



Dallas County Pioneer Association

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

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 1992 - 02

NEXT MEETING 4 JUNE 1992

The Dallas County Pioneer Association meets quarterly in March, June, September and December. Meetings are held currently at Wyatt's Cafeteria at Forest and Marsh Lane at 7:00 P.M. The meeting room is open at 5:30 P.M. for eating and fellowship. Guests are always welcome. Please be sure and register since we, and Wyatt's, like to know how many are present.

PROGRAM: We are pleased to have Judge John Marshall of the 14th District Court as our speaker for the June 4th meeting. Judge Marshall will speak on the establishment of a constitution in Latvia, whose capital, Riga, is the sister city of Dallas.

Riga, a beautiful city on the Balkan Sea, chose Dallas as its sister city in 1989 after seeing Dallas' skyline on the TV series "Dallas".

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The Dallas County Pioneer Association held its regular meeting March 5, 1992 at Wyatt's Cafeteria at Marsh and Forest Lane. The meeting attended by 71 persons, was called to order by President Mattie Hughes, with David Vilbig giving the invocation. Pledges of Allegiance to the flags of the United States and Texas followed.

The following were guests at the last meeting: Paul D. Stallings, Dan and Charletta W. Greene, William Adam McCommas Vilbig, Jr., Sally Gross, Retta Nelson, Charles Van Zandt, Sarah and Bob Coursey, Alice and Edwin Styron, Linda K. Mills, Anne Finkelstein, Gary A. and Cynthia Wilson. We hope you will come again.

The president reported the illnesses of several of our members: Mary Alice Winniford, Dorothy Savage, and John Collins.

Membership Certificates were awarded to George and Dorothy Berger, William B. and Willie Beeman. Certificates to those new members not present will be mailed.

Frances James introduced Rose Biderman of the Dallas Jewish Historical Society as our speaker for the evening. Ms. Biderman gave interesting accounts of some of the numerous Jewish storekeepers whose businesses evolved into well-known department stores such as Titcher-Goettinger, A. Harris, Sanger, Linz, E. M. Kahn, Dreyfuss, Dysterbach, and Neiman-Marcus. Ms. Biderman also stated the first documented Jew in Dallas was Alex Simon who came

in July 1858.

Following the program Frances up-dated us on recent recipients of various types of historical markers within the county including Woodrow Wilson Highschool. Others being processed include the Cox Farmhouse. Little Pine House at Owenwood. and the C. C. Slaughter house.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Herbert Hughes.

BOOK COMMITTEE REPORT - Chairman Earl Cullum reports sufficient stories have been received for Proud Heritage, Vol. II. Those received after the June 4th meeting will be subject to space available. There is still much work to be done. Printing procedures are underway. Thank you for your patience and understanding. We will keep you posted on our progress.

The following submissions have been received since the March meeting:

Akard	Anderson	Barnes	Boll	Brite	Carsey
Certain	Chandler	Chesney	Cole	Crosby	Deam
Dickson	Dysterbach	Ealy	Elerson	Ellis	Ferguson
Florence	Harris	Hash	Hillpot	Hines	Hoffman
Howell	Hund	Jackson	Jordan	Lavender	Mansfield
Marten	Maxson	McFerren	Miller	Nickens	Park
Pickard	Rape	Schulz	Soelter	Stemmons	Stone
Story	Switzer	Tanner	Webb	Williams	

NEW MEMBERS: Please welcome new member Rhonda (Stephens) Morris, Mrs. Glenn Allen) 2006 Bridger Dr., Mesquite, TX. 289-8680. Rhonda descends from James Williams who came to Dallas about 1853, and married Mary Jane Batchelor in Ellis County in 1860. Their son, Francis Marion Williams, b. 1861 Lancaster/Hutchins, married Edna Earl McAdams. Both are buried Rylie Cemetery. Their son Lee Howell Williams, b. 1886 Kleberg, married 1901 Lillie Mae Elkins. Their son, Wilbur Woodrow Williams, b. 1912 Kleberg, married Frances Rebecca Wright. Their daughter, Mary Frances Williams, b. 1939 Dallas, married Marvil Stephens, the parents of Rhonda.

We are pleased to welcome William A. McCommas Vilbig, Jr., 6959 Wildbriar Ct. W., Ft. Worth, TX 76120-1300 as a new member. He descends from the pioneer McCommas family.

We are especially proud to announce Mr. and Mrs. Robert Terrell Coursey, 9364 Forest Hills, Dallas 75218-3633, Tel. 321-5793, have become Life Members. Sarah Ruth (Valkus) Coursey descends from Isaac and Mary (Hughes) Webb who came to Dallas in 1844. Joshua Webb, b. 1837 Tenn., m. 1869 Sarah Catheine Dennis b. 1853 Tenn. and both died in Dallas. Their dau. Maggie Mary Webb b. 1875 Dallas married James Henry Tanner. Their dau. Lucie A. Tanner,

born 1901 Dallas, married Gus Boyle Valkus b. 1893 Dallas. the parents of Sarah Ruth.

TELEPHONE/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - Bill McRae, new Chairman. We cannot emphasize enough the importance of this committee whose members keep us in touch with each other. We are very grateful for your help, Mary Bowen, Louise Buhner, Ruth Carnes, Martha Henderson, Jean Reilly, Mary Rogers, Virginia Stallings. Ray L. Story, Marjorie J. Simpson. Mrs. Gerard Dickinson, Valerie Walsh, Ann Gracey Williams, and Linda Allen.

TRIPLETS ARRIVE - Mary Marcelle Hull is the proud grandmother of triplets, two boys and a girl, born to her son Dr. Truett A. Hull, and his wife, Kim, on April 28 in Austin. The babies weighed in at a little more than 3 pounds each and are doing well. They should be able to come home soon.

SICK BAY - We are indeed sorry to hear of Mary Cullum's illness. She is presently undergoing treatments. Earl is recovering from recent eye surgery. Our prayers are with them.

Sarah and David McGee had to postpone their trip to Europe due to illness and surgery. They celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 17. Congratulations to you both.

We are pleased to report Mary Alice Winniford is doing well following her recent surgery.

CONDOLENCES to the John Nelms family on the death of his sister, Katherine Nelms Higginbotham on April 23 in Prescott, Ariz. She had lived in Dallas 80 years, a 4th generation Dallasite, daughter of Joan Fisher and Richard Claude Nelms, Sr. She was also a Charter Member of DCPA.

Our heartfelt sympathy to Mary Sutherland, Robert and Glenda Cammack, in the loss of their 20 year old grand-daughter and daughter, Jennifer Cammack, in an automobile accident a few days ago. Memorials may be made to Berkner Highschool, Jennifer Cammack Scholarship Fund (continued on page 7)

The **DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SPRING SEMINAR** was attended by several DCPA members. Advertising brochures were distributed and Proud Heritage-Vol. I was offered for sale at our vendor's table.

CSA MILITARY OFFICER - The item in the March Newsletter on Military Officers in the 1890's brought an interesting response from member Frances S. Bell, whose ancestor was not on the list, but was a documented Captain.

Captain James Davidson Stratton, a militiaman, transferred to Chisum's Texas Cavalry Regiment (2nd Reg. Texas Partisan Rangers)

in 1862 by military records. Some called him Captain "Curly". Capt. Stratton has been mentioned more than once in connection with CSA soldiers from the Richardson area.

An obituary in the Richardson Echo reported the sudden death of Maud E. (Christian) Stratton, born 1862 Shelby County Mo., who came with her parents in the 1870's and settled in the Richardson area. In 1880 she married Charley Stratton who was the son of Capt. James D. Stratton above.

AKARD FAMILY - A recent item in A. C. Greene's column in the Dallas News mentioned William H. Akard of Hico, Texas as being a descendant of the man for whom Akard Street in Dallas was named. A note to Mr. Akard regarding Proud Heritage, Vol. II brought a nice article for our book on William C. C. and Sarah (Bowen) Akard who came to Dallas in 1865 with the Ahab Bowen family from Missouri (via Collin County Texas).

MARTEN FAMILY & SUPERIOR SHOWCASE COMPANY - Catherine Marten Haynes of Reno, Nevada, generously donated a picture to the Dallas County Pioneer Association for inclusion in Proud Heritage - Vol. II. The 1898 picture, part of a collection, was saved when the family-owned Superior Showcase Co., 2200 Browder Street, was destroyed by fire. Frank Marten, Cabinetmaker, developed and owned the company.

George Adam Marten, one of seven children born to Frank and Mary Catherine Copeland Marten, operated the store after his father died. George Marten was born in Dallas 30 June 1884. His bride, Melba Dudley, was born 1897 in Dublin, Texas to "Chas" Robert Marshall Dudley and Theresa "Belle" Smith. George and Melba Marten are the parents of Mary Catherine Marten Haynes who now resides in Reno, Nevada. (The original picture will be at the Dallas Public Library).

BEARD RESEARCHERS - A letter from Charles & Mary Bowen, 4885 Academy Street, San Diego, CA 92109 asked if anyone in our "viewing area" knows of James Beard, born about 1809 N. C., lived Lincoln Co. Mo. in 1860, to Washington Co. Ark., to Denton Co. TX, where he was murdered while in prison in 1864 at Pilot Point, Denton Co., by a desperado named Huston Holt.

TRIVIA - The 1883 Dallas City Directory listed two "Mercantile Agencies" (Credit Bureaus):

R. G. Dun & Company, 602 Main cor. Lamar, A. B. Harrison, mgr., res. Masten Street.

Bradstreet Company, 703 Main Street, Tilghman Snodgrass, supt., res. 1003 San Jacinto cor. Good.

Not many cities had both a Dun AND a Bradstreet.

MCCREE CEMETERY - The Texas Historical Marker at the McCree Cemetery, 9900 Audelia Road, states this cemetery "contains

the graves of Peters Colonists. war veterans. and many persons associated with early area Methodist and Baptist Churches."

At least two burials took place during the Civil War before the cemetery was formally deeded: those of John Henry Jones, who died in 1862. and Elizabeth McCullough, wife of William McCullough. who died in 1864.

Four deed records trace the history of this burying ground:

1. Mahulda McCree, widow of E. H. McCree, deed 1 1/2 acres in 1866 to be held in trust by James E. Jackson and William McCullough.

2. In August 1886. Benjamin Prigmore paid one dollar to J. E. Griffin for 5/8 acre of additional land.

3. In June 1896, Jeff Hill, George, John and Monroe Parker paid \$25.00 to J. E. Griffin for one acre to be held in trust by them for a public burying ground. (Jeff Hill was owner of a grocery store located in the Little Egypt community.)

4. The fourth deed, dated 23 September 1929, shows J. D. Robertson leased 1 1/2 acres to C. W. Jackson, T. B. Crosby, and John Dixon and their successors for additional burial ground and a community church.

A small white frame church had been erected by the community and was used by both the Methodists and Baptists for their services. Rev. George Washington Whistler, Rev. J. H. Schrimphire and Rev. E. B. Jackson were three of the ministers who served the community.

A family member stated Rev. Jackson preached his first sermon there in 1911, and J. W. Crosby presented him with a new Bible.

In 1931, the Rodgers Baptist Church was organizd, and the Rodgers school was just south of the cemetery. As a result, the cemetery was sometimes called Rodgers Cemetery.

In 1940, the cemetery was officially chartered as the McCree Cemetery. It is believed there were at least 300 burials in this old cemetery.

(Contributed by Mary Sutherland and Glenda Cammack)

MEMBERS OF MESQUITE LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE

- Dallas County, 15th Brigade State Troops - January 8, 1861 - Dallas, Texas.

A. W. Carter, Capt.
J. B. Garrison, 1st Lt.
D. W. Reedy, 2nd Lt.
J. L. Bennett, 2nd Lt.
Daniel Badgly, O. S.
G. W. Reedy
R. A. Perry
W. B. Manning

J. P. Lawrence
William H. Bennett
E. D. Bennett
B. F. Elam
R. Richie
George W. Moore
R. J. Scurlock
John Brunson

C. L. Bennett
Kinney Jackson
J. E. Gill
U. Moore
____off Elam
T. H. Taylor
Beeman Moore
James McGlasson
Thomas Gordon
T. M. Toliver
William Taylor

John Pike
William C. Dowdy
Henry Beckner
Alex Woody
Joshua Pruitt
W. W. Glover
W. T. Johnson
W. M. Brock
Samuel Weir
John Ewing
Van Leach

ALICE MOSELEY'S STORY - In 1983 a going-away luncheon was held for Alice Moseley. Alice is a native Dallasite who had worked for many years at Thrift House, a facility run by the members and friends of the Church of the Incarnation - Episcopal. On this occasion, Alice told the following story:

Her father, Hubert C. Fallon had been choir director and played the organ for the Church of the Incarnation for over thirty years. In 1908 the church was in a red brick building in the block south of Harwood on McKinney. The church had a pump organ at that time. The family traveled from home near Junius and Haskell to church by horse and buggy. On the 4th of July, 1909, the family had been to church and arrived back home for Sunday dinner. The horse and buggy were tied to a post in front of the house. Some boys in the neighborhood were shooting firecrackers and the horse spooked and ran away.

Friendly neighbors came over and assisted the family in trying to locate the conveyance. Being unsuccessful, they obliged the organist and his family, by taking them back to the church for the evening song service.

Waiting at the church was the horse and buggy! Alice said the horse was as well-trained as she was. Like her father and mother, Alice devoted her life to her church. She moved to Knoxville, Tennessee to be with her daughter, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in 1983. She had recently celebrated her 94th birthday and keeps up correspondence with her friends in Dallas.

DCPA MEMBER PUBLISHES NOVEL - Graham G. Landrum, who now lives in Bristol, TN, is the author of a new mystery novel titled "The Famous DAR Murder Mystery" (St. Martin's Press, New York, 1992). The story is not about murder, but rather about a small group of Daughters of the American Revolution. These DAR ladies find a body and then conduct a nation-wide investigation to identify the killers. The activity centers along the Virginia-Tennessee border, an area well known to several Dallas County Pioneer members. Anyone interested in a new type of mystery novel may ask at local bookstores, or contact the Pioneer Secretary or Book author.

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Jennifer Cammack Scholarship Fund, C/O Fidelity Bank, 2301 Cedar Springs, Dallas, TX 75201, Att: Ed Mahon

DELPHA MORROW - Funeral services were held May 16, 1992 for Delpha Morrow, wife of Lonnie Morrow. The organization sends its deepest regrets.

LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS: Jim Roster of the Dallas Public Library Texas/Dallas History & Archives, will be at our June meeting with the following books for sale:

Dallas Then and Now.... \$10 including tax.
History of Dallas Negro High School...\$3.95 plus tax.
Oak Cliff: Hidden City....\$17.95 including tax.
Greater Dallas Illustrated..\$17.95 plus tax.

The Friends of the Dallas Public Library have just reprinted Greater Dallas Illustrated, a rare publication from 1908. The book contains many photographs of small shops and businesses in Dallas and information about their owners.

1992-1993 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER - Please pick up your roster from the secretary at the June meeting.

Nona E. Williams, Secretary.



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