



Dallas County Pioneer Association

Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979
P.O. Box 12496, Dallas, Texas 75225-0496
214/969-0926

SUMMER 1999

DCPA QUARTERLY MEETING

When: Thursday, June 3, 1999

Dinner: 6:00 p.m.; Program: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Family Hall, Royal Lane Baptist Church
Corner of Hillcrest Road and Royal Lane

Program: Gene Gaddy presents "Dallas County Postal History"

\$9 per person. Reservations required

Please call **Bill Clark** at 214/528-1891, or DCPA Call Notes at 214/972-0926 for reservations by Monday, May 31. Payment by check to DCPA and mailed to Bill at 4400 Potomac, Dallas 75205, will be appreciated.

Eugene Gaddy, treasurer of Dallas County Pioneer Association, will give us the benefit of an almost lifelong interest in things postal. He has been an avid stamp collector since about ten years of age and became interested in Dallas County post offices about twenty years ago.

Gene is a past president of Park Cities Philatelic Society and is a member of Collectors Club of Dallas, American Philatelic Society, and Texas Postal History Society, among others. He also has served on the Advisory Board of Philatelic Library, University of Texas at Dallas.

A graduate of Highland Park High School, Gene received degrees with honors in Civil Engineering and Business Administration from SMU. During World War II he served in the US Coast Guard, then was a civil engineer with the City of Dallas for two years. In 1952 he organized a consulting civil engineering firm, Gaddy & Loren, and served as president until its sale in 1974. Since then he has been an independent real estate development consultant. Other businesses include Gaddy & Loren Investments and various real estate investments.

Gene is a past president of the White Rock Rotary Club, a member of Rotary International, a Paul Harris Fellow, and has served on various Rotary District committees and as District Secretary. Other memberships include the American Society of Civil Engineers, Blue Key, Sons of the Republic of Texas, Sons of the American Revolution, Society of Mayflower Descendants, and the Dallas Historical Society. Wonder what he does with his spare time!

Gene and wife Sheryl have three sons and four grandsons. Two sons are still in Texas and one lives in Richmond, Virginia. We look forward to this program by one of the best of our very own. Ω

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Eight DCPA members attended the closing ceremonies of the first session of 2000: *International Year of Thanksgiving* at the Myerson Symphony Center on March 15, thanks to a generous anonymous donor. The DCPA was also recognized in the official program of the event. Attending were **Bill Clark, Gene Gaddy, Frances James, Nancy and Bill McRae, Mae Riek, Marjori Sharp, and John Winniford**. The procession of religious leaders in their clerical finery was quite impressive, as were the addresses by the Archbishop of Canterbury and others. Nancy and I were also privileged to attend the National Day of Prayer breakfast sponsored by Thanksgiving Square on May 6 and heard Bishop **Ronan** of Argentina give the principal address. **Ebby Halliday Acers**, who will speak at our December program, has been instrumental in organizing and sponsoring these events. The idea of ecumenical thanksgiving acceptable to all religious beliefs originated in Dallas ninety-two years ago and is now spreading around the globe. Belfast, Ireland, will dedicate their Thanksgiving Square next year.

Revision of the DCPA history book is under way. A committee of **Earl Cullum, Gene Gaddy, Nancy McRae, Marjori Sharp, and Clare Weakley** will coordinate this project. The committee urges each DCPA member to submit items for inclusion. Particularly wanted are short writeups of personal or family member experiences in WW II, either on active duty with the military or on the home front. Also, we want all military service experiences by DCPA members at any time. Earl Cullum will be collecting these, but they may be submitted to any committee member. Please jot down your experiences/memories and send them in soon!

The General Levi Casey Chapter of DAR sent a check for \$25 to DCPA in appreciation for a presentation on cemetery maintenance by **Frances James**. Thanks, Frances! You continue to be the DCPA Ambassador to the Community. By popular demand, Frances will conduct another historic cemetery tour for the Dallas

Historical Society on June 5 (rain date, June 12). Cost is \$25 for DHS members and \$35 for non-members, and includes lunch. This was a sold-out event last time, so get your reservations in early!

Nancy and I will be travelling to Athens, the Greek Isles, and Istanbul the latter part of May. **Clare Weakley** will preside at the June 3 meeting and **Bill Clark** will be taking dinner reservations. We plan to return prior to the meeting, but a missed connection or other events may make us late! Regardless, the meeting will be in good hands.

Dr. Christine Kallstrom and her students at Treetop School International, a charter school, presented a wonderful program of Texas history and song on March 3. Their campus includes a facsimile of Bird's Fort that existed only a couple of miles away. It was worth the trip to visit this unusual but very effective school and see their emphasis on history and the heritage of this area. The school can be contacted at 817/283-1771. Dr. Kallstrom, a Charter and Life member, presented DCPA with a map of the Bird's Fort area showing the early trails and also a short history of Bird's Fort. These have been added to the DCPA archives.

Our deepest sympathies go to **John Winniford** on the death of his wife, **Mary Alice**, and to **Nora Lechner** on the death of her husband, **R.A. Lechner**. We also have just learned of the death of **Walter C. Bowen**, and we extend our sympathies to his family, which includes our members, **Mae and George Riek** and **Jean Riek Reilly**. **Bill McRae**

MINUTES OF MEETING DECEMBER 3

The meeting was held in the Family Hall of the Royal Lane Baptist Church, and was called to order by President **Bill McRae** at 7 p.m. He welcomed the members, including two new members and seventeen guests. After giving the Invocation, he also led the Pledge to the American and the Texas flags.

President McRae reported we have two members on the sick list and two others who have moved to Care Centers. Three members passed away recently: **Mae B. Riek, Mary Sullivan, and Mary Nancy Bowen.** (Mae and Mary Nancy's husbands were first cousins and grandsons of early Dallas Mayor **Ben Long.**)

Five membership certificates were passed out and President McRae thanked **Marjori Sharp** for the good newsletter. The new format is nice as well as all the written material.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by **Mattie Hughes** and including **Irma Janicek** and **Kenneth Woodfin**, submitted their suggested list of officers for 1999: president, **Bill McRae**; vice president, **Clare Weakley**; secretary, **Mae E. Riek**; treasurer, **Gene Gaddy**; historian, **Carolyn Selzer**; newsletter, **Marjori Sharp**; and At Large members **William E. Clark, June A. Shipley, and John Winniford.** The membership vote was unanimous in accepting this slate of officers.

The Dallas History Conference wants anyone interested in doing research to write an original article on "The Forces That Have Shaped Dallas". The article must be submitted by February 1 and if selected to be published will be paid \$500.

The membership was reminded that dues for 1999 are due at this time.

Frances James reminded everyone that "everything is political" and we should be part of a "Good Clean Fight" by writing and calling every time we see something bad in the newspaper. Right now, help is needed to save old Crozier Tech High School. One of our missions in the DCPA is to preserve the past.

Our speaker for the evening was introduced, Dr. **Rose-Mary Rumbley.** She gave a fun-filled talk on her newest book, *Dallas, Too.* **Ω**

Mae Riek

FINAL FAREWELLS

Our Charter member **Walter C. Bowen** passed away on March 8 and was buried in Restland Memorial Park. He was preceded in death by his wife of sixty-three years, **Mary Nancy McMillan**, just this past November.

Walter's great grandfather, **Ahab Bowen**, came to Dallas in 1862 and located a grocery store on what was then called "Courthouse Square" and for whom Bowen Street was named. Walter's mother, **Mary Long Bowen**, was the daughter of **Benjamin Long**, who was the seventh and ninth mayor of Dallas. Benjamin was also the great grandfather of three other DCPA members: **Mae Riek, George Riek, and Jean Riek Reilly.**

Walter is survived by two children, six grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to his family.

On April 7 **Mary Alice Winniford** was laid to rest in Cochran Chapel Cemetery alongside four generations of her pioneer Cochran family. We felt like we knew her a lot better after the warm and loving memorial service at her church, Preston Hollow Methodist, in which three of her grandsons took part.

Mary Alice came by her many talents and her zest for life honestly: she was the great granddaughter of **Nancy Jane Cochran**, one of the seven Hughes sisters who came to Dallas beginning in 1843. Widowed at age thirty-six, with six children under the age of fifteen, Nancy Jane managed so well that she was able to donate the land for the Cochran Chapel Church and surveyed the land herself. A charter member of the original Dallas County Pioneer Association, she was elected a vice president at the first meeting.

Mary Alice is survived by her husband, **John Winniford**, our distinguished treasurer for thirteen years, passing on that position just this year. While John tallied arriving guests at our quarterly meetings, she was always by his side with a special word for each

GIVE US YOUR STORY -- STORIES!

one. She also left three daughters and four grandsons, numerous other relatives, including several of our members, and countless friends.

We will miss her cheery, friendly answer to our telephone calls; her warm hugs in greeting us at the door. We will miss her.

We have just been told of the death of **R.A. Lechner**. We have no details. We send our deepest sympathies to his wife, **Nora**, and her family. Ω

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

We welcome six new members and look forward to meeting them in person at our June meeting.

William Harper Daniel is a sixth-generation Dallas Countian. His first generation Dallas ancestors were the family of **Frances Sims Daniel**, who came in 1849 with the help of three slaves. Her husband, Methodist minister **John M. Daniel**, died and was buried in Alabama, and William thinks this was on the trip to Texas. The first Daniel home was on the property in University Park where the Daniel Cemetery is located, and Daniel Street is named for the family.

Francis R. Daniel, Frances' son, married **Mary Frances Robinson**, and they became the parents of **Francis Asbury**, who married **Fannie C. Harper**. Their son, **Alva Harper Daniel**, and his wife, **Sarah Olivia Cox**, were the parents of **Max Alva**, who married **Louise McGraw** and fathered William.

The Cemetery is almost all that's left of acres of land Frances acquired in University Park. All subsequent generations of Daniels have been buried there, and according to the legend on the Texas Historical Marker on the Cemetery, this included at least one of the slaves.

William tells us that **Margaret Doggett Crow**, wife of **Trammell**, is also a descendant of this family and the Crows plan to be buried in the Cemetery.

William and his wife, **Theresa Moses Daniel**, live at 9211 Guernsey Lane, 75220-3927, and their telephone is 214/350-5922.

Mary Glascock and **Joe Thomas Fox** have joined us through the Fox family line, which dates back to the 1830s in Rhineland, Germany. **August J. Fox, Sr.**, married to **Louise Muller**, also from Germany, came to Dallas in 1875 by way of Jefferson and New Orleans. They made their home at the corner of Summers and River Streets, which is very close to where Field Street intersects Woodall Rogers Freeway.

The family Bible records the births of two other children in Dallas before **August, Jr.** was born in New Orleans. He married **Mary Moss**, who was born in England. They married and lived in New Orleans, but moved to Dallas in 1887, where Joe's father, **Joe**, was born in 1889. His mother was **Ethel Herring**, who was born in Cass County.

Joe belongs to the Sons of the Republic of Texas. He and Mary live at 4501 Druid Lane #124, and their phone number is 214/526-0088. They have a daughter, **Ann**, and a grandson, **Jackson Foley**.

Genevieve Buhrer Glover joins cousins in the DCPA: **Louise Buhrer**, **Ann** and **Glenn Williams**, and **Martha T. Gracey**. Her first generation Dallasites were **Jacob Buhrer** and wife **Anna Hinterman**, who came in 1872. Both were born in Switzerland.

Their son, **Walter Philip**, married **Alwine Koch**, and they were the parents of Genevieve. She is a retired medical technologist. Her late husband was **Ova Lee Glover**.

Genevieve's address is 6546 Axton Lane, 75214-2231, and her phone number is 214/363-4220.

Gloria H. Jacobus was born in New York City and was raised in Wichita Falls, but she has lived in Dallas County for fifty years. She is retired from her own business as a custom furniture maker. Her late hus-

band was **Henry S. Jacobus, Jr.**, and they were the parents of two children.

Gloria is interested in genealogy and belongs to the Dallas Jewish Historical Society and the Texas Jewish Historical Society. We are happy to welcome her as a member of DCPA, also. Her address is 9500 Inwood Road, 75220, and her phone number is 214/363-3317.

Mary Shirley Phelps-Manes arrived in Dallas at age six months, having been born in Indianapolis. However, she was the granddaughter of **John F. Dillon**, who came in 1900 from Oklahoma City to operate his uncle's store, Wm. Young's Grocery Store, so she had roots here before 1900. The store was on Ervay Street and John lived on Browder Street.

After his marriage to **Mattie Belle Boykin**, who had come to Dallas from Florida, they lived first on Seegar, where Mary's mother was born, then on Jones Street, then on Junius about 1913, which property they sold to Gaston Avenue Baptist Church in 1947.

John and Mattie had three sons and one daughter, **Dorothy Belle**, who married **Joseph Andrew Shirley**, and they became the parents of Mary. They were very active in the First Baptist Church and many church socials were held in their home while Dr. **George W. Truett** was the pastor. John visited with the young men who lived at the YMCA across the street from the church, taught at the Dallas County for the Poor, and worked with prisoners in the jails. Dr. **W.A. Criswell** officiated at his funeral in 1952.

Mary wrote President Bill McRae about finding a place for preserving and storing family records and we feel sure that Bill told her she has found the right place. She also expressed a concern for saving her high school, Crozier Tech.

Mary is retired from Otis Engineering in Carrollton. She belongs to the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Oklahoma Friends of Archives, and the Dallas Genealogy Society. She and her husband, **Ken Manes**, live

at 4115 NW 50th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73112-2246, phone number 405/947-7834. We hope they will get to Dallas and meet with us sometime.

Margaret Spencer Owen decided she would start paying dues after attending some of our meetings with friend **Earl Owen** (no relation) **Cullum**. She is practically a native Dallasite, anyway, coming here in 1922 from Hope, Arkansas.

Her parents were **Maggie Mitchel** and **Earl Edgar Spencer, Sr.** The Mitchels and the Spencers were pioneer families of Arkadelphia and Hope. Their first address in Dallas was on Worth Street and her father was a salesman for a Dallas institution, Home Furniture Company.

Margaret lives at 10651 Steppington #4066, 75230, and her phone number is 214/361-1037. Now we will expect her to be prompt and regular with Earl.

We have a little more background on **Simon Selzer**, husband of **Carolyn** and father of **Paula**, who was profiled in our last newsletter. His maternal grandfather homesteaded in North Dakota, coming from Germany, and came to Dallas in 1908. He was **Jacob Lutz**, a familiar early Dallas name. His paternal grandfather, **Martin Selzer**, came from Austria to Kansas in 1884 and to Dallas in the early 1900s.

Simon has been on the sick list recently, and we are glad to know that he is doing better. Ω

STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER?

by Clare Weakley

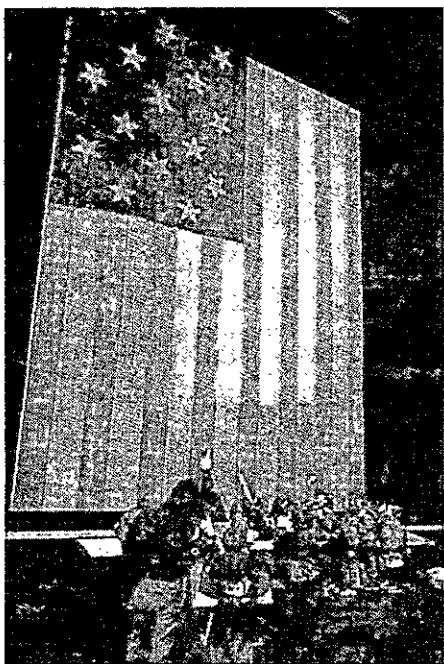
"Old Glory", the giant flag that inspired **Francis (Frank) Scott Key** to write "The Star Spangled Banner", has an almost terminal illness.

Made of wool bunting, it is getting old and falling apart. Its life has been prolonged by special treatment and a special place in the Flag Hall of the National Museum of American History, at the Smithsonian in

Washington. In spite of careful handling in the past, its wool fibers are deteriorating and additional preservation is imperative.

A restoration project is in progress and over \$20,000,000 has been raised for that and for new display quarters. The Museum spokeswoman reports, "The fact that it is hanging makes access very difficult, and so we're working out approaches for examining it. We're trying to assess the flag's structural stability and whether it is able to bear its own weight."

"Old Glory" presents preservation and display problems because of its improbable size. In addition, it has been cut and snipped for memento pieces since it first flew at Fort McHenry during the defense of Baltimore, September 13, 1814.



The giant flag was originally thirty by forty-two feet, custom-made by order of the Fort's commander, Major **George Armistead**. With Hancockian flourish, he asked for a flag "large enough for the British to see it at a distance."

Widow **Mary Pickersgill**, a Baltimore custom-flag-maker, complied. Mary and her thirteen-year old daughter, **Caroline**, designed, cut, and handsewed the

banner from four hundred yards of wool bunting, at a cost of \$405.90. When finished, each of the flag's fifteen stars—five rows of three each—were two feet across from point to point. Each of its eight red and seven white stripes was two feet wide. It flew over the Fort all the night of the futile bombardment by the British. The shelling ceased at four in the morning. When Key (being held prisoner on a British ship) could see the flag still flying in the next morning's first light, he hurriedly wrote his inspired poem that became our national anthem.

Since then, "Old Glory" has become a national icon, as much revered as is our national anthem; but the banner was not always respected, even while it was revered.

The flag went with George Armistead when he retired, and many asked him for a piece of it. Mementos cost the flag eight feet of its width and one star. Its original forty-two foot breadth is down to thirty-four, and a star is missing. One wonders if the star was buried along with Francis Key.

Now "Old Glory" rests in peace, but it also rests in pieces. Ω

PAT GIVES DCPA A PLUG

Pat Randolph gave us a plug in her column in the March 11 issue of *PEOPLE*:

"Members of the Dallas County Pioneer Association enjoyed hearing genealogy guru **Paula Parke** speak at last week's association meeting. Paula is a native Texan with several generations of Texas ancestors.

"She spoke about the difficulties the pioneers faced while colonizing North Texas, and she noted that the first land contract agreement signed in the Republic of Texas was dated Aug. 10, 1841."

Thanks a lot, Pat! Ω

NANCY AND BILL McRAE, **OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS!**

They could pick only nine out of a field of 200 nominees. One of those nine—no surprise to us—is our own presidential team, **Nancy and Bill McRae.**



“Outstanding Volunteer Coordinators of the Year” is the honor conferred on Nancy and Bill at the 1999 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Awards Celebration by the Volunteer Center of Dallas County, April 12 at the Hyatt Regency. Their profile in the printed program says it best:

“Bill and Nancy McRae are familiar faces to the children who participate in the summer reading program at Wesley-Rankin Community Center and St. Luke’s United Methodist Church. Last summer, this husband and wife team could be found four days a week at the two sites, supervising volunteers and reading to the children. Together, they recruited 140 volunteers to participate in this eight-week program which matches each child with an adult reading volunteer for 30 minutes every day. With role models like the McRaes, the students develop a love of books and are more ready to start a new school year in the fall. As *volunteer* volunteer coordinators of the program, Bill and Nancy made sure each child had a reading partner and jumped in to read when a reading partner was not available. Their flexibility, organization and commitment were the foundation for a successful summer reading program for more than 130 children.”

The Judges’ Tribute to the nominees said what they were looking for and what they found: “The judges are proud to take this opportunity to thank you for your boundless energy and never-ending generosity to those around you. Your selfless attitude and spirit of giving is an inspiration to us all. . . If there is a common thread that ties you together, it is that each

and every one of the nominees gives without regard to the thought of return. . . . Going that ‘extra mile’ is only natural to you. . . . Dallas County is lucky to have such outstanding dedicated volunteers. You make us proud.”

They surely make us proud, too, Nancy, immediate past president of DCPA, and Bill, our current president. Now you know why you always have to leave a message on their machine and hope they will find time to call back (they always do, of course)—this isn’t their only sphere of giving to the community. Ω

We hit the jackpot in our mailbag this month: a note from A.C. Greene, our eminent Dallas historian: “3/11/99. Thanks so much for the new directory—I’m proud to be an honorary member. One small correction—Our area code is now 254 instead of 817.”

ROUTH CEMETERIES DEDICATE **TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER**

A dedication ceremony was held on April 11 for a Texas Historical Marker for the Routh Cemeteries. Several members of the DCPA were instrumental in securing the Marker, the clean-up of the Cemeteries, and the dedication ceremony.

These included **Frances James**, who did all the research for the Marker, **Bill and Virginia Baird**, **Henry Warren Coit**, **Betsy and Lee Halford**, **J.M. and Pearl Howell**, **Pat and Joan Howell**, **Nancy and Bill McRae**, **Sandra Neal**, and **Gladys and Robert Skiles**.

Dr. Leon Aduddell, assistant pastor of First Baptist Church of Plano, gave the invocation and **Frances James** presented the history of the cemeteries. **Nancy McRae**, treasurer of Routh Cemeteries Association, recognized **Coit** for his dedication in singlehandedly maintaining the Cemeteries for many years. More than one hundred people attended the ceremony.

After the dedication a reception was held at the First Baptist Church of Plano, which is the church **Jacob Routh** started. Ω
Nancy McRae

AN IMPORTANT DEADLINE: **NOVEMBER 1, 1999**

We have set a deadline for entries for our revision of *One Hundred Twenty Years*: November 1, 1999. That's so we can all have a copy in hand to start the new century.

Get started on your homework! First, start with page one and make any changes, corrections, or revisions. Go through the whole book, page by page (you need to read it at least once, anyway).

Give us stories about the early organization. Some of you have told us you have them. We had only two in the first edition, one from **Earl Cullum** and one from **Mary Sutherland**. We need lots more.

Look at your own entry somewhere on pages fifty-three through fifty-seven and tell us what changes you want to make. Some of you say you would prefer listing a different early ancestor.

We have been holding some corrections since the first book came out. **Tom Jones** straightened us out on the story on page thirty-nine about the George Mifflin Dallas plaque. **Mae Riek** corrected several errors in the listing of current members. We want to get it right this time.

Get out your little blue history book and do your homework—NOW! Turn it in by November 1. Ω

WHOIZIT???

How many of us recognized the ice skater pictured in the March newsletter as our **Mae E. Riek**? Did we give it away when we told you she now holds the same office in our organization as her mother once did, and also when we said she still is just as cute? We wonder how many of us were in the audience applauding her.

In 1945 Mae skated with the Dot Franey Ice Review in the Century Room of the Adolphus Hotel, and her

brother, Edward, skated with Ice Capades and the Sonja Henie Ice Show. Mae says the Ice Arena at Fair Park became her hangout after she saw a Sonja Henie movie and begged a pair of ice skates for Christmas. The skaters in the Dot Franey show practiced at Fair Park, and when a handsome young man named **Jay Cantwell** needed a partner for a pair number, Mae was the chosen.

Mae says she gets a glow remembering those days. Because the evening performance ended late, she was given a hotel room just as the out-of-town skaters were, so she wouldn't have to ride a late streetcar home. The rooms were not then air conditioned, and with the louvered hall door and the windows open, she learned to sleep in midtown racket.

Mae and her family (brother **George**, sister **Jean Riek Reilly**, and mother, our beloved **Mae B.**, who passed away late last year) all are Charter and Life members of DCPA. Their Dallas roots go back to **Benjamin Long**, early Dallas mayor who came to the County in 1855 from Belgium as part of the LaReunion settlement. Mae B. was an early secretary of DCPA, and Mae E. is currently serving in that office for us. Ω

AMERICAN HISTORY 101 **The Minutemen's Flag**

Seated among the dignitaries on April 19, 1875, for the centennial celebration of "The Concord Fight", **Ralph Waldo Emerson** was to recite his famous verse that begins, "By the rude bridge that arched the flood, / Their flag to April's breeze unfurled. . . ." When Emerson penned the words in 1836, he'd been using poetic license. He needed something "unfurled" to rhyme with his last line about "The shot heard 'round the world." Now before Emerson's eyes, the original Bedford flag—the only flag carried by the minutemen at Concord bridge—was unfurled by descendants of the man who'd carried it into battle. Emerson was "surprised indeed", wrote Bedford historian **Ambram English Brown**, to discover that there really was a flag at Concord.

It was carried into battle by **Nathaniel Page**, one of 27 Bedford minutemen duly enrolled by the town to "obtain the skill of competent soldiers" only a month before the first fighting of the Revolution. Elected cornet or flag bearer, Page supplied his own flag, a cavalry banner borrowed from his older brother, who'd served as cornet in a mounted Colonial regiment during the French and

Indian Wars a decade earlier. Now the British regulars watched in alarm as the banner and the armed mass of minutemen around it moved toward them. The regulars pulled back across the "rude bridge", tearing up planks and forming a firing line. The minutemen charged and in the ensuing fight drove the British out of town, harrying them all the way back to Boston. When the smoke cleared, the Bedford minutemen carried their mortally wounded Captain **Jonathan Wilson** and their flag home. Wilson went to an honored grave, and the Bedford flag went to Nathaniel Page's attic. The flag and its story passed from generation to generation of Pages until 1885, when the family gave it to the Bedford Free Library, where it has been ever since. In 1929 the town put the flag on its official seal.



The 300-year-old flag itself is under wraps, kept in a vault at the library and out of damaging light. To let the world get a better look, the "Friends of the Bedford Flag" organized themselves two years ago, and with the library trustees' consent, carefully photographed the flag. It's the centerpiece of a

beautiful new illustrated history by local writer **Barbara Hitchcock** and designer **Jan van Steenwijk**.

The flag itself was made of a thick square of Chinese red silk damask on which was painted an armed hand brandishing a sword surrounded by the motto, *Vince Aut Morire*, that is, "Conquer or Die". What the symbolism means or where it came from or even how the flag came to Bedford are unknown. What happened to the flag's original silver fringe is not. Nathaniel Page's daughter **Ruhamah** cut it off. "I took that silver fringe from that old flag when I was a giddy girl and trimmed a dress for a military ball," she confessed to her son **Jonathan Lane**. "I was never more sorry for anything. . . ."

The Bedford Flag: A National Treasure is available for \$17.75 plus sales tax and shipping from the Friends of the Bedford Flag at Box 511, Bedford, MA 01730. from *YANKEE*, April 1999 (magazine) Ω

JUST WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!

"Help! Found suitcase of old photos. Trying to locate family member. Photos were in attic of old house in Oak Cliff."

We like to hear that **Jim Foster** is going through the

attics of old houses. Some of the things he has found are: 1908 Jack County marriage license for **J.A. Vanhoo** and **Ida Alice Womack**; 1950 Class Annual from Judson Grove High School in Longview; 1916 Jack County Poll Tax Receipt in name of **John Vanhoo**; 1936 letter to **Garrett Morris** of Fresno, CA.

Doesn't this sound like something you would like to run your fingers through? We hope to hear more about it from him.

If anything rings a bell for you, contact Jim: 407 Centre St., 75208, fosterjl@flash.net, 214/942-2119. Ω

AMERICAN HISTORY 101+

June 13, 1998. Dear Ann Landers: Your column is so widely read that I felt it would be the most appropriate place to tell your readers about a little-known law that sets aside the 21 days from June 14 (Flag Day) to July 4 (Independence Day) as a period to honor America.

This law was passed in 1975 and states ". . . that Congress declares the 21 days from Flag Day through Independence Day as a period to honor America, that there be public gatherings and activities at which the people can celebrate and honor their country in an appropriate manner."

Here are a few suggestions to help your readers observe the 21-day Salute to Honor America:

1. Display our flag every day during this 21-day period.
2. Pledge allegiance to our flag each day.
3. Urge various organizations to promote America and unity among all Americans.
4. Stimulate love and admiration for our national history and tradition during public ceremonies.

Every community, group and individual may participate in this nationwide effort by helping the handicapped and the aged, and by encouraging the young to understand the opportunities and responsibilities inherent in our constitutional system. Through such positive action during these 21 days, Americans can then celebrate the Fourth of July with a feeling of accomplishment.—**Jack Fleischer**, sports coordinator, Honor America.

The Dallas Morning News, June 13, 1998

THIS 'N THAT FROM FRANCES

The Dallas Historical Society is organizing another bus tour of historical cemeteries in Dallas on Saturday, June 5. The ones selected for this early summer tour are Oakland (again, by popular request), Pioneer downtown at the Convention Center, Emanuel on Howell and Lemmon, and if construction allows entrance, a driveby to see the memorial under construction at Freedmans Cemetery. The tour stops for lunch along the way!

- These are large cemeteries with so much history of the early residents of our area. Call **Elizabeth Lopez** at the Hall of State at 214/421-4500, Sta. 105, if you want to go on the tour. I have been asked to tell you all about it and am working on gathering material until the bus pulls out.

The fire at Dallas' first high school. The blaze at the historic structure, Dallas High, Crozier Tech, or whatever name you know it by, destroyed a large section of the several additions, but the fire did not reach the main building, which was built in 1907. Ever since there have been schools in Dallas, this five-acre tract has had a building on it used as a school. The Dallas Female Academy was at this location. This Academy was backed by the early Methodist Church when started.

Lang and Witchell were the architects for the 1907 building. The site is on the National Register and the current owners are from overseas. They have hired Corgan Associates to come up with a plan to use the building. It has been suggested that it could be made into loft apartments. It should still be used as a school; we need it, or why are there so many portables all around our city?

Many of us believe that DISD should never have sold the building, which was in good condition at the time they stopped using it as the Business Magnet School in 1995. The newest heating, air conditioning, and electrical wiring could have been added at a small cost compared to a new building. A recent "walkthru"

after the fire revealed that vandals, street people, etc., have managed to make the site a filthy hovel. This is a shame and a disgrace that a perfectly good building connected to many families in our area, with a wonderful history of education and service, should be allowed to be mis-used like this. The alumni of Tech have not given up, and if you are interested in helping preserve an important landmark in Dallas, let them know.

The process of applying for and receiving a Texas Historical Marker is long and drawn out. The good news for May 1999 is that some applications are on the way!

- **The First United Methodist Church** on Ross Avenue has been accepted and the inscription, which will be on the Marker for all to see, is being written. Perhaps by the end of the year this very important church in Dallas will be able to place the Marker at the front door. This application was for the "institution", which means that the church was started by early Dallas residents.
- **The Cliff Temple Baptist Church** application has left Dallas and has requested special handling, as this year they are celebrating their anniversary.
- **The Ross Avenue Baptist Church** building with the dome on top is receiving a Registered Texas Historical Landmark for the structure. Park Cities Baptist Church has been instrumental in requesting this designation, as they believe the structure is worthy of note. Many of the early residents of East Dallas attended this church.
- **The Oak Cliff Methodist Church** on Jefferson and Marsalis is also being reviewed for Registered Texas Historical Landmark status. This church has survived at least two fires, and the ladies of the church used to cook lunch at the State Fair each year to raise funds for the buildings and re-buildings of their church.
- **The Bear Creek Cemetery**, also known as **Sheldon's Cemetery**, in Irving has applied for a

○ Texas Historical Marker at that site. This land was once owned by the Collins family and the beautiful site next to the Cemetery was used at one time by the insurance company for training of agents. Early blacks, who were brought to Dallas County as slaves for the farmers in the Irving area, are buried here. The Irving Heritage Society will pay for the Marker.

• **Dr. Clay Gilbert's home** has been granted a Registered Texas Historical Marker. This house, built by A.F. Joffre, the son of LaReunion colonists, in 1915 has been carefully preserved by Dr. Clay Gilbert as his home. In the late 1940s Dr. Gilbert's parents who lived in the house, had Perma Stone added, which prevented the structure from meeting the requirements for this designation until the new "siding" had been on the house for fifty years. Enough time has passed that now, in 1999, the house has been accepted. Dr. Gilbert is planning a bash!

○ • **Honey Springs Cemetery** off I45 and Overton Road is being cleaned up and a fence will be placed around this site. Most of the people buried here were descendants of the slaves brought to Dallas by William Brown Miller. They lived and worked for the Miller family when Millermore was on its original site in Oak Cliff, before being moved to Old City Park. The Dallas Park and Recreation Department is in charge of this restoration. Dallas City Council voted many years ago to preserve and maintain the site, but it somehow got lost in the shuffle and was allowed to become a dumping ground. Research and oral interviews are underway for this site.

○ • **Pioneer Cemetery** in downtown Dallas is being noticed again. Before the Convention Center expands the next time, a long range plan is under discussion. The entire area now covered by the Center and the land being considered for future expansion is being studied. Many interesting tidbits are being discovered about this area of early Dallas. Before 1900 there were lots in the vicinity owned by members of the Schoellkopf family. Other names recognized are Topletz, Gano, and Dr. W.W. Samuell. A school building was converted to the headquarters for the

Dallas Board of Education. A list of the burials in the Odd Fellow section of this Cemetery reveals Barnett Gibbs and his wife Sallie Haynes Gibbs were re-interred at Oakland. Col. John C. McCoy was also moved from this site as Oakland was organized to have perpetual care. More about that later. The study is ongoing this year.

A call from Massachusetts about the Beeman Cemetery and the Shaffner plot: seems that George Shaffner was a spy for General Cabell, was captured twice, and lived in Dallas before dying in August 1918. He was associated with the Sterling Price Camp, and more information is being sent.

• **The Cox Cemetery** application has been read by several members of families buried in this special place. This is the site that Sara McGee so wanted to have recognized. J. Patterson, the chair of the Cemetery Association, has the application to sign and send to the Dallas County Historical Commission to be forwarded for approval to Austin. He has just invited me to a Cox Cemetery meeting on the Sunday following our June meeting, to discuss the application. He is aware that the DCPA has raised some funds to assist in paying for the Marker for this site; this was our tribute to Sara, a past president of DCPA.

• **The Camp Estate** is another historic structure that belongs to the citizens of Dallas that is snarled in a bureaucratic maze. The Park Department will not sign the necessary paperwork unless the Arboretum Society president signs first. The current president does not understand the significance of a Texas Historical Marker placed near the front door explaining to the many visitors who come through the Arboretum what this beautiful mansion is doing sitting by White Rock Lake! Hopefully, at least a brochure will be produced at some point in time to honor these early Dallas people who donated the site to the citizens of Dallas. Is not this sad?

• **Trezevent C. Hawpe**, the ancestor of two late members of DCPA, Coye and George Hawpe, is being recognized with a gravemarker to be placed at the

gravesite in Pioneer Cemetery. Mark Mueller, DCPA member, prepared this document and is in touch with other concerned family members. Hawpe was a sheriff of Dallas County before the Civil War. He was stabbed to death by a close friend on the steps of the courthouse in 1863. Can you top this? Don't you think we have a great history!

• **Garvin Cemetery** is on Northwest Highway next to an apartment complex. Recently, a for sale sign appeared on the property. After several telephone calls and a letter, the sign has been removed. Some "entrepreneur type" thought he could get away with selling the Cemetery, which has newly-acquired gravemarkers for Civil War veterans. What would the title to this land look like? Watch closely for future attempts at development. Ω
Frances James

NORTH TEXAS HISTORY 101

Three of us, Nancy and Bill McRae and Marjori Sharp, accepted Dr. Christine Kallstrom's invitation to visit Treetop School International for their presentation "Significant Moments in Texas History".

These students had done their homework and knew their subject. We felt the hovering ghosts of Texans past; we heard them tell us about their place in the glorious history of Texas. There were their tombstones: Travis, Crockett, Houston, but this was Texas Independence Day March 2, 1999—not March 2, 1836.

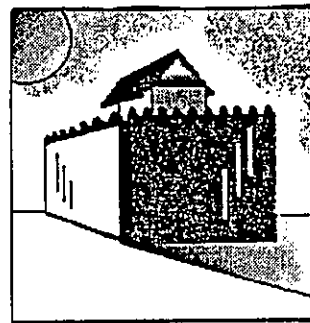
Dr. Kallstrom's Treetop School is like a small museum of North Texas history, with shelves of books and artifacts, papers and reminders of Bird's Fort, which was just a few miles down the road. As children passed by, many of them dressed in clothes of the early period, she asked them to tell us from whom they were descended. She is instilling in them a fantastic sense of who they are and where they came from.

We wish we could say that all of our schools are doing this for our children, but we know from experience that

this is a one-of-a-kind school. Christine brings further credibility to our organization. We are proud to have her as a Charter and Life member of DCPA.

Following is the text of a flyer on Bird's Fort that Christine gave us:

What was Bird's Fort? The historical site known as "Bird's Fort" played an important role in the establishment of the area we now call home, the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex. Bird's Fort was erected in the August of 1840, and was named for Colonel



Jonathan Bird. It was only one in a string of forts that ranged from the Brazos to the Red River. The main purpose for these forts was to ensure the safety of new colonists to the territory. Texas was the new frontier, only gaining independence in 1836, and thus was open to development. But along with

the harsh weather conditions of scorching sun and arid land, the settlers had to deal with the everpresent danger of Indian attack. Bird's Fort, and others like it, helped to protect the colonists from these hazards. Without its help we would never have heard from renowned scientists such as Jacob Boll, the naturalist who advanced the study of Texas agriculture. **What is it today?** In today's modern society, where many have forgotten their past heritage, Bird's Fort no longer exists as it once did in the 1840s. All that remains of Bird's Fort are a few historical markers, one on the site of the Bird's Fort and the other in Arlington. On busy highway 157 stands the other historical marker which is one mile east of the actual site. Over the years the property which Bird's Fort was built on has been used for many purposes, but none so glorious as a frontier settlement. For some time it was host to the Arlington Sportsman's Club. Yet even that has passed into history. **Why should we remember?** Bird's Fort should be remembered for many reasons, including historical significance and historical pride. In the safe walls of Bird's Fort a treaty was signed between the State of Texas and nine Indian tribes calling for an end to conflict in the region. This important agreement also marked the division between Indian territory and the open frontier. The treaty was ratified on September 29, 1843. The present parties who signed it were: Edward H. Tarrant, George W. Terrel, the Wacos, the Tehuacanos, the Caddos, the Delawares, the Chicasaws, the Cherokees, the Ionics, the Boluxies, and the Andarress Indian tribes. Virtually all the tribes in North Texas concurred with the "Bird's Fort Treaty", with the exception of the Comanches, who continued their hostile ways. This treaty was also important because it was the first treaty Tarrant

County settlers formed with the Plains Indians. Lastly, Bird's Fort, and its colonists, should be remembered for the very determination which led them to the new unsettled territory. As it is, history has decreed that it should fade away into the past. Bird's Fort should never be forgotten. Had circumstances been slightly different Bird's Fort could have been the very heart of the metroplex. Ω

DCPA MEMBERS SERVING OUR COUNTRY

In our newsletter for last March **Earl Cullum** called for our personal accounts of military service, in war and in peace. He has heard from a total of three.

We are serious about this. This is so important for your children's children. This will set *them* in their place in the most valorous part of the making of the history of our nation: answering her call to serve.

We don't mean just "the call to arms". Maybe you served as a chaplain or in another noncombative role. Maybe one of you was the model for that wonderful poster of Rosie the Riveter.



Maybe you ferried planes, taught classes in survival for the armed services or civilians, or rallied your church or other organization to roll bandages for the Red Cross. We learned to hard-cook eggs by the hundreds at a whack, grate them, and make the egg salad sandwiches that were the favorite of our servicepersons passing through Love Field.

One of our members, who was considered physically unfit for military service in WW II because of a defective eye, supervised the building of the Pecos,

Pyote, and Marfa training fields for the Air Force. Maybe you were a reporter; correspondents, they were called. Maybe you were an airplane spotter—we never relaxed in our vigilance against the expected invasion in that war. Maybe you did your part by dancing the night away at the USO.

We really do want your story about your participation in any of these wars since WW I, or in your commitment to a call to serve or to train in peacetime. Let's have it from spouses, siblings, sons and daughters, aunts and cousins, if your serviceperson is reluctant to tell his own story. We want this to be a part of our history—our revised *One Hundred Twenty Years*—to be *One Hundred Twenty-Five Years*.

Our deadline for this revision is November 1, in order to have it for 2000 A.D. Get with it! (Please!) Ω

HIGHLIGHTS OF DALLAS' TEEN YEARS

by **Earl O. Cullum** (b. 1913)

1910: **George E. Kessler** was hired to plan future Dallas. The Red Light District was laid out, to contain the city's entire prostitute population. **Allen Brooks** was arrested for raping a child. A mob seized him at the Courthouse (despite the efforts of Chief Deputy Sheriff **Will Cullum**) and Brooks was hanged at Main and Akard Streets. The student body of Dallas High School walked out and hurried downtown to see the hanging. (Elsewhere: The Boy Scouts of America began at Washington, D.C. **Thomas A. Edison** produced the first "talking movie".)

1911: Dallas bought land for the future railroad "Union Station". (Elsewhere: The first "Indy 500" race was run, and the first auto "starter" was developed. The Chevrolet Motor Company was founded.)

1912: The Houston Street Viaduct was completed, and White Rock Lake was filling up. (Elsewhere: **Jim Thorpe** won seven Olympic events, but later was stripped of his medals. The "unsinkable" Titanic sank after hitting an iceberg.)

1913: Dallas had 130,000 residents and 4,500 autos. The electric Interurban extended to Waco and Denison. Dallas became the home of the new Federal Reserve Bank. The Adolphus Hotel was Dallas' tallest building, and Neiman-Marcus leased for ninety-nine years (to 2012) the property at Main and Ervay Streets. (Elsewhere: The Panama Canal opened, and in Mexico **Pancho Villa** captured the city of Juarez. **Henry Ford** developed the auto assembly line.)

1914: Dallas got a new City Hall, at Main, Commerce, and Harwood Streets. (Elsewhere: A great "world war" began in Europe.)

1915: A little school named "SMU" opened near Dallas. Its first football team lost to TCU 43-0. (Elsewhere: The Einstein Theory was developed. German submarine warfare resulted in sinking the Lusitania.)

1916: The new Ford car sold for \$250. (Elsewhere: **Pancho Villa's** troops shot down eighteen American miners working in Mexico. General **John J. Pershing** and 4,000 troops entered Mexico, chasing Villa. Great battles at Verdun, Somme, and Jutland plagued Europe.)

1917: Prohibition became the law in Dallas, three years before becoming nationwide. The U.S. declared war on Germany and established a Preflight Aerial Training Base at Fair Park and an operational air base at Love Field. (Elsewhere: Gen. Pershing landed in France and U.S. troops entered the Allied trenches, facing the Germans.)

1918: The World War was the news of the year, with American armies in France. **Eddie Rickenbacker** shot down twenty-two German planes, and in November came the Armistice. The flu epidemic was worldwide.

1919: Captain **Frank Wozencraft** returned from the War and was elected mayor of Dallas. (Elsewhere: The official peace treaty was signed, and some of

today's Dallas citizens remember all the whistles in Dallas blowing at the same time. Aeroplanes, seaplanes, and dirigibles were flying across the Atlantic. **Jack Dempsey** became the world boxing champion.)

(Data from *Big D*, by **Darwin Payne**, and other sources.) Ω

QUOTING GREENE, AGAIN! MORE ON DALLAS RAILROADS

(From A.C. Greene's column "Texas Sketches", *The Dallas Morning News* August 11, 1996)

Other tale helps fill out story of railroad's start in Dallas

One of the fondest tales of Dallas history is how state Rep. John W. Lane tricked the Texas & Pacific Railway into building through Dallas instead of along the 32nd parallel, miles to the south, in 1871.

He reportedly inserted an innocent-appearing clause in the T&P's charter, which declared that the railroad must cross the Houston & Texas Central Railroad (Dallas's first railroad) within a mile of Browder Springs -- less than a mile south of the Dallas courthouse.

Horace P. Flatt, of Terrell, adds another name to the story.

"While Lane was undoubtedly influential in the successful passage of the bill, the credit for making the crucial change belongs to another," Mr. Flatt writes. "On 24 March 1871, House Bill 505 passed [which said] 'from Tyler said road shall be built so as not to depart more than five miles from a due west course until it shall cross the Brazos river.' [But] Gov. E.F. Davis vetoed it. A new bill (Senate Bill 554) was prepared reading: 'The railroad shall build its road from present terminus at Longview by such route as the said company may deem the most practicable to

aid point of junction [with the Houston & Texas Central.]

"On 21 November, Sen. Samuel Evans of Fort Worth, representing Dallas, Tarrant and Collin counties submitted an amendment which inserted after the word 'practicable' the phrase 'crossing the Central Railroad [H&TC] within one mile of Browder's Springs' and also requiring the rail line to be 'within one mile of the junction of the West Fork and the Clear Fork of the Trinity River and on the south side of the river.' That put the T&P's line through Fort Worth. The amendment was adopted by the House and sent to the Governor on 25 November. It became law without his signature. When the T&P threatened to build a mile south of Browder Springs, putting rails two miles from Dallas, the city offered a right-of-way along Burleson Street, renamed Pacific Avenue, and added a \$100,000 bond issue."

**CLIP THE NEXT COLUMN AND
ADD IT TO YOUR NEW ROSTER**

CHANGES FOR YOUR ROSTER

- William Harper Daniel
- 9211 Guernsey Lane
- Dallas 75220
- 214/350-5922
- Mary & Joe Thomas Fox
- 4501 Druid Lane #124
- Dallas 75205
- 214/526-0088
- Myra Best Glass
- 6335 W. Northwest Hwy #515
- Dallas 75225
- 214/361-5379
- Genevieve Buhner Glover
- 6546 Axton Lane
- Dallas 75214-2231
- 214/363-4220
- Patsy Ann Gooding
- 7421 Frankford Road #2312
- Dallas 75252
- Marie Brady Hunter
- 3209 Village Green Dr. #326
- Waco, TX 76710-1476
- Gloria H. Jacobus
- 9500 Inwood Road
- Dallas 75220
- 214/363-3317
- Mary Phelps-Manes
- 4115 NW 50th Street
- Oklahoma City, OK 73112-2246
- 405/947-7834
- Opal Frances Nicholls
- 204 Poinsettia Pines Ct. #1
- Tampa, FL 33612
- 813/931-1602
- Margaret Spencer Owen
- 10651 Steppington #1066
- Dallas 75230
- 214/361-1037
- A.C. Greene
- Area Code 254, not 817
- Earl O. Cullum (June 1)
- 10440 Stone Canyon #111-N
- Dallas 75230
- 214/361-2720

10040

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.

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.

Message Center: 214/969-0926

The organization meets quarterly for dinner and a program at 6:00 p.m. the first Thursday of each March, June, September, and December.

Visitors are always welcome.

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

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President: William D. McRae

Vice-President: Clare G. Weakley, Jr.

Secretary: Mae Riek

Treasurer: Gene Gaddy

Historian: Carolyn Selzer

Membership: Clare G. Weakley, Jr.

Program: Nancy McRae

Telephone: Faye Evans

Sunshine: Nona Williams

Newsletter: Marjori Sharp

**ENRICH YOUR 4TH OF JULY
WITH CLARE WEEKLEY'S ITEM ON PAGES 5 AND 6.**

Dallas County Pioneer Association



Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979
P.O. Box 12496
Dallas, Texas 75225-0496
214/969-0926



Carolyn Selzer
2359 Chart Dr.
Dallas, TX 75228-5379

JUN 7 1999 PM DALLAS TX 752

JUN 7 1999