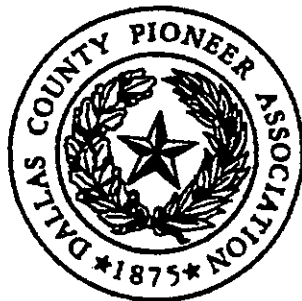




Dallas County Pioneer Association

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

FALL 1996

President:
Nancy McRae

PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER 5, 1996

Vice-President:
William D. McRae

"A City Hall intern has preserved the voices of Addison's past as part of a research project on the city's 150-year history."

Secretary:
Rhonda Morris

This is the opening paragraph of a story in *The Dallas Morning News* about the speaker for our fall program, Andy Eads.

Treasurer:
John Winniford

Andy, who is working toward his master's degree in public administration at the University of North Texas, was asked by City Manager **Ron Whitehead** to go find the history of Addison. His project is the first official recording of the City's history, other than minutes kept of government meetings. He has researched school and family records, searching out the community's origins, but he began by tape-recording interviews with oldtimers.

Historian:
Helen Swint

This "preserving the voices of Addison's past" was the result of an experience he had when he was in the third grade. His grandmother gave him a tape recorder and he put it to immediate use that evening when she and her sisters were reminiscing about their youth. When his grandmother died a month later, Andy had an hour's worth of three or four generations of family history. He early learned the importance of preserving oral history through taped interviews.

Program Chair:
Helen Swint

Membership Chair:
William D. McRae

Ask Andy (age 25) about his "good old buddy", **Lucile Goodman** (age 100), who lives in a Richardson nursing home and who Andy got to know well. She began teaching at the Addison Elementary School in 1920, when the town was a community of only a few hundred where everyone knew each other. She told him about growing up in Dallas County and in Missouri, where she knew "cousin Harry" Truman, her mother's first cousin.

Telephone Chair:
Faye Evans

Newsletter:
Marjori Sharp

We will see you at Wyatt's Cafeteria, Marsh Lane at Forest Lane (our home away from home), about 6:00 on Thursday, September 5. You won't want to miss this program on another part of our community celebrating a sesquicentennial.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our immediate past president has been busy making a name for herself—and providing a great deal of publicity for our organization.

In his May 5 column in *The Dallas Morning News*, **Frank Trejo** wrote of **Frances James'** participation in getting an historical designation for Trinity Farms-Rancho Grande Cemetery.

In *The Dallas Morning News* "Today" section of June 26, Frances was featured in a two-page spread as the "Cemetery Lady", citing her fifteen-year stint in researching dozens of graveyards and, when possible, helping secure historic markers, organizing groups to spruce up those in disrepair, and fighting developers who wanted to build over them. Frances was also recognized in the *County Chronicle*, newsletter of the Dallas Historical Commission regarding this article.

The Larry Powell column in *The News* of June 27 announced the dedication of the **John McClannahan Crockett** Texas Historical Grave Marker. Frances secured this Marker and participated in the dedication on June 29.

She was also interviewed by *The News* when the Hord cabin was moved, giving background information on it.

From all of this publicity Frances received about seventy-five telephone calls from all around the country and some fifteen or twenty letters which she is still answering. In fact, she receives calls all the time, not only about cemeteries, but also about historical buildings and sites.

In all of these interviews Frances never hesitates to identify herself as past president of the Dallas County Pioneer Association which, of course, generates a good deal of publicity for our organization.

BRAVOS, KUDOS, and many thanks to Frances James! Ω

Nancy McRae

MINUTES OF MEETING JUNE 6, 1996

The quarterly meeting of the DCPA was held on Thursday, June 6, at Oak Corner Building of the Center for Community Cooperation (Meadows Foundation) at the corner of Live Oak and Oak Streets in Dallas. Prior to the formal meeting a catered dinner was enjoyed by sixty-five persons. The meal was furnished by Twelve Oaks Catering and the drinks by CCC, at a cost of \$6 per person.

President **Nancy McRae**, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Col. **Earl O. Cullum** gave the invocation. **Jennifer** and **Tommy Vilbig**, children of **David Vilbig**, led pledge of allegiance to the United States and the Texas flags.

Corrections or additions to the two previous quarterly meeting Minutes that were published in our Newsletter were called for, and there being none, the Minutes stood approved.

Bill McRae, vice-president and membership chair, reported five new or renewed members since the last meeting. These are: **Charles Campbell** (renewed), **Joan M. Davis Picard**, **James A. Prugel**, **Dick Dixon**, and **Jennifer Vilbig**. He also noted the death of four members: **Totsy Letot**, **Virginia Stallings**, **Polly Ann Wright**, and **Aleene Jackson**. Former president but not a current member, **Lloyd Miller**, also died during the reporting period.

Recognition of the current telephone committee under the leadership of Chair **Faye Evans** was made by President McRae. These include **Glenda** and **Robert Cammack**, **Louise Buhner**, **Sandra Neal**, **Susan Cargile**, **Doris Barnes**, **Rhonda Morris**, **Sara McGee**, **Bernie Coffey**, **Marjorie Simpson**, **Gerard Dickinson**, and **Carolyn Selzer**.

Special recognition was given **Mae Riek** in honor of her ninety-eighth birthday.

Six past presidents of DCPA were seated at a special

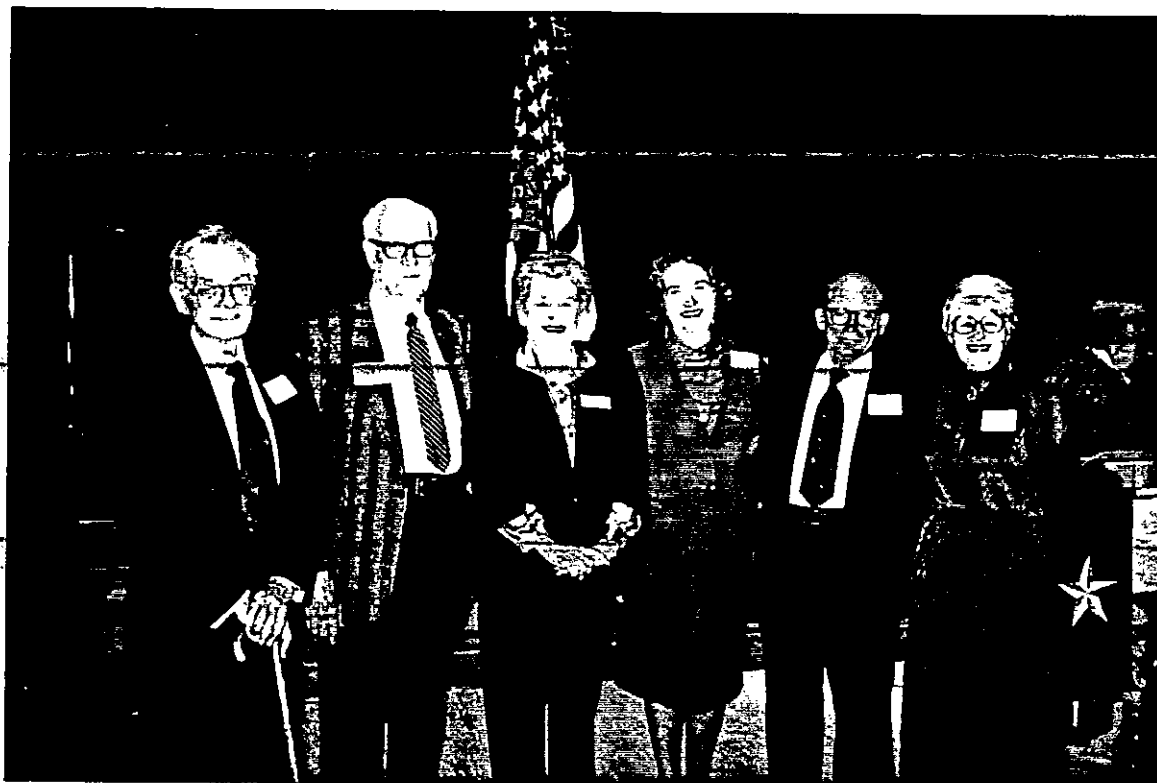
table for the evening and were presented to the gathering by President McRae. They were Dr. **William D. Baird**, **Earl O. Cullum**, **Mattie Hughes**, **Bill Jacoby**, **Frances James**, and **Sara McGee**.

Frances James, immediate past president, reported on historic happenings around the County and then introduced **Steve Ogden** of the Texas Cultural Partnership, who gave a short talk on attempts to eliminate ethnic days at the State Fair of Texas. His group of mostly Germans, Czechs, and Norwegians have put on special programs of their ethnic cultures for fifty years, and they solicited DCPA support for continuation of the events.

Historian **Helen Swint** introduced the speaker for the evening, **Charles Tucker** of the Texas Department of Transportation. He talked about proposed or planned projects and described the tedious bureaucratic processes required in designing, funding, and building highways in the metropolitan area and suggested ways the citizen could influence or speed the process. He was accompanied by **Stan Hall**, also from Texas DOT.

Following several brief announcements, President McRae adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m. with, "God be with you 'til we meet again." Ω

W.D. McRae, for the secretary



Past Presidents of DCPA

Bill Jacoby, Earl O. Cullum, Sara McGee, Mattie Hughes, William Baird, Frances James

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Some of us met **A. Eugene Gaddy** at the dedication of the **John Crockett** Texas Historical Grave Marker at the Pioneer Cemetery in June. A distant descendent of Crockett, he brought his family for the ceremony and visited with some of us. We think we have a future good story here for you: Gene is really into Dallas history.

Eugene is descended from **Francis Brockman** and **Anthony M. Leake**, who came to Dallas County in 1845. Their daughter, **Elvira**, came with them and in 1848 she married **John Cooper Cook**, who also came to the County in 1845. Elvira and John's son, **Marion Jasper**, born in 1856, married **Bertie Simmons**, and they apparently lived in Limestone County. Their daughter **Lila** married **Ansel Enoch Gaddy** and they became the parents of **Archie Eugene Gaddy, Sr.**, who married **Mary Virginia Hanna**, who was born in Wise County. They were the parents of Eugene, who married **Sheryl Metters**.

Sheryl and Eugene live at 6917 Waggoner Place, 75230, and their phone number is 341-7239.

Dick Dixon also has an interest in history and genealogy, evidenced by his membership in several genealogical societies. His first ancestors in Dallas County were **Helena Theobald** and **Constance Riek**, who came in 1875 from Herman, Missouri. Helena was born in Germany and Constance in Prussia.

Their daughter, **Julia**, married **Charles J. Cutler**, who came from Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the daughter of this marriage, **Barbara May**, married **Clarence Dixon**. They were the parents of Dick. All three generations are buried in cemeteries in Dallas.

Dick's address is 1204 Baxter Drive in Plano, 75025, and his telephone number is 517-0533. Ω

In 1846 Dallas County had four towns: Dallas, Farmers Branch, Cedar Springs, and Hord's Ridge (Oak Cliff).

METRO PAST

July 30, 1921

Early history of Texas was told at the meeting of the Boneheads yesterday at the Oriental Hotel. Several of the older Boneheads who claimed they were still young brought back reminiscences of the time before the Civil War. . . . **Epps G. Knight** gave his opinion of the greatness of these pioneers of Texas, saying that they were not self-made men, but God-made, as such virtues as they had were not acquired.

From *The Dallas Morning News*, July 30, 1996.

FINAL FAREWELLS

Mattie Hughes lost her sister on May 7 and we did not know about it until May 30, after the summer newsletter had gone out.

Charles W. Vanzant, husband of **Linda Frank** and cousin of **Rayburn Williams**, both of whom are DCPA members, passed away on May 23 in Richardson. Born in Ryan, Oklahoma, Charles was buried in the Ryan Cemetery.

Linda Lee Simpson, a long-time member of DCPA died on July 1. She was the wife of **Edward Simpson** and daughter-in-law of **Marjorie Jane Simpson**, also DCPA members. She was buried in Restland Memorial Park. Marjorie Jane replied to my sympathy card from the DCPA with a touching note about her closeness to Linda and about Edward's grief.

Mary Alice Dealey lost her great granddaughter, **Victoria Davis**, in an accident at home on July 5. Mackie is very close to all of her children and their families and is feeling this loss deeply.

Julie Savannah Florence, a very dear first cousin of our member **Florence Schulz**, died on July 16.

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to each of these members. Ω

Sara McGee

SICK BAY

We sent get-well cards to **Mattie Hughes** who has been ailing with something like the flu, and to **Margorie Jane Simpson**, who is recovering from a sprained foot. We hope that they are fully recovered, and that everyone else is well. Ω Sara McGee

EARLY DALLAS COUNTY

by Earl O. Cullum

Notes primarily from John Henry Brown's *History of Dallas County* (1887, price 25 cents), condensed by EOC, 1996.

1837 - Lt. Van Benthuyzen with twenty men were attacked by Indians on November 10 in what would become Wise County. Nine were killed, several wounded, and their horses were stolen. They made their way on foot to a creek they called "Turtle", where it entered the Trinity River, and on to a bluff that would become "Dallas". They rested a few days, then continued on foot, back to LaGrange.

1840 - Colonel William G. Cooke and his party laid out a road from Austin to the Red River, and this was later a "National Highway". It crossed the Trinity River at what would become "Dallas".

1841 - John Neely Bryan came from Tennessee in November, in buckskins and with a flintlock rifle. He staked his claim on a bluff overlooking the Trinity River, then returned to Tennessee to finish up there. About this time the Republic of Texas government issued a land grant for a colony named "Peters" in North Texas.

1842 - Bryan came again, this time to stay. He planned to trade with the Caddo Indians along the Trinity, but the Texas army was driving them north, so Bryan decided to create a town at the river crossing at his bluff. He could not do it alone. He needed people.

Bryan visited Bird's Fort to the west and invited Captain Mabel Gilbert to come. The Gilberts came down the Trinity and Gilbert's wife, Charity, was the first white woman in the County. John Beeman also

came and settled his family nearby; others came and settled to the north, on a branch called "Farmers".

Beeman had a seventeen-year-old daughter, Margaret, who quickly caught Bryan's eye. They went to Fort English and were married and Bryan built a cabin for her. Both Bryan and Beeman built protective stockades around their cabins, and Beeman raised the first crop (corn) in Dallas County.

1843 - Dr. John A. Cole came from Arkansas and settled near Cedar Springs, several miles north of Dallas. William G. Cochran settled further north at what would become Farmers Branch, and Joe Dallas came from Arkansas and settled at Cedar Springs.

1844 - The first sermon in Dallas County was preached in March at Farmers Branch by a passing Methodist minister; later these worshippers organized the first church in Dallas County. Meantime, John N. Bryan received authorization to establish a post office, which he named "Dallas", probably for his friend Joe Dallas at Cedar Springs.

J.P. Dumas laid out the Dallas townsite eight blocks square. It was bounded by Water Street (later Triple Underpass site), Poydras, Columbia (later Young Street), and Calhoun (later Ross Avenue).

1845 - William H. Hord arrived and settled west of the Trinity River (now Oak Cliff). John C. McCoy came from Louisville, the first practicing lawyer in Dallas County. He expected to sail up the Trinity River, and later he said he was the first to "navigate the River on foot". Dallas voted 29-3 for Texas' annexation to the United States, and a Cedar Springs trader swapped ammunition and groceries for buffalo hides.

1846 - The new Texas State Legislature created Dallas County on March 20. Bryan donated a city block for the courthouse square, and a 10x10-foot log courthouse was built.

The first school in the County was at today's Dealey Plaza. Rev. Orin Hatch organized the first Methodist Mission in the town called Dallas. The first Dallas

store was Patterson & Smith, a log structure with \$700 in merchandise hauled by ox-wagon from Shreveport, a forty-day trek. The first hotel was the "Dallas Inn", operated by James B. Bryan (brother of the founder). The first cotton crop in the County was raised by William M. Cochran at Farmers Branch.

The Dallas tax rate was set at 5 cents per \$100 valuation. Bryan and William Baker operated "Bryan's Ferry" over the Trinity. It was built of cottonwood logs and used buffalo-hair rope. Fees were 10 cents a person, twenty cents for horse and rider, and \$1.25 for a two-horse vehicle.

The U.S. declared war on Mexico on May 13.

1847 - A military company was formed at Dallas for Mexican War service, to be part of the "2nd Texas Rangers". Mexico City fell to U.S. troops in September, but the war would not end officially until February 1848. Quarterhorse races were held at a track at Cedar Springs.

1848 - John N. Bryan sold gunpowder, lead, tobacco, and whiskey. Henry Harter's "Dallas Tavern" held a gala Christmas party.

1849 - Thousands of "wheat birds" descended on Dallas and destroyed the wheat crop. The Presbyterian Church had the first piano in Dallas.

1850 - The U.S. Census listed 2,743 persons in Dallas County, and 430 in the town of Dallas. County residents voted to keep Dallas the county seat, despite efforts by Cedar Springs and Hord's Ridge to change it. The "Cedar Snag", with D.W. Latimer as editor, became *The Dallas Herald*. Ω

NOMINATIONS DUE FOR DCHC AWARDS

It will be an "Awards Banquet" this year, not an "Awards Luncheon", and the Dallas County Historical Commission has set their Sesquicentennial Awards Banquet for Thursday, November 21 at historic Union Station.

The Commission is soliciting nominations for outstanding service to the history of Dallas County for awards to be presented at the Banquet. Nomination forms can be had from **Rick Loessberg** who is Coordinator for Planning and Development for the Commissioners Court. That address is 411 Elm Street, Dallas 75201, telephone 653-7601.

Nominations can be made for an individual, family, organization, business, church, etc. Recognition is aimed at those making contributions toward preserving and supporting Dallas County history, architecture, or culture, especially in the last two years since the 1994 Awards Luncheon.

Start thinking about your nominations from this organization and from all other groups in which you participate and send one or a dozen to the Commission. And plan to attend the Banquet—the only fundraising event of the DCHC. Ω

We need an A.C. Greene fix regularly, and this one from The Dallas Morning News, "Texas Sketches", June 9, 1996, fits beautifully for this time of year, especially with the opening of DART.

Union Station regains its status with DART Beautiful Dallas building turns 80 in October

In October of this year the Dallas Union Station (or depot) will celebrate its 80th anniversary. With the opening of the DART light-rail lines, with Union Station as the downtown terminal, the beautiful old building regains its status as surface transportation hub of Dallas.

Built from 1914 to 1916, the complete terminal project (including land and adjoining facilities) cost \$6,500.00. When Union Station opened in 1916 it provided passenger facilities for the eight railroads entering Dallas, then a city of some 140,000 inhabitants. These railroads participated in the cost of the new station, which replaced five other passenger stations.

The new station was considered "of attractive design" by *Railway Age Gazette* at the time of its opening. The exterior walls have a Vermont granite

base 6 feet high on the front face. Above this base the exterior faces on all four sides of the building are of Tiffany white combed enameled brick and terra cotta. (This supposedly absorbs the glare.) The structure is supported on concrete foundations extending an average depth of 28 feet. The front of the station is set off by a loggia along the second floor, with massive pillars.

The station site was occupied by buildings which had to be wrecked, including one four-story and several three-story warehouses, a 750,000-bushel grain elevator and a five-story flour mill. A portion of the land along the Trinity River, then lying west of the station, had to be ceded to the city for wharf purposes.

Just across Houston Street lay Ferris Plaza where Texas Electric and Northern Texas Traction interurbans, as well as the Dallas-Oak Cliff streetcars, had a small station to pick up and discharge passengers. Participating railroads included the Missouri, Kansas & Texas (the MKT or Katy); the Texas & Pacific; the Trinity & Brazos Valley; St. Louis Southwestern (Cotton Belt); Chicago, Rock Island & Gulf (The Rock Island Line); St. Louis, San Francisco & Texas (The Frisco Line); Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe; Texas & New Orleans and Houston & Texas Central (both Southern Pacific).

At the time Union Station opened, about 80 passenger trains arrived and departed Dallas per day, but peak use was during World War II. Except for Amtrak, passenger service for Dallas has been gone since 1969. Ω

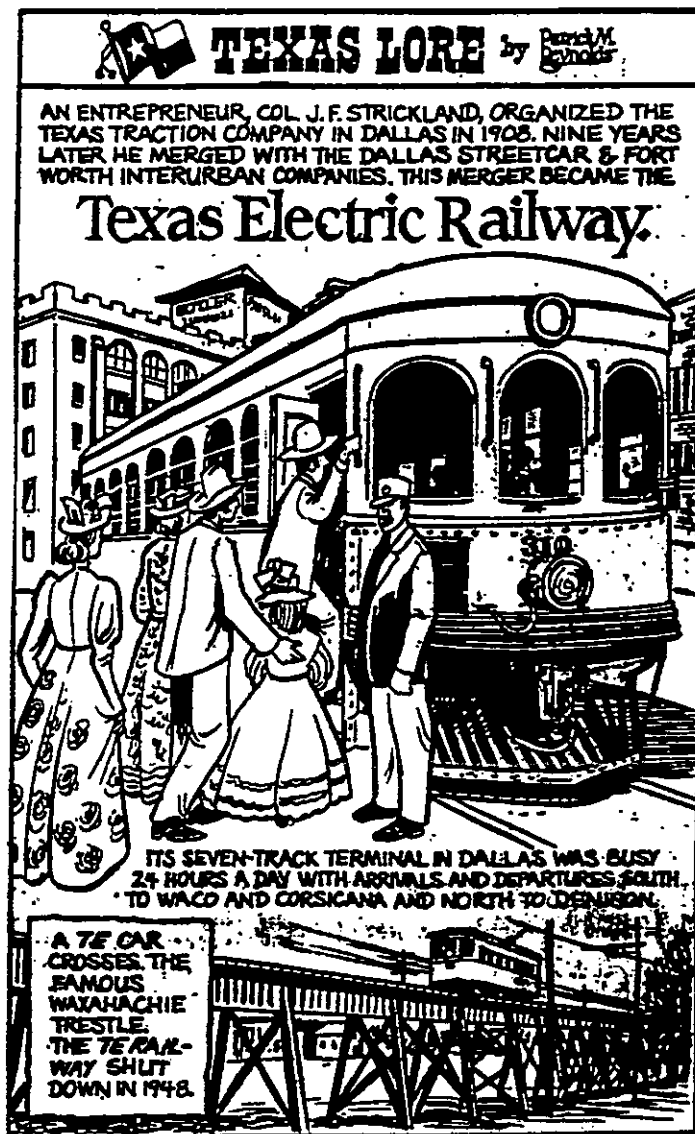
Postscript

Two of the most influential Dallas service clubs moved their offices and weekly meetings to historic Union Station in the spring of 1982, and have remained there since:

The Rotary Club of Dallas was organized in 1911 and today has a membership of nearly five hundred business and professional men and women.

The Dallas Salesmanship Club was organized in 1920 and today has a membership of over five hundred Dallas leaders. Ω

With the opening of DART, we seem to have come full circle, according to the following reprint from The Dallas Morning News:



"The Railroads and the West" —a Conference

Fort Worth and Arlington, Texas
September 26-28
Ramada Hotel
1701 Commerce Street
Fort Worth

Sponsored by The University of Texas
at Arlington
and
The Lexington Group in Transportation
History

THANKS TO DCPA
FROM 150th COMMITTEE

Friday, May 24, 1996

Mrs. William D. McRae, President
 Dallas County Pioneer Association

Dear Nancy:

The Dallas County Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee extends our genuine gratitude to you and the members of the Dallas County Pioneer Association for your wonderful cooperation and most generous financial support of \$500.00 for the observance of the anniversary of the founding of Dallas County.

Please express our appreciation to your members for the handsome exhibit which you had in the Old Red Courthouse. We heard so many compliments on it and on your two entries in the parade.

Nancy, thank you too, for calling your members and urging them to attend. We were absolutely thrilled with the numbers of descendants of pioneer families who were in attendance!

The Dallas County Pioneer Association deserves stars in your crown for the many ways you contributed to the success of Dallas County's 150th anniversary! We send you our praise, admiration, and high regard.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

Lindalyn Adams, Opening Celebration Chairman
Helen Jankowski, Historical Organizations Chairman
Dorothy Garland, Booth Chairman
Marjori Sharp, Archives Chairman

Lindalyn enclosed the following, and we would appreciate *your* participation, too:

We need your cooperation for one more thing:

We need your help in preserving all this for posterity.
 We want the Dallas County Bicentennial Committee

to look at our Archives and wish they had us here to direct them. So, please gather all your memorabilia on this great occasion and get it to us for our Scrapbook and Archives. Send us copies of all publications of your group and any others you have collected (don't assume that someone else has kept it for us), photographs, souvenirs, ribbons, and decorations—anything you have that says, in any way, Dallas County Sesquicentennial. If any item is continued on the reverse side, we will appreciate two copies. Your photographs: write on the back who, what, where, when (and any pithy comments you'd like to preserve)—in pencil, or on post-its; ink, through the years, will come through to the face of the picture.

Send it all to **Marjori Sharp**
 4544 Harry's Lane
 Dallas, TX 75229 ☺

METRO PAST

from *The Dallas Morning News* Files

June 14, 1971 North Texas cattlemen, dairymen and farmers are trapped in a drought that could force some out of business unless needed rain comes soon. Only 10.96 inches of moisture has fallen in Dallas since November leaving the area with a drought that is beginning to take its toll. Normal rainfall for the 8-month period is 25.16 inches.

From *The Dallas Morning News*, June 14, 1996.
 (History sure does repeat!)

PIONEER JOHN CROCKETT THC MARKER
DEDICATED

Ceremonies for the Texas Historical Grave Marker for **John McClannahan Crockett** were held on June 29 at the Pioneer Cemetery in downtown Dallas. **Frances James**, immediate past president of the DCPA, formally recognized guests and conducted a walking tour of the Cemetery following the ceremonies. Several members of DCPA, including President **Nancy McRae**, attended.

Larry Powell, columnist for *The Dallas Morning News*, has written about the Crockett marker (and

Frances, and DCPA), twice recently:

"March 15, 1995: HISTORICAL UPDATE—

There's progress at Pioneer Cemetery, says Frances James, president of the Dallas County Pioneer Association. We refer to the authentic graveyard near the faux longhorns of Pioneer Plaza, close to the Dallas Convention Center.

"Through the years, many pioneer grave markers fell victim to aging. Some fell victim to Dallas' naturally occurring pests—free-roaming, good-for-nothing vandals.

"The association 'decided that we could afford to pay for repair for a few of the stones,' writes Frances, 'so the cemetery is now back in good shape again, waiting for tourists to wander through as they come to the convention center.'

"The pioneer association is awaiting arrival of a special marker from the Texas Historical Commission. It will be placed at the grave of John Crockett (1816-1871), Texas' lieutenant governor during the Civil War and a Dallas mayor. Frances says she'll let us know when the dedication is scheduled."

And she did. June 27, 1996:

"Keeper-of-the-past Frances James writes that a Dallas County Pioneer Association project is just about complete because 'the day has finally arrived for the dedication of a Texas historical grave marker for John McClannahan Crockett at the site of his grave on the north side of Pioneer Park Cemetery.'...

"Historian Darwin Payne will emcee the dedication at 2 p.m. Saturday. The White Rock Rotary Club and the Erhard M. Bruhns Foundation funded the marker, says Frances. (Mr. Bruhns, a Dallas banker who died at 100 in 1992, was a charter member of that Rotary Club.)

"Mr. Crockett (*no* kin to Davy) served as mayor of Dallas and during the Civil War was lieutenant governor of Texas. He also was an early officer in the Dallas County Pioneer Association—that group was organized in 1875. His sister, Mary Jane Hord, had settled in Dallas in 1846.

"Our *Dallas Morning News* historical columnist A.C. Greene noted in a February profile that Mr.

Crockett came to town in 1848 and wrote he found a Dallas that 'contained 39 souls, half a dozen cabins as dwellings, a dramshop [which served alcohol], an open-air ten-pin alley and a double log tavern where...[we] took boarding.'" Ω

DUNAGIN'S PEOPLE 3-2-96



"Better let me drive. You just ordered two cheeseburgers from a historic marker."

NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY

by Frances James

I believe even the media is tired of all the bad news that is generated every day, because there has been a flurry of events concerning Dallas County history that did get reported!

Dedication of the John Crockett Texas Historical Grave Marker at the Pioneer Cemetery near the downtown Convention Center was held on June 29. The Center furnished tables and chairs and set them up ahead of time. If you want to walk through this Cemetery there are a few parking spaces on the Young Street side; walk up the steps and just to the left is this latest addition to preserving the history of Dallas County. This is the Marker paid for through the White Rock Rotary from the Erhard M. Bruhns Foundation. Several more grave markers are being funded by this organization.

The Gene Gaddy family were in attendance at this event, as they are distantly related to the Crockett family. **Kate and John Crockett** left no close descendants. Members of the DCPA were there, as well as others who had read **Larry Powell's** column in *The Dallas Morning News*.

Response to the article in the June 26 "Today" section of *The News* concerning me and the Dallas County cemeteries has been overwhelming. The article was picked up by the Knight-Ridder News Service and ran in the *Lawrence Journal-World*, a newspaper in Lawrence, Kansas. I had several calls and letters from Houston, after the article also appeared in *The Houston Chronicle*. Altogether, there were over seventy-five telephone calls and twenty letters, most requesting help to get started on a project. I am also an actress now: I met **Wendy Burch** and a cameraman from Channel 11 at the Pleasant Mound Cemetery on July 15 at 8 a.m. and for two and one-half hours they filmed me, walking around that Cemetery pointing out various markers and telling stories. So, at 10 p.m. on Friday, July 19, they showed less than a two-minute segment. I have participated in these events hoping there will be some added interest focused on preserving our historic cemeteries. "Daybreak USA" has also interviewed me and this will be some time in the future on radio.

At the new Calvary Hill Cemetery off Webb Chapel Road there is a mosaic in the circle designed by Octavio Medellin, Dallas sculptor and art teacher. The actual work of setting the glass according to Medellin's design was done by **Lee Saurez**. Lee was instrumental in providing the history and the funds for the Texas Historical Marker for the Trinity Farms-Rancho Grande Cemetery on Mother's Day this year. He retired from Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company several years ago and volunteers at Wilkinson Center, as he is bilingual. There will be a reception honoring Octavio Medellin on August 16, at the Dallas Visual Arts Center, 2917 Swiss Avenue, and some of his work will be displayed there until October 4.

I had a discussion (an argument) a few months ago about Dallas County's being such a rich county. The

person I was discussing (arguing) with was a County employee who naturally thought they were doing a great job handling all the affairs of the County. My comment to her was about the neglect in rehabilitating Old Red and other County-owned buildings.

We have many National Treasures living among us and two recent notes are added proof:

Louie-Payne Dyer, one of our members, thinks our newest publication *One Hundred Twenty Years* is great. She says she can remember the year Hatton W. Summers spoke at the "Old Settlers Reunion". She also knew the reason the street crossing Gaston about the 2900 block is called "Liberty": before World War I it was called "Germania". Her grandparents lived across from the Wilsons on Swiss Avenue. Our meeting in June at Oak Corners was in this historic area of Dallas County. A beautiful article was in the *Plano Star Courier* on July 11, entitled "Beyond Golden". **Louie-Payne** and her husband, Reverend **Norman Dyer**, have been married sixty-five years! A true love story! His career in the ministry sent them to churches throughout the State and into Oklahoma.

Another of our National Treasures is **Marie Seidenberg**, who now lives at the Christian Care Center in her own apartment. She tells me she still cooks her own meals! Marie is the daughter of **Annie Walker** and **Jacob Lanham**, who had eight children. One of their little girls died at age seven from pneumonia, and a little boy aged nine months died of whooping cough. I found the marker for these two at the Glover Cemetery many years ago. In a talk at a meeting I mentioned that the family of these two children must have moved away, as no one else nearby (in this Cemetery) was named Lanham. Marie was at that meeting and told me the children were her brother and sister. Her mother is buried at the Pleasant Mound Cemetery and a marker at that site says that she was a niece of **Margaret and John Neely Bryan**.

Several years ago we were able to uncover some gravesites at the Beeman Cemetery that had been covered with poison ivy and other vines for many years. **Coye Hawpe** (DCPA member now deceased)

had included these names in an inventory she had made in 1974 of this Cemetery and the Beeman family, scattered around Texas, sent funds for maintenance. Some of our member **Mark Mueller's** ancestors are here and he also helps with any maintenance costs. If Coye had not listed all these names, they would have been lost to eternity. A slab in this immediate area is thought to be the marker for **Dorah A. Ferguson, 1875-1882**, per Coye's list. Names on other stones were **Anna Lanham, 1861-1881**, daughter of **Susan** and **J.P. Ferguson**; and little **Anna, 1881-1881**, daughter of **Annie** and **Jacob Lanham**.

Marie's mother, **Annie Walker**, was Jacob's second wife and the Lanham home was near Grove Hill Cemetery and Timberlawn Hospital. Church was held in the one-room Bayles School, which was near Samuel Boulevard and Jim Miller Road. She added that they never had a preacher, but had something like Sunday School. She mentioned going to the Pearl and Bryan Church of Christ and how beautiful the singing was, and later to the Pleasant Mound Methodist Church. Marie recalls seeing "Captain" McCoy, who had had both legs amputated, being carried into church in a basket by a large uniformed chauffeur. The chauffeur then waited outside until the service was over.

I think notes from our very special people are wonderful!

A walking tour is scheduled for August 3 at the Pemberton Hill/Lower White Rock Creek site. The deed for this land, which has been owned by members of the Pemberton family for well over a hundred years, was signed by **Margaret Beeman Bryan**, as she had inherited the land from her father, **John Beeman**. It is a very quiet, peaceful site with a spring that has never gone dry. Hard to believe you are less than eight miles from the center of downtown Dallas, eighth largest city in the United States! **Darwin Payne** has conducted several walks throughout the area, which is near the confluence of White Rock Creek and the Trinity River. Maps show that the Creek begins in Collin County and cuts through Dallas County.

Speaking of White Rock Creek, I attended one of the meetings called by the city staff concerning the sludge to be removed from White Rock Lake. The Lake is a real asset for the City and should not be neglected and allowed to be silted up. When the dam for the Lake was constructed it was on land previously owned by **Anna Hinterman** and **Jacob Buhrer**, of our member **Louise Buhrer's** family. The meeting deteriorated into a real scene: there were over three hundred people present and the staff had reserved a room which holds only about fifty people. We all ended up outside and the heat index was about 105 degrees. I could not believe that the engineering firm who had the contract with the City to decide where and how to dispose of the tons of silt from the Lake would have picked sites that were not city-owned and they had not even talked to the land owners. For instance, two of the sites were owned by Buckner Benevolence and one was in Mesquite: the mayor of Mesquite was in attendance and said No Way, and Buckner wrote a letter demanding that their land immediately be removed from the list of potential sites.

The dedication for the Bullock Cemetery in Coppell was on Sunday, July 7. This is a lovely spot, near a creek with big shade trees and flowers. The Bullock family were pioneers in the Coppell vicinity. **Mary Evelyn Mobley** and **Ann McNear** had attended to all the details—the music was beautiful, elected officials were present—and this was a warm day, too!

Remember all the interest stirred up by DISD in trying to sell the old Dallas High School? They have tried to not mention the name of the school in any legal notices, just using the address and hoping no one will recognize 2218 Bryan as being more than a parking lot. It looks like the first "deal" may have fallen through, and that was at \$4 million; it is now being advertised for \$3.5 million. In the meantime, they are frantically building portable, temporary buildings all over town for their many children. Does that sound like good business? With the DART station immediately in front of the school, how convenient for students who do not own cars, but would like to be educated. Ω

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.

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Marjorie Bays 216-6229 for information

Dallas County Pioneer Association



Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979

P.O. Box 12496

Dallas, Texas 75225-0496



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