil War. No record of service as a Colonel has been found for George Noble, John F. Elliott, or John C. McCoy.

Three were listed in 1892 as "Major". Alexander C. Lemmon was a Confederate Major; Francis M. Ervay and I. B. Gibson were Union Majors in the Civil War. Seven were listed as "Captain". John Hunter was a Union Captain who lost an arm in the war. Confederate captains were H. A. Carrell, Thomas Flynn, William H. Harris, William H. Lemmon, W. F. Morton and Middleton Perry. None were

listed as "Lieutenant".

Although many honorary titles were used in the 1800's, the DCPA continues to seek data to substantiate the "General" and "Colonel" titles used by Alford, Elliott, Givens, Mann, McCoy and Noble.

DUES: REMEMBER 1992 DUES ARE DUE NOW.

QUERY - Can anyone help your secretary with information on, or about, the precise location of the old White Rock Mill located on White Rock Creek on land formerly owned by Judge J. M. Patterson near the John Beeman Cemetery off Dolphin Rd.

Respectfully submitted,

Nona E. Williams, Secretary