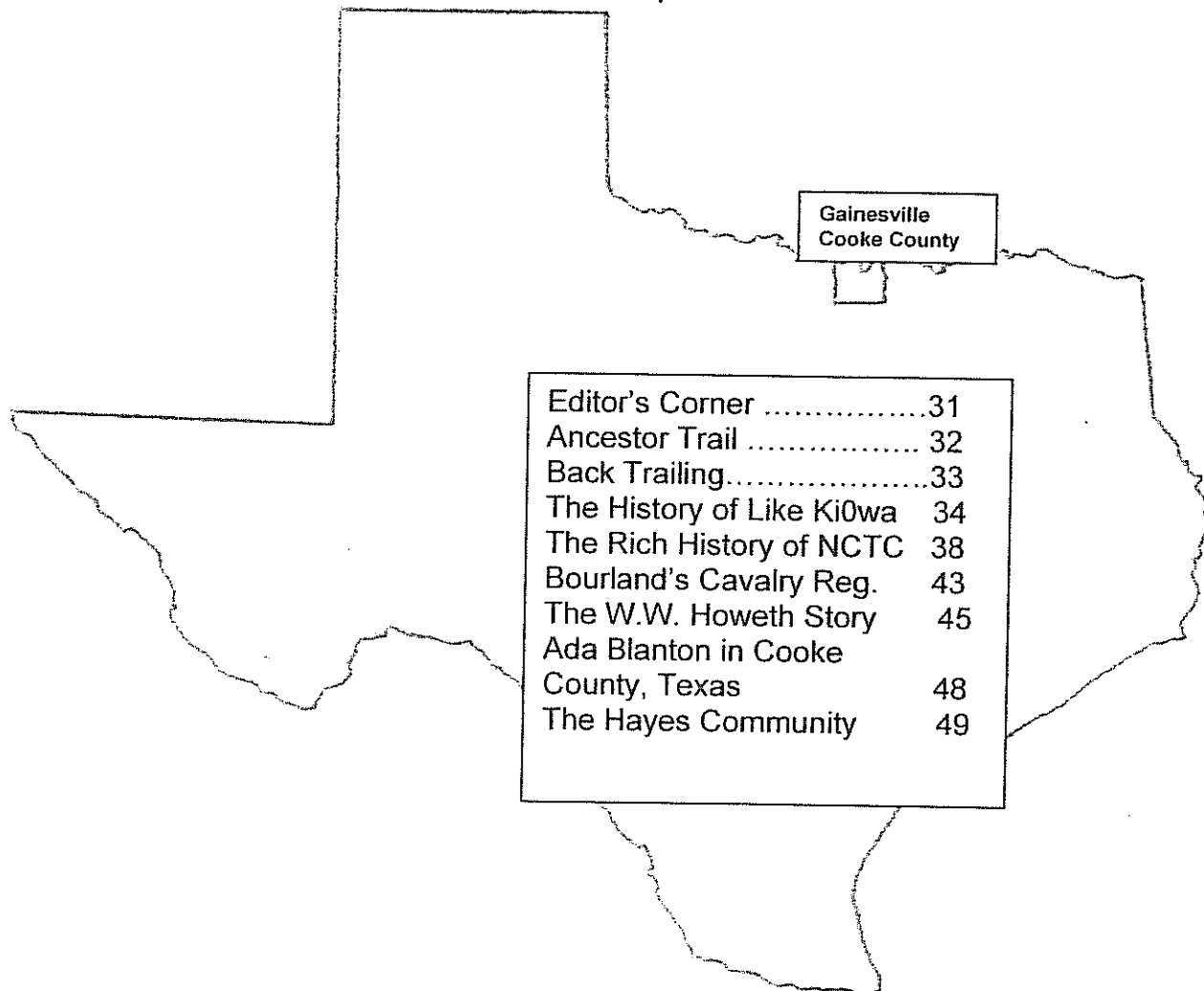


CROSS TIMBERS POST

Editor: Dick Sparkman



Cooke County Website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txcooke/

JUNE 2011

CROSS TIMBERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF COOKE COUNTY TEXAS

Cross Timbers Genealogical Society was organized in 1977 to provide a forum for those interested in genealogical research and preserving records for the future generations.

Funds raised by the CTGS are used to research, preserve and publish records relating to Cooke County family histories. As a service to other researchers, CTGS has published several books which are for sale.

For more or additional information, please contact any of the officers listed here:

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The Cross Timbers Post is published four times a year: March, June September and December. Subscription is by membership in the Society. Annual membership dues are \$15.00 yearly per household. Memberships run from June 1st to May 30th the next year. All correspondence and material relative to the Cross Timbers Post should be directed to: The Editor, P.O. Box 197, Gainesville, Texas 76241-0197.

Note: The Editor of the Cross Timber Post will not be responsible for the accuracy of material printed herein since no proof is required.

EDITORS' CORNER

A number of our members let other people read our newsletter (this is great). So we would like to let everyone know that CTGS has the following books for sale. This price includes shipping and handling.

Collection of Obits 1950-1988 pages 172 \$26.75
Fairview Cemetery--- pages 191 \$20.00
Good Times Edition---pages 27 \$10.25
Probate Records 1848---1940 pages 70 \$19.00
Resthaven Cemetery pages 27 \$9.00
Ye Gainesville Towne 1850-1927 pages 121 \$16.50
Cooke County Marriages
Vol. I 1849-1858 pages 10 \$6.75
Vol. II 1858-1872 pages 48 \$15.25
Vol. IIA 1872-1877 pages 48 \$15.25
Vol. III 1877-1882 pages 78 \$22.50
Know Your County Pages 64 \$19.00
Early History of Cooke County Pages 103 \$23.50

These are non-member prices with shipping.

Should you need a complete description of these books, contact the Editor or the Treasurer.

Meeting Schedules

Our 2011 scheduled meeting dates are:
**Jan N/M, Feb 7th, Mar 7th, April 4th, May 2nd
June 6th, July N/M, Aug 1st, Sept 6th, Oct 3rd,
Nov 7th, Dec Party**

Go ahead and mark your calendar now so as not to miss a single one of our great meetings. Our meetings will meet in the Morton Museum, 210 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas At 6:00 P. M. (go thru the main door)

Good Hunting

Dick Sparkman

Following the Ancestor Trail:

This page covers research material and research locations in Cooke County.

MUENSTER LIBRARY,
418 No. Elm, Muenster, TX
<http://www.muensterlibrary.com>

COOKE COUNTY LIBRARY
200 South Weaver St., Gainesville, Texas
<http://cookecountylibrary.org>

COOKE COUNTY-COUNTY CLERK
100 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas
(courthouse)
*Death, Birth, Marriage records available.
*You can look up most records yourself.
Copies are \$1.00 per pages
<http://www.co.cooke.tx.us/ips/cms/countyoffice>
s/

MORTON MUSEUM of COOKE COUNTY
210 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas
E-mail: mortonmuseum@att.net

**NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
LIBRARY**—1525 W. California St., Gainesville
http://www.nctc.edu/NCTC_Library/library

LATTER DAY SAINT CHURCH
Family History Center
1703 West California St., Gainesville, Texas
Hours: Tues. 9:00 am to -1:00 pm; Wed 7:00
P.M.to-8:30 p.m.

Church's in Gainesville with Libraries and Archives:

First Christian Church
401 No. Dixon 940-665-2053
Started May 10, 1874 Open Dailey
Web site: firstchristiangainesville.com

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
415 E. California St. 940-665-4705
Started August 6, 1885 Open 9 A.M. to
12 Noon Only Look-up's

First United Methodist Church
214 So. Dixon 940-665-3926
Started 1852
Web site: fumcgainesville.com

First Presbyterian Church
401 So. Dixon 940-665-5153
Started 1878 Archives
Web site: firstpresbyteriangainesville.com

St. Mary's Catholic Church
825 No. Weaver 940-665-5395
Started 1879
Web site: <http://stmaryscatholic.com/>

First Baptist Church
308 E. Broadway 940-665-4347
Started in 1871 Open
Web Site: fbcgville.com

BACK TRAILING

90 years ago---June 1921

Headlines in Daily Register

Application for an injunction against the paving of Lindsay Street sets forth alleged violations of the state laws.

The plaintiffs were L. B. Lindsay, Tennie Lindsay, Mimmie Enbrey, Kate Lindsay, P. S. Witherspoon, William Merzbacher, G. O. Cravens, E. E. Brifhes, T. J. Stem, Henry Bier, John Gregson, G. H. Culp, W. C. Brown, W. W. Hudson.

Defendants: J. A. Thomas, Mayor of the City, B. M. Williams, Jr., City Engineer, F. M. Savage, City Secretary, White Walker, City treasurer, And aldermen, C. M. Buckingham, L. W. Kuser, Wm C. Simpson, C. B. Thayer, W. A. Gilbert, B. P. Garvey, W. B Nowell, W. H. Ashworth, Frank N. Schad, W. L. Morris.

MARKETS

Local Produce

Hens, per lbs.....	12c
Turkeys, per lb.....	15c
Roosters, per lb.....	5c
Ducks per lb.....	10c
Geese per lb.....	7c
Springs per lb.....	25c
Eggs per doz.....	12c
Butter per lb.....	8c
Cream per lb.....	18c
Green Hides per lb.....	2c
Wool per lb.....	11c

COOKE COUNTY FREE LIBRARY IS DOING EXCELLENT WORK

That the Cooke County Free Library is doing some very fine work will be shown in the report for the month of April, by Miss Lillian Gunter, librarian, when there were books taken to the branch libraries over the county, at Valley View, Hood, Warrens Bend, and Sivells Bend.

The library at Valley View is maintained in Motherhead's Drug store by Miss Inez Murrell. During April she 80 readers and 123 books circulated. The Hood branch is kept in the home of P. C. Davidson. No report was received as to the number of readers and books circulated.

At Warrens Bend, Miss Kenneth Pybas has charge of the library, same being located in the home of her father, Ben Pybas. There were 20 readers and 43 books circulated for the month of April.

Sam Gunter has charge of the branch library at Sivells Bend, it being located in the woodsman's Hall. There were 100 readers and 230 books circulated.

Movie--LYRIC

Dorothy Gish in Out of Bondage---also The Eleventh Hour---Two Reels -Comedy Fifth Episode of " The Son of Tarzan"

Tomorrow

Helen Holmes -in

"The Man From Medicine Hat"

Also 1-reel Comedy

6c and 15c

50 Years ago---June 1961

Headline News---Dailey Register

Castro Agrees to Talk With Tractor

Mission.---This is when Castro wanted 500 tractor for the release of prisoners he had.

The Day's Records---May Report

Building permits.....	\$104,900
Fire Losses.....	\$1,000
Bank Deposits.....	\$26,491,101
Traffic deaths.....	2
Births.....	30
Deaths.....	18
Telephones.....	7046
Water Meters.....	4840
Light Meters.....	5094
Gas Meters.....	4981
Parking Meter Receipts.....	\$2353
Postal Receipts.....	\$11,475
City Population.....	13,031

The History of Lake Kiowa

Prepared by Jeannine Nieman

In the beginning, American Realty wanted a lake community in Texas. After fly-overs and county maps, they picked this spot in southeast Cooke County for their new venture. American Realty needed the cooperation and pledge of secrecy from Don **Howeth** of Howeth Title Company, Gainesville. So, in the summer of 1966, Hoot Gibson walked into Don's office and unfolded the plan. After that, John **Erd**, project engineer, came. Both men bought the necessary 22 tracts of land (with many not wanting to sell). John made his first public speech to the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce in December 1966.

Having the topography defined and chart work done, **Erd** was to lay out the plot. The project enthusiastically started with lake area, roads, lots, dam and golf course defined.

Three subsidiaries were formed:

- Lake Kiowa, Inc. to buy the land and to develop it. They had to have a Board made up of Texas residents; therefore, four from Gainesville were appointed (John **Atchison**, lawyer being retained by LK, Inc.; Don **Woodruff**, pharmacist; Milton **Dickson**, Dentist; Don **Howeth**). Bill

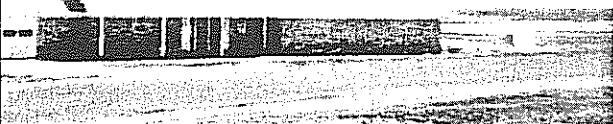
Bryant of American Realty became president and remained here well into 1971.

- Lake Kiowa Utilities (just what the name implies). Cooke County Electric Company put in all necessary lines and boxes. The Gas Company did not choose to come. The Water Company was owned by Lake Kiowa Inc. and it was thought to be turned over to us, but they sold it to an outside firm located in New Jersey.
- Lake Kiowa Property Owners Association; the private member association to which all properties and authority would be turned over to when the project was complete.



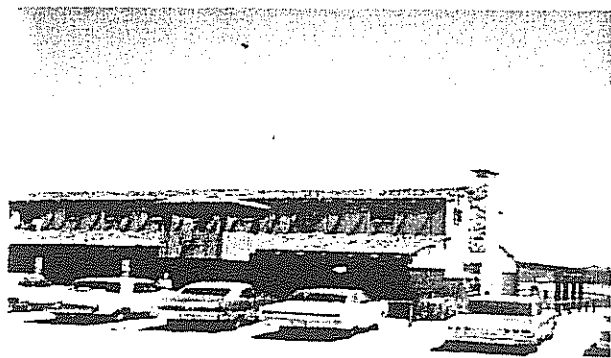
In the Fall of 1967 with everything in place and finally permission to build the dam, excavation for the lake started. The compromise was that the water level of the lake would never fall below two feet of the spillway.

For over a year advertisements in the Gainesville Daily Register, the Dallas Morning News and other newspapers, as well as a multitude of beautiful brochures, revealed that every conceivable gimmick was used to lure buyers to Kiowa. There is no way of knowing how many golf clubs, televisions, electric blankets, coffee pots, skillets



and even an expense paid vacation to Nassau were given away. People came to see Miss Dallas of 1968, "Dandy" Don **Meredith** and Hoss **Cartwright**. Free movies, free dancing, free horseback rides, free helicopter rides and always free food. Sometime during this time, several wanted to know if there would be stables for their horses. American Realty was able to buy an adjacent piece of property and added stables with feed bins, water hole and fenced (today this is our driving range).

The first house built was by Pete **Robinson** and used as a model home and the office. Pete still lives in it. However, the first family to move into their new home was Donna and George **Weatherbee** (November 1968). In June of 1968 off-shore lots sold for \$2495., golf course lots for \$3495 and lake lots from \$5195.



Also in 1968, in October, the "Old West" clubhouse was built. By November 1968 the dam was 65% completed. In January 1969, Bill **Bryant** said in a news interview that there would be a sell out by mid-summer. By Fall it was true and on November 10, 1969 American Realty turned the reins over to LKPOA and the first election was held with George **Weatherbee** named president.

1970! Early Boards took on huge responsibilities. There was no manger. Stella **Harrell** was our secretary taking all notes, doing the paper work

and all billings. Dues (maintenance fees) were \$120 per year (billed once a year). Water was \$48 a year (also billed once a year). No fee for golf.

During the 70s many things happened, all pointing to the goal of making Kiowa a fine community, a good investment and a good place to live. After Lake Kiowa Inc. roughed out the golf course, it was up to us to complete it. Lloyd **Nelson**, reportedly a relative of Byron Nelson, was hired and on May 29, 1970 the course opened with Kirby Price hitting the first ball. A cart rental barn was under construction. This unique golf course caused many more homes to be built. By January 1971 there were 77 homes.

Vernon Brown, a Board member, took it upon himself to do something about the mail service. Owners had put mailboxes up on FM 902, but they were dangerous because there was no place to pull off the road. After many visits to the Gainesville Post Office and much talk, a trip to the supervisor in Fort Worth and a petition signed by most of the residents, we received inside Kiowa delivery. Of course it took until 1976 because we had to have street addresses (not lot numbers) and it took a very long time to map out all of Kiowa.

These first Boards made a number of decisions. No "For Sale" signs, no trash burning, the Kiowa Emblem, mowing rates for vacant lots, guest golf fees, tavern membership, street signs, fencing our complete area, adding fish to the Lake, taking care of vandalism, keeping the roads repaired, setting accounting procedures, taking care of the food service at the Lodge (and later leasing it out), some architectural control on the homes being built and making ends meet with the yearly fee plus many donations from individuals. They were dedicated!

By 1980 there were 475 homes with about an even number of week-enders and permanent residents. During 1982, a cable TV contract was approved. There were legal problems, but one by one they were solved and again it showed the importance of a dedicated Board. By 1983, it became apparent the bylaws needed changing to meet our changing

needs. In 1984, the first computer was installed in the business office and the need for a business manager became more apparent. In 1985, a business manager was employed. It was absolutely necessary to raise our membership maintenance fees. A class action suit was filed in October 1985 and final judgment was rendered on August 22, 1986, with the judge ruling in favor of LKPOA in the manner of establishing the budget and assessing all lots equally. The decision rendered by Judge Claude **Williams** was accepted by the members of LKPOA and 97% of the voters approved the revised bylaws. A monthly maintenance fee of \$50 was approved.

Of course, during all these years, many other developments came about and many clubs and organizations were formed and more people, more rules, changes and votes were accomplished.

The late 80s brought some problems. North Texas was in an economic slump and only 3 houses were built one year. Past due accounts grew and money was very tight. Many of the needed projects and necessary maintenance had to be put off. The 1988-89 budget was adopted at \$1,200,000., assessing each lot at \$60 per month. In October 1988 bylaw revisions passed by more than 95% for clarification of husband-wife shared rights, elimination of honorary memberships, provision for secret ballot, and improvements in relations with lending agencies. By 1989 daily tee times were required.

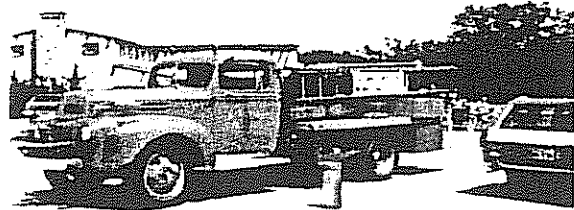
Going back a bit, in 1973 a group of volunteers encouraged the Board to set up a Lake Kiowa Volunteer Fire Department. Elmer Letter was appointed the first Fire Chief and a used fire truck was purchased. The Ladies Fire Auxiliary was started to help and raise money. From selling Mountain Valley water, to hosting the "Firemen's Follies", to Dock Parties, to the July 4th parade, to the Outpost and many other money-raising ideas were used to fund the Fire Department. Also in serving our community they initiated the "Vial of Life" program in 1988. During 1985 LKVFD answered 130 fire and medical calls. Construction in 1985 and dedication on April 19, 1986 of the

fire station. Six Fire Chiefs have given us service through the years.

Also going way back, the need for a publication was filled by the Newsletter, January 1971 to 1981. Dan **Maher** then assumed responsibility and the CommuniQue had its first issue in February 1985. Classified ads were 15 cents per word. By the late 80s, the publication had grown to 16 pages and the paid ads were taking care of most of the cost of printing and mailing.

But before we leave the 80s, you must know about our WATER. In 1982, we were alerted that an increase was coming and problems with the New Jersey firm were accumulating. In 1983, sale negotiations began in earnest with several bidders. The Judge accepted the bid from a Dallas partnership for \$1,700,000. After two weeks of suspense and clarification meetings with the Dallas group, the Court advised the Kiowans that the bid had been withdrawn and new bids would be taken.

The successful Kiowa Homeowners Water System purchased the system for \$400,000. and the promise to make necessary improvements at an estimated cost of \$600,000. (including a second well). Local banks loaned the \$1,000,000 through bond sales to interested Kiowans. Jay Freeman, our



negotiator, was our first Water Commissioner. By November 1984, Freeman announced "we are metered, we are computerized, we have a second productive well, and a 500,000 gallon storage tank is in progress. We have had excellent Water Boards, an excellent manager Ronny Young and excellent water with continuous excellent service.

We will continue our history into the 90s. The economic down-turn was over and Lake Kiowa

started another decade full of hope, enthusiasm and togetherness.

Roads seemed to be most important, therefore a loan was made and entire mileage of Kiowa Drive was re-done (base, top and sealing). Another very important task was undertaken by the Board - to reduce the past due accounts. In 18 months we were able to reduce past dues from \$168,000. to a little over \$50,000. In 1990, Jack **Tyler**, our third manager was hired.

During the spring of 1990, golf course greens were resodded with Pinncross Bent seed. Maintenance, equipment purchases, water pump replacement and repair, rebuilding of golf course restrooms, painting and miles of paved cart paths are a few of the projects that are efficiently handled by the Association management with money and man/woman power from the MGA and WGA. On July 1, 1991, land was purchased from Southwestern Bell Telephone by MGA and given to LKPOA in order to have a driving range. Many golfers purchased "Driving Range Token Cards" for buckets of balls in order to have the money for the ball machine, tees for driving balls, the range balls, picker-upper and grass sod and seed. The WGA was a member of Red River Valley Women's Golf Association and Central Texas Golf Association. In 1991 Sue **Nall** was responsible for organizing Texoma Women's Golf Association. All three groups offer our women golfers a chance to play many other courses and meet golfers from all over the area. Later, in 1994, the greens were enlarged, bent grass again planted and a new sprinkler system installed.

In the early 90s we also knew we needed a new Gate House. Since the Board could only approve a \$25,000 expenditure without a vote of the membership, we asked Sam **Cotton** to build a new gatehouse. We tore the old one down, he used shingles that he had, Bill **Williams** made the plans and what you see today is the result. Thanks to Sam **Cotton** and to all of us who believed it could be done. Then there is the pavilion that was accomplished by a group of Kiowans who got the necessary funds together and used the base of the

old tennis court. The next year's budget included tennis courts at the East Beach. Again the spirit of Kiowa shined as more improvements were made.

In 1992, a committee was appointed to plan and execute a 25th Anniversary Event. Starting in October of '92 and having events every month until the climax in July, we truly had a great time celebrating all facets of Lake Kiowa. (Read all about it in the third History Book).

Communication became more and more important as our numbers grew and it was the desire by all to be informed. The CommuniQue grew in the number of pages and a more professional format under Jerry **Gerrard**, Harv **Averett**, Joe and Eleanor **Farmer** and Carol **Clausing**, our present editor. The big board was constructed at the Gate so we could read important notices as we drive thru the gate. Under a new program, announcements were made on our monthly bills. A web page was created in 1998 and has grown to our present Lake Kiowa Web Site. Day or night we can turn our television sets to the community service Nortex channel.

The Restrictive Covenants have given us a guide from the beginning, but our covenant # 14 gives us the right to make revisions every 5 years, to re-



zone when necessary. However, to make a covenant change we must have a positive vote of a majority of all lot owners (not just a majority of those who vote). The By-laws also have been changed through the years, but always with a vote

of the membership. Rules can be altered by the Board as they find necessary.

During March 1997, the Board proposed a \$3.3 million improvement program which is dubbed the CIP. This program included a complete new community center building (we still call it our Lodge), a new golf shop, a new maintenance building, a new proposed East Gate entry and exit, expansion of the golf cart storage building and silt removal from the lake. In July 1997 the members approved the budget plus a special assessment of \$47. per month per lot for five years. In March, 1998 the court issued a summary judgment in favor of this CIP plan.

A Rezoning Committee was appointed in late 1999 to study lots and common areas in an effort to rezone those areas that have changed in usage. After much time and effort, ten recommendations were put out for a vote and passed, then recorded at the Cooke County Courthouse.

In July 2000, the Board was forced to levy a special assessment of \$197 per lot to pay legal expenses incurred in defending a lawsuit brought by a member. Later in July, the Board proposed the acquisition of 85 acres of land west and adjacent to the Kiowa property for a nine hole golf course and other recreation activities. This proposal failed to pass the membership by 246 for and 639 against.

In August 2001, the board proposed another Capital Improvement Program (CIP2) for the purpose of resurfacing all roads that had not been done, replacement of septic systems and roofs on rest rooms and replacing capital equipment. Financing was to be accomplished by extending the current \$47 special assessment for an additional 26 months. It would appear that the success of both CIP and CIP2 was accomplished through a community effort to make sure that all members were informed. The vote was positive and the spirit at Kiowa was very much alive.

The Rich History of NCTC *Oldest Continuously Operating Two-Year College In Texas*

North Central Texas College is celebrating its **85th anniversary** in 2009. The history of this institution is indeed a long one—the longest in fact of all 50 public community colleges in Texas. Why is NCTC's history important? We believe that to truly understand and appreciate where North Central Texas College is today and where it's going in the years to come, it's important to take a look back at where we've been.

The story begins early in that turbulent decade known as the Roaring Twenties. Calvin Coolidge was our president. More and more folks were listening to what was still a relatively new gadget—radio. And for students at Gainesville High School, a new doorway to opportunity had recently opened right in their own hometown. All they had to do was walk up to the top floor of GHS (housed then in the converted Newsome-Daugherty mansion) to begin their college education.

Gainesville Junior College, like many of the earliest junior colleges in Texas, was, in the beginning, an extension of the local public schools, and it was the brainchild of a man now recognized as a true pioneer of public community college education in Texas—Randolph Lee Clark. Born in Fort Worth, Clark came from a family of strong believers in higher education. His father and uncle, in fact, founded Add-Ran College, the forerunner of Texas Christian University.

After graduation from Add-Ran, and a stint as a cowboy on the famous XIT Ranch in the Texas Panhandle, Lee Clark accompanied a trainload of cattle to Chicago and there continued his education at the University of Chicago. His mentor was Dr. William Raney Harper, the university president and the man known as the father of American community colleges. He exerted a huge impact on young Mr. Clark's views on higher education.



After returning to Texas, Clark married and served briefly on the staff of a small church school in Midland. He moved to Wichita Falls in 1915 to become superintendent of the public schools, a post he held for the next eight years. Several of those years Clark spent campaigning to add a junior college to the rapidly growing public school system in Wichita Falls. He helped pass a bond issue which built a building to house both the high school and Wichita Falls Junior College—the second publicly supported municipal junior college to be established in Texas. It opened in September 1922. A few years later, Lee Clark's first junior college became a four-year institution known as Hardin College, and today it is known as Midwestern State University.

Young Lee Clark was apparently a young man of strongly held opinions who had little patience with persons who did not see things his way. Unfortunately, one of those persons turned out to be a member of the school board, and Lee Clark soon found himself seeking employment elsewhere. That elsewhere turned out to be Gainesville, Texas,

where he came in 1923 as new superintendent of the public schools. He wasted little time in setting about to sell



the citizens of Gainesville on the merits of starting their own junior college.

Dr. C. R. Johnson, founder of the Gainesville Kiwanis Club, soon joined Lee Clark's junior college bandwagon, and he brought his fellow Kiwanians along with him. It was at a meeting of the Kiwanis Club that Lee Clark, invited by Dr. Johnson as a guest speaker, publicly planted the seed for a new junior college and cited all its many advantages. The college, he said, would function easily enough in the newly remodeled high school. It would simply require the addition of several teachers and improvements in lab equipment. With nine children of his own to educate, one might say **Lee Clark** had a vested interest in promoting junior colleges. Every one of his kids went to college.

The junior college bandwagon, pushed along by the Kiwanis Club, really took off in the spring of 1924. First, the president of the Gainesville School Board issued a public endorsement. Then the Gainesville PTA and other civic clubs held a joint meeting to drum up support. Lee Clark reportedly stirred the emotions of all present by citing, quote, "the moral hazard of sending students away from home" to go to college.

Lee Clark and his supporters next made an appeal to the Gainesville City Council, asking its approval of the addition of a junior college to the school system.

The city council officially created Gainesville Junior College at its regular meeting on May 20, 1924.

Take a minute sometime and visit the historical marker out in front of the campus which commemorates the pioneering work of NCTC's founder. By the way, despite some arguments from a few other institutions, North Central Texas College is indeed the oldest continuously operating public two-year college in Texas. And we have another historical marker to prove it, thanks to the great work of Professor Ron Melugin, NCTC's official historian.

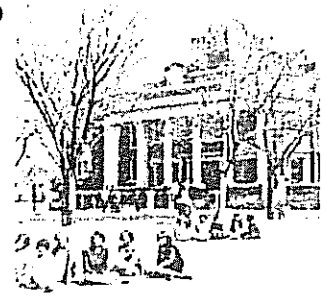
By the fall of 1924, Lee Clark's new vision for a local public two-year college had become a reality, and Gainesville Junior College enrolled its first class—32 students in all. One of them was a rangy, red-haired farm boy named Fay Hemphill, shown here as a member of the college's very first basketball team, the Bluebirds—a mascot soon abandoned because... well, it didn't sound quite macho enough. The college also fielded a football team, known as the Tigers, in those early days. While you're looking around the college website, check out Professor Melugin's history of ALL the different college mascots over the years.

Inspired by Lee Clark and chemistry professor Hubert Moss, **Fay Hemphill**—or "Red" as he was known to his classmates—was a popular student and a natural leader. He served as

"sophomore circulator" for the yearbook staff and as president of Gainesville Junior College's very first graduating class.

Dr. Faye Hemphill went on to pursue his own highly distinguished career in the fields of both higher education and public health. His research helped uncover links between early incubators and infant blindness. He also worked on research which helped Dr. Jonas Salk develop the world's first effective vaccine for polio. How fitting it is that the college has named its annual Distinguished Alumni Award in honor of the late Dr. Fay Hemphill.

Sharing not only classroom space but also administrators—like H.O. McCain and W.E. Chalmers—Gainesville Junior College continued for a number of years to be operated as an extension of the local public schools. It also shared teachers with the high school. It was not until 1957 that a group of teachers was assigned full-time duty as members of the college faculty.



And for many years, the high school and college continued to be housed together in the old Newsome-Daugherty mansion on Lindsay Street, shown here in an aerial view. The structure had previously been the home of United States **Senator Joseph Weldon Bailey** who narrowly missed capturing the democratic nomination in the Texas gubernatorial race of 1920. For the next two decades, the mansion

accommodated both Gainesville High School and Gainesville Junior College very nicely. Incidentally, the present-day Gainesville High School occupies the very same plot of ground on which the old mansion stands in this photograph.

However, back in the 1940s, college enrollment continued to grow, and by 1946, the college found itself needing more room to accommodate the many veterans returning home from World War 11, ready to use their G.I. Bill benefits to finance their college education. So, the school board acquired a frame structure located adjacent to the high school on a plot of ground now occupied by the Gainesville High School auditorium. For the next 12 years, it housed junior college offices, a modest student lounge, and the first college library collection. It was the first building Gainesville Junior College could truly call its own.

By the late 1950s the college had grown to the point where sharing space with the high school was no longer practical, and local citizens approved a bond issue to build separate facilities. In short order, local voters were also asked to approve the creation of a junior college district, separate from the public schools, as well as a tax to support it.

Then as now, opinions about taxes were divided, and the proposition was defeated in initial balloting. But, with support from citizens like W.T. Bonner, who spoke out in a newspaper survey, the voters gave their approval in a subsequent election.

Mr. Bonner did more than just voice his support. He and his wife donated five

acres of land on what was called Black's Hill west of town to help kick off construction of the new building. Here, the Bonners help turn the first spadeful of dirt at groundbreaking ceremonies while President John Parker looks on. The NCTC Board of Regents commemorated the Bonners' contributions by naming of the college's first Residence Hall. located on Bonner Road, in their memory.

Purchase of an additional 45 acres from Mr. Bonner by the new college district's first board of trustees made way for creation of the large, modern physical plant which still serves as NCTC's main campus today. Their foresight and vision and that of administrators like John Parker, for whom the NCTC Planetarium is named, truly paved the way for the future.

Enrollment at the college has grown steadily over the years, and reaching the 1,000 mark truly was quite a milestone back in 1965. But enrollment growth at NCTC in recent years has been nothing short of extraordinary. Since the 1980s, our student population has almost quadrupled to a current total of more than 6,000 students. Over the next decade, growth in student numbers up to 10,000 or more system-wide is a very real probability.

But let's not get ahead of our story. As it was for the entire nation, the 1960s and 70s were a period of transition for the college as well. Now separate from the public schools, and occupying its own growing campus, then Cooke County Junior College went about establishing its identity as a "real" college—one of a growing number of

publicly supported junior colleges across the state.

From those modest beginnings nearly eight decades ago, North Central Texas College has clearly undergone a lot of changes. Our most recent name change we'll talk more about shortly. But one thing remains unchanged—a philosophy we hope we will never outgrow. It goes back to the earliest days of Gainesville Junior College and teachers like Mary Josephine Cox, whose devotion to her students reached far beyond the classroom. To this day, the MJ Cox estate continues to provide the largest single source of scholarship funding at North Central Texas College.

Similar legacies were left in later years by teachers like Cora Staniforth, who taught classes for the college for over 40 years, and more recently by longtime English professor and department chair Dr. Ona Wright, who with her husband Ed have established two fully endowed scholarships for NCTC students. They all believed, as we still do, that the most important people on our campuses are our students.

Now we're up to the eighties. We're now known as Cooke County College, having dropped the "junior"—but, truth be told, we were still pretty much a sleepy little rurally-based junior college at heart. Then the calendar turned to the nineties, and things REALLY began to change.

College administration recognized that if Cooke County College had any hope of becoming a truly comprehensive public community college of regional scope and significance, a name like Cooke County

College was a definite handicap. So, then president Dr. Ronnie Glasscock and the college's visionary governing board set about leading a comprehensive public education campaign among district residents for a name change. A number of county residents weren't exactly thrilled with the idea at first. But most of those who spoke out against the name change back then—now point to it as probably one of the shrewdest decisions the college's governing board ever made in terms of securing the college's future.

During that time, college officials also spent a lot time in Austin in an extensive lobbying effort which resulted in statutory designation of community college service areas throughout the state—something which had previously been decided, very ineffectively, by "gentlemen's agreement" among the various college presidents. NCTC's service area of Cooke, Denton and Montague counties had become a matter of state law.

And—on June 1, 1994—the Board of Regents made it official too, unanimously voting to change the college's name from Cooke County College to North Central Texas College.

Among other things, that has helped NCTC become a key provider of quality workforce education and training throughout the region, providing services to a wide array of business and industry. And that makes North Central Texas College a vitally important and significant player in economic development—not only within Gainesville and Cooke County but

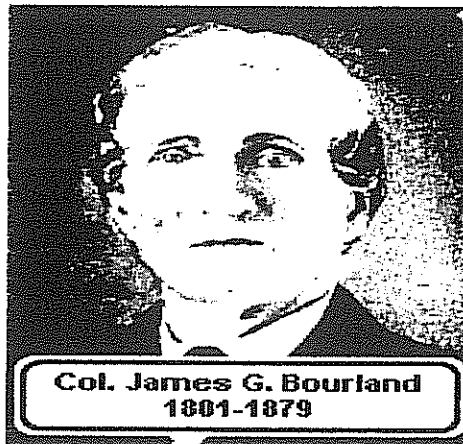
throughout the entire 1-35 Corridor linking southern Oklahoma to the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Ever since the name change, growth and change at North Central Texas College have continued to gain momentum. Our modern campus at Corinth demonstrates our intention to extend top quality teaching and services to students at all sites throughout the service area.

Our beautiful Bowie Campus built and maintained by the citizens of that city, stands as a monument to the extraordinary benefits that can come of partnerships forged between the college and the public sector.

For now, however, all eyes are back on the Gainesville Campus, where already several components of a comprehensive Facilities Master Plan are being translated into brick and mortar. Keep in mind that many of the buildings on this campus are now 35 to 40 years old. Several are really beginning to show their age—to the point, in fact, that we will very soon simply have to replace them. So, take a good look at the campus as it looks today—new construction and renovation have already begun a transformation process that will change that look considerably over the next few years. The most recent addition is our beautiful new, state-of-the-art **Career and Technology Center**, slated for formal opening and dedication in September 2009.

Bourland's Cavalry (Bourlands "Border" Regiment).



Col. James G. Bourland, soldier and state senator, was born in South Carolina on August 11, 1801, to

Benjamin and Nancy Bourland. He was married twice, to Catherine Wells and Nancy Salina, and had seven children. He lived in Kentucky and Tennessee, where he traded in slaves and horses, before he moved to what is now Lamar County, Texas, in 1837. He led a volunteer company against Indians in 1841. Later that year he served as second-in-command to William C. Young in another campaign and stayed when Young organized the Third Regiment, Texas Mounted Rifles, for the Mexican War. After serving as a deputy surveyor, he became the collector of customs for the Red River District in 1842 and was elected to the Senate of the First and Second state legislatures. A clash over customs duties with the crew of a United States ship in 1843 led to his being awarded a substantial sum of money by a United States court five years later. After his father, who had also settled in Texas, died in 1851, Bourland invested in a mercantile enterprise and founded a plantation on land now in Cooke County. During the late 1850s he again led a volunteer

company against Indians. When the Civil War began, he served as provost marshal for the region in which he resided and in that role directed the investigation that climaxed with the Great Hanging at Gainesville in 1862. Afterward, he was authorized to organize and lead the "Border Regiment," which remained in North Texas although it was in Confederate service, and was later given control of all troops on the northwestern frontier. He was accused of atrocities, in addition to the Great Hanging, but Confederate officials ignored the accusations. After the war ended he received a presidential pardon and was acquitted by a civil court. He subsequently lived in seclusion until his death, on August 20, 1879.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Col. James Bourland was the "Float-Senator" in the Texas Senate from the district of Fannin, Red River, and Bowie Counties. 25 Feb, 1846, 1st Session. He served for 4 years.

"During the Mexican War (1846-47), Bourland, along with William C. Young, raised one thousand troops and marched them to San Antonio, where they were mustered in. From " Wright, "Texas in the War...."

In the "Encyclopedia of the New West," Ed. By William S. Speer, Marshall Texas: The United States Biographical Pub. County, 1881, it states "When William C. Young raised a regiment [3rd Reg., Texas Mounted Volunteers] for the Mexican war, ... Mr. Bourland was elected lieutenant-colonel, and his brother William Bourland, major. But the war closed about the time they reached the Rio Grande and they

never participated in any battle." The Regiment was later surrendered by General E.K. Smith, commanding Trans-Mississippi Department, on 26 May 1865. Also know as the "Texas Border Cavalry Battalion" and later the "Texas Border Cavalry Regiment."

"Among the prominent families of Delaware Bend was Col. James Bourland [sic]... And his son-in-law, Col. A.B. Manion. These two men came with their families to Cooke County several years before the Civil War and located at the upper end of Delaware Bend, which in those days was on the direct route between the East Texas markets and Fort Arbuckle, fifty or sixty miles nearly directly north. Bourland and Manion engaged in the mercantile business and dealt with the soldiers at Fort Arbuckle and the Indians from the north side of Red River. The carried a large stock of merchandise, and also raised much corn and many hogs, which they sold principally to the government." "Fall Term of Court, 1857: Ordered that James Bourland be appointed presiding officer at all elections for the year 1857 for precinct 3, and the elections to be held at the store or house of James Bourland.

Capt. James Bourland, Commanding Officer of Texas Rangers, Mounted Volunteers. Enlisted 28 Oct, 1858, discharged 28 Apr, 1859. In the Civil War, the "Bourland Texas Cavalry" was organized in early 1863. Col. Bourland commanded a regiment whose duty it was to "protect the North-western frontier against the hostile Indians in the darkest day ever known in that region."

In the cartoon "Texas Lore" by Patrick M.

Reynolds, a story is told this way: "During the Civil War, as Sophia Coffee was wining and dining some Yankee scouts at Glen Eden (her plantation in Grayson county,) she heard they were seeking Col. James Bourland, the Confederate leader of Texas' Frontier Defenders. While her guests were busy, Sophia slipped away, swam her horse across the Red River, warned Col. Bourland & helped prevent an invasion of North Texas. Sophia, widow of Holland Coffee, died in 1899. Today their home, Glen Eden, lies beneath Lake Texoma." Sophie was featured in the book "Legendary Ladies of Texas" by Abernathy about ladies of the evening. Patti Rochette states that a Texas list maker lists Col. James Bourland as a frequent guest.

Information from an unpublished draft manuscript titled NORTHEAST TEXAS PIONEERS 1800-1877, copyright by Skipper Steely, 1989, Paris, Texas: "They moved from Kentucky back to Weakley County, where he owned a race track with Nathaniel Herbert and Albert Early, and apparently bought and sold slaves and horses. James Bourland came to Texas according to land records, in 1836. He surveyed land as a vocation, and sometime in 1837 chose a piece for himself on the North Sulphur River southwest of Roxton. In 1842 he was named as collector of import duties for the Red River District. In 1846 he was elected to represent Fannin, Lamar, Red River and Bowie Counties. He was re-elected for a second term. In 1847 James Bourland also received a land certificate for helping build or survey the Central National Road, which ran through part of the Bourland property. James Bourland served in the Mexican War, and was an incorporator of the Memphis El Paso and

Pacific Railroad. By 1853 he had moved to Delaware Bend in Cooke County. In 1858 he raised a company to stop Indian depredations. At the onset of the Civil War, James Bourland served as a member of Young's 11th Texas Regiment, but later organized the 2nd Frontier Regiment, Bourland's Texas Cavalry. In 1862 he was also named provost Marshall of Cooke County. In 1864 Indian problems became very serious, and Bourland led a group in pursuit that fall. Most of all, James Bourland is known for his part in the Gainesville Hangings. He is buried in the Orlena Cemetery."

The W. W. Howeth Story

William Wesley **Howeth**, Jr., born March 8, 1847, died August 25, 1910, married Kate C. **Brown**,

Tragic Tornado of 1854

On May 28, 1854, a destructive tornado struck the **Howeth** home west of Gainesville, killing five of the eight occupants. W. W., a survivor, later recalled the event.

On the day of the tornado, Mrs. **Twitty** and Mrs. **Olivo** (two neighbors) had spent the day at the **Howeth** home. Late in the afternoon they went home when dark clouds began to show in the southwest. The clouds rose higher and came closer and the sky became darkened. A perfect calm prevailed. A tornado was forming, and in a few minutes a column like a picture of a water spout on the ocean I had seen, formed and reached from the earth to the cloud above, with all its blackness, whirling and roaring and coming closer. For perhaps half an hour we watched this terrible monster of destruction as it formed and approached. And finally when it had almost reached us, we all gathered into the house and the roaring of the mad storm was such one could hardly hear the words of another. There were eight of us in the house- my mother; my brother Tommy, eleven; sister

Louise, nine; and myself, seven; a cousin of my father, **Andy Howeth**; his wife and two children, a daughter about five years of age and an infant in his mother's arms. The adults had never seen or heard such furious storm before, and thought the dreadful roaring was caused by hail. They agreed the house was the best place for protection. But in one moment the house was destroyed and the lives of five of the occupants were snuffed out. Two of the three survivors were so seriously injured that it was thought for a long time that they would not live. Victims were **Andy Howeth**, his two children, and **Tommy and Louise Howeth**. The body of Louise was carried four miles by the wind. The children of **William Howeth** were the first to be buried in the East Hill (Fairview) cemetery which in 1877 was leased by the commissioner's court to Gainesville for 999 years

A Member of the U. S. Army party, which traveled though the area soon after the storm, noted that the same tornado was a mile wide and had also destroyed much of Fort Towson in Indian Territory. Shortly after the storm, the **Howeths** moved into Gainesville. From the research papers of James B. Duncan, Austin, Texas

From the Gainesville Signal about 1912 the year **W. W. Howeth, Sr.** passed away.

In 1854 Gainesville was small place of perhaps population of one hundred. It boasted of one store which was a general store, one blacksmith shop, one doctor, one lawyer, one log school house. It also had a little court house on the square, and this was used for a church whenever a preacher came this way in his rounds over the circuit.

The only settlers west of town at that time were **Adam Dozier**, who lived near where the county farm is now, **James Rutledge**, whose cabin stood about 300 yards west of the house known as the "Bailey Place", **Wm Middleton**, who lived on the north bank of Elm

where Montague creek empties into it., Col. **Montague** who resided at what is now known as the "Old Scruggs " place about ¾ mile east of the town of Lindsay, **Capt. Twitty**, whose cabin stood just west of the north end of the bridge across Elm at Lindsay, **Mrs. Olivo**, whose rough cabin near where the **Wm Flusehe** residence is in Lindsay, **Mrs. VanSlyke**, whose was near where the **Lewis Cobb** place is, just under a hill near a slough, **Robt Shannon**, who lived on the south side of Elm at what is known as the "Kibler Place". And **W. W. Howeth**, whose house was about one mile west of **Mrs. VanSlyke's** place, and was outside settlement on this northern frontier.

Pioneer Leaves Notes of 10-Inch Snow Fall In Area

The following was copied from a clipping taken from the Gainesville Daily Register. No date shown on the clipping. This bit of history was salvaged from letters, clippings and magazines that turned up while settling the **L. M. Almon** estate. **Wanda Almon**, who lives on FM 1201, can be credited for saving all such info.

Recollections of a 10-inch snowstorm and howling "Minnesota" blizzard in the area from Montague to Gainesville November 29, - December 1, 1871, were typed on the reverse side of a tax receipt of that period by the late **W. W. Howeth**, who founded the **W. W. Howeth Abstract Co.** of Gainesville.

The receipt is much larger than the ordinary business letterhead and it list the various pieces of property and amount of taxes on each, paid in person by **Mr. Howeth** to **W. T. Waybourn**, sheriff and collector of Montague County.

The highly interesting memoirs were recorded June 15, 1913 and the following excerpts are taken from the still well- preserved document:

Story: - This tax receipt reminds me of the time and weather conditions that existed when, on November 29, 1871 I went horseback to Montague. It was very cold and cloudy. The only habitations at that time between Montague and Gainesville, distance 40 miles, were two log cabins at "Head of Elm", where St. Joe now is. There were two other cabins en route but both vacated because of Indian raids.

Montague consisted of about a half dozen cabins, and there being no place for man or beast to be protected from the weather, with any degree of comfort at the town, I went to Col. **Wayborn's** residents about one mile to

the northwest, where he had more comfortable surroundings.

Waybourn was the sheriff and tax collector for the county, and my business there was to pay taxes, which I did. Soon after nightfall, snow began falling. It continued all night, and next morning the ground was covered to a depth of about six inches, the temperature freezing and snow continuing, with a bleak north wind blowing. I was persuaded to stay over night and not make the attempt to get home.

The snow fell all that day and night and by the second morning there was some 10 inches all over the face of the earth, much colder and fiercer wind blowing.

My host was trying to persuade me to remain over another day, and after breakfast I had about consented, when I saw a man on horseback some distance away and going in the direction of Montague. I mentioned this and was informed that this man had to go, as he carried the mail to Gainesville.

I remarked that if the mail man could stand the ride, I could too, being well prepared for such weather. I saddled my horse and followed the man by tracks in the snow, and overtook him

after a ride of some five miles. I saw at a glance that he was not prepared for the weather, he having just a common jeans coat and a little white blanket about his should. I told him to give me his reins and to protect his hands and body as best he could and I would try to get him to "Head of Elm" the only chance for a fire. I put the horses in a long trot and in time reached there, went to one of the cabins and stayed for an hour or more, until he thawed out.

All the time I was thinking about how to manage to get him to Gainesville, a long ride of 25 miles without a house, over the bleak prairie, with a regular "Minnesota" blizzard at hand. He insisted on going after I had suggested we stay over. As before I directed the course and speed of the horses while he protected himself as best he could. Three miles out we met a man in a wagon, doubtless already frozen; as he was later found a quarter of a mile from where we saw him, still in the wagon and dead.

I traveled as fast as the horses could trot, finally reaching Gainesville and rode up to the old Fletcher Tavern, where quiet a number of men were waiting for us, as we could be seen for nearly a mile, I had been holding the mail carried on his horse for several miles and when I got him to the tavern, I told the men he was frozen, to take him into the house and try to thaw him out---a tack that took nearly all night.

This was the longest and coldest ride I ever took and had I not been prepared for such weather, I probably would have suffered greatly or even frozen to death like the man in the wagon. This ride was the first day of December 1871, and was all on account of having to go and pay that Republican School Tax, with other taxes, provided for under the Constitution of 1869.

Ada Blanton in Cooke County, Texas

This is a story on how people get the incorrect information. Or just how tuff it is to run down information.

A. Ada was my great great grandmother. She was born on Dec 8, 1871 and died on July 10, 1960 (according to her death certificate they both happened in Texas). She was married to John M Kelley. Her death certificate lists her father's name as Bollan Blanton. There was no mother's name listed. I cannot locate anything on a Bollan Blanton. Ada is buried next to some Blantons (JW, Sarah, Rufus) in the Era Cememtery in Era, Cooke County, Texas. I am trying to see if they are related. Can anyone help?

B. What are the birth and death dates on the tombstones. The only J. W. Blanton I know of in Cooke County, TX is Jephtha Wallace Blanton. However, his known wife was Williana W. ?.

C. According to Era Cemetery listing the dates are as follows:

J W Blanton 1840 - 1926

Rufus Lee - no dates

Sarah E Blanton - 29 Aug 1844 - 9 Aug 1912

Yancy Blanton - 18 Mar 1895 - 27 Jan 1896

J W Blanton 1840 - 1926

This is the only info I have.

D. .W. is John William Blanton, son of Coleman Blanton. His wife's maiden name was Sarah Ellen Short. Rufus was a son. The lineage of Coleman is:

George Blanton of Rutherford County, NC>John Blanton of Coffee County, TN>Coleman

There is more information about this family in Louise McDonald's work, which can be downloaded from:

<http://www.blantonfamilyhistorians.co>
However, I can't find any connection to

an Ada Blanton nor any information on Ancestry for a Bollan Blanton under various spellings.

E. I'm sorry. I see now that you were talking about Coleman Blanton, the father of Coleman Hill Blanton, and his son John William Blanton; not Coleman Hill Blanton and his son John William. I got confused with the repetitive names in each generation.

Debbie Blanton McCoy

F. I married Elizabeth Leigh, daughter of Brent Leigh and his wife, Dorothy Blanton. I would like to hear from you

G. Bollen may possibly be Bourland Dodridge Blanton b 1847 (about the right age to have a child born in 1871) in Kentucky, youngest son of John b 1801 and Mary Burgess Blanton. Bourland died 4 April 1918 in Gainesville, TX. You can find this Blanton family in the 1850 census of District 2, McCracken County, KY. Bourland is listed at 3 years of age.

One of John and Mary's daughters Lucy, is my great-grandmother. I have seen Bourland's name spelled many different ways. John and Mary are buried in Ellis County, Texas.

H. Karen is correct. I found Bourland in the 1880 Cooke County census. He is indexed as Bourland Blautah on Ancestry. A very productive search for Blanton misspellings is Bla*t* . It shows Ada, b. 1871 in Justice Pct. 6, where she was found with her husband in 1900.

I. In the 1900 census he is indexed as Banland Blaxton

THE HAYES COMMUNITY

By Shawn Vestal, Junior High Division

Gainesville Register June, 1986

Five miles northeast of Muenster and four miles north of Myra was Hayes Community. It was one of many small communities where the early settlers decided to make their homes. They chose this area for their homes because there was plenty of water and good, fertile farmland.

In the early 1930's, Hayes Community had a small school, a church, a few houses, and a cemetery. This sufficiently took care of the needs of the people, once they built a store. The community school was where most of the fun and fellowship took place. There were many programs, skits, musicals and poetry readings that took place in the schoolhouse. There were also carnivals for Halloween each year.

The Hayes Community School was united with another community school in the late 1930s. The school building and the students were moved. Soon they had to be moved back to Hayes. This occurred because war days were approaching and would affect the area.

During World II the government announced that most of the county would be used for an army camp. House and farms were completely demolished. Barrack buildings, prisoner-of-war stockades and camp hospitals were built.

Guard gates were on all the roads. Bad news was on the radio and in magazines. Movie theaters and newsreels showed the killing and dying of people overseas.

After the war, many people moved to the cities of Gainesville and Muenster, and the Hayes Community became just a memory full of good neighbors and joyful fellowship. One of the places the ladies of the community joined for fellowship was the Home Demonstration Club.

Miss Nettie Schultz, an agent from Gainesville, taught the ladies things from sewing tricks to making fancy jellies.

Not far from the schoolhouse was a "teacherage." This is a house provided for teachers. It only had enough space to house a couple with a child or three adults. They had

to share the kitchen and the outhouse, but other than that they had their own room.

The grocery store was about a mile or so north of the teacherage. The store had everything the people of the community needed, such as soaps and medicines. It also supplied candy, soda pop and bubble gum for the children.

The community had only one church, which was the Liberty Baptist Church. It was the old style country church with a bell inside a tall steeple. Inside the church was a large room and a smaller room in the front and back.

Heavy canvas curtains were placed at intervals. These curtains separated classes in the large room. Then one could open all the curtains so the room would become one large sanctuary. There was sometimes a church picnic after fellowship. The ladies of the church would prepare fried chicken, corn-on-cob, potato salad, beans, or anything else the gardens grew at that time of year.

Hayes Community didn't have very good roads. There were some roads on some hills between Hayes and the state highway. These roads tested driving skills. The steepest hill was Otto Hill.