

Frankford Cemetery Association News

October 2009

PO Box 831866
Richardson, Texas 75083

Prairie in the City

All of us in the Frankford community, members and friends, are drawn to this special place for different reasons. Some have generations of ancestors buried in the cemetery and have buried loved ones and attended Frankford Decoration Days all their lives. Others discovered Frankford in recent years and acquired cemetery spaces for their families, treasuring the country like setting. Local historians appreciate Frankford's history as a stop on the Shawnee Trail and later as an early North Texas community that is significant in the settling of the Dallas area. Most every Frankford person loves the beautiful little prairie gothic church that has graced the Frankford site for a hundred and twelve years.

Recently, native landscape architect Rosa Finsley walked the Frankford site with board members and showed us still another reason to treasure this unique site. As we walked the meadow west and south of the old church and along the creek bank, Rosa pointed out native plants like buffalo grass, side-oats grama, pigeon berry, rough leaf dogwood, Eve's necklace, sumac, bois d' arc and pecan trees, four nerve daisy and native verbena. Rosa talked about the two different habitats at Frankford—the prairie and creek and the different types of plants indigenous to each one.

With the restoration of Frankford Church underway, the FCA Board is projecting toward a vision of the entire site that encompasses the Church, a future meeting hall, the cemetery, and the open space that includes the wagon yard area west of the creek. One of the key concerns in the vision is how to treat the open space, much of which still remains in its natural state.

Rosa Finsley opened our eyes to the treasure we have at Frankford. If we protect, enhance and preserve the entire site, including the open space, Frankford can continue to be an oasis in the midst of a sprawling metropolis. As Dallas continues to grow and North Texas development heads toward Oklahoma, sites like Frankford become more precious. If we are successful in our effort to protect the prairie land and creek, Frankford can serve as a haven for present and future generations. As renowned environmentalist John Muir said, "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to the body and soul."

Kathy Wells Power



Cemetery Board

Term 2013

John Needham
940-594-9701

Term 2013

Pharis Ann McKamy
214-908-3055

Term 2012

Patsy Sudden, Secretary
972-272-9209

Term 2012

Linda Spragins, Treasurer
972-334-9997

Term 2011

Katherine Power, President
214-350-7822 (new #)

Term 2011

Andy Tenney, Curator
972-380-6593

Term 2010

Vacancy due to
Resignation

Cemetery Information

For information regarding burials and or other issues regarding your lot or burial spaces please contact: Kathy Power or Andy Tenney at the numbers provided above.

A Word from the Secretary

Research continues on the burial records at Frankford. We have discovered a valuable website called "Find a Grave" (www.findagrave.com) which I have been utilizing. Some local volunteers for this website have gone to Frankford, as well as surrounding cemeteries, and photographed grave markers and submitted these photos to the website. I have compared our records to theirs and have made corrections, as needed, to our records, but have also found some changes that need to be made on their website which I am in the process of correcting. Included on the Frankford portion of the website are photos of the church as viewed from the cemetery, as well as a photo of the cemetery historical marker. You may want to visit this site to look up your loved ones buried at Frankford. And, by the way, if you find any errors, let me know and we will have it corrected.

We continue to welcome copies of old photographs related to Frankford. It would be interesting to see who might have the earliest picture of the Frankford Church. We also would like copies of your deeds or other documents relative to lot ownership. My goal is to collect as much history as possible for our records to pass on to future generations of the Frankford community.

Thanks to you who have shared your information with me. I appreciate it very much.

Patsy Sudden

Fall Dinner on the Grounds & Decoration Day

Due to the church restoration we will not have a fall Dinner on the Grounds this year. Many of you have expressed how much you enjoyed our Dinner on the Grounds event last November. The FCA Board looks forward to hosting another Dinner on the Grounds in October or November of 2010.

On our next Decoration Day, **May 16, 2010**, the FCA Board plans to have a special celebration in honor of the completion of the church restoration. Mark this day on your calendars now, as we want a great turnout for this special occasion.

Church Restoration

The restoration of Frankford Church began in August with the projected date of completion January 2010. We are now in the first stage of the restoration, which includes fixing the foundation and installing a heating/air conditioning system.

The pews and hymnals are carefully stored in a storage trailer provided by our contractors, Nedderman and Associates. An eight-foot fence with a lock on it surrounds the "staging area." The American elm tree behind the church where we held the Dinner on the Grounds last fall is also being carefully protected from damage by vehicles, etc.

The Frankford community looks forward to meeting in the newly restored church on Decoration Day in May, 2010. Thanks to everyone for your encouragement and interest in this exciting project.

Kathy Power

Frankford Community News

Since our last newsletter, these association members have been laid to rest at Frankford Cemetery.

David Matthew Harris
b. 9/15/1972 - d. 4/15/2009

Ruby S. Nance
b. 3/26/1924 - d. 5/8/2009

Mark George Mathieu
b. 4/27/1964 - d. 5/25/2009

Elbert Dewey Collinsworth
b. 12/2/1931 - d. 6/27/2009

Fay Elizabeth Lewis Hines
b. 2/4/1923 - d. 9/14/2009

Harriet Foster
b. 1/31/1925 - d. 10/1/2009

We extend our sincere condolences to the families of these members of the Frankford community.