



DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1875, REORGANIZED 1979

P O Box 12496 DALLAS TX 75225

972-260-9334

SUMMER 2017



**RESERVATION REQUIRED
IF YOU INTEND TO EAT!**

**Quarterly Meeting
Thursday June 1, 2017**

**The Point, Center for Arts and Education
Campus of C. C. Young
4847 W. Lawther Dr.
Room Opens at 5:30 PM Dinner at 6 PM
Program Begins At 7 PM**

Dinner \$15.00 per person

**DINNER RESERVATION
call by the Tuesday before the meeting**

972-260-9334

JUNE PROGRAM

**Curator Keegan Chetwynd
Commemorative Air Force**

Many of the aircraft in the CAF fleet are very rare, including flying examples of the Boeing B-29 Superfortress *FIFI*, Curtiss SB2C Helldiver. Others – such as the Consolidated B-24A Liberator *Diamond 'Lil*, Bell P-63 Kingcobra fighter, Douglas SBD Dauntless and the Bell P-39 Airacobra fighter– are one of only two or three of that type still flying today. Rare Axis aircraft operated by the CAF include an original Japanese Mitsubishi A6M3 "Zero" carrier-based fighter. These aircraft are all flown regularly in support of the CAF mission. These aircraft are restored, maintained and flown by our elite force of member/volunteers known as Colonels.



UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2017

September 7, 2017 Program The history of Peters' Colony presented by Dr. Vivian A. Hicks

December 2, 2017 Program Sarah Horton Cockrell presented by Susan Reno



CEMETERY NEWS

The good news first:

The Whiterock Garden of Memories near Addison and Preston is having its annual Memorial Day meeting on May 27, 2017. This site has also been called the Scott Cemetery. One of the few cemeteries that had burial sites for white persons and black intermingled. The freed slaves of the Coit family are buried here. Their meeting begins at 1:00 PM and if you plan to attend covered dishes are expected to go with the Bar B Que that is being furnished.

Frankford Cemetery has scheduled a Decoration Day event for May 21, 2017. This cemetery has always been cared for by interested, loving descendants who were also involved in restoring the church adjacent to the site. Dallas County Pioneer Association should be grateful for the attention shown by these descendants. They even are furnishing food for the first 75 people who make a reservation. Other wise attend their program that starts at 1:00 PM.

Now for the bad news:

The Carver Cemetery on the corner of Masters and Bruton has been the victim again. A vehicle wiped out 90 feet of the fence that was installed just a few years ago to the tune of \$8500 dollars! We tried to go through the city's files to see if we could get the culprit and his/her insurance company to pay for the damage - but unfortunately there was no police report. The city placed protection on Masters when that side of this corner cemetery was destroyed, but when contacted about the Bruton side the answer was, "We do not do that anymore." The descendant who does not live in Dallas, but pays for the upkeep and had paid for the "new" fence, but will probably pay for the project now. He is going blind but respects his family and this cemetery. The Dallas County Deed Records show this site is now owned by a Company in Houston. How they acquired it is very questionable???

The Garvin Cemetery on Northwest Highway abuts an apartment complex that is going to be removed and a new complex built on their valuable property. The Garvin has a Texas Historical Marker and is a City of Dallas Landmark. The portion that is behind the apartments was given for the black community that lived in that area. This site will need to be closely monitored as it is probably assumed to be vacant land!

The Old Oak Cliff Cemetery - also called the Beaty Cemetery- has been cared for in the past by an association and the names are listed on their Web Page. For some reason it is now neglected and looks very bad. I know there must be some members of DCPA who have ancestors buried in this large cemetery. They need to be concerned and should follow up before all the head stones are covered up with high weeds! When David Eisenlohr (late member of DCPA) was in charge of this site it was well cared for.

Information has been requested for Isaac Nation and Elizabeth Nation. One memo thinks he may be buried in the Lyons Cemetery without a head stone. If anyone has info on this couple we should forward it to the descendant.

A person has spent a lot of time and effort trying to find the Texas Historical Marker for the Horton Cemetery that was never set in concrete at the site in anticipation of some Horton family member showing some interest in the site. This cemetery for the Horton family is now and has been overgrown for years. Four thousand dollars was spent from the DCPA Cemetery fund a few years ago to cut back the overgrowth but that was all wasted as the surrounding land owner refused to allow the heavy duty equipment to come in and haul off the years of debris. This Horton family members were among the very first persons to come into Dallas County and receive land from Peters Colony. They donated land for the railroad, for churches and for schools.

There has been concern about the potential for damage to the Routh/Spring Creek Cemetery in Richardson. When I contacted Bill McRae he arranged to meet with the contractors who will be involved with the construction of new high rise buildings on the adjacent land. Bill will also monitor this project.

Submitted by Francis James



FINAL FAREWELLS

Sadly, we report the loss of Pioneer members



Ida Lea (Wilroy) Monroe Briones Downs was born May 27, 1927 in Dallas, Texas although her family always celebrated her birthday on May 28 when she was growing up. She was the fourth of five children born to William Stanley Wilroy and Annie Marion Cox. Ida passed away on February 21, 2017 in Mesquite, Texas.

Ida was married three times. Her first marriage in 1946 was to Norman Eugene "Gene" Monroe. To this marriage were born 4 children: Eugenia Annette "Gene Anne" Monroe, Frazier Benton Monroe, Richard Clyde Monroe, and Lincoln John Monroe.

Ida's second marriage in 1957 was to Willie "Bill" Briones. To this marriage were born 2 children: William Joseph "Joe" Briones and Daniel Alan "Dan" Briones.

Ida's third marriage was to John Aloysius Downs.

Ida was a stay-at-home mom for only 1 year. She worked as a secretary, clerk-typist. One of her employers, Mr. Sam Weiner of Weiner Lumber Company, used Ida extensively as he led the building campaign for Scottish Rite Hospital.

Ida believed in serving others. When her boys were growing up, she was a Cub Scout Den Mother for 18 years. She was a Methodist and active in PTA. In her 70s she joined the "Off Our Rockers" group in Garland to assist elementary students with their reading skills. Ida had a zest for life unmatched by many people and she had an infectious laugh. She loved to dance and went on over 15 folk dance cruises. She actively participated in the Dallas Chinese Folk Dance group, the Dallas International Folk Dance group, the Yellow Rockers Square Dance club, and the Garland Seniors Ballroom Dance club.

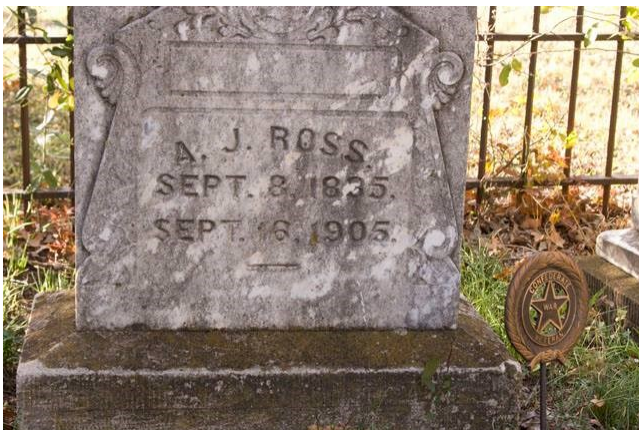
She enjoyed seeing new things and traveled on many trips with the Garland Senior Center. She was a member of the "Great Gals of Garland" and the "Dazzling Divas" Red Hat groups. Ida enjoyed flowers. She planted gardens and as a member of the Dallas Arboretum, she loved to walk among the flowers and tour the DeGolyer house. She visited gardens all over the world. Ida enjoyed musicals and theater and was a season ticket holder for over 15 years at both the Dallas Summer Musicals and Theater Three.

Ida's mother once stated that she was related to most of the people in Dallas County. Ida was a great-great granddaughter of Isaac Blackman Webb and Mary Hughes. Isaac was one of the earliest pioneers in Dallas County who came as a part of the Peters Colony in the 1840's. He was responsible for the first protestant (Methodist) service in most of north Texas. She was also the great-great-great granddaughter of Enoch Horton and Martha Stinson. Enoch was also a Peters Colonist. Ida's was descended through Enoch's daughter Mary whose sister was Sarah Horton Cockrell, Dallas' first millionaire and a founding member of the First Methodist Church in Dallas. Ida was proud of her family history and was a lifetime member of the Dallas County Pioneer Association.

Four generations of Ida's ancestors are buried at Webb Chapel Cemetery which is located at the original site of Isaac Webb's cabin. She was involved for many years in the Webb Chapel Cemetery Association and donated money for the upkeep and beautification of the cemetery.

Ida is predeceased by her parents, sister Faye (Wilroy) Smith, brother John Ray Wilroy, and sister Dulcie Anne Wilroy. She is survived by brother Robert David Wilroy and wife Marian; children "Gene Anne" "G G", Frazier, Richard, Lincoln, Joe, and Dan; grandchildren Lance, Misty, and Taelor, great-grandchildren Mikayla, Gwen, and one on the way.

ROSS AVENUE



Ross avenue was named for Andrew J. Ross, one of the first settlers on the street. In 1868, Capt. W. H. Gaston bought a tract on Ross avenue, which included the land, which afterward became the homestead of Col. A. H. Belo, at Ross avenue and Pearl street. The ground was covered with a dense thicket, in clearing which for the erection of a dwelling, rattlesnakes were discovered by hundreds, and some time after Captain Gaston's family moved into the house, a negro servant girl, employed to nurse Robert K. Gaston, then an infant, died from the sight of a rattlesnake in the yard. She was found by Mrs. Gaston dead in the yard with the infant, Robert, sprawling near her and making ineffectual efforts to crawl to the snake, which had attracted his attention.

Transcribed by Jim Wheat for Dallas County Archives from Dallas Times Herald, Jan. 9, 1921. Photo courtesy Find a Grave.



FINAL FAREWELLS

Sadly, we report the loss of Pioneer members



Margaret Aimee Upham Born on 1/19/1924 in Dallas, her roots from her mother's parents were from the French pioneers who settled the La Reunion community of Dallas knowing they wanted a better life. Her character was set in the Great Depression as her parents, sisters, and brother found their way through education, hard work, and good decisions. The family moved to Arkansas following her dad's work. Peggy and her sisters and brother graduated from De Queen High School.

Her independence came well before today's buzzword of STEM. Science and math were core to her public education; her technology was a slide rule. She was one of a group of 900 young women selected to support her country in WWII by learning aeronautics at Purdue University while drafting aircraft designs in the Curtiss-Wright Engineering Cadettes program.

As an adult, she wore many hats and wore them well. After WWII, Peggy returned for a short time to De Queen then moved back to Dallas starting a career in drafting for Lone Star Gas. Like so many of her generation, she met a WWII and Korean War veteran; she married Richard "Dick" Upham on 8/19/1949.

Peggy's next hat was as a mom. She was all the good parts of a "soccer mom" and certainly was certainly not a "helicopter mom". She along with a great set of "community moms" allowed the Woodlawn and later the Trailridge gang to play all the baseball, football, army, skateboard, and creek roaming they wanted within a slim set of rules mostly bounded only by lunch and dinner times, homework, and a core set of solid ethics. She supported the building of the backyard putting green that was the basis for many lasting friendships formed in that lower Kiest Park neighborhood.

Peggy was unpaid Uber for many Oak Cliff Riverlake junior golfers.

Peggy's hats continued to expand, as a businesswoman and entrepreneur. She found a niche with her science and drafting backgrounds becoming what would today might be called a seismic-graphic artist researching and putting together presentations of oil and gas fields without aid of a computer. She proved her worth in an energy spin off from Republic National Bank that became American Airlines Energy and then the Howard Company. Peggy's abilities and confidence grew; she formed her own small business providing old fashioned drafting services to independent oil and gas clients and wore that hat until her eighties. She was thankful to so many men and women in her career. She found time to be a caretaker for her mom and her great aunt while they weathered through the trials of their nursing homes.

Another hat for her - that of a grandmother - fit well. Both Brent and Travis benefitted from chauffeuring, trips, and Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. May the French bread sausage dressing recipe be carried for many generations!

Peggy had one more hat to try - volunteering. She formed many new friendships as she returned to some of her passions. Inspired by her mom's floral shop, Peggy loved the Dallas Arboretum and volunteered in the Guest Information booth. She loved aviation and volunteered at the Love Field Friends of Flight Museum providing education and materials for school age tours. She stayed active until November 2016, when a broken hip started a downward spiral.

She passed away on March 20, 2017, closing one more thread in the fabric of the Greatest Generation. She was preceded in death by her parents William Elbert and Emelliane "Milly" Alix Cornetet Adams, her sisters Rosemary Adams Poeschel and Ernestine Adams "EA" McLeod. She is survived by sister Ruth Adams Stewart of Wichita Falls and brother Jean Adams and wife Frankie of Ft. Worth, her son Steve Upham and wife Claire Howard of Richardson, her grandsons Brent and wife Erica of Dallas, and Travis and wife Claire of Houston, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Peggy quietly impacted and improved the lives of many across three generations. She sacrificed not because of she had to but to build a better future for her family.

INTERURBAN RAIL SERVICE

The first interurban system in Texas was built in 1901, by the Texas Traction Company. It was a 10-mile line from Sherman to Denison. By 1909, the Texas Traction Company had built the 65 mile line to connect Sherman/Denison with Dallas. Northern Texas Traction Company, formed in 1902, built the first electric streetcar line in Dallas.



Texas Traction Company entering Dallas 1909 (left)

Stockholders Inspection Trip Sherman to Dallas 1908 (right)





DALLAS GENEALOGY SUMMER SEMINAR

Dallas Genealogical Society Welcomes Lisa Louise Cooke, Sunny Morton, and Diahann Southard to our 2017 Summer Seminar, August 4 and 5, 2017

Sources, Storytelling, & DNA is a two-day seminar featuring our three speakers. The program includes sessions on Google tools, writing your life story, genetic genealogy, using newspapers and religious records in family history research, Google Earth, and creating online videos. Program details are available on the DGS web site: dallasgenealogy.org.

UPCOMING ELECTION FOR DCPA

After seven years as our illustrious leader, President David Vilbig is stepping down. Please consider following in David's footsteps leading this organization.

Contact Sally Veazey at darsallyvz@gmail.com to place your name on the ballot for president or any other office or board position.

The elections, according to the bylaws, will be held at our December 2 meeting. The new slate of officers begins serving January 1, 2018.

FREE GENEALOGY RESEARCH WEB LINKS

Kelvin L. Meyers, the speaker at the March meeting shared many free genealogy web resources. Several members contributed to the list of resources for free online genealogy research. Have fun researching!

The Texas General Land Office	glo.texas.gov
Family Search	familysearch.org
Fold3 Military Records	fold3.com
The Handbook of Texas Online	tshaonline.org/handbook
Texas State Historical Association	tshaonline.org
The Portal to Texas History	texashistory.unt.edu
Texas State Library	tsl.texas.gov
Tex Share, Consortium of Libraries	tsl.texas.gov/texshare/index.html
Legacy of Texas	legacyoftexas.com
Legacy of Texas requires registration with an email and will receive spam	
Dallas County Online Record Search	dallascounty.org/services/record-search/

ge·ne·al·o·gy

- 1: an account of the descent of a person, family, or group from an ancestor or from older forms
- 2: regular descent of a person, family, or group of organisms from a progenitor (see progenitor 1) or older form : pedigree
- 3: the study of family ancestral lines
- 4: an account of the origin and historical development of something

Per Meriam Webster

DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER



DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

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We're on the web!

www.dallaspioneer.org

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President	David Vilbig
Vice-Pres	Howard Cox
Secretary	Marsha B. Leach
Treasurer	William Vilbig
Historian	Eva Jane Morgan
Membership	Open
Programs	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Telephone Committee	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Sunshine Committee	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Publicity & Newsletter	Pat. B. Randolph
Newsletter Publisher	Barbara Vilbig

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 any officer 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 welcome.

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