

Dallas County Pioneer Association

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

FALL 1997

President:
Nancy McRae

DINNER MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 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

Membership:
William D. McRae

Program:
Marcelle Hull

Public Relations:
Clare G. Weakley,
Jr.

Telephone:
Faye Evans

Sunshine:
Sara McGee

Newsletter:
Marjori Sharp

There will be a choice of barbecued chicken or baked ham 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. The serving line will be open from 6 to 6:30 so that the program can start at 7. Please make reservations no later than Monday, September 1 (earlier, if possible). 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. (See map on Page 11.) 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.

Our speaker will be **Vivian Anderson Castleberry**, a career journalist and author of the book *Daughters of Dallas*, published in 1994. It was in her Acknowledgments for this book that she said her ministers taught her "that none of us can take credit for what we do because all of us 'stand on the shoulders' of past giants". (Isn't this sorta the theme song of the DCPA?)

Her book was the culmination of years of research, looking for the "Mary Janes" instead of the "Mrs. John Smiths". As head of the features department of *The Dallas Times Herald* for twenty-eight years (and the first woman on its editorial board), she knew that a woman was labeled under her husband's name and his accomplishments. It took exhaustive digging to find these women who "have wielded an important and continuous influence that has been ignored when the histories of Dallas were written" (from her Preface).

Mrs. Castleberry is a book-to-be-written herself. A native East Texan, she has led the pack in everything she has undertaken: valedictorian of her high school class, Distinguished Alumnus of SMU, editor of both her high school and college newspapers, and first women's editor of the Texas A&MBattalion. Among organizations she has helped found are the Women's Center of Dallas, Women's Issues Network (WIN), the Dallas Women's Foundation, and Peacemakers Inc. She chaired the Peacemakers' international conference for women in 1988 in Dallas, which drew 2,000 participants from thirty-seven states and sixty-three countries.

She was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 1984, and among her numerous community service awards are the Dallas Peace Center's "Peacemaker of the Year Award" in 1988, A Women's Center Women Helping Women Award, the Laurel Award from the American Association of University Women, one from the Soroptimist Club, and the Extra Mile Award from Business and Professional Women. She has been honored by the Dallas Press Club, the Washington Press Club Foundation, and the Associated Women Journalists, which named its annual citations of excellence the "Vivian Castleberry Awards".

She was named Texas Mother of the Year by American Mothers, Inc., in 1996, and is now chairing a national conference on Positive Parenting, to be held in Dallas in September 1998. She and her husband, Curtis, are the parents of five daughters (and five sons by marriage to the five daughters) and have thirteen grandchildren.

Mrs. Castleberry will choose her subject to bring to us on Thursday, September 4. Don't miss it. **Ω**

We have the obituary for Jack M. Dumas, descendant of J.P. Dumas, the first surveyor in Dallas, who laid out the lot plan for John Neely Bryan. Jack and John Winniford were high school classmates.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

GOOD NEWS: DCPA has finally come of age — we have our own telephone number, which is

214/969-0926.

You may dial this number to receive information on our next meeting or to leave messages. Many thanks to **Clare Weakley** for his expertise and all the work necessary to get this done. Should we have people interested in DCPA we will now be listed in the telephone book for quick reference.

This also means we are in a position to expand our organization (which is necessary and appropriate, if we are to survive). At our last meeting one of our newest members, **Billy Joe Denton**, brought **Linda Hart** as a guest, and she also joined. **Doris Barnes** brought her granddaughter, **Cheryl Formway**, who is the daughter of our member, **Marsha Leach**. **Joan Pickard**, **Pat Gooding**, **Clare Weakley**, **Edwina Dyes**, and **Bill McRae** all brought guests. **Faye Evans** brought her sister, **Raye Reed** (who joined us) and her brother-in-law, **Jim Evans**. And then there is our perpetual guest-bringer, **Marie Hunter**, who almost always brings a guest or two. We all probably know someone at work, church, school, or neighborhood who is interested in early Dallas history and would appreciate an invitation to attend a meeting.

At the suggestion of our past president, **Bill Jacoby**, I have appointed an Overview Committee chaired by **Clare Weakley** to oversee all operations of DCPA and to make recommendations to the Board for new or revised activities. The following members will serve the stated periods:

One Year	Bill Clark and Rod Gilbert
Two Years	Edna Hart and Irma Janicek
Three Years	Bill McRae and Clare Weakley

This includes all activities of our organization. If you have any suggestions or recommendations, please call **Clare** or any of the above members.

Since it is time to think of new officers for next year, I have appointed a Nominating Committee, chaired by **Mattie Hughes** and including **Edna Hart** and **Irma Janicek**. The Board has made its recommendations to the Committee but you, also, may call any of the above with your nomination for consideration, or you may make a nomination from the floor at our December meeting.

Do hope to see you all at our September 4th meeting for a real treat — **Vivian Castleberry** will be our guest speaker! Ω

Nancy McRae

MINUTES OF MEETING JUNE 5, 1997

President **Nancy McRae** called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm, following a catered dinner. Approximately ninety people were in attendance. **Irene Criddle** gave the invocation. **Jennifer** and **Tommy Vilbig** led the pledge of allegiance to the Texas and the American flags. Nancy called on **Bill McRae** to welcome our new members:

Jim Foster
Billy Joe Denton
Dianne Reed

Bill also welcomed our visitors.

Reading the March minutes was dispensed with as the minutes appeared in the latest DCPA newsletter. **Marjori Sharp**, newsletter editor, was introduced.

Frances James reported on the Friends of the Trinity River, as she recently joined the group of thirty-six on a canoe ride down the river to locate the bridges to be given markers. Signs will also be placed on all Dallas County creeks. Locations along the Trinity will be correctly identified, according to Frances.

Dennis DuPriest reported that June 6 is the fifty-third anniversary of the D Day landing in Europe, the second-most-costly battle of World War II in dead and wounded.

Nancy introduced the evening speaker, **Steve Blow**, Metropolitan Editor of *The Dallas Morning News*. Blow compared living in Dallas in 1892 with life in the 1990s. Questions were answered by the speaker following his talk.

Nancy adjourned the meeting at 8 p.m.

Marcelle Hull, secretary

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Ann Lewis Clark Buller joined the DCPA in June and we hope to be able to tell you all about her later when we receive information from her application.

Ann has recently married, and we are happy to send our congratulations. She lives at 4612 No. Versailles, and her telephone number is 214/522-2255.

Donna Beeman Elkins is a self-employed publishing specialist living in Austin (maybe she will move to Dallas and take over publishing a newsletter). We beamed in on the "Beeman" in her name immediately, and sure enough, her first generation in Dallas County was **John** and **Emily Beeman**.

Their son, **William H.**, married **Martha E. Dye** and they were the parents of **Lee Oren**, born in 1862, who first married **Willie Russey** and then **Maud Herrin**. His son, **Harry Lee**, born in 1904, lived in Dallas, Houston, and Mabank, and married **Doris Tiner** in Waco in 1930. They were the parents of Donna, born in Dallas, who is married to **Robert Rollin Elkins** of Austin.

Donna's grandfather, **Lee Oren Beeman**, was a blacksmith for forty years who shoed racehorses for the State Fair of Texas and later farmed in Quitman. He returned to Dallas and died here.

Donna and husband Robert live at 3211 Bryker Drive, Austin 78703, and their phone number is 512/458-9048.

Mary Raye Reed, **Faye Evans'** sister, has joined our Association, so much of her early profile will be the same as Faye's. Their first Dallas County ancestors were **Henry S. Parrish** and his wife **Eliza Jane Record**, who arrived in 1849 from Ohio and settled in Coppell. Their son, **Francis Marion**, born in 1862, married **Mary Emma Prescott**, and they became the parents of **Eliza Jane "Marie"**, in 1900. Marie Parrish married **James Wesley Thomas** in 1917 and Mary Raye is their daughter. She is a registered nurse, and her husband is **Charles L. Reed**.

Henry S. Parrish served in Hood's Brigade during the Civil War. He was a Mason, member of White Rock Lodge #234 Walnut Grove, Dallas County. He was a farmer and was active in the Coppell community, where he was responsible for the early Bethel school and church.

Mary Raye and Charles have four children, all of whom live in Dallas or Arlington. Their address is 1403B Park Place #507, Hurst 76053; telephone 817/589-0196.

Billy Joe Denton dates his Dallas County ancestry back to **John Martin Rawlins**, who arrived in January 1846 from Illinois and established the first Church of Christ congregation in the County in July of that year. This is the present-day Cold Springs Church of Christ in Lancaster. Rawlins was also a farmer and a blacksmith who made the first gang plow in Dallas County. He married **Polly Minerva Parks**, who came in 1848 from Indiana.

Their son, **Henry Clay**, married **Penina Walker Adair**, and Henry and Penina's daughter, **Berta Lee**, married **Clyde Overton Denton**, and they became the parents of Billy Joe. He is also descended from **Mary M. Jordan** and **Henry W. Houston**, who came to Dallas County from Tennessee in 1871. Billy is *really* into genealogy: he belongs to The Sons of the Republic of Texas, The Sons of the American Revolution, and the Mesquite Historical & Genealogical Society. We look forward to some good stories from him. Billy and his wife, **Ruth Helen (Holmes)**, who have

two grown children, live at 3633 Sheryl Drive in Mesquite 75150, telephone number 972/279-1666.

Linda Sue Young Hart, who also lives in Mesquite, also goes back a long way in the County: her earliest ancestor here was **John Witt**, who arrived in 1843 at age sixty-seven. He was a true pioneer who left home in Virginia at age seventeen, married and farmed in the wilderness of Tennessee; then to Pope County in Illinois, another wilderness, in 1816, where he stayed for fifteen years; then to Green, Illinois, in 1831; and on to Texas twelve years later, where he lived for another fourteen years and died at age eighty-one. His daughter, **Mary**, one of twelve children, married **Thomas McKee Ellis** and they homesteaded two miles south of Lancaster in 1845.

Linda also is genealogy-oriented: she belongs to the Magna Charta Dames, The DAR, The DRT, The French Huguenot Society, and the Founders of Manikin Town Huguenot Society. We think she may also have some stories for us.

She has two children, one in Athens and one in Durant, Oklahoma. Linda lives at 2308 Motley Drive in Mesquite 75150, telephone 972/270-3467.

Ronalda Eulene Maxwell Wilkerson brings us more about our early, early, early family of the County — she is descended from **John Beeman**. As we know, his daughter **Margaret** married **John Neely Bryan**, founder of the City, but Eulene's line of descent is from son **Samuel Hunnicutt**, who married **Mary Ann Weatherford**.

John Beeman was a farmer, a wheelwright, a millwright, helped run the ferry with Bryan and also served with the Texas Rangers under Capt. **A.W. Webb**. He set aside part of his land for the Beeman Cemetery, in which many of the family are buried.

Eulene and her husband, Dr. **William G. Wilkerson**, have a daughter who lives in Louisiana. They live in Bluffton, Llano County. Their address is Rt. 1, Box 70, Bluffton 78607, telephone 915/379-2859. Ω

FINAL FAREWELLS AND SICKBAY

Deepest sympathy from the entire membership to **Donald Huffhines, Sr.** and family whose uncle, **Elmo C. Huffhines, Jr.**, a Richardson pioneer, passed away on May 28.

Also, to **Marjori Sharp**, whose brother passed away in July. Marjori, we are all keeping good thoughts and prayers for you.

We have just received word that **Jan Grantham** and **Sibyl Skipworth** lost their sister, **Ruth Ladd**, last March 4. We send our sincere sympathies.

Folks, this has been a terrible summer for a number of us — the combination of heat and humidity has made for some miserable days and nights, but hopefully, fall will bring some relief.

The folks who have been ill (some still) are:

Donald Huffhines, Sr., a stroke less than two weeks after his uncle died.

Bill Jacoby, a stroke in July which has left him with some double vision, which we hope is to be temporary.

Mrs. Jack W. Mackey, heart by-pass surgery.

Rayburn Williams, **Ruby Ledbetter**, and **Dorothy Miller**, ill.

John Jackson and **Earl Cullum**, surgery.

Sara McGee, Sunshine Chairman

CELEBRATE WITH A LANDMARK: NEIMAN MARCUS TURNS 90

Everyone is ready to honor Dallas-born and -bred **Neiman Marcus** as this institution and its chairman emeritus **Stanley Marcus** plan a three-weeks celebration of the ninetieth birthday of the founding of the

store. Every day we read something more about this occasion; everyone wants to spread the word and gather the citizenry for the array of cultural and historical exhibits and entertainment planned.

Dates for the celebration are September 20 to October 12, titled "Neiman Marcus, Texas: The Crossroads." It will be launched with a black-tie gala at the Dallas downtown store on September 19 and at the Houston Galleria store on September 20, with Governor and Mrs. **George W. Bush** serving as honorary chairs of both. (Both galas are fund-raisers for the Texas Cultural Endowment Fund.)

September *Texas Highways* had an especially good short article by "Mr. Stanley" himself, not an interview. In his words, "It is a running family joke that Neiman Marcus was established as the result of the bad judgment of its founders — my father, **Herbert Marcus**; his sister, **Carrie Neiman**; and her husband, **Al Neiman**." Al persuaded the other two, who were employed at Sanger Brothers and A. Harris, respectively, to go to Atlanta with him and establish a sales promotion business. After two years they had two offers to sell out their successful enterprise: one for \$25,000 in cash and the other for the franchise for the State of Missouri for the brand-new product, Coca-Cola. They took the money and headed back to Dallas to start their own business. Mr. Stanley says, "If their judgment had been better, they would have taken the Coca-Cola franchise, and Neiman Marcus would have become a famous name in Missouri as bottlers and distributors for the great Coca-Cola Company, at a fraction of the effort required to build it into a fashion institution with world renown."

On Monday morning, September 10, 1907, Neiman's opened after a Sunday advertisement in *The Dallas Morning News*: "Neiman Marcus will bring to the Southwest the finest assortments of ready-to-wear from all parts of the world," and "they will be sold with the highest degree of personalized service ever offered". Mr. Stanley says the advertisement, written by his father, was notable for several reasons, one of which was . . . "it placed the management's faith in

'ready-to-wear', an industry then less than ten years old."

As he said, before the beginning of the 20th Century you went to Paris, New York, or Chicago, or to the local dressmaker for custom-made clothes. The idea of fine clothes being "ready-to-wear" was a new concept, but the founders of the new store had faith that women would enjoy buying off the rack and foregoing the tediousness of fittings for custom-made.

They were right: the store made money its very first year, and quoting Mr. Stanley again: "During the 90-year history of Neiman Marcus, people . . . have consistently demonstrated a continuing characteristic: They want what they want when they want it, and they like it better with smiles and courtesy. Our customers appreciate our standards. . ."

We salute Neiman-Marcus, Dallas-born and -bred like us, and wish her at least ninety more. Ω

THIS'N THAT FROM FRANCES' NOTES

• It is time to get serious about the **John Tucker** headstone I have in my garage. Some of you genealogist-type Pioneers need to help me find where it should be placed. I have found that **Wesley Chenault** had a daughter **Angela** who married a John Tucker. Is this the one I have a marker for? It says, "Born February 1, 1841; Died January 20, 1926".

There was a large Tucker family near what is now Casa Linda, Forest Hills area. The marker was found in the back yard of a house someone had rented and I do not know how long it had been there, but it is in excellent shape and rather large for just moving around for fun. Come on, let's find its home and at least get it placed in the correct cemetery. I secretly suspect it may have been removed from the Ferris Cemetery on San Leandro and St. Francis many years ago, but there should be someone who *knows*.

• There will be a motion made at the September meeting to nominate **Mike Hazel** for an honorary membership in the Dallas County Pioneer Association. Mike has been a strong ally and supporter of all the things the DCPA stands for. He received his B.A. from SMU and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He has served as Interim Executive Director of both the Dallas Historical Society and the Dallas County Heritage Society, and is currently an Adjunct Professor in the history departments of SMU and the University of North Texas. He edited the anthology *Dallas Reconsidered*, published in 1995, and is the editor of *Legacies*.

We are honored to have someone like Mike taking care of our history!

• The Boy Scouts cleaned up the Garvin Cemetery again! It was so overgrown they had to rent a machine to mow down the high weeds and saplings. There was some assistance from moms and sisters, and the Lakemont Academy across the street brought home-made biscuits and jelly! One of the neighbors even complained because he felt safer with the overgrowth protecting him from criminals. Come on now, get a motion detector!

• A new director is now working to improve the appearance of Oakland Cemetery. This is the third oldest cemetery in the City of Dallas and many of our earliest pioneer relatives are buried here. This site has some of the most beautiful statuary marking the graves of early Dallasites. One of the members of the Board of Trustees is working on a Texas Historical Marker for the Cemetery. If you have ancestors here, let the office know who you are. It seems some of the records are unreadable and an attempt is being made to clear them up. The endowment for this cemetery is small compared to other endowed sites around Dallas and they are having to resort to creative ideas to keep up appearances. Lend a hand, send a check, go by and clean up your and a neighbor's spot. There will be more on these efforts later on.

Application for a Texas Historical Marker for the Ross Avenue Baptist Church is making its way through the process. When the church was built in 1917, the land was sold to the trustees by **Anna Moser**. Ask **Mark Mueller** about his kinfolks; he knows a lot.

- Application for a THM for the Camp House, next to the DeGolyer House at White Rock Lake is also making its way through the process. When this landmark, now owned by us (the Park Department purchased it in 1977), with its twenty-two acres, was added to the DeGolyer land an arboretum was finally made possible. This had been a dream of many for a long time. The Camp House was designed by **John Staub**, noted architect in Texas, and was built one year before the DeGolyer House. These two families had been neighbors for many years. The Camp House is now used for administrative offices for the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society, and can be rented for receptions. One of the newest members of the DCPA, **Peter Flagg Maxson**, is a grandson of the DeGolyers.

- The three gravemarkers for **Alex Harwood**, **John Martin Patterson**, and **John J. Good** will be dedicated on Saturday, September 20, at 2 pm. DCPA member, **Gene Gaddy**, will be master of ceremonies. Plan on coming down to the Pioneer Cemetery near the Convention Center in downtown Dallas and participating. These are the kinds of events that should appeal to Dallas County Pioneers. These were friends and neighbors of your folks, too! These people set the pace for us to follow, and that was without air conditioning, paved streets, and in some cases running water. The Confederate Statue in this Cemetery has recently been refurbished, and it is impressive! The four figures were modeled for **Robert E. Lee**, **Jefferson Davis**, **Stonewall Jackson**, and **Albert Sidney Johnson**, with an unknown soldier at the very highest point. The United Daughters of the Confederacy made the refurbishment possible.

- The Friends of the Trinity are planning another canoe trip down the river, so watch your daily newspaper for information on this. So far, I have furnished information on the bridges, early mills and ferries, other activities, and the first of several stories on the creeks that run into the Trinity: Turtle Creek, White Rock Creek, Mountain Creek, and Cedar Creek. If you know of stories about any of the creeks, let me know and we shall include them. This is *our* history; let's get it right!

- I had heard about the moving of some archival material that had been stored in a quonset hut back of Parkland Hospital. I attempted to correspond with the County Clerk in April and not having heard by May, I wrote a second time. Receiving no answer at all, and knowing my letters must have been received as they had not been returned, I wrote a note to my County Commissioner, **Mike Cantrell**. He replied immediately — made a few calls and found the answer. The material will be stored in a large building (much nicer than where it has been) near the County's New Kitchen. I believe this is called Lone Star Park. Supposedly, the files and books will be more accessible. (**Tom Jones** and I went to the old place looking for information as to what happened to the clock tower on top of Old Red one time. He knows how bad it was!) Maybe those of you who are interested in the archives of early Dallas County would like to tour the new facilities when the move is completed.

- Mark your calendar for October 18 and 19 during the State Fair for "Heritage Day" at the Hall of State. I understand there will be booths set up and some special food from some of the very good cooks. We, of all people, should support the efforts of all these groups who helped settle Dallas County. There is no charge to come see, and if you eat, you are on your own! Ω
Frances James

Next to good habits, the best thing you can give your children is good memories.



The Dallas Morning News: William Decherd
**Nancy McRae reads with Jon Zalmaor, 8, during
 kickoff events for the Greater Dallas Community
 of Churches' Summer Reading Program at Wesley-
 Rankin Community Center in West Dallas.**

EARL RECOGNIZED TWICE MORE FOR A JOB "WELL DONE"

Earl O. Cullum recently received two more coveted awards in recognition of his service to his country and his government:

A historical tray memorializes thirty years' service as an FBI agent, with retirement (in 1977) at Dallas. It depicts a longhorn steer, with map and flag of Texas; the Bryan cabin; a Cowboys football player; the Dallas skyline; and the Federal Bureau of Investigation seal.

A World War II melange includes a guidon/flag of the 159th Military Police Battalion, a picture of the Battalion officers he commanded, a map of the Assam

Province where it was in operation, a picture of Japanese prisoners-of-war he evacuated from the Battle of Myitkyina, and a picture of the American deserter-murderer he captured (the only American executed in the China-Burma-India area in World War II). Earl served thirty years in the US military.

(We have lots of this kind of good stuff among our members and we really would like to tell the rest of us all about it. We just need to have you give us the story. If it is your story or one about someone that you know of, please let us have it. We want to toot our own [DCPA] horn every possible chance.) Ω

The following is a reprint from *The Register*, the Newsletter of the Dallas Historical Society.

A HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR DALLAS, 1922-1940

In 1922, **G.B. Dealey** of *The Dallas Morning News* spoke to Dallas with a purpose. The pioneers of the past were gone or dying, he said, and someone needed to preserve Dallas' history now. He wanted a historical society for Dallas. On March 31, he and 100 other Dallasites met over dinner at the Oriental Hotel and created the Dallas Historical Society.

The Dallas Historical Society

The Dallas Historical Society logo, 1922

The Society's most active member, **C.B. Gillespie**, convinced Dallas pioneer **John Cochran** to write a history of Dallas. After the book was published, many members lost interest in the Society, which became a group of officers on paper and forty members, largely elderly ladies, who paid annual dues of \$1. Gillespie continued to collect documents, storing them in his safe.

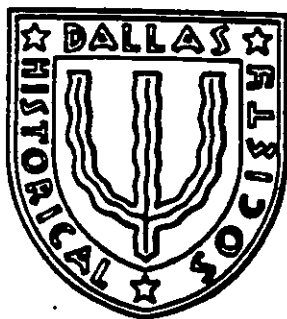
When Gillespie died in 1933, the Society moved its materials to Southern Methodist University, where they sat unused and unknown for lack of staff. In early 1934, Dealey became president of the Society, determined to renew it.



The Dallas Historical Society logo, 1935

Soon after, he met Virginia Leddy. They created a special group, the Fellows of the Society, whose dues would pay her salary as archivist. Dealey sent her "to the prominent men [in town] to tell them of the Great Honor which had befallen them — with an incidental cost of only twenty-five dollars per year!" She was the Society's first employee, and the collections quickly became available to researchers.

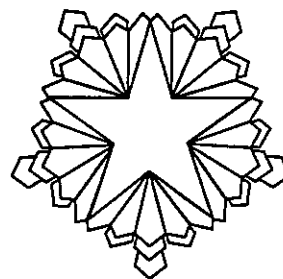
The Society's watershed came with the Texas Centennial Exposition in 1936. Herbert Gambrell, an S.M.U. professor and the Society's historian, created a Texas history exhibit in the Hall of State. After the Pan-American Exhibition in 1937, the building faced an uncertain future. In May, 1938, the City of Dallas and the Society agreed to maintain the building as a history museum.



The Dallas Historical Society logo, 1938

Gambrell, to Leddy's consternation, became director. The Society's new home attracted interest from donors, and the library and museum collections swelled. In 1940, Virginia decided she liked Herbert after all and married him. With him as director of the museum and her as director of the collection, the Society embarked on a new era. Ω

DALLAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Dallas Historical Society logo, 1997

Postscript: We wrote to Gaylön Polatti, editor of *The Register*, for permission to reprint, and here is a paragraph out of his reply: "I always enjoy reading the Association's newsletter when it arrives, and you are most welcome to reprint the DHS history article. I am now writing the second part of the article for our own fall newsletter, which will come out as soon as my director gets all his materials together for me. I'm sure you never have to prod DCPA people along — with a pitchfork, for example — in order to get articles for your own newsletter." [Editor's note: HAH!]

A quote from *Preserve Dallas*, publication of Preservation Dallas:

Preservation Texas, the statewide preservation organization, presented Preservation Dallas with the 1997 Alamo Award at the statewide preservation conference in April. This not-necessarily-coveted [our accents] award goes to the best fought, losing preservation battle of the previous year and was earned by Preservation Dallas for the defense of the Dr Pepper building.

LEAVING A LEGACY

We would like to make this a periodic feature of our newsletter. So we need your accounts of those, living and dead, who have taken a part in building our heritage and traditions. Herewith, our first of many, we hope.

We Wish We Could Have Known Them

"These were very busy people. I wish they could have been in our vicinity where they could have helped us."

This is a story about those busy people, **Elizabeth and Alfred Sloan Jackson**, longtime members of DCPA, given to us with the above comment by his cousin, **Mary Jackson Sutherland**. It is a little late getting to us (A.S. died in 1994 at age 93 and Elizabeth in 1995 at age 90), but we think you will enjoy a look at the legacy some of our own have left to our State.

Eleven years after receiving his bachelor's degree in biology, while teaching science and serving as principal in public schools, A.S. earned his master's degree and joined the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a field biologist. In 1950 he moved his family to Canadian, where both he and Elizabeth apparently became well-loved pillars of the community, members of the Methodist Church, (he) president of the Canadian Rotary Club and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, (she) teacher of history, Spanish, and English at Canadian High School for sixteen years, genealogist, and author of the book *Rebel in Church* under the pen name "Roberta Warren". They celebrated their sixtieth anniversary in 1990.

He received the Outstanding Service Award from the Texas chapter of the Wildlife Society, which recognized him for his "significant contributions to the conservation and management of Texas Wildlife as Research Biologist, Author, Leader, Counselor". He also received accolades for his conservation efforts from the American Motor Company and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

In the first of a series profiling Texans who have contributed to conservation, Jackson was interviewed

by **Jim Cox** for the "Outdoor Heritage Series" for *Texas Parks & Wildlife*, October 1990. Quoting: "A.S. Jackson's Panhandle is not the Panhandle of grain elevators and combines; nor is it international airports, rodeos or Amarillo neon. When Alfred Sloan Jackson looks out across the Canadian River breaks, he sees beyond the blacktop and barbed wire, out to a land once fought for by Indians and white settlers; land pierced by the hooves of millions of bison. He sees the ghosts of huge buffalo, wolves and grizzly bears, that, like the Indian, were in perfect harmony with their environment but eventually fell prey to greed and technology." And: "'Jack' Jackson entered the scene when wildlife biology was a fledgling science, and knowledge of Texas' wild flora and fauna was drawn largely from folklore. The few who chose wildlife biology as a career . . . had to combat the frontier perception that most wild species were a hindrance and threat to human progress."

Cox says Jackson gave real meaning to the title "field" biologist by camping under the stars and with his family in remote and deserted ranch houses without modern conveniences; that Jackson traveled all over the Panhandle and the Plains gathering valuable legendary as well as scientific information. He was involved in the acquisition by the TPWD of the Gene Howe Wildlife Management Area in the Panhandle and was chief negotiator for the purchase of the Matador Wildlife Management Area in Cottle County. He was the author of the publication "Quail Management Handbook for the West Texas Rolling Plains", which is used as a reference in many university-level wildlife classes. Of the **Watt R. Matthews** family of Lambshead Ranch, he said it was a place which was "a wellhead of personal inspiration as well as a site for wildlife research."

The fall 1994 publication of the Canadian-Hemphill Chamber of Commerce had an article about Lake Marvin, a grassland and riparian area northeast of Canadian, which is part of the Black Kettle National Grassland. Of four hiking trails in the park, with informative signs on local plants and animals, one is named the "A.S. Jackson Wildlife Trail" because he

created the first Nature Trail during the early Fall Foliage Tours which were inaugurated by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in the 1950s.

The hometown folks were equally laudatory of the Jacksons. In *The Canadian Record* of March 3, 1994, in her column "Field Notes", **Laurie Ezzell Brown** writes: "A.S. Jackson was more aware than most that we are only momentary dwellers on this planet, a truth which his 93 years' living might have seemed to contradict. He knew that we must pay the rent for the shelter we have received by protecting earth's natural beauty and resources. This week his watch ended after more than a half-century on the job. ... And although his death offers a reminder of what temporary transitory creatures we all are, I am even more aware of the enduring grace which this one man offered to the earth in return for the pleasure it gave him."

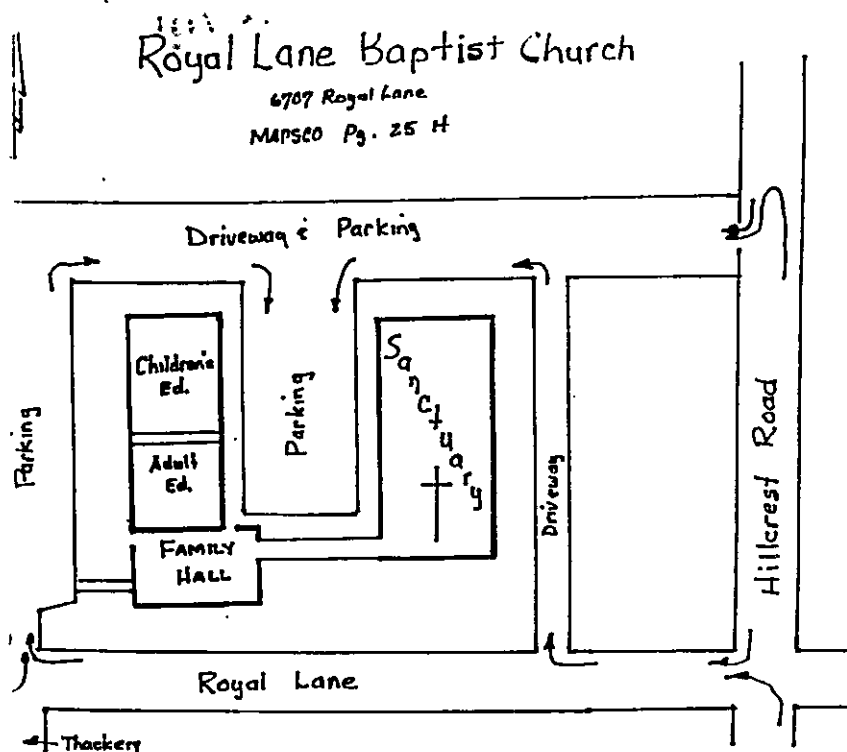
And in her column on November 16, 1995, Ms. Brown says of Elizabeth Jackson: "Mary Elizabeth Jackson was a teacher. No, that simple word, though meaningful, sounds too insubstantial for what I want to say. ... Mary Elizabeth Jackson was a teacher ... an educator in the finest sense, a guide to higher reaches. She provoked thought. ... She treasured the mind and valued

the soul." She went on to say that Mrs. Jackson was her teacher and that her influence in her life was far greater than she could have known, when it was not an easy time to be a teacher in Canadian, Texas.

Elizabeth Jackson was born in Arkansas, received her BA degree from North Texas State College in Denton, and married A.S. in Cleburne in 1930. Alfred Sloan Jackson was born in Plano while it was still blackland prairie. His parents were **Eliza Brown** and **John Jackson**, natives of Tennessee, who came to Texas while it was still a republic. John was the son of **Jean Sloan** and **Andrew Jackson** (not the prez).

Past and present DCPA members who are descendents of the eleven children of John and Eliza are: **Glenda Cammack** and **Mary Jackson Sutherland** from **James E. Jackson**; **Patsy Gooding** and **Alfred Sloan Jackson** from **Andrew Sloan**; **Jan Grantham**, **M'Layne Murphy**, and **Sibyl Skipworth** from **Nancy Lucinda Prigmore**; and **Vinnie Leah Carmichael** from **Ruth Ann Chenault**.

Better late than not at all — for a story such as this. We echo Mary's sentiments: we wish they could have been our neighbors. 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. 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

Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979

P.O. Box 12496

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