

DCPA Newsletter, March 2000

From the President

The year 2000 has started with a bang for historical activities. The Friend of Old Red met on February 11 to review the master plan for the building use. The First Baptist Church Farmers Branch celebrated their 130th anniversary and dedicated a Texas Historic Marker on February 20. The Texas Historical Commission met in Dallas February 24 - 26 with a big dinner held in the Hall of State on February 24 for various historical groups. The Dallas Historical Society is coordinating Dallas History Conference 2000. All of these activities have been attended by or involved DCPA members. There is always plenty to do! ✓

John Winniford and Clare Weakley have been appointed as at-large members of the Association's Executive Committee for year 2000. Both have been officers of the Association and their experience and advice is invaluable to the current officers. Should other members wish to serve on the Executive Committee, contact me and let me know of your interest. The committee meets four times a year in the afternoon about six weeks prior to each formal quarterly meeting of the Association. This is a good way to become more active!

A committee to develop guidelines for Volume III, Proud Heritage has been formed. They are Gene Gaddy, Carolyn Selzer, Bill Clark and Mattie Hughes. We plan to get this project underway by mid-year. Several articles are already in hand for inclusion in this third volume. Be thinking about--and writing--articles on family, business, favorite reminiscences or World War II experiences for possible inclusion in this next book.

Faye Evans has faithfully served as telephone chairman for the past several years. Nancy McRae will take over these duties this year. The following members have agreed to serve on the Telephone Committee during 2000 and are the "eyes and ears" of the organization: ✓

Doris Barnes
Mary Frances Walsh
Faye Evans
Susan Cargile
Kathy Culver
Gerard Dickinson
Martha Gracey
Karlee Smith
Sandra Neal
Joan Pickard
Carolyn Selzer

Louise Buhrer was a long-time member of this committee and served joyfully and faithfully until her death. Mary Frances Walsh, a new member of DCPA, is taking her place. Many thanks to all these members who do a much needed job. When they call you, be sure to let them know any information of which we should be aware.

DCPA will be a sponsor of the Texas History Conference 2000 to be held in October at Southern Methodist University. Frances James will be the DCPA liaison with the conference steering committee as they plan and develop the conference.

Frances James has prepared a written history of Griggs Park for the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department. I was privileged to see a letter from Tom Anderson of the Parks Department to Frances and quote in part as follows: "... thank you for the work you undertook on preparing the written history for Griggs Park. This information will come in handy as the Park and Recreation Department undertakes the adoption of a new master plan for this park. There is much information that you have documented that may not be familiar to very many people. ...Again I want to thank you for all the volunteer work you do for...the city in general through your efforts to make us better aware of our heritage." This organization (DCPA) certainly appreciates the work Frances does also. Maybe Griggs Park could be the subject of one of the early DCPA Historic Markers.

As mentioned above, The First Baptist Church Farmers Branch dedicated their Texas Historic Marker as well as celebrated their 130th anniversary on February 20. Several DCPA members were able to attend this important milestone and enjoy the lunch provided by the church.

Jim Gatewood's book *Decker*, a biography of long time Dallas Sheriff Bill Decker, has just been published and first reports is that it is a gripping story of the sheriff and Dallas as it grew into a major city. Many say once they start reading it, they couldn't put it down. Congratulations, Jim, on a job well done! Jim will review his book for us at the September 7 meeting.