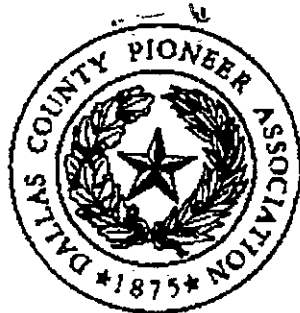




Dallas County Pioneer Association

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

SUMMER 1995

PROGRAM FOR JUNE 1, 1995

President:
Frances James

Come and hear all about the beginnings of Farmers Branch. It is one of the many locations in Dallas County where history travels wide and deep. The area families, the lay of the land, and time passing are woven together by historian **Ron Harmon**.

Vice-President:
Nancy McRae

Ron is currently with the Farmers Branch Historical Park. As he tells his story: in August 1988 he accepted a job with the Farmers Branch Historical Park that was to last for two or three months. He is still there.

Secretary:
Rhonda Morris

We'll see you on Thursday, June 1, for a really outstanding program.

Treasurer:
John Winniford

Helen Swint

* * * *

Historian:
Helen Swint

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Program Chairman:
Helen Swint

By now many people have heard about my attic full of files and my interest in the history of Dallas County. I get the most interesting telephone calls for information and of course, I am more than willing to share whatever I might have.

Membership Chairman:
Nancy McRae

Recently I was sent a copy of a book called *Pioneer of the Air—the Life and Times of Colonel S. F. Cody*, published in 1953. I must confess this biography was about a man born in Birdville, Texas, in 1861 and that is not Dallas County, but it is pretty close! He might have come to Dallas County to shop or to ride a train.

Telephone Chairman:
Bill McRae

I had never heard of this man nor of his accomplishments, but he was one of the very first and foremost flyers in the world, and was born at the start of the Civil War, remote from most schools, on a ranch that was trying to grow grapes and raisins! There is some information on the man at the Age of Flight Museum at Love Field, and I understand that there may be some more information at the University of Dallas in Irving.

Newsletter:
Marjori Sharp

Meetings:
Wyatt's Cafeteria,
Forest Lane &
Marsh Lane

This man and his family were well known in England and France and practically unknown in the United States, as all publicity went to the Wright brothers. A friend of mine who is associated with procuring antique airplanes all over the world for the Smithsonian was aware of Samuel Franklin Cody, who had become a naturalized citizen of England, and of his exploits. S.F. was an inventor, designer, pilot, and participated in early air shows. He was killed in 1913 when his latest invention, the Waterplane, broke apart near Farnborough in England. This constituted one of the earliest fatalities in air history.

Another aside to this story is that he looked like William F. Cody, famed as Buffalo Bill, and Samuel F. liked to dress like Buffalo Bill. They were contemporaries along the way.

UPDATE ON 100 YEARS OF GOLF IN DALLAS:

A group is being formed to publicize the year-long series of events commemorating the beginning of golf in Dallas (1896). Bill Jacoby has told me some "golf tales" and if anyone else has a story, I'll include it in my writeup. Dallas County Pioneers were probably out hitting those little white balls along with the best of them!

CROZIER TECH, one of the many names by which the first high school built in Dallas was known, was declared surplus in February. This, in spite of the fact that every elementary school in the city is using portable buildings and high schools also are overcrowded. The building is in excellent shape and could be used for many purposes, including a school for the proposed downtown housing. With no price posted on the site, I guess it could go for one dollar. Something is wrong here!

SAVE THE TREES! Did you read about the proposal to cut down some of the big trees at Presbyterian Hospital to install air conditioning equipment? I drove by to see the site, then back home to my maps to try to determine who might have planted the ancient trees.

William Jenkins, married to Cynthia Thomas, held the Survey at this site, which is crossed by Jenkins Creek. Jenkins is listed as the third man to hold the title of sheriff in Dallas County, 1848-1850. Phillip and Laura Alice Dotson Offutt married in 1896 and rented the Jenkins farm as they started housekeeping and they lived there for twelve years. Two early possibilities.

If I am off on the location of the farm, will someone please clear all this up? We hope to save the trees if possible because this is a beautiful area with the creek running through it.

There must be another spot for the air conditioning equipment.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK BUILDING: Another of the most beautiful buildings in downtown Dallas has changed hands as the Federal Reserve Bank Building, which was built in 1921, has been replaced with a new facility.

In the narrative for a Texas Historical Marker for the City of Dallas, prepared by Gerald Saxon, I quote: "Dallas' hopes of becoming a banking center were given a boost in 1914 when the City was selected as the site of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District. The Federal Reserve located in Dallas serviced not only Texas, but also Arizona, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and New Mexico. . . The Federal Reserve Bank, then, provided the impetus for Dallas to become a leading center of Finance."

I hope the new owner, Barker-Nichols, a Dallas real estate investment company, realizes what a gem they have.

THE OLD DALLAS CITY HALL: In March there was an article concerning the Dallas Police Department, currently housed in our old City Hall (built in 1912). This was just a repeat of the inadequacies of that building for the Police Department. I wrote to the city manager, all city councilpersons, and Chief Ben Click, agreeing with him that the facilities were probably not adequate, due to neglect on the part of the city to maintain the property for many years. BUT, I wanted them to know not to plan on selling the building or demolishing it!

I received a reply from several councilpersons and Chief Click. He told me that the building is in the Harwood Historical District and probably is safe, along with Hart Furniture Company, Scottish Rite Temple, First Presbyterian Church, and others. (I knew that, as I had worked on that Harwood Historic District when it was formed. I had also made a protest speech in 1987 to the City Council when the old City Hall came up on a list as surplus.)

There are \$5 million in bonds included in the May 6 Bond Election set aside for selecting a new site for the Police and Courts Building. From another source I

have heard that 500 So. Ervay may be the site. This building across Ervay from the current City Hall was "given" to the City last year and may be the location, if it can be correctly remodeled to fit the needs of the Police Department.

500 So. Ervay was the home of Butler Brothers when it was built in 1910. It was designed by **Harry Wild Jones**, a Minneapolis architect, and was one of the largest wholesale establishments in the United States when completed in nine months at a cost of \$1 million. There have been several interior and exterior modifications done to the 600,000 square foot building in the last eighty-five years. Before all the market centers were built on Stemmons Expressway, many of the wholesale clothing and furniture companies had their displays in this building. Some city offices are currently housed in the building.

SOUTHWEST BELL IN DALLAS: Nearly every day there is an article in the newspaper or on the evening news about communication—modems, faxes, all the Baby Bells stock, various long distance companies buying out other companies, and all the advertisements about cellular phones, etc. When the DCPA was originally formed, one hundred and twenty years ago, none of this was even possible. The first telephone in Dallas was not installed until 1879. It was strictly business between the pumphouse at Browder Springs and the firehouse at Harwood and Main.

A.C. Greene had an article a few years ago about these first installations. He said that the first telephone installer was **Daniel M. Clower**, a Civil War telegrapher. One of the first installations was in **John M. Oran's** house to connect with his jewelry store on Elm Street. Another early telephone customer was **John C. McCoy**, (first president of DCPA), who had his telephone installed in the hall of his residence at the corner of Lamar and Commerce.

By 1881 there were forty subscribers who could converse with each other. The telephone poles were cut from trees in the Trinity River lowlands.

ARLINGTON HALL IN LEE PARK: A new non-profit group is being formed of interested citizens to raise funds to restore/remodel Arlington Hall in Lee Park. This group is composed of people who live nearby, the Southern Memorial Association, a Tavern Association, and working with them is the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department. I have been assured that the design plans will protect the historical facade of the building. Of course, until the money is raised, nothing will change and the building does need extensive repairs.

Lee Park is where the early Dallas County Pioneers held many of their annual meetings, and the structure, Arlington Hall, built with WPA funds to specifications copying **Robert E. Lee's** home in Virginia, should be preserved.

BOND ISSUES ALL PASSED MAY 6: White Rock Lake can now be de-silted. The last time was too long ago. Some of the money in the bond program will go to purchase the equipment necessary to accomplish this and will be used to keep the Lake dredged. Where will they dispose of the material dredged out? It is a sort of clay—not good sandy loam, by any means.

After all the problems this last month with flooding of underpasses, ditches overflowing, and the loss of so many lives, surely now that the funds are available many of these areas can find relief. This is one of the items that the Trinity River Corridor Committee has been working on since last August.

As the plans are formulated for implementing the Trinity River Funds, we will be gathering stories of what happened where along the River. Share with me any pictures, maps, deeds records, etc., that will add to the history. If it were not for this river, none of us would probably be descendants of Dallas County Pioneers: there was no other reason to build a community here. Ω

Frances James

GET YOUR NEW ROSTER! *If the wind and the rain kept you from the March meeting of DCPA, you will have another chance to pick up your new Roster at the June meeting.*

MINUTES OF DCPA MEETING, MARCH 2, 1995

The Dallas County Pioneer Association held its regular meeting on Thursday, March 2, at Wyatt's Cafeteria on Marsh and Forest Lanes. There were forty five registered members and one guest, **Miller Noel**.

Pledge of allegiance to the United States flag was made, and **Robyn Bowling** led the group in the pledge to the State of Texas flag.

The meeting was called to order by President **Frances James**, and the following announcements were made:

- **Bill McRae**, Telephone Chairman, thanked the volunteers. We have more than enough, and they will be called upon later for assistance.
- Treasurer **John Winniford** is still accepting dues. If you have not paid, please do so.
- Report was made on the job the Boy Scouts are doing in cleaning many of our pioneer cemeteries.
- We have received many compliments about our newsletter. A special thanks to **Marjori Sharp** for her hard work. Marjori is currently working on a history of the Association. When published, it will definitely become a "keeper".
- We were glad that District Judge **John R. Nelms**, who was instrumental in reviving the DCPA in 1979, attended the meeting.
- The shredding of documents by the County was mentioned. **Carol Roarke** with the Texas/Dallas section of the Dallas Public Library, arranged to have space available for documents in danger of being shredded.
- Member **Mark Mueller** warned of the Texas Legislature's move to gain control of the Alamo from the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. He encouraged each of us to write our representative.

• **Chris Semos** was honored by a press club luncheon. His integrity, honesty, and decency were mentioned. He will be missed on the Commissioners Court.

• **Bill Withers**, a Dallas County Historical Commission volunteer known for going to Dallas schools and presenting a slide show about early Dallas, passed away recently. Bill will be missed.

The Dallas Independent School District has placed the old Dallas High School on its surplus building list and is considering the sale of this magnificent piece of Dallas history. For many years families that lived out of town would send their children to live in town for the week so they could attend Dallas High School. The children would return home for the weekend. Please spread the word to anyone you may know to contact the Board and let their concerns be heard.

Frances recently spoke at a Sons of the Confederacy meeting about the effect the Civil War had on the women and their lives.

The Hillsboro Monument Company in Hillsboro will make stones from surplus granite. This could possibly be a way to mark graves where stones have deteriorated.

Rick Brown spoke about the arrival of DART's new light rail. DART is being very careful to investigate the effects light rail will have on our historical places.

The Trinity River Corridor is going to be a bond issue in the upcoming election. Development of land along the River will be able to make it into the "front yard" for the City of Dallas. Signage along the way giving historical information about the City will be part of the development.

Helen Swint, Historian and Program Chairman, introduced our speaker, Professor **Joseph W. McKnight**, SMU School of Law. His many "hats" have included editor, researcher, teacher, and attorney, among others. His speech focused on the formation and development of early Texas law.

Highlights from his speech include how Texas law actually began in New England and is based on the foundation of laws as a "recollection" of English law. On the frontier, early settlers were not much interested in law because of the lack of commerce, fewer people, and a lesser need for law as a whole.

As law spread westward, individual states adopted different laws from each other and became more regional. Having been under Spanish rule, Texas' laws were, naturally, based on Spanish law. A peculiarity of Spanish law was the lack of those that practice law . . . LAWYERS!

Lawyers came with the pioneers during the 1820s and with Austin's settlers to Texas. **William B. Travis** practiced law and his diary speaks of his practice in San Felipe and Brazoria.

From mid-1820 to 1840, Texas experienced a good deal of vigilante law. Then from 1840 to 1860 the order of the Republic of Texas sets in and vigilante law turns toward political objectives, such as the slavery issue. Indeed, vigilante law can be traced to the early part of the twentieth century. Current laws of Texas have improved vastly from the early days. Ω

Rhonda Morris

HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATIONS

The Pleasant Valley Cemetery will have a Texas Historical Marker dedication at 3 p.m. on May 20. This Cemetery Association has restored the site and marked graves with missing stones. This is the Pleasant Valley in Cedar Hill, on Texas Plumb Road.

The Texas Historical Marker for Reverend **David Myers** has been received and a dedication ceremony will be announced soon. A Marker for Lt. Governor **John M. Crockett** will be placed at his gravesite in the downtown Pioneer Cemetery when it is received this summer. The Marker for the Cochran Chapel Cemetery (**J.H. Cochran**) is now being made at the Southwell Company in San Antonio. All three of these men took part in the fifth annual reunion of the DCPA in 1886, according to a story in *The Dallas Morning News* for July 14, 1886. Ω

FINAL FAREWELLS

We send our sympathy and best wishes to **Virginia M. Stallings**, who recently lost her husband, **Paul**.

Charter member **John F. Nelms** died on April 24 after a long illness. A fourth-generation Dallasite, he was the father of **John R. Nelms**, founding president of the revived DCPA in 1979. Our deepest sympathy to all his family. Ω

Texas declared its independence from Mexico March 1, 1836, and the victory won at the Battle of San Jacinto ushered in the Republic of Texas, April 21, 1836.

Texas was admitted to the Union by the Congress of the United States on December 29, 1845.

EARL CULLUM RECEIVES ANOTHER HONOR

"I am happy to inform you of your selection as a Distinguished Alumnus of North Dallas High School."

This was a letter from the chairman of the Distinguished Alumni Awards Committee which **Earl Cullum** received in March. The letter went on to say, "We feel that your achievements serve as an excellent model to inspire and challenge the youth of today, which is one of the major goals of this program." The award will be in the form of a plaque which will feature a picture of Earl.

The presentation will be at the All-Class Party of the North Dallas High School Alumni Association on Saturday, August 5, at the Harvey Hotel Addison, 14315 Midway Road.

Congratulations to Earl from the DCPA, and thanks for being a role model for the next generation which doesn't come from being an athlete or an entertainer.

In 1988 Earl was inducted into the Military Science "Hall of Honor" at the University of Texas at Arlington. He attended the school when it was the North Texas Agricultural College. Ω

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Susan Kelley and **Manning B. Shannon, III** have joined DCPA, and we are excited to learn that their business is "History Rediscovered: Bringing the Past Back to Life". They also are members of the Dallas Historical Society, Preservation Dallas, Park Cities Historical Society, and Dallas County Heritage Society.

His grandfather, **Manning B. Shannon, Sr.**, who was in the coal/lignite business, was Finance Commissioner for Dallas in 1915. His great grandfather, **Charles F. Carter**, was a cotton broker with a very large house on Ross Avenue at the turn of the century, and he is also descended from the Leachmans, who had the big Leachman's Laundry from the 1880s to the 1950s.

Manning is descended from **Denman Shannon**, who arrived in Dallas in 1875. Susan's roots are in Kentucky, but she is a Texan and a Dallasite now.

They are the parents of almost-two years old **Elizabeth Kelley**, and they live at 3709 Normandy Avenue, 75205, phone 522-7377.

Our other new member is **James H. Cumby**, and we will tell you about him when we receive his biographical data. He lives at 1027 So. Belt Line Road, Mesquite 75149. Ω

SICK BAY

"Walking Wounded" who are recovering:

Mary Elizabeth Halford
 Florence Schulz
 Gerard Dickinson
 Sara McGee
 Marie McMahan Ω

Sara McGee

In the Radio Digest of May 17, 1924: "Headliner of the Week" with a big picture, was Epps G. Knight: 'For fifteen years president of the Dallas County Pioneer Association, is that wonderful storyteller who is heard for twenty minutes once a week from WFAA, Dallas, Texas.'

CHANGES TO THE ROSTER**New Addresses:**

Sylvia & John R. Nelms
 6510 Embers Road
 Dallas 75248 same phone

Opal Nicholls
 4835 W. Lawther Dr., Apt. 604
 Dallas 75214 same phone

Nancy Whatley
 7522 Campbell Rd., Ste. 113
 Dallas 75248 Phone 307-7543
 (This is temporary - just pencil it in)

Victoria Duncan has the same address, but change the apartment to #1926.

New Members:

Susan & Manning B. Shannon, III
 3709 Normandy Ave.
 Dallas 75205 Phone 522-7377

James H. Cumby
 1027 So. Belt Line Road
 Mesquite 75149 Ω

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE BRYAN CABIN

Pat Randolph spotted this one. In an article about the humongous job of moving and setting up the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, **Leszek Otto**, circus manager, was being interviewed. Pat forwarded the article with a note: "The final paragraph is so 'special', it may belong in the next newsletter". And we agree.

About his seventh trip to Dallas, Mr. Otto says:

"It has one of the best skylines. Between all these buildings, there's a little log cabin downtown. I've never seen anything like it. There's just a little house down there."

Pat reads like a writer, which she is. Ω

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE COMPLETE

Telephone Chairman **Bill McRae** is overwhelmed with the response he had to his call for help in filling the Telephone Committee. He filled all slots and has alternates waiting in the wings. Assignments are:

Mary Nancy Bowen	Adams through	Bowen
Louise Buhner	Bowling	" Carmichael
Sandra Neal	Carnes	" Dealey
Faye Evans	Deis	" Frank
Martha Henderson	Gilbert	" Henderson
Doris Barnes	Hibbard	" Alfred Jackson
Rhonda Morris	John Jackson	" Lagow
Nita Butler	Landrum	" McGee
Ray Story	McMahan	" Mueller
Brenda Dorward	Neal	" Linda Rogers
Marjorie Simpson	Mary Rogers	" Skiles
Gerard Dickinson	Skipworth	" Thompson
Shannon Bowling	Troutman	" Wright
Ann Gracy Williams	ALTERNATE	

(You might make the call if you know ahead that you won't be able to make the meeting.) **Ω**

Lots of activity at Penn Farm in Cedar Hill State Park. Next is the Membership Breakfast Saturday, June 10, at 10 a.m. Call Judy at 296-9157 or DeAnn at 299-2526 and let them know you are coming so they won't have to water the gravy.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP #769
CONTINUES GOOD DEEDS**

The Irving Boy Scout Troop #769 did a wonderful job cleaning up the Gardin (Smith Hall) Cemetery over Easter weekend. They finished up what the nearby homeowners group started several years ago. Their scoutmaster is **Randy Graham**.

You could tell how successful the cleanup was if you could have seen the large pile of trash, limbs, and debris piled along Northwest Highway waiting for the Sanitation Department pickup. This Troop has really done a great job cleaning up our pioneer cemeteries.

At the back of this Cemetery down toward the creek there is a cemetery for blacks. They say this land was given to them by **John Cochran**, to use as a "burial ground". It is very overgrown, with few markers left.

John Cochran was present at the very first meeting of the DCPA in 1879.

This settlement was known as Elm Thicket. It is in the vicinity of Northwest Highway and Inwood Road, past Cochran Chapel Church. **Ω**

Frances James

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

Earl Cullum was asked to write a review of the efforts of the City of Dallas to make the Trinity River navigable, for the history of the DCPA now in the making. We can't use his whole digest in the history, but it is too good to not share all of it with you.

Job Boat #1 and the H.A. Harvey, Jr.

The century-long dream of an inland seaport on the Trinity River at Dallas is detailed in a chapter of *The WPA Dallas Guide and History*, compiled in 1942 and published in 1992 by the Dallas Public Library. On the second page of this beautiful 450-page volume is a picture of John Neely Bryan and his young wife Margaret Beeman Bryan, she with her wedding ring proudly displayed on her right hand! Thus the reversed photograph sets the tone for the book's chapter, "Trinity Navigation: Eyes Toward the Sea".

It begins with W.S. Peters promoting his early colony, advertising Dallas as an "inland port". Then in 1849 a Trinity Improvement Convention was held at Huntsville, with Bryan present. In 1852 Dallas merchant John W. Smith built flatboat "Dallas", loaded it with twenty bales of cotton, and sailed south on the Trinity. Four months later the boat was forty miles away at Porter's Bluff, where the cotton was transferred to wagons for the remainder of the trip to Houston. Then later, the "Dallas" hit a snag and sank. Thus began efforts to navigate the Trinity.

In 1853 an engineer reported to Congress that the Trinity was the deepest and least-obstructed river in Texas. In 1854 the "Mary Clifton" came upriver from Galveston to Porter's Bluff, but not to Dallas. Then, following the Civil War, in 1868, "Job Boat Number 1" came upriver from Galveston to Dallas, clearing snags along the way and taking a year for the trip. Captain James McGarvey was feted at Dallas, and

then returned to Galveston. His boat never got back to Dallas. It sank near Porter's Bluff.

Also in 1868 the Dallas-built "Sallie Haynes" sailed the Trinity, but only forty miles south to Magnolia, where it struck a snag and sank. In 1871 the "Trinity River Navigation Company" was incorporated, and saw the river channel cleared from Dallas to Magnolia. (I have in my files a copy of a stock certificate of this company made out to "Gillespie and Cullum".) Then the railroad came to Dallas in 1872, and the river dream faded. In the 1880s several attempts were made in the Texas legislature to make the Trinity navigable, but these died aborning.

In 1890 the "Trinity River Navigation and Improvement Company" was founded and asked Congress for a half-million dollars to open the Trinity to the Gulf. This company also built the snag-boat "Dallas", which was used to haul cordwood. Then the company bought the steamboat "H.A. Harvey, Jr.", which made one trip to Dallas in 1893, then departed forever. And the "Dallas" was dismantled.

Thus, two round-trips between Dallas and the Gulf were completed, twenty-five years apart. In 1899 Congress allotted \$7,000 for a Trinity Survey, and Col. Robert E. Cowart served as a Trinity River lobbyist in Washington. In 1902 Congress appropriated \$400,000 and in later years spent several million dollars for Trinity locks and dams downriver from Dallas. In 1904 a Congressional Commission made a trip on the "Frank P. Holland" to see the Trinity closeup. Then in 1905 Dallas citizens donated \$66,000 for a dam at Parson's Slough, twenty-six miles south of Dallas. Nine locks were built, but World War I ended that effort.

New Trinity navigation companies existed from 1916, but were abandoned in 1921. In 1930 the "Trinity River Canal Assn." came into being, and was later called the "Trinity Improvement Assn.". In 1934 Col. E. H. Marks used a WPA grant to survey the River, and in 1939 a \$400,000 federal study was completed. Now, more than fifty years later, Dallas is a hub for air, rail, and highway traffic, and for water flowing down the Trinity River. Ω

MORE ON DALLAS STREETS **FROM A.C. GREENE**

In our last newsletter we had two articles by our Dallas historian, A.C. Greene, about the naming of the City of Dallas streets. Here is another, from *The Dallas Morning News*, on how they got like they are.

Dallas streets slant, thanks to surveyor

Warren Angus Ferris is to blame for the many Dallas streets that run at a northeast-southwest slant downtown and on the east side of the city.

As official surveyor of Nacogdoches County (modern Dallas County east of the Trinity River was its extreme western part), he not only made the first survey in what became Dallas County, but he also surveyed almost all of the present-day Dallas east of the river in 1840-41, before John Neely Bryan, the town founder, arrived.

As access to water was of paramount importance then, Mr. Ferris' initial surveys followed creeks—White Rock, Duck Creek and South Mesquite Creek—all of which run diagonally to the north-south lines of the modern city and county. Many early roads followed those survey lines and became today's thoroughfares, still reflecting Ferris' 45-degree angle.

The only portion of downtown Dallas not surveyed by Mr. Ferris was Mr. Bryan's original townsite. Even here the northeast corner of the Bryan Survey from Ervay and Live Oak to Lamar and McKinney was chopped off when it was discovered that the Grisby League, also surveyed by W.A. Ferris, overlaid 80 acres of Mr. Bryan's claim.

Warren Angus Ferris was one of the fur-trading mountain men of the 1830s, and his memoir of that career, *Life in the Rocky Mountains*, remains an important part of Old West history. These memoirs appeared as a series in the old *Dallas Herald* [Dallas' first newspaper]. He also made extensive notes and wrote letters about the Three Forks country and some of the area's early figures, including John Neely Bryan.

Mr. Ferris, a native of Buffalo, N.Y., came to Texas at the behest of his brother, Charles Ferris, in 1836. He was once hired to lay out a city named Warwick almost exactly where Dallas is located, but a severe drought made it impossible for him and his crew to locate the forks of the Trinity River.

Mr. Ferris moved to Dallas County in 1844, taking up a claim of 640 acres between Garland Road, Lakeland Boulevard and Ferguson Road. In 1850, he established the boundaries of Dallas County, except for a portion of a line with Denton County that remained in dispute for more than 130 years because the Denton County surveyor failed to meet Mr. Ferris at an appointed place and time.

Mr. Ferris' Dallas farmhouse was located 200 yards east of St. Francis Drive and Garland Road. He fathered 12 children before his death in 1873. (Ferris Plaza, in downtown, is not named for him, however. His grave, in a small cemetery near his home, was reportedly paved over as part of a parking lot or tennis court.) Ω

EARL'S PEARLS

(from Earl Cullum's Archives)

In 1917 the Dallas Chamber of Commerce acquired 650 acres south of Bachman Lake, and the U.S. Army Signal Corps created an airfield there as a World War I training facility. A name was needed, and the Army chose that of Lt. **Moss Love**, a young Army flyer unknown in Dallas, but who had recently been killed in an air crash in California. At war's end in 1918 Love Field was used as a civilian flying school. Then in 1926 National Air Transport began flying air mail daily from Love Field to Chicago. Passenger service began in 1927. Then the City of Dallas bought the Field from the Chamber of Commerce for \$432,000.

In September 1927 a large crowd gathered at Love Field to see Col. **Charles A. Lindberg** and his "Spirit of St. Louis", following his solo nonstop flight to Paris. Dallas High School ROTC cadets were on duty to control the Love Field crowds. Among them was young ROTC Private **Earl O. Cullum** of North Dallas High School. Ω

ALMOST ONE-LINERS

We want to tout another author among us: **Graham Landrum** has a new book just off the press, *The Sensational Music Club Mystery*. Among his others are *The Famous DAR Murder Mystery* and *The Rotary Club Murder Mystery*. Graham lives in Bristol, Tennessee. Ω

If you don't know where to toss it, pitch it in, recycle it—call **Rodney and Brenda Love**, 337-2925. They will pick up your old newspapers and stuff. Do your part to keep it circulating, not taking up more landfill space. Ω

"Friends of the Dallas Public Library", supporting the Dallas Public Library since 1950, want you. Call 670-1458 for a brochure detailing what they do and what you can do, and an application for membership. Ω

Hopefully, you will get this in time to attend **Christine Kallstrom's** celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of her Mid-Cities Learning Center in Grand Prairie. On Sunday, May 21, the students will present her "La Reunion" drama, "Back Into the Future". Call her, 817/283-1771, for details. We missed her "Bird's Fort Day" on May 14. Ω

This is the 150th birthday year of the State of Texas.

This is the 120th birthday year of the Dallas County Pioneer Association.

The DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION is dedicated to preserving the history of Dallas County and those who settled here before 1880. Anyone interested may apply for membership regardless of when their ancestors came here.

Membership dues are: Individual, \$10 initiation fee and \$15 per year, or \$150 for a Life Membership; and Couple, \$15 initiation fee and \$25 per year, or \$250 Life Membership. If interested, please contact: Membership Chairman, Dallas County Pioneer Association, P.O. Box 12496, Dallas, TX 75225-0496 for brochure and member application.

The organization meets for dinner and a program at 6:00 p.m. the first Thursday of each March, June, September, and December. Currently these quarterly meetings are held at Wyatt's Cafeteria, Forest Lane and Marsh Lane in Dallas.

Visitors are always welcome. Meeting room opens at 5:30 p.m. for dining and fellowship. Program starts promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Dallas County Pioneer Association



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



M/M William D. McRae
3500 Dartmouth
Dallas, TX 75205-3237