

FRANKFORD CEMETERY ASSOCIATION NEWS

Mailing Address:

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Suite 116 – Box 132
Dallas, TX 75209

April 2011

THE WAY TO FRANKFORD

Once again, we prepare for the annual May pilgrimage to Frankford. Members and friends will start decorating graves of loved ones on Saturday, May 14th and gather on Sunday about 12:30 to be with friends, old and new, at the annual Decoration Day program and business meeting in the little church. The program in Frankford Church will begin at 2:30.

This year the FCA board is providing light refreshments on the grounds weather permitting, before the 2:30 program. We are honored to have renowned Dallas historian Rosemary Rumbley as our guest speaker for our Decoration Day program. Mrs. Rumbley is well known for her informative and entertaining speeches on Dallas history. We welcome her to our Decoration Day celebration.

Since serving on the FCA board the past three years I have enjoyed meeting many people for whom Frankford is a special place. Time and time again, people have shared with me their memories of Frankford. Some remember traveling to Frankford as children.

I personally remember with fondness driving to Frankford with my family years ago from our farm in West Plano. We drove down dusty white rock roads, passing several farmhouses and at least one creek until finally reaching Indian Springs or Halls Branch just west of the church. At last we crossed the simple wooden planks that served as a bridge, and with the heavily treed creek behind us, Frankford Church and cemetery came into view.

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Cemetery Board

Term 2013

John Needham
940-465-5574

Term 2012

Patsy Sudden, Secretary
972-272-9209

Term 2012

Linda Spragins, Treasurer
972-334-9997

Term 2011

Katherine Power, President
214-350-7822

Term 2011

Andy Tenney, Sexton
972-380-6593

Frankford Decoration Day May 15

Light Refreshments
beginning at 12:30
Program at 2:30 followed
by a Business Meeting

The Way to Frankford

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This year the old entrance to Frankford across the bridge (now made of steel supports) will be opened for our Decoration Day event. A civil engineer has inspected the bridge and deemed it safe for regular sized vehicles to pass one at a time. A map to the entrance across the bridge is included in this newsletter. Attendants will direct you to appropriate parking spaces on our site and in the parking lot at The Church of the Holy Communion, north of our property.

Of course, if you prefer to enter the Frankford site via the Muirfield entrance you may. There are different ways to Frankford, but for some us the way across the bridge is "the way to Frankford." No matter how you arrive at Frankford this year we welcome you to Decoration Day, 2011.

Kathy Wells Power

Message from the Secretary

You might be interested in knowing the following facts about Frankford Cemetery as of March 2011:

Number of lots:	160
Burial spaces per lot:	8
Number of burial spaces:	1280
Burials:	784
Recorded reserved spaces:	108
Spaces for sale:	45
Unused spaces privately owned: . . .	343
Percentage used:	70%

We have frequent calls from people who are interested in burial spaces in our cemetery. Several spaces have been sold either by private owners or the cemetery which currently owns only 5 available spaces. This is a reminder to descendants of the Frankford pioneer families that if your desire is to be buried in our cemetery and you do not already have a space reserved, you need to take steps now to secure your future wishes.

Another reminder: if you change your address, please let us know so we can keep our mailing list up-to-date.

Patsy Sudden
Secretary

Frankford Community News

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

Carol Vernon Nance
7/26/1930 - 11/20/2010

David N. Lotz
4/19/1948 - 4/12/ 2011

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

Prairie Restoration

The restoration of certain sections of the Frankford fields continues. It is fascinating to see the prairie come alive after an unusually cold winter. Native wildflowers of various colors—yellow, lavender and white, were the firsts plants observed this spring followed by grasses like sideoats grama and big blue stem. Last year's prairie plants, which turned russet and brown during fall and winter are now giving way to new plants—wildflowers and grasses of different shades of green. Lying like a soft carpet at the base of the prairie is the site's native buffalo grass. We continue to remove non-native plants and weeds so that the native flowers and grasses can flourish in their natural habitat. By Decoration Day this year's prairie should be on its way to reaching its full growth. It is a beautiful site to see a small child walk through the tall grasses with arms outstretched, experiencing one of North Texas' most beautiful natural resources—the prairie.

Cemetery Courtesy and Protocol

On Decoration Day weekend many Frankford families will visit the cemetery to place flowers on graves of loved ones. Some folks like to do a little gardening on their plots as well. With just one main access into the cemetery (the concrete drive in the middle) it is easy for vehicles to get wedged in between other vehicles and unable to exit the cemetery. To avoid this frustrating situation the board asks everyone decorating graves or visiting the

cemetery during Decoration Day weekend to follow this protocol:

Please park outside the cemetery if at all possible. If you must park on the drive in the middle of the cemetery, please no more than two vehicles on the drive at a time. Be alert to the need to back out your vehicle if the person in front of you is ready to leave.

Please, no vehicles on cemetery grounds (other than the concrete drive). Funeral home vehicles are the only vehicles allowed on the cemetery grounds.

Frankford Oral History

Over the past two years the FCA Oral History Committee, with help from the Dallas Historical Society, conducted six oral history interviews with these FCA members:

Oleta House
Leon Hogan
Jimmy Reynolds
Carol Nance
J. C. Foster
Bettie Joe Cole

These interviews are both informative and entertaining and help give a glimpse of life and customs of the Frankford community including memories of Decoration Day celebrations. If you are interested in checking out any of the oral history discs please contact Kathy Power.

CROSSING THE FRANKFORD BRIDGE

