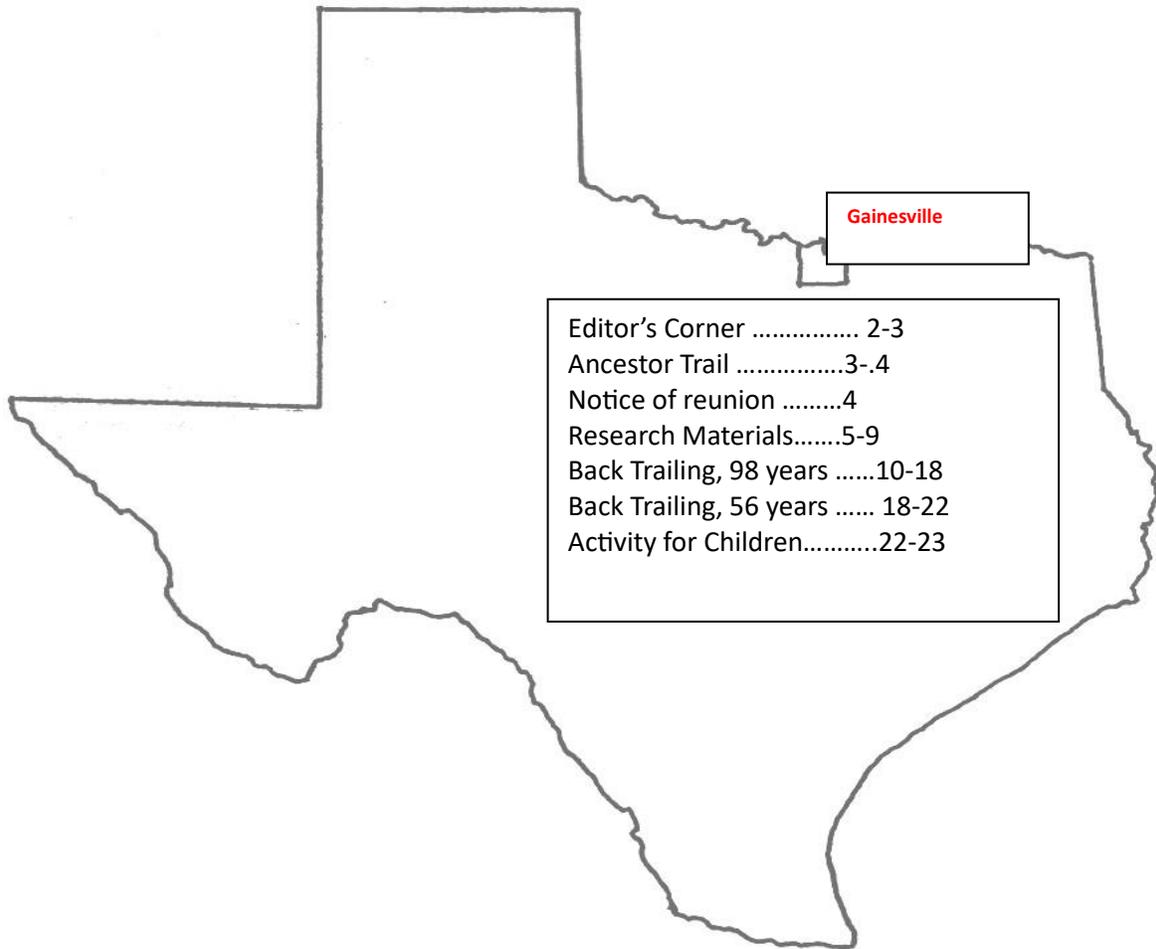


# CROSS TIMBERS POST

Editor: Shana Powell



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Cooke County Website: <http://txgenwebcounties.org/cooke/>

## June 2023

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 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 1<sup>st</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> the next year. All correspondence and material relative to the Cross Timbers Post should be directed to: The Editor, P.O. Box 197, Gainesville, Texas 76241-0197.

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**

The days are getting longer and summer will be here before we know it. But, for a brief shining moment we have spring and mild weather. It is that point in the year when you feel like you have so much more time to get things done. For a lot of people, it also means summer trips, maybe visits to ancestral homes or possibly a chance to attend a family reunion. However, your summer goes, I hope it will be filled with lots of chances for you to work on your genealogy.

Changes may be coming to the genealogical society in the future. The officers are considering changing our meeting location to a site where we would have internet access and the opportunity to expand the programs that we could offer. We may also change our meeting day. Finally, we are examining ways to become more visible in the county and to

hopefully reach out to younger people and possibly into the schools. We will keep the members up to date when any decisions are made. If you have any suggestions for programs/topics that you would like to see covered or projects for the genealogical society, please reach out to one of the officers.

I will leave you with this quote, "only a genealogist views a step backwards as progress."

I hope you enjoy this June issue of the Cross Timbers Post.

Regards, Shana Powell, Editor

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### **Meeting Schedules**

We do not meet in July. As our meeting schedules may be changing, please watch for emails and notices in the paper.

All the meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m.

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

Regards,  
Shana Powell

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A special thank you to Darlene Denton for the speakers that she arranged for the society during the fall of 2022 and spring of 2023.

### **Following the Ancestor Trail:**

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

**MUENSTER LIBRARY,**  
418 No. Elm, Muenster, TX

**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

**MORTON MUSEUM of COOKE COUNTY**

210 South Dixon, Gainesville, Texas  
Historical people in Cooke County, various books

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

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

.....  
**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

.....  
**First Presbyterian Church**

401 So. Denton                    940-665-5153  
Started 1878                      Archives

**St. Mary’s Catholic Church**

825 No. Weaver                    940-665-5395  
Started 1879

\*\*\*\*\*

**Speaking of reunions, our newest member, Betty Pitchford, sent in the following announcement: “PACE SOCIETY OF AMERICA, Four Points by Sheraton, Amarillo, Texas, June 8-10, 2023. PACE is a very old immigrant family (1611); this invitation is open to anyone born Pace or who has an extended connection to a Pace line. Members from several different states usually attend. We welcome you. Please see below for additional details.”**



going back to the 1850s which means if your ancestor had cattle that were branded (which they probably were), they recorded that brand in the courthouse. That way if something happened to one of the cows, say it was stolen, they could prove it was theirs. But this also allows you to see when an ancestor might first have arrived in a community as well as the number of the livestock they owned at any given time.

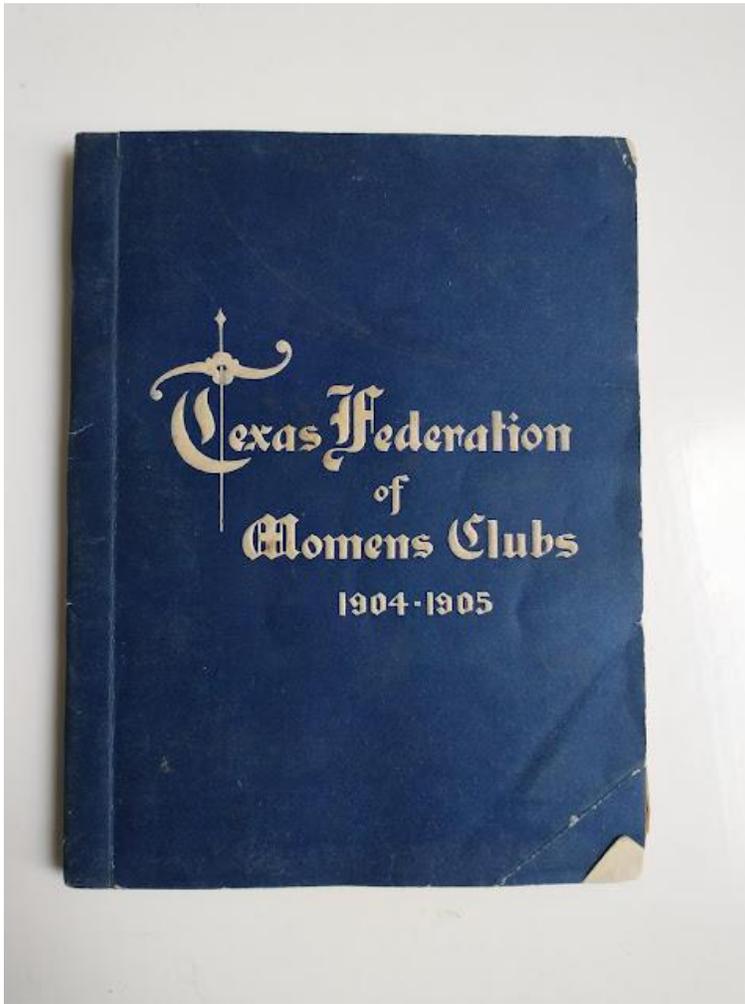
At the Courthouse, they also have Commissioners Minutes going back to 1850, military, civil, criminal, guardianships and election results. Most, if not all, have been digitized. They also have old Optometry and dentists license records from the early 1900s. They stopped recording them in 1993. You had to file a copy of your medical license to practice here which is the reason for the Optometry and dentist licenses, though they also have licenses from other areas.

I encourage you to look at organizational records. You might find some wonderful highlights in some of those. Cemetery association records, P.T.A., Mother's organizations, Retired Teachers, quilt clubs – the list goes on of groups you might check. For Fairview cemetery in Gainesville, Municipal Judge Chris Cypert has a full copy of the cemetery association minutes.

You might not think of genealogical material coming from the Fire department but in the early days of volunteer fire departments and, possibly even today, the firemen had to fill out detailed questionnaires about themselves that can provide a wealth of information. If you had an ancestor who was a fireman in Gainesville, feel free to get in touch with me as I have many of those records.

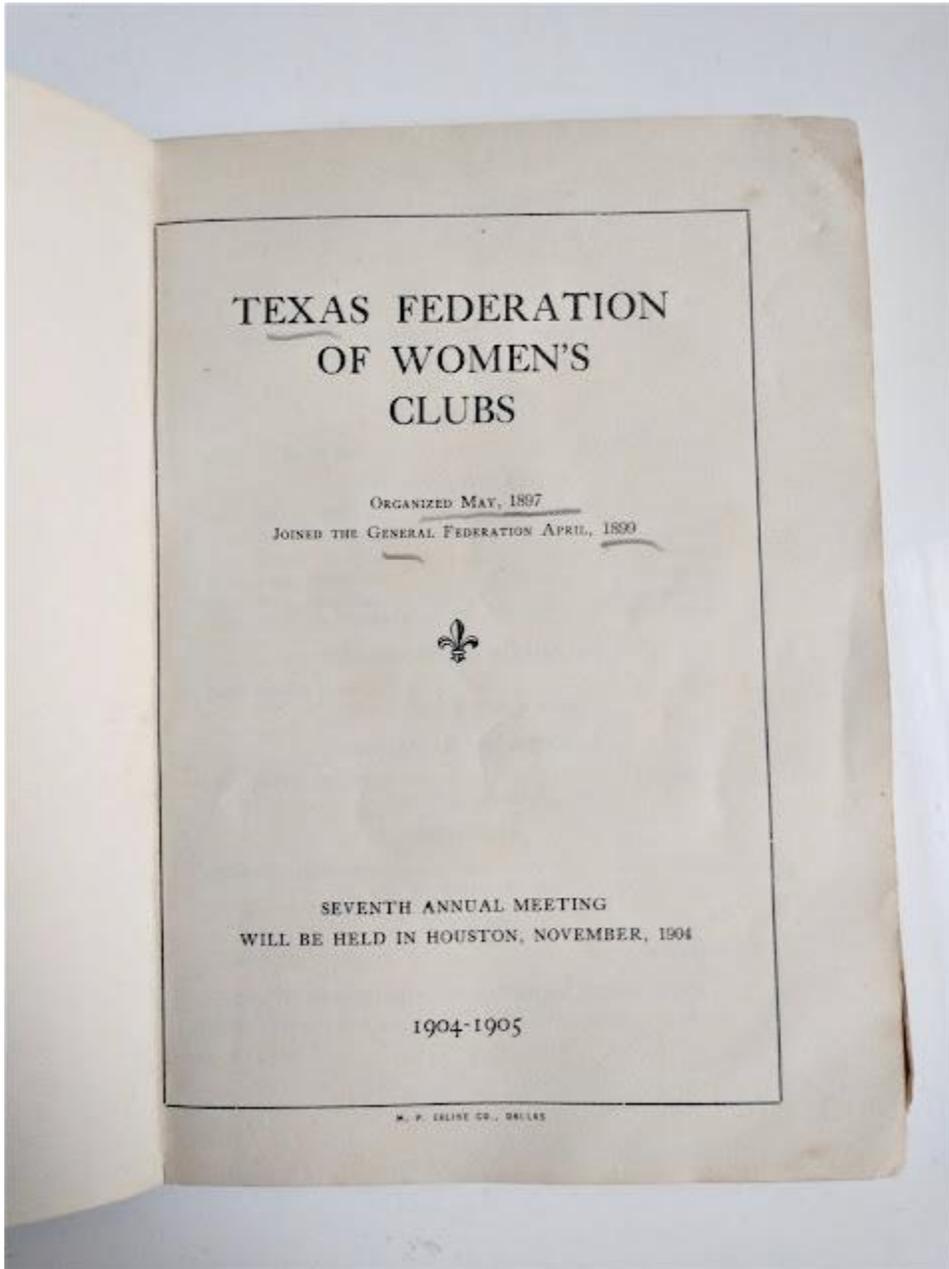
Also do not overlook the Home Extension Office. In this county, there are records going back to the 1930s but in other areas those records could go back much further. They can be a good source for tracking women and can give you an insight into what life might have been like for your female ancestors living in rural areas. Phyllis Griffin in the County Extension office stated that the clubs in the county still produce calendars/booklets and most have copies from long ago. She also has historical albums from the Soroptimist club, a women's organization in Gainesville, which was chartered many decades ago.

The Morton Museum of Cooke County has minutes from different organizations as well that might be worth checking into.

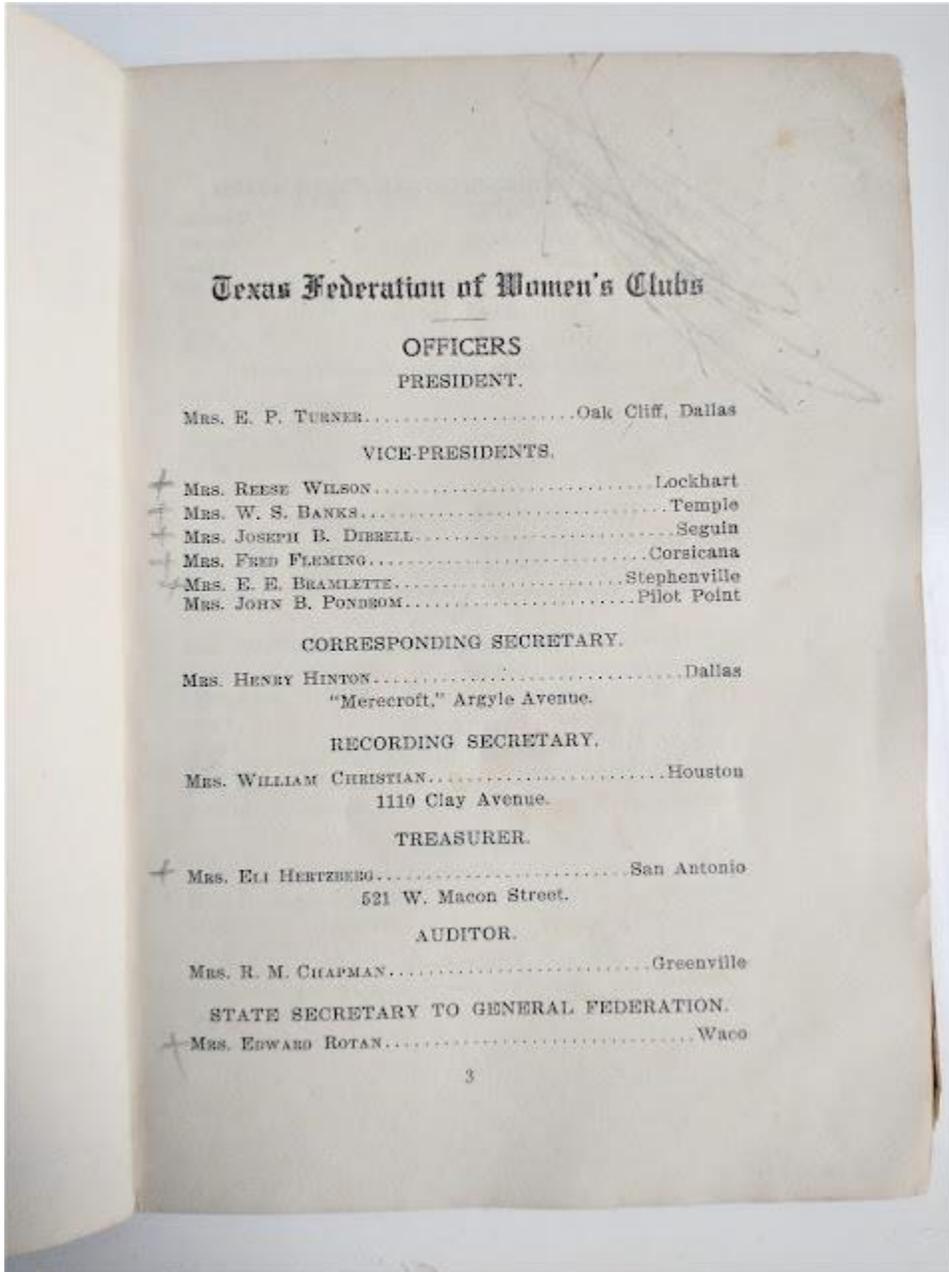


“The Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs, a nonprofit organization, is the largest voluntary association of women in the state. Its purpose is to combine the efforts of women’s clubs for improvements in education, natural resource conservation, home life, public affairs, the arts, and Texas heritage. The organization was organized in 1897, when Waco issued a call to literary clubs of the state to meet in Waco to consider the advantages of a state organization. Delegates from eighteen clubs met and formed the Texas Federation of Literary Clubs. When the group convened in 1898, the members agreed to work for the establishment of public libraries. At least 70 percent of the public libraries in the state were founded through the assistance if Texas women’s clubs (including the one in Cooke County). In 1899 the Texas group joined the General Federation of Women’s Clubs and changed its name to the Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs.” From an article by Megan Seaholm in the Handbook produced by the Texas State Historical Association.

The photograph above shows the cover of one of the annuals of the organization. I have also included the first couple of pages so you can get an idea of what is included in the volume. Members from Gainesville appear later in the volume. If you had female ancestors living in any part of the state you might find them listed in this publication. If any of you would like to see the full volume just email me and I will send it to you in an attachment.



Texas Federation of Women's Clubs  
 Organized May 1897  
 Joined the General Federation April 1899  
 Seventh Annual Meeting will be held in Houston, November 1904



I hope some of the above suggestions may help you in your research.

Submitted by Shana Powell



**E. D. White**, local agent for the American Railway Express Company, began his career as an expressman thirty-seven years ago today, or on duty July 1, 1888. He served first under **A. H. Gardner**, father of Mrs. **Hugh Hamilton** and Mrs. **W. S. Moore** of the city. Mr. Gardner was joint agent for the Pacific and Wells Fargo Express companies and they occupied the building now used by the Acme Tailoring company on East California street.

Oklahoma Territory had just been opened for settlement that spring and there was a demand for all kinds of supplies in that section. Barrels of sugar, flour, salt, and vinegar, plows, wagons, cultivators, cook stoves, ice by the ton and all manner of commodities moved by express.

"I had always heard of Texas as being wild and wooly," Mr. White said to a Register reporter. "Two murders and one suicide my first week in town, seemed to confirm the report. My pay was thirty dollars a month and I went to bed three times every night, as I not only worked all day but had night trains at 11 and 3 o'clock.

"The late Dr. **Black** was considered about the most handsome man in Gainesville those days. He was very erect, weighed about 200 pounds, had a heavy black beard, was always neatly dressed, and wore a high silk hat."

"**George Womack** was a slender young fellow and making a reputation for fearlessness as a deputy sheriff. (Mr. Womack later served several terms as sheriff of Cooke county.)

After three months here, I spent nearly eleven years at various other points in Texas and Louisiana, returning here the second time (as agent) on November 13, 1899 and have been continually, except for an 8 months leave of absence during the world war for the army Y. M. C. A. work."

Quite a change has taken place in express transportation in over a third of a century, according to Mr. White. Whereas at the time he entered the game there were some ten or twelve express companies operating on different railroad systems, these were reduced to four principal companies after the beginning of the world war, at which time they were merged into the American Railway Express Company by request of the government in the interest of greater efficiency of service and more economical operation.

#### Splendid Citizens

Mr. White and his estimable wife are looked upon as some of the finest citizens residing in Gainesville. They are vitally interested in religious welfare, being active workers in the Dixon street Christian church.

#### **Happenings of the Day: New Branch Library in Lemmons Community** Wed. July 8, 1925

A new branch of the Cooke County Free Library System has been established at the home of Miss **Minnie Johnson** in the Lemmons community near Burns according to Miss **Lillian Gunter**, county librarian. Miss Johnson will be in charge of the library which will remain open each evening from supper

to bedtime and also on Saturday afternoon. The branch has been supplied with 135 new volumes of interesting literature. The library will supply the Lemmons and Burns and adjacent communities.

### **Happenings of the Day: County Superintendent Boosting For Schools** Thurs. July 9, 1925

County Superintendent **John S. Hardy** is busily engaged in a campaign for better rural schools in Cooke county and has issued a neat circular showing the new building at Hays. The structure contains five rooms including a model work room, an auditorium 24 X 62, hallways and ample cloak room. It is modernly equipped and cost approximately \$6,000.

The citizens of Callisburg are to vote soon on a proposed \$5,000 bond issue for the erection of a similar school and letters are being written to the voters of that district urging them to take steps in the direction of progress and ample provision for the education of their children.

### **War Veterans Name Committees** Thurs. July 16, 1925

Committees to have charge of the arrangements for the reunion of the Machine Gun Company, 142nd Infantry, American Expeditionary Forces, have been named and plans are progressing nicely.

The reunion will be held at the City Park, September 6, 7, and 8 and a field range for cooking, cook tents, and blankets has been secured for the "buddies" and a great time is assured every machine gunner.

The committees for the affairs have been named as follows:

Finance – **William H. Tyler**, chairman; **W. W. Emerson**, **Bert H. Davis**, **Willie C. Blankenship**, **Asa Findley**

Commissary – **Charles Ruwaldt**, chairman; **William Baines**, **Burney Reeves**, **Sam Kemplin**, **Ben T. Rogers**, **C. C. Henderson**, **Fred Martin**, and **Allen Gray**

Quartermaster – **William C. Culp**, chairman; **Jake Broadwell**, **Ed Lark**, **Lacy Fleenor**, **Robert Stacks**, **John V. Barry**, **Charles D. Mackey**, and **Murphy Wiltshire**

Transportation and Parade – **J. C. O'Brien**, chairman; **James Bush**, **Henry Kirchenbauer**, **Virgil I. Raynor**

Entertainment – **Arthur Herrman**, chairman; **Carl Chandler**, **Emery Horn**, **Hugh Kess**, and **William Raynor**

Publicity – **S. B. Helsey**, 605 West Heard St., Cleburne, chairman: **William Parrish** and **Frank Dustin**

Relatives of any former member of the Gainesville Machine Gun Company are requested to write to Mr. Helsey of Cleburne or **Bert H. Davis**, Gainesville, giving addresses of the veterans not living in Cooke county at this time, so they can be notified to be present for the reunion.

### **Dr. Carrie Weaver Smith Ousted From Training School** Fri. July 17, 1925

Austin, July 17 (by Associated Press) – Dr. **Carrie Weaver Smith**, who was replaced by Mrs. **Agnes Stephens** as superintendent of the Girls Training School at Gainesville, did not get a vote at the meeting of the Board of Control late Thursday it was learned today. Dr. Smith's office will expire Sept. 1.

During 1924 it was learned at the Board of Control's office that it cost an average of more than \$100 a month to support each girl at the Girls Training School and during the past 10 months, it cost an average of \$75.85, records show. Only 78 girls were inmates during June.

**R. B. Walthall**, member of the board, said that the board members hoped to increase the number of girls at the school, which it was learned Dr. Smith opposed. The board members believe that the expense per capita can be greatly decreased as the Gainesville institution's expenses have been far in excess of the other 17 eleemosynary institutions.

Mrs. Stephens is a widow and has several grown children. She taught a number of years in the Boys State Juvenile School at Gatesville.

### **Still Is Taken by Sheriff** Fri. July 31, 1925

Did you ever see a "Ford Special" still?

Well, Sheriff **M. E. Elliott** has one in his office at the courthouse, as a result of a raid made by his department Thursday on a farm in the Walnut Bend vicinity.

The sheriff explains that the still gets its cognomen "Ford Special" from the fact that a Ford radiator cap adorns one of its spouts.

The sheriff and his deputies were in the Walnut Bend community Thursday, armed with a search warrant for property stolen in connection with the robbery of the **W. G. Scott** store of Sivells Bend Wednesday night and while digging in a quantity of oats in a barn, the sheriff ran across the still, a fifteen gallon copper affair.

The still is in two sections, and both were found in the grain by the officers. He failed to discover any of the property stolen from the Scott store, but also uprooted a large gasoline can, half full of gasoline, which had recently been stolen from **Andy Allen**, a farmer residing in the vicinity.

### **Many Transfers to Local Schools** Mon. August 3, 1925

One hundred and five transfers of students from common school districts of Cooke county to the Gainesville district for school purposes, have been made by County Superintendent of Schools **John S. Hardy**, he announced Monday morning, last Friday having been the first date on which such transfers could be made.

The figures indicate that more than one hundred students from rural districts will attend the local schools during the ensuing term, the number being an increase of about fifteen per cent over the number issued last year.

Transfers from districts to others over the county, including the above named, totaled 425, figures compiled in the superintendent's office show.

Additional transfers for high school purposes only can be made later by the county school board under an emergency transfer ruling, Mr. Hardy stated, making the number of probable students attending local schools show a still greater increase.

### **Happenings of the Day: City Camp Grounds Had Full House Thursday** Fri. August 14, 1925

The free camping grounds at the city park had a full house Thursday night with every available camping space being taken by tourists. The group resembled a huge caravan and many unique features marked the assembly. One tourist had pitched his tent and had an American flag hoisted above the shelter. Another tourist was entertaining the entire group by playing selections on a band saw. Several tourists declared that Gainesville had the best campgrounds they had ever seen and the best water they had ever tasted.

### **Wonderful Old Printing Press Goes to Rest in a Fiery Furnace** Thurs. August 20, 1925

An old Campbell printing press that had seen forty years or more of active service in at least two newspaper offices in Gainesville, has sounded the familiar "30" which is the "end" in newspaper procedure and is now being reduced to scrap iron that will feed the hungry maw of a fiery furnace at the plant of the Gainesville Iron Foundry.

On this machine, which was known as a 2-page flatbed press, had been recorded the romances and tragedies of a growing western empire. If medal shaped into cylinders, cog wheels and other necessary parts, has the faculty of knowing what transpires, this old Campbell press could relate the stirring drama of the passing of the Indian and the coming of the white man to these parts of Texas.

According to **George T. Yates**, who reminiscently related some early history of Gainesville to a Register reporter, the press was first used by the old Gainesville Times, a paper published by the wealthy cattlemen who resided in this vicinity some forty years ago. The office of publication was in the southwest corner of the courthouse square, where the Gibson Mortuary is now located. Funds to

purchase the paper plant were subscribed by the cattlemen and the paper specialized in Chicago and Kansas City market quotations and news of particular interest to the cattle industry. It also carried advertisements containing cuts of Texas steers on which were marked the brands of various large cattle ranches hereabouts. When the panic of early days reduced the income of the cattlemen to about nothing, they were unable to provide funds to keep the Times in operation and finally it suspended publication.

**Joe Means**, at the time publisher of the Hesperian, bought the press and moved it to his plant. After the death of Mr. Means some years later, George T. Yates came into possession of the office and he continued to use the remarkable piece of early day machinery until he retired from business. Mr. Yates said he had had the press rebuilt on two different occasions and that despite more or less rough usage it received at times during its long career, it was one of the best built pieces of equipment he ever heard of. It has been propelled by hand, by steam and electric power, according to Mr. Yates, as he unfolded interesting events of early days of North Texas and spoke of the rapid strides made in the industries of this county especially as related to the printing trade.

#### **New Head of Girls School is Here** Thurs. August 27, 1925

Mrs. **Agnes Stephens** of Corsicana, Texas, who was elected superintendent of the State Training School for Girls by the state board of control at a recent session arrived in Gainesville Wednesday and is now at the school familiarizing herself with her new duties.

Mrs. Stephens will on September 1 succeed Dr. **Carrie Weaver** as chief executive officer of the institution. Dr. Smith has been superintendent of the school since it was established here.

#### **Training School to Get New Building** Thurs. August 27, 1925

A new building is to be built at the State Training School for Girls, three miles east of here, at a cost of between \$9,000 and \$10,000.

The contract has been awarded by **Elam W. Johnson**, well-known local building contractor, and work on this structure is to begin in about the second week of September, it was announced.

#### **Deats to Remain at Girls School** Fri. August 28, 1925

Austin: Aug. 28 (Associated Press) **O. G. Deats** was today reappointed storekeeper at the Gainesville Girls Training School by the board of control.

## **Happenings of the Day: Bars Replaced in County Jail** Thurs. September 3, 1925

Bars in the main cell of the county jail which were sawed through by prisoners who attempted to escape from the jail; Tuesday evening, have been replaced, Jailer **Jack Bell** stated. Only three saws were found in the jail after a careful search had been made. One of the saws was made from the spring of a phonograph.

## **Model of Rural School Is Built** Sat. September 5, 1925

One of the most interesting floats in the Labor Day parade Monday morning promises to be the model of a rural high school building as proposed for the Prairie Point-Rosston consolidated district.

This model building which has five class rooms, two work rooms and a spacious auditorium, was built by the manual training class of the Myra High School, which has had only one year's work in their subject. The project was superintended by **D. Blanton**, local contractor, and the lumber was donated by the Waples-Painter Lumber Company.

In addition to appearing in the parade, the building will be on display at the park during the celebration.

The model was constructed at the suggestion of County Superintendent **John S. Hardy**, who has been very active in securing new buildings for rural school districts.

## **Memories of War Reviewed at Reunion** Mon. September 7, 1925

One of the most interesting scenes in connection with the Labor Day celebration this year is that in the southwest corner of the City Park, where more than fifty veterans of the Gainesville Machine Gun Company, 142nd Infantry, American Expeditionary Forces, are esconced in their tent city, with Old Glory floating proudly in the breeze and smoke rolling from the cook shack nearby. It is the first of what the veterans hope to make an annual reunion of the organization.

First Lieutenant **Bert Davis** is in charge and everything is running like clock work, the veterans from a distance declaring this reunion is one of the most pleasant surprises of their lives, due to the fact that the citizens of Gainesville have cooperated so unselfishly and so liberally in caring for the needs of the occasion.

The remainder of Sunday was spent around camp, exchanging reminiscences of the stirring days across the water. The veterans "put away" generous portions of chow at each meal and say there is plenty left to carry them through Tuesday, which is the final day of the reunion. Sunday night, the boys were pleasantly surprised by the appearance of Edwin Hill of Okemah, Okla., whom they had not seen since he was transferred from their unit in France. Hill made a talk to his former comrades which was greatly enjoyed by them.

This afternoon will be an election of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, whose duty it will be to perfect a permanent organization looking to the holding of annual reunions. No slate of prospective officers had been made this morning.

In order to add a touch of local color to the scene, signs bearing the words Tonnere, Flogny, Bernon, and Ligniers are posted on various trees, indicating the areas where the machine gunners served in France.

The idea of holding this gathering of veterans originated in the brain of **E. B. Helsey** of Cleburne, according to Lt. Bert H. Davis, and the former volunteered the work of writing letters to the members of the company, explaining the purposes of the reunion. His was a laborious task and to him as much as any man, belongs a major share of the success of the meeting. Davis also has been exceedingly active in looking after the many local details, and the boys are generous in their praise of the part he has taken.

Added interest was given the gathering when Col. **E. W. Whitney** of Wewoka, Okla., arrived Monday forenoon to be with his "boys" again. Colonel Whitney is credited with having forsaken his bed in a hospital in France (without leave) in order to join the machine gunners when they were called to go over the top. He was a daring officer and handled his men with such splendid and generous consideration, he is loved by every member of the company.

More than fifty men had registered up to noon Monday and at least 25 more were expected to arrive during the afternoon. The list shows the following men here:

Col. E. W. Whitney, Wewoka, Okla.

**A. M. Findley**, 216 Taylor St., city

**Edwin M. Hill**, Okemah, Okla.

**V. I. Raynor**, City.

**Carl Chandler**, City.

**L. E. Gregory**, 612 Burnett street, Wichita Falls, Tex.

Capt. **Wm. H. Tyler**, City.

**Wm. F. Pearson**, Route A, Olney.

**Wm. C. Culp**, City.

**Allen L. Gray**, Rt, 2, Dexter, Tex.

**Charles Ruwaldt**, City.

**Earl Glasgow**, Plainview, Texas.

**Esten R. McDaniel**, Whitesboro, Texas.

**J. B. Stokes**, Joshua, Texas.

**J. C. Spraggins**, Davidson, Okla.

**Sam R. Bingham**, Wichita Falls.

**Jake Broadwell**, City.

**B. E. Stack**, City.

**Frank C. Duston**, Marietta, Okla.

**Allen F. Smith**, Dallas.

**J. Harper**, Teague, Texas.

**Roy M. Willis**, Knox City, Texas.

**George Lemons**, Alvarado, Texas.

**Emory Horn**, Myra, Texas.

**Burnie Reeves**, City.

**T. H. Meals**, Alvarado, Texas.

**Wade F. Pryor**, Fort Worth.

**Arthur M. Tubb**, Dallas.

**Willie D. Siddall**, Alvarado, Texas.

**Willie H. Woolard**, Alvarado, Tex.

**William Quinn**, Wewoka, Okla.

#### **Happenings of the Day: School Equipment Purchased Here** Thurs. September 10, 1925

**W. L. Howser**, **M. H. Farr**, and **B. F. Watson** of Fairview and **R. A. Clark** and **J. T. Robinson** of Bermuda were in the city Wednesday purchasing supplies and equipment for the new schools in the districts. They met with County Superintendent **John S. Hardy** and representatives of several companies and awarded their contracts to the J. E. Chambers Company of Waco.

#### **56 Years Ago – Back Trailing**

#### **Picked Up Passing By** Jack Joyce Tues. July 18, 1967

Two Grand Saline brothers – **J. C.** and **Richard M. Chevalier Jr.** - recalled their youth in Gainesville in a visit here last week. The brothers were particularly interested in seeing the home of Miss **Mary McCain**, 609 Dodson St., which was built by their father **Michael M. Chevalier**.

The elder Chevalier came to Gainesville in 1880 to build a dam on Elm Creek for the city's first water works. He stayed on to become engineer of the completed plant and resided here until his death in 1917.

The Grand Saline men said that their father helped encourage **Herman Kaden**, who came here in 1883 from his native Dresden, Germany, to enter the florist business. He founded the business still known as "Kaden the Florist."

### **Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Wed. August 9, 1967

In an open forum Tuesday night the Cooke County School board voted unanimously to leave the division boundaries of the now dormant Myra School District as they were established by the board last June 29.

The June action divided the Myra district between Muenster, Era, and Lindsay school districts. In the Tuesday session the board reviewed two options presented since the June meeting. One of the petitions signed by 24 persons requested boundary changes. The other with 97 signatures asked that the boundaries be left as they were set up June 29.

Some 40 interested persons appeared before the board in behalf of the respective petition.

### **Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Wed. August 9, 1967

Forestburg residents are inviting others throughout the area to join them Sunday in their annual homecoming. It will be at the usual site – under the oak trees south of the log cabin. Old timers will appreciate the restoration job now being carried out on the old community building by women of Forestburg. The structure is more than 100 years old and was reportedly used as an early day school building. Those planning to attend around lunch time should bring their own picnic lunch.

### **Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Fri. August 25, 1967

Washington House on Sycamore Creek Ranch at Dexter has been named a Recorded Texas History Landmark significant to the history of Cooke County and Texas and worthy of preservation.

The selection of the house owned by Mr. and Mrs. **K. B. Yost** and by **Lynda Yost Lindh** and **Beverly Yost Lindh** was announced in Austin by **Charles Woodburn** of Amarillo, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

A Texas Historical Building Medallion with interpretive plate giving a capsule history of the structure will be affixed to the house. Dedication of the marker will be announced by Miss **Margaret Parx Hays** of Gainesville, chairman of the Cooke County Historical Survey Committee.

Washington House was built in 1867 by **J. R. Washington**, grandfather of Mrs. Yost. The lumber was hauled by oxen from Jefferson near the Louisiana border.

Excellent water facilities made the ranch a collection center for cattle prior to trail drives going north to Kansas. At the home of the cattle industry leader, the Washington Ranch attracted distinguished visitors, including ranchers **Charles Goodnight** and **J. C. Loring** and **Sam Rayburn**, long time speaker of the House of Representatives. The property has been in the family for five generations.

#### **Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Wed. August 30, 1967

Members of B Company 359th Infantry of World War I will gather Sunday in Denton for their 41st annual reunion. The ranks of the company have been thinned by time, but the old Doughboys and their families look forward each year to the day of fellowship.

The reunion is scheduled for the Denton County Electrical Co-op Building on Hwy. 24 at the Int. 35 overpass. A basket lunch will be served and business and round table talks are planned for the afternoon.

**Fred Hopkins** of Krum is president of the company and **Gilbert G. Holman** of Gainesville is secretary. Vice presidents are **L. R. Douglas** of Rhome, **C. V. Crosslin** of Weatherford, **C. J. Robb** of Gainesville, and **O. E. Carlisle** of Gainesville.

#### **Bulcher Reunion Draws Good Crowd** Sat. September 9, 1967

Marysville – A good attendance at the Bulcher Homecoming was noted Sunday. Former residents joined local residents for the annual affair.

**Lee Morris**, age 86, was recognized as the oldest. He was brought from the Vivian Nursing Home at Amarillo by his daughters, Mrs. **Frankie Hunter** and Mrs. **Floyd Tucker** and Mr. Tucker.

Traveling from the farthest distance were Mr. and Mrs. **Hubert Bridges** of McGain, Mich. They have been at the bedside of her father, **Ed Pickett** of Gainesville.

#### **Picked Up Passing By** by Jack Joyce Mon. September 12, 1967

**Bill Pulte**, who taught Spanish and German at Gainesville High School last year, is leaving for Charlottesville, Va., where he has an assistantship in the department of Germanic and Slavic languages at the University of Virginia.

Bill, the son of Mr. and Mrs. **William Pulte**, 1100 University Dr., will work toward his doctoral degree in Gainesville linguistics.

"Texas Studies in Bilingualism," to be published soon contains an article by the young teacher on German dialects still spoken in North Texas and Oklahoma. A number of German speaking residents in Cooke County are the subject of the year long study.

Pulte received the cooperation of Muenster, Valley View, and Lindsay residents in the work, which deals with the history of the communities and their German elements as well as features of the German language which were found to be of interest. He noted that many words, grammatical constructions, etc., no longer used in Germany, have tended to survive in German speaking communities in the U. S. and elsewhere. These are of particular interest to language students. The volume, edited by Dr. **Glenn Gilbert** of the University of Texas, will be published in Germany.

Pulte spent the past summer at the Institute of Linguistics at the University of Oklahoma, where basic principles and methods applicable to old languages were studied. A number of Oklahoma Indians took part in the program and served as informants to work with the linguists and students in analyzing their respective languages.

### **Historical Grave Marker Unveiled** Tues. September 12, 1967

Colorado City, Tex. - An official Texas State Historical grave marker for **R. D. "Dick" Ware**, the Texas ranger who killed outlaw **Sam Bass** and later became Mitchell County's first sheriff, has been unveiled near the entrance of the Colorado City cemetery. The marker says Ware "was noted for his part in the gun battle with outlaw Sam Bass at Round Rock, where Bass had planned to rob the bank. It was Ware's bullet that gave Bass the wound from which he died."

### **Suit Filed on Trustees' Division of Myra School** Fri. September 15, 1967

A number of residents of the former Myra Common School District filed a suit Thursday in 16th District Court seeking to have their property annexed to the Muenster Independent School District.

Defendant in the action is the Cooke County Board of School Trustees. They are **Joe Hundt**, **Gordon Alexander**, **H. A. McCain**, **Chester Calhoun**, and **J. G. Biffle Sr.**

The plaintiffs are Mr. and Mrs. **Thomas Felderhoff**, **A. C. Sicking**, Mr. and Mrs. **J. W. Fleitman**, Mr. and Mrs. **Clyde L. Fleeman**, Mr. and Mrs. **Albert Rohmer**, Mr. and Mrs. **Hubert Felderhoff**, Walter Bros. and **Al Walter**, Mr. and Mrs. **Frank Bayer**, Mr. and Mrs. **O. G. Rennels**, Mr. and Mrs. **C. A. Sherrill**, and Mr. and Mrs. **Anton Fleitman**.

The petition states that the Myra Common School District became dormant at the end of 1966-67 school year and that the plaintiffs are owners of real property within the dormant district. It is alleged that the dormant district was automatically subject to annexation to an active adjacent district with the legal duty of the defendants to annex the plaintiffs' property on the best interests of school children in the dormant Myra district.

It is claimed that the real property involved in the suit is located in the northwest corner of the former Myra District and is contiguous to the Muenster Independent School District, with the Muenster Public School being the nearest school.

It is alleged that “by reason of greater accessibility and convenience to the Muenster Public School, the school children in the property involved, parents and owners of said property, desire that the school children attend the Muenster Public School and the property be transferred and annexed to the Muenster Public School District.

The petition states that the “defendants petitioned the former Myra School District in such a manner as to attach the property of the plaintiffs to Era and Lindsay Independent School Districts.”

The petition seeks to have the County Board of Education's actions in assigning students to Era and Lindsay Schools be set aside and the property of the plaintiffs be annexed to the Muenster Independent School District.

Thank you to Ronnie Howser for this information.

In case you are around grandchildren or great grandchildren this summer the following might be an activity that you could do with them. It comes from the National Archives Educator page.

## Create a Family Food Tree

### ***Materials Needed:***

- A few pieces of sturdy paper or cardboard
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils - whatever colors you want to use
- Pair of scissors
- Pictures from old magazines or catalogs, or pictures you find online
- Tape or glue stick
- And of course, creativity and imagination!

### ***Activity:***

**Start your Investigation:** Ask as many members of your family as you can these questions. Suggestions for people to ask include parents, guardians, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins.

- What is one of your favorite foods you eat with your family?

- Why is it your favorite? Did someone special make it for you, or is it a family recipe, or is there another reason?

**Note Your Findings:** Write (or draw) each food people tell you. Compare their answers. Did some family members say the same things, or are they all different? How do their favorite foods compare to yours?

**Search for Pictures:** Find pictures online or in old magazines of the foods people mentioned. How many of them can you find?

**Create Your Food Family Tree:** Once you find matching food pictures, cut them out. Draw a tree base and put the pictures on. Decorate the tree or the area around it any way you want to. What should a background of your family tree look like?

**Share Your Work:** Make sure to take a picture of your food family tree when it is finished. Share it with the family members you talked to!

**Questions to Think About:** How important is food in our family history? What can our favorite foods help tell us about our family and culture?

**Congratulations - you now have your food family tree!**

*Happy Summer!*