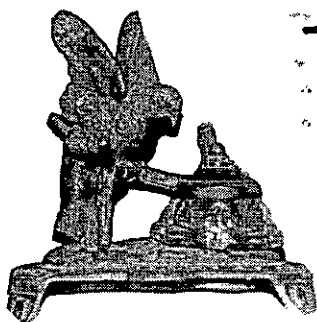


The Inkwell

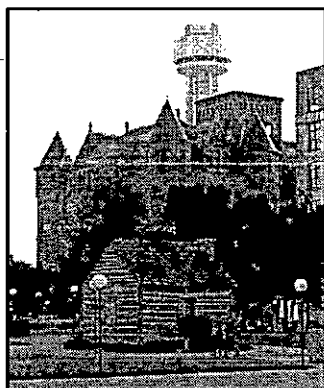


A publication of the
Dallas County Pioneer Association

SUMMER 2006 #2

Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979
Summer 2006, Issue

Historian, Steven Butler, To Speak about Dallas Founder, John Neely Bryan at September 7th Meeting



John Neely Bryan, left, and his historic cabin. This cabin is a restored replica of the first house in Dallas; a flood mostly destroyed the original in the late 1800s. The cabin has stood, until recently, at Dallas County Historical Plaza also known as Founders Plaza less than a quarter mile from Bryan's original site.

Photo of cabin, courtesy of Dallas Skyscrapers.

Historian Steven Butler returns to our Fall program with his new book **John Neely Bryan**. The founder of Dallas, John Neely Bryan, made an exploratory journey to this area in early 1840. He liked what he saw and returned in November 1841 settling on the east bank of the Trinity River, about where Main Street now emerges from the triple underpass. He lived there alone until April 1842, when he was joined by two families. Thus was Dallas, one of America's greatest cities, born.

Stephen Butler is a professor at Richland College. His book, *From Water Supply to Urban Oasis: A History of White Rock Lake Park*, and also his new book, *John Neely Bryan* will be for sale at our meeting. We'll be back at the Baptist Church on Royal Lane for the September meeting. Please reserve your seat soon by calling 214-944-5400.

HISTORY TABLE

By: Carolyn Selzer, Historian

Eva Morgan has planned a program about John Neely Bryan. Any artifacts in that time period will be welcomed for our table display. We especially welcome any of his descendants to join us.

JUNE MEETING REPORT

By: Marsha Leach, Secretary

The DCPA Regular Quarterly Meeting was held on Thursday, June 1, 2006 at the Arlington Hall at Lee Park in Dallas. The original pioneers last met at this location in July of 1905.

Musical entertainment for the evening was provided by Ye Merry Ole Players. Frances James gave a report on Dallas area cemeteries including one on Northwest Highway which she is working to make a landmark.

Jim Foster introduced the speaker for the evening, Jeff Dunn, an attorney and historian who presented the program "Bankhead Highway 6 & Automobile Roads of Early Dallas County." The history table carried a collection of numerous photos of old cars (see photos on page 5).



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**From the President,
Jim Foster**



You missed a treat if you weren't able to attend the Pioneers' Reunion program at Arlington Hall on June 1st. Almost 100 DCPA members and guest filled the hall where former Dallas County Historical Commission chairman, Jeff Dunn presented an excellent program on the Bankhead Highway and early roads of Dallas County.

Don't forget to tell your family and friends about the DCPA website. The address www.DallasPioneer.org <<http://www.DallasPioneer.org>>. There were over 4,550 visitors to the site in July and August visits are coming in at an average of 150 per day.

The DCPA Library continues to grow, but there is plenty room for more books, letters, articles and other items of historical significance pertaining to early Dallas County. So, don't be afraid to stop at all garage and estate sales. You'll be surprised at some of the items I've found at estate sales and used book stores.

It seems like this year is flying by. Its already time for our nominating committee to start looking for new officers and directors, so if you want to become more involved in one of the premier historical organizations of Dallas County, then now is the time to let us know. You may reach me by calling 214-944-5400 or by emailing me at info@DallasPioneer.org.

Looking forward to seeing you at the September 7th meeting. Get your reservations in early by calling 214-944-5400 or send us an email at info@DallasPioneer.org.

Jim Foster



*Above:
June meeting
brought members
and guests to
Arlington Hall.*



*Left:
Jeff Dunn and Foster
discuss early Dallas
county roadmaps.*

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

CLYDE DAVID DELAY, DCPA member, passed away on August 17, 2006. He was born January 14, 1923 at Dallas Texas. Clyde was a Navy pilot during WW II. He started DeLay Insurance agency in 1945 and remained active until the day before he died. He was the oldest living member of the Oak Cliff Lions Club. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Mary Frances; six children, David, Pam, John, Debie, Haven and Francesca; 19 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on Saturday, August 19th at Calvery Hill Cemetery.

CHARLES MICHAEL (MIKE) DANIEL, Mike and his wife Carolyn Fuller Daniel are the parents of two children and live in Coppell. Their daughter, Alison Ann is married to Darin Buscher and their son is Paul Michael. Mike is a descendant of two early Dallas County pioneer families. His great-grandmother was Elizabeth Boone Beeman and his great-great-grandfather was John Herndon Daniel.

Mike works for a consulting engineer firm. Both he and his wife are native of Dallas County.

PAULA SELZER

Paula Selzer has moved from Washington, D.C. to Dallas to be closer to her mother, DCPA member/Historian, Carolyn Selzer. Paula's new address is 9715 Losa, Dallas, 75218, Phone: 214-321-6967, ofc: 214-665-6663, EPA Region 6.



Cemeteries Report

By Frances James

Glover Cemetery

Vandalism at the Glover Cemetery has been detected. Early in the year someone decided to drive through the Glover Cemetery on Military Parkway. They drove through the chain link fence across the back and out the front wrought-iron fence, destroying that by bending the poles to the ground. They missed knocking over the Texas Historical Marker by about a foot. While a letter had already been sent out to the dwindling number of descendants and adequate funds were sent to pay for mowing, there was not enough to repair or replace the fence.

Before anything could be decided about the fence, someone, possibly the same ones, decided to knock over all the head stones, and the stone for Nancy Lagow (1842-1887) was broken in half! The larger stones made of marble were not broken, just laying in pieces.



Since the Good Lord is still in charge, a Boy Scout called seeking a site to work on that would qualify for his Eagle Badge and I suggested this site and met he and his mother. He seems enthusiastic about the project and is writing it up for Circle Ten leaders to approve. We shall see if and when this all works out.

In the meantime another letter of support and a work day is planned for fall. There are Hunicutts, Moores, Beeman, Glovers, Ellis, Lanham, Garretts, all here. Some intermarried, but were among the first to come to Dallas.

On your water bill in Dallas is a fee charged that says Storm Water Run Off about \$3.99 a month. Of course this is just one more way the City has of collecting funds that were designed to keep pollution from washing into the creeks and

the Trinity River. Rather hard to understand when it has not rained in days/months and watering of our yards is so restricted, too. But, the very difficult problem is what is supposed to happen to the cemeteries, that do not even have a water connection, no current owner, no burials, there are many in Dallas that fall into this category. Dallas County Pioneer Association does not own any cemeteries. We try and get volunteers to maintain them, we hold the donations in our cemetery fund as it is a 501 C3 and the donors can use their gift as a tax write-off if they so choose.

Someone in the City Water Department has decided to try and collect on this storm water run off fee from DCPA. The site they are looking at is Western Heights and they are saying the bill is over \$900.00!



“The people buried in this site were contemporaries of the unknown folks buried at Freedmans Cemetery . . .”

The bill is over \$900.00! There is no water hook up there. This person is also contacting Lee Saurez, who along with others, has been collecting money for many years to keep the Trinity Farm Cemetery maintained. This was the land the Trinity Industrial District gave the Mexicans who worked on the plantation in the River bottoms to bury their dead back in 1916. The City sent Lee a bill for over \$200.00. There is no water hook up there.

Oakland Cemetery

Another problem is at Oakland Cemetery. We all know what bad shape that 35-acre site is because there is not adequate funding to maintain it correctly. It has not had any watering done in years. They do get a bill for the use of water in the bathroom of the house at the gate which is minimal. Their storm water run off fee is over \$500.00 a month – about one-fourth of the income produced by the endowment. This would go a long way on maintaining the cemetery in a more decent manner.

Letters have been written, some

calls made, and an attempt will be made to stop these charges. Legislation may have to be changed. This is atrocious!

Lagow Cemetery

A Boy Scout cleaned up and inventoried the Lagow Cemetery on Carpenter off of Second Ave. Nearly all the workers got poison ivy, which is very bad this year because of the drought (so said an article in the paper). The before-and-after pictures are wonderful, but there are not enough people left to adequately pay for maintenance. Richard Lagow gave the land to the community around the turn of the century. None of the Lagows are buried there. This was a white neighborhood until the 1950s. Perhaps someone will see how nice it looks and offer to help on this one. I guess the City will try and collect a storm water run off fee on this, now that they can see it is a cemetery and the stones are visible again. The neighbors were glad it was cleaned up, but still pile their bulky trash in front of the fence instead of in their own front yard for bulky trash pick-up.

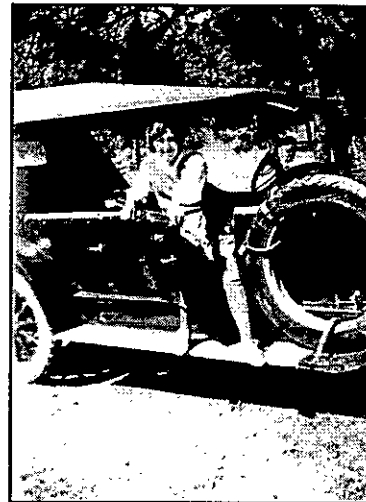
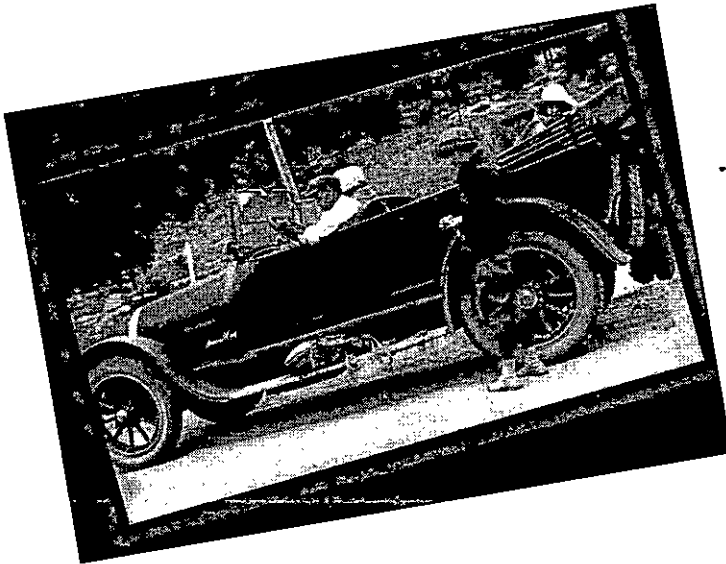
L. Butler Nelson Cemetery

The beautiful arch and gate is being erected this week by the Park Department at the L. Butler Nelson Cemetery on Hatcher Street. The people buried in this site were contemporaries of the unknown folks buried at Freedmans Cemetery on Central Expressway. The folks at L. Butler Nelson purchased their lots and had head stones with names, birth and death dates, and sometimes organizations. These were the early black teachers, doctors, dentists, business owners as well as 108 veterans. This is in Leo Chaney's council district and he has used some of his extra funds to help beautify this site. A group named Silent Souls headed by Jerry Chambers, a now retired school teacher (after 42 years), has instigated this work and diligently followed through on all aspects of it. This site was first inventoried by DCPA members Kevin, Jennifer, Thomas, Vilbig with some help from Dad, David and Mom, Barbara. Kevin received his Eagle Badge for this well done project! This is Dallas History from the Ground UP!



At the June meeting, members brought photos of old automobiles to complement the *Bankhead Highway 6 & Automobile Roads of Early Dallas County* theme of the evening, presented by historian, Jeff Dunn.

Historical photos are welcome for publication in *The Inkwell*.



The photos on this page are part of the James and Jessica LeBeau family collection.



Visit our web site at: www.dallaspioneer.org

The Dallas County Pioneer Association is dedicated to preserving the history of Dallas County and those who settled here before 1880. Anyone who is interested may apply for membership regardless of when they, or their ancestors, came to Dallas County. Contact the Membership Chairman for an application.

Membership Dues:

\$20	Per year	\$200	Life membership
\$30	Couple	\$300	Couple Life membership

The Association meets quarterly for dinner and a program at 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each March, June, September, and December. The meeting room opens at 5:30 p.m. for fellowship and dining. The program starts promptly at 7 p.m.. Visitors are always welcome.

Phone: 214-944-5400

DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER
ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 12496
Dallas, Texas 75225-0496

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	JAMES L. FORSTER
VICE-PRES:	PAUL R. PRICE
SECRETARY:	MARSHA LEACH
TREASURER:	LUTHER MCCOMMAS
HISTORIAN:	CAROLYN SELZER
MEMBERSHIP:	DAN FAUVER
PROGRAMS:	EVA JANE MORGAN
TELEPHONE:	R. SUE BUCY
SUNSHINE:	MILDRED COFFEY
PUBLICITY:	PAT B. RANDOLPH
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