



DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1875, REORGANIZED 1979

P O Box 12496 DALLAS TX 75225

972-260-9334

WINTER 2017



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

**Quarterly Meeting
Saturday December 2, 2017**

**Browder Springs Hall
Dallas Heritage Village
1515 South Harwood
Brunch/Breakfast 9:30 AM
Program Begins At 10:30 AM**

Brunch \$15.00 per person

**BRUNCH RESERVATION
call by Thursday Nov. 30, 2017**

972-260-9334



DALLAS HOLIDAY PARADE

**THE ANNUAL DALLAS HOLIDAY PARADE WILL BE THE SAME DAY AS OUR MEETING!
PLAN YOUR ROUTE AND ARRIVAL TO THE PARK TO AVOID THE TRAFFIC.**

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Sarah Horton Cockrell Presented by Susan Reno

Susan Reno graduated from Dallas Baptist University in 1989 with a BAAS degree, Business Administration and Education, holds 8 State of Texas Teaching Certifications, and is one of 28 Texas Natl. Board Certified Teachers History Adolescents and Young Adults. She was admitted into National Society Daughters of American Revolution in April, 1978, and is now Secretary in the Sarah Cockrell Chapter of NSDAR. She has held many different positions in chapter, state and national levels. Mrs. Reno presently serves as DISD Coordinator Social Studies Dept, and National History Day Coordinator. She taught 9 years at Duncanville High School and three years at Lancaster Junior High as an 8th grade teacher of U.S. History. During that time she was named Lancaster ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year, LJHS 2003 Teacher of the Year and 2002 Teacher of the Year, Lancaster Veteran of Foreign Wars, Post 8913. I hope you will be present to hear Mrs. Reno speak on Sarah Horton Cockrell.

MEETING SCHEDULE 2018

March 1, 2018

June 7, 2018

September 6, 2018

December 1, 2018



CEMETERY NEWS

The Garvin Cemetery is under assault again. The takeover of this three acre site that was dedicated as a cemetery on land that was a portion of the William Cochran's holdings in 1894. The portion along the 4000 block of Northwest Highway is a big mess at this time. Due to the care and concern of one of the Dallas Morning News reporters who called me, I would not have known about what was going on.

Since the site has been designated a Dallas Landmark it should have gone before that committee before a permit (if there is one) to build townhouses on it. When notified of what was happening, the Landmark staff member went out and she got everything stopped for now. Preservation Dallas folks, plus landmark staff and the DMN reporters will be watching what is going on. A company based in Houston now holds a deed without warranty to the front section and may not have known of the Landmark designation.

This is why I keep asking all members of DCPA to be aware of the cemeteries in their area and help watch out for illegal activities. Dallas County is and has been in transition for a long time and with so many new people coming to this area the cemeteries may look like vacant land.



GARVIN CEMETERY

When and if the tall remaining Confederate marker is removed as some (probably new people that do not know the correct history of the Civil War) is being looked into again, the downtown Pioneer cemetery will get a lot of attention. There are graves adjacent to the sculpture that may get trounced on.

When the Robert E Lee statue was removed from Oak Lawn Park many people for the first time understood what happens when all the history has not been heard. Our generation is the guardians of this history as it is not being taught to children now in school - nor by their parents.

Submitted by Francis James

SLATE OF 2018-219 OFFICERS

The slate of officers to serve from January 1, 2018 thru December 31, 2019, will be presented by Nominating Person Jane Beaver (Sally Veazey stepped down as she is on the slate).

The Nominees are:

President	Jim Bookhout
Vice President	Sally Jacoby Veazey
Secretary	Marsha Leach
Treasurer	Bill Vilbig
Historian	Eva Morgan



FINAL FAREWELLS

Sadly, we report the loss of Pioneer members

THEVENET Christopher (Chris) Benjamin Thevenet, Sr., 62, born August 6th, 1955 in Dallas, Texas passed away on October 3rd, 2017 at his home in Lakewood. Chris was a proud and loving father to Christopher Benjamin Thevenet, Jr. and Cameron Louise Thevenet. As a fifth generation Dallas resident, he also took pride in his city and his family history. Chris loved being outdoors. An avid outdoorsman, he spent much of his time at Caddo Lake in East Texas and passed his love for Caddo and the outdoors on to his children and countless others that knew him. He served on the board and as the president of The Dallas Caddo Hunting and Fishing Club for many years and had a heart for creating a place for people to retreat to. Thevenet worked most of his adult life in Commercial Real Estate where he proudly helped sculpt Dallas into the city it is today while creating lasting and meaningful relationships with people near and far. Chris always made time to listen to and tell stories. He had a generous heart that served and loved many well. His warm demeanor and gentle spirit made him a joy to be around and a pleasure to laugh with. His knowledge of Caddo Lake inspired whimsy and intrigue among anyone willing to listen and learn. Chris was preceded in death by his parents Henry and Judith Thevenet and is survived by his children Christopher Benjamin Thevenet, Jr. and Cameron Louise Thevenet. Two brothers, Michael Thevenet (wife Libbi, and sons Sam and Hank) and Scott Thevenet (wife Jan, and son Matthew), Uncle and Aunt, Ted and Peggy Thevenet, Cousins, Robert and John Thevenet and his beloved hunting dog, Caddo #2.

From Francis James: Thevenet is a descendant of the French Colony. His ancestor was a banker and he has all sorts of records of the colonist who went back to Europe and those who stayed in the USA.

When the French Consul met us at the La Reunion Cemetery Mr. Thevenet came out to the cemetery. He also came to the reception that followed up our meeting.

The article mentions his children and I hope they preserve his treasures or pass them to a Historical Society???

19th Annual Legacies Dallas History Conference

“Dallas on the Move” the theme for the 2018 Legacies Conference to be on Saturday January 27, 2018

The conference will be held at the recently renovated Dallas History & Archives Division of the Dallas Public Library, located on the 7th floor of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library.

Speakers and Topics

Jeff Dunn, “North Texas Electric Interurban Railways: 1902-1948”

Jay Firsching, “Taking Dallas Vertical”

Patricia Hicks and Juanita H. Nanez, “Where One Sought to Relegate, Another Caused to Flourish: The Stories of the Old North Dallas and La Bajada neighborhoods”

Laura Ostten, “DART Subway Planning, 1985-1988”

David Preziosi, “Braniff Airways Take Dallas to New Heights”

Rusty Williams, “Deadly Dallas Streets: Unfortunate incidents, deplorable mayhem, and grisly fatalities at the turn of the twentieth century”

Special Feature Conversation with a History Maker: George Schrader



McGowan Funeral Home

The McGowan funeral home operated in South Dallas from 1955 until the 1990's.

Alto McGowan was born in 1904 in San Augustine, Texas, and moved to Dallas as a young man. He ran several businesses, including a café, record shop, bail bonds business, and others. He started the McGowan Funeral Home around 1955 and became a member of several funeral director associations and fraternal organizations.

The Dallas Public Library holds the collection of records from the McGowan home: it is currently housed on the 8th floor in the administrative area and is not accessible to the general public without prior arrangement. It contains client/deceased files which may include obituaries, photographs, funeral pamphlets, death certificates, and related materials. A small portion of the collection pertains to the administrative/office functions of running the funeral home, which held city, county, and VA contracts for local ambulances serving several nearby counties. This collection is a great resource for African-American burial practices in the late twentieth century.

Members of our African American Genealogical Interest Group have been creating a digital index of these records. The database link to the records that have been indexed so far: <http://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/local-records/mcgowan-funeral-home/> McGowan Funeral Home Search Tool

Dallas Fun Facts

- ◆ The frozen margarita machine was invented in Dallas
- ◆ The integrated circuit computer chip (which became the microchip) was invented in Dallas in 1958
- ◆ The 52 foot 'Big Tex' statue that greets visitors at the annual State Fair of Texas is the tallest cowboy in Texas.
- ◆ The largest permanent model train exhibit in the country is on display in the lobby of Dallas Children's Medical Center.
- ◆ Highland Park Village Shopping Center, developed in 1931 has the distinction of being the first planned shopping center in America.
- ◆ The Dallas area is the largest metropolitan area in the nation not on a navigable body of water.

Newsletter Format

Hope you like the new format. Please send any information or articles you would like to see included in the newsletter to dcpa1875@gmail.com

DALLAS COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

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 on the first Thursday of each March, June, September, and on the first Saturday of December.

Visitors are welcome.

Phone Number 972-260-9334 **Email** dcpa1875@gmail.com

Web Address www.dallaspioneer.org