

# CROSS TIMBERS POST

September—November  
2016

## EDITORS' CORNER

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Recently accepting the position of newsletter editor is met with much apprehension, but I will do my best to fill Norman's amazing footprints (which will be impossible to say the least!) At this moment, I am uncertain if I should thank those of you who feel I am qualified to hold this position or publish a job opening before the next newsletter. ☺

Therefore I humbly ask for your patience and assistance. Your genealogical interests and comments are sincerely requested.

What would you like to see in this newsletter, our website or at our monthly programs?

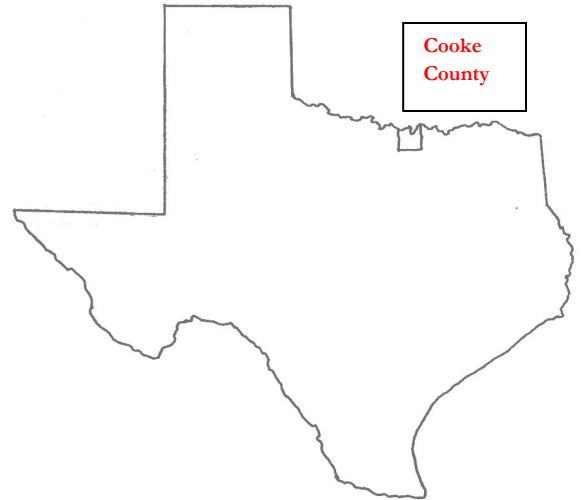
Please reply to:

[colleen.carri@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.carri@gmail.com) or see page 124 for more information.

Many thanks and  
Happy history hunting,

Colleen Clark Carri

**A very special thank-you to  
Ronnie Howser for his major  
contributions in this issue.**



## LET'S GET TOGETHER

Cross Timbers Genealogical Society meets at **6:00pm** on the 1st Monday of each month ( no meetings in January or July ) at the Landmark Bank Conference room, Gainesville, Texas.

October 3

November 7

December 5

## Texas State Genealogical Society 2016 Family History Conference

October 28-30, 2016, in Dallas, Texas at the Crowne Plaza Dallas Downtown Conference Hotel

Conference. Attendees should book **before October 15, 2016.**

Early Bird registration is open through October 7, 2016.

Website: [www.txsgs.org/](http://www.txsgs.org/)

Questions? Email [conference@TxSGS.org](mailto:conference@TxSGS.org)



## Following the Ancestor Trail

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  
Newspapers, family history, county history, various states, and counties

**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 page  
[http://www.co.cooke.tx.us/default.aspx?Cooke\\_County/County.Clerk](http://www.co.cooke.tx.us/default.aspx?Cooke_County/County.Clerk)

**MORTON MUSEUM of COOKE COUNTY**  
210 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas  
E-mail: [mortonmuseum@att.net](mailto:mortonmuseum@att.net)  
Historical people in Cooke County, various books

**NCTC LIBRARY**—1525 W. California St.,  
Gainesville

<http://www.nctc.edu/NCTC-Library>

Various genealogy magazines, papers,  
family information, obits

### Churches in Gainesville with Libraries and Archives

#### First Christian Church

401 No. Dixon 940-665-2053  
Started May 10, 1874 Open Daily  
Web site: <http://www.fccgainesville.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: <http://www.firstumcgainesvilletx.com/>

#### First Presbyterian Church

401 So. Denton 940-665-5153  
Started 1878 Archives  
Web site: under construction

#### St. Mary's Catholic Church

825 No. Weaver 940-665-5395  
Started 1879  
Web site: <http://stmaryscatholic.com/>

#### Red River Historian, Robin Jett

<http://www.redriverhistorian.com/>

This site is devoted  
to discoveries of the history of the  
"Old Southwest" - where the South  
meets the West: [Texas, Oklahoma,](#)  
[Arkansas and Louisiana.](#)



**Boy Found, Residing With Family Near City And Wishes To Remain** Tuesday January 20, 1920

The story published in the Register Monday evening from Binghamton, N.Y., concerning the whereabouts of **William Rutledge**, an orphan boy from New York, resulted in the location of the anxiously sought lad who is living with the family of **Otto Flusche**, a prosperous farmer and good citizen on the Lindsay place three miles west of this city, Mr. Flusche having been given charge of the boy by a "placing agent" from New York January 15, 1919, in this city.

The child is being sent to school regularly and today the little fellow was seen and interviewed by a Register reporter at St. Mary's School, this city. He is in good health, fine spirits, jolly and delighted with his home at his foster parents and the kind and parental treatment he receives from his beneficiaries who are devoted to the child and manifest a deep interest in his welfare and comfort.

The boy stated to the Register man that he did not want to go back to New York to live, but preferred to stay here with the good people who have been so kind to him and who have given him every care and attention in way of plenty of good and substantial clothing, good things to eat, books, schooling and regular church attendance and kindness in the family circle, making his conditions at all times happy, enjoyable, and pleasant. He says that he is 12 years old.

A brief story concerning the lad and how he came to be separated from his orphaned sisters, who are anxious to get in touch with their little brother, was told in the Register Monday evening and has created a great deal of sympathy for both the brother and his three sisters, the subjects of that article, and likewise for Sister of Mercy, **Mother Superior Pauline**, the good shepherd who is trying so hard to reunite this little group of orphan children, her former wards, who are still in her charge except for William.

**St. Mary's Church Destroyed By Fire** Wednesday Night Thursday January 22, 1920

Wednesday night about 11:30 o'clock St. Mary's Catholic church was completely destroyed by fire, the origin of which is unknown. The other buildings comprising church property were only saved by the heroic work of the firemen, who deserve special credit, in as much as they were handicapped by insufficient water supply.

St. Mary's church was commenced during the pastorate of **Rev. Father Sullivan** in the year 1888, being later completed by the **Rev. Father Brickley**. Recently **Father Kealey**, the resident priest, made repairs on the building to the extent of \$2,000, which rendered it though modest in outside appearance, very attractive in the interior.

The loss is protected by \$4,000 insurance. The fire is very much deplored by the congregation and the citizens in general. **Father Kealey** is receiving universal expressions of regret.

**Memorial for Cooke County Soldier Boys** Wednesday January 26, 1920

The good women of Gainesville and other parts of the county have begun a movement to erect a fitting memorial to the Cooke county boys who responded to the call of their country during the world war, and particularly to those who made the supreme sacrifice.

The memorial will probably be in the form of a great clock to be placed in the tower of the county courthouse, with a suitable tablet in the rotunda of the building upon which will be inscribed the name of every soldier who saw service in camp or overseas during the war. The clock will be something out of the ordinary in the way of a public time piece and will no doubt be a fitting memorial to the valor of our brave boys. Various organizations and the public throughout the country will be asked to have a part in this worthy undertaking, and the name of every contributor will be preserved as a part of the memorial.

**BACK TRAILING—95 Years Ago**  
**(Contributed by Ronnie Howser)**

**A New Freight Depot** Friday February 13, 1920

The Santa Fe railway company will in the near future build a large brick freight house on the vacant land just west of their present freight depot in this city. This structure will front on East Broadway and will occupy the site where stood many years ago a barn owned by Agent **F. Y. Gates**.

The company had arranged to build this structure of material already here to commence the work, when the government took charge of the railroads, hence the delay in carrying out that undertaking. Now that this road will be returned to its owner March 1, it is the intention of the company to immediately begin the erection of that building and complete the work had been unavoidably delayed for nearly two years.

**Bailey Will Speak in Keel Grain House on Main Street; Seats And Stoves Prepared** Monday Afternoon February 16, 1920

Former United States Senator **Joseph W. Bailey** is scheduled to arrive in Gainesville Tuesday morning at 10:30 over the Santa Fe. He will spend that day mingling with his friends and on Wednesday afternoon will deliver an address that is being looked forward to by thousands of anxious Texans.

Since announcement had been made of special trains to come here from Dallas and Fort Worth, bringing hundreds of supporters of the principles enunciated by Mr. Bailey, it has been deemed impossible to have sufficient seating capacity to hold the crowd. Consequently, **J. Z. Keel** and his son **Virgil**, graciously tendered the use of their big wholesale grain house on East Main Street just south of the passenger depot. Workmen are busily engaged today in erecting comfortable seats in the building. Provision also will be made for heating the temporary auditorium. Everything will be done to make it possible for more than three thousand persons to hear Mr. Bailey.

The program will begin promptly at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, in order that parties here from a distance have opportunity to catch their trains and return home Wednesday night.

Local hotels have received more applications for rooms than they can accommodate, indicating that the crowd here will bring back memories of the day several years ago when Senator Bailey spoke here in the skating rink, the address being heard by members of the state legislation, who came here in a special train for the occasion, and by thousands of others.

The speech to be made here Wednesday is the first that Mr. Bailey ever prepared entirely in advance. The Register is in possession of a copy of same and it will be published in its entirety in this paper Wednesday afternoon. Because there have been so many requests for a copy of Mr. Bailey's platform and policies from newspapers in other states, and from great numbers of them in Texas who are unable to go the expense of having reporters here to take down the speech, Mr. Bailey very kindly prepared his manuscript. It will be printed in pamphlet form for use as stated herein.

Those desiring extra copies of The Register to send to friends will confer a great favor upon the management if they will call us and put in the order Tuesday, as the shortage of print paper precludes any possibility of us printing a great number of extra copies.

**Gainesville Horse Grand Champion At State Show** Friday March 12, 1920

Gallant King, the sensation of horse shows in Fort Worth when the night performance at the Coliseum were devoted entirely to equestrian exhibitions, came back Wednesday night and took first money in the five-gaited saddle horse division. He was adjudged the grand champion of the show. Gallant King is owned by **Virgil P. Keel** of Gainesville, who rode him Thursday night. From the time Gallant King paced into the arena Thursday night, he was easily the popular favorite. Every exhibition he made in each of the five gaits were greeted by applause and he received an ovation when the decision of the judges was rendered.

Won Four Premier Honors

When Gallant King first won the grand championship, he triumphed over the best offerings of the **Adolph Busch III** stables. He won the grand Championship four times in succession.. He was three years in retirement, never leaving the Keel stables at Gainesville. He is thirteen years old.

The five-gaited stallion, gelt and mare class was the only horse show offering in a rodeo replete with thrills and daring exhibitions of riding Wednesday night. There were no new records established and the only accident was minor bruises to Reckless Red Grafton when an enraged steer trampled upon his chest. The Coliseum was filled to capacity and standing room was at a premium.

Kismet, the jumping marvel, knocked a door out of the automobile over which he jumped Wednesday night. He was ridden by Virgil Keel. As he came over the car, his hind hoof grazed the door. He was unhurt. The Shetland pony "Peanuts" who jumps over the tractor, was also trained by Keel. He belongs to **L. D. Turner** of Gainesville and has been under Keel's direction for a short time.

**Do You Know Anyone From Cooke Co. Who Died In World War ?** Tuesday March 16, 1920

The soldiers memorial committee want a complete list of the names of our boys who died or were killed in the war and request help secure it, otherwise our heroes will go unhonored. This is very important as the contract for the memorial tablet will be posed soon. It is desired to put on this tablet the names of every Cooke county boy who died in the war.

The following names are known to the committee:

**G. R. Anderson, Travis Anderson, Frank Brockman, Lee Cobble, James H. Curk, Hugh Downard, Sam R. Dennis, Ernest W. Ellerton, Andy Gentry, Bert Hall, Frank B. Keel, Dr. John R. Lewis, Doc Morris, James A. Manahan, Albert S. Morris, Warren P. Murchison, Otis Strickland, Edward Sullivan, Sam W. Tune, Thomas F. Witt, John Stevenson**, colored.

The following are next of kin of dead soldiers, that are unknown to the committee:

**Frank Jirasek**, Rt. 5, Gainesville

**John E. Mikeska**, Rt. 1, Dexter

**N. F. Edwards**, Muenster

**Jos. Block**, box 26, Lindsay

**Ellen Leorn**, 607 North Buck street, Gainesville

**Mrs. Burton B. Hall**, 622 East Broadway, Gainesville

**Iona Baker**, Muenster

**W. A. Gardner**, Rt. 3, Gainesville

**Joe Ernest Lockhart**, 114 North Dixon street, Gainesville

If you know of these or any other names of soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice, we request you as a patriotic duty to communicate with the Memorial Committee, Public Library, Gainesville, TX.

**BACK TRAILING—50 Years Ago  
(Contributed by Ronnie Howser)**

**Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Monday January 12, 1962

Senior citizens would appreciate an old zinc printing plate found in a rental house being remodeled at 1416 Throckmorton St. by Mr. and Mrs. **V. B. Kirkpatrick**. The ancient engraving lists two business firms: Schiff, Sommer & Co. and Lyon & Gribble Lumber Co, along with several professional men. Under a listing of “Physicians” was **Dr. J. W. Barrett**, homeopath. **H. B. & C. N. Harrell**, dentist, advertised: Facilities unsurpassed for doing first class work.” The other firm listed on the engraving plate was “**C. H. Wood & Co.** real estate agents and investors of capital, 114 E. California St. The age of the metal is unknown, but all of those listed were doing business here in 1888, according to a city directory of that year.

**Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Wednesday January 24, 1962

**Gene Austin**, Gainesville native who won international fame as a singer and songwriter in the 1920 and 30's will open his My Blue Heaven night spot in Dallas Friday in the location formerly occupied by The Chalet. Austin will top the entertainment bill.

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**Her Job Is Over** by Martha Cole Wednesday January 10, 1962

As Congress goes into a new session a gray-haired woman in a back office of the Capitol is picking up to leave. “I could have retired 10 years ago, but I wasn’t going to do it as long as Mr. Rayburn was speaker.” she says.

This is Miss **Alla Clary**, 72 years old and still busy, who worked for **Sam Rayburn**, the congressman from her Texas district, for 43 years – 41 of them as his secretary. Her boss died Nov. 16.

When news came over her car radio that Rayburn had incurable cancer, Miss Clary was on one of her many road trips, this time in Wyoming and Colorado. She drove immediately to Texas to see him. “Well, my little girl is here at last,” Rayburn said when she came. And my nephew said, “little girl, humph, “ Miss Clary remembered.

He Gave Her Picture

All through the years, there was a sort of old fashioned formal, boss-secretary relationship between the Speaker and his secretary. He always called her “Miss Clary” and she always called him “Mr. Rayburn” though in speaking of him to others sometimes she said “the boss.”

Back in 1925 he gave her a picture of himself inscribed “for Miss Clary with sincere regards, Sam Rayburn.” Then 21 years later, in 1946, he gave her another picture of himself with a bit warmer inscription which for Sam Rayburn, appeared downright sentimental. It said: "To Ally Clary with affectionate regards of Sam Rayburn." That's all he ever gave her. She seemed to think it foolish to ask about gifts. “He just gave me a good job – a good boss.” Miss Clary says. “You just couldn't work for him and not be loyal to him.” “Mr. Sam Rayburn had a sense to do what is best. He made up his mind what he was going to do. He didn't answer all the propaganda that came in his office.” “He had the sense of integrity and how to get along, and honesty, from the time he was born.”

As a boss she says he was considerate. Just last year she took several months off to make a trip around the world on a cargo liner – she was 71 years old then. She was told that somebody commented to Mr. Rayburn about her taking off during a congressional session. And he replied” “anybody who's worked for me for over 40 years deserves a vacation like that.”

Miss Clary was born in the little town of McKinney in North Texas, but grew up on a farm at the still smaller town of Prosper, Tex.

She Took Civil Service Exam

She picked and chopped cotton to make money to go to high school. “So I came up the hard way”, she says. She went to old North Texas State Normal and taught school in Texas for eight years. “But I got tired of teaching on \$50 a month.” So she took the civil service exam and came to Washington in 1918 to work in the old War department. One of the first things she did was to go to see her congressman whom she had never met – Sam Rayburn of Bonham, Texas. At the War department, she got tired of sitting and typing cards, “so I resigned.” When she was ready to leave, she went by Sam Rayburn's office to say good bye. He called the next week and asked her to work for him. She did. So 42 years later, Miss Clary has come to the end of a secretary's job. The next thing planned is a 50 day Mediterranean cruise starting Feb. 14. After that ? “I've got a lot of things to do.”



## Fairview Common School # 12 in Cooke Co., TX by Ronnie Howser



My sources include courthouse records, a narrative from my father, the Centennial Edition of the Gainesville Daily Register, a 1949 aerial photograph, and Whitesboro ISD School Board Minutes. Since I did not locate the Record of School Districts, the articles gleaned from the Register proved invaluable.

While I do not know how Fairview got its name, I do know it was a school that existed in northeast Cooke county from 1877 to 1949. The community which constructed the house for school purposes is noted in Deed Book 14, p. 194, Akers et al to Hayes County Judge. A legal description read "beginning on the line where it crosses the main road from Whitesboro to Gainesville. Thence north seventy yards. Thence west seventy yards. Thence south to house seventy yards to stake in road. Thence north to beginning." Dated 20 February 1877 this document says that Louis Haywood Akers and Charles W. Howser donated one acre of land each to the Fairview community school.

Both men lived in 1880 Pct. 7 Cooke Co., TX. Louis Haywood Akers was born 2 Feb 1849, Gibson Co., TN and died 10 Jul 1892. He was buried in Akers Cemetery, which is on CR 107 in northeast Cooke County. He married in Cooke County in 1871. Charles W. Howser was born 18 Dec 1834, Oldham Co., KY and died 31 Aug 1916, Cooke Co., TX. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Whitesboro, Grayson Co., TX. He appears on Cooke County Tax Rolls as early as 1874.

The Commissioners Court Minutes Vol. 4, p. 26 and Vol. 1, p. 4 Record of School Districts established eighty school districts within the county including Fairview Common School District # 12 on September 17, 1884. Thus, the county had authority to levy and collect taxes for the numbered school districts. The taxation was subject to the request of the voters of the district. Sixteen more new rural school districts were added by petition from other communities about 1900, when Morton Smith's First Hundred Years of Cooke County and Randolph O'Brien's History of the Schools of Cooke County state that the districts were considered permanent. Also created in 1884 was the position of county superintendent. It was not until 1907 that Cooke County met the requirement of 3000 students and Edward Blackburn became the first person to fill that position.

The Fairview Community encompassed the Westview Church, which also resulted in it being called the Westview Community. In Cooke County History: Past and Present, p. 510, the article on John Morgan Russom describes the Westview Community as having a one room school building. The lessons included reading, spelling, and ciphering. Spelling bees and ciphering contests were a common form of education involving the entire community. Randolph O'Brien wrote that in 1901-2 there were 83 one -teacher county schools. Compulsory attendance for children from ages eight to fourteen was mandated for the 1916-17 school year. The Memoirs of Cora Lee Russom Lyons give a good account of her life in the Westview Church community and the Fairview School community. She was buried in Akers Cemetery.

My father Otis Roy Howser was a grandson of Charles W. Howser. He attended Fairview School and graduated from Whitesboro in 1936. He explained that the schoolhouse was located on the Strother place, which was north of the C. W. Howser Survey on CR 153. The Whitesboro to Gainesville road named in the deed was where CR 153 met CR 107. However, the outline of the old road to the site of the school is visible on the 1949 aerial photograph, going north and west off CR 153.



## Fairview Common School—continued

The building was heated by a wood burning stove and the structure burned about 1924 or 1925. It was rebuilt on the same site. While under construction, classes were held in the Westview Methodist Church, which was southeast of Fairview School on CR 167. Finally, in the 1940's the wood frame building was said to be moved to Whitesboro to become part of the cafeteria.

On 17 May 1923 the county school trustees asked the county surveyor to establish the boundaries of the school districts in cases where they were disputed. Fairview was one of the districts in dispute.

The next three petitions address the schoolhouse burning.

Reference Vol. 10, pp. 207-8 Cooke County Commissioner's Court Records titled petition for maintenance election to increase tax in common school district # 12 and dated 7 Jun 1924:

This petition listed the names of the taxpayers in the district who wanted a tax increase for maintenance purposes and described the district as comprising an area of less than nine square miles. William) Leon) Howser was appointed election judge.

Mrs. William) Alexander) (Emma Lou Siebman) Boaz,  
Ellen) Thomas Pfaff) Buckhanan, John M(ontgomery) Buckhanan,  
Gladys (Irene Hubbard) Byrne,  
A(ndrew) B(lakemore) Davis, L(aura) J. (McCormick) Davis,  
H(ezekiah) J(efferson) Day, J(eff) N(ewton) Day, Maggie (Lee Farr) Day, R(iley) C(hester) Day,  
Mrs. Bessie (Williams) Fielder, Hodge Fielder,  
A(ndrew) T(erry) Hart, (Lenora) Daisy (Smallwood) Hart,  
W(illiam) L(eon) Howser, Mrs. W. L. (Clara Karsteter) Howser,  
J(essie) L(ee) Lancaster, Mrs. J. L. (Matilda Vannoy) Lancaster,  
Gladys (Viola Roland) Newsom,  
W. H. Razor,  
Ellen (Spencer) Reagan,  
C(harley) C(aldwell) Russom, H(ugh) F(orest) Russom, J(ohn) M(organ) Russom,  
J(ohn) L. Smith,  
W(illiam) L(air) Strother, Mrs. W. L. (Jemima Delpha Maxwell) Strother,  
Alice J(oanna Butler) Thompson, S(amuel) L(on) Thompson,  
B(enjamin) F(ranklin) Watson, C(harles) T(homas) Watson, Mary (Lou Richerson) Watson, V. W. Watson

The petition was granted on p. 211 and the election was set for 1 Jul 1924 at the schoolhouse. On p. 232 of the same volume the election returns were canvassed and approved on p. 236. The voters favored the tax increase of twenty-five cents per hundred dollars above the fifty cents already in effect.

Two citations followed that pertain to this one and the earlier narrative.

Recorded in the same volume, pp. 313-4 titled petition for maintenance tax election in Fairview Common School # 12 dated 31 Jan 1925:

The signees in this petition sought to hold an election for a bond issue totaling \$2,250 for constructing and equipping a public school building of wooden material. The package included fifteen bonds payable at \$150 each on April the tenth each year for twenty years at six percent interest. Final payment on the bond was to be in 1944. The names of the petitioners follow:

Gladys Byrne, L. D. Byrne,  
A. B. Davis, L. J. Davis,

## Fairview Common School—continued

J. N. Day, R. C. Day, Mrs. R. C. Day,  
J(ohn) W(esley) Farr, Mrs. J. W. (Susan Elizabeth Cross) Farr, Mrs. Josie (Josephine Mitchell) Farr, M(arion)  
H(enry) Farr,  
Bessie Fielder, Hodge Fielder,  
W. L. Howser, Mrs. W. L. Howser,  
Loo (Lucinda Reeves) Hudgens, W(illiam) H. Hudgens,  
J. L. Lancaster, Mrs. J. L. Lancaster,  
Gladys (Viola Rowland) Newsom, J(efferson) D(avis) Newsom,  
M(ark) H. Ragan,  
G(eorge) W. Sewell, Mrs. G. W. (Vergie Mae Locke) Sewell,  
J. L. Smith,  
S. L. Thompson,  
B. F. Watson, Beulah Watson, C. T. Watson, Mrs. C. T. (Willie Charlotte Randall) Watson, Mary Watson, V.  
W. Watson.

This election was ordered on 23 May 1925 for the re-established Fairview School District, which referred to the results of the straightening of the boundaries by the county school board. Westview Church was to be the polling place. The sheriff was responsible for posting the petition at three locations within the district – one at Westview Church, one about a mile south of Westview Church on a public road aka the Callisburg and Whitesboro road, and one at one half mile north of where the schoolhouse burned at Hudgins Gin on a public road. Hudgins Gin was on CR 107 just south of Akers Cemetery. The bond issue passed 32 for and 22 against. The order issuing the bonds by the commissioners court named them “Common School District # 12 Schoolhouse Bonds”.

Also the voters at Fairview petitioned for an additional twenty-five cent tax increase making the tax rate one dollar per hundred dollars valuation to pay off the bonds. This election was on 16 Jul also at Westview Church and approved by the voters. The one dollar tax rate was to be split so that sixty cents went to district maintenance and forty cents went to bond payment. Then on 20 Jul 1925 the schoolhouse bonds were authorized.

The Register on 5 Jan 1926 printed a report by the county school board that “in 1925 the Fairview two room state aid school was built and equipped for a cost of \$3500 and that their boundary lines had been straightened.”

Information on the teachers came from the Register and The Memoirs of Cora Lee Russom Lyons.

1884-5 J(ohn) H. Piper  
1888-9 J(ames) M. Templeton,  
1893-4 R(ober) Brown) Sims (Jr.)  
1898-9 W. K. Hollifield  
1902-3 Euphy Choice  
1907-8 J(ames) O(rby) Cole  
1909-10 Pearl Livingstone  
1911-12 Grover Dewitt “Dee” Otts  
1912-13 Walter P(erry) Chisholm  
1917-18 C(ecil) M(ilton) Funk, Ora (Eura) Funk, Lizzie Kelley  
1921-22 Gladys (Irene) Hubbard, Easter Hall  
1923-24 David H(arold) Sarles, principal, Kizzie Lawson, Serena (Elzaven) Boaz  
1925-26 Paul E. Anderson, principal  
1928-29 O. W. Reagan, Theonell “Nell” Anderson  
1932-33 W(illiam) E(lizie) Nations, Theonell “Nell” Anderson  
1933-34 (Walter) Travis Moore, Elizabeth Weldon

## Fairview Common School—continued

1936-37 W(illiam) E(lzie) Nations, Mary (Baird) Shook  
1937-38 James W(esley) Roberson  
1938-39 Margaret (May) Shook  
1939-40 Mrs. Mary Evelyn (Dozier) Dunnavent  
1942-43 None listed  
1947-48 None listed

The names of the students for 1911-12 at Fairview School, as copied from the original school census are listed below. Hugh F. Russom was the trustee at the time. This is the first school census that is available.

Robert and David Bacon  
Belle, Houston, Robert, David, and Jewel Boaz  
Elva and Ruth Boaz  
Mary Buckhanan  
Grace and Dewey Byrne  
Levi and Eli Cornett  
Ada Belle and Stevie Farr  
Homer and Frankie Hardin  
Henry Holt  
Howard, Rube, May, and Alver Hudgins  
Ewing and Alice Marlin  
Myrtle and Arthur Newsom  
Sudie Pate  
Vera Perkins  
Leslie Petty  
Eulalah and Albertine Price  
Gladys and Mattie M. Roland  
Charley, Walter, and Cora Lee Russom  
Zac, Delta, and Clara Lee Russom  
Vernon, Lee, and Alvan Sewell  
Deelie Shaw  
Cecil, George, and Floyd Teeters  
Sadie and Clyde Thompson  
Isola and Ancel Warden  
Aletha Belle and William West

The county schools were governed by the county superintendent and the county board of elected trustees. They classified Fairview School in 1931 as a “two teacher school not to exceed 9 grades”. In 1933 a new rural aid law provided funds for operating bus routes for school districts not having secondary schools. The county superintendent decided on transfers from these districts into high schools. It was reported also that a proposed route for Fairview to Whitesboro was being considered. In 1939 the number of students transferring out of the Fairview District was sixteen. Randolph O'Brien stated that the automobile made possible the transport of students out of their respective districts into secondary schools. On 3 Aug 1948 the voters in Fairview Common School District No. 12 petitioned the city of Whitesboro to be annexed for school purposes only. The Whitesboro school board approved this action on 5 Aug 1948. Later on 11 Jan 1949 they voted to move the schoolhouse building to the Whitesboro campus per Whitesboro Independent School board minutes. A copy of the original petition with the necessary signatures and a certified copy with the typed signatures and legal description of the district, called field notes, show the district comprised 3,650 acres. The last tax levy for Fairview # 12 by Cooke County was in 1948/1949.

## Fairview Common School—continued

Maintenance taxes helped the school districts keep up the buildings and support the schools. Randolph O'Brien stated that the districts relied on donations for shortfalls and that the expenses varied from salaries for teachers to supplies and additional upkeep. Before a means of transport was available to secondary schools, a student's education was considered complete when he or she had finished all the grades at the rural school. Busing allowed out of district education opportunities and the over-all shift to larger school districts.

### Sources:

Cooke County Deed Book 14, p. 194

1949 Aerial Photograph

1911-12 Cooke County School Census

A. Morton Smith's First Hundred Years in Cooke County, TX

Cooke County: Past and Present

Commissioner's Court Minutes, Vol. 4, p. 26 and Vol. 10, pp. 207-8, 211, 232, 236, 313-4, 317, 334-8, 345-8, 352, 373-6, 385-6, 394-400.

Gainesville Daily Register – 11 Sep 1923, 30 Oct 1923, 11 Feb 1925, 24 Mar 1925, 25 Aug 1927, 19 Jul 1931, 17 Aug 1933, 6 Sep 1933, 3 Sep 1936, 16 Sep 1938, 17 Aug 1939, 30 Sep 1939, 23 Aug 1948.

Whitesboro ISD School Board Minutes

Randolph O'Brien's History of the Cooke County Schools

The Memoirs of Cora Lee Russom Lyons

Fairview Common School location in Cooke County, Texas  
(Note: Intersection of CR 107 and CR 153)





**American Paint Horse Association  
Historical Marker Dedication  
February 2016**



I-r: Norman Newton, Ona B. Reed, Ron Melugin, Barbara Pybas and Bill Cox ('Ole Paint & Cowboy, name unknown)

**APHA honored with Texas Historic Marker**

On February 16, 2016 the American Paint Horse Association unveiled and dedicated an official Texas Historical Marker at Chili's Grill & Bar in Gainesville, Texas. The marker honors the site of APHA's founding meeting, which took place on February 16, 1962, at the Curtwood Motel. Rebecca Tyler met with a group of North Texas and Oklahoma horsemen and formally organized the American Paint Stock Horse Association; now known as APHA and headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas, the organization is the world's second-largest equine breed association.

Recognized with official Texas historical marker #17745 the sign was installed on the Chilis' property, which sits on the original site of the Curtwood Motel coffee shop where the like-minded horsemen and women worked to legitimize the American Paint Horse as a breed with defining standards.

Founding members and their descendants, as well as APHA past presidents, former executive directors, the Cooke County Historical Society, members of the American Paint Horse Foundation and other guests were present for the unveiling and dedication.

Cooke County Historical Society member Ron Melugin described the detailed and lengthy process required to apply for and receive an official Texas Historical Marker. Michael Weeks, Chilis' Grill and Bar Area Director accepted the marker, installed at the front of the restaurant, on behalf of Chilis' and parent corporation Brinker International.

APHA Founder Rebecca Tyler Lockhart did not live to see the installation of the marker; the Paint Horse world said goodbye to this legendary horsewoman May 31, 2015. Rebecca's legacy lives on in the barns of Paint Horse enthusiasts everywhere, stamped indelibly on their hearts through the shared love of stock horses that stand out from the crowd with the perfect amount of chrome and celebrated forever in an official Texas Historical Marker.

*(source: APHA.com Online news-2.17.2016)*



*Cross Timbers Genealogical Society lost a long time member last year, Jean Pendleton. Also long time Cooke County historian, Marcia Porter passed away in 2015. Their sweet presence has been greatly missed by all.*

Funeral service **Beatrice Jean Pendleton** are set for Monday March 23, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Gainesville with Dr. Bennie Slack officiating with burial to follow in the Fairview Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Sunday March 22, 2015 from 6:00- 7:00 p.m. at the Geo. J. Carroll and Son Funeral Home. Jean passed away on March 18, 2015 in Bonham TX.

Jean was born on January 4, 1928 in Gainesville to Sidney and Ora Mae Mann Holley. Jean was born and raised in Gainesville, Texas where her family had settled since the 1800s, and on July 14, 1946 she married James Lee Pendleton in their home town. They lived all over the southern Midwest and raised 5 children, starting several highly successfully businesses and were married for 50 years before James passed away. Jean was one of the first three employees of Tom Maupin who founded the first company to lead tours of American Citizens to Russia after the end of WWII. Jean was a founding member and broker for J. Pendleton Realty and was an active member of the Berryville Arkansas Chamber of Commerce. She was also involved in the Red Hat Society, Eastern Star and the Gainesville Genealogy Society and longtime active member of the Baptist Church in every community she lived in. Jean was a census taker for the 1940, 50, 60 70 and 80 census and worked for the census bureau throughout this time period. She was an avid painter and stained glass artist. She enjoyed outdoor activities and spending time with friends and family. Jean traveled the world with her husband before his passing. She painstakingly researched and documented the family tree.

Jean is survived by her son, John Pendleton and his wife Vivian, son Joe Pendleton and wife Silvia, daughter, Janet Murray and her husband Tim Murray, 9 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Sidney Holley and Ora Mae and Hugh Helfenstine, her daughter Judy Morgan, and son James Pendleton. Family will be pallbearers. You may sign the on line registry at [geojcarroll.com](http://geojcarroll.com).



Funeral services for **Marcia Hemphill Porter**, 80, of Gainesville, Texas will be held 10:00 AM Thursday, July 9 2015 at Grand Avenue Baptist Church, Gainesville, Texas with Reverend Bill Black officiating assisted by Reverend Sam Porter. A family visitation will be held Wednesday, July 8, 2015 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Geo. J. Carroll & Son Funeral Home. Marcia passed away July 6, 2015 in Gainesville, Texas. She was born May 17, 1935 on Wolf Ridge to Thomas Henry Hemphill and Annabelle Tyler Hemphill. Her Grandparents were Henry Addison Hemphill and Emma DeWitt Hemphill, Charles Vincent Tyler and Annie Jarrell Tyler. She was a graduate of Gainesville High School, NCTC and UNT.

She married her high school sweetheart Hugh Porter on Christmas Eve 1952. She worked in the purchasing dept. at National Supply for 18 years. She served on the Board of Directors of NASCOGA Credit Union for several years. She was baptized in November 1957 at Grand Ave. Baptist Church. She taught first and second grade Sunday School for 35 years. She was also an Extra class ham radio operator. She enjoyed talking on the radio, reading and writing and volunteering at TYC.

Marcia is survived by her husband Hugh Porter of the home, son Paul Porter of Farmers Branch, son's and daughter's in law David and Kelly Porter of Gainesville, Les and Brenda Porter of Denton, adopted son and daughter in law Joe and Madonna Hemphill of Montgomery, Texas. Granddaughters Denise Hanneschalager of Fairfax, VA, Sarita Porter Cleveland of Gainesville, TX, Brittney Skelton of Denver, CO and Ally Porter (Asaff) of Denton, TX and four great grandchildren. She is also survived by many friends and extended family. Marcia was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.



If history and genealogy interest you please contact one of our officers and/or members who would love to speak to you. We love to share history!

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

**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 on this page.

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 1<sup>st</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

**FINAL THOUGHTS from the Editor**

There are many holidays, events, and gatherings around the corner as the last of summer heaves its final breath. But one of the most important days we have on the horizon is Election Day, Tuesday, November 8th.

-CCC



Cooke County Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txcooke/index.html>

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