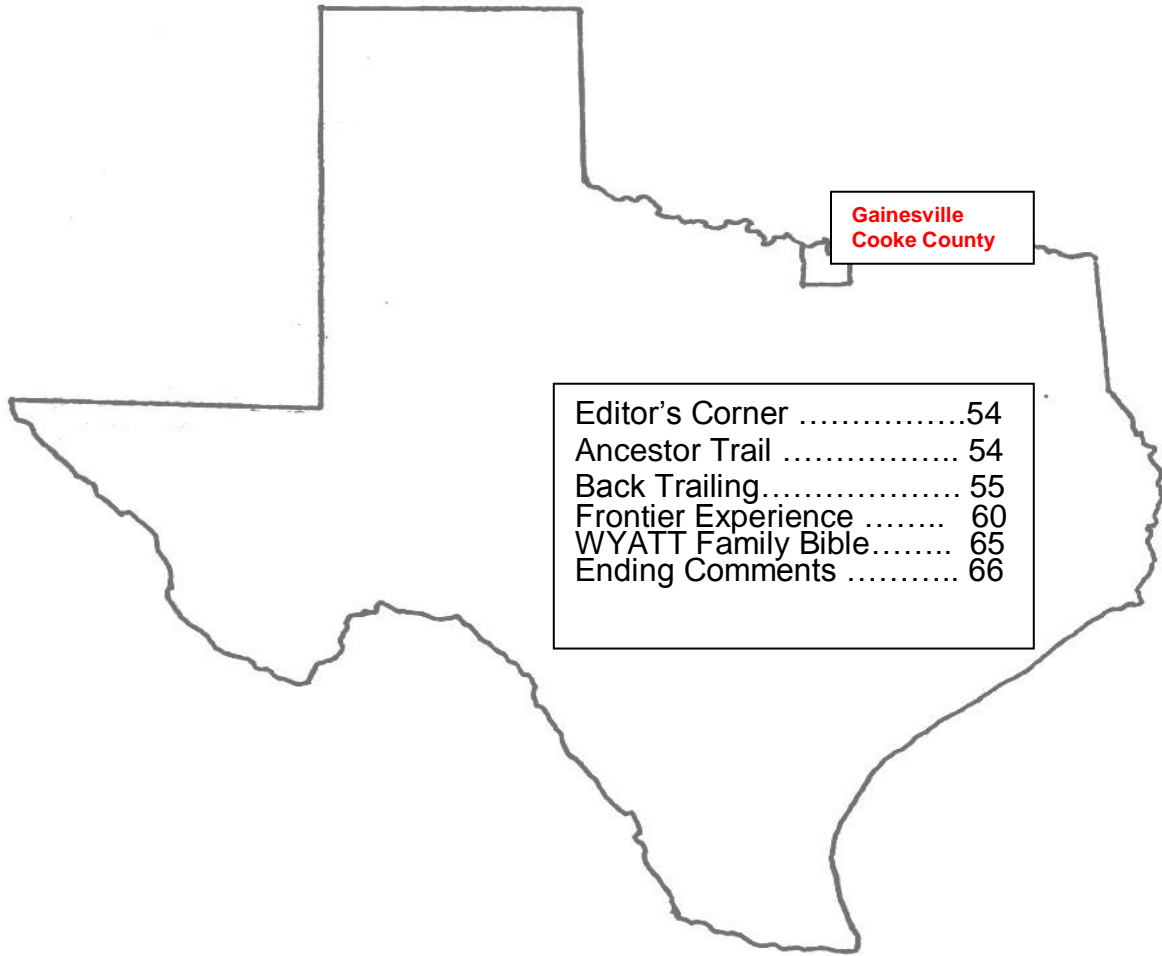


CROSS TIMBERS POST

Editor: Norman L. Newton



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

December 2013

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:

President:

Ronnie **Howser**
940-665-4430 hob2gen@yahoo.com

Vice President:

Natalie **Massengale**
940-726-5725 nat.mass@ntin.net

Secretary:

Norman **Newton**
940-726-3414 normannewton@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Perlene **Newton**
940-726-3414 perlene.newton@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor:

Dick **Sparkman**
940-665-7828 1933sparky@gmail.com

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

Our editor, Dick Sparkman, is improving in health and attended our Christmas party recently. It was so good to see him up and about. I plan to do at least one more Cross Timbers Post before turning over the reins since as you will read I have committed to do a family story in the next edition.

I wish to thank everyone who helped with contributions for this edition of the POST.

What an awesome season it is to reflect on all our blessings at Thanksgiving and now Christmas where we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

If anyone should ever wish to contribute an article or information please feel free to do so. We would love to have your input and information.

Your constructive comments are always welcome.

Till next time: Norman L. Newton

Meeting Schedules

Our 2014 meetings will meet in the Landmark Bank meeting room, Gainesville, Texas the first Monday each month at 6:00 pm., except for the months of January & July.

If history interests you please contact one of our officers and/or members who would love to speak to you.

Regards, Norman L. Newton

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>
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/ips/cms/countyoffice/s/>

MORTON MUSEUM of COOKE COUNTY

210 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas
E-mail: mortonmuseum@att.net
Historical people in Cooke County, various
books

LIBRARY—1525 W. California St., Gainesville

http://www.nctc.edu/NCTC_Library/library

Various genealogy magazines, papers, family
information, obits

**Church's in Gainesville with libraries
and Archives**

First Christian Church

401 No. Dixon 940-665-2053
Started May 10, 1874 Open Daily
Web site: www.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. Denton 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/>

BACK TRAILING

95 years September 1918

Red River Bridge Will Soon Be Completed

Red River rose about four feet Tuesday at Sacra's
ferry where the new bridge is being erected.
Work on that structure has been progressing
rapidly for some time past. The six large concrete
piers that will support the bridge proper have been
completed and piling which will support the
approaches on the north and south side of the
river have been driven and are ready for laying the
framework and floors. In a few days the builders
expect to have all the false work up and ready for
laying the street material and the flooring of the big
structure. It is thought the bridge will be completed
and thrown open for public trial within sixty days
from now or less.

New Fire Station near Completion

Gainesville's handsome new fire station will soon be
ready for occupancy. The contractor states that he
expects to finish all work except for the painting next
week. All the brickwork is completed and the roof is on.
Most of the concrete floor has been laid and the

planting is being done now.

There have been many delays on account of the difficulty of getting the required material and a small portion of the equipment is yet undelivered, but the work has been pushed as rapidly as possible and all who have inspected the new structure pronounce it one of the very best in the city, and it also makes an attractive showing and may be classed as one of our examples of beauty.

The lower floor will be arranged for three trucks or wagons. It will have automatic doors and other modern facilities required by efficient fire departments. On the second floor will be the quarters for the men, and the department will be splendidly and comfortably equipped. Two chutes, in addition to the stairway, will give the men quick access to the trucks when the fire alarm sounds.

In the rear on the second floor is the city jail. It will have an entrance from the west and will be entirely cut off from the other part of the building. It is completed with the exception of furnishing, and of course the furnishings will not be elaborate, consisting chiefly of folding bunks attached to the walls. There are three compartments and they are "mouse proof and bull strong". The wrong-doer who gets in there will stay until somebody turns him out.

Negro Plows up Big Roll of Greenbacks

A negro living down in Sivell's Bend community near the river plowed up a large roll of greenbacks, but he is only fifteen cents better off as a result of the find.

The roll of bills had probably been buried many years, as it had been decayed and rotted into a solid mass, only the edges of the bills showing it had one time been a treasure roll. The denomination of the bills could not be told but the size of the bundle

indicated it had been a small fortune.

That the money has an interesting history there can be no doubt and there is little doubt it will remain a sealed mystery. It may have been blood money from some robbery of early days which the robber buried and then never returned to claim. Perhaps the robber met his fate with his boots on, not living to enjoy his ill prevented the return of whoever cached the opulent roll, and if those rotting bills could speak, they might reveal a story more weird and strange than any tale of fiction.

Anyway we would like to know why the odd nickel and dime were left.

Cotton Gin Full Up

The local cotton gins are crowded to the fullest capacity now in ginning work and are several days behind the demand waiting for services, many wagon loads of seed cotton being held in wagon yards and other sheltering, waiting their "turn" at the gins. The bulk of the cotton crop in the county has been picked say knowing ones. The local prices today averaged about 33 cents, some a little higher than that figure.

County Will Have Full Corps Teachers

County Supt. **F. J. Clements** reports that there remains only a very few vacancies of teachers in the schools of the county and that he is confident of the schools are ready to open.

The demands of the war have greatly reduced the number of male teachers. There were about thirty in rural schools of the county last year, and Mr. Clements states that there will not be over ten male teachers in the county this year, outside of Gainesville schools.

Must Have Head and Tail Lights On

Many autoists have been running their cars in Gainesville with only one headlight and without tail lights and notice is hereby given that on and after Friday Sept 20 all parties thus violating the city ordinances will be arrested and fined. Running with one headlight is very dangerous to other cars and is a violation of the law. It must be stopped.

J. S. Loving, City Marshall

Daylight Robber Holds Up Farmer

Ardmore Sept. 19 A holdup out of the ordinary the attention of the local officers yesterday afternoon.

W. P. Stokely, a farmer residing between Caddo creek and Springer, was going north on the road above the stand-pipe and about due west of the Dornick hills, when he was held up by a man who stopped in front of his team presenting a pistol, made him get out of the wagon and made him go with him about 200 yards from the road into a pasture. There he was gagged, his feet bound together with wire and his hands bound with binding twine, and was robbed of a sum of money amounting to between \$10 and \$12. He was left lying on the ground and the man departed, going toward the street railway tracks. Later Stokely freed himself and went to the street railway and came to the city to notify officers. Stokely's team ran away when the robber frightened them and running into the bridge broke the wagon. Stokely described the robber as wearing a blue serge suit and black hat. Officers went to the scene and found evidence to corroborate Stokely's story, but the robber has not been caught.

Influenza in Camps Delays Draft Calls

Washington Sep 26 Because of the epidemic of Spanish influenza in army camps **Provost Marshall General Crowder** tonight canceled calls for entrainment between Oct 7 and 11 of 142,000 registrants.

During the twenty four hours ending at noon today 6130 new cases of influenza in army camps had been reported to the Office of Surgeon General of the Army. One hundred and seventy deaths, resulting chiefly from pneumonia following influenza and 723 new cases of pneumonia also are reported.

Two camps, Kearney, Cal. and Eustice, Va., were added today to the list of those where influenza has made its appearance leaving only thirteen camps free from the diseases. The total number of cases of influenza in all camps are placed at 35,146 with 3036 cases of pneumonia. One out of every four men at Camp Devens, Mass. has contracted influenza. It was announced, and 10 per cent of the cases have developed into pneumonia.

50 Years Ago September 1963

Picked Up Passing By

There will be another nostalgic reunion of a group of gallant old soldiers Sunday at the American Legion Hall in Denton's city park.

It will mark the 37th annual reunion of Company B of the 359th Infantry – a group the served with distinction in Europe during World War I and during the occupation that followed.

Though the ranks have been dwindled through the years, the spirit is still the same that carried the men of Company B through the savage Meuse-Argonne campaign in France.

It is about 46 years ago now that Cooke County's first

World War I men for the army boarded a Santa Fe train here on Sept 5, 1917. The survivors still recall that they arrived at Camp Travis the next day in time for a hot lunch.

The roster and occupations at that time read like this:

Ora R. Anderson, superintendant of Gainesville Public Schools; **Joe Endres**, farm operator; **Joe Hardy**, **Hubert H. Moss**, and **Charles A. Puckett**, school teachers; **Gilbert G. Holman**, assistant bank cashier; **Goalsby O. Lemaster**, Gainesville letter carrier; **Chester J. Robb**, student at Texas A & M College; **Clarence O. Varner**, cotton buyer; **Ballard N. Watts**, druggist and **Buck Y. Lewis**, automobile dealer.

Company B of the 359th infantry was attached to the 180th Brigade, 90th Division. It served with these units from the organization in September 1917 until the close of the war. After the Armistice was signed, the men of Company B served in the Army of Occupation in Germany.

The Cooke Countians in the company were discharged in June 1919 at Camp Bowie.

Included among the casualties were **Ora Anderson** and **Sam Dennis**. Dennis-Anderson Post No. 164 of the American Legion here was named in their memory.

When the members of Company B gather Sunday, there will be good fellowship and memories of the fallen comrades revived.

Fred **Hopkins** of Krum is president of the reunion and **Gilbert J. Holman** is permanent secretary.

Chester J. Robb of Gainesville is Cooke County vice president.

\$51,000 System Ready

Lindsay Makes History as Water System Is

Completed

Lindsay residents will turn on their faucets and receive city water for the first time in the history of the 72 year old Cooke County town next week.

That's when the town's new water distribution system is expected to be ready to go into action. The new \$51,000 water system is being financed through the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency.

Lindsay was settled in 1891 by **Anton Flusche** and the residents of the small town have taken many steps forward since that time. The town was incorporated in 1959.

Joe Bezner, first and only mayor of Lindsay, said 45 of the 63 meters in the town have been set. He expected the contractor to have the remaining 20 set by the end of the week.

Lindsay is the second Cooke County town to install a water system this year. The other system is presently being installed at Era under a loan from the Farmers Home Administration. It is almost finished and should be in operation soon.

The citizens of Lindsay have watched workmen lay six inch water lines to their homes for the past several weeks. As soon as the meter is set the individual home owner goes to work to lay lines to his house. The contractor is not responsible for the lines past the meter Bezner pointed out.

Water from the system will be pumped from a 798 foot Trinity Sands well, which is located in Lindsay Park. It is presently in working condition and is a pressure type system.

The new system will have a 30,000 gallon storage tank along with a 4000 gallon booster tank. Two pressure pumps will bring the water to the tanks. Bezner said the State Health Department has checked the water and approved it for use. A

chlorination system is built into the storage tank and pump unit but will not be used all of the time. Sixty customers signed up for the water service when the project was first announced. Since that time five additional customers have requested the service and the water system isn't even turned on yet. These five new customers are from new homes being built in Lindsay.

Minimum bills will be \$3.50 per month as compared to the \$6 minimum at Era. The minimum bill will cover loan payments Bezner said.

The new system consists of six inch lines along Fifth Street and a four inch line along Sixth Street, Willow Street, which will be opened to Hwy. 82, carries a six inch line to businesses along the highway frontage.

Lindsay residents have been securing their water from private wells in the past and the city water system is a new experience for Bezner and other officials of the small Cooke County town. I will also be one of the largest single improvements made in the town since it incorporated three years ago.

Changes Noted in Library Services

Cooke County Library service has undergone many changes since its beginning as a city library in 1903. One of the greatest alterations since 1939 was the discontinuation of the bookmobile. It was started then as a miniature mobile branch library to provide books and periodicals to county schools and communities. In 1948 there were some 4000 books in the bookmobile and it had an annual circulation of 13, 490. This mobile unit was discontinued in 1950 when the Gilmer Aiken Bill requiring all public schools to have their own library passed.

The bill also made a great change in the branches served by the central library here, At on time there

were 82 including 30 in communities and 50 in county schools.

Today there are three book stations served. These are located at Tyler Bluff, Rosston, and Lemons Station in the Burton community.

Branches served today are located at the new Muenster Library and Booker T. Washington School. Books are also loaned to all Cooke County Schools. Teachers may borrow books for classroom instruction for periods up to six weeks with renewal optional. Periodicals and newspapers and magazine subscriptions today total 80. This is 15 more than in 1948.

Annual circulation from the central library and station during 1962 was 60,493 fifteen years ago.

The Area Scene

'Indian Paint' Is From Cooke by Ralph Cole

Several Cooke County residents are anxiously awaiting the release of a Texas made motion picture " Indian Paint" .

Bob Callahan, executive producer of the movie, made a flying trip to Cooke County to find a Paint Horse for his production which stars **Johnny Crawford**. Most of the movie's action centers around Nisko (played by Crawford) and his experiences in winning the loyalty and affection of a pony. And that is where the trouble started. Callahan had to have two Paint colts – one a weaning and one a yearling – to be used in the film. It was necessary for the colts to be stock type and match in color and markings the brown and white gelding " Two Bits" , which is owned and ridden by the star of the picture.

Callahan chose Gainesville and Cooke County as the area to begin his search for two Paint horses.

He said Cooke County was chosen because the area is nationally known as the home of the American Paint Stock Horse Association and has the reputation of having more outstanding Paint Horses than any other place in the world. The APSHA was organized in Gainesville two years ago.

After looking over a number of Paint colts Callahan chose a weanling owned by **Jack Barnhart** and **John Shea** and a yearling owned by **Gary Warden**, son of

the **Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Warden**.

The producer invited these owners to visit the location and watch shooting of the scenes, which they did.

Making the trip were **Joe Don Wilson**, **Gene Wilson May**, **Beth and Gary Warden**, the **Rev. Mr. Warden** and **Jan Nelson** among others.

This months POST will carry a first hand account of life as it was in Cooke County during the 1860's. This account was written by Lourilla Osborn Miller. It will highlight the struggles that many of the early day pioneers experienced. I wish to personally thank Mrs. Marilyn Ewers of Stephenville, Texas who initially transcribed this handwritten account and I have only made some minor tweaks such as beginning sentences with a capital letter but otherwise it is left as originally written by Lourilla to allow her to tell the story her way. Mrs. Ewers gave me permission to use her work and also sent me a copy of this handwritten account. (EDITOR)

NARRATIVE OF FRONTIER EXPERIENCES written by my mother, Lourilla Miller at her home in Erath County, Texas, and sent to me in St. Louis, Mo., being received by me on Monday, March 30, 1903. Most of the experiences narrated herein were already known to me, some of them from memory. Lewis B. Miller

As I have been requested to relate thrilling experiences of life, I will try to comply with the request in the silent language of the pen, not as a writer, only to give a simple sketch of life and its troubles on the frontier with the permissions I will briefly sketch my experience from the m____. I was born in the year 1834 in Vermillion County, Illinois. The story I prepare to tell in these pages is a plain record of facts that transpired near and around us of which I have my self personally experienced.

In the spring of 1838 my parents grandparents on father's side, five uncles and several other families sold their homes in Vermillion County, made preparation to emigrate to western Missouri, Bates County which was a frontier but now joins Kansas. Four of grandfather's children that were married remained in Illinois, one son and three daughters. Father and mother had one son and (six?) daughters, I being next to the youngest rode in the carriage with father and mother and the baby. I was young but I remember how I disliked to leave the dear old home, my father's mill and the many pretty things around it. I also remember many things that happened on the long and worrisome journey to the better land as they thought but found it no better in anyway except the climate was warmer. The little colony camped one evening in the woods where berries were ripe, the children went out to pick berries. My ten year old sister wandered so far in the woods she could not find her way back to the camp. The news was carried from one to another through the camp that a child was lost in the woods where many wild beast roam a region alone to be torn to pieces by some cruel bear or panther or wandered so far away she could not be found and starve to death. Many shed tears at the thought. Some were crying, some were praying father in heaven protect the poor lost child. It seems their prayers were answered. After some time the child was found she was not injured by the scare only a little pale and wild look for awhile. She was more fortunate than the child in the new country that went to pick berries. Miss

Summers said the greatest sorrow of her life was scarring her little six year old sister to death. She had gone out to pick berries after some time she decided that she would go also and gather some berries as they were nice and ripe at that time. On nearing the berry patch she concealed herself behind a tree and made a noise to scare her little sister but did not think of frightening her so bad. The child screamed and I think has spasms. She never could reconcile her she lingered a few days and died. The doctor said the scare was the cause of her death, but to return to my story, after the lost child was found the excitement was over the little colony hitched their teams to their wagons and went on their way with thankful hearts. The journey was made without any more sad experiences through was seemed to be a wilderness. They landed in Bates County near four miles north of the old harmony mission which was established by the government. In order to teach and preach to the Indians the mission had rather good buildings a farm with an orchard on it but those what were sent there to teach the heathen had left there and taken them homes near where grandfather bought him a farm that was improved. There was a store near grandfather's dwelling. My father loaned the merchant his money. The merchant broke my father lost his money. The merchant left there. One of my uncles sold goods in his house. Father and some of my uncles settled new places. There were but few settlers there then my father chose a beautiful location made him good farm. I had two brothers born in Missouri. Some four years after coming there my fathers health failed he lingered until winter he taken the fever and passed away. We were very sad and lonely after dear father was no more. The Indians came through the country hunting trading and sometimes stealing. I and one of my sisters was at grandfathers one day when the news came that the Indians were on the warpath. Were coming that night to kill all the pale faces and burn their houses. I cannot tell how the news came. The women were badly terrified vowed they would not stay in their houses that night.

The men had but little to say as night came on mother gathered her family around her and one of her sisters and all went to the bushes. We were all thankful next morning when we saw the Indians had not come. Some time after this night one night a great many guns was fired. Mother awakened us all and we went to one of my uncles they said there was some of the men were out in the timber hunting they thought the reason they shot off their guns so many times was to let the Indians know they were prepared for them. Mother thought the Indians were killing the whites when she heard so many guns. The Indians in passing through hunting camps one evening near the road we went to school. As seven or eight of us were going home from school quite a number of savages were seen coming after us with their bows and arrows ready to shoot. The children ran for life. We were close to a house they did not follow us in. They were trying to scare us one morning I and my little brother were on our way to school. On going through the timber two Indian boys came out of the bushes on a horse and tried to run over us. The horse would not step on us as we would change from one side of the road to the other they would follow us after we came to the prairie they turned and went to their camp. The white people had to talk to their chief. They gave him to understand they had no objection to them coming in hunting and trading if they would stop their meanness and be friendly. After this they were not so mean but still come through hunting and trading. They did not want the country to settle up. They thought they would be deprived of their hunting grounds, which abounded in game. We lived there to see the country thickly settled. There was one woman there said she crossed the Missouri river on a raw hide canoe made by the Indians. Said she took a good cry before crossing. After I was grown I married a man that had lived in Texas, but was raised in Tennessee he wanted to return to Texas said his father raised him to far south for him to like a cold country. After visiting friends in Illinois came back home stayed until spring we then bid fare well to many near and dear friends and started to Texas. The first

of April, 1860 we stopped in Cooke County. There the Indians had shot a negro woman a short time before we come there. I had been frightened so many times in childhood by Indians I disliked to stay there but they said it would not do to give up the frontier if we left others would leave. After thinking it over awhile we decided we would stay and risk our lives with what few people lived there. Hoping all the time the soldiers would stop the Indians from coming in and doing so much mischief. They would slip in of many moon light nights gather all the horses they wanted and go out with them. In day time kill and scalp every one they met or saw we had lived there two years I think when the Indians made a raid on us and stole eight head of horses from us all that we had a good many from our neighbors. The men would gather and follow them but could not over take them. They would cross the Red River, then a few men could do nothing as they were in Indian territory. It was hard to give up our teams people had to work oxen to improve their places and tend their crops as they watch for Indians. As they never knew when they were coming they knew when they did come some body would be killed and scalped when they did come. We had made a mistake in trying to stay there but they said if the people starts where will the frontier be the savages will follow. We had our little homes improved so that we could make a living if they would stay out. But the barbarians had just made a beginning. I think the next raid they made was one winter day. We had been killing hogs when a man horse back dashed up to the house and said the comanches were murdering the people and burning their houses not far from us. We ran to a neighbor's house. We would several families collect at one place in order to try in our weak way to defend ourselves. They had gathered all the horses they wanted thought they would show their blood thirsty nature shot a young man as he ran home calling his father he had no gun but run out with the one the boy ran in and got under the floor they came in and killed his father and mother and wounded a child. Set the house on fire and left. After they were gone the wounded boy crawled out and got the wounded child and crawled to some bushes hundred yards from the house. There lay in concealment until a wagon came along and took them to a village where they were washed and their wounds dressed. The savages were getting worse the men and women would have to stand in their doors with their guns to keep them from coming in and murdering them. It was indeed perilous times a time of fear and anxiety. Fearful when one left the house they would never return. Men carried arms when they went to work not knowing how soon them or some of their folks would fall into the hands of the enemy. Five year old children would cry out in sleep, papa don't let them shoot me. This state of things was more than human nature could bear. The men come together in order to provide some way of protecting their families. They finally decided they would fort up. Every man build him a house near the blue spring on Blocker creek where there was lasting water and move there. They all went to work and throwed them up log cabins that they could live in and moved there. They made up a company to send out scouts ten men to go and watch for Indians ten days then they would come home and others would go out and stay ten days each. Man would serve ten days a month but the Indians did not show themselves. They gave us no trouble while there. The people were not as downcast were more cheerful. We had a good school also plenty of preaching. The people began to hope our Indian troubles were over they never stayed that way so long. After forting up some eighteen months and still no news of Indians we thought we would be safe at our homes. Our horses and some of our cattle were taken from us. Our little homes was all most all we had left. It was very inconvenient for the men to go so far to tend their crops. As times were hard we were tempted to move home and all work hard to make a living. The fort broke up and people all returned to their homes to try to regain their lives hoping they would not be molested or robbed any more. We lived in peace more than a year after we moved to our homes then our trouble began. One warm sultry day the sad news came that the

Indians had killed Mr. Box and captured his family. They had been away from home to dry fruit was returning home when the Indians run onto them. Killed Mr. Box while trying to get his pistol out of his trunk. I met Mrs. Box after government bought her and her three daughters from the Indians. She said after killing her poor husband they tied her and the children on wild horses gave her the baby to carry. Then they would spear the horse to make it run and pitch so she would have to drop it. She said she hung onto her precious baby as long as she could. When she saw it was bound to go she reached as far as she could and set it down without hurting it. Then on what a horrible heart rendering sight for a poor mother to behold. View those wild yelling savages as they gather around that innocent babe and throw stones and beat it to pieces. Mothers how oh how could we bear to witness such an awful deed. I think had I been in that poor mothers place earthly power could prevented me from them and there losing my reason. She surely was a mere wreck broken hearted heart diseased and not like her former self after that awful deed was done they were forced to go with that wild and savage crew. Starved them for water until their tongues would swell out of their mouths. Then they would hold their canteens to their mouths give them one swallow slash them with their quirts and go on and on. In the hot summer sun without food or water until they all most perished. Her daughter had a scar on her forehead said the old chief knocked her down because she could not understand him when he told her to go and catch his horse for him. After Mr. Box was killed and his family captured the men gathered and followed them the next day in the evening three families came in great hast to our house said the Indians had been thick around their houses at one house they had to shoot at them to keep them from coming in. They had taken their horses and ours I had just come from the corner of the field our horses were grazing near where I was. They must have taken them as soon as I left the field. I gathered my two babies we all made our way to the creek followed in the bed of the creek as there was no water. The first house the folks there went with us to the next house. There they said we would all stay and defend ourselves the best we could. If the Indians came our men that had followed the Indians came home that night found us all gone supposed we were captured by the savages but followed on until they found us. They had run some seventy five Indians that day. They had some five hundred head of the peoples horses. There were but nine or ten of the white men they were well aware of the fact they could do nothing with that many savages. They came home as fast as they could to see what the Indians had done. Two of our neighbor boys were on their way to Gainesville eighteen miles from us the savages run on to them killed and scalped one of them. The other young man was better mounted made his escape into town. Gathered some men to see what became of his friend found him dead and scalped started to town with him, when the cruel savages ran on to them they had to leave him by the way side and run for their lives in order to keep from sharing the same fate. They made their escape into town made up a company of men brought him in and buried him the savages went in one house through the window killed one woman and child wounded another woman and scalped her she lived several days told how they had done. The child they beat against the wall of the house and killed it. Some of the children were never found. The question will naturally arise why did they not kill the cowboys they always were quite a number of them together were well mounted rode hardy mustangs horses last but not least they were well armed. The red men knew if they run on to them so of their gang would get hurt. The Indians not brave they will not fight fair as was plain to be seen in their next raid in the winter when they killed Mr. Leatherwood before long they also killed Mr. and Mrs. Parkhill and captured their children. They then went to several houses the people would stand in their door way with their guns and keep them from coming in. They went to Mrs. Monasco she was alone with her baby she saw they were coming in she let her baby down ran to the door with the gun pointed it at them

they stopped but as she would lower her gun they would come nearer the house. She would raise the gun they would stand back after starting for the house the third time and was stopped they went on the road and met her two little girls their grandfather and his daughter and her baby coming home. They shot and killed the old gentleman took his daughter and three grandchildren prisoners made the woman get up behind one of them on going up a hill she slipped off they raised their hatchets to kill her she threw up her hands they then grabbed her hair and cut half of it off. Two of them taken her they the hands mounted their horses and run their horses with her between them she was almost killed. The baby they killed and threw it down it was found next day froze stiff. The weather turned very cold. The white men over taking them engaged them in battle. They ran off and left the two women there. They had another woman there two little girls were not found until next summer the supposition was they had frozen to death and been left on the way. They made up a company to search for them they found them in the Cross timber. One of their feet was gone. The men that was with Mr. Menosco when they were found said they had never witnessed so sad a scene. It seemed the father would die with his murdered children although so long since all this cruelty was committed. I have to exclaim with one of old as I write I exceedingly quake and tremble. Not that I fear for them now as government has long since stopped them in their wicked and wild career. I hope they may never more be permitted to commit such awful deeds. But few women that were captured by the savages and lived to return were ever like themselves trouble starvation hard ships bad treatment in many ways had almost killed them. But there was one woman that was captured but made her escape before they had gone very far she stated that they had killed all her folks that she was the only one that was spared. Said she was spared for a purpose. She did not know what that purpose was unless it was to preach. She went around preaching. My husband heard her preach he said she talked very well. One colony from Illinois moved thirty five miles west of where we lived. The savages came to them as friends after shaking hands went to murdering them. The whites were not armed. They killed all but one girl. Started off with her, she managed to escape from them before they had gone very far. Swam the river and made her way in to the town of Montague. She was the only one we ever heard of after the massacre. Just enough to tell the sad news before the colony came there some people were tortured in a most shocking manner. Not far from there one man put iron hobbles on his horse but they found him with his legs cut off above the hobbles. The people were low spirited they knew we were in danger at our place some four families stayed for quite a while. Some would build them block houses in order to keep them out of their houses. The Indian has ever been a source of trouble to the whites. There seems to be hostility between the Indian character and civilization. Their main delight is war. Those that live on the frontier have many hardships troubles and trials to encounter they have it as it were to hew the way for those that come after them. We remained there until the Indians stopped coming in. Then sold our home after visiting our friends in the north staying awhile with them we returned to Texas settled in Erath county where we now live but have no Indians to rob molest or make us afraid any more. The people that lived near us in Cooke County were from northern and eastern states but very few old Texans lived there. I stated in the beginning this was a record of facts. I will just say all that happened before I was seven years old is so much like a dream. I will not say that it is correct but in regard to the cruel deeds committed by Indians there are those here that can (?) me that I have underrated that there were horrible deeds committed by those barbarous people if they are worthy the name people. That would make men and angles stand aghast that I cannot write with a prayer that they may never again be permitted to commit such awful deeds I lay down my pen.”

END OF NARRATIVE

FAMILY BIBLE OF M. E. & A. R. WYATT OF MARYSVILLE, TEXAS

Publishers A.J. Holman and Co., Philidelphia, Pa.
Published in 1890
Presents owners are M.E. & A.R. Wyatt, Marysville, Texas

M.E. Wyatt of Marysville and C.A. Roberts of Marysville, Texas, were married on November 15, 1899 at the home of the bride, by John Powers.

BIRTHS		
	M.E. Wyatt	Oct 01, 1876
C.	Atkinson Roberts Wyatt	Aug 18, 1877
	Lowell Roberts Wyatt	Aug 18, 1900
	Leonard David Wyatt	Jan 03, 1903
	Delbert Cyvil Wyatt	Nov 14, 1904
	Ernest Wyatt	Oct 10, 1906
	Baby born dead	May 10, 1908
	Magenta Lee Wyatt	Dec 11, 1909

MARRIAGES		
	Lowell Roberts Wyatt and Charlcie Riddle	June 30, 1924
	Delbert Cyril Wyatt and Ruby Lee Moon	June 15, 1932
	Magenta Lee Wyatt and Earl Riddell	Nov. 15, 1930

GRANDCHILDREN		
	Robert Milton Wyatt	Oct 14, 1923
	LaVonne Riddell	Aug 04, 1932
	Gene Frances Wyatt	Jul 28, 1933

DEATHS		
	Girl un-named	May 10, 1908
	Ernest Wyatt	Oct 11, 1906

(This information was recorded by the DAR in the 1930's and is located in the Cooke County, Texas Library in Gainesville, Texas.)



This picture is of Captain L. W. Lee on top of "Old Dick" at his home in Valley View. The Captain and his wife, Mary, are considered the founders of the town of Valley View. Next quarterly edition (MARCH 2014) of the Cross Timbers Post I plan to submit a history of this family.

I hope you have a joyous and fulfilling Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of our savior.

May you have an awesome 2014. Norman

