



THE DALLAS COUNTY CHRONICLE

The Newsletter of the Dallas County Historical Commission

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Second Annual Dallas History Conference Set

The second annual *Legacies* Dallas History Conference will be held Saturday, October 21, 2000, at the Hughes-Trigg Student Center on the campus of SMU. Sponsored by twelve Dallas-area historical organizations (including the Dallas County Historical Commission) and underwritten by The Summerlee Foundation, this year's conference will focus on the theme, "The Twentieth Century." Former Governor William P. Clements will be the luncheon speaker, reminiscing about growing up in the Park Cities and attending SMU during the 1930s. Other topics will include the founding of SMU, winning the Federal Reserve Bank, creating the Dallas Foundation, early Mexican migrant families in Dallas, race relations since 1960, and reviving Swiss Avenue and Munger Place in the 1970s.

Members of the sponsoring organizations received registration forms in the mail in early September. Forms will also be available at the Dallas Public Library. Conference registration will be \$25, which includes morning refreshments and lunch. Patron tickets at \$100



"TWENTIETH-CENTURY DALLAS"

will include an invitation to a reception on Friday evening with the speakers. The one-day conference will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude by 4 p.m.

In addition to the DCHC, the other sponsors are the African American Museum, the Dallas County Heritage Society (Old City Park), the Dallas County Pioneer Association, the Dallas Historical Society,

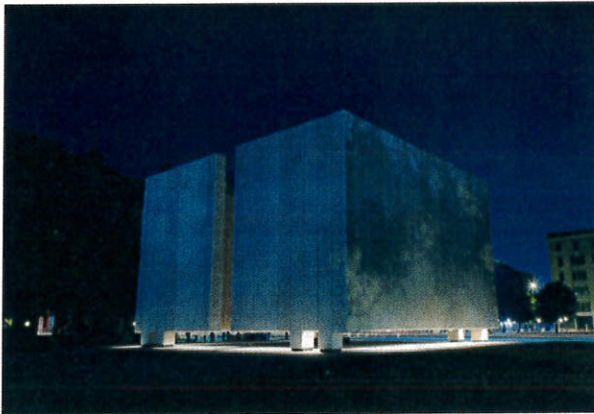
the DeGolyer Library at SMU, Preservation Dallas, The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, the Texas/Dallas History & Archives Division of the Dallas Public Library, the University of Texas at Dallas (School of Arts and Humanities), the William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies at SMU, and The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future.

Upcoming Events:

- October 7: Trezevant Calhoun Hawpe Grave Marker Dedication (Pioneer Cemetery Dallas)
- October 8: White Rock Chapel Marker Dedication (Addison)
- October 18: Ross Avenue Baptist Church Marker Dedication (Dallas)
- October 1: Dallas History Conference (SMU) (See story on this page)
- November 4: Joffre/Gilbert House Marker Dedication (Irving)
- November 11: Hensley Field (Dallas Naval Air Station) Marker Dedication
- November 19: Oak Cliff United Methodist Church Marker Dedication

Kennedy Memorial: Rededication Marks Memorial's 30th Anniversary

A warmly received and well-attended rededication of the recently restored Kennedy Memorial – a joint effort by The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, Dallas County and the City of Dallas -- took place June 24, the 30th anniversary of the monument's original dedication.



The emotional highlight of the rededication program was the reading by County Judge Lee Jackson of a letter addressed to the citizens of Dallas County from Senator Ted Kennedy expressing the Kennedy family's appreciation for the effort to restore and pre-

serve the Memorial.

"Please accept my gratitude for the care and concern you have shown in renovating your Memorial to President Kennedy. It means a great deal to know that the citizens of Dallas County loved him too," Senator Kennedy wrote.

Designed by architect Philip Johnson, the monument had suffered weather and other damage at the same time millions of people have visited the site annually. Two new interpretive panels were added detailing the Memorial's history and explaining its symbolic significance.

The Sixth Floor Museum took the lead in bringing together the various elements involved in the project. Services and materials for the project – estimated to total \$70,000 in value – were donated by a group of ten construction related companies, with the Phoenix I Restoration and Construction, Ltd serving as the general contractor.

Other companies include: Architectural Concrete Services (concrete restoration), MarbleLife (marble restoration), Slocum Electric, Inc. (electrical restoration), United Rentals Aerial Equipment (aerial lifts), Hotsy Equipment Company (pressure washing equipment), Neogard, Division of Jones Blair (waterproofing materials), Pecora (caulking materials), Sika Corporation (anti corrosive materials) and ProSoCo, Inc. (project photographer).

Changes at the DCHC:

The Dallas County Historical Commission extends "Best wishes" to two outstanding members who recently retired from the Commission: Charlene Orr of Mesquite and Patricia Randolph Antonelli of Cedar Hill.

The Dallas County Historical Commission welcomes two new members Joyce Hicks of Mesquite and Maria Adames of Dallas.



Scenes from the restoration of the Kennedy Memorial. (Photos: Left and right courtesy Nathan Shands, center courtesy Karen Wiley /The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza)

Second Annual Texas History...Alive!!! Festival Held

By Buddy Frazer, DCHC Member

The Texana Living History Association held its second annual "Texas...History Alive!!!" event at the Hall of State in Fair Park March 17. The Dallas County Historical Commission manned a booth at the event.

The Texana Living History Association presented a reenactment of a chuckwagon and pioneer campsite, and several of their actors, representing Texas historical figures, made presentations in the Lecture Hall. They included William Travis, Susannah Dickenson, Jim Bowie and Davy Crockett.

Other exhibitors included the Dallas Historical Society, African American Museum, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Daughters of the Republic of Texas/Children of the Republic of Texas, Buffalo Soldiers, 9th Texas Infantry (Civil War), 2nd Texas Volunteers (Spanish American War), Dallas Parks Foundation, Dallas Fire Fighters Museum, Blacksmiths, and Waxahachie Free Trappers.



Members of the Texana Living History Association recreate a chuckwagon scene from early Texas.

Carrollton Sets Volunteer Day for June 30

By Jon Eric Simmons, DCHC Member

The Carrollton Volunteer day will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2001. This year's activities include a number of projects such as decorating Old Downtown Carrollton for the Fourth of July Celebration and preparing the Historic Black Cemetery, known as the Carrollton Community Cemetery, for recognition by the City of Carrollton with an historical marker. The volunteer activities will begin at 8:00 AM that day and culminate with a hamburger and hot

dog lunch served for all volunteers in Old Downtown Carrollton from noon to 1:00 PM. Music will be provided by the Carrollton Community Band. For more information on Volunteer Day contact Andy Olivo, Carrollton Volunteer Day Chairperson, at 972-417-1945.

The Dallas County Historical Commission is co-sponsoring the cleanup of the Carrollton Community Cemetery

and the Snyder Kennedy Cemetery on Volunteer Day. The DCHC Cemetery Committee is working with the Carrollton Historic Preservation Advisory Committee to research the history of these two historic cemeteries and obtain a Texas Historical Commission Historic Texas Cemetery Marker for each. Frances James, a member of the DCHC in the early 1980's, is consulting with the sponsors to produce the best and most accurate applications possible.

A special focus of this effort is to conduct oral history interviews with some of Carrollton's older citizens to give a more complete history of Carrollton's historic Black Community. This Community was a significant factor in late 1800's Carrollton, and there are many vivid images of this vibrant and successful farming community still alive in the memories of these older residents. Anyone knowing of individuals who may be subjects for interviews, or anyone interested in assisting with the interviews or related research, should contact Jon Eric Simmons at 972-446-1721.

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The Newsletter of the Dallas County Historical Commission

The Dallas County Historical Commission is a county board appointed by the Dallas County Commissioners Court. The Dallas County Chronicle is a quarterly publication of the DCHC for historical groups in Dallas County and the general public. This edition was edited by Buddy Frazer and published with the assistance of The Sixth Floor Museum. Contributions should be sent to Jeff Dunn, via email at jddunn@flash.net, or by mail to Dallas County Historical Commission, 411 Elm Street, 3rd Floor, Dallas, TX 75202-3301.

Garland Hosts Texas Historical Commission Workshop

By Michael Hayslip, DCHC Member

Main Street Garland joined with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to host a workshop for local cities on February 27 in Garland. The meeting, one of three held across the state, outlined requirements for heritage programs administered through the THC.

Fourteen participants from Clarksville, Kaufman, Pilot Point and Winnsboro as well as Dallas County towns attended the event. Also attending was Diane Bumpas of Dallas.

Kay Harvey-Mosley, State Coordinator for the Texas Main Street Program, presented a slide show and discussed successful cases in Texas. Established by the National Trust in 1980, the Na-

tional Main Street Center now operates in more than 1400 communities in 43 states, aiding in the revitalization of traditional downtown and neighborhood commercial areas. The THC is now accepting applications from cities under 50,000 population for participation in the 2002 Texas Main Street Program. As many as five Texas cities will be selected and announced in the late fall of this year.

Certified Local Government (CLG) coordinator Bratton Thomason reviewed various aspects of the CLG program, a local state and federal partnership for historic preservation. CLG participation assists cities and counties develop standards of preservation to

protect a wide range of local properties.

Janie Headrick, Program Director for the THC's Texas Tourism Program, wrapped up the session with an explanation of partnerships between the preservation community and the tourism industry to promote tourism. The state has been divided into ten Texas Heritage Trail Regions for this purpose, and Dallas County is one of thirty-one counties in the Lakes Trail Region.

Additional information on any of these programs is available from the THC website (www.thc.state.tx.us) or by calling the Austin office at (512) 463-5754

Historical Marker Dedicated in Irving

By Buddy Frazer DCHC member

On February 17 a historical marker was dedicated at Shelton's Bear Creek Cemetery in Irving. Pastor Dennis Webb, of the Bear Creek Community Baptist Church, served as Master of Ceremonies. Speakers included Irving Mayor Joe Putnam, Dallas County Historical Commission Chairman Jeff Dunn, and Dallas cemetery historian Frances James.

African Americans first came to the area called Bear Creek Community in Irving in 1845. According to County Records of Deeds and Abstracts, African Americans first owned land where the Shelton's Bear Creek Cemetery is located in 1866.

Minnie Shelton was a former slave who bought land in 1879. Later she donated the land where the cemetery now sits. It is believed that nearly 200 burials took

place in the cemetery from 1879 until

the last burial took place in 1934.



Shown at the dedication ceremony are Anthony Bond (at podium) who helped organize the event, and Eddie Bloomfield, co-owner of the land on which the cemetery is located. (Photo courtesy Irving Archives, Irving Public Library, Irving, Texas.)