

Dallas County Pioneer Association

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

SUMMER 1997

President:
Nancy McRae

DINNER MEETING

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1997

Vice-President:
William D. McRae

**Family Hall
Royal Lane Baptist Church
6707 Royal Lane
(Royal Lane & Hillcrest Road)**

Secretary:
Marcelle Hull

\$7 per person 6 p.m.

**RSVP Bill/McRae
214/521-8654**

Treasurer:
John Winniford

Historian:
Susan Cargile

There will be a choice of chicken or meat loaf at dinner catered by Twelve Oaks Catering, and reservations will be required. If you do not care to eat, just come for the meeting at 7 p.m, but we must have a "head count" for the caterer no later than Monday, June 2. It would be helpful if you mailed your check, payable to DCPA, to Bill @ 3500 Dartmouth, Dallas 75205. You will also be called by the Telephone Committee. If you make a reservation and cannot come, you will be expected to pay.

Membership:
William D. McRae

Program:
Marcelle Hull

See map on Page 2. You may enter from Hillcrest or from Royal Lane. If you enter off Royal Lane at Thackery (west side of the complex) you can park right by the Family Hall and enter through the glass door. We were impressed with the facility and think you will enjoy it.

Public Relations:
Clare G. Weakley, Jr.

Telephone:
Faye Evans

Our speaker will be **Steve Blow**, columnist in the Metropolitan section of *The Dallas Morning News*. We have enjoyed Steve's column in *The News* since 1989, where he very genially and interestingly calls a spade a spade and a fraud a fraud. He also has served as East Texas bureau chief and as a general assignments reporter for the newspaper.

Sunshine:
Sara McGee

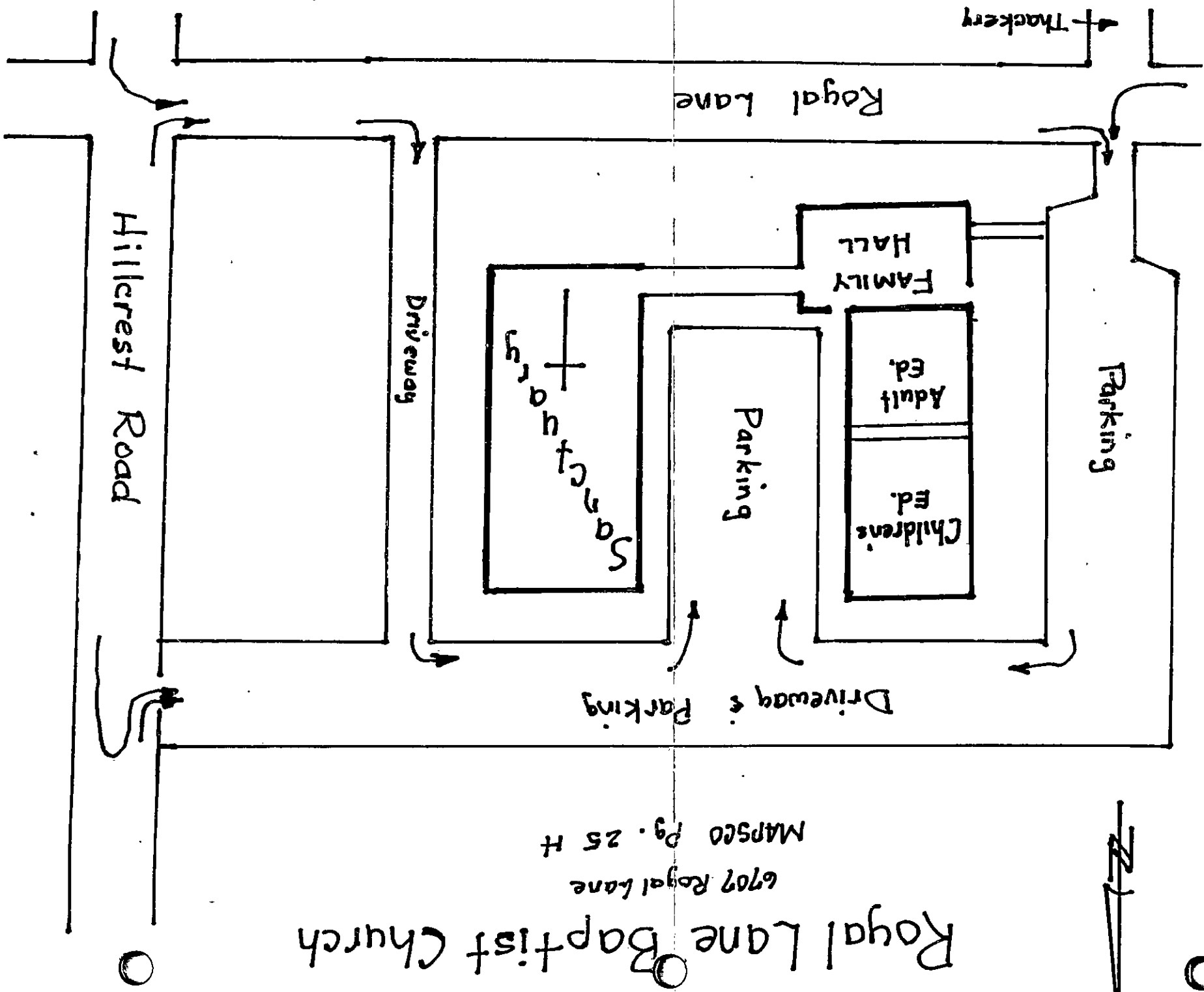
Steve received his bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of North Texas, and prior to joining *The News* he worked for *The Fort Worth Press* and *The Corpus Christi Caller-Times*. He has been honored as the top columnist in the State by the Headliners Foundation of Texas and the Associated Press.

Newsletter:
Marjori Sharp

Steve will be speaking on "Early Dallas History", a favorite subject of ours. Ω.

Royal Lane Baptist Church

6707 Royal Lane
MAPSCO Pg. 25 H



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Your responses to the Planning Committee Survey were much appreciated. Wish more of you had given us your thoughts! As a result of this survey, a standing committee has been formed to establish a Dallas County Pioneer Association Historic Marker Program. This Committee will establish rules for DCPA historic markers, design the markers, research deserving sites, promote and advertize such sites selected and solicit sponsors for the designated sites. This should be an exciting activity. **Frances James** will chair the Committee and **Faye Evans, Gene Gaddy, and Louis Moore** will be the original members. Each DCPA member, however, is urged to support this endeavor and contribute their ideas and expertise to this undertaking. Several other excellent ideas and committees were suggested by the survey and will be instituted as appropriate in the future.

We received a very nice letter from DCPA member **Joan Simpson Moore of Houston**. Her ongoing research into the Simpson, Wampler, Witt, and Ellis families continues to bring to light many interesting stories; for instance, her great-great grandfather **Eli Witt's** sister was the wife of **Thomas McKee Ellis**, who brought the famous horse "Steeldust" to Texas. Steeldust became the progenitor of the famous Texas cutting horse breed. While in the Dallas area Joan visited the family home of cousin **Ellis Strain** in Lancaster. This was the home severely damaged in the tornado two years ago and is now completely restored. In fact, the Strain home has won the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 1997 Great American Home award. It is also a Texas Landmark, Texas Land Heritage Farm, and is listed on the National Register for Historic Places. We should all visit this historic house, since it is now open to the public!

Sales of *Proud Heritage, Volume II*, continue at a slow pace. Your help is solicited in selling more of this edition. Call **Bill Clark** (214/528-1891) or **Bill McRae** (214/521-8654) if you have any prospective purchasers. Very few copies of *Proud Heritage*, our first volume, remain unsold.

Member **Jacquelyne H. Goodnight** of Belton wrote recently and included a copy of her annual letter to the Beeman Memorial Cemetery supporters. She also included a list of the supporters, many of whom are members of the DCPA. The others will be contacted as prospective members. Good work, Jacquelyne!

Our multi-talented Newsletter Editor, **Marjori Sharp**, contributed a very nice article about DCPA to *The County Chronicle*, newsletter of the Dallas County Historical Commission. She managed this because she edited that edition of *The Chronicle*. Many thanks for all the good publicity.

Hope to see you all on June 5th! Ω

Nancy McRae

MINUTES OF MEETING MARCH 6, 1997

The meeting at Wyatt's Cafeteria was called to order by President **Nancy McRae** at 6:30 p.m. Present were forty-nine members and guests.

Earl Cullum led the opening prayer.

Jennifer Vilbig led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and the Texas flags.

New members announced were **Peter Flagg Maxson** of Austin and **Suzanne Johnson Cain** of Sherman.

Condolences were expressed to **Mattie Hughes** and the family of **G. Marie Siedenburg**.

Florence Schulz is ill, while **Bill McRae** is recovering from surgery. **Becky Cargile** was present as a visitor.

Nancy McRae announced the appointment of **Susan Cargile** as the new DCPA historian. The Telephone Committee was introduced.

John Winniford announced that the DCPA books have recently been audited by **Lee Halford**. The financial records are in good order. John reported on

Proud Heritage, both volumes; requested payment of dues; and gave a short talk on the Texas fight for independence in March and April of 1836.

Nancy reported that two of the ancestors of our new historian, Susan Cargile, fought and died at the Alamo: **John Henry Dillard** and **Daniel William Cloud**.

The program began with a presentation by **Clare Weakley** of a plan for future activities of the DCPA. Clare proposed a telephone listing for the Association whereby individuals could obtain information about the organization. He passed out a Planning Committee Survey for members to sign to become involved in upcoming possibilities for service to Dallas County through the DCPA. Members not present would receive a copy of the Survey through the mail.

Frances James then spoke on various ways to help the County through the DCPA. She introduced the membership to the proposed Trinity River Corridor, which will include a historic trail. Using a map to illustrate, Frances talked of the historic mill and ferry sites to be researched and marked on the trail. Information on the sites should come from prime sources, so as to avoid repeating past historical errors. DCPA members will have the opportunity to research and write the marker information. **Helen Swint** said the Trinity River corridor trail will be a major attraction for our City.

Southeast Dallas historical sites have been placed on a map prepared by the Southeast Dallas Chamber of Commerce.

Frances announced that work is proceeding on the Routh Cemetery. Also, Frances will give a cemetery tour for members of the Dallas Historical Society.

A State Historical Marker is pending on the Potter Family Cemetery. Also, **Charlene Orr** is working on a history of Mesquite.

Historical research is being conducted on the following individuals, sites, or buildings: Winniford Family

Home, Lancaster; Anion Village, Grand Prairie; Park Grove; Addison; Limestone Lodge, Grand Prairie; Sarah Horton Cockrell; Ross Avenue Baptist Church; and Guadalupe Cathedral, 1902 (Sacred Heart is the historical name).

Nancy was pleased to announce that Frances James has been nominated for the Linz Award.

Clare Weakley urged everyone to adopt one of the proposed historic projects, and also to record their childhood memories.

Frances answered questions about the proposed changes at Greenwood Cemetery.

Nancy adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Ω

Marcelle Hull, secretary

FRANCES JAMES NOMINATED FOR LINZ AWARD

Frances James, immediate past president of the DCPA, "Cemetery Lady" of Dallas County, and invaluable unofficial historical researcher for our organization, as well as the Dallas County Historical Commission and numerous other groups who take advantage of her willingness to dig for the facts, was one of several nominees for the prestigious 68th Annual Linz Award.

The Linz Award, which is sponsored by the Zale Corporation and *The Dallas Morning News*, recognizes volunteers who have contributed to the community.

The parsimonious paragraph about Frances in the official program for the occasion said: "Praised for her efforts in researching and securing historic grave markers for Dallas County cemeteries. These markers shed light on people and places that are important to the history of Dallas County." Ω

A good example of "the way we were", which surely shows excellent penmanship and a grasp of classic English.

Copied from the original in files of the Commissioners Court, warts and all.

ORDER FOR JURY TO VIEW ROAD.

The State of Texas,

COUNTY OF DALLAS.

In the Commissioner's Court,

November Term, A. D. 1880
on the *10th* day of *November* 1880

And now coming on to be heard the Petition of

Nat Larson

and *8* others for the laying out of a *1st* class Road, to be known as the *Mesquite, Dallas & Shreveport* Road, as follows, to wit: Beginning at the Depot at Mesquite, running West & crossing the Rail Road $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile West of the Depot and run on the North side of the road to the cut north of *Deysene*, thence running North West to the line between *J. M. Daniel* & *Alfred Pemberton*; thence South, thence West with their line to *Durretts*; thence to *S. Garrett*, *D. Moore*, thence *Prison* & *Northington*; thence between the place occupied by *J. S. Thompson*, *J. Gross*, thence between *J. Gray* & *D. Larson* thence on the north side of the road to *Lagow's* line thence North West with his line to the north of the line between *Lanham* & *Lagow* intersecting the *Old Dallas & Shreveport County Road*

as set forth in said petition, and the same being publicly read, and it being proven to the satisfaction of the Court that the twenty days notice required by law has been given, by adver-

FRANCES JOINS LEGISLATIVE FIGHT TO PROTECT GRAVESITES

Frances James was in Austin early in May to support a bill providing that the desecration of graves and the selling of items from them be made a felony. The Indians were there, too, because of the many years' destruction of their burial mounds. Our Legislative committee was a little overwhelmed by all the information they were furnished, and the bill probably will not make it to the Senate in time to be made into law this session.

There were many questions about funerary items: did arrowheads count or not? The Indian female archaeologist knew, but the committee did not understand. Frances says it is no wonder the Texas Constitution has so many amendments — you have to pick away at tiny pieces at a time to get a bill out of the committee.

On the eighth floor of the Stephen F. Austin Building near the Capitol Frances got copies of the Guadalupe De Los Santos Survey, dated 1838. She said it was thrilling to find original old papers neatly preserved in plastic folders! This information had been all but impossible to find in Dallas County Deed Indexes: would you file it under De? Los? or Santos? The clerks in Dallas back in 1845 could not figure that out, either. And by the way, Guadalupe himself was from Harris County — probably never came to Dallas County (which was a part of Nacogdoches/Henderson at that time, so these papers say). Ω

FINAL FAREWELL

Our most sincere sympathies to **Robby Oram Jaggi-Lemon** and her family. Robby's mother, **Robbye Morrow Oram**, died on April 20 at age ninety-eight.

Mrs. Oram founded the Spanish department at The Hockaday School and taught there for forty-one years. Her husband, **John Oram**, was a member of a family of early settlers in east Dallas, for whom Oram Street was named. Ω

Sara McGee, Sunshine Chairman

PORTER COCHRAN FEATURED IN UNITED METHODIST REVIEW

Cochran Chapel United Methodist Church was founded in 1844 by ancestors of **Porter Cochran**, and he carries the name on in the Church, even today.

A full-page article in the Cochran Chapel edition of *The United Methodist Review* (May 1997) highlights the intervening years.

Porter's father was a Dallas police officer in 1892 in the first organized department in Dallas. Porter entered the insurance business in 1933 and continues as a consultant today. He has two grown children, and married his present wife, **Mary**, in 1987.

He served twice as vice-president of the DCPA. Ω
Earl O. Cullum

Dedication of a Texas Historical Gravemarker for Dr. D.W. Gilbert

is scheduled for June 15 at 2 p.m.
at Sowers Cemetery, 2900 Pioneer Road in Irving.
Dr. Gilbert was one of the first doctors in Irving.

SICK BAY

Since our March 6 meeting get-well cards have been sent to the following folks:

Bill McRae, who had surgery.

Gerard Dickinson, who also had surgery — a knee replacement for which she is most thankful.

Dorothy Miller, who has been very ill.

Bill and Jackie Jacoby: Bill fell and "rehurt" one of his hips.

Earl O. Cullum has been fighting near-pneumonia for several weeks - from a most peculiar source; he over-zealously raked and bagged last fall's dry leaves and filled his lungs with dark brown dust. He is finally on the mend.

I am pleased to report, most of these folks are on the mend and back "in service".

Please, if you or if you know of any member who has been ill or just needs a "cheer-up" card, please let me know. Ω

Sara McGee, Sunshine Chairman

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER

James L. Foster is a direct descendant of **George Washington Forster**, who came to Dallas County in 1873 from Iowa and resided in the northeast corner of the County at Rockwall near the Collin County line. He married **Mary E. Southwood** in Plano in 1876, and they became the parents of **James Albert** while living in Liberty Grove.

George Washington Forster had as many as 1,000 acres in the Liberty Grove area at one time, where he farmed, but made his living raising buggy horses (buggy horses brought a bigger premium than other horses at that time).

James Albert married **Dorris L. Merritt** and they were the parents of Jim. He says that dropping the first "r" out of the ancestral name is lost in the annals of time. He has surveys and deeds and pictures of gravestones of early ancestors with the name Forster, so he knows it started that way.

Jim is manager of Paramount Alarm Systems, and lives at 407 Centre Street, 75208. His home phone is 214/942-2119; his work phone is 214/943-7567. Ω

Sachse Historical Society is compiling information for a Texas Historical Marker for the Pleasant Valley Cemetery. Dallas County has two communities called Pleasant Valley: one in the northeast corner of the County nearly to Collin County, and one in the southwest corner near Ellis County.

There are two Bear Creeks on opposite sides of the County, too.

Book Review by Earl O. Cullum

DALLAS RECONSIDERED by Michael V. Hazel Three Forks Press, Dallas, 1995

Perhaps the most interesting chapter of this five-part book is **Mike Hazel's** "Those Magnificent Young Men in Their Flying Machines". He tells of the first Dallas "Aviation Meet" at Fair Park in 1911.

The Wright Brothers had flown at Kitty Hawk in 1903, but few people know of those flights until 1908. Then in 1910 **Otto Brodie** flew a Curtiss Biplane over Fair Park. He crashed, but aviation had come to stay.

In January 1911 a five-day aviation "meet" was held, with 3,000 spectators in the Fair Park Grandstand. **Rene Simon** (France) did some low-level stunts and then crashed, unhurt. **Ronald Garros** (France) flew at 7,000 feet, became lost, and landed in a schoolyard. **Edmond Audemars** (Swiss) crashed and damaged a wing.

John Frisbie (Ireland) landed in a Dallas neighborhood. He had a "runaway" plane, broken propeller, and crashed into a fence. **Charles Hamilton** (U.S.) made the only flight on a windy day, crashed, and ruined a wheel. Later his engine exploded. **Rene Barrier** (?) flew over the City at 5,000 feet, the only "perfect" flight reported in this volume.

Thus, the people had their first look at aviation, little realizing that Dallas would later become one of the major aviation centers of the entire world. Ω

"GOOD FOR ANOTHER 100" Family Bible restored, presented anew to historic church

("Religion" section of *The Dallas Morning News*, April 5, 1997)

Webb Chapel United Methodist Church — the first church started in what is now Farmers Branch — will regain an important part of area and Webb family history this weekend.

Two great-granddaughters of Dallas pioneers **Isaac B. and Mary Hughes Webb** will take part in ceremonies at 10:50 a.m. Sunday at the church, 2536 Valley View Lane, to re-present the 143-year-old Webb family Bible to the church that the Webbs founded.

One great-granddaughter, **Ann Brent Holden** of Lubbock, said her mother, **Alice "Allie" Ford Brent**, gave the Bible to Webb Chapel Methodist after the 1932 death of her grandmother, **Margaret Sophronia Frances Webb Ford**, the last survivor of the nine Webb children.

Another Webb descendant, **Mary Margaret Webb Davis**, is a genealogist who thought the Bible might provide information on her ancestors. "I just moved here from El Paso two years ago, and I'm getting into all this family stuff," she said.

The Bible, stored in a glass case in the church's history room, was deteriorated and in fragments, separated from the spine. Last year Ms. Davis took the 20-pound Bible to Southern Methodist University for evaluation by **Jan Sobota**, director of Bridwell Library's conservation laboratory.

The Bible "was really in bad condition, but any condition can be saved," said Mr. Sobota. "It depends on how much money you want to put in because it is time-consuming work."

Webb family members and friends funded the restoration, completed in February. Mr. Sobota stopped a microscopic growth that was staining the pages brown, and he repaired loose pages and the cover, which had been glued back on upside down in repairs done years ago.

"I think that Bible is probably good for another 100 years," he said.

The book is again sealed in a glass case, but Ms. Davis has access to family history from pages she photocopied.

"I found the family records, births, deaths, marriages pages," she said. "They were in terrible shape."

She's already putting the genealogy data to use: the Bible presentation ceremonies fall on the Sunday nearest Isaac and Mary Webb's anniversary date: April 8, 1835. Ω

(Note: Isaac B. Webb was named first vice-president at the organization meeting of the Dallas County Pioneer Association on July 13, 1875. He also served as vice-president for that meeting.)

Jennie Coleman
will be ninety-four years old in August.
Congratulations, Jennie;
love and best wishes for many more!

ANOTHER BELOVED TRADITION PASSES INTO YESTERYEAR

Sara McGee sent us a clipping from *The Dallas Morning News*, March 21, about the retirement of **Clay Page**, founder of Page Drugs in Dallas, and the closing of his Oak Cliff pharmacy, Clay's Drugs. Sara said she and husband **David** waxed nostalgic over the story because they and many of their contemporaries "spent lots of time on the stools at the fountain, in our youth". We present it in writer **David Flick**'s words, but not in entirety.

Clay Page told only one lie in his life, he said, and that was to get into the pharmacy business. Once in, he stayed 77 years.

Sometime within the next week, Mr. Page, 85, will leave the small Oak Cliff pharmacy where he has presided for nearly 20 years. Although his name is largely unknown to Dallas residents, the chain of drugstores he built and later sold — Page Drugs — was long a local fixture... "I don't like leaving," he said, "but I have health problems. I can't pull a shift anymore."...

Mr. Page was born in 1911 on a farm near the East Texas town of Sulphur Springs. He said he had an unhappy family life and longed to leave. When a neighboring farmer gave him \$20 for cleaning weeds from a hedge, the 8-year-old boy quietly packed his clothes and went to the train station.

"I asked where I could go for that amount of money, and the man at the station...said 'Hillsboro', so I bought a ticket," he said. He lived on a farm there for about a year. Then he heard about a job as a delivery boy at Guy's Drug Store in downtown Hillsboro. "The requirement was you had to be able to ride a bicycle and you had to know the streets," he said. "I didn't know either. I lied. It was the only time in my life, but I got the job."...

A co-worker took pity on Mr. Page, gave him street directions and showed him how to ride a bike... After graduating from high school, he left Hillsboro for Dallas, where opportunities for a young man with ambition were less limited.

Mr. Page worked at Skillern's Drug in the then-suburban precinct of McKinney and Knox streets. Soon afterward, the owner put a help-wanted sign in the window, which was answered by a young woman named **Vivian Poole**. She impressed the owner enough that she got the job and she impressed Mr. Page enough that they got married.

In the late 1930s, he went to pharmacy school ... then returned to Skillern's in Dallas. During World War II, he struck out on his own... He began opening other drugstores and by the late 1960s had a thriving chain. Later that decade, he was approached by Tom Thumb officials, who correctly surmised that combining the grocery and pharmacy businesses was the wave of the future...For a time, officials put it under the banner of Tom Thumb-Page, with their food stores...

Charles Cullum remembers Mr. Page as hard-working but ... "He was not by disposition one to work for a large corporation. He liked to run his own show"...Mr. Page recalled the Cullum officers as "fine people. They were then, and they are now... In the

1950s, a groceryman was a groceryman and a pharmacist was a pharmacist. They were two different kinds of cats."..

So in the late 1970s, the man who founded Page Drugs left his corporate desk job at Cullum and returned to work behind a counter. He bought a foundering store at Tyler Street and Jefferson Boulevard in Oak Cliff and called it Clay's Drugs.

The Jack Eckerd Corp. bought the 16 free-standing Page Drugs stores in 1992 and converted them to Eckerd Drugs. Tom Thumb dropped the Page name that same year.

Mr. Page has continued to work six days a week, often 12 hours a day...Mr. Page said the importance of work is not the money but the sense of worth.

"I never begged. I never asked for anything but a chance," he said. "And I always got it." Ω

CROSSINGS AND FERRIES ON THE TRINITY RIVER

by Frances James

Trinity Mills Road is the northernmost road in Dallas County. For a short distance it is the county line between Dallas County and Denton County. By 1850 the land on the east side near the riverbed of the Elm Fork of the Trinity River was originally owned and farmed by **A.W. Perry**. Perry was a partner with the Witt brothers in building the Trinity Mills on the Elm Fork of the Trinity in 1859.

There was a crossing on the Elm Fork called Keenan's Ferry. **Thomas Keenan**, who had come to Texas in 1842, operated the ferry by 1850. This trail, that tied together the communities of Grapevine Springs and Farmers Branch, became Valley View Lane.

The 1846 map of Dallas County shows California Crossing as a trail crossing the Elm Fork. California Crossing Park is adjacent to the Elm Fork of the Trinity. The trail to the west is in Irving and already marked near Las Colinas Blvd. The pioneers heading

to the gold rush in California crossed at this site in 1849. Nearly every able-bodied man left this area to find his fortune in the gold mines, some few came back with a stake. (*L. B. Houston Nature Trail near here*).

Minters Crossing was on the trail between **W.C. Trimble's** place and a new Methodist Chapel being established in Tarrant County by the Reverend **Greene Minter** at Grapevine Prairie. Minter came to this area before 1846, before Tarrant County was formed. This site is now under the runway at the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

Record Crossing is noted on a map prepared by the French Colonist in 1855. This was one of the first sites of a saw- and grist mill as well as a crossing over the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. The mill was about four and one-half miles northwest of what was then Dallas and protected by a small dam that made a shallow water crossing possible. In some references this was called the Osceola Mill and another name was Cedar Springs. The name was changed to Record Crossing when **George W. Record** and **Joe Ellett** built a new mill at the site in 1858.

The crossing selected in the village of Dallas was along the same trail used by the Indians and animals to cross the Trinity which was below the confluence of the West Fork and the Elm Fork. It was located about where the Triple Underpass is now. After several disastrous floods in 1842-43, 1849, 1854, 1866, and 1908, the river was moved, channelled, and leveed by the 1930s. Since this extensive work there have been many other severe floods along the river.

Millers' Crossing was south of the village of Dallas and named for the **Madison and William Brown Miller** family, who had extensive land holdings on the west side of the river. The large home and cabin at Old City Park, named Millermore, was on the bluff looking east across the river. It was saved and carefully dismantled from this original location in the 1960s. The crossing was about where the Trinity River flows under the bridge on Hiway 75 today.

Dawdy's Ferry was on the wagon road that crossed the Trinity near the village that became Hutchins. The County was petitioned by the surrounding landowners for a ferry at this site. The set price for using the ferry was \$1 for a wagon and four or more animals; \$.50 for a wagon and two animals; a man and a horse was \$.10; a person on foot was \$.05, with the same price for a horse, cow, or ox. Sheep could cross for \$.02. The ferry was allowed to double the fee "if the water was up".

The West Fork of the Trinity could be crossed at Eagle Ford. This trail was used by the pioneers going from Kit, which is now part of Irving, to settlements to the south along the escarpment called Cedar Ridge. There were eagles nesting in the trees. The Hortons operated a mill at this site, which was used by settlers in Sowers, Grand Prairie, and Hord's Ridge. Ω

Postscript: Frances assembled this information for the Friends of the Trinity, a group that meets once a month to share Trinity River news. Anyone can attend the meetings, held at the First Methodist Church, 5:30 p.m., the second Wednesday of the month with a good and reasonable dinner available. The last meeting was on May 14, and the next one will be on June 11.

PERSONALITY PARADE

"FAMILY HISTORY" IS A MYSTERY UNTIL WE CAREFULLY RECORD ALL THE FACTS

So, you know all about your family but you don't know how to pass on the information? Or, you have a few little twigs missing on that family tree and don't know how to find them? Do we have help for you, right here in our own DCPA!

In 1976, when Pat **Randolph** wrote and published a story about her father's family, she did not realize that it was the beginning of a challenging new project in her life. But when friends and acquaintances saw her book, they asked for help in preparing their own family stories and soon Pat was conducting workshops throughout Dallas County.

During the workshop Pat points out that we all had ancestors, and yet, few of us know what our forbears were doing in, say, 1557. Did they live in the mountains? Were they sailors? Were they part of a unit establishing an art museum in Italy or an educational center in Greece? What foods did they provide for their families? How did they enjoy spending their free time? Few know about their family's past. But if we seize the opportunity, today, to document our life style, future generations will be forever grateful.

Members of pioneer associations and preservation groups are being urged to write about their own memories, and the activities and places they've known through the years. Many do not begin writing their stories because they just don't know how. In Pat's workshops and in others held throughout the area, people organize their material, write it, and complete a tremendously valuable Family Story that often becomes a cherished keepsake.

For those unable to attend a workshop, Pat recommends the *Once Upon a Memory* book written by her friend, Dr. Shirley Achor. Based on Pat's workshop, the book is a remarkable guide for capturing a lifetime of memories. No special writing skills are required. The well-written book has a polished narrative that is efficient, comprehensive, and very pleasant to complete.

As Pat mentions to her groups, history (for many years) was in the hands of the military — in the hands of the rulers. And the dates of battles, the stories of coronations, of invasions, and elections are very important. But to help history reflect the lives of each generation, all families should try to complete their stories which in turn will become an integral part of history.

To find out the date and place of the next workshop or for information about *Once Upon a Memory* (which is available at Borders Book Store at Preston Royal), call Pat Randolph 214/369-6925. Ω

DON'T FORGET TO KEEP US UP-TO-DATE
on changes, corrections, and additions to our history booklet,
One Hundred Twenty Years.

There won't be a new edition any time soon,
but surely there will be someday,
and we are filing data for that one all along.

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. The meeting room is open at 5:30 p.m. for dining and fellowship. Program starts promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Dallas County Pioneer Association



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Susan Alice Cargile
7416 Wild Valley
Dallas, TX 75231-7342