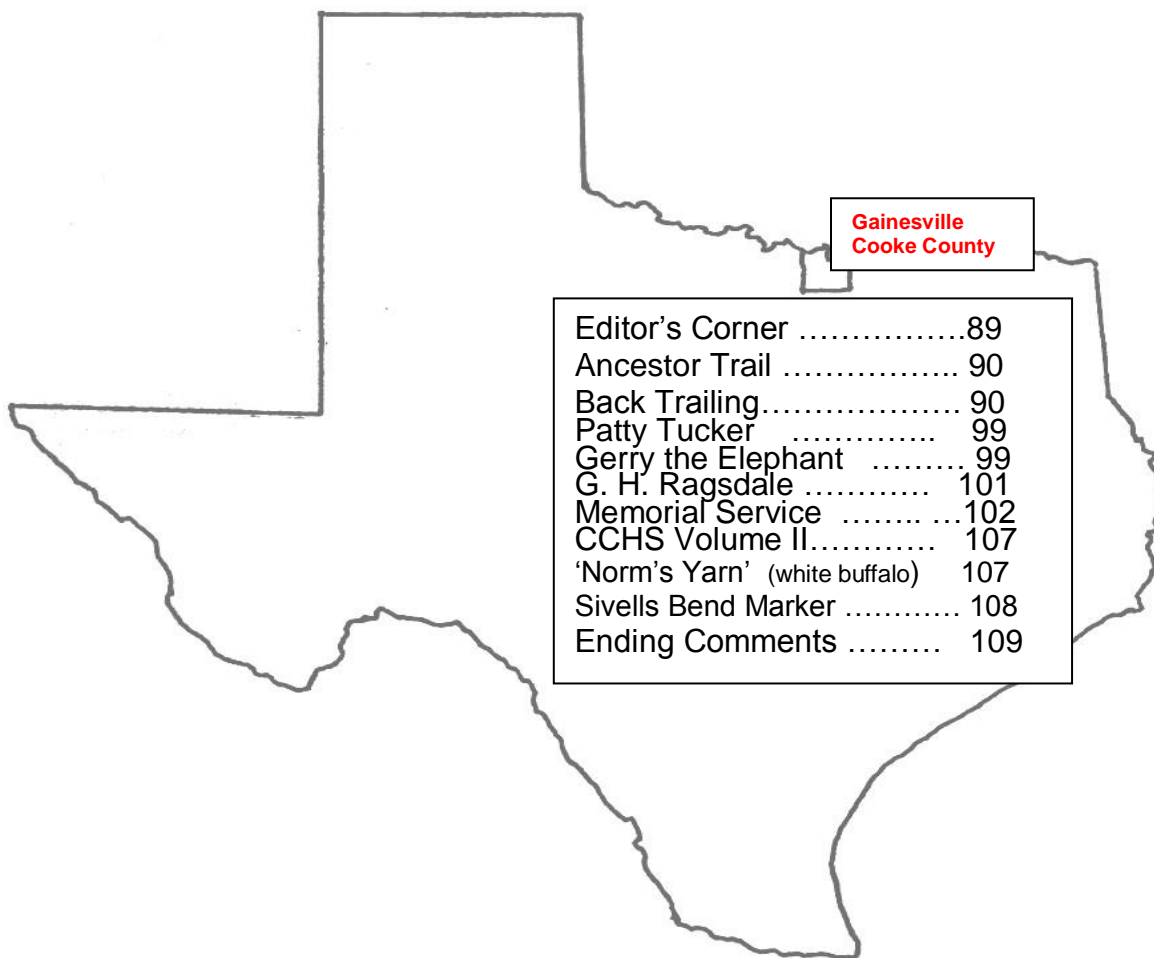


CROSS TIMBERS POST

Editor: Norman L. Newton



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

September-December 2014

CROSS TIMBERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF COOKE COUNTY TEXAS
PO Box 197
Gainesville, TX 76241-0197

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:

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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

What a summer and fall this has been. I am sure there has been many prayers said in regard to the need of rain and those prayers were sure answered. In Valley View where I live we tallied more than 15 inches during the month of July. We were blessed.

The year begins in June for the Cross Timbers Genealogical Society and all officers have held office for the coming year. This is also a reminder that dues were due in June and if you have not renewed then please do so.

In our June meeting our program was given by Shana Powell who gave a very interesting talk on the Ghost Towns in Cooke County.

Most of our members realize the Cross Timbers Genealogical Society serves as the host for Cooke County for the TXGenWeb Project and I serve as the Cooke County Coordinator for over six years now. Perhaps lesser known is that I have served the West Texas County of Borden as the County Coordinator for more than 4 years.

I was pleased to give the program for the CTGS August meeting about a historical marker dedication that Perlene and I attended on June 21st in the town of Gail in Borden County. It was a very enjoyable event for the both of us to be among such fine people.

Our November program was given by Barbara Pybas who spoke on the family of Kenneth Monroe Pybas who was born in Tennessee and settled in the north western

area of Cooke County in the area of Nubbin Ridge in 1881.

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
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/countyoffices/>

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 – September Newsletter

(Contributed by, Ronnie Howser)
95 Years Ago

Denton Officials Here In Search Of Road Material Wednesday July 16, 1919

County judge Key of Denton County, **Commissioners Morgan, Riley, Crawford, and Batis, County Auditor Durbin,** County Engineer **T. E. Huffman,** and **W. C. Edwards,** chairman of the citizens advisory committee were here today from Denton for the purpose of inspecting Cooke county roads material. They went out to the gravel pits this afternoon. It is quite likely that a large portion of the good roads to be constructed in Denton county will be made of Cooke county material. Other counties have found the Cooke county gravel the very best to be obtained for road work. Denton county recently voted a million and a half dollar bond issue by a vote of nearly six to one in favor of good roads in Denton county. Good roads never fail to win good friends. If other counties find it profitable to ship Cooke county material to build good roads, why would it not be wise for us to spread a little of it where our roads belong?

Old Pioneer Visiting Here Saturday August 2, 1919

W. H. Smith, an early day Cooke county pioneer, is here on a visit to relatives and neighbors of the long ago from his home in Los Angeles, California, where he has been living for some years. Mr. Smith settled in Cooke county at Marysville in 1865 coming here at that time from his native state, Tennessee, Knox county. In 1868 he built an ox grist mill at Marysville, which he and his bovine tramping power kept in the going for several years, turning out grists of choice meal which made the old fashion corn pone, the best and most wholesome bread ever masticated. Mr. Smith and **Jake Brazelton** of the city are from the same beat back in Tennessee having known each other from childhood days and their meeting in the city last Friday was a delightful contact. **M. M. Savage** is another old timer, who fraternized with Mr. Smith.

He too met Mr. Smith in the city yesterday. Most fondly they recounted events that took place in the early days of this county, when pure democracy, unhampered by socialism, camouflaged faddists, and altruistic reformers reigned supreme. Everybody was neighborly, generous, happy, and contented. But it is different now. There have been many years, strange mutations, and some not of the best, for the plain people, since the days Mr. Smith operated his ox mill.

Log Cabin of Early Days Should Form Unique Memorial

Tuesday August 12, 1919

Hugh Hamilton is having his old homestead on South Commerce and Pecan streets razed from its foundation and will build on that site a modern and up-to-date bungalow. The house that the new one will supplant is a log structure, which many years after being built, was weather-boarded, giving it the appearance of a framed structure. In its early days it was a typical log house or cabin so common in this part of Texas. This ancient domicile was built in 1858 and was occupied by **Col. Bob Stone** and family when he enlisted in the Confederate army. Later he became famous as an officer and soldier, a brave and fearless hero who was killed in battle at Yellow Cypress Swamp, La., sometime before the Civil War closed.

Judge Wheeler, a popular citizen and county judge of Cooke county for some years and grandfather of Mr. Hamilton, lived in this log cabin many years. Here Dr. **S. N. Hamilton,** father of Hugh, long since deceased, resided for many years also and it was there he passed to the Great Beyond.

Perpetuate This Pioneer Relic

This relic of by-gone days should be preserved and rebuilt in replica and placed in a conspicuous public spot where it can

be seen by the present and future generations as a historical reminder of the abodes of our early pioneers. Our forefathers chased the wild Indians out of the country and built log cabin homes for themselves and their families where they lived, worked, and strove for the betterment of humankind by changing the country from a wilderness inhabited by wild beasts and savage Indians to one of cultivation and high civilization. In order to have this relic perpetuated, Mr. Hamilton proposes to donate the logs of that cabin to the city of Gainesville if the city council will rebuild it in replica somewhere in the city park where it will become a rare souvenir of the early days in Cooke county.

34 Schools Apply For Aid From State

Tuesday August 19, 1919

County superintendent **F. J. Clement** stated today that thirty four Cooke county schools have made application for state aid this year and have complied with the requirements or expect to meet the requirements for such aid this term. The state superintendent has requested that all applications for state aid be turned in by August 20, so if any other schools expect to make application, it should be done at once. Eighteen Cooke county schools received aid last year. Mr. Clement states that three or four new school buildings have been erected this year, and others have been remodeled and additions have been made to school equipment.

Our Cooke County Soldiers And Sailors

Tuesday August 19, 1919

It is deemed so important to secure data about the part each Cooke county soldier and sailor took in the great war that questionnaires for each one to fill out are being sent to every neighborhood in the county and a home to house canvas will shortly be made for the same purpose in the town of Gainesville. It is hoped that

every soldier and sailor who went from Cooke county, or who was born and reared in Cooke county may be listed as this will be very important in the future, not only to you but to your county. Parents or near relatives, if your boy did not come back or is now away from home, please take a questionnaire for him and see that it is filled out and returned to the Gainesville Public Library, so that his name may be recorded in the history of Texas part in the war, that is soon to be compiled by the University of Texas. It is only through this consideration and trouble on your part now that Cooke county can ever receive full honors for the part it took in helping to win the war. The Texas University will also be glad to receive and preserve any letters, photographs or newspaper clippings about your sons and their service experiences that you may contribute.

Gainesville Taking On An Oil Boom Now

Tuesday August 26, 1919

Cooke county is coming into the oil boom class rapidly these days and the various tests being made here are being watched with a great deal of interest by the oil scouts – much more than the average citizen may imagine. The influx of these interested in various ways with oil developments is shown by the difficulty in securing accommodations in Gainesville. Often the hotels and rooming houses are filled to overflowing and visitors fail to find a bed. Only last night a late arrival, after being turned away from several hostelries, proceeded to make his bed under a low spreading tree in the Santa Fe park near the station. He had a newspaper for a mattress and another newspaper served to keep off some of the dew, and perhaps that which penetrated his scant covering.

First Bale of Cotton Brings 34 and 1/4 Cents A Pound

Monday September 8, 1919

Bailey Murrell and E. W. Simmons brought in and sold the first bale of cotton this season for Valley View Wednesday September 3, The bale weighed 425 pounds and was bought at 34 and ¼ cents a pound including premium given by the local merchants. The seed brought \$22.35 making a grand total for the load, including the seed, of \$183.79.

Takes His Educated Horses To Ardmore
Tuesday September 9, 1919

Virgil Keel went to Ardmore last night taking Kismet, the famous automobile jumping horse, and two other educated horses to be exhibited at the Carter County Fair now in progress. Kismet will do his famous jump over a five-passenger automobile filled with people, which never fails to attract a big crowd. He is the only horse in the world that does this daring stunt.

50 Years Ago
(Contributed by Ronnie Howser)

County Farm Will Close On August 1
Saturday July 1, 1961
Cooke County Commissioners closed the County Farm to paupers and indigents Friday. County Judge **Shelby Fletcher** said that only two persons have been living at the County Farm for the past several months, and that expenses are too high to merit continuance of the program. The county spends approximately \$10,000 per year on operation of the Farm. Superintendent **Bob Little** turned in his resignation, to be effective August 1, the effective closing date. The two residents of the County Farm will be turned over to the State Public Welfare program, Fletcher said. The county has maintained a farm ever since it has been in existence. The present building was constructed in the early 30's, after a building in the same location burned. The County Farm has been used as headquarters for the surplus

commodity program in Cooke County and over 14 acres of land will be rented at the present time, Fletcher said. Little will take a cut in salary and remain superintendent of the surplus commodity program.

Back Tracking – December Newsletter
(Contributed by Ronnie Howser)

95 Years Ago

Contract for Re-Graveling the Valley View Road Tuesday Oct. 7, 1919

During its last session the Commissioners Court let a contract to **C. Sarles** for re-graveling the Valley View road from the city to the end of the old pike. If weather permits, this work will be done in the near future. The county has the promise of five army trucks to be used in hauling gravel to put all of the old pikes in first class shape and for other work on the county roads. These trucks would have been delivered already but for the fact that they were sent to Corpus Christi to aid in the relief work there following the great hurricane. It is expected that the trucks will be received within two or three weeks. We have the gravel, and with the use of these trucks, there is no reason why some of the worst of our roads cannot be put in passable shape before the winter rains set in.

First White Child Born in Cooke County Died Here Today Thursday Oct. 16, 1919

James K. Chadwell, well known Cooke county citizen died at his home at corner of Grand Avenue and Broadway in this city at 1 o'clock this afternoon after an illness of a few days. Deceased is survived by his widow and several children, all grown and married. **James K. Chadwell** was the first white child born in Cooke county, that event taking place about four miles northeast of this city. Mr. Chadwell lived in Cooke county all his life and never resided further than ten miles from Gainesville at any time,

spending most of his life on a farm near the old Chadwell homestead located in Elm bottom, some two miles southeast of the iron bridge over Elm creek on the Gainesville and Denton road just south of the city. At press hour The Register was unable to get any further data concerning this grand old pioneer, but hopes to be able to give a more extended view of his long and useful life. He was a noble citizen, a loving father, a devoted husband and generous neighbor, and above all he was an honest man actuated by a deep sense of respect and justice toward his fellow man. The funeral arrangements have not been announced at this writing.

Old Soldiers Off to the Reunion of U. C. V. at Atlanta Thursday Oct. 16, 1919

From coast to coast and Gulf to Great Lakes every train almost is today bearing its quota of the heroic old warriors of the Sixties to Atlanta, Ga., for the annual reunion of the United Confederate veterans. The number to go is now rapidly dwindling, but the fire and spirit of those left cannot be dimmed and will burn brightly until the last beloved old veteran has crossed over the river to rest under the shade of the trees. Going from Gainesville this morning were **J. L. Mosley, J. P. Melton** and his son **L. C. Melton**, and **A. D. Mitchell**. Others will leave later Saturday morning.

Cooke County Family Has 3 Sets of Twins Monday Oct. 20, 1919

A few days ago the Register carried a news item about Mr. and Mrs. **John McKay** of Ballinger being the parents of three sets of twins. The statement was made that few families in the United States could equal that record. It was brought to our attention that Cooke county has one such family, namely Mr. and Mrs. **Julius Bell** of the Wolf Ridge community. It is mighty hard to get ahead of Cooke county on any kind of proposition.

Advertisement Saturday Nov. 1, 1919

Leonard Stroud, the world's champion trick rider with his wonderful horses will perform at the Ardmore roundup next week. One of Stroud's performing horses is a Cooke county horse formerly owned by Mr. **Newsome Dougherty**. Mr. **Van Cleve** of Wichita Falls bought this horse from Dougherty and gave him to Stroud. Many Cooke county people will visit Ardmore to see this performance. Mr. Stroud has written Gainesville friends that this will be his greatest exhibition ever pulled off in the Southwest and lovers of the sport should make an effort to see same.

A Strong Combination Monday Nov. 3, 1919

Revs. **A. J. Harris** and **A. B. Ingram**, former pastors of the First Baptist church of this city, have purchased the Whitesboro News Records. Associated with them in the deal is C. D. Anderson, banker of that town. This is a strong trio and means the News Record will be a hummer from now hence. Bros. Harris and Ingram are able writers and they have the courage of their convictions to tell it straight regarding any subject or theme. Keep your eye on the News Record and watch it grow and prosper in North Texas.

Gainesville Will Have Auto Bus Line Beginning Monday Saturday Nov. 8, 1919

Beginning Monday Gainesville is to have an auto bus line operating over the principal business and resident's streets. The enterprise is being put on by **J. E. Henderson** and sons, **E. L. Henderson**. They have purchased two large auto omnibuses and will make regular schedules over the streets designated, giving service equal to that furnished by street car lines and the cost of transportation will be almost

as cheap as street cars. The fare will be ten cents for adults and five cents for children between 5 and 12 years of age. Coupon books will also be sold, giving two extra rides to the dollar. Those who expect to patronize the line are urged to purchase books. The service will be on the pay as you enter plan and the chauffeur will also be conductor, brakeman, porter, and any other official needed. These bus lines should prove a great convenience to the public, especially to citizens living in the outlying districts.

Another Example of the Cost of Mud Variety Roads Monday Nov. 17, 1919

This scribe does not need to be convinced of the need of better roads in Cooke county and of the cost of the system of mud highways we are now supporting, but he had the matter presented in a very instructive manner Saturday afternoon. We started to Tioga in an automobile and upon reaching a point just south of the Girl's training school, found a truck stuck in a mud hole. The truck had to be unloaded and then it took six or eight men, two mules, and the truck's own power to get it out. The mud hole then looked so bad that we were afraid to drive into it, so decided to detour by going through the grounds of the Training School. This was not much better. Before reaching the highway again, we had broken a spring on the car. By jacking up the bed and putting a block of wood under one corner, we were able to return to the city and arranged to make another payment on our mud tax through the repairman. We then went as far as Whitesboro on the train and had a delightful little spin of sixteen miles over the pike to Tioga in a car west up from there to meet us. It is only a matter of a few minutes for a car to gun up to Whitesboro from Tioga over the excellent pike they maintain. It is disgusting to contemplate what we pay for our horrible roads to say nothing of the pleasure and convenience we lose. Grayson county

would not take any price and do without any good roads of some kind. If Cooke county goes on putting up with the present excuses for roads, the state should build a big institution here to take care of us.

Cotton Pickers Wanted Wednesday Nov. 19, 1919

Forty bales of open cotton, fine picking; will pay \$3.00 per hundred; bring your sacks. A truck will leave the court house each morning at 9 o'clock and will haul pickers free and return them at 5 o'clock to court house each afternoon. The route traveled by the bus each day will be as follows: From court house to Dixon Street, then on Hancock Street to Lindsay Street, which runs to Scott farm. See **N. W. Trolinder** on **Oscar Scott** farm, one mile west of Gainesville.

Paving Contract Let to Southern Construction Co. Thursday Nov. 20, 1919

At a meeting of the city council last night the contract was awarded to the Southern Construction Company to do the paving of the city. Work will begin as early as conditions will permit and completed as quickly as possible with no delays after a street has been started. The business section of the city is to be paved with brick and the residence sections with whatever materials the property owners desire. Brick will, of course, be the cheapest in the long run since the first cost should be the only one for two or more decades. Brick paving eliminates practically the maintenance cost on any other class of pavement. This fact should be considered by the property owners. With this work beginning and pushed to completion on the number of streets involved, we can snap our fingers in the faces of those who have been coming to our town and giving us the go-by because we did not have our streets paved.

Cotton Ginning Is Far Behind Last Year in County Friday Nov. 21, 1919

R. H. Alwood, government cotton reporter for Cooke county, announced that 6, 157 bales were ginned in this county this year prior to Nov. 1. This is just about half the amount that had been ginned at the same date last year, which was 12,232 bales. The continued wet weather has made it impossible to gather the cotton, but the last few days of sunshine has given the cotton business a big boost. If fair weather should prevail two or three weeks longer, the bulk of the crop would be harvested. There is still a great demand for pickers and a number of schools have suspended to enable the farmers to save the cotton.

Good Roads Would Bring Much Trade to Merchants Here Friday Nov. 21, 1919

Tom Bryant of St. Jo, who operates a service in that city, brought a car of shoppers to Gainesville today. He stated that he had already made three trips here this week for people who live in St. Jo and who wanted to trade in Gainesville. Most of these shoppers own automobiles, but on account of the bad condition of the roads, would not drive them. There is no daylight train service, as yet, to this point, the railroad having called off the passenger service which was to have been started over the Katy on Nov. 2. Mr. Bryant stated to a Register reporter that numbers of people from towns in that section would make the trip to Gainesville daily if the roads were in better shape. He said that some quick work was needed, both this side and on the other side of Myra; that some mud holes were almost impassible and that a little work done now would forestall a considerable amount later. He also stated that Montague county officials dragged their roads regularly and that they had been dragging the road for two or more miles inside Cooke county.

Mayor Blackburn Confiscates Car Coal for People Wednesday Dec. 10, 1919

Learning that many families in the city not having gas connections, were suffering with cold and that there was a car of coal in the local Santa Fe yards, Mayor **E. N. Blackburn** confiscated the coal for domestic use turning it over to the local dealers with instructions that it be allotted to those in need of fuel to keep their homes warm during the intense cold now prevailing. The Santa Fe officials responsible for the coal showed no disposition to demur at the action and readily issued orders directing that the coal be turned over to the city.

Myra Citizens Break Up the Coal Famine Friday Dec. 12, 1919

The citizens of Myra don't believe in freezing when coal is to be had. The town had a cold day last week. School was thinking of closing on account of having no fuel and the people were out of coal. A west bound freight train came along with a car of coal. It was seized and in a very short while a number of wagons and men distributed the several tons to the people and the public school. The car of coal was billed for St. Jo and the train carried it to that town. A few days before, Myra would have received a car of coal; but, Denison held it up and took it. Thus the Cooke county town found it necessary to make good the loss.

50 Years Ago

Picked Up Passing by Jack Joyce
Monday Oct. 16, 1961

Army Engineers to Survey Fallout Facilities

County Judge **Shelley Fletcher** has received a letter from Col. **R. P. West**, Fort Worth district engineer of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, desiring to make an

immediate survey of available facilities to be used as fallout shelters in Cooke County. Local Civil Defense officials are prepared to offer their cooperation in the survey.

An Outstanding Memorial Service Be Here Sunday by Joe M. Leonard Friday Oct. 20, 1961

A memorial service is planned to be held in Fairview Cemetery, Gainesville at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 22, for **John S. Bugg**, **Jesse N. Bugg**, and **James Bugg**, former Confederate soldiers and brothers. The ceremony will be conducted by officers and members of Katy Daffan Chapter, United daughters of the Confederacy of Denton. It is in commemoration of the Centennial year of the War Between the States, which is being observed nationally from 1961 through 1965. An interesting sidelight is that **John S. Bugg** enlisted in the Confederate army Oct. 22, 1861, exactly 100 years prior to the date of the local ceremony.

John S. Bugg moved to Cooke County from Tennessee in 1876 and settled on a farm seven miles northeast of Gainesville. He died and was buried in the community. Sometime later, his remains were disinterred and buried in Fairview Cemetery on a plot east of the present Cemetery Chapel. The burial places of his two brothers, who are to be memorialized, are not known to local descendants. They also hailed from Tennessee.

Several interesting facts are involved. For instance, **John S. Bugg** was the grandfather of Miss **Allie Bugg**, who resides near Gainesville with a brother, **John F. Bugg**, on property in the shadow of oil wells; and of **George W. Bugg** of Gainesville. Other grandchildren are Mrs. **Walter Proffer** of Houston and Mrs. **Clifford Donnelly** of Fort Worth. A great grandson of the Southern warrior is **John B. Bugg**, Gainesville merchant and a great grandson is **Larry John Bugg**, who is of

the 13th generation and the eighth of the family to bear the name of "John." The "family tree" dates back 1,600 years. Another great grandson is **George Bugg Jr.** and a great granddaughter is Mrs. **Mildred Burrow**, both of Gainesville. **Joe Bugg** is another great great grandson.

Mrs. **Ethel Mae Berry**, division chairman for marking Confederate graves, State of New Mexico, will be in Gainesville to represent Maj. Trevanion T. Teel Chapter No. 2277 UDC, Albuquerque, N. M. She is a granddaughter of **Nancy Ann Bugg Briggs**, who is buried in Fairview Cemetery, Gainesville. Both lived formerly at San Antonio. **Ethel Mae Berry** is a great granddaughter of Confederate **John S. Bugg**. All descendants of the persons to be memorialized and friends of the numerous families are invited and encouraged to attend the ceremony.

Local Cattlemen Ired by Theft Will Organize Monday Oct. 23, 1961

Cooke County cattlemen and ranchers, aroused by a reported increase in thefts of cattle in the area in recent weeks, are making plans for the organization of an Anti-Cattle Theft Assn. A meeting has been called by **William T. Bonner** and Judge **F. W. Fischer** for 7:30 p. m. Thursday Oct 26 in the Chamber of Commerce assembly room. All persons using or dealing in cattle are invited and urged to attend. Judge Fischer stated that all such persons will be encouraged to remain on the alert for men whose actions might suggest that they are "casing" premises for the purpose of returning later to steal cattle. Making notes might come in handy in the event thefts occur. Judge Fletcher revealed that four registered Hereford cows were stolen one night last week from a farm near Era and that quite a number of cattle have been missing in the county.

Levine Building Has Colorful

Background Thursday Oct. 26, 1961

The recent purchase by **Ben Levine** of the building he has leased at 115 W. California St. for the past 23 years brings back memories of a colorful era in Gainesville. Levine, who operated his department store in the building since 1938, bought the property from Mrs. **Helen Sweet Payne** of Clayton, Mo. She is a descendant of **James Hosapple**, the proprietor of a well known drinking establishment in the building before the turn of the century.

The physical property, according to available records, has an illustrious history. The site, known as the west one half of lot 1, block 2 of the original donation to the City of Gainesville, was a fraction of a 640 acre tract granted to **Mary E. Carpenter** and her heirs by order of Governor **E. M. Pease** on May 31, 1851. A large part of the present town-site was carved from this tract. Records show that **William T. Peery** sold to Gerson Schiff & Co. Jan. 5, 1878, the building now ostensibly the same as purchased by Levine. **Gerson Schiff** and **Bernhard Sommers** apparently hailed from Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. When they purchased the building at the corner of N. Commerce and W. California St., the firm was listed as G. Schiff & Co.

City directories of that period indicate that the firm became Schiff Sommer & Co. with **John P. Hird** an associate. Page 101 of a Gainesville City Directory of 1887, reveals this listing "Schiff Sommer & Co. (**Gerson Schiff, Bernhard Sommer, John P. Hird**), wholesale and retail dry goods, clothing, hats, caps, furnishing goods, boots, shoes, notions, millinery, fancy goods, carpets, matting, oil cloth, 11-13-15 W. California St., corner of N. Dye St., north side Square."

History shows that Schiff Sommer & Co. had built the then enormous three story brick structure at the corners of North Dixon and Broadway, one block to Commerce St.

thence south on Commerce for some distance. (Now better known as the Stark Bldg.)

On March 1, 1884 Schiff & Sommer sold a half interest of the now **Ben Levine** property to **John P. Hird** for \$10,000. The premises were then occupied by Schiff, Sommer & Co. while their 2 ½ acre floor space mercantile emporium was being completed. Surprisingly on April 28, 1887, G. Schiff and others sold the remaining half of the California St. property to **C. C. Hemming**, a pioneer banker for \$30,000. Amazingly, after 83 years, the property sold for \$30,000 to **Ben Levine** on Aug. 15, 1961. Cooke County records reveal that on Sep 24, 1888, Schiff Sommer & Co. sold to **James Hosapple** (frequently spelled **Holsapple**) the brick building for \$13,500.

Saloon Era Opens

Ho(l)sapple operated a saloon on the site. It was "rumored" in those days that galloping dominoes raced across the carpeted floors. In any event ear to ear gossip records interesting episodes. On Oct. 8, 1891 Mrs. **Jennie Hosapple** filed suit for divorce against **James Hosapple**, seeking a partition of real and personal property, alleging undue cruelty. Judgment was issued in the case on Nov. 19, 1891. Hosapple retained his business building. His wife got a residence and all of its contents, two lots, \$75 monthly for alimony and a reasonable contribution, according to his income, to help educate their daughter **Hallie**. Then on Oct. 20, 1897, Mrs. Hosapple filed a court paper seeking \$4,750 cash from her husband to release him from all demands including alimony.

Frances Hosapple became the second wife of James. He transferred the brick building to her on Sep. 30 1920. Upon moving to Sulphur, Okla. in May 21, 1925, he rented and leased the Gainesville property to **John Cohn**, a bachelor

merchant who ran "The Saint Louis Store". Cohn's sense of humor made him one of the most popular merchants of that generation. The property then passed from one descendant to another until **Ben Levine** became the owner. He plans to make marked improvements in the building in the future.

Picked Up Passing By by Jack Joyce
Nov. 1, 1961

Rayburn's Brief Marriage Is Recalled Here

The death this morning of **Sam Rayburn**, venerable speaker of the House of Representatives, brings back memories of his short-lived marriage to many Cooke County residents. Mr. Sam wed on Oct. 15, 1927 to Miss **Metze Jones**, member of a prominent Valley View family. The ceremony was in the First Methodist Church of Valley View with Dr. **Harrison Baker** - then pastor of the First Methodist Church here - officiating. The bride was given in marriage by her brother, the Hon. **Marvin Jones**, then Congressman from Amarillo. The late **Hubert H. Moss**, former Cooke County School superintendent, was an usher, and **Dan Flint Jr.** of Gainesville was the ring bearer. The Register of the day reported that "Little **Dan Flint Jr.**, dressed in a suit of black velvet, entered carrying the ring in the heart of the rose." Guests from throughout the state attended the ceremony. The marriage was dissolved after a few months, and Rayburn lived as a bachelor until his death.

More on this story may be found at:
http://www.valleyview1872.com/judge_jones.html

The Cross Timber Genealogical Society was saddened by the death of one of the founding members, Patty Tucker. We will all miss her contagious smile and

acknowledged all her contributions over the past 37 years.

Patricia May " Patti " Tucker

(May 15, 1945 - August 10, 2014)
Funeral service for Patricia May " Patti " Peterson Tucker are set for Thursday August 14, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Don Yeager officiating with burial to follow in the Fairview Cemetery. The family will receive friends on Wednesday August 13, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Geo. J. Carroll and Son Chapel. Patti passed away on August 10, 2014 in Denton, Tx.

Patti was born on May 15, 1945 in Jamestown, New York to Mayo Irving and Kathryn Curtiss Peterson. She graduated GHS Class of 1963, she then married Jerry Tucker on November 1, 1963 and they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary last year. Patti retired in 2011 after 25 years of service from the Cooke County Clerk's Office. Her hobbies were motorcycling, shopping and talking. She was devoted to her family.

Patti is survived by her husband Jerry Tucker, son David Tucker, daughter Deanna Tucker, grandson Chris Reeves, Megan Patterson and granddaughter Hailey Reeves, sister Sandra Nichols and her husband Robert, sisters in law Lucille Edmonds and her husband Chester, Becky Tucker, 4 nephews and 5 nieces. Pallbearers will be son David Tucker, grandson Chris Reeves, nephew Dan Tucker and friends Jim Hughes, Lewis Cavin and Steve Schmitz.

Patti was preceded in death by her parents, her in laws Carl " Bud " and Audrey Tucker and three brothers in law. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church Building Fund, Noah's Ark Animal Shelter or the charity of your choice. You may sign the on line registry at the funeral home.

Gerry the Elephant Story

I have no problem with admitting to being a fan of Gerry. I would expect to find all Cooke Countians are as well who are past the age of 40.



The Vern & Betty Brewer family with daughter Kathy on top of Gerry.

I recently put out the following information that I collected during research about the Gainesville Circus and in particular Gerry.

To all who has their roots embedded in Cooke County and they have now reached senior status then a fond memory would be of going to the Gainesville zoo and one of the favorite attraction was to see Gerry the Elephant. I can actually recall (though very young) of attending the Gainesville Community Circus and Gerry would perform there. The original Gerry would die much later from an unknown cause and eventually money was raised by school kids to purchase another elephant that was really small and came from Six Flags Over Texas which carried the name of Sis (Sissy). To folks further north this little elephant had to be Gerry II.

There is much history that will follow the life of this 2nd Gerry. Though our memories are of wonderful and special times of visits to the zoo there is sadness and tragedy to take place. The story will continue with animal cruelty and much suffering but as all good stories should end there comes a happier time which is not always the case but in this one it appears to be.

After Gerry II left the Frank Buck Zoo after the tragic death of Lee Rhodes a zoo keeper who was crushed by Gerry II after she was startled by an engine starting she was outcast by the Gainesville City Council and she went to Houston for awhile and then later to a El Paso Zoo which filmed her arrival and a video was shot of a trainer hitting her on the back legs which ended up in the hands of the media and the public outrage followed. Then she would be sent to the Elephant Sanctuary in TN where she is today.

I only skimmed this information as I gathered it up. There could also be added a story about when Gerry II was at Frank Buck Zoo there was an attempt to breed her so she was sent to a Fort Worth Zoo but she could never fall in love because the thought was that she didn't know at that time she was an elephant being raised in isolation for so long.

Here is some links to enjoy;

Gerry and the Circus

<http://www.ntxe-news.com/cgi-bin/artman/exec/view.cgi?archive=23&num=37127>

Gainesville Centennial 1950 which will show the original Gerry the Elephant.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5Z1sYjCTdk>

Gerry the Elephant to Gerry II (Sissy)

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1908&dat=19811015&id=rpYfAAAAIBAJ&sjid=TNQEAAAAIBAJ&pg=1451,1207065>

<http://parktimes.com/content/node/50>

<http://www.elephants.com/sissy/sissyBio.php>

Video of Sissy & Winkie

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/video/play; ylt=A2KIo9ezX9BTKRYAG677w8QF; ylu=X3oDMTByZWc0dGJtBHNIYwNzcgRzbGsDdmlkBHZ0aWQDBGdwb3MDMQ--?p=Gerry+II+%28Sissy%29+the+elephant&vid=5e1958f3b4f87b97aa4aaae40ad15674&l=2%3A30&turl=http%3A%2F%2Fts2.mm.bing.net%2Fth%3Fid%3D3DVN.608028753572399785%26pid%3D15.1&rurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DEkOgy2opAhl&tit=%3Cb%3ESissy%3C%2Fb%3E%2C+Winkie+and+%3Cb%3Ethe+%3C%2Fb%3EWater+Wagon&c=0&sigr=11a15t9b0&sig=11fjdhipi6&age=0&tt=b>

Worlds Strangest Circus

<http://blog.modernmechanix.com/worlds-strangest-circus-produced-by-amateurs/>

Circus

<http://www.texasescapes.com/MikeCoxTexasTales/258-Circus.htm>

A Circus Story

<http://thiselecticlife.com/2007/05/25/a-circus-story/>

Clown Town

<http://blog.modernmechanix.com/clown-town-texas/>

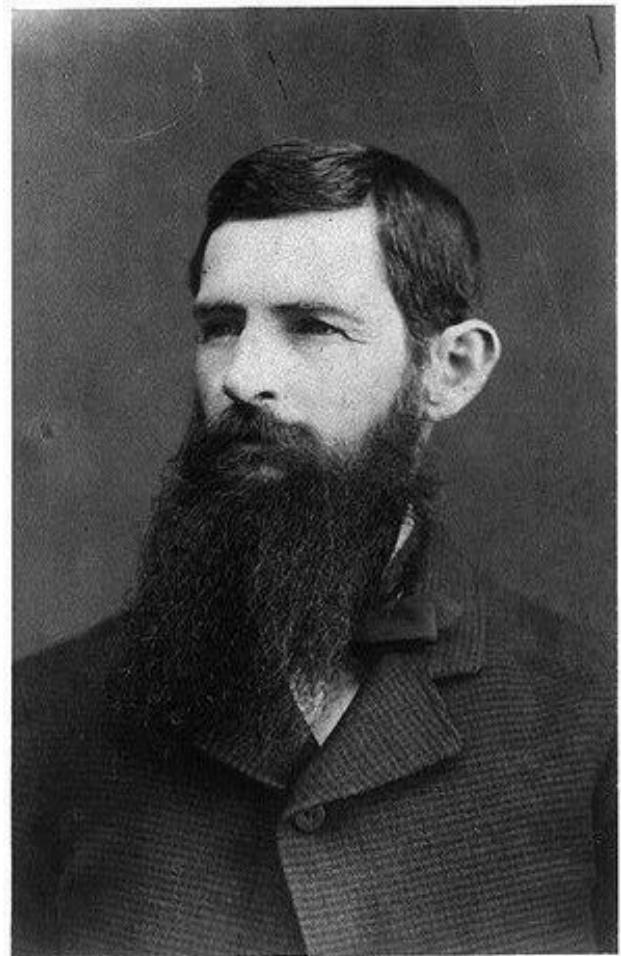
G.H. Ragsdale Historical Marker

Frontier naturalist George Henry Ragsdale will be honored Sunday with an official Texas historical marker at his gravesite in Fairview Cemetery.

Cooke County historians and nature lovers are encouraged to attend a ceremony Sunday noting the contributions of 19th century frontier naturalist and “ornithologist” George Henry Ragsdale (G.H. Ragsdale).

Ragsdale was honored with an official Texas historical marker at his gravesite in Fairview Cemetery.

Cooke County Judge John Roane was on hand to present the Certificate of Appreciation as the marker is unveiled by Gainesville council member Ward 1, Carolyn Hendricks.



G. H. Ragsdale

According to the designated marker,

“Tennessee native George Henry Ragsdale came to Cooke County in 1867. He was elected to three terms as county surveyor. By observations and a self-taught education, he became an expert naturalist, chiefly in ornithology, small mammals, fossils and geology. Ragsdale acquired hundreds of specimens and bird eggs, donating and selling many to the Smithsonian Institution. He published dozens of articles, contributed to major studies and was cited in other works.”

Ragsdale also published a column in the Gainesville Hesperian with advice on fauna, flora, geology and weather.

During the Sunday ceremony, Boy Scout Troop 668 from the first United Methodist Church presented the colors and were on hand to read the marker words. Lainey Knight sang “America the Beautiful.”

Ron Melugin, chair of the Cooke County Historical Commission, spoke on Ragsdale’s contribution to the world.

According to Stanley D. Casto of the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, “Ragsdale’s record of his accomplishments and aspirations lives today in his bibliography of nearly 100 titles, numerous unpublished manuscripts and essays and a voluminous correspondence with many of the great zoologists and naturalists of the 19th century.”

With a humble self-evaluation Ragsdale wrote, “I am a field naturalist of limited

education and means but the pursuit of science is both uplifting and beneficial.”

His love of nature enabled him to study the environment of Cooke County for 28 years. He died March 25, 1895.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL SERVICE
Hosted by the Lee-Bourland Camp
#1848 TSCV & the Red River Rose
Chapter #52 TSOCR

Fairview Cemetery - Gainesville, Texas



Posting of the Colors – Color Guard



Lieutenant James Menees Lindsay

James was born on 31 Dec 1835. He graduated from Cumberland Law School in his native Tennessee in 1857. He came to Gainesville,

Texas on his 22nd birthday. He was one of four lawyers in town when he put out his shingle.

In the spring of 1862 James became Lieutenant Lindsay in the Confederate Army, Co A 16th Texas Cavalry. The 16th was active on the west banks of the Mississippi River in the defense operations of Vicksburg with the June attack at Milliken's Bend Louisiana.

The 16th also was involved in action in Arkansas at Jenkin's Ferry on the Saline River when they successfully caught up with the retreating federal forces headed toward Camden, Arkansas after the battles of Mark's Mill and Poison Spring. In May of 1865 the 16th disbanded in Hempstead, Texas. James went back to Gainesville after the War. One of his many post war endeavors, he became a member of the United Confederate Veterans, Joseph E. Johnston Camp #119, in Gainesville, Texas.

His political & legal career included:

- 1) State legislator
- 2) Delegate to the 1866 State Constitutional Convention (to nullify the act of secession, declare slavery abolished & repudiate debts made in support of the Civil War
- 3) Member of the 1st city council after Gainesville was incorporated in 1873
- 4) Elected judge of the 16th Judicial District Court, served one term in 1874

Local committees included:

- 1) The formation of the "Poor House"
- 2) The board of trustees for young ladies seminaries
- 3) 1 of 13 directors on the Gainesville Board of Trade, which evolved into the Chamber of Commerce
- 4) This Board of Trade organized the Gainesville Agricultural & Livestock Fair Association to plan the county's 1st fair in 1891

Business endeavors included:

- 1) Vice President of Gainesville Gas & Coal Co., which installed the gas system for heating & lighting in Gainesville
- 2) Organized a private bank in partnership with C.C. Hemming which later became Gainesville National Bank, & James was President in 1882
- 3) James is given credit for having influenced Frederick Stevens, New York capitalist in financing the construction of the Denison & Pacific Railroad to Gainesville from Denison the "Katie Line".

JM Lindsay one of the largest land owners:

- 1) Donated lands for the right-of-way for the Katie Line and later the Santa Fe Railroad

2) 3500 acres of his west of Gainesville was sold to German Catholic colonists which became Lindsay, Texas

3) 6 acres donated 12 miles SW of Gainesville for a school & store which became Era, Texas

4) Donated a plot of land for the erection of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

5) Advanced money & gave a lot of land south of his home to become JM Lindsay elementary school

6) Sold 8 acres of his land to Herman Kaden to start a vegetable garden which has become the business "Kaden, The Florist"

7) 1880 James was part of a nucleus of cowmen in the county who foresaw the end of free range & purchased choice range lands to the west & south of Gainesville. These lands were fenced with barbed wire from Illinois. The first 10 spools of barbed wire sold in Texas, were bought in a Gainesville hardware store.

All of these thrifty investments and generous donations have contributed to his legacy as a significant civic leader until his death in May of 1919.



Private William Frederick Newton

William Frederick Newton was born in Cane Hill, Arkansas, December 11, 1842, and is a son of Charles G. and Mary H. (Bristol) Newton.

William F. Newton is the third child of five children born to his parents. When William was 5 years old his family moved to Texas in 1847, settling at Cedar Springs, Dallas county.

At the age of nineteen he would enlist in Company A, Harp's regiment, Thirty-first dismounted cavalry, Confederate army. In June, 1862, he went into active service, receiving orders to report at Fort Smith, Arkansas. From there he went into southwest Missouri, continually skirmishing and exchanging shots with the Federals, and very frequently came into contact with the Pinn Indians. He was engaged in the battle of Newtonia, and after retreating to Fort Smith his regiment went into winter quarters near that place, naming it Camp Rone.

He was there taken sick and after convalescing there he was detailed as ward master in the hospitals at Fort Smith, and after a few weeks' service in this capacity he rejoined his command at Karmish, Indian Territory, and went from there with his command to Louisiana.

Being a fine mechanic he was detailed to make bridges, afterward engaged in rebuilding old Fort De Rusia, and received there after twenty

months' service, his first furlough. At the expiration of his furlough he was ordered to report to Major Douglas, chief engineer trans-Mississippi department, headquarters at Shreveport, Louisiana, where he served in the government shops until the close of the war.

After the war he went to Dallas, Texas, engaged in the manufacture of carriages, buggies, wagons, etc., with his father, under the firm name of C. G. Newton & Son, but by mutual consent, the firm dissolved in 1869.

William F. Newton married Miss Rufinah King, daughter of Finis King, and granddaughter of Samuel King, who was one of the founders of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. After marrying he bought and improved a place at Ovilla, Ellis county, Texas, but after twelve months he sold out and moved back to Dallas and again engaged in business. Here he lost by death his loving and devoted wife.

In 1872 he moved with his brother, C. S. Newton, to the newly founded town of Valley View, Cooke county, where they engaged in farming and stock raising. They also build a steam flouring mill and saw mill at Valley View, which business they ran successfully for ten years. He was considered an inventor of sorts and figured out a way to operate the flour and saw mill using the same steam engine.

The second marriage of William took place June 10, 1877, to Miss Lizzie Kendall, daughter of Captain W. A. Kendall, a leading citizen of Pilot Point, Denton county, Texas, who represented his county in the legislature three sessions. His union with Miss Kendall was blessed with three children – Walter K., Bontecou and Julia Virginia, a family of bright and interesting children.

The education of his children was very important to William and in 1887 he moved to Gainesville so the children might receive a better education. William operated a machine shop in Gainesville. William is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and he and his wife were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, in which they are both held in high esteem.

William Frederick Newton, died 4/15/1915, buried Fairview Cemetery, Gainesville, Cooke County, TX



Private William Owen Davis

William Owen Davis was the fifth of ten children by Lewis Franklin Davis and his wife Elizabeth Ann Pittman. Lewis was a farmer in Franklin, GA on 26 Feb 1847 when his son William was born. I did not find much of anything about William's early life. But it was the winter of his 16th year that he began his education of adulthood.

That is when he enlisted in the Confederate Army. He applied for a Texas Confederate Pension 1 Aug 1930 at 83 years old. His pension application states he served about 16 months after enlisting in the winter of 1863-1864 while Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's

Army of TN was in winter quarters at Dalton, GA. William served with this army until Gen. Johnston's surrender at the Bennett's farm northwest of Durham, NC on 26 April 1865. He identified his rank & unit to be Private Co K 56th GA Vol Inf, Cumming's Brigade, Stevenson's Division, Johnston's Army of TN.

I imagine he went back to Georgia after the war to continue his self-taught education, because he was admitted to the Georgia State Bar early in 1870 at the age of 23.

We next find William in Denton, Texas in March of 1870. On 4 Jul 1870 he walked to Gainesville, Texas.

He is quoted in the book "The First 100 Years of Cooke County, by A. Morton Smith", as saying "I walked not because I did not have sufficient money to ride to Gainesville, but because I was so anxious to get away from Denton." He recalled Gainesville as being 200 miles from a railroad or a steamship line, and there were three other lawyers in town, C.C. Potter, W.G.T. Weaver and Judge J.M. Lindsay. These men were also confederate soldiers and all became members of the UCV Joseph E. Johnston Camp # 119 of Gainesville, TX which was chartered in 1891.

William must have left his heart back in Georgia though, because he went to Centralatchee, Georgia in his home county of Heard to marry Harriet Isabella Favor on 25 Sept 1873. He brought Harriet to Gainesville, where they had a daughter named Isabella Favor Davis in 1883.

Coming to Gainesville was the beginning of his long public service career which included from School Board member to arguing two cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1874 William was elected City Secretary. In late 1874 Gainesville citizens adopted

"City Manager" form of government which ended his Alderman membership on the second city council.

In March of 1881 at the age of 34 he was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Hon. J.M. Martin of the Texas 17th Congress. Later in November of 1882 he was elected to be Tx Senator from the 18th District (Grayson-Cooke Counties) for the 18th & 19th Congress of Tx until 1886. It was said he ranked among the first men on the floor of the Senate.

July 1885 his wife Harriet died. William at 39 married Anna Lee Underwood of Gainesville in February 1887. In 1891, William had a Queen Anne style residence at 505 S. Denton Street built for his family. The house still exists today with the Historical Marker in the front yard.

Anna was on the directors Board of Control for Gainesville's first municipal swimming pool opening August 1916.

In 1927 & 1928 William was elected to be a member of the "City Council" with Gainesville's new "City Manager" form of Government. At the age of 81 he was elected Mayor of Gainesville in 1928.

On the 5th of December 1941 at the age of 94 years William died of acute bronchitis.

During his funeral services news reached the group that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor.

October 1947, 6 2/3 acres of the W.O. Davis land tract 2 miles east of town became property of the Gainesville Broadcasting Co. which erected the KGAF radio tower & station.

Young farm boy, Private Confederate Soldier, husband, father, lawyer, and public servant,

William Owen Davis may be “gone but not forgotten.”

FOR SALE

The Cooke County Historical Commission has published Volume II “Capturing the Past For Keeps” available at the Morton Museum. This would make a wonderful Christmas present for family members interested in Cooke County history.

‘Norm’s Yarn’

While at Snyder, Texas I saw this monument of a White Buffalo on the Scurry County Courthouse lawn. I found the story to be interesting and wanted to share.



J. Wright Mooar took the white buffalo on Oct. 7, 1876. Site of the kill was Deep Creek, a stream the town of Snyder eventually grew up around.

At the time, the greatest buffalo hunt in recorded history was in progress. The animals were killed primarily for their hides, which were used for many things. The carcass was left to rot on the plains, the bones bleaching in the sun.

Said to have killed 22,000 buffalo from 1870 to 1880, Mooar was born on Aug. 10, 1851 in Vermont. He came to Texas 1873 with his brother, John Webb Mooar.



J. W. Mooar

He had started his career colorlessly enough as a street car conductor in Chicago. He also worked as a carpenter and spent a brief time working for the Army in Kansas as a wood cutter.

Mooar first began killing buffalo to supply the Army with meat. When demand ran high, he could get a quarter a pound for buffalo meat. In slack times, the market dropped to a nickel a pound.

In 1876, the same year he took the white buffalo, he sold 62,000 pounds of meat at Fort Griffin. He made only seven-and-a-half cents a pound on that deal, but netted \$12,000 for all the hides.

The Indians considered the white buffalo to be sacred and would not kill one. But Mooar was not the superstitious type.

The white buffalo in downtown Snyder is eight feet long and five-and-a-half feet high at the shoulder. Though large as some buffalo were in real life, the statue is said to be smaller than the bull Mooar killed.

(Story taken from Texas Tales by Mike Cox.)

Mooar, of course, skinned the white buffalo and tanned its hide. The hide still exists, still in the family of one of his descendants.

Buffalo hunters were not noted for placidness. Operating well beyond the settlements, they enforced their own law or did without.

The same year Mooar killed the white buffalo, Jim, Jeff and Ben Webb moved to the Deep Creek country from Austin. They found the hunting good, but they had left their families back in Central Texas and missed them.

Deciding to go fetch their kinfolks, they left the buffalo hunting grounds and rode down the Colorado to Austin. When they returned to their camp with their families, they got a grim welcome. As they approached, they saw a body swinging in the breeze at the end of a rope tied to one of the rare trees sturdy enough to hang a man from.

Nearby, a group of buffalo hunters had gotten drunk and were working on getting drunker. As the Webb boys got the story, the recently departed fellow had killed in a man while arguing over cards.

The victim's friends, convening a kangaroo court, sentenced the killer to death by firing squad. But being too drunk to aim straight, they had only wounded the condemned man. To put him out of his misery, they had strung him up.

Not wanting their families to be any more traumatized than they already were, the Webbs asked their colleagues to cut down the body. The hunters complied, burying him near the man he had killed.

Though the Comanches gladly would have scalped Mooar if they could have gotten their hands on him, the buffalo hunter lived to be 89. To his dying day, he never felt it necessary to apologize for helping to bring a species to near extinction.



Congratulations are in order for the Sivells Bend United Methodist Church on receipt of the above pictured historical marker. The church is located on FR1201 in Sivells Bend.

The congregation, was formed in 1868 as the Sivells Bend Methodist Episcopal Church.

The first church facility was in a two story building located on two acres deeded to church trustees by the Gunter Brothers in 1880. For many years the church served its members with families teaching Sunday school as the congregation did not have an assigned pastor.

In 1910, W.W Gunter deeded the current site to the congregation and services have been held continuously in the white frame structure ever since.

The congregation shared pastors with other area churches but has had its own pastors since 1950.

The congregation is very active in the community. Support for local charities, the Medal of Honor Park and serving families in need continues to be the focus of the members. The mission support is not limited to local needs as the congregation has provided support for tornado victims in the USA, overseas support for children's

orphanages and schools and for missionaries such as Wycliff Bible translators around the world.

Today, the classic white structure remains as the home of the congregation. Pastor Roslyn Eugster conducts services on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays at 9 a.m. Members still gather before and after services as those before them to greet visitors and new members share the news, and activities of the week. The Sunday services are truly a throwback to a simpler time.

(Partial use of story that appeared in the Gainesville Daily Register, Oct. 22, 2014)

Ending Comments

Another year is rapidly coming to a close. How quickly it seems time is rushing by and it is easy to overlook so many of the things we should truly be thankful for. As I write this it is just past the time we sat at the table for Thanksgiving and paused to reflect upon all the blessings we had this past year. I for one am a very blessed man.

As we near the Christmas season may we have peace and feel the love that has been freely given to each of us. Have a happy and prosperous 2015. Your editor: Norman L. Newton

