

Concord Cemetery holds dedication

By Sharron Randall
Reporter

of descendants of those interred at Concord Cemetery plus noted community leaders gathered at 2 p.m. at the over 110-year old cemetery on Hwy. 7 and CR 1030 to unveil the Texas Historical Cemetery

Marker.

The event was the result of over four years of cooperative effort on the parts of the Concord Cemetery Association and the Houston County Commission.

Margaret Wood, president of the association welcomed visitors and introduced special guest: Eliza Bishop, Marker Chair, Maxine Moore, HCHC

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Despite several special community happenings, which occurred in the East Texas area on Saturday, Oct. 20, dozens



(Left L-R) Concord Cemetery Association members Morris Wood and Charles Frizzle unveil the Texas Cemetery Historical Marker which was dedicated in a ceremony of Saturday, Oct. 20. (Right) Miss Eliza Bishop, county historian and former Houston County Historical Commis-

sion Marker chairman stands beside the county's newest designated historical cemetery marker/ medallion. Concord Cemetery is located about 7.5 miles from 'Crockett on CR 1030, Hwy. 7 east.

Photos by Sharron Randall

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Chair, Rev. Jim Tom Ainsworth, Presbyterian minister and president of SHARE and speaker for the occasion, Houston County Judge Lonnie Hunt.

Judge Hunt's late wife Linda Bears Hunt was the great-granddaughter of Isaiah Blockmon who's buried at Concord Cemetery. "Concord comes from the Latin word 'concordia,' which means state of agreement- an appropriate name for this cemetery," he said as he reviewed the history of the peaceful and wooded acreage.

Then he recognized Miss Bishop, 87, and thanked her for her dedication in preserving and promoting the local heritage. Mrs. Wood praised, "We couldn't have accomplished this without Miss Eliza!"

He also acknowledged the presence of historian, orator and former Houston County Judge Chris von Doenhoff, whose ancestor A.A. Aldridge played an important role in the establishment and development of Crockett and Houston County and whose great, great grandfather, James Dubois Christopher, lies at rest in Concord Cemetery.

Judge Hunt mentioned some of the dozens of surnames engraved on the headstones of those buried at Concord, commended all the families' contributions to the nation, state, and communities in the county, and concluded, "And the descendants are still contributing today by helping to preserve local history and holding assemblies like today's."

Before Rev. Ainsworth offered the invocation, he related that Samuel Thompson came to the area in 1875 and held church services in his own home until Concord Presbyterian Church was built near the cemetery site.

Later, the church donated three acres for a cemetery and in 1895, J.C. Dudley became the first person to be buried in the serene environment.

Before association members Morris Wood and Charles Frizzell unveiled the historical memorial, Miss Bishop gave

the Marker report and thanked the association for "sharing this occasion."

Sandra Hughes, Hunt, and Herb Blackmon sang a capella "Shall We Gather at the River" while Bill May entertained the audience with a solo, "That Old Porch Swing" before leading the congregation in singing "Amazing Grace."

Cleburne Randall, 93 1/2, of Crockett, the oldest living association member proffered the benediction before refreshments were served.

The majority of those attending the dedication ceremony were connected to an early descendant of the Concord Community buried there. Fran Welch drove Miss Bishop to the ceremony, Alton Moore, volunteer of Houston County Visitor Center/ Museum accompanied his wife, and Dewitt Rains owner of land adjacent to the cemetery dropped by.

Association members were May of Willis, the Wilson families of Marge and Llyod, Carrel and Tiny, Sandra, and Buddy, and Jen, who traveled the farthest from Longmont, Colo.

Members of the Satterwhite and Glen families attended: Glen Harrison of Crockett, Betty Maxwell of Grapeland, Chris, Laura, Carrie and Emma Dobbs of Tomball and Carmen Dobbs of Dallas all represented Charm Dobbs,

founder of the present cemetery association.

Matriarch Cora Frizzell, her granddaughter Cindy Robran and son Charles Frizzell, all of Crockett, are regular participants of cemetery homecomings and maintenance.

Representing the Randall family were James and Sharon Randall, the Wood family, Sandra Hughes and mother-daughter duo, Thelma and Tina Osteen, and of course, nonagenarian C.C. Randall.

H. Blackmon, Judge Hunt, Jane Lenderman, Peggy Bewley and Marjorie Young visited the gravesites of family members, while Larry and Katherine Christopher, Sally Christopher and members of R.C. Chris von Doenhoff's family viewed the tombstones of their great-grandfathers.

Coming from Fort Worth for the first time were Jane Stanley Faulkner and David Faulkner of Fort Worth and their daughter Becky Davis. Mrs. Faulkner is looking for information concerning the Lancaster family. Her mother and half-sister are buried at Concord (Sims).

For those wishing to donate for the upkeep of Concord Cemetery, send check to: Concord Cemetery Association, Attn: Margaret Wood, 2751 CR 4020, Crockett Tx 75835. The next association meeting and homecoming will be held the last Saturday April 2008.

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Saving Time in the U.S. Beginning in 2007, DST will begin on the second Sunday in March and end the first Sunday in November.

When in the morning?

In the U.S., clocks change at 2 a.m. local time.

In spring, clocks spring forward from 1:59 a.m. to 3 a.m.; in fall, clocks fall back from 1:59 a.m. to 1 a.m.

In the EU, clocks change at 1 a.m. Universal Time.

In spring, clocks spring forward from 12:59 a.m. to 2 a.m.; in fall, clocks fall back from 1:59 a.m. to 1 a.m.

In the U.S., 2 a.m. was originally chosen as the changeover time because it

confusing. It is early enough that the entire continental U.S. switches by daybreak, and the changeover occurs before most early shift workers and early churchgoers are affected.

A safety reminder

Many fire departments encourage people to change the batteries in their smoke detectors when they change their clocks because Daylight Saving Time provides a convenient reminder.

A working smoke detector more than doubles a person's chances of surviving a home fire. According to authorities more than 90 percent of homes in the United States have smoke detectors, but one-third