



Dallas County Pioneer Association

P.O. Box 12496 Dallas TX 75225 214-944-5400

Founded 1876
Reorganized 1979

SUMMER - 2009
www.dallaspioneer.com

A. H. BELO PUBLISHED THE FIRST NEWSPAPER IN DALLAS—OCT. 1885

Col. Alfred H. Belo, a native of North Carolina came to Texas after serving in the Confederate Army and he published the *Galveston News*. In the early 1880's he decided that he should expand his newspaper empire to north Texas. He sent 26-year-old George Bannerman Dealey to survey the area and recommend a location for a new paper.

Dealey had joined the Belo firm as an office boy at age fifteen for \$3 a week, had risen through the ranks, and was very well respected by his associates. Dealey visited the communities of Denison, Sherman, Jefferson, Waco, Ft. Worth and Dallas—Dealey's choice was Dallas in 1884, and Belo and Dealey both moved to Dallas.

On Oct. 1, 1885, the first issue of *The Dallas Morning News* was published. Among the pioneers mentioned in the stories in that first edition were N. D. Vinnage, W. K. Clarke, Mrs. Henry Loeb, Owen Burnett, T. L. Marshall, Judge J. H. Hurt, Patrick O'Brien, and H. R. Rogers.

Belo headed the organization until his death in 1901, when his son, Alfred H. Belo, Jr. became president. He died in 1906 and his mother, Mrs. Nettie Ennis Belo, became head of the publishing firm until 1919 when G. B. Dealey took over. At the time it was located on Commerce about one block east of Lamar.

Radio broadcasting began in Dallas in 1921 with city-owned WRR. In 1922 Belo went on the air with WFAA and in 1923 joined NBC, becoming the first network affiliate in Texas. Rival newspaper *The Times Herald* got the first television permit, KRLD in 1948 and *The News* got WFAA-TV in 1949.

A. H. Belo bought *The Times Herald* assets in 1991 thus making the *News* the only newspaper published in the city of Dallas.

Today, the A. H. Belo Company publishes many newspapers in the cities which it had under consideration for its north Texas debut in the 1880's. Many historians feel that Belo had almost as much influence on the growth of the DFW metropolis as the railroads had when they came to Dallas in the 1870's.

Summer Meeting

June 4, 2009

PROGRAM BY

JACKIE McELHANEY

From Pig Stands

To Ports O' Call: Gone But

Not Forgotten

She will present an illustrated talk about fondly-remembered restaurants and members will share their memories of

Southern Kitchen, La Tunisia,

S & S Tearoom and more.

Activity Center

Cochran Chapel United Methodist
Church

9027 Midway Rd @ NW Hwy

Meet at 5:30 pm

Catered dinner (\$15) at 6:00 pm

Program follows at 7:00 pm

Reservation by Monday, June 1st

214-944-5400

OUR SPEAKER

Jackie McElhaney earned her B.A. and M.A. degrees in history from SMU. Her book, *Pauline Penwinkle & Progressive Reform In Dallas*, is a biography of the first woman's editor of the *Dallas Morning News*. Jackie has served as a museum consultant at Old City Park, The Sixth Floor, Old Red, and with the Dallas Historical

Society.



CALL FOR *LEGACIES* PROPOSALS

Plans are now being made for the Legacies Conference early next year. And the organizers are accepting proposals now from both professional and lay historians on topics related to the theme: "Once Upon a Time In Big D -- More Forgotten Stories." Papers may focus on an individual, group, site, event, or community important in the history of Dallas County. The purpose of the paper will be to rescue the subject from obscurity and acknowledge its importance in the development of Dallas.

All papers must be based on original research and must not have been presented or published elsewhere. 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, before July 1st, to: Dallas History Conference, 1515 Harwood St. Dallas, TX 75215. Those selected will be notified by August 1st. The Dallas County Pioneer Association is one of twelve historical organizations that jointly sponsor the annual Legacies Conference.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF MARCH MEETING

David Vilbig presided at the meeting. A report by Frances James noted that work and research had been done at the Western Heights Cemetery, which recently received a \$2000 gift for beautification. Susanna Clark Smith, who lead the cleanup of Fletcher Cemetery, has become a member of the Dallas County Pioneers; and Frances is working on markers for the Anderson Cemetery in Garland.

Guests attending the meeting included: Darlene Liesner, Rose Ann Rawls, Jennifer Blackley, Joan & Dan Stansbury, John Fisher, Edwina Dyes, Ida Downs, Larry & Kathy Moser, and Alan Lusk.

David Vilbig praised the remodeling of our meeting room by the Cochran Chapel United Methodist Church; and he announced that Linda Boggess has set up a DCPA facebook page on line to perhaps attract new and younger members to our association.

Bill McRae reported that Nellie O'Connell has taken a bad fall; and that Dr. Jack Hittson has passed away. Sally Veazey has volunteered to be in charge of book sales. She is looking for help to set up sales on Amazon and e-Bay.

After the new Board of Directors was introduced, Howard Cox presented the program, "Dallas Dairies." Following, it was announced that the upcoming programs for '09 include: Jackie McElhaney in June talking about old restaurants in Dallas; Evelyn Montgomery, in September, discussing Post World War II housing in Dallas; and in December, Bill Caruth will give the program. The meeting was adjourned with the words: "May God Be With You Till We Meett Again." Marsha Leach, Sec. , Edited By Pat Randolph

DALLAS COUNTY HISTORY

From 1686-1690, Alonso de Leon made five expeditions to Texas from Mexico, and during that time, he named the Trinity River. Then, in 1718, French map maker, Guillaume Delisle, showed the Trinity River on a map for the first time. The map was widely used and reflected the current, accurate information at that time. In 1819 a band of Cherokee Indians settled the first community in the area but were driven out shortly after.



PROFILING PIONEER MEMBERS

Our outstanding past-president, Howard J. Cox, was born in Baylor Hospital, Dallas, Texas. His father was Isaac Howard Cox and his mother was Mary Jane Webb Cox. The Webb Family had come to Texas in 1843 with the famous Peter's Colony group of early Dallas. The Webbs settled on a large expanse of land now identified as Webb Chapel Road and Forest Lane.

Howard attended Carrollton High School and Southern Methodist University. He enjoyed a distinguished career as an accountant. Now retired, he finds a great deal of pleasure contributing to associations and researching local history.

Mary Katharine Fisher Cox is Howard's wife and their family includes their son, Howard Joseph Cox, Jr., their daughter, Eleand Katharine Cox Cunningham, and five grandsons. The Cox family is currently faced with Mary Katharine's serious illness and the association's members are asked to keep the Cox family in their thoughts.

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CEMETERY NEWS By Frances James

Wheatland Cemetery Association had their Annual Decoration Day on Sunday, May 3rd. Last year was their 100th Anniversary and this year the Historic Texas Cemetery designation and marker is being unveiled. The story of Wheatland Cemetery will be included in the next Volume of *Dallas County History From The Ground Up*.

The Librarian and one of the teachers at Bishop Lynch High School are preparing a program that will teach students about the history of the Mexicans who came to this area to work in the cement plants in West Dallas. They will study about the housing, the schools, living conditions, transportation, and those buried in the cemetery on land donated by the Southwest Portland Cement Company.

The annual clean up and get together for the Glover Cemetery was held Sat., April 25. A large cedar tree in the cemetery had fallen over onto the adjacent church. The church had been sold and it was to be demolished so a grocery store could be built, but the City denied the re-zoning and the church was just sitting there being vandalized. A fire destroyed more of the church and the City insisted a fence be erected around the site. The current owners of the property have talked with those interested in caring for the cemetery and assured them they will respect the site.

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FINAL FAREWELL George A. Riek, a native Dallasite and longtime member of the Dallas County Pioneer Association, died February 17, 2009. He was a graduate of North Dallas High School and a decorated veteran of World War II. George was the former owner of Accurate Machine Works which served the Dallas area for over 50 years. He is survived by a brother, a sister, and several generations of nieces and nephews. George was buried at Oakland Cemetery with full military honors.

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Special "Thanks" To Marjori Sharp and Aimee Van Heyest Who Contributed Information For
This Newsletter.

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Visit our Website 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. Any person 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 on the first Thursday of each March, June, September, and December. The meeting room opens at 5:30 pm. for fellowship; dinner is served at 6:00 pm. and the program starts promptly at 7:00 pm. Visitors are welcome.

Phone: 214-944-5400

Association Officers

President	David Vilbig
Vice Pres.	Dianne Janisek Reed
Secretary	Marsha B. Leach
Treasurer	Charles W. Powers
Historian	Eva Jane Morgan
Programs	Committee
Sunshine	Mildred Coffey
News Editor	Pat Randolph

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