

Dallas County Pioneer Association

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

WINTER 2001

QUARTERLY MEETING

THURSDAY DECEMBER 6, 2001

Family Hall
Royal Lane Baptist Church
Hillcrest Road and Royal Lane

Dinner: 6 p.m., \$8 per person
Catered by Grande Affair

Make reservations by Tuesday December 4
Call Bill McRae @ 214/521-8654 or
DCPA Call Notes @ 214/969-0926

Program 7 p.m.

Dr. William J. Bryan, III will be our speaker. Dr. Bryan is Director of Intern Program and Professional Formation at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. He has been Senior Pastor at Lovers Lane UMC and Grace UMC and has served in county, suburban, intercity, and regional churches in the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Dr. Bryan descends from pioneer Dallas families. He is a native of Dallas, and forebears "Red" and "Sonny" are well known in the Dallas area for barbecue, but Dr. Bryan said washing dishes as a youngster at the family business caused him to seek easier means of making a living.

Dr. Bryan is a graduate of Rice University in Houston and holds Masters and Doctorate degrees from SMU. He is married and has two teenage children.

He spoke to us at our March 2000 meeting and took us on a delightfully entertaining and informative walk down Bryan Street in Dallas.

We also will have an election of officers for 2002 at this meeting.

Carolyn Selzer has planned for a display of dolls and old toys on our show 'n tell table. If you would like to share some of your old dolls and/or toys, please call Carolyn at 214/327-0473. Ω

FROM THE PRESIDENT

- Congratulations to **Frances James** for the award she received from Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge! A good representation of DCPA members was on hand at the award dinner held at Royal Oaks Country Club to honor and support her.
- It would ease the burden on Treasurer **Gene Gaddy** if everyone paying for dinner at our quarterly meetings would pay by check, preferably mailing it ahead of time when making your reservations, to **Bill McRae** at 3500 Dartmouth Avenue, Dallas 75205-3237. If paying at the door, a check would still be preferred to cash. Thanks for your help!
- The Book Committee reports good progress in receiving and proofing articles submitted. Approximately 175 articles have been received to date and our goal is 200. It is still not too late for you to get that article submitted for Volume III, but time is running out. Any errata you know of in Volume I and Volume II of *Proud Heritage* should be relayed to **Irma Janicek** for inclusion in an "Errata" page in Volume III.
- **Lloyd White** has been instrumental in securing a marker honoring the "Ten Boys from Dallas" killed in action aboard the *USS Arizona* at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. This monument will be dedicated at 10 a.m. December 1 at the flagpole on Akard Street near Pioneer Cemetery downtown. All of you veterans and spouses are urged to attend this dedication. Let's have a good representation from DCPA to participate.
- **Nancy** and I will be out of town from November 29 to December 2, so when making dinner reservations for the December meeting, leave them on our recorder or call DCPA Call Notes at 214/969-0926 and leave your reservations there.
- **Kathy John** has done an outstanding job in preparing the DCPA Web site. For you internet buffs, check it out at communitydallasnews.com, then enter "Pioneer" in the search field and click "Find". This will take you directly to the DCPA homepage.
- Nominations for Year 2002 officers are listed elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter. At-large members of the Executive Committee will be appointed by the president-elect. **Karen Gassett** has expressed interest in being Publicity Chair. Any more volunteers? Many thanks to all who have served this past year. It has been an active, productive year.
- Our Sunshine Chair, **Millie Coffey**, needs some sunshine from all of us following the unexpected death of her son. Our deepest condolences to Millie and her daughter-in-law. Ω
Bill McRae

DUES ARE DUE!**MINUTES OF MEETING SEPTEMBER 6**

The September 2001 meeting of the Dallas County Pioneer Association was held in the Family Hall of Royal Lane Baptist Church. President **Bill McRae** called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. He opened with the Invocation, followed by pledges to the United States and Texas flags.

President McRae acknowledged two new members, **Susan Kubin** and **Paul Strucely**.

Irma Janicek reported that it is not too late to send in stories for the book *Proud Heritage - Pioneers of Dallas County*.

Frances James reported that the City of Dallas would not give permission for the owner of Crozier Tech to demolish the building. Parkland nurses' quarters are coming into neglect. The building may be demolished from neglect. The City has set aside 4 million dollars for the Park Department to keep up old buildings. Bids are going out for Fair Park to have all the buildings preserved.

President McRae introduced **Mike Hazel**, graduate of Highland Park High School and SMU and editor of *Legacies*. His speech was titled "Three Gutsy Women", and the 100th anniversary of the Dallas Public Library.

With the words, "God be with you 'til we meet again", the meeting was adjourned. Ω
Irma Janicek, secretary

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

James Melvin Guinn played right into our hands: on his application for membership he said he was a professional proofreader. Before the ink dried on his signature we had him on the Book Committee scanning Volume III, telling us amateurs how to do it.

James' earliest ancestors in Dallas County were **Mary Ann Hill** and **James Paris Goodnight**, who came from Kentucky in 1854. Their daughter, **Allie May**, born in Dallas in 1873, married **Benjamin Franklin Johnson**, who was born in Mississippi. This couple lived in McKinney and in Jones County, Texas, between 1900 and 1914 and returned to Dallas in 1914.

Their daughter was **Eva Mae**, born 1906 in Jones County. She married **Charles M. Guinn**, born in Wortham County, Texas, and they became the parents of James.

James P. Goodnight served in the 31st Texas Cavalry during the Civil War. He was a farmer and also a partner in a cotton gin at Lisbon, with **E.A. Gracey**. He was County tax assessor/collector for several terms, first constable of Precinct 7, and County

treasurer 1870-1872. He completed a term in the Texas legislature when **James P. Thomas** resigned. He also served as an officer of the Red Oak Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and was a member of the Wheatland Masonic Lodge.

Our James answered **Bill Jacoby's** call for stories for *Proud Heritage* in 1985 and has a family story on page 77. He has been a teacher in the Waxahachie ISD and the Dallas ISD, a librarian, and a proofreader for UMR Communications. He is a member of Automatic Musical Instrument Collectors Association and the Organ Historical Society (yes, he is multitalented: he also is an organist). He has given us a history of the manufacturer of several Dallas organs for Volume III.

James lives on West Ninth Street but is currently caring for his ninety-five-year old mother in her home at 2006 Elmwood, 75224-1009. That telephone number is 214/337-5292.

Paul Nicholas Strucely is descended from **Rosa Maria Bippert**, born in Lacoste, Texas in 1886, and **Nicholas Strucely**, born in Croatia in 1882 and naturalized in 1919. Nicholas came to Dallas County in 1907. Both Rosa Maria and Nicholas were buried at Hillcrest Memorial Park.

Their son, Paul, is "semi" retired from his own Communications Packaging Manufacturing. He married **Louima Kienitz**, who was born in Riesel, Texas. Their children are **Louima Ann Sowders**, **Janet Marie Schwarz**, **Paul N. Strucely, Jr.**, **Ruth Henrietta Graupman**, and **Cherie Elizabeth Stone**. All live in Dallas but Paul, Jr., who lives in Caldwell.

Nicholas Strucely's brothers and sister came to the U.S. some time before he did and settled in Pennsylvania. (The INS people translated their surname to "Strutzel".) Nicholas was not immediately employed in Vermont Marble Co., as were his siblings, so he travelled across the country to California and went to work there in the marble industry for a short time, but later was forced to work in a "quicksilver" mine to make a living. He then went to Colorado and worked in a quarry before coming to Dallas, where he continued in the marble business, but he also worked at North American Aviation in Grand Prairie.

Paul and Louima's telephone number is 972/279-3160, and their mailing address is P.O. Box 570955, Dallas 75357-0955.

We welcome our two new members and hope to see them at our meeting on December 6. Ω

INCREASE IN DUES

In 1979, when the DCPA was reorganized, the annual dues were established as \$15 for an individual membership. At that time the CPI-U (1982-84=100) was 72.6. Now, in 2001, the CPI-U is 178.5. Based on the increase, our dues should now be over \$35.

To cover part of the increases in printing and postage, the Board has voted to increase the annual individual dues to \$20. (This is the *only* increase we have made in dues— *ever*.) Also approved were proportional increases in other membership fees. The new fees beginning in 2002 are as follows:

Initiation fee	Individual	\$15.00
	Couple	20.00
Annual dues	Individual	20.00
	Couple	30.00
Life membership	Individual	200.00
	Couple	300.00

Life memberships will still be available through December 2001 based on the current fees, as follows:

Individual	\$150.00
Couple	250.00

Dues for 2002 will be due January 1, and I will be happy to accept your payment at the December 6 meeting, or please mail to me by January 1. And thanks! Ω
Gene Gaddy, treasurer

NOMINATIONS FOR 2002

by Chair **Nancy McRae**

The Nominating Committee, consisting of **Frances James**, **Nancy McRae**, and **John Winniford**, met on October 5. The Committee announces the following slate of officers for the year 2002:

President	William D. McRae
Vice President	Kenneth H. Cullum
Secretary	Eva Jane Morgan
Treasurer	Eugene Gaddy
Historian	Carolyn Selzer
Newsletter Editor	Marjori Sharp

Nominations will be taken from the floor. New officers will be voted on and installed at the December 6, 2001 meeting. Ω

SPREADING SUNSHINE

Our Sunshine Chair, **Millie Coffey**, unexpectedly lost her son, **Wesley James Coffey**, 41, on October 29. We send our love and deepest sympathies to Millie.

Irma Janicek and **Mae Riek** have had surgery in the last several weeks, and we are happy to report that both are recuperating nicely. Ω

AROUND THE COUNTY

by Frances James

- The dedication of the Texas Historical Marker for the Cox Cemetery on October 20 was really an event. A beautiful day, no rain or wind, and so many people came we ran out of programs! Many members of the DCPA attended. **Sara McGee** had tried for several years to complete the application for this site, but was not able to due to her illness. After her death her husband **David** brought the boxes of information she had carefully accumulated to me. So this grand day was a tribute to Sara, past-president of our Association. The hat was passed several years ago at one of our meetings and the collection went toward the fund that paid for the Marker.

On that October Saturday men were still working at the far end of the Cemetery on the very strong welded wrought iron fence. This expensive fence was paid for by family members and interested neighbors who donated to a fence fund after being solicited by the **Gene Soltero** family. Their daughter, **Wendy** (age 18), was murdered on October 18, 2000, during a carjacking, and they asked to have her buried in the Cox Cemetery because it is just around the corner from their house. They are there often and help monitor for vandals. Special arrangements were made with the Cemetery Association so that this, the most recent, burial could happen.

In the past vandals have wreaked havoc in this Cemetery and many of the very old, beautiful stones have been destroyed and need to be restored. One family comes often from Brownsville to maintain the area and trees at their ancestors' graves. An arborist has pointed out that the arbor-vitae (tree of life, in Latin) trees in the Cemetery are some of the oldest and largest and that he was going to register them as such in whatever trees get registered in.

At this ceremony **Mary Poss**, at that time Mayor Pro Tem and now Mayor of Dallas, spoke a few words. This is in her city council district. Pastors from the Pleasant View Baptist Church gave the invocation and benediction. They need to get busy, as this is one of, or maybe the oldest Baptist church in the County. They keep telling me about an old book they have, and I keep telling them to go for a Texas Historical Marker for the church.

This is a very early cemetery in Dallas County. A book could be written about the site, as so many of the settlers buried here contributed so much to our County. The site is maintained by funds administered by the Cox Cemetery Association, **John Patterson**, president.

- The itinerary for the fall bus tour sponsored by the Dallas Historical Society this year included the Calvary Cemetery for the first time ever. This sacred place for some of the first Catholics who came to Dallas County really reflects the places from around the world that our pioneers came from: Ireland,

Bavaria, Italy, Germany, France. For instance, the first Catholic mass in Dallas was held in the home of **Maxime Guillot**, who manufactured buggies and wagons on the corner of Elm and Houston. Guillot came to Dallas before the LaReunion colony was established and was probably glad to have others nearby who could speak French! He worked at the Gun Factory (that never produced guns, as planned) in Lancaster during the Civil War.

The tour bus also stopped in Oak Cliff at the Miller Cemetery that is near the original site of the home called Millermore. This home is now at Old City Park. **Helen Eaton**, a DCPA member who was born at Millermore, and her sons maintain the Miller Family Cemetery. **William Brown Miller**, Lt. Gov. **Barry Miller**, assorted wives, children, and freed slaves, are all buried together in this sacred spot. Helen has many mementos of the family, even the Family Bible that was dropped in the Red River when they came to Texas!

Not far from this site is the Overton Family Cemetery, surrounded by a large until-recently lost cemetery, that was used by people who worked on the Overton farm and lived in the area. The family Cemetery is maintained by a descendant of the Overton family, but the large area surrounding it has been neglected for many years. Boy Scouts may soon help with this one.

- Irving is in the process of coordinating a grand celebration of the founding of this fast-growing city in Dallas County! From all the activity going on, not one stone or blade of grass will be missed as sites, homes, persons are being researched to add to the activities planned for the one hundredth anniversary in 2003. There will be more publicity on this later.

- Oak Cliff was finally annexed to the City of Dallas in July 1903, after several votes had been taken to keep the area dry and other controversial items had been settled. In 2003 recognition will also be given for this event; watch for more on this also. You will remember a few years ago some people wanted to secede because city services did not appear to be focused equally on all areas of the City.

- In Oak Cliff on Clarendon at Fleming is the Rock-Tenn Paper Company. Before the business was sold a few years back it was the Oak Cliff Paper Mill, and according to the *Handbook of Texas* was one of the very first manufacturers of paper in Texas. In the 1880s **F.N. Oliver** was persuaded by **T.L. Marsalis** to come from Pilot Point and publish a paper to be called *The Oak Cliff Sunday Weekly* to help Mr. Marsalis sell lots in this new addition he was developing. Oliver needed paper to print his *Weekly*, so he built a mill to produce newsprint. When he decided to run for the position of mayor of Oak Cliff in 1892, following **Hugh Ewing** who was the first mayor, he advertised the paper mill for sale in a journal devoted to that kind of business. **John Fleming** read the ad and came to Dallas in 1893,

borrowed money from **Ted Adoue** and The National Bank of Commerce to purchase the site, and the mill is still operating. The deed records for these two transactions reveal the contract between Marsalis and Oliver, and the deed to the site of the paper mill also mentions the two mules and two wagons that are separate properties.

A recent obituary for **Walter L. Fleming** mentions the mill and the family associated with it for all these years.

- The original Flying Red Horse that was erected in 1934 atop the twenty-nine-story Magnolia Building was replaced in 1999. It (there were really two of them designed to look like one—some said so Dallas would not be considered a one-horse town) had seen many things in the seventy-plus years it stood tall, part of the time lighted and sometimes darkened. Many people coming from out of town mentioned the first thing they remember seeing from any direction was the Flying Red Horse!

The original had rusted and was beyond repair when it was replaced by the new one, said to have cost over \$700,000. The original was to have been given a safe place to stay and be viewed in an indoor display area. One half has been taken to the Farmers Market and the other stored and hopefully not forgotten.

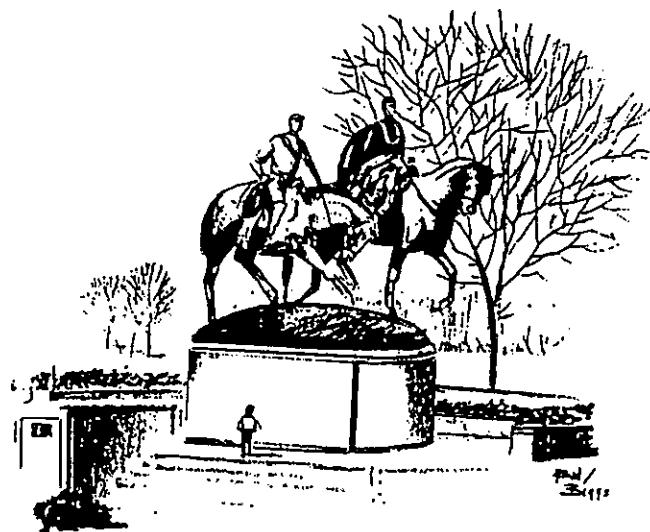
- The Dallas Independent School District is compiling information for a bond election early next year. On the list to be funded will be an addition to Booker T. Washington Arts Magnet School. Architects have been selected and plans are being made to ensure the original building is preserved. This was the first high school built for blacks in Dallas, when schools were still segregated.

- After a court case and an appeal by the current owners of Dallas High School (also known as Crozier Tech) attempting to get a permit for demolition of the building, this Landmark in our City has been allowed to stand open to the elements and the homeless/helpless people in our city looking for shelter. Pressure is being applied to have the entire structure boarded up. The new ordinance states that demolition by neglect is against the law! It is a disgrace in our City that this problem was not taken care of several years ago when the DISD trustees voted to sell the school. It was not surplus then nor is it surplus now, with a list of needed buildings totalling over \$1,800,000.

- Plans are being made and an architect has been selected who is knowledgeable about **Frank Lloyd Wright** and his designs. The Kalita Humphreys Theater, the only public theater designed by Wright, will be remodeled and rehabilitated. Many changes have been already made on this structure, some necessary and some questionable. This is one of the noted historic sites, owned by the citizens of Dallas, that has needs and now is being carefully monitored.

- Another asset owned by the citizens is Arlington Hall in Lee Park. Work at this site was started earlier this year and will be a great improvement. Anyone entering through the back door from the parking lot, past the outmoded restrooms and kitchen and going down the rickety steps to the dance hall will be glad this restoration is taking place.

The Memorial Statue of Robert E. Lee, his horse Traveler, and a young Confederate soldier, is one of the many works of Canadian **Alexander Phimister Proctor** (1860-1950) and is at this site in Lee Park. The members of the Southern Memorial Association in Dallas raised the funds for this beautiful sculpture during the Depression: the original cost was \$50,000. When it was dedicated President **Franklin Delano Roosevelt** was in Dallas for the opening of the Centennial Exposition! Quite a day! Ω



CALL FOR PROPOSALS: **DALLAS HISTORY CONFERENCE**

by Mike Hazel

The organizers of the Fourth Annual *Legacies* Dallas History Conference welcome proposals from both professional and lay historians on topics related to the theme: "Historic Neighborhoods: Basis of a Community". The Dallas County Pioneer Association is one of twelve institutional sponsors of the Conference.

Dallas is composed of dozens of distinct neighborhoods, each with its unique history and identity, from Winnetka Heights to Junius Heights, and from Wheatley Place to Preston Hollow. Some began as "streetcar suburbs", while others were influenced by the "City Beautiful" movement. Other cities in Dallas County also contain historic neighborhoods, often centered on the old town square, or near an early railroad right-of-way. Residents of

these neighborhoods have often fought long and hard to preserve the architectural and cultural history that gives them character and makes them distinctive.

Papers might focus on a developer, an architect, a preservation leader, an urban planner, a neighborhood association, or a community organization that supports neighborhoods. Or they might examine the impact of urban planning, zoning, transportation routes, retail outlets, or changing demographics on specific neighborhoods.

All papers must be based on original research and must not have been presented or published elsewhere. All presenters will receive an honorarium of \$300, and the best papers will be published in a subsequent issue of *Legacies: A History Journal for Dallas and North Central Texas*. Those interested in presenting papers should submit a brief summary of their proposal by **FEBRUARY 1, 2002**, to

Dallas History Conference
1717 Gano St.
Dallas, TX 75215

Those selected will be notified by March 1, 2002. The Fourth Annual Dallas History Conference will be held on September 28, 2002, at the Hyatt Regency Dallas Hotel. Ω

DCPA MEMBER WINS LA AWARDS

Thompson Landscape Architects, i.e. **Suellen Thompson**, won two prestigious awards at the Texas Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Conference and Professional Awards Banquet held in Austin in March.

Susi's first was the Merit Award for Private Residence, where the Landscape Architect was called upon to completely revamp the existing landscape to correct some functional problems and create an environment more to the owner's liking and more inviting to guests.

Her second award was the Award of Excellence, where the LA was charged to support the careful restoration of the Bishop Green Apartments, with grounds that were lush, ecologically friendly, and inexpensive. The jury felt that she had successfully achieved all of the client's goals and represented an opportunity that landscape architecture has in making a significant impact on the environment and quality of life in a community.

The Bishop Green Apartments are included in a body of work for which Developers **David Spence** and **Trey Bartosh** received their own Preservation Achievement Award in 2000 from Preservation Dallas.

Susi's husband **David** is a principal in the SWA Group, Dallas, which also took two awards: the Honor Award for the I-30/I-35W

Interchange Reconstruction, and the Honor Award for the International Center Phase II. The SWA Group is best known in the Metroplex as the creator of the Mustangs in Williams Square in Las Colinas. Ω

MARY ELLEN BURTNER SHARES CHURCH'S 75TH BIRTHDAY

Mary Ellen Burtner, a charter member of Highland Park Presbyterian Church, had a starring role in the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Church: she cut the birthday cake. The birthday celebrations of the 5,200 members culminated in a worship service at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center on May 27.

HP Presbyterian had nearly 200 members when it was started in 1926, and among them was Mary Ellen's father, **Sid Pulliam**, who she recalls had complained about having to go downtown to go to church. She says that in the early 1920s he could see the Methodists walking to their nearby church on Mockingbird Lane and thought the Presbyterians also should have a neighborhood church. Her father served the early Church as a deacon and ruling elder.

Mary Ellen remembers when the early congregation met in the Highland Park High School, then located on Normandy Avenue, until their first building was completed in 1928 in the 3800 block of University Boulevard.

The current sanctuary was built in 1941, and has a stained glass window on its north wall dedicated in 1950 to members who served in World War II. All of the fifty-six stained glass windows throughout its several buildings have been added through the years as gifts from members.

The Church grew to a membership of 8,000 at one time; a split in 1991 caused a loss of about 2,500, but today it is still one of the largest Presbyterian U.S.A. churches in the nation.

Mary Ellen's daughter, **Sidney Anne**, is carrying the family name into the third generation of Burtners in HP Presbyterian. They are descendants of the Dallas pioneer Cochran family. Ω



Park Cities Morning News

Mary Ellen, Elizabeth Starr, Rev. Ron Scates and Anne Scates

FRANCES JAMES HONORED BY FREEDOMS FOUNDATION

Frances James has added a big one to her stack of honors in recognition of her contributions to historical preservation: the George Washington Honor Award from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

Frances was presented this award at a dinner November 15th at Royal Oaks Country Club, with a good representation from DCPA in attendance. She was nominated for the award by **Bradley Sue Howell** who is librarian at Woodrow Wilson High School and a past president of the Dallas Chapter of FFVF. We have excerpted parts of Mrs. Howell's nomination:

"Known in the Dallas Metroplex as 'The Cemetery Lady', Frances has been a mentor for all those trying to preserve the history of the North Texas area. Her clipping file grows every day. She is one of the most generous people in doing research. She shows you how and where to look in city, county, or state land records....She works with the Boy Scouts on Eagle Scout projects that encompass historical preservation or clean up.

"Frances served on the Dallas County Historical Commission for six years....During that time I was happy to work with Frances to research and write the history of the Woodrow Wilson High School for a recorded Texas State Historical Medallion in 1989 for the school's 60th Anniversary.

"Frances James' values of our country are the highest. She is a citizen who has involved herself in helping groups preserve their heritage. She volunteers to go and work for community projects...."

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is a national education institution dedicated to improving the understanding of the fundamentals of the American Way of Life as expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the American Credo as developed by Freedoms Foundation.

It is non-political and non-sectarian and is supported by voluntary subscriptions from individuals, businesses, organizations, and foundations. It was founded in 1949 by **Don Belding** of Los Angeles, Dr. **Kenneth D. Wells** of Bedford Hills, NY, and **E.F. Hutton** of New York City, and is located on 100 acres adjoining the Valley Forge State Park in Pennsylvania. One house still in use at this location was the headquarters for Gen. **Stirling**, second in command to General **George Washington** during the encampment at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777-1778.

Each year the FFVF recognizes Americans who have been outstanding in preserving the American Way of Life and American ideals through the National Awards Program. State Volunteer Chapters serve as "action arms" of FFVF, distributing materials to schools, encouraging award nominations, raising

funds to send local teachers to seminars, conducting patriotic events to encourage responsible citizenship, and working with local news media to bring FFVF programs to the attention of the public.

Bradley Sue Howell is into historical preservation, herself; besides her work with the FFVF Dallas Chapter, she is also a past president of the Texas United Methodist Historical Society. She is the wife of the Rev. **Richard D. Howell**, the mother of three and grandmother of two.

Congratulations, Frances, and thank you, Mrs. Howell, for giving credit where credit is due. Ω

CANDLELIGHT AT OLD CITY PARK

Hundreds of hurricane lamps outline the pathways of Dallas' historical village as visitors stroll the streets and soak up Christmas spirit during the annual "Candlelight at Old City Park".

This is the holiday celebration for everyone: Victorian-costumed carolers stroll the grounds; choir groups perform in the Pilot Grove Church; George House holds a traditional Chanukah celebration; Nip and Tuck, the Mammoth Jack donkeys, pull riders in their wagonette; Brent Place offers formal holiday dinners by candlelight. The historic buildings will be open for tours and tales of holiday traditions of the turn-of-the-century (the 19th, that is!).

Kids will gravitate to the Children's Wonderland Tent, full of old-fashioned holiday activities, and to the Bandstand for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus.

Candlelight will be on Saturday and Sunday December 1 and 2 and December 8 and 9. Hours are 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays. Reduced-priced tickets are available at Dallas-area Carnival, Sack 'N Save, and Minyard Food Stores. Free parking will be available around the Park and at First Presbyterian Church parking garage at 408 Park Avenue (near the corner of Harwood and Young), from which free shuttle buses will run to the Park. Valet parking will be offered at the Gano Street entrance for a price.

This is the place to start the Season. Join the rest of North Texas and get into the Holiday Spirit. Ω

The first Thanksgiving was a near disaster, due to unexpected guests. The Pilgrims invited Wampanoag chief Massasoit, who failed to mention he'd be bringing along 90 of his friends. When the Pilgrims explained that they would run out of food, the Native Americans happily headed to the forest, brought back five deer, and the three-day feast began.
Family Circle 11/20/01

TRIBUTE TO A TRUE PIONEER

by Earl O. Cullum

Recently printed "WW II Memories" reminded me that the true story of another Dallas pioneer should also be known.

In 1935 I had become a Depression-era "drop-out" at Texas A&M College, and Louise Hudgins of Houston was also out of school. So we married and lived in Dallas, and babies arrived in late 1936, 1939, and 1940. During that period Adolph Hitler was taking over Europe and the U.S. Army thought my six years' ROTC training qualified me to be a Reserve Officer.

So I became a 2nd Lt. (Reserve) in 1937 (and earned my college degree years later). Entered Army active duty early in 1941, leaving Louise alone with three babies. Trained new MP Company and new officers for other Military Police units, while teaching at new Military Police School.

Flew to China-Burma-India Theater and participated in Battle of Myitkyina, Burma. Became commander of new 159th Military Police Battalion, policing the India to Burma-China supply line.

Louise had raised our three children through those years with little help from me. And then I spent thirty years in the FBI, away much of the time. Then retired, with thirty FBI years, plus thirty years in Army Reserve.

Louise died in a car wreck in 1973 and several years later I married Mary. She died of cancer in 1994 after being active in DCPA. Thus, many DCPA members never knew Louise. She was a true pioneer and should be recognized as such. Her twenty grandchildren (three generations) are now scattered from Florida to Oregon.

And her son, Ken, is now our new vice president. Ω

MY JOB WAS BUILDING THE AIRFIELDS

by Ralph Kerr

When the Japanese hit Pearl Harbor in 1941, I was living in Albuquerque and heard the news from a blaring radio from a neighbor's house while my wife and I were pushing a stroller (with our five month-old daughter) home from the store.

How this Dallas-born-and-bred boy got to Albuquerque: jobs for boys and girls just out of school were scarce as hens teeth in 1936, but, with a recommendation from the Boy Scout Executive for Circle 10, I was offered one with the Dallas Branch Office of E.A. Pierce Stock Brokerage firm located on the fifth floor of the Kirby Building. My only credential for the job was my rank as an Eagle Scout. My only credential for getting married was my job, and I married Hazel Ruth Walker that year and we spent

countless hours at the Texas Centennial. We had no auto for transportation, but those electric trolleys that we called "street-cars" took us wherever we wanted to go, but it did cost us six cents each!

I worked as a clerk for E.A. Pierce until mid-1938, when rumors of a merger with Fenner and Bean sent me job-hunting again. (Pierce did merge with Fenner and Bean and many others, to become the largest brokerage firm in the world, now known as Merrill Lynch.) I found one in New Mexico working in the field of engineering, which was where I wanted to be.

When we entered the War I offered my services to the Corps of Engineers. I was born with a defective eye: being legally blind in my right eye, I was "physically unfit" for anything but "limited service" in the Armed Forces. The Corps said YES, we want you as a civilian employee right now. The Corps had higher rank in choice of personnel than the Draft Board.

I was sent to Pecos, Texas, in February '42 where we were building a training field for the Air Force. After a few months I was in charge of the engineering section of the Corps for construction of the Pecos, Pyote, and Marfa airfields. Pecos was a basic training station for fighter pilots and navigators; Marfa was for twin engine pilots; and Pyote was for B-17 bomber training.

These bases were constructed by civilian contractors under contract to the Corps, and it was our job to see that they were designed and constructed according to specifications and, more importantly, that the designs were adequate for the purpose intended. Our personnel were in three sections under the supervision of a commissioned officer of the Corps of Engineers. One section was the administrators, personnel, correspondence, etc. One section was the inspectors who patrolled the work in progress. One section was engineering including design changes, surveys, drafting and the like, which was my responsibility. My job was made more difficult because of the shortage of material. Many designs were reworked because the materials required were not available.

The Corps sent me one man who was a registered engineer and architect in Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Florida. He was about sixty years of age, a devout alcoholic, and was assigned to my group. My first thought was, "What am I going to do with this man?" Actually, he was a godsend to me. He never drank on the job; when he was drinking he stayed in his room. When he was sober he could and did do analysis of material strength and suitability for the purpose intended in a fraction of the time it would have taken me or any one of my crew to do. He was hired at a salary that should have been insulting to a man of his talent and expertise, so we just ignored his problem and picked his brain when he was sober. He earned his pay and much more.

Our office was the first completed barracks building on the Pecos

Base. We had no air conditioning, of course, and in June, July, and August, the temperatures inside the building frequently reached 115 degrees and more. One day when the temperature reached 117 degrees my good architect-engineer came to work after a drunken binge. I gave him drawings and plans for a proposed change to analyze and he set to work, groaning softly to himself. I looked in on him after a short while and found him wiping sweat with a soggy handkerchief, trying to keep from dripping on the plans, still groaning.

Someone at the next desk said, "Why don't you just go off somewhere and die?" His reply, "Oh God, I wish I could."

At the time I thought his answer was funny, but as I thought it over, I realized he was speaking from his heart and not just because of the heat. He died from cirrhosis of the liver shortly after the War was over, and his wish was granted. He served his country to the best of his ability at a time when he was badly needed. He is now at peace and shall remain nameless. Ω

THANKS TO FIRST LADY, BOOK FEST WAS A HIT

Obscured by the tragic chain of events that began on Sept. 11 was the great success of the first annual National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., the weekend before, Sept. 7-8. The Book Festival was begun by first lady Laura Bush, basing it on the Texas Book Festival, which she helped initiate in 1996.

The National Book Festival was open to the public and was held in pavilions on the grounds of the Library of Congress. Observers said that if there had been twice as many pavilions they still could not have accommodated the crowds that waited in long lines to gain entry. The pavilions, as at the Texas Book Festival, contained authors reading their own works, panels about books, writing, and U.S. publishing, and numerous exhibits from the Library of Congress itself—called "The Greatest Storehouse of Knowledge in the World."

Mrs. Bush was joined by the Library of Congress in making this first National Book Festival a huge success, which in itself is certainly much to Mrs. Bush's credit, because the library is carefully aloof from any political taint. Throughout the National Book Festival, as is the case with the Texas Book Festival, no political side was expressed unless, occasionally, by some author offering such sentiments on his or her own.

Mrs. Bush has taken on books and reading almost as a crusade. This native Texan (Midland), trained in Texas (Southern Methodist University), and working as a librarian and teacher in Texas, is convinced that the United States still needs millions of readers despite the educational values of television and the computer. One voice of support on this point is PBS news editor Jim Lehrer, originally of Dallas. Mr. Lehrer is the author of a

A.C. GREENE



TEXAS SKETCHES

large number of books, both fiction and nonfiction.

In sum, the National Book Festival was greatly to the credit of Mrs. Bush, and everyone connected with the event gave her acclaim. At this point, she seems sure to become one of the outstanding first ladies of America since Edith Bolling Wilson, who more or less ran the government when her husband, President Woodrow Wilson, suffered a debilitating nervous collapse. Mrs. Bush, in staying out of current political debates, has gained respect from both political parties. On the Sunday after the book festival, she gave a White House brunch for a number of Texas writers and others who have supported the Texas Book Festival (which takes place this year on Nov. 3-4), and every political stripe was happily represented.

The disastrous events that stunned the world made that weekend seem like another age but did not damage the reality of the success of the National Book Festival.

The Dallas Morning News, 10/7/01

THE BISHOP ARTS BUILDING

by David Spence

On August 4, 1928, E.B. Burll pulled a permit to build a 9,000 square foot building for "stores and apartments" at 408 W. Eighth Street in Oak Cliff, on the Tyler-Polk street car line. With construction completed the next year Joseph Tiner, who lived two blocks away, opened Tiner's Cafe on the first floor and served as the building manager. He collected \$35 each month in rent from the tenants, which at that time were a beauty salon and an appliance store. The second floor was divided into apartments.

With the rise of the automobile after World War II, trolley use declined and retail business in the district fell into decline. During the 1960s a prominent Oak Cliff minister, Albert Ott of Bethel Temple, owned the building, continuing to rent space for retail storefronts and apartments. After he sold it, the spacious first floor was rented to businesses for storage purposes only.

In the early 1980s Spanish sculptor Javier Corbero, who had settled in Dallas, purchased the building, recognizing the big, open first floor as good studio space. While working out of 408 W. 8th he sold some of his massive metal works to Dallas developer and art collector Ray Nasher for his private collection. Corbero eventually returned to Spain and leased the building to pseudo-artists, who used maintenance money sent by the owner for drugs and wild parties. Local code enforcement forced the closure of the building in 1993 because of unsafe conditions, and it remained vacant and unsecured. In September 1998 Corbero sold 408 W. 8th to developer and historic building restorer David Spence, who put the building through a thorough restoration and gave the building its current name (taken from the Bishop Arts District, where it stands). Fortunately, the building had never been remodeled and the rugged original finishes had not deteriorated.

The building was reopened in January 2000 as primarily office space, but with two apartments retained with all original fixtures. Among the current tenants is DCPA member Suellen Thompson, (Thompson Landscape Architects) and several other design-related professionals, including David Spence.

The whole neighborhood around Bishop and Eighth is undergoing revival. Ω

AMERICAN HISTORY 101

The Very First United States Flag

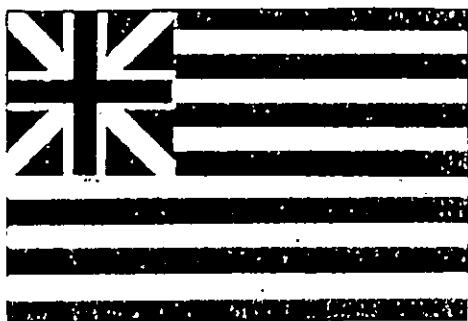
The Grand Union Flag, authorized by the Second Continental Congress in 1775, was the first true United States Flag. It was the official flag of the thirteen colonies when they declared their independence from England on July 4, 1776, and remained so throughout the first year of the American Revolution.

The Grand Union's design, combining the British flag—the cross of Saint Andrew and the cross of Saint George in the canton—and thirteen stripes signifying the colonies, was one of the first examples of compromise in the fledgling democracy. It was an effort to appeal both to those arguing for independence and those who held out for repairing relations with Great Britain.

This first “national” flag was raised by **John Paul Jones** on his ship *Alfred* on December 3, 1775, and was flown by **George Washington** a month later, on January 2, 1776, from his headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to celebrate the founding of the Continental Army.

Today the Grand Union Flag flies over the Capitol in Colonial Williamsburg, where, on May 15, 1776, Virginia became the first colony to instruct its delegates to the Continental Congress to move the question of freedom.

And today and since September 11, the Stars and Stripes; Old Glory; the Grand Old Flag; the Red, White, and Blue—whatever you call our sacred emblem of fifty stars and the same thirteen stripes—is proudly and defiantly flying from every stick and stone to which we can attach one. Ω



Yesterday: SUMMER'S SCENT

by Edie Clark

When I was growing up, my mother had a clothesline a good distance from the house, beside a grove of trees. This was a matter of modesty, as both my father and my mother seemed to agree that the business of hanging out one's laundry exposed private items that one would just as soon not have the neighbors view. And so they positioned the clothesline discreetly.

When my mother's front-loading Westinghouse finished its cycle, she and I would walk down to the clothesline together, carrying the basket between us, and hang the clean laundry out in the sun. My father had built the frame from cedar posts and pine boards with several lengths of clothesline strung between. My mother instructed as I pinned the clothes to the white roping: hang the blue jeans from their cuffs (after giving them a good shake to snap out any wrinkles) and pull the pockets inside out so they will dry, too; hang the shirts from their collars; socks should be hung from the toe end. I recall feeling connected to each piece of clothing, whether it was mine or someone else's in the family, as I hung it in the hot sun. It took both of us to hang the sheets, extending them tightly. And while we worked, my mother and I often talked in ways we did not at other times. When everything was hung, we would leave the laundry swaying gently in the summer air. At the end of the day, we would return to the dry and fragrant clothing, as good as any ripe harvest.

There was a special scent that came out of those clothes, especially the sheets. “Smells of the sun,” my mother would say. I wondered how anything as invisible and intangible as sunlight could have an odor. Nothing else I could ever think of smelled like the sun. But I loved getting into bed at night with those clean sheets and the scent of summer.

At that time in the 1950s and 1960s, everyone had a clothesline, and when we were out in the car, we enjoyed pointing out particularly colorful or interesting displays. To us, clotheslines offered clues to the mystery of each house we passed. One old lady lived alone, and her bloomers often puffed out in the breeze in a sad, solitary sort of way. I had never seen her, but I had those bloomers to start my story about who she was and what her life was all about.

Some women seemed to take pride in the way their clothes were arranged on the line, almost as if the clothing sent signals about order and thought. Especially admirable were the ones who hung the clothes in categories and ascending sizes, with the children's socks gradually expanding to the adult sizes, and the underwear as well. This always amused my mother, who felt there were limits to how much time she would spend on such a task. And yet we enjoyed the precise, almost militaristic displays. Most of all, we enjoyed the colors, a palette like no other.

My mother, bless her soul, never owned a clothes dryer in her long life. I, in my modern life, have taken clothes dryers for granted. They are handy and convenient. But I've always maintained a clothesline and use it when the weather is right.

When I moved here to Mary's farm, I noticed that the clothesline was in a place that was not, in fact, particularly sunny. But like my mother's, it was hidden. I canvassed the property for a sunnier location. There was really only one place: beside the horse barn, in full view of the road. On good days I carry the

clothes basket out to the line and pin my laundry into the sun. By afternoon it is dry and scented with summer's warmth. I sometimes think I see cars slow as they pass the house, checking out the clothes and seeing what they might have to say. Ω
Yankee July-August '01

HAPPY
HAPPY,
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR

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: Kenneth H. Cullum

Secretary: Irma Janicek

Treasurer: Gene Gaddy

Historian: Mae Riek

Membership: Kenneth H. Cullum

Program: Nancy McRae

Telephone: Sue Bucy

Sunshine: Mildred Coffey

Newsletter: Marjori Sharp

Dallas County Pioneer Association

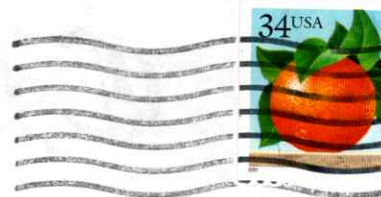


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