

# New Summerfield Historical Memories





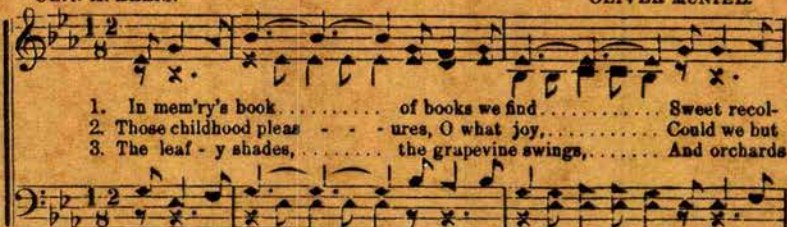
# In Memory's Book

“The Latest Song Hit” by  
McNiel and Ellis, and a song to  
be appreciated by both young  
and old.

## In Memory's Book.

OLIN K. ELLIS.

OLIVER McNIEL.



1. In mem'ry's book ..... of books we find ..... Sweet recol-  
2. Those childhood pleas - - - ures, O what joy, ..... Could we but  
3. The leaf - y shades, ..... the grapevine swings, ..... And orchards



lec - - - tions true; ..... To boyhood days ..... will drift our  
live ..... a - gain ..... The days when we ..... were but a  
near ..... the brook; ..... The sing-ing birds ..... with pret-ty

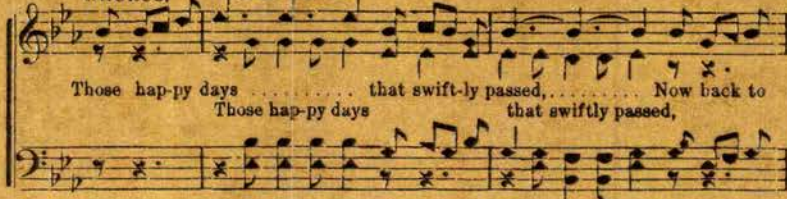
D. S.—And wonder why ..... they could not

FINE.



mind, ..... When cares we nev - - - er knew .....  
boy, ..... Our hearts would know ..... no pain .....  
wings, ..... Now plain in mem - - - 'ry's book .....  
last, ..... Those days in mem - - - 'ry's book .....

CHORUS.



Those hap-py days ..... that swift-ly passed, ..... Now back to  
Those hap-py days ..... that swiftly passed,

D. S.



them ..... we look .....  
Now back to them

4 The blooming meadows decked with  
green,  
The hay-fields' sweet perfume,  
The morning glories' leafy screen,  
Where sunbeams bright illumine.

5 The playmates dear of long ago,  
Who shared our every joy,  
The merry chase o'er sleet and snow,  
So dear to every boy.



# **New Summerfield Historical Memories**

Edited and Published by  
New Summerfield Historical Association

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by  
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The cover drawing is by Charlotte Burchfield Watkins, a young local artist who was born and reared in New Summerfield. She and her husband, Joel, reside in the area.

For additional copies of *New Summerfield Historical Memories*,  
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New Summerfield Historical Association  
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Profit from the sale of *New Summerfield Historical Memories* will be used for historical preservation projects sponsored by the New Summerfield Historical Association.



## DEDICATION

We, the people responsible for this publication, wish to dedicate our efforts and these historical records to the memory of our ancestors who persevered throughout the years. Let us remember that pioneer hardships and the lean Civil War years were perilous and trying times for them. They had little choice but to grit their teeth, set a course, have faith, and hope for better times.

They CAME, they STAYED, and they reared their families here, setting up a community of which we are proud. May we seek to improve and protect New Summerfield in their memory and try never to let their ideals and standards be lowered by our careless or malicious conduct and activities.

Let this wise saying always be true, "The old never die until they teach the young to remember."



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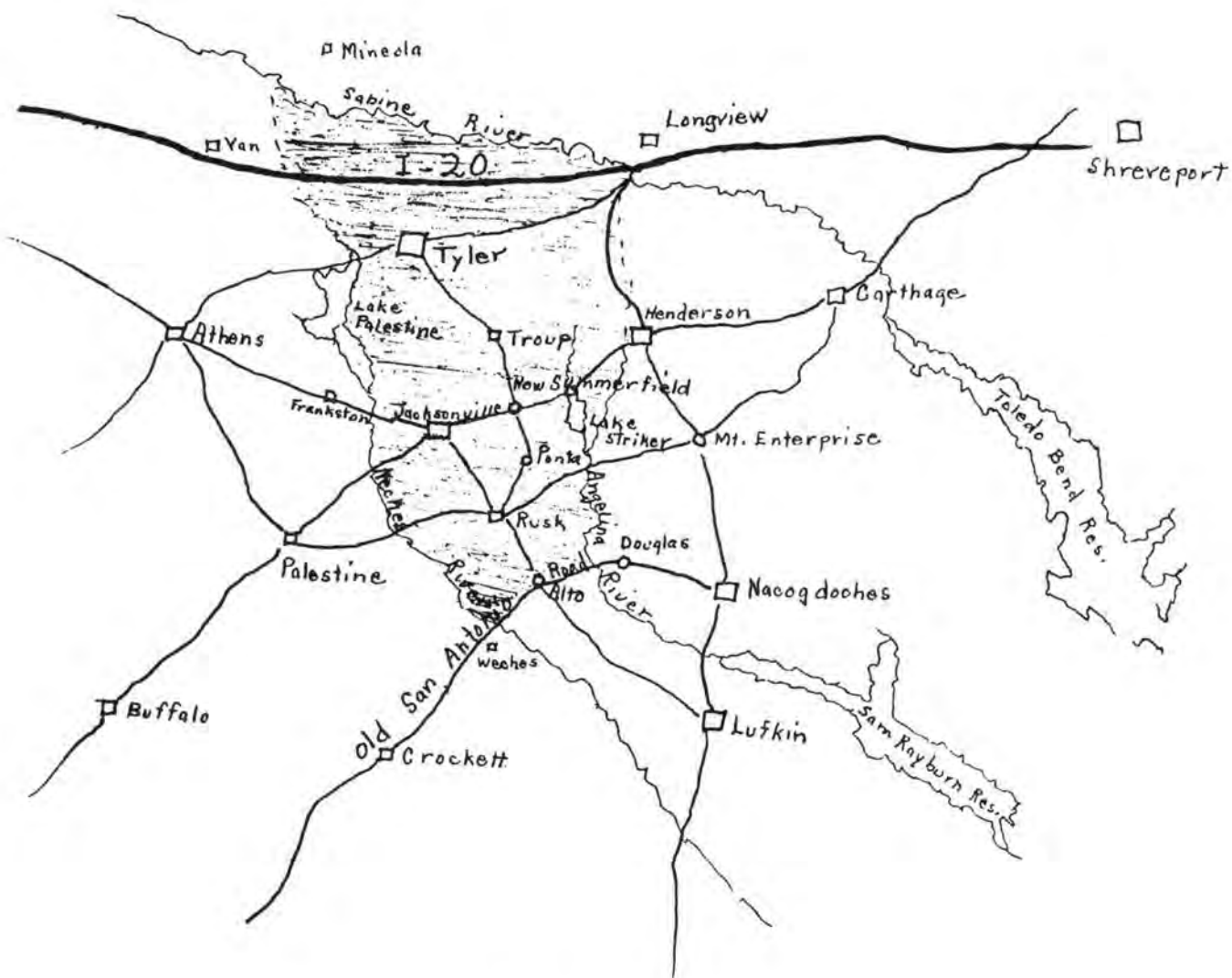
Charlotte Watkins



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Maps . . . . .	iv, 3, 6
Foreword . . . . .	v
Introduction . . . . .	vii
Pioneer Roots . . . . .	1
Cross Roads Bring Changes . . . . .	5
Churches . . . . .	7
Cemeteries; New Summerfield Cemetery Association, Inc. . . . .	11
Education and Schools . . . . .	16
Post Offices . . . . .	24
Agriculture . . . . .	26
Businesses and Merchants . . . . .	28
Summerfield Oil and Development Company . . . . .	38
Lodges and Clubs . . . . .	39
Social Life and Entertainment . . . . .	42
A Growing Prosperous Community . . . . .	46
The Summerfield Fair . . . . .	47
New Summerfield Incorporation . . . . .	48
Veterans . . . . .	51
Laban Dodson, "Land Baron" . . . . .	55
Doctors . . . . .	57
Family Reports from Public Records . . . . .	63
Family Stories Submitted . . . . .	72
Conclusion . . . . .	146
Sources . . . . .	147
Photographs . . . . .	149
Index . . . . .	157





## INDIAN LAND

(shaded area only)



## FOREWORD

Some of the history of New Summerfield has been compiled as accurately as possible in this publication by dedicated people who desire to preserve some records of the growth and development of this little town and the people who chose to make it their home. The cooperation of many descendants of the pioneer settlers as well as people of younger generations has been deeply appreciated. Fond recollections and dim ink on old records have made it possible to piece together a vast amount of memorable information.

As in all unrecorded history, errors will be made and we apologize if your ancestors or other records have not been correctly reported. It is our hope and aim that this history will help preserve some historical facts of New Summerfield and surrounding areas for our descendants and the coming generations.

## Notes



## INTRODUCTION

The New Summerfield townsite is located ten miles east of Jacksonville at the intersection of Federal Highway 79 and State Highway 110. Pioneers came to this area many years before the townsite or these highways were established. New Summerfield, as a townsite, is not as old as many of its neighboring townsites which faded away years ago as active community centers, but this community has never ceased to grow since its first settlers came about 1840.

Like most villages and towns in the central and western parts of the United States, New Summerfield began when people of more populated areas began seeking new opportunities. Some came because they were pressured by various circumstances as were their forefathers who came from Europe. Some came seeking better land, some were seeking adventure, some came to "get rich," and some came to join family or friends who had come earlier.

Although some few colonization land grants were issued earlier by the Mexican government, our "New Summerfield History" really began when Texas won the War with Mexico and became the Republic of Texas in 1836. The Republic began issuing donation land grants for service in the war with Mexico, and grants for homesteads under various other provisions. Many certificates for land grants were issued after Sam Houston and John Forbes signed the Indian Treaty February 23, 1836. They were the commissioners for the Texas Republic and the Cherokee Indians and their associate tribes. Tribes listed on the treaty show some of the major tribes of the East Texas area. They were the Shawnee, Delaware, Kickapoo, Quapoo, Chactaw, Boluxie, Jawan, Alabama, Chochaties, and Caddo. Many Caddos were in Cherokee County before the white man came. The Cherokees and others were partially civilized having associated with white people in the eastern states before being driven west. They constructed some wooden homes and did some cultivating.

The Indian treaty was made possible after a declaration on November 13, 1833 at the last general consultation at San Felipe, the first capitol of Texas. Other tribal leaders signed the treaty which is on record in Austin, Texas. The treaty was signed February 23, 1836. According to Mrs. Hattie Joplin Roach in her book, *The Hills of Cherokee*, this treaty was never ratified and in 1838 the Senate declared it null and void, but it was decided to let the Indians remain in the area designated by the treaty.

Bernard Mayfield in his book *Vanishing Towns of Cherokee County, Texas*, places the Cherokees in an area roughly bounded on the south along the San Antonio Road, from the Neches River to the Angelina River up the Angelina through Rusk County and into Gregg County, West across Smith County into Van Zandt County, and then south along the Neches River to the San Antonio Road crossing into Cherokee County. This placed the Indians in our area and nearby surrounding areas, a very small confinement for people who had never known a boundary. (see map)

When the Indians learned that their treaty was not ratified; that the Land Office was reopened in 1838 for surveyors to continue; and that new claims were to be located by white people in their area, they became hostile and the famous "Killough Massacre" resulted. Gov. Lamar, in 1838, ordered the Indians expelled

to the Oklahoma Territory. They revolted and the "Cherokee War" fought mostly in the area of Chandler and Van Zandt was the final defeat of the Cherokees. Chief Bowles, leader of the Indians, was killed in this war.

There are no records of specific Indian troubles in the New Summerfield area although there are some reports of early homesteaders leaving because of Indian harassment. Records show there was a large settlement of Indians on Striker Creek at one time.

In 1835, before Mexico lost Texas, the State of Coahuila and Texas under the Mexican Government made large grants of land to settlers. Stephen F. Austin, David G. Burnett, and others, partitioned the Mexican Government for the right to colonize certain areas. David G. Burnett was permitted to colonize in the New Summerfield area. Wm. Gates, Isaac Reed, and Isaac Kendrick received their surveys for one league each under Burnett's colonization. Stephen F. Austin advertised for 300 colonists in 1824-25 to fill his colonization contract.

By an act of Congress on January 27, 1844, all titles to property obtained under Mexican Government titles were made valid. Vacant land was declared subject to entry and titles were obtained by bounty grants, script grants, homesteading, etc. After Texas joined the Union in 1845, many grants were soon issued and the wagon trails became heavily traveled into East Texas. Some pioneers were slow to move onto their claims fearful of more Indian trouble.

The pattern of settlement in New Summerfield is interesting when seen on an original survey map. Large blocks of land, mostly leagues granted by the Mexican Government to a few men in the northern part of New Summerfield caused sparse homesteading in the area. Several changes were made in the qualification for grants from 1835 to about 1870, causing smaller grants under newer laws.

When the Indians were expelled in 1839, migration from the Old San Antonio Trail near Alto moved rapidly northward through the Rusk, Ponta and Lone Star areas.

Because of the uncivilized Indians, wilderness conditions, diseases and various other conditions, New Summerfield pioneers found it advantageous to live together in a common area. It was necessary that they have a great understanding of each others needs and privileges. This often meant compromising which is said to be the cornerstone of civilization. People do not, can not and hopefully never will all think alike so each must yield a little and adjust a lot to individual differences. This is civilization and the true foundation for communities like New Summerfield. This quotation, author unknown, is well applied to this community: "He who stands unyielding and unmoveable upon an issue is often a fool and left standing alone, while others adjust their differences and move on."

New Summerfield citizens since about 1850 have "adjusted and moved on" to make their community a cooperative, progressive and growing little town with a very active citizenship pulling together to make it a desirable place to live and rear a family.

*Researched and compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*



## Pioneer Roots

For several years pioneers simply tried to establish homes and make a living for their families but they also recognized a need for churches and schools. They soon made efforts to establish centers of social activity. Such centers were set up by 1850 - 1860 in this area. Although the records are vague, early church and school records, land deeds, cemetery markers, family bible records, and other sources of information show they did exist.

One such area was located about two miles south of the New Summerfield townsite. It was west of Highway 110 on property now owned by the Francis Miller Lester Estate. This settlement was called Friendship. Old school financial records show that a school was there and possibly a worship center. A cemetery with rock marked graves and one inscribed marble marker still can be seen there. The marker is for John H. Kennedy, a son of A. A. (Alfred) Kennedy and wife, Elizabeth Stell Kennedy. He was born in 1857 and died in 1860. This establishes a neighborhood center at Friendship before 1860.

Another social area developed a short distance west of Friendship. The old school financial records show it was called Friends and later called Friendship No. 2. In 1884 Mrs. Malinda Lowe Dalby deeded acreage for a new public school in the area and it became known as "Dalby" community. This was a well populated center during the 1860's and the school was maintained there until it consolidated with the Summerfield school in 1923. There was a small rock marked cemetery near this school and it is known that Mrs. Malinda Dalby's parents, Finley and Selia Lowe were buried there. That settlement also had at least one general store run by Ike Tipton, a cotton gin, a grist mill, syrup mills, blacksmith shops, etc. Although there no longer are public establishments at Dalby, it is still a very important section of the New Summerfield Community.

The area around the present Union Chapel Cemetery was an active social center around 1870, or earlier. By 1877 there was a need for a public cemetery and Dr. G. F. Fullerton and wife, Mattie, donated three acres of land to the Methodist Church for a "graveyard" at Union Chapel indicating it was already an established church center. The first grave marker erected was in 1881 for Willie Stallings, an infant son of J. L. and Eugenia A. Stallings. The Methodist Church in more recent years deeded the cemetery and church lot at Union Chapel to the New Summerfield Cemetery Association. The church had moved to another location and no longer needed the land. The cemetery is still used by the public.

In 1888, the Jones School was set up to accommodate another neighborhood about one mile east of the present townsite on what is sometimes known as "Dodson Hill." John C. Jones and wife, Susan, deeded one acre of land for a public school. This school was maintained for a few years but was abandoned for lack of an adequate water supply.

These neighborhoods shared social activities and various other accommodations with nearby Griffin to the North and Lone Star to the East. Since there was no local general store or post office in the area in early years, it was necessary to send mail through those places where official government post offices were established. The C. A. Summers home served as a type of clearing house for mail but there was no official post office in the immediate area.

For essential supplies the pioneers could not raise or make for themselves it was necessary that they go long distances to obtain them. About once a year men from the neighborhood went in wagons to Shreveport, Louisiana and later to Jefferson, Texas, for supplies brought in from the east by river boats on the Red River and Cypress River. One wagon owner often handled purchases for several families as the trip took several days over rough wagon roads, usually by way of Marshall, Texas. Cash money was short so they carried cotton, syrup, cured meat, cornmeal, etc. to sell or trade for coffee, flour, sugar, tea, cloth, shoes and other basic supplies. They loaded their wagons to capacity for delivery back to families and merchants. Very few women and children had the pleasure of shopping for their own needs or desires.

In the early days, this community was by-passed by major cross country roads and it was necessary to detour through other small settlements to reach the main towns of the county. This involved longer distances, toll ferries or toll bridges over the streams, and a loss of time. Later railroads were routed through Jacksonville, Ponta and Troup but this only caused greater develop-



ment in those areas.

As East Texas became more populated, there was a need for more and better roads and free bridges instead of the early toll ferry crossings. Mrs. Hattie Joplin Roach said in her book, *Hills of Cherokee*, that in the second meeting of the Commissioners Court, October 13, 1846, five men were appointed to "Mark Out" a road in the nearest and best route from Rusk, the new county seat, to Nacogdoches, Palestine, Henderson, Crockett, and Tyler. Then intra-county roads were soon surveyed connecting the major communities, a route soon developed from Nacogdoches on the old San Antonio Road through Linn Flat (now the Cushing area) to Lone Star and through the New Summerfield area to Jacksonville on a Northwest route. From Marshall, Texas, a stagecoach passed through Henderson, Lone Star and Rusk on its route to the Old San Antonio Road at Crockett. Mail was delivered by stage coach to Lone Star, including the mail for the New Summerfield area. Another stage coach line seems to have gone from Marshall in a more western route passing through Griffin, Knoxville, Larissa, Palestine and to Crockett, and this was the probable source of mail delivery to those post offices.

A road was laid out from Rusk to Tyler through the New Summerfield area to pass through Griffin and Knoxville. This road intersected the Lone Star-Summerfield road and soon a route from Henderson to Jacksonville crossed the route from Rusk to Tyler in the New Summerfield area, making a major crossroad. It was at this crossroads that the present townsite was begun.

Since the community had been by-passed in early days by major roads and railroads, this junction of roads created a great opportunity for development. In 1891, C. A. Summers contracted to buy a tract of land east of this crossroads from Thomas L. and Eliza Dodson. Seeing a need for a school (probably to replace the abandoned Jones School), Mr. Summers and the Dodsons in 1895, donated one acre of land from this tract for a public school. This school was located just behind the present City Hall. By this time, there were some fifty pupils from a three or four mile radius attending this school. A school picture made about 1900 shows 58 pupils and the principal who has been identified as D. B. Williamson of Jacksonville, Texas.

As soon as the school was established, C. A. Summers began selling lots and small acreage from his farm for businesses and homes and the town was off to a "fast development."

In a short time, an adjoining tract of land south of the Summers' tract known as the Henry Gill Homestead on the Wm. Johnson Survey was being cut into lots and small acreages for further town development. Joe Brady bought and re-sold much of this tract of land and by 1915 Summerfield was a thriving township.

At the beginning of this development the community, having had small neighborhoods called by various names, had never had an official name. Since the nearest neighborhood was Union Chapel, it was usually referred to as the Union Chapel Community. But, when Ike Tipton built the first store in 1897, on a lot near the school, a post office was applied for and granted. It was necessary to have an official government post office name. Since it was established in a part of the old Summers' field, it was called "Summersfield," Texas. The "S" was soon dropped.

Township lots changed ownership often in the early development. One abstract shows a lot of one half acre changed ownership eight times from 1896 to 1906. Other lots fronting on the Rusk-Troup road, as well as adjoining lots not on the road were sold and re-sold every few months. General stores, a wood workshop, blacksmith shops, shingle mills, brick kiln, a barbershop, a drug store with an ice cream parlor, and other businesses were soon in operation. A Woodman of the World Lodge met on the second floor of the Ike Tipton store where dances were sometimes held on Saturday night.

Dr. Judson Beall also had an office on the second floor of the general store building from which he practiced medicine. Dr. Rube Tennison practiced medicine and had an office and medical dispensary in his home. Both doctors made home calls on horseback or by buggy.

No public saloon was ever opened in the New Summerfield community so far as research has revealed.

Because of the "Boom town" growth of Summerfield, the school soon outgrew its location and in 1906, Joe Brady and wife, Lizzie, sold four acres near the Union Chapel Church and Cemetery for a new school. Joe Brady got the old school tract of one acre in this land transaction and a new school house was built on the new location. The school remained there until it was destroyed by a storm in 1920, and a new four room brick building was built on the present school campus. Some early "town home owners" were Ike Tipton, John Sowell, Dr. Judson Beall, Arthur Dickson, F. M. Boone, Louis Womack, Angus Stewart, Alex Tipton and Hugh Tipton.

It is interesting to notice that no early development is shown west of the Rusk-Troup road. This was caused by the fact that in 1835 Wm. Gates got a grant for a whole league of land in that area from the Mexican government. This land was not divided into smaller acreages for resale like the tracts east of the Rusk-Troup road. This is a very interesting part of our community development.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*



Isaac Reed

Tit. June 22, 1835  
Vol. 18 p. 509

Isaac Kendrick

Tit. June 3, 1835  
Vol. 18 p. 413

F. J. Val

Tit. Aug. 2  
Vol. 24

J. Strode p. 5

J. Strode p. 42

Wm. Gates

Tit. June 20, 1835  
Vol. 18 p. 465

New Summerfield

McClein  
Canady  
3-1105

Robert Stewart

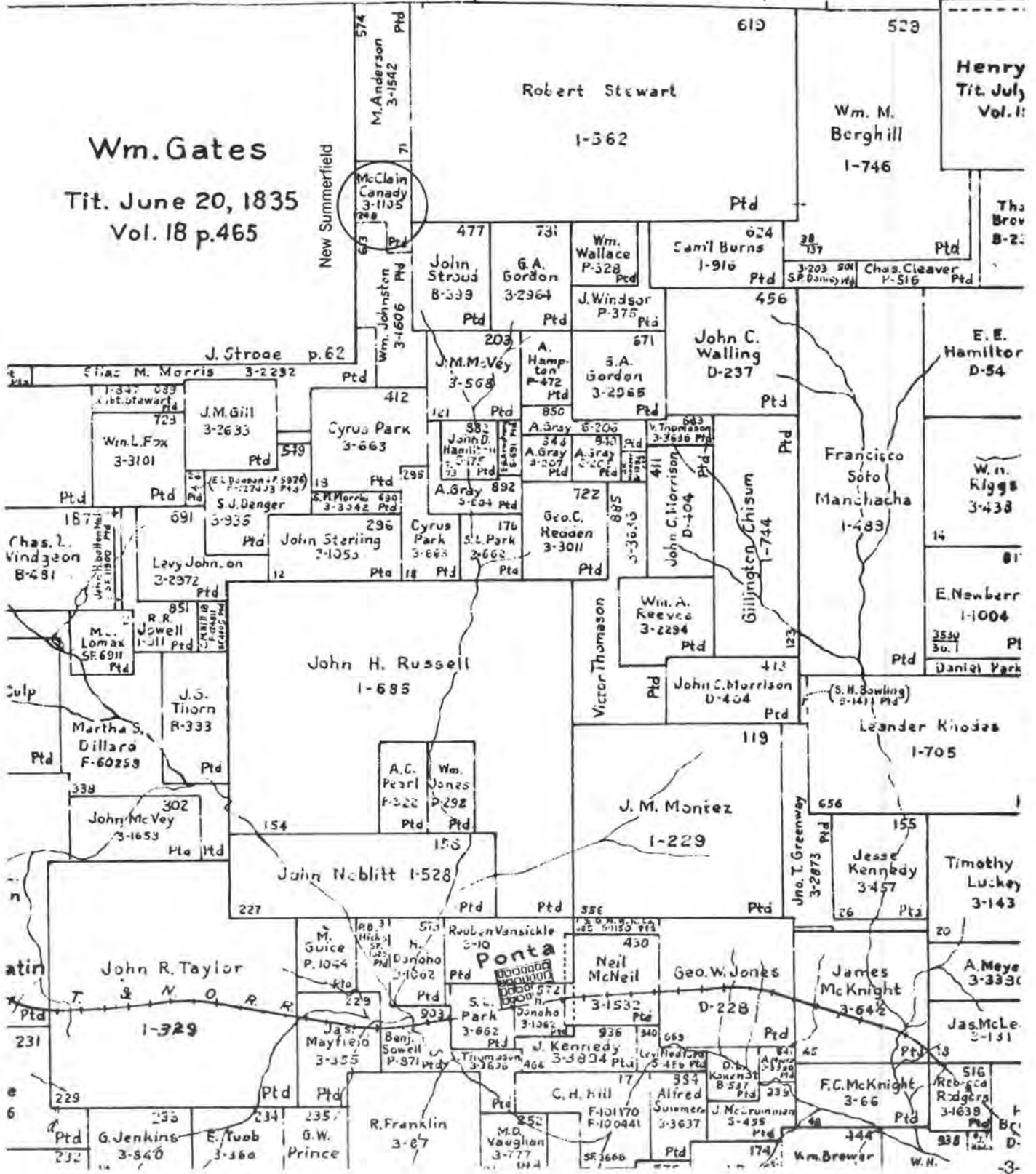
1-362

Wm. M.  
Berghill

1-746

Henry  
Tit. July  
Vol. 11

Tha  
Brev  
B-22



## Notes

2

1

.

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2

2

2



## Cross Roads Bring Changes

In 1928 and 1929 right-of-way easement deeds were signed for a new highway from Jacksonville to Henderson. The newly routed highway 43, later known as highway 79, passed through the Ellis tract of land just north of the school campus. Since this highway would no longer pass through the business district, merchants desired to move their establishments to the new highway. In April 1931 O. K. Ellis had his land on both sides of the new highway 79 surveyed and plotted for a new addition known as THE O. K. ELLIS ADDITION.

This sub-division with some sixty lots, two streets - Spring Street and Cross Street - and two alleys went on county records. But, soon after the sub-division was made, right-of-way easement deeds were obtained to change the route of highway 110 from Troup to New Summerfield. Again the Ellis tract of land was crossed following the newly designated Spring Street to intersect with the Jacksonville to Henderson highway. With this new road the streets and alleys were no longer needed and a revocation deed was made in 1938 in which the county deeded the streets and alleys back to O. K. Ellis.

Some of the original buyers of these lots were: Roscoe Edwards, Clavis Tipton, W. L. Stovall, Med Long, Helen Tipton, Hollis Tipton, Hubert Darby, Howard Cameron, Alton Cameron, Jay Lacy, H. C. Schochler, and Napoleon Johnson. Some built homes and others established businesses.

Mr. Ellis himself built a brick building on a corner lot between the old and new Troup highways in 1933. He leased this building for a garage, service station, and a living apartment for several years and then sold it in 1943 to Hubert Darby. The corner lot adjoining the school campus was leased by Mr. Ellis to Spunky Oil Company October 30, 1954 and they put in a service station. This station was operated by various local citizens for several years. This was the last of the lots owned by Mr. Ellis and he sold it to Rex Murphy in 1963. Another road change re-routed the Rusk to New Summerfield section of highway 110 and took this entire lot for the roadway and the station was moved.

Other businesses moved from the original townsite to the new highway. Ernest Smith put in a service station and Ed Nicholson's general store and Clyde Richardson's garage were re-built on highway 79 east of the intersection.

Ownerships have changed and additions have been made but the townsite remains much as it was in the 1930's. The school has been enlarged and churches re-built but no major townsite changes have been made in recent years.

Perhaps being on the cross road route of travel from Rusk to Griffin, Knoxville, and Troup and the travel route from Lone Star and Henderson to Jacksonville helped to develop New Summerfield. But, there has never been a stage coach line, a railroad, an airport, or other such major accommodation and even today only one bus line passes through the town.

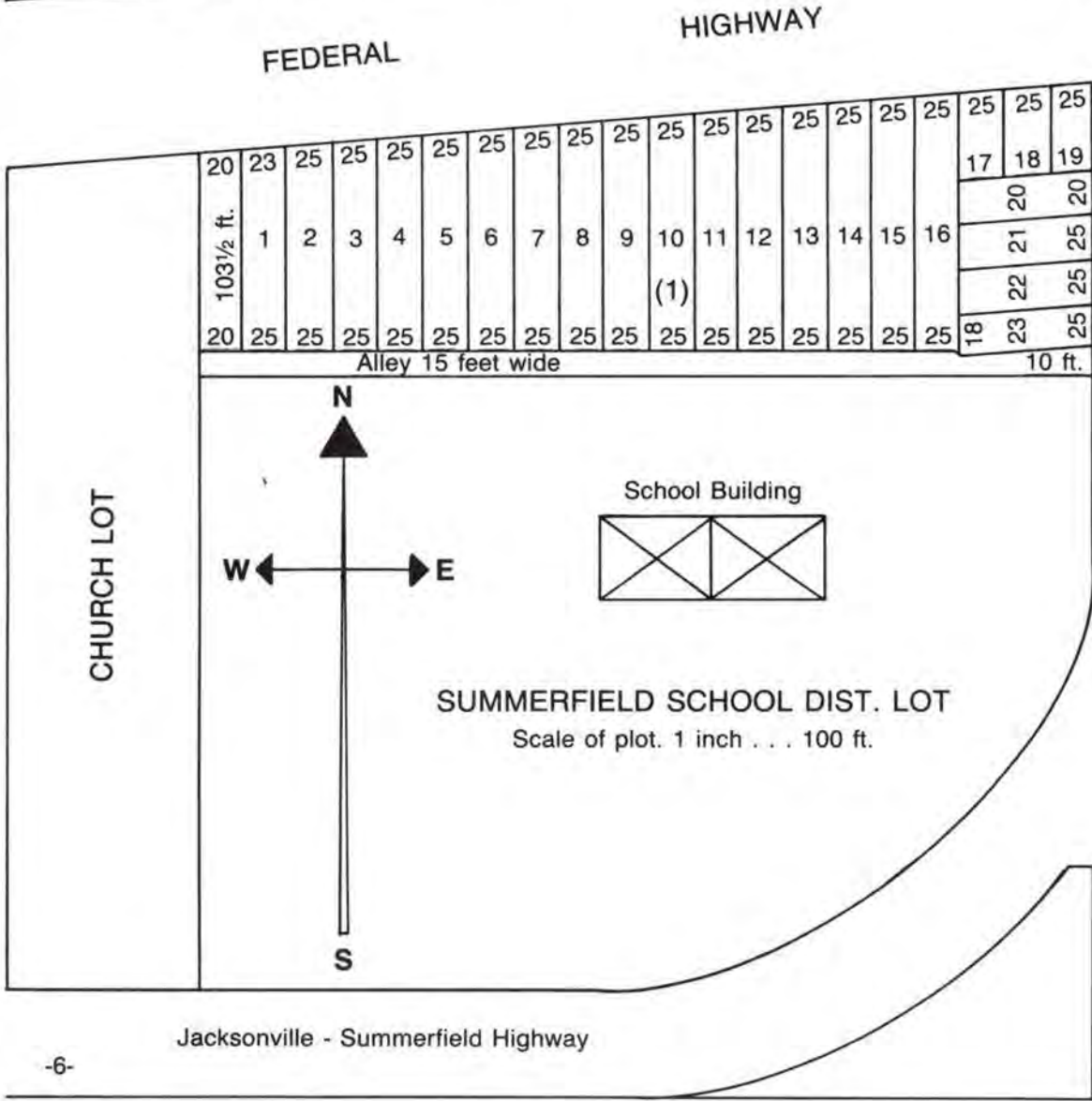
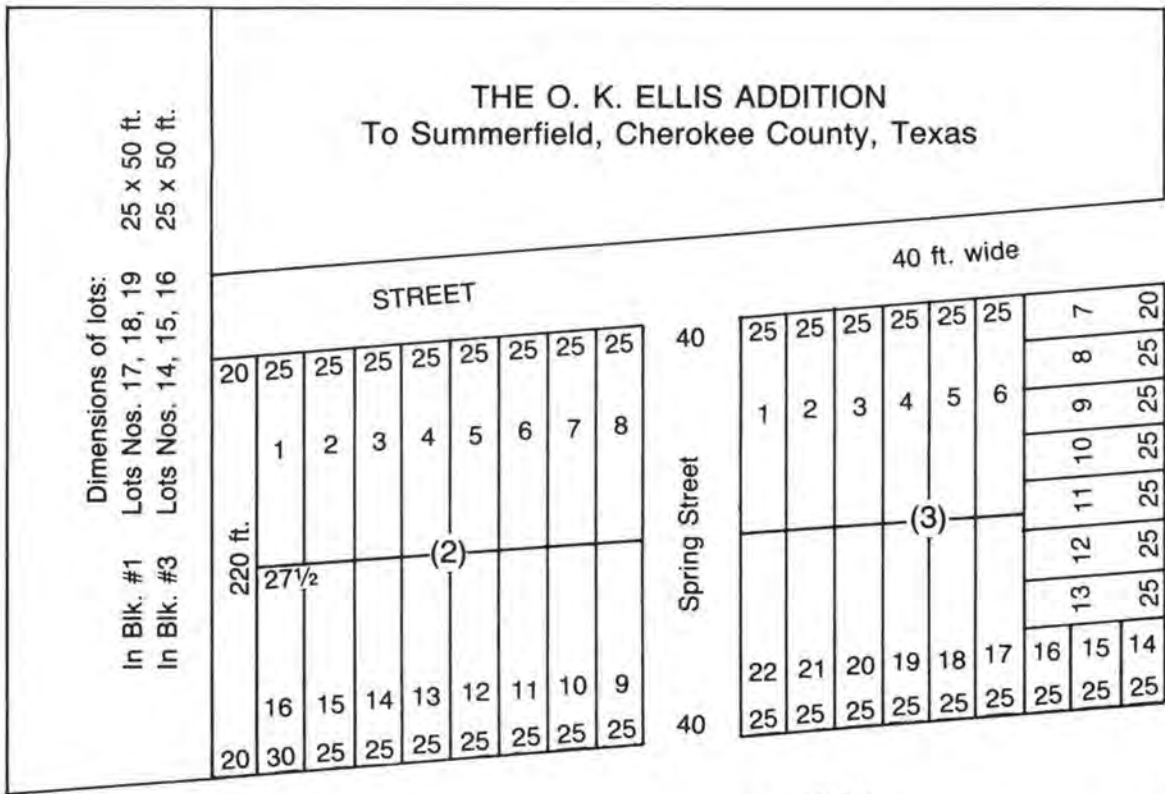
New Summerfield still has no major industrial plants, pipelines, etc. for taxable support. There are no oil or gas wells although many attempts have been made by major and independent oil companies to find oil and gas. A light earthquake was felt in the area in 1982. Maybe it caused a change in the fault line and oil will yet be discovered.

The first attempt to find oil in the area was in 1914-1915 when a group of local and county citizens formed a small company and drilled a well. Mrs. Hattie Joplin Roach in her book *THE HILLS OF CHEROKEE* said, "J. F. Beall of Rusk, whose unwavering faith in the existence of oil in Cherokee County spanned four decades, together with other Rusk and Jacksonville citizens, promoted the next oil activity. A well was drilled two miles northeast of New Summerfield in 1914-15. Water broke in, their money gave out and the project proved futile."

Dr. Judson E. Beall, a son of J. F. Beall, was a practicing physician living in New Summerfield at that time and it is known that some local citizens contributed to the project. Henry Dotson hauled the wooden rig on his heavy mule drawn wagon from the railroad stop at Gould between Troup and Jacksonville. Arthur Womack, another local citizen, was the driller on the rig.

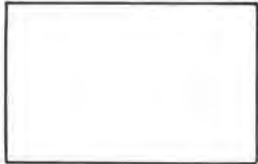
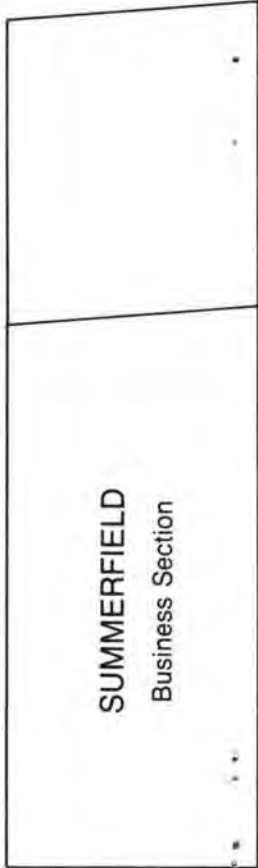
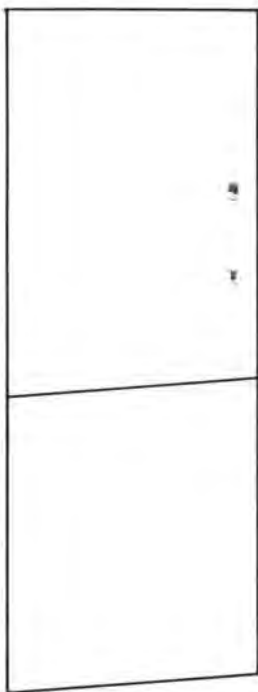
New Summerfield exists and prospers now on farming, ranching, greenhouses, and nursery businesses principally.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*



HIGHWAY

#43



# Churches

## THE METHODIST CHURCH

It is not possible to establish when New Summerfield churches began since small groups of pioneers found ways and places to worship. It may have been in brush arbors, tents, or private homes. There are no records for many of these congregations.

A congregation was known to have met at Union Chapel prior to 1878. Dr. G. F. Fullerton and wife, Mattie, bought a farm in 1877, from W. T. Flowers and wife, Lavenia. The Flowers family had resided on this land in the John Stroud Survey for seven years. Dr. and Mrs. Fullerton soon donated three acres of land on the west boundary line "to the Methodist Episcopal Church South for a graveyard at Union Chapel" indicating a church already was established there. Although they donated the land for a cemetery in 1877, the deed was not finalized until July 7, 1878. The church may have been established during the seven years the Flowers resided on that farm or earlier.

On March 7, 1911, W. C. Fuller and wife, Dee M., sold to the Methodist Episcopal Church 7/10 of an acre of land. This lot was located in the Northeast corner of the Wm. Johnson Survey, adjoining the Union Chapel Cemetery and church grounds.

The Union Chapel Church building, although owned by people of the Methodist faith, was used by all religious faiths as a union church. Evangelists of various faiths held summer revivals and many people professed their religious convictions during these revivals. This church had a lasting influence on the community.

By 1909 other faiths began organizing their own congregations, and the Methodist continued to meet at Union Chapel until 1919 when they bought a 1/2 acre lot on the Rusk-Summerfield Road from Alex G. and Lula Tipton. They soon sold that lot to Dewey Finkley, a step-son of James J. Kennedy. Since Mr. Kennedy had deeded two acres of land from his homestead on the Summerfield-Jacksonville Road to the church on July 7, 1919, the church had no need for the smaller lot. A frame church building was immediately erected on the two acres.

At that time the church trustees were: H. P. Brooks, G. W. Rodgers, John E. Turney, J. J. Gill, and R. P. Davis. The church was in the Gallatin Circuit at that time.

In 1931 the old frame building was dismantled and a new brick building was erected on the same two acre lot closer to the present highway 79. The congregation continues to meet there.

Since the church no longer used the Union Chapel church grounds, the Methodist Church on October 3, 1957, deeded their 3 acre lot on the John Stroud Survey and their 7/10th of an acre on the Wm. Johnson Survey to the New Summerfield Cemetery Association for public use.

The following church history taken from old records was contributed by Frances Heath Anderson, now deceased: Methodist Church Roll - Union Chapel - Marshall District, August 3, 1904 and later additions Etta Barron, Cynthia Benfer, Forest Boone, Leona Boone, Lula Boone, Alta Mae Brown, Eula Pearl Brown, Sam Brown, Bonnie Casey, Linnie M. Chandler, Loushion Chandler, Leo Collins, Fannie Couch, Henry Couch, Mrs. E. P. Dalby, Eutha Dalby, Mrs. R. E. Dalby, Alice Darby, Fannie O. Darby, Nettie Darby, Gladys Davis, Howard Davis, John Davis, Nathaniel Davis, Susan Davis, Tiny Davis, Frankie Deaton, Vera Dickson, Joe C. Dotson, Lillie Dotson, Elizabeth Edwards, Ida Edwards, Mary Edwards, Barney Ellis, Kate Ellis, John G. Ellis, Herbert Ellis, Leslie Ellis, Margaret A. Ellis, Mona Ellis, O. K. Ellis, Thurman Ellis, Mattie Gibbs, J. J. Gill, Effie Goodman, Dollie Gourley, Jessie Gray, Bernice Ham, George Hamilton, Gertha Heath, P. A. Heath, G. H. Johnson, Lillian Johnson, Napoleon Johnson, Sudie Johnson, H. A. Jones, P. R. Jones, Zora Jones, Ada Lacy, E. P. Leatherwood, Minnie Leatherwood, Earl McLeod, Ethel McLeod, Richard S. McLeod, Bertie McMeans, Ollie Mack, Tom Mack, Ivan Morris, Jane Morris, J. J. Morris, Emma Murphy, Bammie Nicholson, Dreaborn Nicholson, D. T. Nicholson, Vannie Nicholson, Mrs. Rachel Parnell, R. A. Parnell, Nona Pledger, Anna Liza Pruitt, Sena Pruitt, Bettie Scarbrough, Lizzie Scarbrough, Baker Sherrard, Mary E. Sherrard, Mrs. M. J. Sherrard, Rosa Sherrard, Sam Sherrard, Unice Sherrard, Velma Sherrard, Luther Sowell, Orphie Stallings, Victoria Tennison, Velma Tipton, J. H. Wilson, Georgia Whitehead, and Minnie Upchurch.



## Members On Odd Records:

W. J. Childers from Jacksonville circuit; Mrs. M. R. Childers from Jacksonville circuit; Mrs. Mattie Nicholson, certificate from Cleveland, Texas, M. E. Church; Mrs. Evie Thomason, transfer from Josephine, Coperville charge, McKinney District; Ethel Wilson, transfer from Overton, Texas; Rev. G. C. McLeod, Sallie McLeod and Fannie McLeod, transfer from Stanley Creek Texas conference, Burke, Texas; Eula Day (Ellis), letter of membership from Fair View Missionary Baptist Church, Dryden, Oklahoma.

Several conferences were held at Union Chapel. Records were found for two.

On March 21, 1909, E. T. Bridges was pastor and J. J. Morris was secretary. About sixty members were on the roll and sixty-five were in attendance. \$42.00 was subscribed by the community at large for relief of a blind boy (name not given).

On April 20, 1909, Bro. Daniels officiated. Regular secretary, J. J. Morris, was absent and J. T. Ellis was appointed temporary secretary. The following members were removed or they were not associated with the church the past twelve months and were not entitled to be kept on the roll so their names were dropped: Leo Collins, Alice Darby, Clara Darby, Gladys Davis, May Davis, Nathaniel Davis, George Hamilton, Sudie Johnson, Olevia Jones, Otis Jones, Orphie Stallings, Baker Sherrard, Eunice Sherrard, Kate Sherrard, Mary Sherrard, M. J. Sherrard, and Sam Sherrard. Signed J. T. Ellis, Temporary Secretary.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## NEW SUMMERFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST

The NEW SUMMERFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST first began meeting in 1909 when a group of members banded together and met, probably in the school building. A ten day revival was held with Brothers H. L. McCrary and J. W. Chisom preaching. Brother McCrary continued evangelistic work in the community monthly and in 1911 J. W. Chisom returned for a ten day revival. The membership grew and interest was good. In 1912 C. C. Cofer held a revival meeting and set the church in order by appointing elders and deacons to over see the congregation and to serve until death or until moving from the community. The first elders were J. Henry Dickson and A. G. "Alex" Tipton. The first deacons were W. M. Medford and G. W. Sowell. Charter members were: J. H. Dickson, Mollie Dickson, Vera Dickson, Arthur Dickson, D. T. "Troit" Dotson, Elisa "Lyde" Dotson, C. H. Dickson, G. G. Grasty, Nina Dickson, J. W. Duty, Mary Duty, W. M. Medford, Mollie Medford, Henry Dotson, Belle Dotson, Mrs. Eliza Dodson, Mrs. Lizzie Brady, John Henry Tipton, G. W. Sowell, and Ella Sowell.

J. W. Chisom returned for revivals in 1913 and 1914. C. R. Nicols preached in 1915 and Brother Oliver held meetings in 1916 and 1917. By this time some regular members were doing much of the preaching and teaching.

After about seven years meeting in various public buildings, J. D. Tant, who was holding a revival meeting, suggested that a church building should be built. A plot of land was donated by the Lee Dicksons and a building was completed in 1919. C. W. Ing held the first revival in the new building that summer. The congregation continued to meet regularly in that frame building until it was replaced with a modern brick building in 1961. The new building was made possible by a financial loan from church leader Clavis Tipton and wife, Odessa, and by donations from the members. Regular services have been conducted in this building until the present time. In 1982 Odessa Tipton and daughter, Frankye Dwire, donated to the church a one acre lot adjoining the original church lot.

The Church of Christ has been a strong pillar in the building of a clean and active little town. Its influence is evident in the citizenship of the community and it is hoped that the religious principals for which it stands will continue to help mold good citizens of the New Summerfield community.

Other ministers working with the church, before 1950 were: 1920-1921 Coleman D. Nichols; 1922 H. L. McCrary; 1923-1924 J. T. Whitt; 1925 J. W. Wilhite; 1926 J. W. Denton; 1927-1928 T. Reginald Boley; 1929-1930 O. K. Alexander; 1931 C. R. Nicols; 1932 G. A. Dunn; 1935 Earlie Arceneaux; 1936 J. T. White; 1937-1938 W. C. Witcher; 1939-1940 S. C. Kenningham; 1942 O. K. Alexander; 1943 no meeting; 1944 James W. Jordan; 1945-1946 F. L. Paisley; 1947 J. F. Lilly, Sr. and Floyd A. Decker; 1948-1950 J. Sidney Gray, Issac Tackett, Edwin Davis, W. M. Thompson, Roy Codgill, Eris Richey, and Ovis McLeod.

Some names added to the church roll between 1915 and 1950 were: 1915 - Eddie Barron, Ollie Dickson, Earl McLeod, Lee Moore, and Viola Moore; 1918 - Alvin Dickson, Coy Dickson, Hattie Dickson, J. Lee Dickson, Tola Dickson, Lois Dickson, Ossie Fallis, Eunice Garrett, Christine Dotson, Will Dotson, Dickie Dotson, Verna Duty, Oscar Hogan, L. B. McMeans, Weldon Sowell, Alvie Tipton, Jim Hogg Tipton, Percy Tipton, Tavie Wallace, and Clifton Wilkins; 1919 - O. K. Ellis, Bonnie Ellis, Doyle Scott, Arma Wallace, and Neva Wallace; 1920 - Roscoe Dalby; 1921 - none recorded; 1922 - Julia Dickson, Fred McCown, and Thelma McCown; 1923 - Ona Pearl Brown, W. D. Casey, Carl Dickson, Joyce Dickson, Mauverine Dotson, Charlene Ferrell, Lorene Ferrell, Laurene Gammon, Velma Lacy, Lois McCown, Sybil McCown, Mabel McLeod, Claude Obar, G. W. Rumby, Oscar Sowell, and Hollis Tipton; 1924 - none recorded.

1925 - Gee Tipton, Jewel Tipton, and Velma Tipton; 1926 - none recorded; 1927 - Letha Dickson, Mildred Dotson, Bernice Duty, Earla Ellis, June Ellis, Majorie Lacy, Jack McCown, Chester Skillen, Lola Mae Thomason, Mrs. Della Dotson, A. G. Tipton, Jr., Hazel Tipton, Oliver Tipton, and Opria Tipton; 1928 - Elsie Brown, Majorie Brown, Z. O. (Ovilla) Ferrell, Ovis McLeod, Eva Mae McMeans, Pascal McMeans, Maxine Taylor, and Pearl Williams; 1929 - Clyde Brown, Allen Dotson, Clifford Dotson, Floyd Dotson, Roy Dotson, Wilma Francis Greenwood, Mattie Belle Sowell, Clavis Tipton, Bernice Underwood, and Willard Wysick.

1930 - none recorded; 1931 - Cora Boss, Hubert Boss, Margaret Boss Audrey Brown, Azile Dotson, Raymond Evans, Victor Jay, Gladys Moore, Carl Skillen, Odessa Tipton, and Opal Tipton; 1932 - Iva Lee Chandler, Novice Dotson, Margaret Ovilla Ellis, E. L. McLeod, Jr., Ruby Jewel McMeans, Dewey Maurice Tipton, W. R. Tipton, Cloyd Waldrop, and Cody Walley; 1933 - Ruth Glenn Brown; 1934 - Ima Mae Dotson, Doris Edwards, Jimmie McLeod, Ruth Sowell, Evelyn Tipton, Mary Francis Underwood, and Clarence Work; 1935-1938 - no records available; 1939 - Paul Boss, Obert Boss, Cora Belle Dotson, Ophelia McCown, Royce McCown, Bertie Pearl Tipton, Johnny Sarah Tipton, and Patsy Williams.

1940-1943 - no records available; 1944 - Olin Kyle Ellis, Jr., no others recorded; 1945 - Fred R. Heath, no others recorded; 1946-1947 - no records available; 1948 - Francis J. Cash, Shirley A. Cameron, Betty Corine Tipton, and Frankye V. Tipton; 1949 - Lettie Crow; 1950 - Loleta Beth Garner, Horace Limbough, Charles Limbough, Dorothy L. Tipton, and Jessie Lee Bobbitt.

Other names on the membership roll before 1950 — no dates given: Etta Barron, Annie Boss, Arthur Lovett, Velma Lacy, Shirley Medford, Annie Mae McMeans, Bevie Brown, Claude Brown, Flossie McLeod, S. George McCown, Annie McCown, Luther Sowell, Herbert Corbin, Calvin D. Corbin, Joseph D. Corbin, Norman Ray Garner, Mrs. Edgar (Waycl) Maris, T. L. Smith, Harrison Dotson, Callie Dotson, Texie Tipton, Thurman Tipton, Bertie Tipton, Rossie Tipton, Hazel Bounds Tipton, J. H. Underwood, Annie Underwood, John Wilkins, Mary Wilkins, Lula Tipton, John Sowell, Susie Sowell, and Emma Smith.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

When the early settlers established the first places of worship, they were often known as Union Churches. Although the property may have been owned by one church denomination, all faiths met and worshipped in the same building. Various faiths took turns having an evangelist hold summer revivals between the time when the crops were "laid-by" and harvest time.

The people of Baptist faith used the Union Chapel church building with the Methodists who owned the property until a Baptist congregation was formed in 1911. This congregation probably met in the school house for a while and on November 26, 1913, Theodore A. Gandy and wife, Ada, deeded three acres of land to the Baptist Church. This was the same location that is still used by the church. They built a nice frame building which was dismantled in 1955 and a new brick building was erected in its place. Some remodeling has been done with additions being made to the building and the congregation meets there regularly.

In 1950 the Baptist Church bought a small frame house from Paul and Frances Boss located on farm road 235 near downtown New Summerfield. This house was used for a parsonage. It was soon moved to the church grounds where it served as a parsonage. The lot was sold to Delbert and Nettie Musick. The parsonage was sold in 1984 to Kenneth and Carolyn Turner and moved from the church lot.

## Charter Members

Angus L. Stewart, Mrs. Newsom, Hanna Mints, Ada Gandy, Gussie Haws, Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. Lloyd, Theodore Gandy, Zella Womack, George Acker, and Mrs. George Acker.

Ground breaking services for a new Baptist Church building were held May 1, 1955. Dr. J. T. Greenwood turned the soil and J. A. McIntire lead the prayer. Workmen dismantled the old church building on Thursday June 2, 1955.

The first service held in the new building was held Wednesday night July 27, 1955 although the building was not complete. Dedication services were held Sunday October 23, 1955. The dedicatory message was given by a former minister, Rev. J. S. Jones of Blackjack.

Known pastors of the First Baptist Church of New Summerfield are: T. N. Fore, 1911-; J. S. Jones, 1916; H. D. Parnell, 1917-1918; W. D. Andrews, 1924; A. L. Meador, 1925; S. R. Malone, 1930; E. D. Keller, 1935; J. S. Jones, September 1937-October 1946; Grover Laird, December 1946-October 1947; Harold E. Brunson, November 1947-November 1949; George Conn, February 1950-November 1951; Vern Holifield, December 1951-April 1954; Ruben Leslie, July 1954-August 1957 (A new building was erected); Gordon Renshaw, October 1957-April 1960; Bill Thompson, June 1960-September 1960; Glenn Stovall, October 1960-September 1963; James Schoenrock, October 1963-March 1966; Royce Sanders, June 1966-March 1968; Grady Johnson, June 1968-October 1969; Louis Simpson, December 1969-August 1972; Dr. Joe Pendleton, September 1972-1975; Edwin Crank, August 1975-present (A new education building was added).

(Submitted too late to index)

## TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

The local Southern Baptist Church congregation was organized in 1954. Two lots were purchased in downtown New Summerfield from Delbert and Nettie Musick. A deed was made from the Musicks to the Executive Board of the Cherokee County Baptist Association on June 9, 1954.

The Baptist Association deeded the lots to the trustees of the New Summerfield Temple Baptist Church on October 22, 1954. A building was erected and the congregation met there regularly until it disbanded.

The church minutes of August 18, 1958 show that the congregation agreed in a business meeting to disband, donate the church building to the Reklaw Baptist Church and return the lots to Mr. and Mrs. Bert Haws who had financed the purchase of those lots.

Bert and Fern Haws sold the lots to Ovis and Jimmy McLeod on September 25, 1963.

*(Facts from church minutes and deed records.)  
Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## VICTORY CHAPEL RANCH

The Victory Chapel Ranch on June 29, 1979 bought 20 acres of land on Highway 110 in northern New Summerfield and established a non-denominational church congregation and a church operated private school. A church building and other associated buildings were erected. This land was purchased from H. D. Stallings and wife, Ella Mae.

The private school was not accredited by the state. The school was discontinued in 1983, but the congregation continues with worship services.

## THE LORD JESUS CHRIST CAMPGROUND

The Texas District Assemblies of The Lord Jesus Christ Campground is maintained by a church group. It is about two and one-half miles southeast of the New Summerfield townsite on farm road 235. It has been there several years.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*



## Cemeteries

One of the first areas set aside for public use was the necessary burial ground. Many cemeteries began on private property as family burial plots but they were shared by the public and often deeded to the public in later years. Others were set up in central areas near churches or schools. Family cemeteries are scattered throughout the area and many are lost because markers were destroyed or over grown with underbrush. Sad as it is some have been purposely cleared away on farms and ranches or roadways because they were in the way. Many graves were merely marked with native stones with no inscriptions, although a few were inscribed on native stones or concrete markers. Marble markers were very expensive and hard to get and most pioneers could not afford them. In one known case a marker was ordered from the East and shipped by rail to Rusk, Texas. When it arrived, relatives could not raise the \$5.00 C.O.D. fee and the marker was returned unclaimed.

Many unmarked graves are sure to be in this area as hardships and diseases caused many early deaths among the pioneers. We can only mention those cemeteries known to exist.

These brief histories of the New Summerfield Cemeteries were compiled from public records by Earla Ellis Clifton.

### COUCH CEMETERY

The Couch Cemetery is a family cemetery located on private property about one mile northeast of the New Summerfield townsite. Only a few grave markers can be found there now, but in the early 1900's it was used by the Couch and Cowan families. The oldest marker inscribed marks the grave of J. W. Cowan, husband of Mollie Couch. Another marker was for the grave of Henry A. Couch, a brother of Mollie Couch, who died March 20, 1921. He was a private in the Confederates State Army during the Civil War.

It is known that several graves of family members were in this cemetery but no other records are available at this time.

### DODSON CEMETERY

This cemetery is located about one-half mile east of the present New Summerfield townsite. It was begun as a private family cemetery on the Laban Dodson Plantation. Laban Dodson's son, Thomas L. and wife, Eliza, buried their infant son there in 1857, and in 1865 they buried their ten year old daughter Cordellia near the infant. In 1868 their only other child James L., age 16, was also buried there.

The family erected an iron picket fence enclosing a small plot around these graves. Other family members buried there are: Laban Dodson and his wife, Margaret; Thomas L. Dodson and his wife, Eliza; Samuel L. Fox and his wife, Mary E.; James D. Fox and Dorothy Lanier. These graves are all marked with well preserved marble markers, except the grave of an infant child of Elzie and Blanche Jay Dickson has no marker.

On January 8, 1909, Eliza Dodson, the widow of Thomas L. Dodson, made a deed donating four and one-third (4 $\frac{1}{3}$ ) acres of land from her farm to the public for a cemetery. In this deed, she states that "in consideration of my desire that the Summerfield Community situated in Cherokee County, Texas, be provided a suitable burying ground near the village of said name which will be open to all people who may desire to use the same for burying their dead, and in consideration of my desire to promote the cause of Christianity — convey this land to R. L. Robinson, County

Judge of Cherokee County, and his successors in office forever for the purpose set out."

She further states that, "It is my purpose by this conveyance to convey and dedicate the above described land to the public as a burying ground for the people of Summerfield or neighboring communities which may desire to use the same as a burying ground. It is also my purpose that the church known as the Christian Brethern shall have the privilege of erecting a house of worship upon the above described premises, if it shall desire to do so; and I hereby convey to said church and to such officers thereof as may be designated by it for said purposes the right to select a site upon said premises (which shall not be so located as to occupy any ground theretofore actually used for interring of the dead), use and occupy the same for said purpose forever."

The Christian Brethern (Church of Christ) referred to in this deed had just organized a congregation in Summerfield at that time and had no house for worship but were meeting probably in the school house. Eliza Dodson was a charter member of this church congregation. However, the church did not erect a building on the cemetery acreage. In 1917, Lee and Tola Dickson deeded one acre of land, located in the townsite, to the Church of Christ and a building was erected on it in 1919.

This cemetery is not accessible for public use at the present time since it is surrounded by private property with no entrance from a public road or highway. The family plot is still enclosed in the well preserved antique iron picket fence but the remainder of the acreage is unfenced and unimproved.

The improvement and accessibility of this cemetery is a project for future consideration by the Cemetery Association.

## **FRIENDSHIP CEMETERY**

Near the old Friendship school and church located in the southern part of the New Summerfield community is a small cemetery with rock marked graves and one inscribed marker. This marker was for the grave of John H. Kennedy, born January 22, 1857, and died January 12, 1860. The Federal Census for 1860, shows him as a son of A. A. (Alfred) Kennedy and Elizabeth L. (Stell) Kennedy who were known to have lived in that area. Reports indicate Samuel Tipton was buried in this cemetery as were others of that early settlement. William Dotson who lived near Friendship in 1860, died in Cherokee County before 1870, and may have been buried there.

## **GANDY CEMETERY**

This is another private cemetery, the evidence of which is almost lost. This Gandy family cemetery is located east of Mud Creek and about one mile north of Highway 79, on property now owned by Mrs. Nelle Albritton Young. It is believed this property was owned by Walter Gandy when this cemetery was begun. A few years ago there were about 12 or 15 markers there but in 1984, only four broken markers remain at the unfenced site in a wooded area of Mrs. Young's cattle ranch.

It is known that several members of the Gandy and Haws families were buried there. The oldest marker there now marks the grave of W. R. Smith, born December 9, 1806, and died August 6, 1867. It is not known what relation this person was to the Gandy family.

Other markers show this information: S. J. D. Harrell born 1856 - died 1871, H. W. (Walter) Gandy - died 1874, Mrs. Gussie Tennison - died 1886, age 29 years.

Walter Gandy was married to Vienna Harrell, a daughter of Mrs. Martha Harrell. Mrs. Gussie Tennison was married first to Charley Hendly and she, too, was a daughter of Mrs. Martha Harrell. S. J. D. Harrell was also a relative of the Gandy family. After the death of Walter Gandy, Mrs. Vienna Gandy married J. B. Haws. It is known that there were Haws family members buried in this cemetery but no records are available.

## **LOWE PRIVATE CEMETERY**

Two rock marked graves known to be those of Finley and Selia Lowe are located on private property once owned by Dalby relatives but now owned by Belton and Marjorie Farley. The 1870 census shows them living near John W. Dalby. They were the parents of Mrs. Malinda Dalby, wife of Isaac Knight Dalby, who later deeded land for the Dalby School.

## MCDONALD CEMETERY

Sometimes prior to 1856 there was a need for a cemetery in the area of the present McDonald Cemetery. Although there was no townsite near, a large number of rock marked graves were there years ago. The first inscribed grave markers show the graves of Martha E. Privett 1853-1856, Mary Ann Privett 1855-1856, and Dr. J. C. Privett 1826-1857. It is not known what took the lives of this young family in such a short time but epidemics of smallpox, typhoid, flu, and other serious diseases often were fatal to entire families. Dr. Privett and wife, Martha Stell Privett had bought land near by on the Wm. Gates survey about 1851.

Researching the origin of this cemetery was quite a challenge since not even the oldest citizens had any positive ideas as to why it was called the "McDonald Cemetery." Deed records were searched beginning with the original land grant issued by the State of Texas, and the Federal Census records beginning with the first Cherokee County census in 1850. Since that tract of land is known as the Wm. Johnson Survey, he was researched and found living in this area in 1850 with his wife, Clarissa A. and their eleven month old son, John (Joseph) B.

Wm. Johnson applied for a certificate for 320 acres of land to homestead prior to 1850, having settled on the land now in the southeastern section of the present townsite of New Summerfield and claiming it to be unoccupied land. On October 21, 1854, the permanent land grant was issued by the State of Texas to the heirs of Wm. Johnson, deceased. His heirs were listed as Mrs. Clarissa Johnson and children, Joseph Benson, Virginia W. and I. Newton Johnson.

In 1858 Mrs. Clarissa Adaline Johnson married Thomas McDonald who was 22 years older than she. They had two children, Thomas J. and Oldocia "Ollie" (Olivia). This family continued to live on the Johnson homestead land and in 1870, Mrs. Clarissa Johnson McDonald was again a widow still on the homestead with her children, Virginia now known as Jinnie, Newton, Thomas J. and Oldocia. Joseph Benson who was now 20 years old was no longer in her household. It is presumed that Thomas McDonald, her husband, had died and was buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Virginia W. Johnson married Augustus "Gus" Mack in 1872, and on July 24, 1878, the other Johnson heirs signed a deed to them for 70 acres of the homestead. Mrs. Clarissa Johnson McDonald signed this deed as Mrs. Clarissa A. Gray. (It seems she had married Alexander Gray in January 1878). Other heirs signing were: Joseph Benson Johnson and wife, Ann E.; I Newton Johnson and wife, Rose Ann. These heirs were living in Shelby County, Texas, where they signed this deed. No other records were found on Thomas J. McDonald, Oldocia (Ollie) McDonald married Monroe Mack and remained on the homestead land.

The McDonald Cemetery was named from this McDonald family on whose property it was located. It may have begun as a family cemetery but it was soon used as a public cemetery. In 1911 F. M. (Forest) Boone and wife, Clara, deeded to the public one-half acre from their farm adjoining the cemetery to be used as a part of the cemetery.

About 1929 and 1930 oil companies became interested in leasing land in the area and in checking records, it became evident that the original McDonald Cemetery was still private property having never been deeded by the Johnson heirs to the public. On July 11, 1930, a Johnson heir, T. J. "Tom" Mack, deeded to the public the original one-acre plot and also sold all mineral rights to the plot specifying that no operations for oil would ever be conducted on the said property.

More land was added to this cemetery on June 20, 1959 when Y. D. Fitch and wife, Audrey, deeded to the New Summerfield Memorial Association four-tenths (4/10ths) of an acre of land adjoining the F. M. Boone addition. This greatly improved the cemetery.

A change in the highway 110 right-of-way left a small strip of land between the cemetery's east boundary line and the highway. On April 30, 1947, Bernice Underwood bought this three-tenths of an acre from the Mack heirs; T. J. Mack, Mrs. Matt Gibbs, Pearl Gibbs Graham, and Gus Graham. This small tract is being used as a part of the cemetery now.

## MYRTLE SPRINGS CEMETERY

Perhaps the most used cemetery in the New Summerfield area in the early days was the Myrtle Springs Cemetery. This cemetery had its beginning in the 1850's. Thomas Garrison, on January 11, 1857, deeded to the Myrtle Springs Cemetery five acres of land for a sum of fifteen (\$15.00) dollars. This was on the Abraham Myers Survey - later survey maps and deeds record it as the J. V. (Victor) Thomason Survey.

On June 19, 1897, John D. Cook of Dewitt County, Texas, made an affidavit stating that he and his father, Caswell Cook, witnessed this deed at the request of Thomas Garrison. This affidavit



was filed in Cherokee County, Texas, by County Judge, J. W. Chandler, on May 10, 1898.

A church was already established at Myrtle Springs at that time. Reports are that this was a Baptist church but it served as a union church where all faiths met for revivals and worship services. The church is no longer there but the cemetery has been used frequently until the present time. It is enclosed in a chain link fence and is well cared for. An open shelter is on the parking area.

The Myrtle Springs Cemetery Association has a perpetual care charter and donations are made to the association for the upkeep of the cemetery. An annual Memorial Day is observed each year when interested people assemble on the cemetery grounds for a memorial sermon, a basket lunch and general fellowship.

A road change several years ago left a small strip of land between the cemetery property and the new roadway. This strip was from land owned by Stanley Greenwood, Sr. and he deeded that strip of land to the cemetery association.

## **UNION CHAPEL CEMETERY**

Union Chapel Cemetery was begun on a three-acre tract of land donated to the Methodist Episcopal Church South by Dr. G. F. Fullerton and wife, Mattie, by a deed dated July 27, 1878. This land was from the west side of their farm on the G. A. Gordon Survey.

The oldest inscribed marker in the cemetery marks the grave of Willie Stallings, an infant son of J. L. and Eugenia Stallings, who died in August 1881.

This cemetery has been in continuous use since that time. In 1911, W. C. Fuller and wife, Dee M., sold to the Methodist Church a lot containing seven tenths (7/10ths) of an acre of land from their farm on the Wm. Johnson Survey and adjoining the Union Chapel Cemetery.

On October 10, 1957, the Methodist Episcopal Church deeded all the above 3-7/10 acres of land to the New Summerfield Cemetery Association. The church had been re-located since 1919 and had no further need for the Union Chapel acreage.

## **NEW SUMMERFIELD CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

In the early years there were annual cemetery work days when all interested persons gathered at the cemeteries to clean the grounds, repair fences, etc. This finally became too great a task for the available workers and about 1930 a memorial association was organized in the community to assist with the care of the McDonald, Union Chapel and Dodson Cemeteries. Once a year a Memorial Day was observed by the community with a Memorial Sermon delivered by a local minister. A public dinner was spread under shade trees where a great fellowship was enjoyed by all attending.

A concession stand was operated under the shade of the trees where ice cream, drinks, and candy were sold and the profits were donated to the cemetery association. Free-will donations were also added to the treasury and the money was used for the care of the cemeteries. In the afternoon a business meeting was held followed by an hour of gospel singing.

The New Summerfield Memorial Association in its annual meeting in 1971 voted to apply for a charter and go into a perpetual care program for the care and maintenance of the three public cemeteries. The charter was granted and recorded by the State of Texas on April 3, 1972, under the name of "The New Summerfield Cemetery Association, Inc." The original Board of Trustees named as the incorporators of the non-profit corporation were: A. N. Walley, Mrs. O. K. Ellis, Clavis Greenwood, Aubrey Darby, and S. L. Davis. This Board was responsible for drawing up a constitution and by-laws for the Association. This constitution and by-laws were presented to the annual meeting of the membership in 1972 for approval. They were approved and became effective at that time. The cemeteries are now under the care of the Board of Trustees. There are five trustees elected alternately for a three-year term by the membership in its annual meeting.

The Constitution and By-laws provided for the investment of the perpetual care funds in an insured institution, such as a trust fund, building and loan or bank where they become a Permanent Endowment owned and governed by the Association through its governing body, the Board of Trustees. The compounded interest of the investment is to be used to pay for the care of the cemeteries. No income from this endowment may be used for any other purpose than the care and improvement or purchase of additional land for the New Summerfield Cemeteries.

The Secretary-Treasurer is to keep a strict accounting of all funds belonging to the Association. The Board of Trustees is to have an annual audit made of the financial affairs of the Association by a competent accountant and the findings of the audit are to be made available to the members of the Association at their annual business meeting.

If and when the active membership of the Association is such that the proper care and maintenance of the cemeteries cannot be carried on, those members are authorized to enter into a contract with an insured institution whose obligation will be to use the income from the Endowment for the care and maintenance of the cemeteries. This insures a continued and perpetual endowment fund with interest to be available for the continued care of these cemeteries.

The By-laws also provide for other things such as membership, permanent membership roll, notice of meetings, election of trustees, voting privilege, business meetings, handling of affairs by the Board, signing of checks and paying of bills, records and minutes of all the meetings, records of all donations, use of funds, Board of Trustee, and annual membership, committees appointed and provisions for amending the By-laws.

The annual meetings of the Association are now held in the Missionary Baptist Church where a local minister delivers a memorial sermon and a business meeting is held before lunch. A covered dish lunch is spread in the Fellowship Hall. The afternoon singing has been discontinued.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

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On Saturday, October 10, 1908 Thomas Lacy Dodson of Lone Star passed away. Deceased was born in Tennessee, January 1827 and came to Texas in 1845-1846. From that time till his death he was a citizen of Cherokee County.

He was the only child of his parents and he died without children, though he and his wife who survives him raised several orphan children. He was laid to rest in the family burying ground at his home.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

April 26, 1901

Grandma Dodson, mother of Tom Dodson of Griffin died last week at about ninety years of age. (This was Margaret Dodson, wife of Laban Dodson who was then deceased. She died in her son's home on April 19, 1901. They lived near Summerfield but used a Griffin mailing address).

*Newspaper Obituaries, 1836-1908, Cherokee County, Texas  
Contributed by Helen Wooddell Crawford*

## Education And Schools

Education was secondary to making a living when pioneers first came to New Summerfield. The hardships of covered wagon travel and weeks on the trail left little time for formal education. Learning methods of survival was the main education children received then. A Bible and a few choice books were tucked into the covered wagon. They were shared with others who could read. Educated adults often volunteered to teach the children as they traveled.

Not until they were settled did the pioneers really worry about formal education. Children were taught by their parents or a capable neighbor. Husbands, wives and children taught each other, depending on who was best educated. A few families brought private tutors. Legal records show many of the early community leaders had to sign with an "X" before two witnesses because they could not write their names. Early federal census records list some heads of households as "can't read or write."

"Subscription Schools" taught by private teachers were about the earliest educational program available. Old Jacksonville newspapers list private subscription school advertisements as late as 1891. From the Jacksonville Banner January 22, 1891 - "Jacksonville is doing herself incalculable injury by not building a school house and securing a good teacher to run a public school." They did build a house and open a public school in October that year. Union Chapel at (New) Summerfield and other area public schools were established several years earlier. This shows that education was really "ahead" at (New) Summerfield in the early development of its school system as the history will indicate.

It is known that "Subscription Schools" were taught in the community before public schools were established. Some were taught by mothers or young ladies in an extra room of their home. Neighbors sent their children and paid a "fee" or "tuition." Payments may have been met with canned goods, quilts, cured meat, produce or other useable items. Some parents might work out the tuition and some were able to pay cash.

When Texas became a state in 1846, there was no school system. It was 1854 before the legislature authorized the creation of public free schools. Mrs. Hattie Joplin Roach in her book *The Hills of Cherokee* states that forty-four districts were set up in Cherokee County and trustees were elected. Some schools in the (New) Summerfield area were included in that early establishment. The earliest records are not available.

State funds for teachers' salaries were usually inadequate and patrons had to share the extra expenses of the school by paying a proportionate part for each child. There were no state building funds at that time so early schools were taught in church houses or buildings provided by local Masonic or W.O.W. Lodges.

The very earliest school attended by children of the (New) Summerfield area was probably at Griffin since it was the oldest permanent townsite east of Mud Creek. It was not long until the Friendship and Lone Star schools were established.

By 1858 Cherokee County had a board of examiners to certify teachers in the county who were qualified to draw state money. Several of (New) Summerfield's young men and women attended a few weeks of special training at a "Teachers' Institute" and became qualified teachers. Such institutes were held in various communities. Many were held at Rusk and Lone Star. Some local people went to Denton, Texas, or to the Orr "Summer Hill Select School" at Omen, Texas, to further their education.

After the Civil War, public free high schools were set up with state funds, but again funds were always short and each district had to raise additional money. For a district to receive state funds a suitable building had to be provided. In 1871 Cherokee County placed an ad valorem tax on property to raise building funds for the county. By 1876 state building funds were made available. It was about that time when the first public records were kept on local schools. The Friendship school and Union Chapel schools may have existed a few years earlier as they were well established schools by 1884. No uniform text books were provided until 1893. Parents bought the books — usually one of each per family and they were handed down from child to child.

Providing public free education was a slow process, largely due to a lack of funds. New Sum-



merfield citizens were always ready to use every available means to improve the school and further education in the community.

Available county school records began in the year 1884. It seems only financial records were required. They gave an account of all funds used for teachers' vouchers and building repair and sometimes the dates that schools were in session. The early schools were taught on such split terms it is difficult to determine from the sketchy records the exact year a teacher was teaching at a certain school or when that school was in session. One teacher might teach a short spring term and another teacher would teach a summer or fall session. Sessions ran from three weeks to five months and pay vouchers were often delayed because of a lack of funds and may have been issued a year later than due.

Labels on the old record books are misleading. Spelling and writing are poor and often faded so the following school stories will not be completely accurate. Hopefully they will be of interest and the history of that period will be well represented.

*Researched and compiled by  
Earla Ellis Clifton and LaNelle Clifton Wilcox*

## **FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL — DISTRICT #40**

One of the earliest schools on record in the New Summerfield area was known as the Friendship School. It was located about two miles south of the present school. There is no physical evidence of that school but a small cemetery can still be found in the area. Only one engraved marker is there along with other rock marked graves. J. H. Kennedy, son of Alfred A. and Elizabeth (Stell) Kennedy was buried there. The remaining marker shows the dates: born January 22, 1857 - died January 12, 1860. Several pioneer families settled in that area in 1850-1870.

The first available records in 1884 show this school in existence but for how long it is not certain although "old timers" think it may have been established in the 1850-60 period.

Records beginning 1884 list these teachers at Friendship: 1884 — J. H. Cannon (J. M. Summers did building repair); 1885 — Pupils transferred to District 37 (Lone Star) and District 44 (Friends - later Dalby); 1886 — George Anderson and J. H. Cannon. No other record found until 1896.

1896 — Miss Fannie Wiggins and S. P. McKnight; 1897 — Henry Pickett; 1900 — Miss Etta Summers. That year the trustees were: J. L. Bailey, S. H. Bowling and E. P. Dalby.

No further records were found. Because of the people involved and the school district number, it is believed that school was closed and re-opened in Ponta since that school became district 40 on later records.

*The Jacksonville Banner* dated April 9, 1891, ran this news article: "A music school (vocal), taught by Prof. Howard and his brother at Friendship, has recently closed. We take pleasure in stating in behalf of Prof. Howard and his brother that their school is evident proof of the fact that they are wide-awake teachers and understand their business thoroughly."

It seems that Friendship was still an active neighborhood at that time.

## **STALLINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT #52**

The earliest reports of this school indicate that the first teacher at the Stallings school was Walter Gandy. These reports were verified by his granddaughters, Mrs. Minnie Gandy Thompson and Mrs. Beatrice Gandy Bishop. Walter died February 1, 1874, showing that the school existed prior to that time. The school house is no longer there. It was located east of Mud Creek, south of highway 79 and just east of the present Circle W. Riders' Club Arena. The land was once owned by James L. and Eugenia Stallings. On February 21, 1844, after Eugenia Stallings death, James L. Stallings married Mrs. Mary Jane Tipton Cook, the widow of J. W. Cook and a daughter of Isaac C. and Margaret Ann Roddy Tipton. All of these families had settled near the Stallings school site.

The first official school records that are available show these teachers: 1884 — Isaac C. Tipton. He received two vouchers — \$13.50 and \$20.00. Some pupils transferred that year to District No. 53 (Griffin). He may have taught there earlier.

1886-87 — Isaac C. Tipton received four vouchers of \$25.00 each. They were issued in October

and December 1886, and August and September 1887, Thomas A. Cocke, founder of the Lone Star Institute, was teaching at Griffin at that time and several area pupils transferred to the larger school.

1900 — Mrs. M. A. Towles. She taught a two months session.

No more records were found but Matthew Gill reportedly taught at that school before the school consolidated with the Summerfield School when it was set-up "down town" in 1897.

## **DALBY SCHOOL DISTRICT #44 (Friends or Friendship #2)**

The Dalby school was located about two and one-half miles south of the present New Summerfield school. It was on the old Summerfield-Ponta road. The first official record of this school was a deed. On December 29, 1884, Malinda Dalby deeded to the public a two and one fifth (2-1/5) acre tract of land for a school at that site. The county school records also list the school in 1884, under the name "Friends" and later as "Friendship #2." This indicates that the original Friendship school (about one mile across the woods) did not meet the needs of the area and at least some pupils attended the Friendship #2. Some had transferred there in past years.

A partial list of Dalby teachers is shown below: 1884-85 — Miss Hasie N. Davidson. She drew two pay vouchers — \$35.00 and \$52.30. She was a favorite teacher of the early Dalby pupils. E. K. B. Patterson was paid for building repairs.

1886-87 — Emma McCaskill and John W. Dalby drew a voucher (probably repairs); 1897-98 — Homer Powell. He married Viola Tipton January 20, 1898 while teaching there. She was a daughter of Thomas J. and Mary E. Cook Tipton.

By that time the records list it as the Dalby School District No. 40 which it remained until consolidating with (New) Summerfield in 1925 (transferred in 1923).

Other teachers at Dalby whose names were taken from county records of vouchers issued and the order in which they taught are listed as accurately as possible.

Mrs. Lena Jones, J. G. Ellis, Effie O. Fitch, Etta Summers, Susie Pearman, Macyl Gregory, Beatrice Spain, Ella Spain, Ruby Jenkins, T. F. Thompson and Buna Greenwood.

World War I was being fought at that time and D. B. (Boyd) Owens reportedly gave up a teaching job there to go into the army. Miss Ruby Jenkins returned as a teacher in 1918. It was she who gave the "good news" to her pupils when word was received that the war had ended.

Following the war were these teachers: Ruby Jenkins, D. B. Owens, Gladys Davis, Hubert Owens, Cora Owens, Ora Griffin, Louise Lester, and Noma Shaw.

In 1923 Dalby school pupils were transferred to (New) Summerfield. The first New Summerfield School bus was run to that school. On January 17, 1925, an election was held to consolidate the schools. It carried and the Dalby school was permanently closed and the old school house and grounds were sold to Mrs. Melissa Collins on June 26, 1930. The land is now owned by Belton and Marjorie Farley.

## **THE JONES SCHOOL**

No reports of this school were located in public school records. It may have been under another name in the records, but many area residents are known to have attended this school. It was established in 1888 when John C. and Susan Kennedy Jones deeded one acre of land to the public for a school. The site was near the old Lone Star road and about one mile east of the present school. According to legend the school was abandoned after a short time because of unsuitable drinking water. When the land was no longer used for school purposes, it returned to the original owner as called for in the deed.

Some pupils believed to have attended this school were the Jones children: Homer, Pierce, and (Dr.) Pearl E.; also (Dr.) James T. Greenwood, Ed Magee and Will Magee. Other Jones and Greenwood children as well as the Bullard, Fredrick, and Wallace children probably attended this school.

Reports are that it consolidated with the school built in 1897 near the Summerfield store.

## UNION CHAPEL SCHOOL DISTRICT #42

The school at Union Chapel is often confused with the later Summerfield school. Available records show a school there years before Summerfield had a name.

There was an early Methodist Church at Union Chapel. It is not known when it was organized but it must have been on private property. W. T. Flowers owned that land from 1870 to July 24, 1877, when he sold it to Dr. G. F. Fullerton and wife, Mattie. The Fullertons deeded three acres from their 320 acre farm to the Methodist Church on July 27, 1878. It was to be used as a burying ground at Union Chapel. This deed seems to have included land for the already established church.

G. W. Loftis owned the adjoining tract of land. The first available school records show one J. W. or W. J. Loftis as a teacher. It is believed that he was a son of G. W. Loftis. Rev. W. J. Loftis, a Methodist minister and a very active citizen, lived and died at (New) Summerfield. Records indicate that the Union Chapel School was taught in the church house and probably the minister was also the teacher.

The county school records show the following teachers after 1884: 1884 — Lucy Jones; 1885-86 — J. G. West (also a notary public). He was paid \$24.37½ on November 15, 1886; 1887 — J. W. Loftis (paid \$25.55 on August 12, 1887, and \$25.45½ on September 3, 1887); The next record found was 1897 — J. W. Loftis.

A new school building was erected in 1896-97 near the new Ike Tipton store and post office. Pupils then attended that school. It was called the Summerfield school although county records continued it as the Union Chapel school for a few more years.

## SUMMERFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 42

On July 29, 1895, Caley Summers joined by Thomas L. and Eliza Dodson, deeded to the public one acre of land for a new school house, which was located near the newly established general store and post office at Summerfield. On July 11, 1896, Caley Summers deeded an additional six yard strip of land adjoining the one acre tract to be used with the school. A one room building of boxing planks was erected and classes began there in 1897. That building was located near the site of the present city fire station. Teachers known to have taught there were: 1897-1898 — D. B. Williamson (first teacher in the new school house); 1898-1900 — Homer Powell; 1900-1901 — Homer Powell and Madge Tipton; 1901-1902 — R. F. White and Arthur Dickson (3 months). Trustees were A. L. Stewart, J. F. Wallace, and W. K. Dickson; 1902-1903 — P. H. Morton, Gertha Morris and S. H. Priesley; 1903-1905 — S. H. Priesley, Gertha Morris and F. S. Sewell. Trustees were D. T. Nicholson, J. W. Gray, and G. W. Sowell; 1905-1906 — M. V. (W) Parks, Gertha Morris, and F. S. Sewell.

By 1906 (New) Summerfield was a little "Boom-town" with several businesses. The school was located on the main business block and enrollment was growing so that it needed more space and a larger building. Joe and Lizzie Brady deeded four acres to the public for a new school. Again the school was located near the Union Chapel Church about one quarter mile southeast of the business district. A new two-room frame house was erected and classes were probably held there in 1907. The old downtown school campus was deeded to Joe Brady who sold the west one-half of the lot to Arthur Dickson for his store building.

On December 6, 1909, Isabel Gill sold the school one acre adjoining the new campus for \$22.50. The teachers recorded at that school were: 1907-09 — W. S. Parks and Ruby Davis; 1909-11 — W. S. Parks and Mrs. W. S. Parks; 1911-12 — F. S. Sewell and Mrs. Bessie Sewell; 1912-13 — F. S. Sewell, Mrs. F. S. Sewell and Bettie Henley; 1913-15 — F. S. Sewell, Mrs. F. S. Sewell and Thomas Pryor.

Again more campus was added when Theodore and Ada Gandy sold an adjoining lot containing about one acre to the school on September 1, 1913. F. S. and Bessie Sewell sold their homesite to the school on December 27, 1915. That plot contained one and seven tenths (1-7/10ths) acres near the school campus. The school then had over six acres of campus and by that time about 100 pupils were attending from a great distance. Summerfield was an outstanding school with one of the first complete high schools in the area. At that time pupils graduated from the ninth grade. For several years a high quality school continued there with these teachers: 1915-16 — T. A. Popham, M. Y. Burton and Iva Deerman; 1916-17 — J. T. Ellis, M. Y. Burton and Iva Deerman; 1917-18 — J. T. Ellis, M. Y. Burton and Viola Heath; 1918-19 — J. T. Ellis, Viola Heath, Ethel Griffin and Buna Greenwood; 1919-20 — J. B. Sewell, Mrs. J. B. Sewell, Bettie Henley and Eunice Henley.

The school had continued through the World War I period and had settled down to a steady



growth. New rooms had been added to the original building. But, in 1920, a wind storm destroyed the school house and again a change was necessary. The school board and patrons decided to buy land and move the school back "downtown." It was located across the street (the Rusk road) from the former downtown school site and business houses. Four acres of land were purchased from the heirs of W. J. and Martha Kennedy Loftis. The heirs were Emory C. Loftis, Bryan H. Loftis and Opal Loftis (a minor represented by her guardian and sister-in-law, Mrs. E. B. "Birdie" Loftis Stovall). They signed deeds to the school on June 28, 1920, and on July 20, 1920. Separate deeds were made because of the minor heir.

It is not known where classes were held during construction of the new building nor if it was ready that fall. It is possible classes were held in the newly built Methodist Church house near the new campus. Frank F. Fullerton, a son of the well known Dr. G. F. Fullerton, and husband of Willie Dotson, was the contractor for the new four room brick building. C. G. Ellis, secretary of the school board, made a payment on the building fund in 1920-21, according to County records. That building is still in use today with improvements and additions. Teachers in that new building were: 1920-21 — Otis Webb, Eunice Henley, Bettie Henley; 1921-22 — Ila Maris, Rosa Maris, Lela Maris and E. B. Henley; 1922-23 — Ila, Rosa and Lela Maris (sisters).

In 1923 the Dalby school transferred all the pupils to (New) Summerfield. Teachers at that time were: 1923-24 — Homer D. Rawlinson, Mrs. Vera Rawlinson, Lurtie Marris, Gladys Gray, and Diamond Brady; 1924-25 — Homer D. Rawlinson, Mrs. Vera Rawlinson, Grace Reed, Faye Cowan and Diamond Brady.

The next major changes in the school were in 1929 when an addition was made to the building. Under the supervision of the school board and Superintendent C. T. Jackson, two classrooms and a combination library, study hall and auditorium were added. The school was made an independent school district January 25, 1929.

The Griffin school consolidated with the New Summerfield School in 1934, and the Emmaus School consolidated with New Summerfield in 1936. This brought a large number of new pupils to the school. The Emmaus wooden frame school building was moved onto the campus for additional classrooms.

Superintendent C. T. Jackson and wife, Ina Maud Jackson, left the school in 1933, but returned in 1935. Through his efforts, the school was granted full state affiliation about 1936-37. More school campus was needed and a two acre tract was purchased from the heirs of the Dr. W. R. Tension Estate. Since the estate was unsettled at that time, it was necessary to go through court to obtain a title to the land. A deed was signed August 10, 1937. That two acres gave more play ground and space for a gymnasium.

A. G. Tipton had owned a small store lot within that two acre tract. He made a quit-claim deed to Mayfield Produce Co. on February 3, 1932. It was not until February 12, 1943, that this small lot was deeded to the school by Mayfield Co. That cleared the title on all that tract.

Construction was begun on a gymnasium in late 1937, or early 1938. The school superintendent, C. T. Jackson, was killed in an automobile collision on January 14, 1938. He was enroute to pick up ball players when he was hit by an on coming car. The gym was finished and a dedication ceremony was held on September 23, 1938, in memory of C. T. Jackson.

Progress continued at the (New) Summerfield school. On February 26, 1941, the school board voted to begin a hot lunch program through the government lunch program. A lunchroom was set up in a section of the old Emmaus school building now on the New Summerfield campus.

In the late 1930's the Afton Grove high school pupils were transferred to the New Summerfield school. They later consolidated with the Jacksonville school system.

A home economics and agriculture building was soon erected. An agriculture shop and a science lab were later added to that building.

In 1960 a new classroom building was begun. It was constructed of concrete tile and contained six classrooms, two rest rooms, and an office. It was located between the old classroom building and the gym.

The intergration movement of the early 1960's caused more changes in school systems. In 1965-66 pupils were given a "freedom of choice" in attending school. A few black pupils from the Pine Hill black school chose to attend school at New Summerfield. Full intergration began the next year (1966-67), when all the Pine Hill pupils were brought to the New Summerfield campus. The transition was made with few major problems. Teachers from the Pine Hill school who became a part of the intergrated school system were: Cleophus Hall, Helen Jane Tilley and Amy Walker. Other teachers on the faculty that year were Superintendent Albert Fuller, principal Doug Beaty, Earl Ellis, Jewel Cotton, Tony Murray, John B. Davenport, Helen Ellis, Annie B. Scott, Earla Clifton, Gail Houghton, Cathryn Davis, Albert Lloyd, and Jane Carroll. Supervisors were Myrtle Lovell and Annye B. Dansby. Office staff were May Belle Fuller, bookkeeper-secretary and Sandra Gill was teacher's aide.

After the school intergrated, two classrooms were added to the newer building. The old Emmaus building was removed and a new cafeteria was built. The gym has been improved with larger

rest rooms and dressing rooms. It has been sealed overhead, large fans have been installed, and a trophy room built. All classrooms are now air conditioned. A new special education building has been added as well as other improvements.

Highway improvements in 1970 took .022 of an acre of land from the school campus. The school continued to grow and more campus was needed. On June 11, 1979, Mack Allen sold to the school five and three-tenths (5-3/10) acres of land adjoining the campus on the south. This is now used for play ground, baseball, track and calf pens.

With all those changes the school grounds of the consolidating schools were no longer useful to the New Summerfield school; therefore they were sold. Slightly more than six acres of the old school campus near the Union Chapel cemetery was sold to A. G. and Lula Tipton on April 28, 1931. The old Emmaus school had begun on two acres of land deeded by Dr. J. M. Brittain for a school on June 29, 1891. That campus was abandoned and on March 17, 1914, a new campus of one and nine-tenths (1-9/10) acres was deeded to the school by Will Nichols. That was the last Emmaus school campus and it was sold to Leon Cowan on March 28, 1958.

Old Griffin school records show that Peter Cook and wife, Kizzie, deeded one acre for school purposes to the county Judge, M. J. Whitman, on November 20, 1883. So far as it is known that was the only **public** school campus there, and that it is the same one acre lot sold to Boyce Smith by the New Summerfield School on August 10, 1981. Phillip Waldrup and Wanda Weaver, Trustees, signed that deed.

The Pine Hill school campus was sold about 1967, to Erwin Cross. It is not known just what disposition was made of the "Bug Tussle" (Sweet Zion) school campus, the Pleasant Plains school campus or the Rock Hill campus.

Other school notes of interest are: The first Parent-Teacher Association was organized in 1921. The first school annual was published in 1940, with 49 pages and pasted in pictures. The school name was changed from Summerfield to New Summerfield by vote of the school board March 26, 1942.

## Partial List of Teachers 1925-1965

Wiley Odom, Mrs. Jessie Odom, Faye Cowan, Lela Maris Smith, T. J. Tendell, Thelma Fazzell, Lorene South, Eula South, Walter Gibbs, Emma Murphy, Jim Slider, C. T. Jackson, Mrs. C. T. (Ina) Jackson, Gracie Henderson, I. H. Morris, Lois Boone, Key Merchant, Allen Miller, Obie Walker, Abbie Ruth Miller (speech only), Nelle Maris, Henry Holcomb, Lois Boles, H. C. Schochler, Mrs. H. C. Schochler, James Everett, Joe Frank Martin, Goldie Boggs, Diamond Boggs, Eva Boggs, Roy Walley, Hassie Glass Grisham, Anita Conway Stovall, Joe Owens, T. E. Bailey, Eugene McElroy, Dan Walker, Glenn "Red" Adams, Mrs. Mary Brown, Ruby Fern Brown Haws, and E. L. Blansett.

Also Mary Shaw, Willie Langston, D. O. Lockey, Will Kent, Clarence Jenkins, Mrs. Ona Jenkins, B. B. Parham, W. R. Durrett, R. E. Soap, Texana Sitton, Roy Pugh, Mrs. Joyce Branham, Ottie Mae South, Mrs. R. L. (Gretna) Jones, Mrs. Hazel Warner, Mrs. W. R. Hooper, Mrs. R. G. Thompson, Larue Cox, Mrs. Larue Cox, Mrs. R. C. Hyden, R. C. Hyden, Raymond Reed, T. E. Price, Mrs. Oleta Munsinger, Daisy Perkins, Mrs. Lois Grammer, Gail Burke Houghton, Roy Cooley, Edgar Summerlin, Mrs. John Coats, Mrs. John Barnes, James Weatherford, Mrs. James Weatherford, John "Soup" Bowling, Mrs. R. H. Mason, Margaret McCown, Earla Clifton, Mrs. Anna Lou Darby, Ruby Chapman, Janie Jones, Louise Walker, Earlene Guess and Ann Champion.

Others were Marshall Treadwell, Mrs. Helen Treadwell, Ellen Alexander, Gladys Acker, O. R. Perkins, David Irwin, Camelia Risinger, Vanita Craft, Mr. Faye Starr, Betty Williams, John Nash, Oscar McAnally, R. C. Davis, Mrs. Cowart, Tony Murray, Mrs. Reazin (music only), Cathryn Davis, Annie B. Scott, Charles Martin, Albert Fuller, Doug Beaty, John B. Davenport, Albert Lloyd, Bonnie O'neal, and Coleen Appleton.

## Teachers after Integration 1966-1975

Albert Fuller, Albert Lloyd, Doug Beaty, Gail Houghton, Cathryn Davis, John B. Davenport, Earla Clifton, Tony Murray, Leslie Pate, Annie B. Scott, Bonnie O'Neal, Helen Ellis, Jewel Lee Cotton, Jane Carroll, Amy Walker, Cleophus Hall, Helen Jane Tilley, J. Merl Salmon, Aline Hobson, Minnie Shaw, Ora Adams, Jerry Cotton, David Murray, B. Joe Baker, David Lucas, David Hayes,

Linda Gee, Michael Lucus, Nan Cooper, Ricky Harris, Jennifer Lea, Robert Loper, Terry Northcutt, Earlene Clay, Patricia Helm, Clarence Kennedy, Davis Michael, Carolyn Pendleton, Cole Pugh, and Janice Atterbury. Mrs. Myrtle Lovell, Mrs. Birdie Parker and Mrs. Annys B. Dansby, Counselors: Mrs. Pauline McCrary, Nurse.

## **VICTORY CHAPEL — PRIVATE CHURCH SCHOOL**

On June 29, 1979 the Pentecostal Church, under the name of Victory Chapel Ranch, purchased from Duward and Ella Mae Stallings twenty (20) acres of land about one mile North of the New Summerfield Public School campus on Highway 110. Buildings were soon erected for a church and school. The school included grades from kindergarten through high school. The school was not state affiliated and was closed in 1983.

## **EARLY SCHOOLS FOR NEGROES**

Poorly kept records make it hard to trace many old schools but information given by people who attended some of those schools makes it possible to recognize some of them. Along with the sketchy public records at least four early schools for black children in the New Summerfield school district were located.

Sweet Zion "Bug Tussle" school was located just south of the Stalling school and just east of Mud Creek. It was near the Sweet Union Church. That school was in existence in the late 1800's or early 1900's.

Pleasant Plains school was probably set up before 1900. It was located about two miles north of the New Summerfield school and west of highway 110. Just east of Highway 110 in the same area is the Pleasant Plains Presbyterian Church established before 1900. Regular worship services are still conducted there.

The Rock Hill school for black children was in existence as early as 1886 when R. P. Jones was the teacher. It was located about three miles east of the New Summerfield school near the Rock Hill Cemetery in the present Pine Hill community.

The Pine Hill school was once a part of the Emmaus school district (probably called Harmony). When Emmaus consolidated with New Summerfield in 1936, the black school was consolidated with Rock Hill and a new school house was built on land deeded to the school by L. A. Cox and wife, in 1940. The new school was named Pine Hill. Pupils from Sweet Zion and Pleasant Plains were also transferred to Pine Hill. The high school pupils were transferred to the Fred Douglas school in Jacksonville for a number of years.

Pine Hill remained an active school until intergration brought the pupils onto the New Summerfield campus. Since that time New Summerfield has been the only school system in the county east of Mud Creek. It is completely intergrated and parents and pupils as well as other citizens work together to make it a good school system.

## **NEW SUMMERFIELD SCHOOL PERSONNEL 1984-85**

The members of the faculty for 1984-85 are: Superentendent David Clegg, Principal Stanley Wade, Ginger Matthews, Nan Stephens, Felecia Lloyd, Micah Sessions, Theta Burns, Jack Jeter, Gail Houghton, Mark Meng, Dianne Abbott, DeLonda Doty, Tola Lott, Connie Weaver, Cathryn Davis, Max McCormick, Rocky Clindaniel, Kathy Meng, Pam Best, Carl Bailey, and Don Burk.

Teachers aides are: Shirley Ebanes, Jeannie Burchfield, Judy Marcom, Carol Reyes, Betty Walley, Pam Sessions, and Maria Ebanes.

Office bookkeeper and secretary: Shala Brown; Cafeterium: Bernice Johnson, Kay Maybrey and Sharon Sessions; Janitor: Ray White; Bus Drivers: Judy Marcom, Ray White and Stanley Wade.



## SCHOOL 1911-12

Taken from the 26 page Summerfield School Catalogue for the 1911-12 school term.

### Preface

This little catalogue is gotten up for the purpose of putting our patrons in closer touch with the school. For everyone knows that without the hearty support and co-operation of the patrons, the efforts of the best teacher in the world would be futile.

We have tried to avoid even an approach to braggadocio, but we must say, by the way of compliment to the patrons and students, that the Summerfield School bids fair to become one of the leading schools in Cherokee County.

And furthermore, you may rest assured that your humble servant will spare neither pains nor brains to make it so.

Respectfully yours,  
F. S. Sewell

The 26 page Summerfield School Catalog for the 1911-12 school term included full details of the course of study from the Primary Department through grade nine (the last high school grade). It especially stressed the importance of reading. The names were given of all books to be used. (Pupils had to buy all their books.)

The general rules and regulations of the school were given — including the tuition for out of community pupils. There would be two terms of three and one half months each. The location of the school was given and for pupils too far away to come daily room and board were offered at \$8.00 to \$10.00 per month.

The duties of the principal, teachers, pupils and parents were clearly stated closing with this statement:

"Every derogatory sentence uttered about any teacher or the school in general only detracts from the efficiency thereof, rather than mending the matter. No patron of good judgement and proper forethought will do such. Talk to the teacher rather than ABOUT THEM."

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May 22, 1890

Lone Star, Texas May 19, 1890

"Ed. Banner:

We write to extend to you an invitation to attend the closing exercises of our school on the 15th of June, and the examinations on the 16th, 17th, and 18th and the exercises at night. Rev. B. Bolton of Rusk, is to preach the commencement sermon. We will also have a grand barbecue and picnic about that time.

Please announce that the privilege for running a lemonade stand upon the grounds will be sold to the highest bidder on the 31st of this month and but one stand will be allowed upon the grounds.

Respectfully,  
Knox Jones  
P. R. Jones  
L. D. Byrd Trustees"

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June 12, 1890

"Banner Ed. You will oblige us much to say in your paper that the measles will interfere materially with the closing exercises of our school, but we will endeavor to make the last day all we anticipated. All who come on that day — Wednesday the 18th — will be fed on the school ground as well as entertained by a good speech.

Yours Sc.  
Stewart and Cocke"

From the "Jacksonville Banner"

## Post Offices

The first pioneers here had no mail service and had to depend on sending letters by someone going to the area they wished to send them. This often took weeks and many were never delivered. Many families lost all connection with friends and relatives because of no means of communication.

According to Wright Patman's report on post offices, the earliest government established post office east of Mud Creek in Cherokee County, was at Griffin, Texas. It was first established as Troutman, Texas. Probably named for the Troutman family as he held large acreage in the area, known as the Troutman Survey — later as the McLain Kennedy Survey.

Appointed government postmasters of Troutman were Reddick I. Jennings - 1853, Laban Dodson - 1854, and Isaac Montgomery - 1855. The name was changed to Griffin in December 1855. Probably re-named for the home town of the Kendricks family who came from Griffin, Georgia and settled at Griffin, Texas.

After the name change, Isaac Montgomery was re-appointed in 1855 and Wm. T. Jones was appointed in 1856. The post office was discontinued in 1857, and re-established in 1858 with Wm. L. Collins serving as postmaster for only one month before Israel P. Smith was appointed and served until 1861.

It is presumed that people of the Summerfield area, as well as all east Mud Creek area, were using this post office when Civil War was declared and the Confederate States of America was formed. This caused the United States appointed postmaster to be dismissed and a new appointment was made by the government of the Confederacy. J. M. Brittain was appointed November 23, 1861, under the authority of the Confederate States of America and served until the war was over and the post office was again under the United States government.

Josiah L. Bass was appointed July 16, 1866, but the post office was discontinued in 1868, and was not re-established until 1876, when Israel P. Smith was again appointed and served until 1885.

Other Griffin postmasters named in order were: C. W. McMichael, Israel P. Smith, Wm. Branhan, Jesse Varner, Joseph A. Boren, James M. Sanders, Doris F. Mitchell, and Ora E. Fitch. The post office was permanently discontinued January 15, 1906, and the mail ordered sent to Troup where a railroad made mail handling better.

By this time the thriving village of Lone Star 3 miles East of Summerfield had secured a post office established on June 13, 1883, when George W. Tipton was appointed as the first official postmaster. It seems that Lone Star was first known as "Skin Tight," named for an early store owner who trapped and dealt in furs. The first post office using the name Lone Star was probably after the Lone Star Institute was established in 1889, by Col. T. A. Cocke. Postmasters following George W. Tipton were Carrie Tipton, appointed in 1902, James M. Edwards in 1903, and Amanda Magee in 1915. The post office was discontinued on December 15, 1916, and mail routed to Ponta. Hugh M. Tipton delivered mail from Lone Star to Summerfield in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

During this time Summerfield people used Lone Star or Griffin post offices, depending on the convenience of the post office. For sometime in the early 1890's mail was handled by the C. A. Summers family in their home but on December 11, 1897, Isaac W. ("Ike") Tipton was appointed by the government as an official postmaster and ran the post office from his newly built store — the first in Summerfield. Although the community was about fifty years old, it had never really been named. But, to have a post office, it was necessary to have an official name. Since the post office was in the first store which was built on a lot purchased from the Northwest Corner of the C. A. Summers' field, it was decided to call it "Summerfield." This post office was discontinued October 31, 1905, and mail was ordered sent to Ponta.

By this time the railroad had been built through Ponta causing a small settlement known as Donaho on the Donaho Survey near Mud Creek to be moved to the railroad. When the post office was established, it was decided to name it Ponte a Latin word meaning two bridges. There was now a wagon road bridge and a railroad bridge over Mud Creek. Ponte in Latin is pronounced Ponta in English. It is reported that the first postmaster, Robert Montgomery, son of a former postmaster at Griffin, Isaac Montgomery, just decided it should be spelled as people said it. He was appointed

April 1, 1903, and served until 1924. Minton H. Joiner was made acting postmaster in 1924, and Audry R. Redden became acting postmaster in 1925, being officially appointed in 1926, and serving until Manda Fields was appointed in 1930. She served until 1940, when she married and was re-appointed as Mrs. Manda Fields Heath. She served until the post office was discontinued.

After Lone Star post office mail was routed to Ponta, two rural routes were established out of Ponta. Route one to Summerfield was handled by Onimus Perkins by buggy and Howard Hillin carried mail on route two in the Lone Star area. Later the routes were combined and Boyd Owens carried all mail on the new Route # one. Jack Dennis took the route after Mr. Owens; Clint Trotter was the substitute carrier from Ponta. When the Ponta post office was discontinued, Summerfield had another change of postal service and mail was ordered routed from Jacksonville. Mr. Dennis continued as carrier on the newly established Route #five. After his death, Burton Crain was made regular carrier on the Summerfield route and continued until he retired. Acting as substitute carrier were Robert Edwards and Wylie Thompson. After Mr. Crain retired, Robert Edwards was appointed regular carrier, a job he still holds in 1984, and Mr. Thompson continues as a substitute carrier.

Summerfield was first called "New Summerfield" in 1938, when the citizens applied for a city post office and were granted one. The first appointed postmaster was Thomas Leighton Grisham, appointed October 25, 1938, but the order to establish was rescinded November 5, 1938, probably because of a name conflict since Texas already had a Summerfield post office in Castro County in West Texas. Thus, Summerfield got a new name in 1938. The post office was re-established on December 5, 1938, with Ira Magee "Gee" Tipton appointed postmaster. The post office was set up in the A. G. Tipton store and later moved to the Clavis Tipton store which burned in 1943. Mrs. Hollis C. Edwards was appointed acting postmaster January 16, 1943, and the post office was set up in a building owned by the Edwards and she was appointed regular postmaster April 1, 1943. Mrs. Edwards served thirty-four years and retired December 30, 1977. Robert Edwards, her son, and Mrs. Kate Cleaver served as substitutes in the post office. Mrs. Cleaver worked for over fifteen years and served as acting postmaster until Marjorie Lewis was appointed as a regular postmaster June 15, 1978. She is still serving in 1984, with Jeannie Sue Burchfield working as a substitute postmaster. New Summerfield's mail service has been through changes but the mail still comes through, a service all appreciate.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

June 11, 1891

A new bridge is to be built over Mud Creek at Glass' crossing between Jacksonville and Lone Star. This bridge is to be much longer, better and safer in every way than the old one, which is getting a little unsafe.

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Notice to Contractors and Bridge Builders:

To lowest bidder on June 28, 1891 at a public out-cry a contract to build a wooden bridge 2,000 feet more or less at Glass' crossing on Mud Creek. Right reserved to reject bids. The contractor will make bond.

See J. W. Vining

J. H. Burton Prec. No. 4  
W. C. Fredrick Prec. No. 3  
Committee

From the "Jacksonville Banner"



## Agriculture

It is known that the Indians were in Cherokee County and in various places in New Summerfield. Rocks on a hill on the old Caley Summers' place just east of the townsite are arranged in such a way as to indicate Indians had arranged them for a purpose. Indians did some cultivating and one of our early fruits was the "Indian Peach." Many of the wild plants used by the Indians for food have been destroyed as pastures and fields have been cleared for grazing, hay raising, and other uses. Such foods as blackhaws, huckleberries, dew berries, May haws, plums, May apples, muscadines, polk and other wild plants are seldom used now. Hickory nuts, black walnuts and chinquapins are no longer plentiful.

For a long time cotton, corn, oats, sorghum, ribbon cane and peanuts were major crops. Several settlers had cotton gins, grist mills, syrup mills, and blacksmith shops. Josiah Dotson, Laban and Thomas Dodson, Angus L. Stewart and later Arthur Dickson and J. L. (Louis) Womack operated cotton gins. Dallas Jay and Angus L. Stewart had grist mills and Carl Ellis, Joe Gaddis, Matthew Tennison and others ran syrup mills. Through the years other pioneers also had such mills for private and public use. Henry Dotson had a peanut thrasher which he carried to farms throughout the area to thrash cured peanuts leaving the tops to be used for hay. This hay was reported to make the "sweetest" sweet milk.

The first tomatoes were being raised for market as early as 1897. They were shipped in crates as "pinks." Soon in the early 1900's much of the New Summerfield area was growing tomatoes. Packing sheds were set up on railroad sidings in Jacksonville to handle the shipping. New Summerfield had at least one public packing shed built and run by Johnny Tipton assisted by Marvin Garner. When it was discontinued, Johnny continued a tomato packing business in the old Alex Tipton store building. Many farmers had private packing sheds on their farms.

Jacksonville had the first "Tomato Festival" in 1934, and it became known as the "Tomato Capital of the World," but all the areas around Jacksonville including New Summerfield were helping to make it a famous produce center. Peaches were another major cash crop for local farmers who also shipped them from Jacksonville. There was a decline in the tomato business by 1950 since so many tomatoes were rotting during shipment by rail. The "pink" pack had been discontinued and they were being shipped as "green wrap" before the tomato business faded away.

A cotton "plow-up" program planned by the Federal Government was carried out and many local farmers were paid to plow up all acreage in cotton above their allotment. This was a means of controlling over production but local farmers could not raise enough cotton to continue making a living by farming. Farming began to decline and many acres of farm land were turned into pasture land.

Cattle raising is now a major source of income in the area. In the early days of cattle raising in this area ticks and diseases were a major problem and the government began a cattle dipping program. All cattle had to be put through a "dipping vat" filled with medically treated water to kill ticks. This was required several times each year. There was a local dipping vat located on the E. L. McLeod place. At one time the government also required that a percent of each herd be killed to reduce a surplus of cattle. Again New Summerfield farmers had to follow the dictates of the government. There are still problems in the cattle industry, but local ranchers like those in other areas try to cope with these problems and make a little profit.

## Plant Business

Early plant farmers, Guy and Ben Darby, following in the steps of their brothers, Charlie and Troit Darby of Ponta, began to ship cabbage and tomato plants by mail. By 1918 they had added pepper and onion plants. These plants were raised in "hot beds" and "cold frames" using low frames to protect the plants. These were covered with cotton cloth sheets and layers of pine straw when needed. Later open field plant beds were used. They had no frame but were sometimes covered over night with sheets.

Other local farmers soon entered the plant business. The eastern produce market caused a boost to vegetable raising and plants were in demand. In 1920 Lee Heath was shipping plants as far away as Nebraska. Lee, Ray, Dutch and Weaver Heath, nephews of the Darbys were all in the plant business. They were joined by Newt Suttles and Sebe Haws and his son, Bert, Otis M. Chupp and sons, Rossie and Rubye Payne, Zack Taylor and others. Soon younger people came into the business; Dewey Tipton, Orval Tipton, George Carl Tipton, Edwin Lee Cameron, Floyd Williamson and others. Because of the spread of diseases and insects, the law soon required inspection certificates issued by the State of Texas Department of Agriculture before a grower could ship plants.

By 1950 glass enclosed greenhouses were becoming common, but they were expensive and easily storm damaged. Then clear plastic came into use as an inexpensive covering for greenhouses. In 1956 Billy Powell, just out of the army, returned to New Summerfield with his wife, Ada Ruth Haws, and baby, Barry. Since her father, Bert Haws, was in plant business and they wished to go into the same type business, they decided to build the first plastic covered greenhouse in New Summerfield. That business was a growing success, and today it is a multi-million dollar business trucking a large variety of plants, both vegetable and flower, throughout the nation. The Powells also operate a high grade registered cattle ranch and maintain a private airstrip along with their businesses.

Other greenhouses are owned and operated by B. R. and Don Darby, George Carl Tipton, Cloyd Waldrup and Sons, Paul Stewart, Dewey Tipton, Orval and Carl Tipton, Graham Tennison, Fern Haws and Barry Powell, Richard Weaver, Edford "Skinny" Lawson, Billy Brazier and Johnny Davis, Opria Cameron, Judy Cameron, William Waldrup, Weaver Heath, and Armen Darby and Wayne Beal.

It is now possible to buy started plants of many vegetables as well as flowers and shrubs. Common in today's greenhouses are started plants of squash, cucumbers, okra, collard, pepper, egg plants, cauliflowers, broccoli, etc.

Along with the other plant businesses are nurseries operated by Glen Heath and Boyce Tennison. Tennison has a large Christmas tree operation along with general nursery stock.

## Other Agricultural and Farm Operations

Poultry laying houses were operated by A. N. Walley, Mrs. Jewel Walley, Bernice and Gladys Underwood, Travis Williamson and others. Some large scale cattle raisers have been Clavis Greenwood, James Henry Brazier, Bernice Underwood, Junior Greenwood, Stanley Greenwood, Herbert Kitzman, John Thomas Underwood, A. N. Walley, Travis and Wilma Spraggins, Reba Sessions, Mack Allen, Boyd and Johnny Davis, John and Cathy Kiblinger and others.

Chester and Juanita Darby have a goat farm and raise prize registered goats.

Jim Dotson, Adolph Dotson and Michael Davis are cattle dealers, buying and hauling cattle.

Of all the past and present farm and agricultural interest in the New Summerfield area, at the present time cattle raising and greenhouses are the main operations with a lot of family gardens added.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

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September 3, 1891

Lone Star, Texas August 27, 1891

Ed. Banner

You made a great mistake in saying the first bale of cotton was sandy, it was raised on red land. Please do me the justice to correct it. It was very badly ginned.

J. M. Wallace

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July 30, 1891

Jacksonville canning factory hands who received 75¢ per day wages went on strike for \$1.00 a day wages. (Those who continued to work were granted the raise the next week).

(This affected the Summerfield peach and tomato market).

From the "Jacksonville Banner"

## Businesses and Merchants of New Summerfield

The history of the businesses in New Summerfield began with the vision of Caley Amos Summers. He began selling lots in the late 1890's along the old Jacksonville and Summerfield highway near the newly built school house.

The businesses of New Summerfield were divided into two parts. The old part was where the former Jacksonville-Henderson highway met the Rusk road. The new part is on the new Highway 79 from Jacksonville to Henderson.

The old highway from Jacksonville was known as Highway 43. It came from Jacksonville south of the present school building and joined Highway 110 north of the gym site and in front of the present school house.

Alexander Gray Tipton had a general merchandise store on the site where the gym is now. Besides giving sometime lifesaving credit to his customers, he was remembered by the children for giving them a piece of candy when they entered the store. It is not now known when the store was built but it was about 1904-1908.

Mack Duty, a nephew-in-law of Alex Tipton and a nephew of Dr. Rubye Tennison had a garage at the south side of the Tipton store on the Tennison land.

Across the road from the Tipton store on the southeast corner of the highways to Lone Star and to Rusk, Arthur Dickson operated a blacksmith shop, later assisted by Richard Hicks.

Behind this building on the Lone Star road Arthur had a woodworking shop. Clint Trotter, who was later the substitute mail carrier, and Charlie Conner worked in this shop. They made furniture such as tables and chairs. Earla Ellis Clifton has one of their square tables and perhaps other people have some of their products. They also made coffins by soaking twelve inch boxing planks in water so they would mold easily into the correct shape. Then they covered them with black material such as velvet and lined them with flannel. They also made farm implements such as wagon tongues, axe, hoe and hammer handles or anything else for farm and household needs.

South of these shops was Arthur and Vera Dotson Dickson's home where her mother, Lilly Dalby Dotson, operated a switchboard for the old crank telephone about 1920.

Earlier, in 1916, Bertie Corneilson McMeans operated a switchboard in her home across the street from the present fire station. At that time this was a dusty wagon road that lead to Lone Star and Reklaw. At the site of the present city hall, Arthur and Henry Dickson had their general merchandise store. Later Henry sold his interest to Arthur Dickson. When it was first begun, Joe Brady had an interest in this business later selling out to Dicksons.

The merchandise consisted of patent medicines, dry goods, notions, thread in a lovely spool cabinet, candy in sparkling glass containers, toys, beautiful dolls, lamps, kitchen pots and pans, iron skillets, dishes and glasses, kerosene for lamps and fuel, harness and plows and men's and women's shoes. In later years when Arthur Dickson sold this building, he got out some old ladies shoes with their high heels and hightops and gave them to interested friends.

At one time Arthur's business was so thriving that he had to employ clerks. Two of these clerks were Leo Collins, who later made a career of the navy, and Grizzie Fuller, who later married John Elmer Cowan. This store and Elmer Cowan's store were on the site of the old Summerfield school grounds.

Next door to Dickson's store on the north, Elmer Cowan had the nearest thing to a mall. It contained a barber shop run by Elmer and assisted by Olin Kyle (O. K.) Ellis. (This was before he was married to Bonnie McNiel from Jefferson, Texas). Olin Ellis also operated the ice cream parlor for some time. Elmer kept in his store patent medicines and groceries. At this time the stores did not have gasoline tanks because there were no cars here until about 1915. Every store did keep kerosene.

Later on March 3, 1920, Elmer sold to A. A. Atkinson and this building became known as the old A. A. Atkinson building where he stored lumber from his sawmill.

Elmer Cowan also owned and operated a shingle mill a short distance from the general store. Likely it was the same one operated by Ang Stewart, since it was at the same location.

Next to Elmer's store on the north, John Sowell had a store from which he sold groceries and sundries. The next merchant in this Sowell building was Thomas (Tom) Mack. Tom Mack sold it to Sam Brown and Sam Brown sold it to Ray Heath. Ray Heath then let his dad, Tom Heath, have



it, and he ran it even after it was moved to the new Jacksonville highway where Tippy Tarnow's store is now located. One could always count on "Mr. Tom" for a good checker game.

The old Henderson-Jacksonville highway ran by this store and the one built by Ike Tipton. It went east a few hundred yards and turned north to join the Troup-Summerfield highway. It was on this road that Ike Tipton had built the first store in Summerfield late in the 1890's.

It is reported that Isaac Washington Tipton moved his business from the Dalby community on Clark Hill which was on the old Ponta and Summerfield road. This store building had an upper and lower floor. On the upper floor Dr. Judson Beall had his office where he saw his patients and stored his medical supplies.

The Woodmen of the World held their meetings on the second floor. Occasionally, on Saturday night dances were held on the upper floor. The music was furnished by local musicians. Ike also stored coffins there. In the lower floor, Ike Tipton had his general merchandise store and the first post office. Ike sold his store to Edward M. Nicholson and moved to Temple, Oklahoma in 1905.

E. M. Nicholson continued to sell general merchandise having a good supply of men and women's clothing, a good supply of grocery items and farm items. Dr. Judson Beall continued practicing medicine on the upper floor until he moved to Pearsall, Texas in 1916. When the new Jacksonville-Henderson highway was completed, Ed Nicholson dismantled his old two store building and built a new modern home and a new store on the southeast intersection of highway 110 and 79.

North of the Nicholson property was the site of an earlier blacksmith shop and a home. This property changed owners fairly frequently. Some of the owners were: Thomas Dodson, Caley Amos Summers, Angus Stewart, I. W. Tipton, I. L. Gray, Hugh M. Tipton and wife, Martha, J. W. Gray, M. T. and Ida Killion, (1903). (In their deed it described one blacksmith shop, tools and fixtures. That was the first mention of a business there), W. G. and Nettie Killion, Isaac L. and Kiziah (Kizrah) Newsom, 1906. (Their deed also mentioned the blacksmith shop). I. L. Newsom died in 1908. Kiziah and her daughter, Leona, and son-in-law, R. W. Wilkerson, kept this place until 1917. Later owners were J. W. Morgan and wife, Betty, H. S. Weathered, J. C. Gourley and wife, Dolly, 1918. (This is the first mention of a house and lot), Mack Duty (he operated the blacksmith shop), Tom Mack, Dallas Tipton, then back to Tom Mack, who built a small store there. In 1931, Ernest Smith and wife, Jessie acquired the store and added on to it, making living quarters adjoining the store. Ernest was assisted in the store by his dad, Zeb, his sister, Zorita and his daughter, Destine.

By this time the new highway was completed. Ernest sold the store to Nick A. and Flora Etheridge. In 1938, Mart Brown bought the store and later sold it to Buddy, a man from Alto, Texas.

## **J. E. BEALL, M. D.,**

### **GENERAL PRACTICE**

OFFICE UP-STAIRS, NICHOLSON BUILDING

UP-TO-DATE METHODS

PHONE IN RESIDENCE SUMMERFIELD, TEXAS  
1911

## **ELMER COWAN**

### **THE BARBER**

**HOT AND COLD BATHS**  
ALL KINDS OF CANDIES, CONFECTIONS

COME TO SEE ME, I WILL TREAT YOU RIGHT.  
SUMMERFIELD, TEXAS

1911

## **CONNER & TROTTER**

### **THE BLACKSMITHS**

HORSESHOEING A SPECIALTY

ALL KINDS OF REPAIRING

Let us make your old wagon as good as new. All work  
guaranteed. Come to see us at Summerfield, Texas.  
1911

## **ALEX TIPTON**

### **GENERAL MERCHANDISE**

Just opened up new stock of Goods in Lacy building  
Come to see me, will treat you right.

**Highest Price Paid For Your Produce**  
SUMMERFIELD, TEXAS

1911

J. W. Parish bought the store and only had it for a short while until Earl and Elizabeth Taylor from Houston bought it. The Taylors had the store longer than anyone else. They had it for twenty years. They had formerly lived in Columbus, Texas. They arrived at New Summerfield in December with their household goods, expecting to move right in, but the Parishes had not moved out, so they stored their things in the stock room. They came without knowing anyone in New Summerfield but they stayed and made many friends. They and their daughter, Faye Beth, were a pleasant addition to the community. The Taylors were remembered best by their "Let's go back and have a cup of coffee" and maybe a meal. Earl and Elizabeth retired in 1960 and moved down the road by Haws Plant Farm.

A BRANCH SESSION OF  
**Patton's Normal Musical  
INSTITUTE**

Will Be Held at

**Summerfield, Cherokee Co., Texas,**  
Beginning July 19th, 1911, and continueing for a  
Term of 20 Days, Closing with a Concert on the  
Evening of August 8th, 1911.

*O. G. Osburn, Principal*

*Olin K. Ellis, Secretary.*

This Institute seeks to furnish thorough instruction  
in Sight Singing, Rudiments, Ear-training, Harmony  
and Composition.

**TUITION PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.**

Children not in harmony	\$1.50
Adults not in harmony	\$2.50
Primary harmony	\$3.00
Intermediate harmony	\$3.50
Advanced harmony	\$4.00

Summerfield is seven miles north from Ponta, and  
eleven miles east from Jacksonville in Cherokee Co.,  
Texas. It is a very pleasant village with good homes  
where board can be secured reasonable.

Those just beginning in music or wishing to make  
further study will make no mistake in attending this  
school.

For further information communicate with the Sec-  
retary.

McKinney Examiner Print.

The next people in that store were Egbert (Red) Morris and wife, Frances. Egbert was not new to our community as he was once married to a Summerfield girl, Pearl Kennedy McLeod.

Next Odessa Tipton and her daughter, Frankye Tipton Dwire, bought the store and operated it with the help of her nephew, Waylon Ray Tipton and his wife, Judy Gilliam Tipton. Later they made small apartments from this building and did quite well.

In 1982, Al Ferguson bought the building and is still keeping the apartments. This is the only business that has been operated continuously since the first early merchants operated it on the old highway.

North of this place was the cotton gin which Ang Stewart operated and which he later sold to his son-in-law, James Louis Womack, and Arthur Dickson. They ginned cotton Monday through Friday, Saturday they ran the grist mill, grinding feed and corn meal.

Arthur Dickson sold out to Louis Womack. Later Louis sold to Lincoln Barber, and Grady Roundtree operated the gin. The last person to own the gin was Earl Liles. Unfortunately the boll weevils



and the cotton allotment no longer made the gin profitable so Earl closed it. After Earl Liles' death, Billie Paul Brazier bought the gin property.

In front of the gin property and next door to the now Al Ferguson apartment building, Tom Rucker operated a gristmill. In this same area Jess Overton Martin and wife, Pansy Ruth (Curley) Tennison moved a building in and ran a popular Texaco station from 1951 to 1960.

Their children, Barry Max and Sandra were a familiar sight around the station. Others who owned and operated that station were: Boyd and Ronnie Houghton, Ovis McLeod, Ollie Cameron and wife, Ella Mae Roberson, Joe March Garrett and wife, Bertha Gill Garrett. Joe was the last one to operate the station along with his wife, Bertha. Joe was always ready to help a neighbor with a car problem while he filled the car with gasoline, a person could always depend on a merry laugh while loitering around to talk to Bertha. Joe retired and closed the station. In 1983 he sold it to Al Ferguson.

Next door to the east of this station Alton Cameron and his granddaughter, Jeannie Sue Thomason Burchfield, bought a building and operated a fruit stand until Alton's wife, Lois, became ill.

Jeannie's husband, Jackie Burchfield, remodeled the place into a rustic barbeque place, complete with shavings on the floor and red checked table cloths on the table. He made his own delicious barbeque which he sold in bulk, or on a bun to be eaten in this rustic atmosphere or on the "go." He closed it when he found it interfered with his job.

It was remodeled by Billie Paul and Nedra Cameron Brazier into the "Red Diner." They served delicious country style meals as well as homemade chili and the usual sandwiches and hamburgers. This business was too large for them to operate it and their plant and produce businesses also, so they closed the "Red Diner." It is now being used as a store house for their plant houses.

Back west across the old 110 highway is the O. K. Ellis Addition. It begins at this point and continues down both sides of the new Jacksonville and Henderson highways and down both sides of the new Rusk and Troup highway.

Olin Kyle Ellis built a combination garage and service station in 1932-33 after the completion of the new highway. The first person leasing the garage was Edgar Irwin. Edgar and his wife, Alma Liles Irwin and their son, Glen, lived in the apartment back of the station. Others who operated the garage were Clyde Richardson, Joe Garrett, Joe Darby, and Paul and Marvin Chupp after they returned from service in World War II.

The first person leasing the service station was Olin Ellis' nephew, Aubrey Ellis, followed by J. D. Bynum, Irwin Smith, Ernest Smith, Delbert Musick, Boyd Tennison, Roscoe Gill and Alton Lacy. The station has been a cafe also run by Joe Darby and Mart and Trudy Brown. In 1939 Conrad Hall leased the rooms behind the station for the first official licensed barber shop. Other barbers were A. N. Keen and Jesse Cruise.

On July 27, 1943, O. K. Ellis sold this establishment to Hubert and Destine Lewis Darby. They and her father, Ben Lewis, used this building as a warehouse for their interstate produce trucking business. They hauled onions from Colorado and the valley and cabbage and onion plants to other states.

In 1944 Edward Everett (Bob) and Jewel Tipton Caveness purchased this place, remodeled it and ran a very successful grocery business. Bob and Jewel were not new to the grocery business, having had a country store on the old Jacksonville-Summerfield highway about 3/4ths of a mile from top of Mud Creek Hill.

Later when the new Jacksonville-Summerfield highway was completed, they built a new home on the new highway and moved the store near their home. It was moved just across the field and over the hill. They kept this business until they purchased the Hubert Darby building. Bob and Jewel operated their business, as did their competitors, very much like merchants in the old part of Summerfield did, furnishing a necessary meeting place for friends and neighbors.

Bobby D. Caveness and wife, Willie Elizabeth (Missie) Young, bought the store from his Uncle Bob Caveness. Unlike Bob and the other merchants, Bobby D. ran the business along the lines of a modern day supermarket, and very successfully too. Their son, Tippy Carl Tarnow, helped his parents when he was not in school and now he has his own business.

Al and Connie Ferguson bought the store. They and their sons have made themselves a part of this community. They give good service and have provided employment for a number of local young people.

Across the intersection of Troup and Jacksonville highway west is the property bought from the Ellis Addition by Roscoe Edwards and his nephew, Ted Stovall. They built a service station and cafe. When the new highway was completed, Roscoe and his wife, Hollis Christine Hooker Edwards, moved this building to its present location. It is now the post office building.

The Edwards then built the concrete block building on that corner which has been leased to a number of people. Ollie and Ella Mae Cameron were the first to lease it. They had a grocery store and were followed by Mart and Frances Warren Brown, Jim and Eva Moose Bird, Mart Brown again and Mr. Simpson and his brother. Then Elsie Rawlinson Bergstresser opened a cafe there and ran



it for a while. (Later she married Orval Tipton). The next occupants were Floyd Williamson and his son, Floyd Williamson, Jr., who leased the place for their shipping business. Their main commodity was onion and cabbage plants. They kept this place for twenty years; their lease extended after his death for several years.

When the store across the street burned, Dick Johnston moved his grocery business into the Edwards building. Dick closed his business for health reasons and moved to Henderson.

Gary Cox and wife, Debra Kay, in 1983-84, leased the building for an arcade. They had pool tables, video games, cold drinks and snacks, and they ran a nice clean entertainment center. They closed because Debbie got another job. It has now been opened for another game room and fish bait place.

Roscoe and Hollis Edwards also added a room for a barber shop several years ago. Mr. Jesse Cruise was the first barber there followed by Paul Stewart. Paul barbered there for twenty years. He is now in the plant business.

Next door, to the west, is the building moved by Roscoe and Hollis Edwards. Roscoe ran a Conoco Station while Hollis ran a cafe for fourteen years. For six years after she was appointed postmaster, she still managed the cafe. The post office was in the cafe. People came from surrounding towns for her plate lunches and her delicious pies. Hollis built up the service of the post office and made it a pleasant accommodation for the neighborhood. Kate Lewis Cleaver from New Salem was the substitute postmaster for twenty-five years.

Hollis retired December 31, 1977. Marjorie Lewis from Jacksonville is now the postmaster, and Jeannie Sue Burchfield is the substitute postmaster. They both give efficient friendly service.

Betty Edwards Stewart bought Odessa Tipton's beauty shop from across the street and moved it into her father's old Conoco station next door to the post office. Odessa, now a school teacher, continued to work for her on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning and during the summer after school was out.

Jackie Stewart and wife, Betty, decided to go into the dairy business so she sold the shop to Vickie Allen Spraggins. Vickie's husband, Travis Ray Spraggins died within a year, so Nikki Rimmer and Odessa operated the shop for her until Nikki bought it. In April 1984, Nikki bought a portable building which she placed next to her home on the old Highway 110. Odessa retired then after 50 years in the beauty shop business.

The Edwards built their home west of the post office and adjoining it on the west is the new telephone building and receiving tower. This is the western edge of the O. K. Ellis addition.

Across the highway was the old telephone building which was the southwestern edge of the town's business sites. To the east of the old telephone building is the garage which was built by Paul Chupp. Marvin and Paul Chupp had run the garage at the O. K. Ellis Building but now Marvin had moved to Tyler, Texas. Later Paul began working for the city using his ditch digger equipment. He sold out the garage to John Knabel who in turn sold to Edford (Skinny) Lawson. Skinny sold to Mart Brown, Mart Brown sold to Adrian Stidham, who still owns the building. He first leased it to Kenneth Jennings, and now it is leased to Tony Langdom and son James Langdom.

Adjoining the garage lot is the site where the old John Sowell-Ray Heath store building was moved from its original location in the old town site. Tom Heath ran that store after Ray went into other business. Sometime later Ray turned it into a dwelling where he and his wife, Martha Fields Heath, lived until they moved into their new home.

Hollis Edwards bought the property and continued to rent it as a dwelling until she sold it to Alton and Basil Lacy and Alvie and Velma Tipton. They put in a line of groceries and an Humble station. Alvie went to work for Bearden's Furniture Co. and sold his interest to Alton. Alton moved from the O. K. Ellis building into this building. They sold the lots for the garage and the telephone exchange.

Alton Lacy and Ed Nicholson were the only people who had a telephone at that time. Many people were indebted to them for the messages they received, especially the plant farmers.

Ollie and Ella Mae Cameron bought that station from Alton and Basil. They spruced the place up but unfortunately their building burned one weekend while they were visiting in Pasadena, Texas. Ollie soon built a new station and lived in the house behind the station. He and Ella Mae at different times had several businesses and homes in New Summerfield and improved every one of them.

Others who owned that station were: Delbert and Nettie Langston Musick, Aubrey Shephard (son-in-law of Lee and Eva Rector), Clarence and Anice Long Rector, Larry Underwood, Ott Gilliam, John Knabel and Rupert Murphy.

In 1982 Tippy Tarnow leased the station and added on to the building and improved it to open up a grocery business and service station. His mother, Missie, helps him as well as one or two young people. This is a popular and growing business.

East of that station Med and Hattie Rector Long owned a home and east of it was a drug store opened by H. C. (Carol) Schochler, the school superintendent at that time. He bought the old Arthur Dickson store and moved it to its new location. Thurman and Lucille Davis leased this drug

store and sold prescription drugs and other drug store items. In the drug store was an old time soda fountain equipped with bar and decorative mirrors at the back almost like a movie set. It had old time ice cream parlor tables and chairs. The Davis', with their cute little boy, moved to Turner Town, Texas.

Mr. Schochler sold the house and lot to Clavis Tipton but kept the fixtures. Clavis used it for storing feed and fertilizer and other commodities for his store next door.

In 1942 Clavis built a store building containing a grocery store, beauty shop, barber shop and an apartment in the back.

Ira Magee (Gee) Tipton operated the store and the newly opened post office. Conrad Hall ran the barber shop and Odessa, the beauty shop. Hair cuts were 35¢ and shampoos and sets were 50¢.

One cold night in January 1943, this building burned. The post office opened briefly at Alex Tipton's store in the old part of town. Hollis Edwards was appointed postmaster and the post office was moved to the Edwards' building where it is still located.

Clavis was helping construct Dow Chemical plant at Freeport, Texas, when the army called him for World War II. When he failed his army physical, he decided to go into business for himself in the newly rebuilt premises. Clavis with the help of his dad, John Henry (Johnny) Tipton, operated a successful grocery store. Clavis had several "firsts" in his store, for example, oleo margarine back when the customer had to add color and mix it himself. He was the first to have a meat market for fresh meat butchered by men like the Finis Dotson family.

# A. DICKSON

SUMMERFIELD'S LEADING MERCHANT

DEALER IN

## General Merchandise

Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps  
Gents' Ready-made Clothing

## Groceries and Hardware

AGENT FOR

Moline Improved Cotton and  
Corn Planters

Highest market price always paid  
for Produce.

Make my store your headquarters  
when in town

# A. DICKSON

1911

Odessa operated that beauty shop for more than twenty years. Among the new beauty shop operators who helped her until they could get experience or until they could get an opening somewhere were: Jeannie Marie Tipton, Ruby Nell Birdwell and Betty Stewart. Evelyn Casper Wallace, Nedra Brazier and Odessa worked together for several pleasurable years. The community was fortunate to have these fine and talented hairdressers.

When Clavis was injured in a fatal accident, Odessa and her daughter, Frankye Virginia, tried to keep the store open but it was more responsibility than they wished to assume. They closed it for a time before selling to Rickey Brown. Rickey leased the store to Dick Johnston. Dick had a good business but unfortunately a tragic three way car accident caused one car to collide with the gas pump, causing an explosion which killed Gene Spalding, the City Mayor. The building was damaged by fire to such an extent that Dick moved across the street into the corner Edwards' building.

East of Clavis' store, Mart Brown and wife, Trudy Boatman Brown, put in a cafe. At about the same time Dick and Cora Helen Tipton put in a building beside Mart. Joe and Ethna Richey Darby ran a cafe there. Mart now remembers that he and Joe once got into a coffee fight. They had a great deal of fun and the customers were delighted. Trudy's health began to fail and Mart moved the building. Joe Darby retired and moved to Ponta, Texas. Other people who operated the Tipton cafe were: Oweta Bowling Murphy and Opal Lee Hall Murphy. Cora Helen Darby Tipton and Marilyn Tipton Gill, Dorothy McMeans, Jack McCown (brother of Fred McCown), Weaver Heath and wife, Bonnis Johnson Heath, Adean Dotson and wife, Dorothy Holland Dotson, Troy Houghton, Gene and Ada Underwood, and Marvin and Hazel Tipton Garner and Mrs. Addie Lee Jackson. Marvin had the cafe the longest. The Underwoods and Garners each stayed until they retired.

All of these places served good food and furnished a happy meeting place for the community. On several occasions the Lions Club with their wives met and had dinner at that cafe.

On the southwest corner of the intersection of the Rusk and Jacksonville highways, the Spunky Oil Company leased a lot from O. K. Ellis and opened a service station. Some of the operators were: C. R. Manning, Buddy Carpenter (1958), Grady and Larry Underwood and Rex Murphy. Rex Murphy bought the lot from O. K. Ellis. This was on the eastern edge of the Ellis Addition.

Rex Murphy built a new station and the Fina Oil Company leased it. Among those who owned or operated the Fina station were: Rex Murphy, Leo Ritchey and Don Cox, Walter Ray (Dub) Clark, Jr., Evon Walters (from Striker Lake) and Mart and Rickey Brown. Mart and Rickey were the last to own the station before the highway department decided to improve the intersection of Highway 110 and 79. This business and the cafe lost their lots to the highway department. Mrs. Ada Lee Jackson was in the cafe but moved over into the Ed Nicholson building across Highway 110.

Ed Nicholson did not carry as extensive merchandise in his new store as he did in the old store but he did have groceries and a few clothes such as work shoes and overalls for men. "Mr Ed" rented the east end of the store to Minnie Gandy Mayfield for an eating establishment specializing in hamburgers. She had a large sign in her store window "Hamburgers 5¢." Some others who had a cafe in Ed's store before and after his death, were Ann Powell, Bill Shoe, Mrs. Jackson (from Rusk) Shirley Knabel and Polly Stone.

Mrs. Vannie Shaw Nicholson's heirs sold the Nicholson store to Edwin Lee Cameron, who sold it to Duward Stallings. Duward sold it to Lee and Mikki Gregory. The Gregorlys have recently dismantled the old building and built a new building on the lot that accommodates a cafe, managed by their daughter, Kim Wiegman, and Mikki has an office for her real estate business. Loleta Garner Davis also works in the real estate office.

Clyde Richardson bought a lot next to Ed Nicholson on the eastern edge of the business district on the south side of the new highway 79. He built a garage and home which he later sold to William Ray (Red) and wife, Allie Payne Murphy. Ray operated the garage with help from his three sons, Rex, James and Neal. Recently the Murphy family sold to Lee and Mikki Gregory.

This completes the history of businesses on both sides of Highway 79 and 110, except that Mart Brown sold the old Clavis Tipton store to Mr. Dub Isaacs of Rusk. Mr. Isaac leased the house for offices and later leased it to Helen Rawlinson for a cafeteria style eating place. She found the responsibility too much so she closed and moved to Jacksonville. At this time Tippy Tarnow has bought the house and lot.

Also Alex Tipton, whose store was on the site of the present school gym, moved his groceries into a new building he built on a part of the old Ike Tipton and Ed Nicholson lot. The store was in front of the present home of E. L. McLeod, Jr. next to the City Hall. E. L.'s home was his grandparents' home. Alex and Lula Clay Thomason Tipton and later his mother, Flossie McLeod Groft.

There were various other businesses outside the central core of the city. On the old Troup-Summerfield road, Estel and Opria Cameron operated a hot house. Down the Troup-Summerfield highway there was once a skating rink which provided excellent entertainment for professional and amateur skaters.

Joe Garrett built and operated a garage north of Howard and Judy Cameron's hot houses.



Leonard Loughmiller now owns this building where he stores his miscellaneous equipment. At one time it was used as a Youth Activity Center.

Troit Dotson and the Summers had cotton gins down the old Ponta road. Henry Dotson had a peanut thrashing machine. He thrashed peanuts for neighbors all over the community. Eva Mae McMeans Darby has a china gift shop where she paints and sells china gifts.

Down the Ponta highway, both old and new, there were several old businesses. John W. Gray had a blacksmith shop west of McDonald cemetery and behind Y. D. and Audrey Fitch's home.

On the old Ponta-Summerfield highway, Ben and Nettie Jeffcoat Darby had a country grocery store and gas station. It still stands and has the original antique gas pump. It is reported that Ike Tipton at one time, had a store five miles down this road in the Dalby school area.

On the new Highway 110, Lila Ballard Whitesides has an income tax and bookkeeping office service. She is very successful too. Mr. J. M. Yarbrough had a house moving business. Ruby Jewel McMeans Whitesides had an antique place but now she has an art and craft place, which she calls "Granny Crafts."

On the Jacksonville-Summerfield highway, there have been several businesses. Jerry Carlisle has a welding shop and the beginning of a plant business. Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McIntire had a store about a mile from the signal light. They kept their store open from 5:30 A.M. until 10:00 P.M. in order to accommodate their customers. "Mrs. Mac" (Cora) was past 82 when "Mr. Mac" died. For several years after his death, she continued to keep the store open. They were remarkable people.

Further out close to Mud Creek Hill, Bob and Jewel Caveness had their store. Opal Tilley, (Jewel's sister) helped when she was needed. Mart Brown later operated that store for a while. Sebe and Gussie Haws had a fruit stand across the road. It too was at the top of Mud Creek Hill.

Mart Brown had a small grocery store and Shamrock station at his home, and now has a used car and tractor sales there. Rickey Brown has a used car lot and manufactures flat trailers. Nedra Brazier once had a beauty shop where Cloyd and Florine Tennison Waldrup now live. Tom Heath had an ice contract and supplied ice for outlying communities as well as in New Summerfield. He hired several men to deliver ice to homes. Some of the men were Clyde Brown and Marvin Chupp.

On the New Summerfield-Henderson highway, Fred McCown had a neighborhood country store. Joe Darby had a store at the crossroads on the Henderson highway and the Myrtle Springs road. Southeast and on the Northeast corner, Mr. H. T. Underwood had a country store.

Further out Laban Dodson and his son, Thomas Lacy Dodson operated a grist mill, blacksmith shop and a gin as early as 1860. Dallas Jay had a grist mill at his farm northeast of New Summerfield. He also had large horses that were used for grading and mowing the county roads.

Effie Ford was a successful country store keeper close to Striker Creek. Mr. and Mrs. George Dale had a small store on the banks of Striker Creek Lake at the bridge on Highway 79. Mrs. Dale made some kind of salve that she sold and her customers declared it was very effective.

Near his farm on the Emmaus road, Henry Dickson made brick to sell in the early 1900's. He baked them in a large kiln.

Two merchants that had no store buildings were a familiar sight in the early days. They were Joe and George Camel from Syria. They had a horse and buggy laden with cloth and sewing items. They had a certain route they made and stayed with people who were friendly and hospitable. Some of these were the Lena Thomason Wallace family. Jessie Greenwood and Tavia Davis and Elton and wife, Winnie Watkins Wallace.

The story goes that relatives from America made enough money to send to Syria for them. Joseph "Joe" and George were trying to save enough to get other relatives over here but by the time they saved enough money their folks had died.

Jarratt Powell, father of Billy Powell, had a used car lot near Mud Creek. Dewey Murphy had a used car lot at his home near Emmaus. He has now retired from the Buick Dealership in Jacksonville and has a garage at his home where he has a few choice customers. Leonard Loughmiller has a used car lot at his home toward Henderson.

Flower shops of the area have been those of Alonzo Dobber and Azalea Bonner Lawson, and Jim Tipton at the Cherokee Plant Farm.

Sidney Gray, a Church of Christ minister, had a book store where he sold Bibles, greeting cards, church materials and gifts. Lee Heath and Elmer Cowan had barber shops. Thurman and Bertie Chandler Tipton had a washeteria. They retired and sold to Mr. Ellis of Jacksonville. Annie Lou Bunn, has a licensed day care center for pre-school children. R. L. Birdwell's Septic Tank Service has been available to local homeowners for years.

There are several people who do arts and crafts. Anna Mae Tipton McMeans age 95 makes stuffed toys and quilts. Izeta Steinsifer Stuart makes miscellaneous things, crochet, hen and rooster door stops and bread covers. Ovilla Summers makes candlewick pillows, crochet pot holders and other items. Ruby Jewel Whitesides makes bonnets, quilts, stuffed toys, "you name it, she does it." Some dressmakers who made beautiful garments for friends and neighbors were Jettie Chandler, Ovilla Summers, Ester Dickson (deceased), and Winnie Wallace (deceased).

Our community has had two Avon ladies: Fannie Mae Naylor Richards and Nettie Langston Musick.

A number of people have or have had dog kennels, and they are: Azalea Lawson (retired) had birds and miniature Boston Bull dogs. Ella Mae Magness Stallings has several rare breeds of dogs, viz: Thasa Apso, Shich Tzu, Cocker Spaniels, Chow-Chow. Mildred Lake Brown has Pekenese. Marie Vaughn Brown has Pekenese. Judy Carol Tipton Vaughn has Poodles, Chihuahua and Pekenese. Mrs. Bonnie Ellis raised Chihuahuas.

Some butane distributors for the community were: Bluflame Gas — driver, Howard Cameron; J. D. Bearden Butane — drivers, Thurman Magee and Neal Murphy; Cherokee Butane — driver, Jess Overton Martin.

Some area carpenters have been: Theo Parsons; Alvis Parsons; Belton Farley (retired); Jim Bird (deceased) was a carpenter, painter and paperhanger; Letcher Clifton (deceased); James Whitesides (retired); Elmer Chandler (deceased); Earl Cowan (deceased) Clavis Tipton (deceased); Gilbert Brown (retired); Duward Stallings.

Some builders in the early days were Ed Magee, Will Magee and Oscar Wallace. Theo Parsons and Duward are outstanding building contractors.

Wayne Bailey now has a garage on highway 235 in New Summerfield. He is assisted by two other mechanics.

Some electricians have been: Coy Dickson (deceased), Claud Cox (retired), Joe Houghton, W. C. Howard and Pasco Gibbs.

Some plumbers who operated from their homes were: Att Gibson (deceased); Audrey Cornelison (deceased); Robert Stuart (retired); Roy Wallace who now works for State Hospital at Rusk; and Charles Carpenter now at Jacksonville. Doyle Bunn and his brothers are very fine brick masons.

We have had at least three sawmill people. Mr. Jim Gault had a sawmill on the old Jacksonville highway, kind of behind Rickey Brown's home. Mr. A. A. Atkinson from Jacksonville had a sawmill North of Guy Darby's place. Charlie Work operated the mill along with his sons for Mr. Atkinson. Later Mr. Work bought the mill.

Samuel Edward Brown, the community's only insurance man, operated from New Summerfield. He sold insurance for the Commercial Travel Insurance almost until his death. Curtis Dickson became an insurance man after he taught school for several years. He worked out of Nacogdoches.

There were a few syrup mill operators in this community. Some of them were: Richard Murphy, Carl Ellis, Knight Summers, Olin Ellis, and Andrew Payne. They made ribbon cane and sorghum syrup, which was the color of honey and was so thick and good.

Alfred A. Atkinson's early sawmill was run by Charlie Work. It was a steam driven mill. Later Charlie had a tractor sawmill run by himself and his sons, Johnny, Jack, Loris and Clarence. This mill burned. There were other sawmills run in the area at various times. Jerry and Elmer Liles ran mills toward Ponta.

Alex Tipton, in 1911 advertised his general store in the Jay Lacy building located about one mile northeast of the present New Summerfield townsite on the old Summerfield-Griffin road.

*Compiled by Odessa Thompson Tipton*

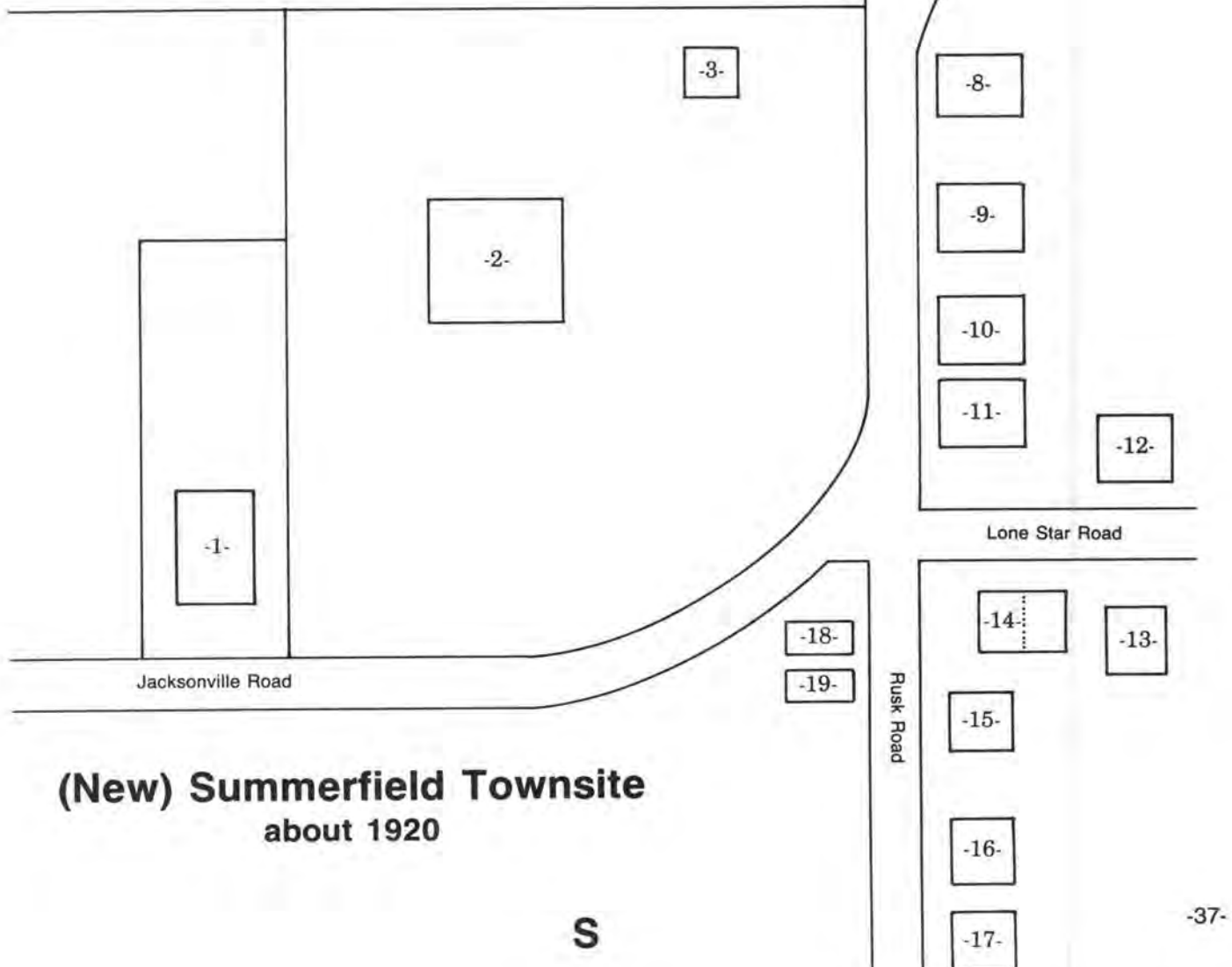
**JOHN SOWEL**  
**GENERAL MERCHANDISE**  
**COUNTRY PRODUCE A SPECIALTY**

Will take your Produce at the store or on the road.  
Wagon is out four days every week. Will give you  
top market price and a square deal.

SUMMERFIELD, TEXAS  
1911

N

1. Methodist Church and lot
2. School house and campus
3. Old log residence of W. J. Loftis family
4. "Ang" Stewart's gin (later Dickson-Womack)
5. Residence
6. Blacksmith shop (Davis — later Brady)
7. Residence — E. M. Nicholson
8. Store — first established — Ike Tipton later E. M. Nicholson
9. Store, John Sowell
10. Store, Elmer Cowan Drug Store
11. Store, Arthur Dickson
12. Residence — Ike Tipton
13. Residence — Dr. J. E. Beall
14. Blacksmith shop and woodwork shop  
(A. Dickson, Charlie Conner, Clint Trotter)
15. Residence — A. Dickson
16. Residence — F. M. Boone
17. Residence — Alex Tipton
18. Store — Alex Tipton
19. Garage — Mack Duty





## Summerfield Oil and Development Company and Other Early Oil Exploration

In 1914 a group of Summerfield men joined together and formed a company to explore for oil in the area. The men who made up the company are not all known but Dr. Judson E. Beall's father of Rusk and other Rusk and Jacksonville men were interested in the adventure.

At least seventeen local land owners leased land to the Summerfield Oil and Development Co., making up a block of some 1500 acres. Land owned by the following people was leased between March 18, 1914 and November 2, 1914: Monroe E. and Mattie Gibbs, J. Dallas and Ella M. Jay, T. P. and Gertha Heath, W. Vester and Omie Boone, Dr. Judson E. and Effie O. Beall, Hub B. and Bammie Nicholson, Jay L. and Montie Lacy, W. B. and Dasie Beddingfield, Cullen S. and Pearl T. South, Henry A. and Fannie C. Couch, Mrs. M. L. Medford, Will T. and Mattie Greenwood, W. F. and Ida Fitch, Owen and Helen Fitch, A. H. and Alice Boss, and J. Henry and Mollie Dickson.

This block of leases was located in the northeastern area of Summerfield on the northern part of the Robert Stewart Survey and the southern parts of the Isaacs Reed, Isaac Kendrick and William Berryhill Surveys.

By early 1915 the company had engaged Henry Dotson and his heavy duty log wagon and mule teams to haul a wooden rig from the train stop at Gould near Troup, Texas. The rig was set up on the Monroe Gibbs 54 acre farm. A local citizen, Arthur Womack, was selected as the driller and drilling was soon begun. But, all that adventure proved a failure when water broke in, the well had to be abandoned because the company finances were exhausted. This venture was a forerunner of other exploration.

The J. A. "Jack" Colliton oil adventures in the Southwestern area of the Summerfield community made history for all of East Texas. He was not associated with the Summerfield Oil Development Co., but was an independent pioneer in the search for oil. Cherokee county was a new frontier for oil exploration and in 1921 Jack Colliton gambled on finding oil near Mud Creek in the Summerfield area. He leased several thousand acres of land and hoped to sell an interest to major companies but they were not interested at that time. So, he decided to drill himself and chose a location in the Jowell Survey on a tract of land owned by James H. Starr and known as the "Star Land."

When the rig was up, he advertised a big "Spudding In" day which was set for February 20, 1922. Many people came from a large area around Summerfield, and the publicity brought in news reporters from all over East Texas. A big celebration was held with Gus Blankenship of Jacksonville as master of ceremonies, and other leading citizens of Jacksonville and Rusk attended. The Rusk College band provided music. The steam operated engine was turned on and drilling began that day on the Colliton No. 1.

Many "set backs" plagued the adventure. The first well was abandoned when the casing broke. The rig was skidded over and Colliton No. 2 was begun. This well was brought in December 5, 1923, and oil shot half way up the derrick and sprayed visitors nearby according to Rubye F. Payne, a local citizen who witnessed the event. Word of the well coming in was soon spread and whole families quickly gathered at the site to celebrate the exciting event. But, the happiness was short lived because the casing collapsed.

The rig was again skidded about 300 feet to a small tract of land owned by Rubye F. Payne. Drilling was underway when a large boulder rolled against the drill stem ruining it and that well also was abandoned.

Colliton did not give up then but moved again and Colonel Humphrey, an experienced oil explorer, joined Jack Colliton and drilling was continued. Oil sand was again discovered but the pressure was insufficient to bring in a well. After two more attempts on the Ousley land nearby, Jack Colliton gave up hopes of finding a producer.

In 1927 Colliton closed down his operations. Before leaving the area he and his wife visited in the Andrew C. Payne home. Rubye F. Payne said, "Mr. Colliton sat there by the fireplace and told my dad, 'I came here with \$85,000, but I am leaving with only \$37.50 in my pocket and my old car.'"

Jack Colliton's efforts at Summerfield were not in vain. "Dad" Joiner, who discovered the first well in the East Texas field, spent much time at Jack Colliton's rigs and watched operations, learning the tricks of drilling. Colliton and Joiner were considered the founders of East Texas oil operations.

*Researched and compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## **Lodges and Clubs**

### **W.O.W. LODGE**

Although no specific records were found on the Woodmen of the World Lodge, it is known that this was a very active organization in the early days of New Summerfield's history. Local citizens were members of the Griffin and Lone Star W.O.W. Lodges before Summerfield was a community center. Only a few names of local members are available. Louis Womack and Lee Dickson became members in 1920. Sebe Haws, Arthur Greenwood, John Sowell, Arthur Dickson and Young O. Wallace were active members. The W.O.W. Lodge held meetings on the second floor of the Ike Tipton Store and was active during Klu Klux Klan days. It is believed that this lodge joined the Jacksonville Lodge but nothing was found to verify this move.

### **MASONIC LODGE 680**

Since there was no Masonic Lodge in Summerfield in its early days, many men of the community were members of either the Griffin or Lone Star Masonic Lodges. The Lone Star Lodge was moved to Ponta after the Lone Star community became inactive as a trade and social center. The Masons of New Summerfield continued to meet at Ponta. In 1962 the Ponta Lodge moved to New Summerfield where a nice concrete tile building was erected on a lot a short distance South of the school campus. It is still an active lodge and holds regular meetings there.

A partial list of "fifty-year members" of the lodge include Dr. J. T. Greenwood, Ray Murphy, Marvin Gill, Ray Heath, Dr. P. E. Jones, Ed Magee and Will Magee. Other early settlers of Summerfield who were Masons at Griffin or Lone Star were: Laban Dodson, J. W. Duty, Matthew Tennison, Dr. W. R. "Rube" Tennison, Jim J. Gill, Matthew Gill, Albert Gallatin Tipton, Isaac Lockhart Newsom, Rev. J. W. Loftis, Jasper N. Greenwood, G. C. McLeod, Norton Walley and Tant Brazier.

The New Summerfield Masonic Lodge now has a large number of local members as well as some members from nearby communities.

*Information on Masonic Lodge from  
Mattie Belle Smelley and William Waldrup*

### **LIONS CLUB**

A Lions Club was organized in the late 1940's and was an active club for sometime. One of its main accomplishments was the establishing of a community dump ground. Through their efforts and the cooperation of local citizens money was raised to buy a tract of land for a dump ground. Cash donations were made and various money raising projects such as bake sales, special ball games, etc., were sponsored. The proceeds were used to purchase 2.6 acres of land from Clyde Tennison who deeded the land to the County Judge for a public dumping ground on August 16, 1949. A dump ground was opened on that site. Mr. Tennison later got that land back and that dumping ground was closed. A new dumping ground was opened about two miles farther east from the city where Willie Hampton deeded two acres to the County Judge for a public dumping ground on April 4, 1952.

This dumping ground soon became a dumping ground for outlying areas. Even out of county

areas used it. It was closed in 1981, by order of the State because of pollution problems and no other dumping ground has been provided. A garbage pick-up service now picks up bagged garbage twice a week in the New Summerfield neighborhood.

## **HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB**

A Home Demonstration Club was first organized in the community in the late 1920's under the guidance of Irene Price (Mrs. Ray Odom). This was a very active club for a few years. The local ladies received much benefit from the club especially in canning as pressure canners were just coming into popular use. Arts and crafts, sewing, home decorating, refinishing furniture, baking and general meal planning were other areas in which they were benefited.

These experiences were especially good at that time as those were the "depression days" and it was very important to conserve, preserve, use and re-use everything possible. There has not been an active Home Demonstration Club in the community in recent years.

## **4-H CLUB**

Irene Price (Odom) also organized the first 4-H Club at Summerfield when the Home Demonstration Club was organized. At that time 4-H was usually a girls club where the main activities were learning basic cooking and sewing techniques and putting them into practice.

4-H Clubs have been active in New Summerfield for many years. Interest sometimes dies and it is necessary to re-organize. The clubs have accomplished much through the years. During the 1960's there was a very active club. Several local boys and girls have participated in county, district and state events. One year La Nelle Clifton (Wilcox) was Gold Star Girl from the New Summerfield Club and another year Barbara Bobbitt (Reeves) was Gold Star Girl from the Ponta Club. She now resides in New Summerfield.

In 1983 Rebecca Kitzman of the New Summerfield 4-H Club was elected the first "Miss Cherokee County." In 1984 Tammy Davis, a 4-H member of the Pine Tree 4-H Club was elected queen of the Cherokee County Livestock Show. Many other New Summerfield 4-H members have won prizes in various events on the County, District and State level.

## **BOY SCOUTS**

Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts have been active in the community at various times in the past years but they never seem to become a strong growing organization. There is not an active Club at this time.

## **GIRL SCOUTS — CAMP FIRE GIRLS — BROWNIES**

These clubs, like Boy Scouts, have been organized and active for a period of time but they never become real strong clubs.



## PARENTS-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Parents and Teachers first organized an association in 1922. The teachers working with the school at that time were Misses Ila, Rosa and Lela Maris, sisters from the near by Emmaus community. Some of the active parents who participated in the P.T.A. at that time were Dicksons, Dotsons, Gills, Ellis, Darbys, Tiptons, Davis and Sowell.

A new school building was in use and interest was good. Much was done through the organization to help set the "new" school in order. Public open house was held to show the new building and the work being done by the pupils and teachers. Parents helped provide equipment and supplies and worked hand-in-hand with the teachers for the best possible education for the children.

The Parent-Teacher Association's interest and activities have grown steadily since its beginning. It still works in the same way as in the 1920's but with much larger projects such as building covered sidewalks, constructing concession stands in the gym, buying lunch room equipment, water fountains, stage curtains, auditorium chairs, etc. It is recognized as the most active P.T.A. in the area and the one which accomplishes the most for the school.

## BASEBALL CLUBS

Young men of the Summerfield community organized baseball clubs or teams as early as 1900. They played such teams as those of Lone Star, Troup and Jacksonville. About 1930 there was a local ball team with a playing field in the Ellis pasture just north of the school campus. In a few years, the present highway 110 was routed through that place ruining the baseball diamond. In later years baseball teams played in open pastures but no real baseball team has been organized in New Summerfield for several years.

## SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATION

The newest organization and one of the most active in New Summerfield in 1984 is the Senior Citizens Group, organized in connection with the Senior Citizens government lunch program. Meals are served to all Senior Citizens who desire to eat. They are served in the School cafeteria following pupils lunches five days a week.

The Senior Citizens organized and elected officers to direct the program. Besides good meals, they make bus tours, visit nursing homes, have ice cream suppers, quilt and do other hand crafts in their meetings.

Probably best of all they enjoy a close fellowship not available elsewhere.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

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W. R. Tennison and Tom Dodson served on a committee with other county men to sell stock in the Cherokee Fair Association in 1892.

From the "Jacksonville Banner"

## Social Life and Entertainment

While still living in covered wagons or temporary homes, pioneers had social gatherings around camp fires. Occasionally some pioneer with a fiddle or a guitar would provide music for a little foot patting or dancing. Such was the beginning of social life in the early neighborhoods of New Summerfield where pioneers combined their work and pleasure. They worked together to clear land, help with a log "house raising" or building a barn. Men and boys cut and placed logs, built rock fireplaces and split shingles for roofs. The women and girls cooked large meals for the workmen while the young children tended babies, ran errands and played a little "hop-scotch" or other games requiring no special equipment. Although these were basically work gatherings, the families visited and enjoyed the fellowship.

Men often went together on hunting trips and shared the kill. Fear of Indian attacks was not completely forgotten, although no records of serious Indian trouble have been handed down through New Summerfield folk lore. Neighborhood men joined together to cut firewood, split rails and build fences, plant or harvest crops, butcher hogs or any other task where working together was an advantage. Probably the desire to associate with other people was part of the reason for group work.

Women also joined their neighbors for quilting bees, soap making, canning, and on butchering day, they worked with the men in preparing the meat to cure. They made sausage, rendered lard and of course cooked a big dinner of fresh pork, etc.

Brush arbors and sometimes tents were used for revival meetings. Log church houses were erected as soon as the settlers had homes established. But, many summer revivals were still held under brush arbors since it was cooler outside. A Methodist church house was built sometime before 1875 near the present Union Chapel Cemetery. It was there that much early social life was centered. School was taught there too and different religious faiths used the church house for years as a worship center. Also, the Friendship neighborhood had a school and church probably as early as 1860-70. That seems to have been the earliest school and neighborhood for miles around.

It was from these central gathering places that people learned of their neighbors' needs and were able to help them. Men often gathered crops for widows or sick neighbors, cut their firewood and even provided them with meat. There was no stock laws and farmers turned their pigs loose when crops were gathered so they ran "wild." It was necessary to hunt them like wild animals.

People became acquainted at the church or school house and close friendships were established. Many courtships began at the church house and ended in marriage at the same place. Weddings at the church were big social events for the entire neighborhood, and the old time practice of "shivareeing" was especially entertaining as one often repeated story indicates. A young New Summerfield couple was married and following the wedding ceremony they went to their new home. In the night a large group of youngsters quietly slipped to the house and suddenly began to ring cowbells, beat tin pans, blow cow horns, etc. and created a very noisy "shivaree." The newlyweds had been tipped off so the groom opened the door and fired one shot into the air from his old shotgun. Shivareers went everyway and soon the couple went to bed. After a short time, they heard a woman under the house call, "Hey, somebody come help. I'm stuck and I can't get out!" The party was over when someone found the shovel and moved the dirt away so she could crawl out. After a hilarious night everyone went home happy. Sometimes the shivaree ended with refreshments and a singing or dance in the home of the newlyweds.

Community singings were a popular entertainment. They were held in homes or church and school buildings. Before 1900 they sang Sacred Harp music using only four notes, Fa, Sol, La and Mi, instead of the now common seven note music. Some descendants of the Payne, Summers, and Murphy families still sing Sacred Harp songs.

Singing schools were taught by qualified musicians. A branch session of "Patton's Normal Music Institute" was held at New Summerfield in July 1911 with O. G. Osborn as principal and O. K. Ellis as secretary. This was a 20 day school, teaching sight singing, rudiments, ear training, harmony and composition. Later singing schools were taught by J. O. Bearden, O. K. Ellis, Tom Heath, Troy Richardson and others. Mary Cope taught a music school at the Union Chapel School House. Lessons on playing the old fashioned pump organs and later pianos were taught by Sybie Fuller



Morris and Mildred Dotson Davis. Singing schools were usually financed by public donations.

Early church groups sponsored picnics, ball games and ice cream suppers. Ladies of the church made badges and banners of different colors to identify team members and winners. Churches and schools also sponsored "Box Suppers" and "Sock Suppers" as money raising entertainment. Protracted Revival Meetings with daily services held both morning and night lasted from one to three weeks. There was usually one or more baptizing services conducted at a nearby creek where new converts were baptized.

Many people gave parties in their homes where the guests enjoyed such activities as popping popcorn, roasting peanuts, candy pulling and candy breaking. Sugar cookies and punch made from home canned fruit juices were often served. Frequently guests brought their string instruments, harmonicas, "French Harps" and "Jews Harps" to provide music. Some early local musicians were Ed Magee with his fiddle and Viola, his wife, accompanying him on her guitar. Stacey Upchurch, Will Moore and Lonnie Wallace were also "fiddle" players.

Other later musicians were: Fiddle-violin players: Raymond Lacy, Weldon Sowell, Curtis Dickson, Weaver Heath and Doyle Sessions; Guitar players: Buddy Lacy, Carl Dickson, Rex Murphy, Ahnolia Gill and Tony Gill; Mandolin players: Ray Heath, Oscar Sowell, Dutch Heath, and Janet Murphy; Banjo players: Neal Murphy and Tony Gill. Amos Summers, Ray Murphy and Rex Murphy called for square dances. Most of these musicians could play several instruments. String bands were organized and they played for school programs, country dances and other special occasions. In more recent years other string bands have been formed using electric string instruments, drums, etc.

Some local ladies who played the old pump organ and later piano were: Vera Dickson, Annie Boss, Berta Perkins, Buna Dickson, Bonnie Ellis, Sybie Morris, Eva Colvin and Mildred Dotson Davis.

Before cars were available, young people walked a great distance to parties. One young lady saved her money and bought a new pair of shoes for a party. She danced the soles off and walked a few miles home barefooted, accompanied by her date. She was often teased about it in later years.

Some other amusements were not publicly approved but were fun for those involved. Groups of youngsters often visited watermelon and cane patches at night. Usually they took only what they could eat at that time and tried not to do much damage. Sometimes a farmer would invite them to a cane breaking or a watermelon slicing.

One night in 1921, a group of young men and women took lanterns and walked through the woods to a cane patch in a branch bottom. The owner of the cane patch lived on a hill not far away. His wife was ill and restless that night. She noticed the light moving about in the cane patch and awakened her husband. He dressed, took his double barrel shot gun and slipped down to the edge of the cane field. He could hear several people talking and laughing along with cane stalks breaking. He pointed his gun into the air and fired both barrels. Some youngsters screamed and others used a few profane words as they ran through the cane toward the other side of the patch. Some of them ran into a barbed wire fence on the bank of the creek. Some tried to jump the fence but just broke the wires and fell into the creek. The next day the owner found a full length imprint where someone had fallen flat, face down, into the sandbarred mud. It was not hard to figure out who was in that party. Broken cane was left in the field and the owner's family enjoyed it the next day. He often laughed about how tickled he became as the "raiders" left the field that night.

After the townsite was established at New Summerfield, it became a busy little social center. Most of the citizens attended worship services on Sunday morning, but on Sunday afternoon the nail kegs and "peg-legged" benches in front of the stores became a social gathering place for the men seeking relaxation from a hard week of labor. Here they could "spin yarns," spit tobacco juice, pitch horseshoes or washers, later silver dollars, play "mumble peg," shoot marbles and just plain visit. They exchanged farm ideas, political views, etc. A baseball game might even be worked up among the young men.

Meanwhile, the women and children often went along to visit with their "town" neighbors: Laura Tipton, Effie Beall, Vera Dickson, Lula Sowell, Vannie Nicholson, Bertie McMeans, Lula Tipton, Alta Mae Brown or Zellah "Zadie" Womack. The ladies exchanged recipes, scraps, patterns and home remedies for sickness. Of course, they tried to exchange as much gossip as their husbands did at the "Lick-log," a common name given the men's gathering place. This name was often used to describe the hollow log in the woods where cattle gathered to lick the salt put there for them. It also attracted deer to make hunting easier. G. W. "Bud" Sowell kept a cattle "lick-log" until his death.

About 1925 when pressure canning in tin cans became popular, New Summerfield citizens began group canning. Money was donated and a large pressure canner and a can sealer were purchased. Families gathered their produce and a canning date was set to meet on the school campus. On that day iron wash pots were set up to keep hot water for sterilizing cans, etc. Ladies prepared the food and packed it into cans while the men sealed cans, kept the fires burning and handled the cans in and out of the pressure canner. Tubs of cool water were kept ready to cool the processed cans of food. The children enjoyed a great play day.



In the 1920-35 period home parties at New Summerfield were almost a weekly affair. Parlor games such as Musical Chair, Winkum, Ring on a String, Knock and Spin the Platter were played. Mental challenging games using pencil and paper with a partner were popular. In nice weather yard parties were held under kerosene lanterns. Active games such as Flying Dutchman, Going Grape Hunting, Drop the Handkerchief, Snap, Crosseyed Snap and others were played. Refreshments were always served. The Edison Phonograph had been shown on the streets of Jacksonville in the early 1900's and a few found their way into New Summerfield homes. They added much to the parties. Jim and Bevie Brown had one of the first phonographs and their home was a favorite place for parties. Their phonograph was the old cylinder record style wound up with a hand crank. It is still owned by Brown descendants and still plays quite well.

Not to be forgotten were the very special school programs, plays, baseball games and later basketball games that have been a source of entertainment and social activity since the community began.

A stage had to be improvised and sometimes a temporary stage was built outside the school house to provide more room. Even flat bed trucks sometimes provided the stage for performances.

Road shows seemed to always find New Summerfield in the early days. Frequent visits were made to the community by stage shows and trained animal acts presented in tents or at the school. Medicine shows with vaudeville type acts peddled patent medicines, sometimes from a stage on a covered wagon or truck, but usually the show was in a small tent. Various other traveling shows similar to present day carnival "side shows" stopped for one to three night stands. Later, silent movies which were followed in a few years by sound or "talking movies" were shown in tents usually staying in the community about one week. The Mollie Bailey Circus made at least one stop in New Summerfield.

Road peddlers added their bit to the social life of this rural community. Many were men of Syrian nationality traveling in a one horse buggy and carrying dress materials, thread, needles, buttons, lace, jewelry and other notions as well as a few copies of fairly recent newspapers and magazines. They drove through the country making stops at each home and made many sales. They would trade their merchandise for cash, chickens, eggs, produce or any saleable thing they could carry with them. They would even give merchandise to a family for a night's lodging and feed for their horse. New Summerfield ladies were often glad to buy from them since it was not always possible to go to a general store for such items.

Before the days of iceboxes or freezers, farmers often butchered a calf or pig and peddled it from house to house to provide fresh meat for their neighbors. Raleigh and Watkins salesmen went from house to house offering spices, flavoring and patent medicines for sale. Many housewives were happy to have these items delivered to their doors. The road salesmen were followed later by home party sales of cookware, jewelry, cosmetics, etc.

Although social events of past years were simple measured by today's standards, they were pleasant and happy occasions and a neighborliness was enjoyed which no longer exists in the rushing society of today. Sharing, understanding, compassion and sympathy were a major part of pioneer life.

Our pioneers were not free of disagreements. Occasionally there were fist fights, knifings, gun play and even a few murders. Men were protective of their families and property and they fought for them. They also fought because of pride, ego, and money. It has been said that a pioneer man would fight for his horse, his money and his women which were all important to his way of life. It must be remembered that many of our early New Summerfield pioneers were just out of the Civil War, had been involved with hostile Indians, and had lived in a wilderness surrounding. Maybe they were "trigger happy" and maybe there was a just cause. These tragic happenings are a sad part of our history but they did not cause major set backs in the social development of New Summerfield.

Today New Summerfield enjoys a very pleasant and cooperative society. Although home visits are not as common as in the early days, neighbors are always ready to help each other when a need arises and the "whole community" turns out for most all public social affairs.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton and  
LaNelle Clifton Wilcox*

## BEAUTIFUL RIVER.

From the Gem. Alto by W. M. Cooper.

1. Shall we gath-er at the riv - er, Where bright angel feet have trod, With its crystal wa-ters ev - er Flowing from the throne of God?

2. Ere we reach the shining riv - er Lay we ev - 'ry bur-den down; Grace our spirits will de - liv - er, And provide a robe and crown.

3. On the margin of the riv - er, Washing up its sil-ver spray, We will walk and worship ev - er, All the hap - py, gold - en day.

4. Soon we'll reach the shining river, Then our pilgrimage will cease, Then our happy hearts will quiver With the mel-o - dy of peace.

### CHORUS.

Yes, we will gather at the riv - er, The beautiful, the beautiful riv - er, Gather with the saints, at the river, That flows from the throne of God.

29

Taken from *THE SACRED HARP*, a popular four note vocal music book used by the pioneers. The book was revised by W. M. Cooper of Dothan, Alabama. Mr. Cooper said, "For fifty years prior to this revised book in 1902, *THE SACRED HARP* was regarded as a variable treasury of song, and its grand old melodies have been sung over and over so many times by generations who loved them, that the book itself has come to seem almost like a sacred thing."

## Summerfield

### A GROWING, PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

Our Senior Editor made a trip to Summerfield last Friday for the purpose, among others, of delivering a very large issue of catalogs printed by the Banner Job Office for the public school of that enterprising community.

There is not a section of East Texas anywhere that we know anything about that has within it richer or better lands or whose citizenship appear more prosperous and progressive. Within that community are to be found more rich lands and inviting and substantial farm homes than one can likely find within any other equal territory in Cherokee County.

The village of Summerfield is well located upon an elevated plateau that is well drained and endowed by nature with all health requirements. The town has excellent church facilities and one of the very notable assets of the community is the high order of social and moral attainments, both among the young and the old people of the community. The environments are just such as will be approved by any parent desiring to surround his children with the most wholesome influences.

The community has a public mill and gin. Arthur Dickson, Mr. Ed Nicholson, Alex Tipton and John Sowell have general stores with clean, well selected stocks, adequate to the average needs of the community, and most of these businesses are conducted in substantial store houses. Drs. Beall and Tennison are the physicians of the community. Elmer Cowan runs a barber shop, while Messrs. Conner & Trotter have a thoroughly up-to-date, well equipped blacksmith and wood working shop. In our limited and busy hours in the town, we were unable to obtain detailed information respecting the other business establishments and the lodges of the town.

But above all other institutions of the town is Summerfield's public school, which is taught by Prof. F. S. Sewall and wife, two very competent instructors. The school building is well located and while it has two large, well lighted rooms, yet the attendance is so large and increasing so rapidly that a movement is on foot to add another large room and employ an additional teacher. Messrs. Henry Dickson, A. L. Stewart, Bud Sowell, Arthur Dickson, Dr. J. E. Beall, John Ellis and George Acker constitute the Board of Trustees. A special tax is levied to supplement the state appropriation and there is a movement on foot to increase this tax to 50 cents.

To us, it was an inspiration worth going far to experience to see so many bright, healthy, earnest pupils in school, many of them being grown or nearly grown. The people love the school and a great majority of them are standing by it loyally as was evidenced by the number of patrons who had come out to the school on the day of our visit to witness and participate in the school's Friday evening exercises, which our readers will recall, had been previously announced in *The Banner*.

Nor must we forget to acknowledge certain very much appreciated courtesies to *The Banner*. While we enjoyed before, a very flattering subscription patronage from that section, that was tendered to us by patrons when we met the school meeting an even dozen additional yearly subscriptions for our paper. We hope to visit Summerfield oftener and we certainly expect to have more to say of her matchless citizenship.

*From the "Troup Banner", February 8(?), 1912*



## THE SUMMERFIELD FAIR

In 1922 Summerfield, not yet named New Summerfield, held "The Summerfield Fair." This information is verified by people who attended that fair. Facts are taken from a highly complimentary news article run in the *Troup Banner*, in which it was called "A Great Community Exposition" where the "Spirit of Co-operation Achieves Big Success." The fair was held on a Saturday and over the highways entering town were streamers bearing the word "WELCOME." Several hundred people attended.

The exhibits consisted of several divisions. The Colt Show was chiefly promoted by the Ellis Brothers, O. K. and C. G., the former being a poultryman and all-around utility man of the community, and C. G. being proprietor of the Summerfield Stock and Poultry Farm. Also assisting them was O. R. Perkins, owner of the Perkins Stock Farm and Breeding Stables at Ponta. Colts were shown from both those farms as well as others. Prize winning colts were owned by Tommy Darby of Troup, 1st prize \$10.00; Edgar Tipton of Summerfield, 2nd prize \$7.50; and H. B. Nicholson of Summerfield, 3rd prize \$5.00. A. E. Greer won all around prize of \$10.00 with a colt from the Perkins Stables.

In the Horse Show C. G. Ellis showed his famous jack, "Free Silver." Perkins showed his leading jack, "Rex McDonald," and John Dotson showed a Blue Andalusian jack. A saddle horse type stallion "Major Dare" was also well accepted. Perkins showed some Belgian draft type colts also.

J. Matthew Gill showed an 800 lb. Poland China hog and Frank Jones showed two Herford calves. The Ellis Farm showed a herd of registered Jersey cows headed by "Jolly Noble," a bull from the Ed C. Lasseter herd, premium winners through out the nation.

Winners in the Poultry Division for various entries were: H. B. Nicholson, Robert Montgomery, H. M. Corbin, Carl Ellis, Weldon Sowell, J. B. Hicks, Edgar Tipton, W. T. Greenwood, H. M. Tipton, O. K. Ellis, G. W. Sowell, E. M. Nicholson, S. E. Brown, J. A. Dotson, Mrs. Jewell Smith, J. T. Brown, Joe Wallace (whose pen of Rhode Island Reds had won first place prize in the last Dallas Fair), and Mrs. Godsey. A large variety of high bred poultry was shown.

In the new brick school building many ladies exhibited "fancy work" and flowers too numerous to name as well as canned and dried products, ribbon cane syrup, fresh vegetables, etc. Also exhibited were old relics and curios, including a spinning wheel, old pioneer lady's dresses, quilts and bedspreads (some 200 years old), guns and daggers of Revolution and Civil war use, old money, books, etc.

Also on display were school exhibits. The school was taught by three sisters, the Misses Ila, Lela and Rosa Maris, all holding diplomas from Sam Houston Normal Institute. They were reared in the neighboring Emmaus community. They were backed by a well organized Parent-Teachers Association. This Association served lunches and refreshments throughout the day raising much needed financial aid for the school. On display were books, maps, charts, notebooks, drawings and a great display of natural science including insects, minerals, plants, rocks, etc., collected by the pupils.

A major event of the day was a "Wild West Rodeo" where about a thousand people gathered at 2 P.M. Riders in the rodeo were M. V. Duncan and Mr. Ott (Ault), of Craft and Gregg Smith of Griffin. Bulls and a "40" year old mule were ridden giving much entertainment.

The Ponta Brass Band with Prof. W. C. Wisener came in a truck and gave two concerts from the shade of a tree; one before and one after the rodeo. Then the Reklaw and Ponta boys basketball teams played a game on the local outdoor court. Ponta won with a score of 7 to 3.

The *Troup Banner* reporter addressed the crowd after the band concert and congratulated them on their fine spirits of community co-operation, their devotion to their public school, their good neighborliness, and their high order of civic pride and citizenship.

(New Summerfield still tries to keep up this good reputation. We want to recognize and thank the "Old" *Troup Banner* for this information and its complimentary article).

## NEW SUMMERFIELD INCORPORATION

New Summerfield was just an ordinary rural community with a small townsite until about 1960. At that time Federal Government programs were being set up to finance rural development. The Rural Electrification program had brought electricity to most rural homes of the area by 1937.

In 1962 the citizens of the community decided to go into a government assistance program to get a rural water system. Application was made for a government loan to finance a New Summerfield Rural Water System. The application was approved and Dewey Tipton donated to the system a small piece of land southeast of the business district. A deep well was drilled at that site and a storage tank was placed on the lot. Lines were laid to homes in the community, some as far out as two or three miles. The lines were gradually extended to other homes. On December 20, 1963 Charter Membership Certificates were issued to all members of the original system. A board of five directors had been selected. They were: Ovis McLeod, Ross Cummins, Ollie Cameron, Dewey Tipton and Oscar McAnally. Ovis McLeod served as first president of the board and Ross Cummins as the first secretary.

Soon after completing the water system the citizens began talking about a community gas system to supply natural gas to homes of the area. The possibility of getting a gas system was investigated and it was learned that, for various reasons, it could not be handled and financed as the water system had been. The requirements were different. Gas companies were selling an expensive commodity and they would not sell without some type of governing body such as a city council to sign a contract and to operate the system. A federal government financing program was available when all requirements were met.

Since New Summerfield had no city government, it was decided to present a petition to the County Judge requesting an election to incorporate the town. The election was ordered held on the 1st day of June 1963. It was held in the school cafeteria with R. C. Davis as election judge. The election carried with 86 votes cast for and 39 votes cast against incorporating.

The first city officials were sworn in by Emerson Stone at the C. Weaver Heath home on August 23, 1963. They were: Paul Chupp as mayor, Truman Magee as marshall with Alvis Parsons, Clarence Rector, Earl Liles, C. Weaver Heath and Ollie Cameron as councilmen. The Council appointed Ovis McLeod as secretary. The city was incorporated as the TOWN OF NEW SUMMERFIELD. Frank Spearey, a surveyor, was engaged to make a legal survey for the city limits which were to extend one-half mile each direction from the northeast corner of the school campus. This survey was completed September 19, 1963.

A move was then started to buy a lot and erect a community building to be used by the water department, the city government, the gas department if such a system was set up, and the public in general. The New Summerfield Water System donated \$300.00 to the City to be used in obtaining a loan to finance the cost of materials to build a building. Many local citizens, both in the city limits and outside, made sizable donations to the funds to purchase a lot and help finance a building. Various money making projects were carried out and the money raised was also donated to the building funds.

On November 21, 1963, Ovis T. McLeod and wife, Jimmie, sold to a group of local men, to be known as the "Trustees" of the property, two small lots of land located on a corner at the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 235 and Highway 110 in front of the school campus. These lots had been purchased by Ovis T. McLeod on September 18, 1963, from Bert Haws and wife, Ruby Fern. The lots were formerly owned by the Temple Baptist Church of New Summerfield. The church congregation had disbanded in 1958, and the building had been accepted by the Reklaw Baptist Church and moved to Reklaw. The two lots had been returned to the Haws who had originally given them to the church.

The nine "Trustees" listed on the deed included the newly elected city officials and the acting board of the New Summerfield Water Supply Corporation. They were Paul Chupp, Ollie Cameron, Clarence Rector, Alvis Parsons, C. W. Heath, Earl Liles, Oscar McAnally, Dewey Tipton, and Rex Murphy. These trustees were to pay to the Rusk Federal Savings and Loan Association the sum of \$4,000.00 owed that institution by virtue of one certain Deed of Trust Promissory Note executed

by the Grantors on November 12, 1963. When that note and all the interest due were paid in full and it became the legal property of the "Trustees," the "Trustees" were to immediately convey the legal title of the property, including any buildings or improvements on it, to the Town or City of New Summerfield for the use and benefit of its citizens. A majority of those trustees living at the time the note was paid in full could make the conveyance and give a clear title to the property.

A concrete tile building was erected on that site in 1964. It was financed by donations and money making projects. Bunn brothers laid the tile and many local citizens, both inside the city limits and outside, donated "free" labor and materials to make the building possible. It is now known as the City Hall and has a large auditorium, four office rooms and two rest rooms, all with air conditioning and heat. The Water System uses one office, the City Secretary and the Gas Superintendent use an office. One office is for the City Judge and one is for the Justice of Peace when needed. Many public meetings are now held in the auditorium, such as elections, business meetings, family reunions, showers, etc. It is a very nice accommodation for the whole community.

The Deed of Trust Promissory Note was paid in full on July 26, 1971, and all of the original nine Trustees signed a deed conveying the property to the CITY OF NEW SUMMERFIELD, a Municipal Corporation.

After the City was incorporated, an application for a government loan was made and approved to finance a natural gas system for the community. Government revenue bonds dated August 8, 1966, were sold. Bids were taken from various suppliers and a contract was made with the United Gas Pipeline Co. to furnish natural gas. A meter (point of purchase) was set just south of Troup and lines laid to the New Summerfield area.

Black Jack community was placed on the line and is a part of the New Summerfield system as well as people in the area south of Troup. This made gas available to homes in a large area around New Summerfield. Later the lines were extended to Ponta, Elm Grove, Iron Hill, Gallatin and Turney. A second meter (point of purchase) was set near Craft. Some people, for various reasons, use butane, propane or wood fireplaces for home heating.

The first telephone service in New Summerfield was over privately owned phones and lines. The old battery operated phone with a hand crank hung on the wall and was connected to a privately owned line strung from one neighbor's home to another. There was no switchboard. All lines were party lines and people recognized their calls by the number of long and short rings. Each home was assigned a certain "ring." Although they were somewhat crude compared to today's phones, they were a great aid in times of trouble, sickness, etc. They were also a way of visiting with neighbors some distance away. Since they were party lines, people often listened in on other calls to get the local "news." Keeping up the lines became a big task. They were attached to trees, fence post or telephone poles and were easily knocked down during storms or by falling limbs thus killing the line often when it was needed the most.

Quite a few people had these phones, especially doctors and merchants. Dr. Judson Beall had a phone in his home before 1916 and he probably had a switchboard. It is known that Mrs. Bertie McMeans bought his home when he moved his family to Pearsall, Texas, in 1916. She ran a switchboard there until she moved away in 1919. Then Mrs. Lilly Dalby Dotson operated a switchboard for a number of years in the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Vera and Arthur Dickson.

Ed Nicholson had the first phone connected to the Jacksonville phone system. It was in his store and it gave a degree of long distance service to the community since messages could be relayed through the party lines. By the 1930's a few homes and the local stores had toll phone service out of Jacksonville, but full phone service was not available in New Summerfield until 1967. After the city incorporated a contract was made with General Telephone Co. on September 13, 1965, for phone service to the city. This was a toll service and remained toll service until the city issued a franchise to General Telephone which granted toll free calls to Jacksonville. Mayor Paul Chupp made the first toll free call to Jacksonville June 13, 1967. This service remained toll free until 1984 when General Telephone again placed toll charges on phone calls to Jacksonville. That toll charge is being contested at this time.

The Southwestern Electric Co. ran lines from Jacksonville to the stores, school and a few homes in the New Summerfield area in the late 1930's. It was another year or two before the Rural Electric Association (R.E.A.) brought electricity to the outlying areas. The Southwestern Electric has a franchise with the city and some R.E.A. customers are in the city limits.

A volunteer Fire Department was organized about 1964, and a small fire truck was purchased. Again cash donations and money making projects were used to finance the department. A small frame building located just north of the business district on the Troup highway, which was used as a Justice of Peace Office, was given to the city in exchange for office space in the City Hall. The building was torn down and the material was used to construct a building to house the fire truck. A better equipped fire truck was obtained later from the Forestry Service. The Fire Department still needs more volunteers and better equipment.

In recent years a great need was seen for an additional city water supply. In 1981 Mack Allen



gave the water corporation an option and easement on a lot west of the original water well site, on which to drill another city water well. At that time Roy Stewart and P. A. McMeans signed the option representing the water corporation. An easement was signed on a 50 foot by 50 foot lot and an access right-of-way. The water line was to be laid in the center of the access right-of-way. Provisions of the contract also included sanitation controls in a radius of 150 feet of the water well. There were to be no stock pens, feed lots, dump grounds, privies, cess pools, septic tanks or other wells in that area.

With this option secured, an application was made to the government for a new loan to finance a second water well on that location. The loan was approved and on August 9, 1983, Mack Allen deeded to the New Summerfield Water Supply Corporation the plot of land under option. A new well was drilled, pump set and lines laid to tie into the existing storage tank. Since that time the community has had an adequate water supply.

A TV Cable System was first brought to New Summerfield in November 1983, by the New Summerfield Cable TV, Inc., operated by a TV Cable Company of Centerville, Texas, under a ten year contract. The relay station is located just south of the business district on a plot leased from the former Ruby Gill Allen and Mack Allen estate.

A city sales tax of 1% was voted on and passed August 11, 1984. There have been two "wet-dry" elections in the City but they were defeated. Neither the community nor the city have ever had open saloons or the legalized sale of alcoholic beverages.

A complete list of city officials is not available as some city records were lost in a fire. Records of business transactions and positive dates were also lost. Some who have served as mayor are: Paul Chupp, Weaver Heath, Dick Tipton, Joe Corbin, Carl Tipton, Gene Spalding, Mabel Heath, Paula Davis, and Bill Poteet.

Serving as City Marshall have been Truman Magee, Earl Sprayberry, Bruce Ivy and Jerry Carlisle.

The City Council holds regular and called meetings and a City Secretary is on duty five days a week. The present city officials are Bill Poteet, mayor, with councilmen, Joe Corbin, Barry Powell, Hubert McLeod, Lonnie Bland and Graham Tennison. The secretary's position is shared by Ahnolia Gill and Hilda McLeod, each working every other week. Frank Burns, Jr. is superintendent of the gas system. Tipton McLeod is the police chief.

The New Summerfield Water System's board members serving now are: Bob Caveness, Graham Tennison, Paul Chupp, David Clegg and James Whitesides.

Other elected and appointed officers serving in 1984, from the community are Buford Gray, Constable; Bobby D. Caveness, Justice of Peace; and Danny Garrett, Deputy Sheriff.

*Researched and compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

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Johnnie McCrimmin of Lone Star sold \$10,000 worth of his land in the Beaumont oil field by wire from Rusk, Texas. He had previously sold \$40,000 worth from the estate and still has land left.  
(Big Dealing for 1901!)

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November 12, 1892

The General Election in 1892 was held in the 13 county voting boxes with 13 different kinds of tickets. (East Mud Creek had only 3 voting boxes — Griffin, Bell School House, and Lone Star).

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January 13, 1905

Lone Star town burned in May 1893. Dr. J. E. Rowbart was burned to death in his office. Other businesses lost to the fire were: John McCracken's General Store, Jones and West General Store (saved some merchandise), Miss Mollie Smith's Millinery and the blacksmith shop. Tipton and Black General Store and a saloon did not burn.

From the "Jacksonville Banner"

## Civil War Veterans of This Area

BOBBITT, James (Jim), Pvt., Co. K 34th Texas Calvary  
 BOBBITT, John, Pvt., Co. K 34th Texas Calvary  
 BRAZIER, Wm. Henry Harrison, Co. G 3rd Regiment Green's Brigade 7th Texas Calvary  
 CAMERON, James Samiel, Co. B 11th Texas Infantry  
 CONNER, Jesse Jackson, Co. B 11th Texas Infantry  
 COOK, C. W., 3rd Lt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 COOK, J. W., 1st Sgt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 COOK, John D., Pvt., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas Walker Division  
 CORNELISON, J. Porter, 3rd Corp. Co. B Randall's 28th Texas Walker Division  
 COUCH, Drury, Pvt., Co. F 35th Texas Calvary, Thomas Division  
 COUCH, Henry A., Pvt. Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 COWAN, James H., Co. C 5th Tennessee Calvary  
 DALBY, Isaac K., 2nd Lt., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas  
 DALBY, John Ward, Pvt., No. 32, Lone Star Defenders, Capt. Martin's Co., Cherokee Co. Calvary  
 DALBY, Seth T. W., Lone Star Defenders, Co. I 10th Texas Calvary (died at Ringgold, Ga., July 1862)  
 (Personal property was inventoried when the Lone Star Defenders enlisted. John W. Dalby had: horse, \$175.00, gun, \$30.00, pistol \$10.00, saddle and blankets \$30.00, saddle bag \$5.00; Seth Dalby had: horse \$140.00, gun \$40.00, sword \$10.00, saddle and blankets \$30.00, saddle bags \$5.00)  
 DARBY, F. T.  
 DARBY, Virge M., Corp., Co. A 1st Georgia Infantry Volunteer, Prisoner  
 DICKEY, Robert, Corp., Co. C 11th Texas Infantry  
 DICKSON, W. K., Capt. C.S.A.  
 DONAHO, Hiram H., Pvt., Co. C 3rd Texas Calvary, Died 3rd Sgt B Garrison, Co. F  
 DOTSON, J. M. (Jeremiah) Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 DOTSON, William H., Pvt., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas Walker Division  
 FITCH, Eli, Pvt., Co. C 11th Texas Infantry Robert's Regiment  
 FITCH, F. D., Pvt., Co. C 11th Texas Infantry Robert's Regiment  
 FITCH, Jim, Pvt., Co. C 11th Texas Infantry Robert's Regiment  
 FITCH, Tom, Pvt., Co. C 11th Texas Infantry Robert's Regiment  
 FREDRICK, W. C., Pvt., Co. E 7th Texas Infantry  
 GARRISON, B., Pvt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 GILL, Henry C., Pvt., Co. C 11th Texas Infantry  
 GILL, John James, Pvt., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas Walker Division  
 GRAY, Robert N., Army 26th Regiment, Miss. Co. E, Wounded: Cold Harbor, Virginia, November 2, 1862  
 GRIFFIN, A. L., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas  
 HARGRAVES, James, Pvt., Co. C 3rd Texas Calvary  
 HEATH, John, Co. A 2nd Texas Calvary Baylor Regiment  
 HILLIN, Nat, 3rd Sgt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 HOGAN, J. H., Pvt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 HOGAN, Porter F., Pvt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 JAY, Wm. H., Pvt., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas (Discharged because of being a Miller)  
 JOHNSON, W. M., Pvt., Co. F 35th Texas Calvary  
 JONES, Pinkney Rhodes, Pvt., Co. I 10th Texas Calvary  
 KENNEDY, A. A. (Alfred), 3rd Sgt., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas  
 KENNEDY, Jesse, killed in Civil War in Louisiana  
 LOFTIS, Jack, Pvt., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas  
 LOFTIS, James W., Pvt., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas  
 MAGEE, J. A., Physical discharge from the 10th Military Brigade  
 MAGEE, Jim, Pvt., Co. D 17th Texas Infantry

MURPHY, James B., died at Oxford Mississippi, Co. C, 3rd Texas Calvary  
 McLEOD, John, Pvt., Co. C 11th Texas Infantry  
 McLEOD, Malcolm, Died at Missionary Ridge, Tennessee, Co. I, 10th Calvary  
 McLEOD, William, Died at Macon, Mississippi in 1862, Cherokee Calvary  
 NICHOLSON, Taylor  
 PARKS, John, 3rd Sgt., Co. D 17th Texas Infantry, Died on White River above Jacksonport, Arkansas, 1862  
 PAYNE, A. E., Pvt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 STALLINGS, H. P., Co. A 11th Texas Infantry  
 STEWART, Angus Lorenzo, Pvt., Co. K 28th Alabama Infantry  
 STEWART, W. H., Co. B, 1st Texas McCullough Regiment  
 SUMMERS, Caley Amos, Co. I 5th Alabama Calvary  
 SUMMERS, James Milton, Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 THOMASON, Henry Clay, Co. A 1st Regiment Georgia Light Duty Men  
 TIPTON, Albert Gallatin, 10th Brigade 2nd Lt.  
 TIPTON, Andrew A., Co. B Randall's 28th Texas  
 TIPTON, A. T.  
 TIPTON, George W., Capt., Patrick Henry Co. B Randall's 28th Texas  
 TIPTON, Jacob  
 TIPTON, J. C., Pvt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 TIPTON, Pleasant, Army, Battle of Cornfield  
 WALLACE, George W., Co. D Bird Battalion 1st Trans Mississippi Calvary  
 WALLACE, Wm., Pvt., Co. B 7th Texas Calvary  
 WALTERS, Ezekiel, Pvt. Co. F 7th Texas Calvary  
 WINDSOR, Jacob, Pvt., Co. F 7th Texas Calvary

*By Mabel Heath*

## A Partial List of Other War Veterans

### WORLD WAR I

#### Army

BOSS, Clifton, (Texas Biv 1st Baker & Cook School)	McLEOD, Richard S.
BOWLING, Cleve	MORRIS, Ivan
BURTON, Ross, released	NICHOLSON, Archie Dreburn (Texas Pvt. Engineers 5th Division)
BURTON, John	OWEN, Hubert
COLLINS, Bill	PAYNE, Alvin (wounded)
DARBY, Joe Thomas (Texas Pfc. 34 Svc Co. Sigc)	SMITH, T. L. "Fadie"
DUTY, W. R., (Corp)	TIPTON, Alvie G. (National Guard)
FULTON, Morris	TIPTON, Ira Magee
GAMON, Jack	TIPTON, Robert, (Honored, Name on statue in Jacksonville City Park)
GIBSON, Attison	WALLACE, Marvin F. (Pvt. 42 Co. 165, Depot Bridge)
GILL, Marvin	
GRAY, John H. (Texas Pvt. Air Svs.)	
LEWIS, John	
LOUGHMILLER, Lester	

#### Navy

BOATMAN, William A.	ELLIS, Herbert C.
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## WORLD WAR II

### Army

BOATMAN, Ancil  
CAMERON, Edwin Lee  
CAMERON, Howard Gale, Sr.  
CASEY, Elmer Godfrey  
(Texas Tec. 3-115, Sig Svc Co)  
CHUPP, Grady  
CHUPP, Marvin  
CORBIN, Joe David (Sgt., 1st Class)  
COWAN, Leon  
CUNNINGHAM, Charles  
(Tes. BN Sgr., Mat H Q Det. 13 M G BN)  
DARBY, B. R., Jr.  
DOTSON, Adolph  
DOTSON, Allen  
(Sgt. Quartermaster Arp)  
DOTSON, Clifford, Capt. (Medical Corp.)  
DOTSON, Jim  
DOTSON, Roy, (Sgt. Signal Corp)  
GAMON, Lee D., Cpl.  
GARRETT, Joe  
GILL, Roscoe  
HAMILTON, Edwin  
JAY, Victor  
JOHNSON, Boyd (Sgt. Paratroopers)  
JOHNSON, Hayden  
LOTT, J. L. (Texas Sgt., Co. B 796  
Military Police)  
MAGEE, B. R.

McCOWN, Royce  
McLEOD, Hubert Giles  
MURPHY, Dewey  
MURPHY, Rex  
PRATER, Jesse W.  
ROBERSON, Gerald (Prisoner in Japan)  
ROPER, Vernon (Texas PFC,  
920 Tech. Svc Un)  
SCRUGGS, Ray  
STAFFORD, Louie P. (died in prison  
camp in Japan, June 1, 1943)  
STALLINGS, Willard  
SUMMERS, E. K. (Tank Battalion)  
SUMMERS, Seth  
THAMES, Walter W. (killed in France)  
TIPTON, A. G., (Infantry Co. H)  
TIPTON, Dewey  
TIPTON, Evelyn  
TIPTON, Oliver  
TIPTON, Orval  
TIPTON, W. R.

### Navy

BROWN, S. E., Jr. 5-20  
CLARK, Cecil Laurence  
CORBIN, Calvin  
DARBY, Gerald  
DAVIS, A. D., Jr. (Yeoman, U.S. Navy)  
FIELDS, James Albert (Texas PTRI, USNR)  
JONES, Howard D.  
KLEMENT, Louis A.  
LOUGHMILLER, Leonard (ADM 2-C)  
McLEOD, Tipton H. (Serving on the ship  
Bunker Hill when it was hit by  
Japanese suicide planes)

MURPHY, James  
MURPHY, Neal  
STEWART, Herman Albert  
(Texas Seaman, U.S. Navy)  
TIPTON, Hollis  
TIPTON, I. M., Jr. (Trained at Camp Peary,  
West Virginia Association Commissary  
Sent to S. W. Pacific)

### Marines

McLEOD, Ovis T., Pvt.  
(wounded — lost a leg)

McLEOD, E. L. (served in New Zeland,  
Guadal Canal)

### Submarines

MAGEE, Edwin

## Air Force

CHUPP, Jesse Morris  
(Tech 5th, 87th Chemical Co.)  
CHUPP, Paul  
(Air Service Corp)  
GRAY, John J. (Pvt. Air Svc)  
HEATH, James H.

LIMBOUGH, Arnold  
(Texas A-1C 3920 Air)  
STALLINGS, Lonzie W.  
Texas A-3C, USAF)  
THAMES, James H.

## KOREAN AND VIETNAM WARS

COWAN, Lelan, Army — Korean  
DICKSON, Kenneth, Army — Korean  
EBANEZ, Thomas, Army — Vietnam  
FOSTER, Joe, Army — Vietnam  
GARNER, Kenneth — Korean and Vietnam  
GARNER, Norman Ray, Capt., Air Force — Korean and Vietnam  
(Retired with 20 years service)  
GILL, Larry Neal, Merchant Marines — Vietnam  
HEATH, Gene, Army — Korean  
HEATH, Glenn, Army — Korean, Stationed in Greenland  
KLEMENT, Louis A., Navy — Korean and World War II  
LIMBOUGH, Arnold, Cpl., Air Force — Korean  
McLEOD, Frank Earl, Marines — Korean  
McLEOD, Randy, Marines — Vietnam  
PRATER, Dewey Lee, Army — Vietnam  
RIDDLE, Robert, Army F. 5th Sgt. 173rd Airborne Brigade. (stationed in Vietnam)  
SESSIONS, Elvis "Patty", Army — Vietnam  
SESSIONS, Michael D., Texas B.M. 3 US Navy — Vietnam  
TIPTON, Dewey Ross, Capt., Army  
WALDRUP, Phillip, Army — Vietnam, stationed in Germany  
WALLACE, Ray, Army — killed in Korea  
WILCOX, Larry P., Army Communications — Vietnam, stationed in Alaska

*By Mabel Heath*

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June 28, 1889

"East Mud Creek Teachers Institute will convene at Black Jack School House July 6. Basket lunch will be given."

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August 9, 1889

Capt. H. C. Cleaver of Lone Star is a possible Democratic candidate for the State Legislature.

From the "Jacksonville Banner"

## Laban Dodson — "Land Baron"

Laban Dodson and his family resided on and used the largest estate ever owned in New Summerfield. Laban with his wife, Margaret, and their son, Thomas, and his family settled on that estate before 1850, and some of the family continued to use the land and to live in the old home for over 70 years.

Although Wm. Gates had obtained a one league grant of land, he did not live on it and develop it. He soon sold it to other land speculators and left the area.

Laban acquired land in the New Summerfield area as early as November 15, 1848. He purchased land on the west end of the Robert Stewart survey. This tract of land was located just inside the present city limits and extended eastward.

That survey was originally granted to Robert Stewart under provisions of the colonization contract between David G. Burnett and the state of Coahuila and Texas on December 28, 1828. Robert Stewart qualified for the grant because he was married and living in Texas before the Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836. He paid the necessary state fees and a certificate for title was issued to him for one league (4428 acres) and one labor (177 acres) of land in the Burnett Colony. On May 17, 1837, he transferred that certificate to James and Henry Jacobs giving them power of attorney to handle the sale of the land. At that time the land was not located or surveyed. It was surveyed and located on September 1, 1839.

Laban Dodson bought 1,151 acres on the west end of the Stewart survey. He made the purchase from James and Henry Jacobs on November 15, 1848. James Walling also bought land on the Stewart survey adjoining the Dodson tract. Walling bought his tract on April 24, 1849, and sold it to Dodson on May 2, 1849. This gave Laban Dodson 2,935 acres in one tract. New certificates had to be issued and new surveys made.

The Cherokee County tax assessment rolls show Laban Dodson with James Walling his agent in 1848. Dodson was also listed on the tax assessment in 1849, and 1850 indicating his land was accepted for tax purposes.

All did not go smoothly for Laban in acquiring a title to this estate. When he applied for a patent (an unconditional title) to the land, it was refused on the grounds that the same land was already under a registered certificate issued to Hiram B. Troutman on May 3, 1835. It was issued under the same colonization requirements that Robert Stewart had met to obtain his grant.

At that time there was much buying, selling and trading of land certificates with much fraud among traders and even in the state offices.

About the same time certificates were issued to Stewart and Troutman, Isaac Kendrick received a certificate for a grant of one league of land. It joined the Stewart grant on the north. The Kendrick family began to develop that grant and the town of Griffin was begun. Wright Patman, in his history of "Cherokee County Post Offices" states the first Griffin post office was opened under the name "Troutman." The name was changed to Griffin on December 27, 1855. This indicates that Troutman had been active in the area. Troutman's agent had been Irabel Kendrick. When he died, Troutman made Robert Green, whom he said was his tenant, his new agent.

When his application for a patent was refused, Laban Dodson entered a law suit for title to the land and petitioned that Troutman's title be annulled on the grounds that Troutman was a non-resident of Texas and did not meet that requirement to obtain his grant. The suit was dated January 30, 1849. It was a long drawn out suit. Local witnesses and witnesses from Troutman's home town, Knoxville, Georgia (Crawford County), testified to the District Court and a twelve man jury.

Evidence showed that Troutman had a home with a wife and children as well as slaves in Georgia and that he ran a Tavern in Knoxville, Georgia. It also was proven that he never moved his family or slaves to Texas; and that his wife died in Georgia and he re-married and continued to live in Georgia.

On October 30, 1850, after 21 months, the suit was settled. The jury, with David M. Cook as foreman, ruled that Troutman had falsely and fraudulently obtained his grant, having never lived on it with his family. His title was ruled null and void and he was required to pay all court costs. Thomas Dodson had signed as security in case Laban had to pay court cost. A writ of possession



was ordered to give Laban Dodson immediate possession of the land on which he had lived three years.

Dodson again applied for a patent. After a two year waiting period, he was issued a patent on 16,584,150 square varas (2,935 acres) of land. The patent was dated April 27, 1853.

While the law suit was still unsettled, Laban bought land from McLain Kennedy on May 2, 1849, and on July 1, 1851. That land joined Dodson's land on the west and increased his block to about 3,300 acres. His estate then reached from the present downtown New Summerfield eastward to near Striker Creek. He bought other tracts of land in the area and his son, Thomas, also bought some acreage.

It is not known just when the Dodsons built their home on the estate but one would presume it was before 1850. The house was a large two-story log house (reportedly built by slaves). It was located near a beautiful spring of water and the farm cotton gin. On a nearby hilltop was the family cemetery. That original log house was occupied most of the time until 1983 when it burned. At that time the owners, John and Cathy Kiblinger were living in it with her father, Barney Kline, and her nephew, Orin Kline. They were lucky enough to escape the fire.

On October 15, 1867 Laban and Margaret made a gift deed to their son, Thomas, and his wife, Eliza, for 1036 acres of the estate which included the home. On October 17, 1867, they made a gift deed to Thomas' son, James, for 1484 acres. James was their only living grandchild. These deeds were signed in Falls County, Texas, where they had moved. Thomas and his family never left the original estate. They all died there and are buried in the family cemetery.

Laban and Margaret made another gift deed to Thomas and Eliza Dodson, dated February 27, 1880. They signed the deed at Marlin, Texas (Falls County), where they had apparently lived several years. That deed gave to Thomas and Eliza all of Laban's land in Cherokee County Texas, consisting of several tracts and also including any interest they had in the land formerly deeded to their grandson, James, who had died August 25, 1868, at the age of 16.

It seems that Laban and Margaret returned to (New) Summerfield to live in their old age. He died April 4, 1887, and she died at the home of her son, Thomas. Both are buried in the family cemetery on the estate. Thomas handled her property in Falls County after Laban died.

Laban Dodson was an active community leader whose name appears on many legal documents. He was a member of the Griffin Masonic Lodge. He was appointed postmaster at Griffin on April 25, 1854, and served until November 1, 1855. (Griffin had the only post office east of Mud Creek at that time.)

Again the large Dodson estate was under one owner, Thomas and Eliza. They used the estate for years but Thomas sold land and reduced the acreage. Since he and Eliza had lost their daughter, Cordilia, in 1865, at age of 10 years, and an infant son, who died in 1857, they had no living children to inherit the estate.

Thomas died October 10, 1908, and was buried with the other family members in the family cemetery. In 1909 Eliza deeded 4½ acres (including the small family cemetery) to the public for a burying ground and a church if needed.

Eliza Dodson continued to operate the farm with the help of Joe Brady and Lizzie Jackson Brady. After the death of their last child, James, Thomas L. and Eliza at various times took needy or homeless children into their home and cared for them. Lizzie Jackson was one of those children whom they cared for as a daughter. Lizzie married Joe Brady on February 8, 1888. Joe was a blacksmith who had moved his blacksmith shop to (New) Summerfield from Griffin. They may have lived on the Dodson farm and helped Thomas and Eliza but it is known that they lived with Eliza after Thomas died.

Eliza was a devout church member who contributed to the establishment of the local Church of Christ of which she was a charter member.

On November 2, 1916, Eliza made an affidavit stating she was the only surviving heir of Thomas L. Dodson. In her will dated January 5, 1909, she left her homestead of 259½ acres and all her household goods, farm implements and tools to Joe and Lizzie Brady. She willed \$1,000 to her brother, Dozier Prothro, if he survived her. The rest of her estate was to be equally divided between her nieces and nephews, about 16 in all. Eliza died September 4, 1919, and was buried in the family plot on the Dodson farm.

Joe and Lizzie Brady did not care to continue living on the farm and sold it on November 15, 1919, soon after Eliza's death. They sold it to Carl G. Ellis and wife, Mona, and moved with their adopted children, Diamond and Bryan, to Jacksonville.

Thus 70 years of Dodson family residency on the estate ended. There is a degree of sadness in closing this family story. A large estate was acquired and gradually broken up. The family passed away leaving no descendants of the Dodson bloodline.

*Researched and compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## Doctors

The local doctor in a pioneer community was considered one of the most valuable citizens. Like preachers and teachers, he was a public servant. He healed the physically ill, but people often confided their family and financial problems to him also. He was usually a willing listener and gave sound advice as well as financial aid to his patients and friends.

The New Summerfield community had a hometown doctor most of the time until recent years. When doctors became trained as specialist, they usually left the rural areas and settled in larger cities near hospitals. People of New Summerfield, like other people, no longer had the doctor come see them but they had to go see the doctor.

In the early days doctors who resided in adjoining communities often came to treat patients in the New Summerfield area. Two of those doctors were: Dr. Wiley Maris and Dr. James M. Brittain of the Griffin-Emmaus area. They were practicing before 1860 when Griffin was a growing town. Dr. J. E. Rowbarts of Lone Star also called on patients until he lost his life in a fire that destroyed his office and much of the Lone Star business district in May, 1893.

Some of New Summerfield's community doctors were Dr. George Franklin Fullerton, Dr. J. C. Privett, Dr. William Reuben Tennison, Dr. Judson E. Beall, Dr. P. E. Jones, and Dr. James Thomas Greenwood.

### DR. J. C. PRIVETT

Dr. James C. Privett might well have been called New Summerfield's first doctor. He was in the community before October 6, 1851, when he married Martha Emeline Stell. She was a daughter of H. R. and Elizabeth Stell, who were residing in the southern part of the community before 1850. Dr. J. C. Privett was born September 13, 1826. Martha Emeline was born in Kentucky in 1830.

The Privetts made their home in the community and on January 18, 1854, they bought 200 acres of land from James Riley, who had sub-divided one-half league of the Wm. Gates Survey into twelve blocks. The Privetts' block No. 2, was located south of the present Highway 79 and west of Highway 110. They were some of the very earliest settlers on the Gates Survey. The early owners of that survey were more land speculators than homesteaders and had not opened the land for settlement.

Little is known about their homestead. J. C. and Martha had two daughters: Martha E. was born February 24, 1853, and died June 11, 1856; Mary Ann was born December 12, 1855, and died August 25, 1856. Dr. J. C. Privett died on February 13, 1857, and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery near their daughters. They must have lived near the burial site. Their grave makers are the oldest engraved markers in that cemetery although numerous rock marked graves of unknown people are there. Those family members were probably victims of some contagious disease.

After the death of her husband and daughters, Martha Emeline remained in the community with her parents. On October 14, 1858, she married Jesse D. Kennedy, a local man. They continued to live in the community. Two children were born to them: James J. "Jim" and Susan C. In 1860 her mother was residing in their home. About 1862, Jesse D. joined the Confederate Army and died in Louisiana on September 25, 1864, while in service in the Civil War.

Martha E. kept her 200 acre homestead and was later married to Rev. W. J. Loftis. They resided on the place and reared their children there. Their children were: J. W., Emory C., Bryan H., and Opal L.

Susan Kennedy married John C. Jones on February 21, 1878. She later sold her interest in the Privett-Kennedy estate to her brother, James J. Kennedy. James J. married Vallie Cowan on July 7, 1901. He kept his interest in the estate and lived on it until his death. The Loftis heirs sold their interest after their parents' death and moved away.



W. J. was born November 20, 1845, and died April 5, 1911, Martha died about 1916. Rev. W. J. Loftis and Martha E. Loftis are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## **DR. GEORGE FRANKLIN FULLERTON**

Dr. George Franklin Fullerton was born March 28, 1836, in Pickensville, Alabama (Pickens County), the son of James C. and Elizabeth (Simms) Fullerton. James was born in Ireland in 1799 and came to South Carolina in 1817 with his father, John. They lived in Pickens District, Oconee County, South Carolina. James went to Pickens County, Alabama in 1833, and later moved his family to Homer, Louisiana (Claiborne Parish) in 1840.

George Franklin Fullerton, inspired most likely by his brother, Dr. Robert Fullerton, attended the University of Nashville Medical School (now Peabody University). While at the University of Nashville, he also attended some lecture courses at Vanderbilt University. He taught at Loyola University and was a doctor in the Confederate Army. At the Battle of Shiloh a captured U. S. army officer was brought to him to have his wounds treated, and after treating the U. S. officer, his revolver was given to the Doctor. (I have that gun — it was given to me by Annie Fullerton, Tyler, the doctor's only living child).

After the Civil War, Dr. Fullerton practiced medicine in Sparta, Louisiana (Bienville Parish). He married Annie Dawkins. They had twin sons in 1867; one died at birth. The other twin, Franklin Forrest, came to Texas with his father in 1875, soon after the death of the doctor's wife, Annie. Franklin Forrest grew up in Summerfield and lived most of his life in Tyler, Texas, where he died on September 15, 1944.

Dr. Fullerton came to Texas in 1875 after being offered the position of Chief Medical Officer at the Rusk State Institution; however, upon visiting the Institution and seeing the conditions and cruel treatment forced on the inmates, he refused to accept the position; instead he opened an office to practice medicine in Summerfield, Texas, in 1875.

He was married April 19, 1877, to Martha (Mattie) Priscilla Knight, born September 22, 1857, in Cherokee County, Texas, and died December 1942, in Taylor, Texas. She was the daughter of John and Sarah Knight.

Dr. Fullerton died September 16, 1908, in Summerfield, and is buried in the Summerfield Union Chapel Cemetery. The land for the Union Chapel Cemetery and a church building located next to the cemetery, and a plot for a school were donated to Summerfield community by Dr. Fullerton.

The children of George Franklin and Mattie Fullerton, all of whom were born in Summerfield, Texas (Cherokee County) are: Robert Edwin born 1877, died December 12, 1917, Elgin, Texas; Infant daughter, born 1880, died at birth; Elizabeth, born December 11, 1882, died December 12, 1971, Troup, Texas; Thomas Payne, born November, 1884, died 1968, Kansas City, Missouri; Ira Leland, born October 26, 1886, died November 16, 1963, Waco, Texas. Ira Leland served in the Army in W. W. I; Richard Herbert, born December 21, 1888, died December 23, 1941, Taylor, Texas; James, born 1890, died at birth; Frederick Marion, born August 11, 1892, died September 13, 1974, Taylor, Texas; Lebe Alton, born October 29, 1895, died 1967, Oklahoma; Laura Annie, born April 20, 1898, living in Taylor, Texas in 1984.

*Prepared May 25, 1984*

*By Frederick Marion Fullerton, Jr.*

*Grandson of Dr. George Franklin Fullerton*

## **DR. WILLIAM REUBEN TENNISON**

William Reuben Tennison was born in the New Summerfield area on March 18, 1854. He was the son of Matthew C. Tennison and Mary Ann Harrison Tennison and lived on the farm with his parents until he finished all the formal schooling he could get in local schools. He then went to the Physician's and Surgeon's Medical College in St. Louis, Missouri, where he graduated, receiv-



ing his diploma. On May 5, 1878 he was granted a license in Cherokee County to practice all types of medicine and surgery in the State of Texas.

Dr. Rube returned to the farm where he was born and took up the practice of medicine among his neighbors for miles around. He mixed his own medicines in his bottle-lined office dispensary in his home. He ordered his supplies from Yonkers, New York and paid his nieces and nephews 5¢ per bottle to clean his medicine bottles for refilling. His store of medical antidotes was unique.

He rode horseback carrying his "pill bag" to treat patients in all kinds of weather day or night. The new born babies he helped into the world are too numerous to count. During the 1918 "Flu Epidemic" when he was past sixty years old he rode day and night to treat patients and lost very few. He prescribed little medicine for flu but advised patients to drink all the liquids they could. He was especially known for his successful treatment of pneumonia cases. He pulled teeth, set broken bones, delivered babies (many boys were named for him), treated sores and fevers. Color or race did not change Dr. Tennison's care for his patients. He was loved and respected by all and was a friend as well as a doctor to his patients.

When relaxing among his friends he would sometimes relate stories of his experiences. Stories like the one when he was an apprentice under the village doctor and he put too much licorice in the pills or the time he amputated the child's crushed hand with a common handsaw in the pioneer pre-hospital days. It is not known who the village doctor was but it was probably Dr. George Franklin Fullerton who practiced in the New Summerfield area from 1875 to 1908.

His hobby was raising Shorthorn cattle and Hampshire sheep. He always kept good horses and a faithful dog. He said ten horses gave their lives carrying him on his journeys of healing. He kept enlarged pictures of his favorite dog "Nig" on his bedroom wall.

Although he practiced medicine over 55 years he made few concessions to his advanced age when treating the ill. In later years he would humor his rheumatism by taking a few medical supplies into his bedroom on cold winter nights for those customers who needed help during the night.

Dr. Rube never drove a car and when he could no longer ride a horse, his patients either went to his home office or sent someone for him. Sometimes his nephews drove him where he needed to go, especially for business transactions.

Dr. W. R. "Rube" Tennison died suddenly on November 12, 1936. He, like his father, was a Mason. He is buried in the McDonald Cemetery near other members of his family.

*Facts by Verna Duty Dalby*

## DR. JUDSON E. BEALL AND FAMILY

Dr. Judson "Judd" Beall was born in 1880 in Fort Worth, Texas. He became a licensed physician on July 3, 1907 and probably began his practice at New Summerfield. On April 3, 1904 he married Miss Effie O. Fitch, a daughter of Eli and Martha Fitch of the nearby Griffin Community. They built a nice home in "downtown" New Summerfield and he practiced medicine from his office on the second floor of the first general store building in town. It was built in 1897 by Isaac "Ike" Tipton who operated the store and post office. Dr. Beall issued medication from his own dispensary in his office where he saw patients. He also made house calls traveling by horseback and carrying medication with him.

Dr. Judson and Effie sold their home in New Summerfield to Mrs. Bertie McMeans in 1916 and moved the family to Pearsall, Texas, where he continued to practice medicine. They reared two sons: Hollis Beall, who lived and died in Crockett, Texas where he worked with the Federal Land Bank and Dr. Wendell Beall who practiced medicine in Pearsall where he died.

Dr. Judson died in 1950 at Pearsall and Effie O. died there in 1964. They are both buried in the Salem Cemetery in Cherokee County, Texas.

Most pioneers of the area were farmers, but Dr. Beall was a descendant of professional people. His father, Captain J. F. Beall, was born in Crawford County, Georgia in 1847. He was a Confederate soldier having trained at the Georgia Military Institute in Maryetta, Georgia and served in Georgia military units. He came to Texas in 1871 and studied law at Carthage, Texas. He was admitted to the Bar in 1872 and the same year was appointed Secretary of the Texas State Senate, a position which he held for two years. In 1874 he was married in Cherokee County, Texas to Miss Cordellia Peacock, daughter of Exum and Martha Peacock of Rusk, Texas. They moved to Fort Worth where he practiced law until 1888 when he moved his family back to Cherokee County to the "booming" town of New Birmingham (now history). Here he was elected city attorney and served until the city faded away. He and his family continued to live in nearby Rusk where he was a Master Mason

and a prominent citizen. After 60 years of marriage to Cordellia, he passed away in 1934 and was buried in the Salem Cemetery as was Cordellia who died in 1941.

Captain Beall's father, Dr. J. D. Beall, practiced medicine in Georgia and Dr. Judson and his son, Dr. Wendell, practiced medicine in Texas making three generations of doctors in this family.

Mrs. Effie Beall had four brothers: Dewey, Young, Vollie, and Ely. Lula Fitch, a daughter of Young Fitch and his first wife, Ida Shaw, married Stanley Greenwood. They made their home in New Summerfield where they reared two children: Stanley, Jr. who married Ruth Burton and Joyce who married James Gardner. They reside here now. Y. D. Fitch, a son of Young Fitch and his second wife, Sally Melton, married Audrey Brown and they also reside in New Summerfield.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton  
From public records and information from  
Y. D. Fitch and Helen Crawford*

## DR. P. E. JONES

Although Dr. Pearl Elzie Jones never called New Summerfield his home after he was grown, he was born in the community on July 14, 1881. He was a son of John Calhoun Jones and Susan (Sarah) Kennedy. Susan was a daughter of Jesse Kennedy and Martha Emeline Stell Privett and a sister of James J. Kennedy, long time residents of New Summerfield.

John C. and Susan Jones had four sons and one daughter. (James) Homer, an attorney who lost his life in a fire which burned the San Antonio Country Club House in San Antonio, Texas, in 1918. Pierce Jones, who lived to be 74. Johnnie, the only girl, was a teacher in Alexander College (now Lon Morris College) at the time of her death in 1916. Pearl Elzie, who made a doctor. The youngest son died at the age of four months.

On February 6, 1888, John C. and Susan Jones deeded one acre of land for a public school about one and one-half miles east of the present New Summerfield school. It was located on the old Lone Star road. The Jones children attended this school until it was closed and the pupils went to Union Chapel (now New Summerfield School). The Stallings school also came to Union Chapel (New Summerfield) about that time.

John C. Jones built a nice large log home on his farm in the southern part of the community and the children grew-up there until he purchased a general merchandise store in Lone Star in 1892. Two years later he moved his family there and Pearl finished his early education there.

In 1897 Pearl Elzie was enrolled in the Barnes Medical School in St. Louis, Missouri, the largest medical school in the south at that time. After three years he took and passed the State Board Examination and was licensed February 5, 1900 and was allowed to practice medicine as an undergraduate. He graduated with honors in 1905.

Pearl married Armer V. Pierce of Lone Star May 5, 1901. They had one son, Loris, who died as a young man. They made their home in Lone Star and he practiced medicine there until 1913, when Governor O. B. Colquitt appointed him physician-surgeon for the State Penitentiary at Rusk. He moved to Rusk and resided there until the penitentiary closed. He returned to his home in Lone Star and continued his practice there.

After Pearl and Armer were divorced in 1922, he moved his office to Ponta where he practiced the rest of his life. He said the roughest period of his practice was during the flu epidemic of 1918. Whole families were wiped out by the dreaded disease believed to have been brought to America by the soldiers of World War I. He hardly took off his shoes because patient calls were so frequent and urgent. He sometimes said, "Doctors all around were losing patients and I began to swell my chest, thinking I knew something about treating flu. Then, I lost five patients in less than two weeks. That sure took the wind out of my sails." He had the flu himself but recovered in a few days.

Dr. Jones also went through epidemics of malaria, typhoid and smallpox, all of which claimed their toll of patients and created trying times for doctors and patients.

In 1933 Dr. Jones married Lorene Liles and they made their home in Ponta where his office was located. She assisted him as nurse both in the office and home calls. Much of his practice was making home calls to Lone Star, New Summerfield and Ponta.

He was appointed Chief Medical Director for Consolidated Steel Corporation, ship building division at Orange, Texas. He served in that capacity from 1942 to 1946. He returned again to Ponta where he continued his practice.

Delivering babies was a major part of his practice, having delivered over 3,000 babies (sometimes on the credit). One cold rainy night a young man came to his home in Lone Star and asked him

to go to Reklaw to deliver a baby. He went and delivered a baby girl for the couple. They said they had no money but would pay him later. The baby girl grew-up, married and moved to Lone Star near Dr. Jones' home. When her first child was born, Dr. Jones delivered it, although the young mother's birth had never been paid for. One day that summer while the doctor was in Ponta a man, who was doing quite well financially, came up to him and said, "Say, Doc I believe I owe you for delivering a baby." He paid the long due bill.

Concerning his many trips to see his patients, he said he had no idea how many times he had been stuck in the mud or how many stumps he had hit but he had never been in an automobile collision.

In his later years, he once told a reporter that as medicines changed so did diseases. Malaria and typhoid had been overcome and pneumonia was being controlled but in their place have come cardiac problems and heart diseases. He believed that the increase in heart disease was due to chemicals used in processing foods.

Dr. Pearl was a large man in physical statue. He was six feet tall and weighed 200 lbs. He was also "a large man" in the medical field. He was a good-hearted man well known throughout the county. He was a Mason for over 50 years.

After his death, on May 17, 1964, his wife, Lorene, became a licensed Vocational Nurse and has worked at Nan Travis Hospital in Jacksonville for years.

*Information by Lorene Jones and Tola Lott*

## **DR. JAMES THOMAS GREENWOOD**

James Thomas Greenwood was born in Upshur County, Texas, December 20, 1872. He was one of sixteen children born to Jasper Newton Greenwood and Sarah Sanderson Greenwood. The family moved to Cherokee County, Texas, when he was a baby.

Dr. Greenwood graduated from Barnes Medical College in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1901. His internship was done in Black Jack, Nacogdoches County, with a Dr. Blankinship. Here Dr. Greenwood met Gus Blankinship, who became a life long friend. He married Ollie Fuller, a resident of Black Jack, in 1894. They moved to Lone Star, which was a thriving community. Ollie died in 1911, leaving him with two young daughters. In 1912, Dr. Greenwood married Jimmie Crews and one daughter was born of this union.

In 1925 Dr. Greenwood and family moved to Jacksonville where he had an office in the First National Bank Building until 1939. At this time he moved to New Summerfield, where he lived until his death in 1967, at the age of 94. Jimmie Crews Greenwood died in 1957.

For more than twenty years, this soft-spoken gentleman was seen riding horseback across Cherokee County, bringing relief to the ill and new lives into the world. Day or night, seven days a week, he went where he was needed. All of the people of this area knew Dr. Greenwood and he would go when called, regardless of their color or financial circumstances. He traveled by horse back and if he fell asleep from exhaustion in the small hours of the morning, he knew his faithful horse would bring him safely home. When asked once how many babies he had delivered, he answered "I couldn't begin to count the youngsters I have helped bring into the world. It would be just like trying to count the limbs on the trees."

Hospitals came into prominence during the 70 years of Dr. Greenwood's service to humanity. He felt this was one of the greatest steps forward during his medical career. For a time during his practice, the closest available hospital was in Dallas, and because of this, he saw many deaths occur when patients could not travel this distance for operations and medical treatment.

Dr. Greenwood purchased his first car, a Model T, in 1915, from Will Forrest of Forrest Motor Company, Jacksonville. Mr. Forrest stayed in Dr. Greenwood's home several days teaching him to drive. The roads were rugged in both summer and winter; consequently, the country doctor carried a hoe, shovel, and ax with him to dig out of the sand and mud. The ax was to clear the path, that was often obstructed. The automobile did much to make the doctor's medical calls speedier and more comfortable.

Dr. Greenwood was small in statue, but big in heart. He enjoyed a simple life, happy for the times he could be with his family. He was a member of the Baptist Church, and a Mason for over 70 years, being a Shriner approximately 40 of these years. He was well known and loved by the people of Cherokee County, and to many he will always represent the concerned and compassionate country doctor of the 20th century.

During the depression years, he helped many with loans as well as professional services, often



never expecting repayment. He never sought publicity for his many good deeds. His reward was from the services he rendered. He loved nature and acquired a considerable amount of land and cattle during his lifetime. One of the joys of his life was visiting with the people of this county and seeing the faces of the hundreds he had helped bring into the world.

Dr. Greenwood was survived by two daughters: Mrs. J. T. (Manilla) Brazier, New Summerfield, and Mrs. D. A. (Imogene) Sanders, Jacksonville. Another daughter, Mrs. E. E. (Ovilla) Ashley, Lufkin, died in May 1977.

He continued to see patients until he was almost 90 years old, having maintained an office by his home in New Summerfield.

"Good will toward all men" would be a fitting motto for Dr. Greenwood. His faith in God and mankind sustained him throughout his long and fruitful life.

*Facts by Imogene Sanders*

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July 26, 1889

"Our merchants must not forget that the bridge over Mud Creek on the Lone Star road is considered unsafe and that cotton raised on the other side of that stream will go to other markets unless speedy action be taken to have the bridge repaired so it will be safe to cross in wagons loaded with cotton.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

August 30, 1889

"The bridge on Mud Creek is to be repaired in time to haul cotton which is only a few days away. The bridge is 1460 feet long."

From the "Jacksonville Banner"

## Family Reports From Public Records

It is not possible to get family histories compiled by descendants of some of the early settlers. Some of those families were too much a part of New Summerfield's early development to be omitted from this history. Much research has been done using public records to compile a brief report on some of these families. There will be mistakes, but we feel these people were too important to be left out.

These stories were researched and compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton, assisted by LaNelle Clifton Wilcox and Annie Pearl Chupp Cowan.

### JOHN W. ALLENDER FAMILY

Little is known of this family. John W. was born in Alabama about 1827 and his wife, Martha C., was born in Kentucky about 1836. Marriage records show John W. Allender married Martha Johnson in Cherokee County, Texas, on July 22, 1856. They purchased land in the eastern part of the New Summerfield area in 1882 from J. B. Bullard and wife, Mary. They made their home there for a few years.

Their known children were Francis J., Mary E., Susan, and Margaret. These four children were all born in Texas before 1870. They sold their homestead to Charles T. Duncan and wife and supposedly left the community as no other records are available.

### THE JOSEPH B. BULLARD FAMILY

The family of Joseph B. Bullard was in the New Summerfield area before January 1870 when he bought land from G. A. Gordon, who had received the original state patent on the land. Joseph B. Bullard was born in Tennessee about 1827 and his wife, Mary P., was born in Alabama about 1840. His parents were from South Carolina and her parents were from North Carolina.

Joseph and Mary settled in the southeastern part of the New Summerfield Community where they farmed and reared five children, all born in Texas, and probably all born on this farm as the eldest was born in 1868.

Their children were Joseph William, Nancy, Mary E., Ella C., and James T. They all lived with their parents and none of the five ever married. After their parents' death, the children continued to live together at the old homeplace. Ella C. died in 1929 and "Will" William died in 1936. Nancy "Nannie," Mary Elizabeth "Betty," and James T. "Jim" continued to live at the old homeplace where Jim had rebuilt the old home at the same homesite. He was a farmer, but also a real estate dealer and an oil lease and royalty operator. He died in 1957 leaving his sisters, Betty and Nannie, alone. He had provided for their old age, and Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Tennison looked after their needs until their deaths. They both died in 1959.

All this family are buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery, and there are no descendants.

## THE FAMILY OF CASWELL COOK

There were many Cooks in Cherokee County, Texas, before 1850. They obtained large land grants along the old San Antonio Trail near Alto. Caswell Cook and family were in the New Summerfield area before 1860. He was a farmer, but deed records show that he also bought and sold land, often financing the buyer. He was born about 1810 in North Carolina and his wife, Margaret, was born about 1812 in Georgia. *Georgia Marriage Round-Up* by Maddox shows that Caswell Cook married Mrs. Margaret E. Garrison in Crawford County, Georgia, on November 11, 1831.

The known children of this couple were:

Elizabeth Cook, who was born in Georgia and married about 1855 to Andrew Erwin Payne, probably in Georgia, but all their children were born in Cherokee County, Texas. Other Cook children married in Cherokee County, Texas.

John D. Cook, born in Georgia, married Mrs. Sarah M. Parks Goodson on September 12, 1861.

James B. (J.) Cook, born in Georgia, married Nancy C. Parks on September 17, 1857.

Caswell W. Cook, born in Georgia, married Rebecca E. Parks on October 6, 1859.

(These three Parks sisters were daughters of Cyrus and Mahala Parks, neighbors of the Cook family).

Joseph W. Cook, born in Alabama, married (first) Martha A. Walters on June 16, 1863, and (second) Mary Jane Tipton on April 28, 1874.

Cornellia A. R., born in Alabama, married Peter J. Hogan September 21, 1865.

Nancy C., born in Alabama, married W. M. Miller April 27, 1876.

George S., born in Texas, married Mrs. Malinda Johnson Gifford, November 6, 1864.

In 1860, Caswell Cook, age 72, and Elizabeth Cook age 69, were living with their son-in-law, Andrew Erwin Payne and his children indicating Andrew's wife was deceased. The time of their death or place of burial is not known at this time.

## THE DRURY COUCH FAMILY

The Couch family settled in the northeastern part of New Summerfield some time prior to 1860, possibly as early as 1852. They were neighbors of the Thomas Dodson, William Jay, and Jesse Kennedy families.

Drury Couch was born in Alabama about 1823, and his wife, Mary, was born in North Carolina about 1824. Their oldest daughter, Mary E. was born in Alabama about 1844, and they must have headed to Texas soon thereafter as Henry A., Chelley C. and John G. were born in Mississippi. By 1853 they were in Texas where Epsey H., James C., Susannah, William M. and Sillias Messer were born. Drury and Mary reared their children in this area, and a small family cemetery is located on the old homestead.

Henry A. was first married to Ida Holder and his second wife was Fannie Hardgraves. Henry and Ida had two children, Mary E. "Mollie" and Thomas. His children by Fannie were Hannah, Andrew, Johnny, and possibly others. Elizabeth (Mary E.) married Joseph Kirkland. No further records of Chelley C., John S. and Epsey were found. James C. married Paralee E. Johnson and continued to live in the area as did Drury and Henry.

Susan (Susannah) married William Hardgraves, Mollie (Mary E.) daughter of Henry, married J. W. Cowan. These families and their descendants have been in the New Summerfield area up to the present time.

Drury and Henry served in the Army of the Confederate States.

## SAMUEL J. DENYER FAMILY

Samuel J. Denyer (also on some records as Denjer and Denger) was born about 1823 in Massachusetts and his wife, Zerelda A., was born about 1826 in Louisiana. Samuel received a patent on a small piece of land in the southwestern area of the New Summerfield community. His certificate for land was issued by the Republic of Texas prior to 1842. He and Zerelda farmed this land and were neighbors to the Stephen Morris family. No other account of them was found in Cherokee County, and it is believed they left the area around the mid 1850's.



## THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM CALVIN FREDRICK

William Calvin Fredrick was born about 1839 in Alabama and came to Texas in the 1850's making his home with William and Elizabeth Johnson in the New Summerfield area. By 1870 he was farming in the southeastern part of the community. Records show his family at this time as W. C. and wife, Sarah, and one son, Alfred. Also living with them were Elizabeth and Paralee Johnson, believed to be his mother-in-law and sister-in-law.

William C. and Sarah continued to live in that area with Alfred, who was later known as A. Onelius W., and their twin children Julia and Willie. On March 9, 1872 he bought 114 acres of land from G. W. Loftis and wife, Louisa. It is not known when Sarah died, but William C. married Amanda M. Hardgraves in Cherokee County July 18, 1872. Amanda was a daughter of F. C. and Ann E. Hardgraves. They lived on this farm and reared the children named below with their other children, James F., Ora A., Laura J., and Mattie N.

Onelius married Susie E. Lattimore; Julia married L. C. Redden; there is no record of Willie marrying; James married Jessie N. Casey; Laura married W. A. Holmes; Ora married E. E. Casey, a brother of Jessie; and Mattie married W. E. Owens. Some of these families went to Navarro and Smith Counties.

Wm. C. Fredrick was a farmer, a justice of the peace, a notary public, a federal census enumerator, a school trustee, a church leader, and a general public servant and leader. Amanda was a recognized seamstress. They bought other adjoining land, but in 1900 they sold the last of their land to Wm. T. Greenwood and wife, Mattie, and moved away from the New Summerfield community to Jacksonville where the family members were prominent citizens.

## THE HENRY C. GILL FAMILY

Another early land owner and community developer was Henry C. Gill, son of John M. and Lucy Gill. He was born in Arkansas about 1838, and came to Texas with his parents. He was married to Roxana "Roxie" Tennison, daughter of Thomas and Melissa Tennison, early pioneers of the New Summerfield area.

In 1882 they purchased 70 acres of land in the Wm. Johnson survey from J. W. Weeks and wife, Sarah. They reared their children on this place, which was often referred to as the Henry Gill Homestead. After Roxie's death, he and her heirs sold portions of the land to Ike W. Tipton and Joe Brady. From about 1906 to 1912 this homestead was divided into smaller tracts and lots and sold for homesites, businesses, churches, and a school.

Children of Henry C. and Roxie Gill were: John T. who married Mary Manning in 1899; Melissa who married J. A. Bland in 1886; Isabelle who never married; Frankie who married Judson Deaton; and Jean who married Jodie Woodall in 1903.

Some of these children made their home here for a time after marriage but all moved away later except Isabelle. It is said that Jean was seriously injured and almost killed when a mule dragged her all over a "new ground" among stumps where her husband, Jodie, was farming.

Isabelle, in later years, made her home with her uncle J. J. Gill and family. After J. J. Gill and his wife died, Isabelle continued to live with their unmarried son, Matthew Gill, and their daughter Mrs. Fannie Gill Haws and her daughter, Eloise.

Henry Gill died in 1910 and Roxie died in 1886. Both were buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery. Isabelle died in the home of Eloise Haws Kirkland in Houston in April, 1976. She is also buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery.

## THE GARRISONS OF EARLY SUMMERFIELD

Thomas Garrison was one of the earliest settlers of this area. On January 11, 1857, he deeded to the Myrtle Springs Church and Cemetery five acres of land for \$15.00. That deed was witnessed by Caswell Cook and his son, John D. Cook. Andrew E. Payne deeded 100 acres of land from the John C. Morrison Survey to James B. J. Cook on July 15, 1857, and in February 1860, Thomas J. Garrison deeded 74 acres from the Wm. A. Reeves Survey to J. B. Cook. These two tracts of land were adjoining and were also near Myrtle Springs. That places the Cook, Garrison and Payne families in the same area in the 1850's.

Georgia marriage records show one Caswell Cook married to Mrs. Margaret E. Garrison on November 17, 1831, in Crawford County, Georgia. Elizabeth J. Cook, a daughter of Caswell and Margaret Cook, married Andrew Erwin Payne, and they reared a family in this area. Elizabeth J. died March 20, 1880, and was buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

After Elizabeth's death, Andrew E. Payne married Mrs. Malinda Garrison in Cherokee County, on November 24, 1881. It is not known what Garrison was Malinda's husband, but it is known that an old homesite called the "Old Garrison" place was located just west of the Andrew Caswell Payne place in the Dalby neighborhood. Caswell was a son of Andrew E. and Elizabeth J. Payne. Mrs. Malinda Garrison may have lived there.

About 1860-61 John Wesley Ellis and his wife, Catherine Garrison Ellis, who was born in Crawford County, Georgia, came to the Dalby area with their children. It is known that they settled there to be near Garrison relatives (the exact relationship is not known). John Wesley died in 1864, and Catherine remained in the area and reared her children there. She died in 1889 and was buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

Also living in the Myrtle Springs, Dalby, and Summerfield areas were other related Garrisons and Cooks.

David W. Garrison married Mary Emily Walters, a neighbor girl, on June 4, 1861. She was a daughter of W. H. Walters (he was born in Georgia) and his wife, Margaret.

Martha Walters, a sister of Mary Emily, married Joseph W. Cook on June 16, 1863. Probate court records show their children to be Charles, John W. and James C. Joseph W. Cook was married again on April 28, 1874, to Mary J. Tipton, a daughter of Isaac and Margaret Roddy Tipton. Their children were Alice C. and S. Eva. After Joseph W.'s death, Mary J. was appointed guardian for their two daughters. Andrew E. Payne was made guardian for Charles and J. W.; and L. Gartman was appointed guardian for James Cook. These were children of Joseph W. and Martha Walters Cook.

Thomas Garrison married Martha M. Tipton, a sister of Mary J. Tipton Cook, on October 23, 1872. Their known children were two daughters, Wyatt and Mary and a son, Willie.

J. W. Garrison married Emeline Tipton, also a sister of Mary Jane Tipton Cook, on March 27, 1874. Their known children were Mittie, Lelah, and Emma.

The three Tipton sisters grew up in the same neighborhood as the Cooks, Garrisons, and Paynes. Public records show a close relationship between these families which may have begun in Georgia in the early 1800's.

More history on these families would be interesting and helpful in this story.

## G. A. GORDAN AND FAMILY

One of the earliest settlers in (New) Summerfield area was G. A. Gordan. He was born November 4, 1822 in Georgia and married Margaret Adeline Gray October 26, 1843 in Tennessee. She was born May 15, 1824 in Tennessee. There were eight children born to this couple, but only two lived to be grown, Charles Alexander and Caroline Malinda.

After his wife's death, he came to Texas with Charles A. and Caroline. George A. was granted two tracts of land by the State of Texas in the New Summerfield area. His pre-emption certificate on one tract was issued by the County Court of Cherokee County on August 11, 1856, indicating that he had lived on the land prior to that date and improved it. The patent was not issued until January 21, 1861.

In 1857, George A. married Mrs. Rinee M. Fox in Cherokee County, Texas. Rinee M. was born in Tennessee about 1832. This couple had at least one daughter born in 1858 while living at (New) Summerfield.

Charles Alexander joined the Confederate Army at age 17 (1862-63). When he returned to (New) Summerfield, where his father lived, he married Lucy A. Gill, on June 9, 1867. Lucy was born in Tennessee in 1846, a daughter of John M. and Lucy Gill, who had also settled at (New) Summerfield in the 1850's. They had one son, George Mills. In 1870 Lucy and her son, George Mills, lived with the John Gills. Charles A. had reportedly gone back West where he developed, patented and sold some type of herb medicine for a few years.

In 1869, G. A. and wife, Rinee, sold a part of his land grant to G. W. Loftis and wife, Louisa. In 1870 they sold the remaining acreage in that tract to J. B. Bullard and wife, Mary. They also sold the other 320-acre grant about that time.

Lucy A. died in 1874, and after her death, George Mills lived as an orphan with his Gill and Darby relatives until his father moved him to Iredell to live with him. Charles A. had married again and had other children.

George A. moved his family to Iredell, Bosque County, Texas. He was reported to have been the first justice of peace there and was the first Master Mason of the local lodge of Iredell. He also donated land for a school which was named for him.

*Compiled from public records and notes of Mavis Darby Taylor*

## THE WILLIAM JOHNSON FAMILY

In 1854 William Johnson applied for a pre-emption certificate on 320 acres of land located immediately southeast of the present New Summerfield townsite. A patent was issued to his heirs by the State of Texas showing Wm. Johnson as deceased. His heirs were his widow, Clarissa A., and children, Joseph Benson, Virginia W., and I. (J) Newton. This land is known as the Wm. Johnson Survey.

Wm. Johnson was born about 1811 in Virginia and Clarissa was born about 1821 in Tennessee, as was their first son, Joseph Benson. They were in the New Summerfield area in 1850 with Joseph B., only eleven months old. Virginia W. was born in 1851, and I. (J) Newton was born in 1853 on this homestead. On May 20, 1858, Mrs. Clarissa A. Johnson married Thomas McDonald, who was born in Georgia. He was about 22 years older than Clarissa, but no records are available on his earlier family. They had two children, Thomas J. and Olivia "Ollie." She is also found on records as Oldocia McDonald.

Virginia W. married Augustus "Gus" Mack in 1872, and the other Johnson heirs signed a deed to seventy (70) acres of the Johnson Survey to them in 1878. At that time Clarissa signed as Mrs. C. A. Gray of Cherokee County. Joseph Benson, Rose Ann Johnson, I. (J) Newton and Adeline Johnson signed in Shelby County, Texas. Virginia "Jennie" and "Gus" Mack sold this land to Augustus R. and Mattie Perkins in 1880 and moved away. No records are available on Thomas J. McDonald.

Olivia "Ollie" McDonald married Monroe Mack about 1889, and they made their home on her inherited part of the Johnson Survey and lived there until their deaths. Monroe died in 1924 and Laura O. "Ollie" died in 1931. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery named for her McDonald family and partly located on the Wm. Johnson land inherited by "Ollie."

Children of "Ollie" and Monroe Mack were: T. J. "Tom" Mack, who never married but lived all his life on the old home place; Lula, who married J. T. Cowan, moved away; Martha D. "Matt," who married Monroe P. Gibbs, lived on the old place and reared their family there. He died in 1930 and she died in 1965. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery. Their children were Powell "Pal," Pauline, Pearl, Pansy, Pasco and Patsy. They moved away and none of the family now resides in New Summerfield.

Joseph Benson Johnson's daughter, Fannie Viola, married Edward "Ed" Magee and returned to New Summerfield where they reared these children: Mattie Belle, Truman and Edwin. Ironically, Edward "Ed" and Viola Magee died while living in their home on a small tract of the land originally granted to her grandfather, Wm. Johnson, by the State of Texas.

Descendants of this family living in New Summerfield in 1984 are: Mrs. Mattie Belle Sowell Smelley; Truman Magee and wife, Willie Mae, and their son, Tony.

## THE JESSE KENNEDY FAMILY

This family settled in the New Summerfield area prior to 1850; and because of a repeat of names, it has been difficult to trace. Jesse Kennedy with his family lived and farmed south of the present townsite. Jesse was born in Tennessee about 1794, and his wife, Susan, was born in North Carolina about 1795. Jesse died in September 1850, after an eight-day illness of congestive fever. At the time of his death, these young men, all born in North Carolina, were in his household and all presumed to be his sons: Jacob G., 30; Alfred, 27; McLain, 25; Jesse, 23; and Sabert, 17.

No further records were available on Jacob G., but Alfred married Elizabeth L. Stell in 1852. Their known children were: Wm. J., born in 1854; John H., born January 22, 1857; and McLain, born in 1855. John H. died January 12, 1860 and was buried in a small cemetery probably on their own place. The marker is still there. McLain, son of Jesse, is believed to be the McLain Kennedy who patented land in the area now known as the McLain Kennedy Survey. No further records are



available on him. Jesse (D), son of Jesse and Susan, married Mrs. Martha E. (Stell) Privett in 1858, and Sabert married Catherine Gray in 1854. Both married in Cherokee County, Texas. Alfred's son, Wm. J., married Emily Johnson in 1876.

Jesse D. and Martha Emeline Kennedy had two children: Susan E., who married John C. Jones in 1878, and James J. "Jim," who was married first to Vallie Cowan in 1901. They had a daughter, Pearl, who married Clinton McLeod, and a son, Everett, who married Ima Houghton. James J. Kennedy's second wife was Mrs. Jennie Finkley. They had no children, but she had a son, Dewey Finkley, by a former marriage.

Jesse D. Kennedy died in Louisiana while participating in the War Between the States. His wife, Martha Emeline, married W. J. Loftis. They reared Susan and James J. Kennedy as well as their own children, J. W., E. C., Byran H. and Opal Loftis.

Everett Kennedy still resides in New Summerfield.

## THE C. FINLEY LOWE FAMILY

C. Finley Lowe was born in Virginia November 29, 1798, and his wife, Celia "Selah," was born in North Carolina on December 27, 1800. They were in the New Summerfield area before 1850. They came here from Tennessee with three sons and four daughters, all born in Tennessee. These children as recorded in the family Bible kept by Lilly O. Dalby Dotson were: William, born October 13, 1823; Elizabeth, born July 22, 1825; James, born February 17, 1827; Nancy, born December 21, 1829; Henretta, born April 27, 1831; E. J., born September 10, 1835; M. E., born January 16, 1840; Malinda, born July 30, 1841; Robert, born February 11, 1843.

Some of these children are known to have married local people. Henretta married Hiram Donaho in Cherokee County, Texas, in 1851. Hiram Donaho's family had received a land grant on Mud Creek near Ponta. A small settlement known as Donaho developed on that land, but the "town" moved to Ponta when the railroad was built through the area. Mary E. married Thomas N. Jones in 1857, and Malinda married Isaac Knight Dalby in 1860. They also resided in the New Summerfield area. Others settled in the area, but records are not available.

## MRS. BERTIE McMEANS AND FAMILY

Mrs. Bertie Cornelison McMeans, the widow of John Paschal McMeans, lived in the Summerfield community for a number of years. She was born in Griffin, Texas, December 26, 1869. Her parents were Jesse Porter Cornelison and (Mary Carmichael ?) born in Tennessee. Jesse Porter was born in Cassville, Missouri, February 11, 1837. His parents were John Cornelison, born in Madison County, Kentucky and Elizabeth King, born in Tennessee.

John Paschal McMeans, born in Texas, about 1865, was a son of John McMeans, a farmer, born about 1811, in South Carolina and his wife, Nancy, born about 1831, in Tennessee. They were living in the Mixon-Black Jack area before 1860. Some of their children were born in Alabama.

Bertie Cornelison and John Paschal McMeans were married in Cherokee County, Texas, on November 27, 1884, and on the same day her sister, Ruthie Cornelison married his brother, Joseph W. McMeans.

The McMeans family moved to Stockdale, Texas. Their only son, Lennie Burleson "Burley," was born in 1886, and their only daughter, Maud Mona, was born August 3, 1889. John Paschal died at Stockdale as a young man and is buried there. After her husband's death, Bertie McMeans returned to the Griffin area with her children and probably lived with her parents.

In 1916 Mrs. McMeans bought the home of Dr. Judson Beall and wife, Effie, in "downtown" Summerfield. Here she ran the switchboard, did photography work and also did custom dressmaking for the local ladies. Her father, Jesse Porter Cornelison, lived with her some. He died November 11, 1929, and is buried in the Griffin Cemetery.

Lennie Burleson married Anna Mae Tipton, a daughter of Alexander and Lula Thomason Tipton. Except for a few years, they made their home in New Summerfield. They had six children: Paschal, Eva Mae, Estelle, Ruby Jewel, Dorothy Jean, and Lenita Ann, who died as an infant. "Burley" died in 1946 and is buried near his daughter in the McDonald Cemetery. Mrs. Anna Mae McMeans lives in New Summerfield and spends her time with her children and their families. She celebrated her 94th birthday in 1984.

Maud Mona married Carl Ellis. They also made their home at New Summerfield and near-by communities except for a few years. They had six children: Aubrey, Grady, Quinda, Orel, Kate Iris, and Rodrick. She died June 25, 1925 and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Mrs. Bertie McMeans married Henry Evans about 1930 and moved to Griffin where she died November 21, 1936. She is buried in a Griffin Cemetery.

## **ELISA K. BERRY PATTERSON FAMILY**

Elisa (Elzy) K. Berry Patterson lived in the northern section of the New Summerfield settlement in the late 1840's, where as a teenage boy he lived in the home of A. J. and Ann Pirtle and worked as a farmer. In 1859 he married Ann E. Stell, a daughter of H. R. and Elizabeth Stell, and they made their home in the southern part of the community for several years. They are known to have had four children: Amanda E., who married T. L. Smith; Elizabeth, who married W. L. Loughmiller; James A., who married Ida Needham; and Martha C., who married R. H. Young.

Augustus Mack lived with this family in the late 1860's, and he later married Virginia Johnson, daughter of Wm. and Clarissa Johnson, of this area.

No records of this Patterson family in New Summerfield were available after 1880.

The Smiths and Loughmillers continued to live in the area and still have descendants at New Summerfield.

## **CYRUS PARKS AND FAMILY**

Cyrus Parks obtained one of the original land patents issued before 1842 in the southern part of the New Summerfield community. He was born about 1801 in Tennessee and his wife, Mahala W., was born about 1808 in North Carolina. In 1850 they were living on this land and living with them were Samuel L., Mary J., Sarah M., George W., Nancy C., Alcy, Rebecca E. and K. C. A.

This family lived here for years and several children married neighbors and continued to make their homes here. Mary Jane married John W. Stell, son of H. R. and Elizabeth Stell. Sarah M. married A. H. Goodson and by 1860 she was a widow with three children living near her parents. Nancy C. married James B. Cook, and Rebecca E. married Caswell W. Cook. These Cook men were brothers and were the sons of Caswell and Elizabeth Cook.

William and Rebecca Parks and two children, Isaac J. and Cyrus, lived near the Cyrus and Mahala Parks family in 1850. Relationship of these two families is unknown.

No records were found on this family in this area after 1870.

## **THE ANDREW ERWIN PAYNE FAMILY**

Andrew Erwin Payne and his wife, Elizabeth J., were in the New Summerfield area by the mid 1850's. They lived and farmed in the same area for years. Andrew Erwin was born about 1835 in Tennessee and Elizabeth J., daughter of Caswell and Elizabeth Cook, was born about 1833, in Georgia. All their children were born in Texas, probably near the New Summerfield area where they lived for years and some descendants are still in that area.

Their children and the approximate date of their births are: Sarah E., born 1856, married J. David Jobe, September 9, 1874; Mary A., born 1857, married John A. Gray, July 27, 1877; Margaret R., born 1860, died young; Andrew Caswell, born March 18, 1862, married Emma Elizabeth Dalby on November 20, 1884; John R., born 1864, died young; Martha C. "Mattie," born 1870; Leone Fannie, born 1872, married W. S. Ault, November 27, 1889, lived nearby in Craft; Denton was born in 1874; Sarah died before 1880 and David Jobe and four-year-old daughter, Ella, were living with John A. and Mary A. Gray and their daughter, Ida, in 1880.

Elizabeth J., wife of Andrew Erwin Payne, died March 3, 1880, and is buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery. Andrew E. married Mrs. Malinda Garrison on November 24, 1881, and they had two daughters, Ruby and Jimella (Barnhill). They moved to Denison, Texas. The dates and places of their deaths are not available.

## THE H. R. STELL FAMILY

This farming family lived near Cyrus Parks and family in 1850. H. R. Stell was born in South Carolina in 1801, and his wife, Elizabeth, was also born in South Carolina in 1801. Their children were: John W., born in Tennessee in 1827; Martha E., born in Kentucky in 1830; Elizabeth L., born in Kentucky in 1833; and Elvira, born in Tennessee in 1846. Most of these children married neighborhood friends.

John W. was married in 1851 to Mary Jane Parks, daughter of Cyrus and Mahala Parks.

Martha Emeline was married first to Dr. J. C. Privett (Pruitt) in 1851. After his death, she was married in 1858 to Jesse D. Kennedy, who died in service during the Civil War. Her last marriage was to W. J. Loftis in 1870.

Elizabeth L. married Alfred Kennedy in 1852. He was a brother of Jesse D. Kennedy.

Ann E. married E. K. B. Patterson in 1859.

Elvira made her home with Alfred Kennedy and her sister, Elizabeth, after her father's death in the 1850's. No other records are available on her. Mrs. Elizabeth Stell made her home with her daughter, Martha Emeline, for years. Date of her death is unknown, but she was buried in the McDonald Cemetery. Martha E. and two of her husbands, Dr. J. C. Privett and W. J. Loftis, are also buried there.

This family and the families into which they married were a great influence in the development of the community. Everett Kennedy, grandson of Martha E. and Jesse D. Kennedy, now resides in New Summerfield.

## JOHN STERLING FAMILY

John Sterling was in Cherokee County in 1850. He received a land patent before 1842 on a tract of land in the southern part of the New Summerfield community. He was born in Louisiana about 1821 and his wife, Sarah L., was born in Illinois about 1820. Their known children were: James N., Sarah L., Wm. R., and Thomas J. Little is known of this family as they seem to have moved away after a short residency here, although we list him because of his early land grant and survey.

## THE FAMILY OF THOMAS TENNISON

Thomas Tennison was born in North Carolina on April 26, 1819 and was in the New Summerfield area before 1850 with his family. His wife, Melissa Scott, was born in South Carolina. They came to Cherokee County with three sons: Thomas H., James P., and Marcus L. These three boys were born in Alabama. Their other children, born in Texas, were: Texas Ala, Roxana "Roxie," Edmund R., and Nancy Elizabeth.

Like his brother, Matthew, Thomas was a large scale farmer using Negro labor as well as other help. Hardships and illness caused early deaths in this family. In 1862, an infant, Edmund R. age 3, and Melissa age 38, died. Thomas died in 1864 and Thomas H., a son age 19, died in 1867. It is not known what took the life of so many of this family in such a short time. They were all buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Thomas Tennison's will lists his brother, Matthew Tennison, as administrator with these heirs, all minors: Bettie (Elizabeth), Roxie, James, Texas Willingham, and Marcus L. The minor child listed as Texas Willingham was their child, Texas Ala, who married J. A. Willingham on December 16, 1872. Betty is probably Nancy E. (Elizabeth) who married Andrew Haws on December 9, 1880.

The 1870 census shows these surviving children in the home of their father's brother, Matthew Tennison: James, Marcus, Texas, Roxana, and Elizabeth.

James P. Tennison married Charlotte Dallas in 1875. Marcus L. married Susan Pirtle in 1877. He died in 1892. Roxana "Roxie" married Henry C. Gill. Several descendants of Thomas and Melissa Tennison still reside in New Summerfield.



## THE JAMES S. UPCHURCH FAMILY

This large family lived in or near New Summerfield for many years, probably arriving here in the early 1860's from Tennessee. James was born about 1817 and his wife, Martha, was born about 1830. They were both born in Tennessee and continued to live in Tennessee until after they married. Their children, John B., Robert, Nancy, James (or Jesse) Stacey, and Stephen, were born there.

After they came to Texas, other children were born to this couple. They were Delila, Thomas, Samuel, and Martha. James was a farmer whose family lived as neighbors to the families of Josiah Dotson, Wm. J. Loftis, Isaac Dalby, Pinkney Jones, and Isaac Tipton. It is known that some of the Upchurch children married and lived in this area.

James moved his family to the Black Jack area. In later years his son, James (or Jesse) Stacey "Stace," moved his family back to New Summerfield where they lived the rest of their lives.

In 1887 Stacey married Emma Grubbs. His second marriage was to Minnie Brandon in 1896. In 1915 they bought a lot in New Summerfield from Joe Brady to build a home, but they soon sold it and moved to a home west of the townsite. They had one daughter, Jewel C., born in 1900. They also reared Arma Upchurch, a relative. (Stacy was an avid "fiddler" always keeping his violin nearby).

Jewel Upchurch married Ira Magee "Gee" Tipton April 7, 1924. They had one son, I. M., Jr., who moved away from the community.

Stacey Upchurch died in 1942, and Minnie died in 1968. Ira M. Tipton died in 1955, and Jewel died in 1967. They are all buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

## JOHN C. WALLING FAMILY

John C. Walling received a patent on land near Myrtle Springs. He was issued a donation certificate from the State of Texas for service in battle. Records are not available as to where he fought. He was born about 1819 and his wife, Martha A., was born about 1823. Both were born in Mississippi. It is not known when they came to Texas. Their oldest daughter, Sarah Jane, was born in Texas, but how early they were in the New Summerfield area is not known.

The known children of John and Martha Walling were: Sarah Jane, Ann, Nancy, and twin boys, Jesse and John. Sarah Jane married W. M. Potter on August 5, 1853, in Cherokee County, Texas.

This family migrated out of the area before 1870.

## THE JACOB WINDSOR FAMILY

A land patent from Texas was issued to Jacob Windsor as a preemption certificate, which indicates he filed on unoccupied and unclaimed land located near the Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

Jacob Windsor was born in North Carolina about 1829 and his wife, Mary Jane, was born in Georgia. They had two children, Paralee and Joseph L., born in Alabama before they came to Texas. Jesse H. and John G. were born in Texas indicating they were in this area by 1860. They resided here many years. Jesse H. Windsor married Julia A. Edwards, a neighbor girl, in 1885. No further records were located on this family.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

1896

There is a new blacksmith shop in Lone Star operated by T. B. Pierce.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

1900

There was a general smallpox quarantine in Cherokee County.

From the "Jacksonville Banner"

## Family Stories Submitted

### LEWIS LEAB BIRDSONG

Lewis "Bid" was born in Griffin, Georgia, in 1870 and died in 1934 in Cherokee County, Texas. "Bid" married Julia Ann Williamson from Griffin, Georgia. She was born 1873 and died in 1961. His people came from England. His grandfather brought the Blue Tick hounds to America. They sold for very high prices.

Three of their nine children were born in Georgia. They were: Earl Lee, Oweda, and Basil Brooks. When they moved to Texas, they moved to Martinsville, near Nacogdoches. Velma and Agnes were born in Martinsville.

He was influenced by his brothers, Larry and Lawrence Birdsong, to move to Texas. They were railroad men on the T & N O. When they arrived in Texas, the two brothers were on the train to accompany them to their new home. "Bid" farmed and was a carpenter. He was also a constable for one term. Larry found them a place in Ponta, Texas, where they lived five years. They then moved to the Tom and Laura Dalby place at Myrtle Springs, Texas. Mary, Margarette and Callie were born in Ponta, Texas.

Oweda married Hollis Brazier, son of Henry Brazier of Lone Star. They lived at Ponta and Oweda taught school at Lone Star. Their children Marion and H. B. were born at Ponta. Later they moved to Waco, Texas, where both Hollis and Oweda died, but they were buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery near New Summerfield.

Basil Brooks married Alton Lacy in 1923 and they had no children.

Velma married Alvie Tipton in 1922. Their daughter, Mary Jean, married (1) Rayburn Hooker and had three children, and (2) Bob Ezell II. Alvie and Velma had one son who died when he was six months old.

Agnes married Tennison McCown and they had one child, Helen, who married Herbert Quillen.

Mary Weiner married C. D. Monroe from Rusk, and they had no children.

Margarette married John McKeller from Rusk, and they had one daughter, Anne, who married Bobby Doggett; and they had two children.

Callie married Ernest Petri of Jacksonville, Texas.

Bid and Julia were borderline citizens of Ponta and New Summerfield.

Basil, Velma, and Agnes married New Summerfield boys, Alton Lacy, Alvie Tipton and Tennison McCown.

Velma and Agnes now live at Jacksonville.

*Facts by Basil Lacy; Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

### THE JOHN WILLIAM BOATMAN FAMILY

Like most men of his day, John William Boatman was a farmer when he moved his family from Lone Star to Summerfield in 1918. Will (as he was called by family and friends) settled his wife and five young children on the farm of Lena Wallace, widow of Doc Wallace, one and one-half miles east of Summerfield, where he rented land on the "shares." Share-cropping, a common practice of that era, meant raising and harvesting a "cash" crop of cotton and a "feed" crop of corn. From earnings of the 20 or so bales of cotton he raised each year, Will Boatman agreed to pay the Widow Wallace one-third for using her land. Because he had his own equipment . . . a Model-T truck, wagon, horses, mules, and plows . . . he only had to give her one-fourth of the corn crop. Cotton was hauled by wagon to the gin at Summerfield. Part of the corn was ground into meal at the grist mill next door.

While living on this farm, three children were born, and for several years the older Boatman

children attended the Summerfield school, walking there and back each day. School lunches, wrapped in newspapers, consisted of biscuits and sausage, peanut butter and crackers, baked sweet potatoes, and sometimes, chicken and sugar-fried pies.

For a time, Will's parents lived with them, and his father Henry died at their home, May 5, 1925, with Dr. J. T. Greenwood in attendance. Will's mother, Mary Etta, continued living with her son's family for most of the remainder of her life.

About 1930 the family moved to Pierce's Chapel where Will Boatman bought his own farm of about 70 acres, situated atop a high hill. This place became known to family and friends as "Boatman's Mountain." Will's wife, Ida, died at age 54 at this farm, May 2, 1938, and was buried at Walker's Chapel Cemetery, not far from where she was born.

Will Boatman later purchased another farm near the Corine community west of Jacksonville, which became a favorite gathering place for his children and grandchildren. After his wife died, his mother helped him raise the younger children. Mary Etta died on this farm October 31, 1943, and was buried beside her husband, Henry, at Myrtle Springs Cemetery near Reklaw. In 1952 Will Boatman married Minnie Warren, who was a good companion, and looked after him until his death, December 22, 1971.

John William Boatman was born November 3, 1884 at Salem, Rusk County, Texas, the only son of Henry Bell and Mary Etta (Wiggins) Boatman. His sisters were Tressa, who married John T. Magee; Viola who married Wiley Garner; Leda Odell who married Jack Sherman, and Lula Gertrude who married John Washington Wilcox. Will was 24 when he married Mary Ida Victoria Matteson at her home near Reklaw on April 12, 1908. She was born, August 17, 1884, the daughter of Phelps Perry and Celestia L. (Gardner) Matteson. (The Boatman, Matteson and Wiggins lines have been traced back to the Revolutionary period).

Will and Ida's first child died at birth. They had eight other children: (1) Inis married Earl W. Herod. They had two sons, Gary Louis and Floyd Wilton; (2) Trudy married Mart Lowell Brown. They had two children, Betha Yolette and Cyril Conrad; (3) William Ancil, never married, died in 1942 while serving with the Coast Artillery in WW II; (4) Elmer Floyd, married Maxine Juanita Smith. They had two daughters, Carolyn Ann and Donna Lynn; (5) Henry Milton married Duffie Smith. They had four children, Mary Frances, Gerald Wayne, Winona Marie and Kenneth Nolan; (6) Opal Louisa married Mid Walker Smith. They had two sons, Delbert Lee and John Dwain; (7) Pansy Omie married Preston Batton. He died and she married R. M. Caldwell. By the second marriage, two children were born, Billy Wayne and Virginia Carol; (8) Avis Leon married Billie Louise Terry. They had four children, Sybil Katherine, Geraldine, Charlotte Ann and Ancil Leon. (It might be noted here that this family became very close since three Boatmans married three Smiths, all brothers and sisters).

*Compiled by Janice Cox Brown*

## THE FRANK MARION BOONE FAMILY

Frank Marion Boone was born near Troup, Texas, in 1864. He married Carrie Brandon. They were parents of thirteen children. They owned a farm west of the McDonald Cemetery for a number of years, and their children were reared in Summerfield. When the townsite was being developed, F. M. Boone bought a small tract of land "down-town" and built a home there near the Arthur Dickson home.

One son, Morris, died while living at Summerfield, June 1, 1911. He was 13 years old and died from blood poison. In August of that year, F. M. and Carrie Boone deeded one-half of an acre of land adjoining the McDonald Cemetery to the public for burying ground.

Several of the Boone children made school teachers and taught in Cherokee County. The only child to remain in Summerfield after the parents moved to Mt. Selman, Texas, in 1917, was the third son, Selma. He married a local girl, Lula Wiggins, and they made their home in New Summerfield until 1937.

Selma and Lula reared four children in New Summerfield. They were Malton, Van, Evelyn, and Erma. Erma died at the young age of 42. Selma died at the age of 86 while living in Longview. Lula died at the age of 77. Selma and Lula are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Facts by Evelyn Boone Tear*



## THE DOUGLAS CLIFTON BOSS FAMILY

Douglas Clifton Boss was born near Griffin, Texas, February 26, 1891. He was a son of A. H. Boss and Alice Beddingfield Boss, who originally came from Georgia. Douglas Clifton married Annie Dotson at New Summerfield in 1920. Annie was born at New Summerfield, February 24, 1893. She was a daughter of De Troit and Eliza "Lyde" Dotson, long time citizens of this area.

Douglas Clifton was a building contractor and a veteran of World War I. He and Annie lived all their married life at New Summerfield except two years residence in Houston County, Texas.

Children born to this couple were: Paul Clifton, who was a World War II veteran and who worked in electronics; he married Frances Oden of Jacksonville, Texas. They had two sons, Douglas born January 5, 1952, and Raymond Lee. Paul Clifton died June 5, 1983, and his son, Douglas, died July 24, 1984; Lorris Wendell was born April 5, 1924, and died May 2, 1931, at age of 7; Obert M. Boss was born March 16, 1928, and died November 13, 1946 at the age of 18. He was stricken with crippling rheumatoid arthritis early in life, but in spite of his handicaps and pain, he painted pictures from his bed using a paint brush in his mouth.

Douglas Clifton died November 12, 1937, and Annie Dotson Boss died August 31, 1967.

All the deceased of this family are buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield, Texas.

*Compiled by Marjorie Brown Farley*

## TANT BRAZIER AND FAMILY

Tant Brazier was born in Franklin, Texas. His parents were William Henry Harrison Brazier and Ida Hall Brazier, who came by covered wagon to Texas from Tennessee, and settled in Robertson County, Texas. He was 14 years old when the family moved to Lone Star, Cherokee County, Texas.

The Brazier family became prominent citizens of Lone Star. Tant married Manilla Greenwood of that community. She was a daughter of Dr. James T. and Ollie Fuller Greenwood. They made their home in Lone Star for years. When Dr. Greenwood moved close into New Summerfield, Tant and Manilla moved next door to be close to him if he should need them. They were quite a self-sufficient couple who were ready to help a neighbor but kept very close and to themselves.

Two sons were born to Tant and Manilla. James Henry, who married Margaret Belle Darnell, daughter of William Darnell and Mammie Burton Darnell Greenwood, and Billy Paul, who married Nedra Orast Cameron, daughter of Alton and Lois Womack Cameron.

James Henry and Margaret had one son, Tony William, who married Jan Newburn, daughter of Lum Newburn, Jr. and Gwendolyn Davis Newburn, and a granddaughter of Dr. Lum Newburn of Jacksonville, Texas. Gwendolyn was a native New Summerfield girl, daughter of Richard and Ura King Davis. Tony and Jan had one son, Scott. James Henry made a career dealing in oil field operations, and now lives in New Iberia, Louisiana. He and Margaret return regularly to their farm and second home near old Lone Star.

Billy Paul and Nedra, after a few years following oil field work, returned to New Summerfield and their farm. They have expanded their farming into the plant and greenhouse business as well as the produce and marketing business, along with cattle raising.

Three children were born to Billy and Nedra: Gary, who married Linda Sue Johnson; Paula, who married Johnnie Davis; and Pamela, who married Ron Thrash. Paula and Johnnie are in business with Billy and Nedra. They live in New Summerfield where their children, Tammy and Wade attend school.

Tant died in 1973 and is buried at Myrtle Springs. Manilla lives in the Travis Towers Senior Citizens' apartment building in Jacksonville and enjoys it very much.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## THE GILBERT BROWN FAMILY

Gilbert Washington Brown was the youngest son of John and Susan Brown of Griffin, Texas.

He was born February 10, 1896. He married Eda Womack, the oldest daughter of James Louis and Zellah Stewart Womack. Gilbert and Eda met when they went with another couple to get married. The couple getting married was Fred McCown and Thelma Darby.

Eda's father, Louis, was a son of Thomas Jehu and Rachael Morning Womack, who lived in the New Summerfield area. Her mother, Zellah, was a daughter of Angus "Ang" Lorenzo and Martha Deaton Stewart, who also resided in the community for years.

One daughter, Audrey Evelyn, was born to Gilbert and Eda on August 4, 1921. She married Alvis Parsons, son of Thomas and Bertha Christopher Parsons, on August 10, 1940. Alvis is a carpenter working with his brother, Theo Parsons.

Audrey and Alvis had one son, Gayle Lynn Parsons, born December 23, 1942. He married Frankie Marie Johnson, of the nearby Concord community, on July 14, 1962. She was born May 28, 1944. Her parents were Clifford and Eda Polk Johnson.

Gayle Lynn joined the U. S. Army in 1967, and spent two years and four months in Hamburg, Germany. Frankie spent eleven months there with him.

Gayle and Frankie live in Pasadena, Texas, where he has his own Steel Erector Service, building and repairing metal buildings. Frankie is a secretary for the Pasadena Light Co.

Gilbert is a retired farmer and rancher. He and Eda have spent their entire lives in New Summerfield quietly, making the community a much better place to live.

*Compiled by Audrey Brown Parsons  
Assisted by Odessa Tipton*

## **THE JAMES "JIM" THOMAS BROWN FAMILY**

James "Jim" Thomas Brown, the third child of John Lott Brown and Susan Jane Ferguson Brown, was born in Rockhill, New York County, South Carolina, November 24, 1879. He came to Texas with his parents when he was two years old. John and Susan Brown came from Rockhill, South Carolina, to Crockett, Texas, where they settled in 1881. They later moved to Salem in Cherokee County near Rusk, Texas, and lived there for a few years before they purchased a farm at Griffin, Texas. It was on that farm that they reared their family of nine boys and three girls.

In December 1904 James Thomas was married to Bevie Dotson, a daughter of De Troit Dotson and Eliza Kelsey Dotson. Bevie was born in the New Summerfield area June 12, 1881. They lived all their married lives at New Summerfield where he was an active member of the Baptist Church, and she was an active member of the Church of Christ.

James "Jim" Brown was a farmer, and the family often went places in the farm wagon. In about 1912, when the family was returning home from Ponta, Marjorie was walking and holding on to the back of the wagon when Oscar Hogan, of Ponta, came up behind them in his T-Model Ford, which was a rare sight in those days, and honked the horn. Marjorie was so frightened that she ran into the woods and had to be coaxed out. People, as well as animals, were often frightened by these first "gas buggies."

Jim and Bevie's children were Marjorie, Ruth Glenn, and Cleo Merl. Marjorie taught school for several years and married Belton Farley, a carpenter; Ruth Glenn taught school for a time and married Sherrel Arnwine, who was employed by an oil company. Sherrel died in 1955, and in 1961 Ruth Glenn married Maurice Holcomb, a dairyman. She was a state social worker for many years. Cleo Merl married Bryan Theo Parsons, a building contractor. They have three children: Wayne, Roger and Beverly Sue.

James "Jim" Brown died January 5, 1946, and Bevie Dotson Brown died November 25, 1969. They are both buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Facts Provided by Marjorie Brown Farley*

## **MART LOWELL BROWN FAMILY**

M. L. (Mart Lowell) Brown's great grandfather, John Lott Brown, first came from South Carolina to Crockett, Texas. They later lived a short time at Salem, Cherokee County, Texas, but really settled



down in Griffin, Texas, where they bought a farm and reared twelve children, nine boys and three girls. One of those children, Sam Edward Brown, married Alta Mae Shaw and settled in New Summerfield. Two of his brothers, Jim and Gilbert, married New Summerfield girls and also made their homes here.

Sam Edward Brown was a man of many trades. He ran grocery stores at New Summerfield and Emmaus. He was a politician, often running for a local or county office, but never winning. He sold insurance, served on the school board, was a leader in the Methodist Church and was active in many community projects.

Children of Sam and Alta Mae Brown were: Mart Lowell married (1) Trudy Boatman and (2) Mary Frances Warren; Bill Brown married Elsie Jack Bothwell and settled in San Antonio; Louise Brown married LaMonte Teutsch, settled in Oil City, Louisiana; Eula Pearl Brown married Clyde Looney, settled in San Antonio; Nora Brown married Charlie Christopher, settled in Rusk; S. E. Brown, Jr. married Carmella Luscri, settled in LaHabra, California. Carmella died about 1972; Elsie Rae Brown married (1) Gene Sanders, who died about 1976, and (2) Alpine "Chink" Norman and settled in Pueblo, Colorado. One child died as an infant.

Mart Lowell Brown married Trudy Boatman, a local girl, about 1928, and they made their home in New Summerfield. Mart is also a man of many trades. He has had several grocery stores in the surrounding communities, has been in agriculture as a cabbage grower, has run for local and county offices and served on the school board for two terms. He has also dealt with real estate, but his main business is Brown's Used Cars. He is a member of the Methodist Church.

Children of Mart and Trudy Brown are: Conrad (C. C.) who married Janice Cox, a local girl, and they have three daughters: Jennifer, Teresa and Amy; Betha Yolette married Julian Gillam and they have two daughters: Judena and Trudy.

Trudy Boatman Brown died April 16, 1951, and is buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery. After Trudy's death, Mart married Mary Frances Warren Work, daughter of Byron T. and Lucy Warren, who moved to New Summerfield in 1936; Mart and Frances were married July 9, 1951, and they have one son, Rickey Lowell Brown, born March 22, 1952.

On April 18, 1970, at 12:00 o'clock midnight, Rickey Brown married a Ponta girl, Shalah Jean Bobbitt, daughter of Myron Mavis Bobbitt and LaVerne Jackson Bobbitt. The couple was married at the Henderson Methodist Church, Hwy. 79, with one guest present. Mrs. LaVerne Bobbitt. (Four people in a church which would hold hundreds). This marriage took place at such an odd hour because of one superstitious Mart Brown, who was convinced that a marriage on Friday would bring bad luck.

Rickey L. Brown is a jack-of-all-trades. He is New Summerfield's version of Monty Hall and "Let's Make A Deal." He trades, buys and sells almost anything. He has been in the greenhouse business for several years as well as his hobby of buying, selling and trading tractors, equipment and vehicles. It is not unusual for the Rickey Browns to be without transportation because he "just can't turn down a good deal." Children of Rickey and Shalah Brown are: Kim Loree Brown, born July 5, 1971; Felicia Ann Brown, born August 12, 1980. They make their home at New Summerfield and are members of the Ponta Baptist Church.

*Compiled by Shalah Bobbitt Brown*

## MARTIN HOMER BROWN FAMILY

Martin Homer Brown was born June 10, 1878, in Itamamba County, Mississippi. He was a son of Rufus and Tennie Brown. He was a farmer. He came to Cherokee County to visit relatives and met Claudia Dotson, born December 30, 1884. They married January 1, 1908, and moved to Mississippi. Four children were born in Mississippi: Beatrice was born November 8, 1908; Clyde was born May 30, 1911; Annie was born December 15, 1913; and Earl was born October, 1916.

They moved back to Texas in the fall of 1918 and lived south of New Summerfield. Audrey was born April 28, 1919, and Willard Wayne "Billy" was born May 30, 1922. Willard died September 19, 1927.

Beatrice married Silas Davis, and they had two sons and two daughters. Both daughters died at birth. Harold Davis married Loleta Garner, and they have two children, Tom and Teresa. Tom married Hope Slider, and Teresa married Cary Carr, and they have a baby girl named Karah Beth. Michael Davis married Karen Carroll, and they have two sons, Casey and Wesley.

Clyde married Lola Mae Thomason. They have two children, Barbara and Ronald. Barbara married Chuck Taylor and had three children, Charles, Sherry, and Cindy. Charles is deceased. Ronald married Bobbie Lambert and they have a son, Derwin. They live in Dallas.



Annie married Rubye Payne and they had one daughter, Freida, and two sons who died. Freida married Dewey Ross Tipton, and they have two children, Gregory and Laurie. They live in Fort Worth.

Earl married Mildred Lake and they have a son, Jerry.

Audrey married Y. D. Fitch, and they have a daughter, Phyllis Carolyn, and one son who died at birth. Phyllis married Kenneth Turner and has two sons, Alan and Brian. They live in Beaumont.

Y. D. Fitch served in the army during World War II from 1943 through 1945 and saw service in North Africa, Sicily and France. He served in the Quartermaster Corp.

*Compiled by Audrey Brown Fitch*

## THE SAM EDWARD BROWN FAMILY

Sam Edward Brown, a 60-year resident of the Summerfield area, was born July 22, 1887 at Crockett, Houston County, Texas and died at age 91, November 3, 1978. Most of his early life was spent farming and in later years he was an insurance agent.

Sam Brown married Mary Alta Mae Shaw at Blackjack, July 23, 1907, while sitting in a buggy. Friends held a lantern while Reverend W. Loftis performed the ceremony. About 1930 they built a home near the Summerfield School where they lived the remainder of their lives. For a number of years Sam Brown was a trustee of the Summerfield Methodist Church, where he sometimes taught Sunday School, and where he enjoyed singing the old gospel songs. He was instrumental in helping build the present brick structure of the Summerfield Methodist Church. His wife, Alta Mae, played the organ at home and was frequently asked to play piano at church.

Sam and Alta Mae had eight children: (1) Mart Lowell married Trudy Boatman, the daughter of John William and Mary Ida Victoria (Matteson) Boatman. They had two children, Betha Yolette and Cyril Conrad. Trudy died April 16, 1951 and Mart married Frances (Warren) Work, by whom one son, Rickey, was born; (2) Garland Blanton married Elsie Jack Bothwell. They had one son, Billy Joel; (3) Nannie Louise married Lamonte Gaylord Teutsch. They had two sons, Morris Ray and John Michael; (4) Eula Pearl married William Clyde Looney. They have one son, William Neal. (5) One child died at age two months. (6) Nora Elizabeth married Charles Columbus Christopher. They have three children, Larry Charles, Danny Francis and Celesta Nan. (7) Sam Edward Brown, Jr. married Carmella Luscri, who died in 1972. They had three daughters, Diane Lee, Linda Mae and Annette; (8) Elsie Ray married Addis Eugene Sanders, who died in 1969. They had two sons, Billy Gene and Timothy Ray. Elsie married second, Alpine "Chink" Norman.

Alta Mae Brown was the daughter of Martin Van Buren and Nannie J. (Peace) Shaw, residents of Bartow County, Georgia, who came to Texas after 1872, settling first near Old Larissa, and later at Griffin and Troup. Mart Shaw was a Civil War veteran who fought for the Confederacy. Alta Mae was born at Larissa, January 6, 1889 and died December 21, 1969. She is buried beside her husband in Union Chapel Cemetery.

Sam Edward Brown was the seventh of twelve children born to John Lott and Susan J. (Ferguson) Brown. John Lott Brown was born in Chester District, South Carolina, August 11, 1852. He married Susan Ferguson of Rock Hill, York County, South Carolina, October 21, 1875. She was born August 9, 1857 in York County. About 1882 John and Susan Brown joined part of a considerable southern migration to Texas, having heard numerous stories of the rich and inexpensive land there. With four small children, they traveled by train to Crockett, Texas, where they settled for a few years and where three children were born.

In November 1892, John Lott Brown purchased land 3½ miles south of Rusk, where he made his home and where several more children were born. About 1897 he moved to the northeastern portion of Cherokee County, where he purchased land and built a home near the then flourishing community of Griffin. There he farmed and bought and sold numerous tracts of land. He took an active interest in the Griffin School and was elected a school trustee.

According to Sam Brown, his father was one of the more successful farmers of the area and was prosperous by the standards of that day. Fox hunting was his favorite sport, and he kept a number of hunting hounds. He and his friends spent many hours hunting foxes, bobcats and raccoons that abounded in the area. John Brown was gifted with a fine singing voice and sang all the time. He played the fiddle by ear and was frequently called upon to play for home dances.

The John Lott Browns had 12 children: (1) William Taylor, married Minnie Stevenson; (2) Minnie Jane married R. L. Dickey; (3) James Thomas married Bevie Dotson; (4) Emaline married Walter Shaw; (5) Andrew Walter, died young; (6) Henry Turner married Mary Ethel Evans; (7) Sam Ed-

ward married Mary Alta Mae Shaw; (8) George Roland married Sallie Mae Evans; (9) John Oliver married Julia Goad; (10) Frank Tillman married Bertha Goad; (11) Gilbert Washington married Eda Womack; and (12) Ella Mae married Aven Rawlinson.

John Lott and Susan J. Brown are buried in the Griffin Cemetery.

*Compiled by Janice Cox Brown*

## THE DOYLE BUNN FAMILY

Doyle Edwin Bunn and his wife, the former Annie Lou Choate, along with their young daughter, moved to New Summerfield in July, 1962.

Doyle, the youngest of the six children of Cecil Franklin "Doc" and Irene Wiggins Bunn, was born in New Salem, Rusk County, Texas. His paternal grandparents, Warren D. and Mary Ann Skinner Bunn, came to Texas from Clay County, Alabama; his maternal grandparents, James Washington and Mattie Atkisson, lived in Jacksonville, Texas.

Doyle and Annie Lou were married in the First Baptist Church of Jacksonville on October 24, 1954. Annie Lou is the youngest of the three children of Roy and Mattie Clark Choate of Jacksonville.

After graduation from high school in Henderson, Texas, and several years in the U. S. Air Corps, Doyle joined his two brothers in masonry construction business and continued until just three years ago when he put away his cement mixer and trowel to begin a new occupation. He now is associated with a commercial printing company where he operates an offset press and bindery equipment. Lou has spent many of her days "mothering" children of the New Summerfield area from the day care service offered in her home.

The Bunns moved to New Summerfield to make it home — and they did. They bought land, built a house and joined in community activities. They are active members of the First Baptist Church. Doyle is a deacon, teaches a Sunday School class, has held city and school offices and supported many 4-H Club activities. Lou is active in the Women's Auxiliary of her church, is always on hand for Vacation Bible School and has held various offices in PTA.

Doyle and Annie Lou have one child, Brenda Lou, who after graduation from New Summerfield High School attended Mrs. Wade's School of Fashion and Merchandising in Dallas. She is married to Michael Childress; their two daughters are Savannah Leigh and Courtney René.

*Compiled by Doyle Bunn*

## MELVIN JEFFERSON CAMERON FAMILY

Melvin came to the Griffin community to live and on April 16, 1905, he married Belle Pool from that community. She was one of the "Pool Girls" as their friends called them. Her sisters were Lee, Lena, Minnie, and Gussie. All of them were well-known in the New Summerfield area.

Melvin died in 1927, and Belle lived only a few years longer.

The two oldest boys, Alton and Estell, married New Summerfield girls. Alton married Lois Lavetta Womack and Estell married Opria Marie Tipton. When their mother died, Alton and Lois took two of the older children, Howard and Bernice, rearing them right along with their two daughters, Mozelle and Nedra.

The Pool girls took the twins, Maurice and Maurine, into their home until they started to high school. They then came to live with the other two in Alton's and Lois' home. After Maurine finished high school, she went to Texas City, Texas, to live with her sister, Gladys "Tip" Wesley, so she could work. She met Irvin Cross and married him, and they went to California where they lived until their two boys started to high school. The boys, Larry and Brian, finished school in New Summerfield. Irvin bought the Lake Striker Marina and built it up into a thriving business with a restaurant, serving delicious catfish to people of all surrounding communities.

Howard married Jewel "Judy" Jacobs from Houston. Mr. Jacobs, her father, later moved to New Summerfield. Howard died in June 1984. Judy still lives here and is continuing to run his plant farm. Their children are Mack, Beverly, and Howard Gale, Jr.

Maurice married Delores Tryor from Jacksonville, Texas. They lived here several years but now live in San Angelo, Texas. Their children are Connie, Brenda, Lisa, and Curtis.



The oldest daughter of Melvin and Belle Cameron, Gladys (Tip), married J. C. Wesley. They reside in Texas City. John Alvis and Donald Wayne are their children. Bernice married Lem Smith and lives in California.

Alton's children are Mozelle and Nedra. Mozelle married Charles Thomason. They have one daughter, Jeannie Sue Thomason Burchfield. Jeannie Sue has two children, Charlotte Burchfield Watkins and Tommy Jack. Mozelle was married a second time to Frank Burns, and their son is Jimmie. She has three step-children: one step-son, Frank, Jr., lives in New Summerfield. Nedra married Billy Brazier. Their children are Gary, Paula and Pam.

Estell's children are Edwin Lee, Loweta, and Shirley. This family has been an outstanding addition to this community.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## **THE R. H. CASEY FAMILY**

Roland Hill Casey was born December 23, 1892, to William and Mary Elizabeth Casey, who resided in the Turney-Corinth Community of Cherokee County, Texas. He was married December 26, 1911 to "Little" Annie Tankersley, a daughter of Jobe R. and Annie Tankersley. She was born March 13, 1895 in Cherokee County, Texas.

To this union were born two sons and four daughters, who are listed below with their spouses. Dorothy, born June 26, 1913, married Armen Darby. Elmer, born March 27, 1917, married Guella Murphy. He served in the army in World War II in Alaska, and died December 14, 1968. Horace R., born March 22, 1923, married Jessie Fern Belyla. He was in the army in W.W. II. Wanda Beth, born April 5, 1926, married (1) Jack Brittain and (2) Charles Cunningham. Annie Jo, born November 12, 1928, married Glenn Horn; Betty Fern, born September 4, 1933, married Tommy Wiggins.

Roland and Annie Casey bought his parents' farm in Summerfield where they lived and farmed for several years. When his father died his mother had kept the place which was often referred to as the "Mollie Casey Place." Mrs. Mollie Casey lived in a small house near Roland and Annie for several years before moving to Jacksonville, Texas, to make her home with her son, Ben and his wife, Flora.

In later years Roland and Annie moved to the Striker Creek area where they resided until his death on July 14, 1962. Annie moved near her daughter, Dorothy Darby, and made her home there the rest of her life. She died July 14, 1978. Both Roland and Annie Casey are buried in the McDonald Cemetery near their son, Elmer.

*Compiled by Dorothy Casey Darby*

## **MR. & MRS. ELMER CHANDLER**

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Chandler moved into the community in October of 1936 and she still lives at the same place. Elmer Chandler was the son of the late Leonard L. Chandler and Helen (Pool) Chandler. He was born at New Emmaus on July 20, 1903. He had a brother, Ernest Chandler, and one sister, Bertie Bell Chandler Tipton, who was the wife of Thurman Tipton.

Mrs. Elmer Chandler (nee Jettie Lou Dafft) was born in Montgomery County, Texas, on March 23, 1907. Her parents were Joseph E. Dafft and Annie (Anderson) Dafft, who came to this county in 1919, and settled in the Craft community. There were five other girls and two boys in this family. Elmer and Jettie were married on July 20, 1924.

Elmer Chandler was a carpenter, having also worked as a school custodian and bus driver. Jettie, a housewife, has served the community by helping in school trustee elections, primary elections, and general elections for many years. She has also worked as a member of the Baptist Church serving as a clerk for 44 years and is still serving. She has served as song director of the church for several years. She is a news correspondent for the New Summerfield community news published in the Jacksonville Daily Progress. She has reported local news for 47 years.

Elmer Chandler died September 26, 1984, and was buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Jettie Chandler*



## OTIS M. CHUPP

Otis M. Chupp with his wife, Reba Chupp and seven children, Morris, Marvin, Annie Pearl, Pauline, Paul, Grady, and Adell, moved from Commanche County, to Cherokee County, Texas, on November 16, 1928.

Otis M. Chupp was the son of John M. and Rosa Lee Chupp of DeLeon, Commanche County, Texas; said Otis M. Chupp died on July 19, 1945.

Reba Chupp was the daughter of Thomas Jefferson and Ella Mae Darby Heath, who were residents of Cherokee County, Texas. Thomas Jefferson Heath died on June 3, 1959; Ella Mae Heath died on February 21, 1961, and Reba Chupp died on January 10, 1983.

Otis M. Chupp, being a share-crop farmer, settled about three miles south of Summerfield on the "D. T. Darby Place," moved to the "Roy Case Place" in the fall of 1934, and in 1936, purchased the "Sammy Mayfield Place" east of Summerfield. After the death of Otis M. Chupp and all of the children were grown and gone from home and Thomas Jefferson and Ella Mae Heath being in declining health, Reba Chupp sold all of the land the family owned at that time and in 1951 moved her house next to her parents to help take care of them during their remaining years.

The children of school age at the time of moving to Cherokee County, and subsequently the others as they reached school age, enrolled in the Summerfield School, and in due course, after finishing school at Summerfield, each child entered the adult world:

(1) Morris married Irene Wells and they have three children, Barbara, Glenda and Clifton. Morris was inducted into the military service on February 11, 1943, served in the 871st Chemical Company Air Operation in England and was discharged on December 10, 1945. He now lives in Brazoria County, Texas;

(2) Marvin married Maxine Parsons and they have one son, Ronzie. Marvin was inducted into the military service January 2, 1945, was discharged on September 8, 1945. They reside in Tyler, Texas;

(3) Annie Pearl married Leon Cowan. Leon Cowan was inducted into the military service on July 10, 1942 and was discharged December 8, 1945;

(4) Pauline married Scott Kelley and Scott Kelley died on February 24, 1963. She resides in Fort Worth, Texas;

(5) Paul married Ruth Cameron and they have three children, Carolyn, Christie and Danny. Paul was inducted into the military service on September 15, 1942 and served in the 411th Air Service Group and was discharged on December 21, 1945;

(6) Grady married Frances Sherrard and they have two children, Herman and Vickie. Grady was inducted into the military service on September 4, 1944, served in the 108th Infantry in the Asiatic Pacific Theater Campaign. They now reside in Smith County;

(7) Adell married Roland Richardson from Tennessee. They have seven children, Sharon, Reba, Adrian, Arlene, David, Roger, and Terry. They live in Venus, Johnson County, Texas.

*Compiled by Annie Pearl Cowan*

## WILLIAM ANDREW CLARK FAMILY

William "Will" Andrew Clark was born March 12, 1880, at Tatum, Panola County, Texas. He was believed to be the son of James Clark of the Tatum area whose wife was buried at Tatum. James may have been buried at New Summerfield. William's brothers and sisters were Marion Edward, Ava Clark Maxwell, Noble "Nobe," and Bertha Lee Dollar. Bertha was born November 11, 1892, and died October 10, 1981. All of this family remained in the Tatum-Henderson area except William A., who migrated to the New Summerfield area.

On November 6, 1898, William was married to Lela Alice Loughmiller. She was the daughter of William L. Loughmiller and Elizabeth Patterson Loughmiller. Elizabeth was a daughter of E. K. B. (Berry) Patterson and Ann Elizabeth Stell Patterson. Lela had a brother, Lester, and a sister Lydia. Lester married (1) Beulah Tipton and they had one son, Fred; (2) Ida Work and their children were Leroy and Leonard.

William and Lela made their home on the old Ponta-Summerfield road on what was often known as "Clark Hill." They lived at that same homesite many years, and reared their children there.

Born to this couple were twelve children. Arnold was born in 1900 and died 1908.

Willie, born September 28, 1901, married Clyde Richardson. They lived at New Summerfield where he ran a garage. They moved to Shamrock, Texas, and later lived in Arkansas for a few years,

raising chickens. Clyde's eyes failed him so they moved back to Shamrock where they lived until his death in August 1984. Willie is still living there. They had no children.

Walter Ruby was born February 23, 1903 and married Carrie Linnie Dowling.

Earl was born September 28, 1905 and died March 10, 1906.

Elvin was born about 1907 and died about 1923.

Hubert was born April 8, 1909 and died October 9, 1910.

Onie was born June 26, 1910, and married Vester Richardson, a brother of Clyde. They had two daughters, Lucille and Gwendolyn. Vester had one daughter, Lillian, by a former marriage, who made her home with them.

Cecil Lawrence was born March 12, 1913, and he married Lottie Mae O'Quinn. Their children are Cecil Lawrence, Jr. and Patricia. Cecil was in the Navy in World War II and then joined the Air Force. He is retired now.

Woodrow Wilson was born in 1919 and married Era Faye Ferrell. He died in 1944. They had no children.

Bernice was born in 1920 and married Genola Monk. They had two children, Kenneth Wayne and Toni Lynn.

Lydia Louise was born May 11, 1923 and married Charles Edward Yarbrough. Their children are Jo Carol, Charles Edward, Jr., Sherry, and Dennis.

Sheila Mac Darrell "Maxie" was born in 1917. She married (1) Raymond Crossland. They had three children, Tommy Ray, Ted Allen, and Wanda Jean; (2) Quinton Grasty and they had one daughter, Winona. Maxie died about 1950.

Walter is the only one who remained in New Summerfield. He married Carrie Linnie Dowling. Their children were Mary Helen, born December 23, 1924 and married Oscar Quinton Searcy. Their children are Jimmie Quinton, Penny Sue, John Mark, and Jason Riley. Ruby Pearl was born April 11, 1928, and married Delores McCurdy. They have one daughter, Teressa. Edna Inez Clark was born December 6, 1930. She married Leo Riley Ritchey. Leo is now retired after a career in the Air Force, serving for 22 years. They had one daughter, Edna Gail, who married Don Cox, a New Summerfield boy. Gail and Don's children were Donicia and Don, Jr. Walter Ruby Clark, Jr. (W. R.) was born November 8, 1932 and married Evelyn Inez Sanders. Their children are Douglas Len, Debra Darlene, and Drew Quinton.

Some of this family still reside in New Summerfield.

*Facts by Edna Clark Richey*

## THE LETCHER W. CLIFTON FAMILY

Letcher Wiley Clifton was born December 6, 1908 in Gallatin, Texas and died June 9, 1978. He was born about 200 yards northwest of the log home that his great-grandfather, Greenberry Jenkins, built in 1844. Greenberry brought his family to Texas in 1840. He got a head-right grant to 640 acres of land and bought another 378 acres. Some of this land still belongs to the Jenkins family. Greenberry and his first wife, Elizabeth Medford, had ten children. After she died, he married Mary Rosanna Love Evans, an aunt of John Wesley Love whose family donated land for Love's Lookout Park. They had three children including Sidney Adolphus "Dolph."

Dolph married Mary Frances "Mollie" Bowling, daughter of Larkin Sanders and Mary Jane Hoover Bowling. Their children were born and raised in Greenberry's log house. Dolph's son, Lonnie, and wife Inez, raised their daughter there and still live in the house.

On October 6, 1907, Dolph's daughter, Della Ophelia, married Murph Clifton, son of Robert Earl and Martha Campbell Clifton. They raised five children, Letcher, Ruby, Jessie, Laveda, and Wanda.

After graduating from Gallatin High School, Letcher worked for a time as a farmer both at Gallatin and on the Texas Plains near Lubbock. He was drafted into the Army in 1941, but received a medical discharge after a short time. He then began doing carpentry work and was a member of the carpenters union for over 35 years—until his death.

In 1941 he met Earla Ellis, who was teaching school at Gallatin. She was boarding with another teacher, Mrs. Gretna Jones and her husband, Lee. Mrs. Jones was Letcher's first grade teacher and Lee was his good friend.

Letcher and Earla were married October 24, 1943. They lived in Orange and Dallas for a short time before moving back to Gallatin for a while. They bought thirty acres of land across the road from her parents, O. K. and Bonnie Ellis at New Summerfield. Letcher built their home, and they moved to New Summerfield in 1952.



Letcher helped establish the State Park Road Church of Christ in Tyler. He continued to be one of its leaders until his death.

Letcher was also a community minded person. When the men of the community decided to build the City Hall, he worked in his spare time helping. He served on the board of directors for the New Summerfield Water Corporation for a few years. He was appointed to and served several years on the equalization board for school taxes.

He enjoyed farming, caring for his small herd of cattle, and singing. He had a good bass voice and often traveled miles to sing with friends. Letcher studied voice in the Stamps-Baxter Music School under Harley Lester, and the Stamps-Baxter Music Company offered him a job traveling and singing. He turned it down because of the amount of time he would be away from his family. He sang in quartets on the radio in Rusk, Dallas, and Ft. Smith, Arkansas and directed singing for numerous funerals. He taught a few singing schools and was always ready to help a friend learn to read music and sing.

Earla finished New Summerfield High School and attended Lon Morris College. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education from Stephen F. Austin University. She taught school in Mixon, Tecula, Turney, Ponta, and Gallatin. In 1954 she was asked to teach at New Summerfield and taught there for two years before resigning to be home with her young children. She was again asked to teach at New Summerfield in 1958 and taught there until she retired in 1970.

Letcher and Earla had two daughters, Dorothy LaNelle and Linda Arlene. LaNelle married Larry Wilcox and has three children, Lucinda Kay, Craig Olin, and Jason Wade. LaNelle is a substitute teacher and part-time college student. Larry has worked fourteen years for Cotton Belt Railroad. He also cuts and sells firewood and raises a few cattle.

Linda married Wayne Bailey. She graduated from Angelina Junior College with a degree in computer science and is currently employed as a computer programmer. Wayne owns and operates Bailey's Welding and Auto Repair in New Summerfield. Linda has no children.

*Compiled by LaNelle Clifton Wilcox*

## **BENJAMIN LUTHER (LUKE) AND EVA COLVIN**

Luther Colvin was born May 25, 1882, near Wright City and Arp as were his brothers and sisters. They were W. Thomas, who married Daisy Attaway, John Wesley who married Mary Lila Gee, Mary Elizabeth "Bessie," who married Charlie Gray. The Grays once lived in New Summerfield. Two of the children, Martha Colvin and Robert Colvin, died in early childhood.

Luther's father was Elijah Coleman Colvin. Coleman's father was killed in the Civil War when Coleman was ten years old. Luther's mother was Mary Jane Henson. Her father was Tom Henson, who also died in the Civil War. Tom's brother, John "Jack" Henson, returned from the war, where he had been a water boy. To keep his promise to his brother that he would take care of his brother's wife and baby daughter, he married Mary Adeline Wilson Henson although he was only fifteen years old.

Coleman was married second to Sallie Ann Stinecipher in November 1915. They had one child, Ollie Mae, who married Earl Alvin Herring. They live in New Summerfield.

Luther married Eva Mae Womack from the Union Grove community near Troup, Texas. She was the youngest daughter of Thomas Jehu and Rachael Stanley Womack. She and her sister, Rosa Womack Thompson, were the only children born in Texas. The other children were born at Woodbury, Cannon County, Tennessee.

The Colvins lived in several places in the surrounding area, including a farm which is now at the foot of the dam at Lake Jacksonville, before they moved to New Summerfield in 1924.

Luther and Eva had no children; however, they reared Velma Womack, Eva's niece. Her parents were Julius Andrew and Ada Nunn Stephenson Womack. Ada died when Velma and her twin Elmer were three weeks old. The Colvins took Velma, and Eva's parents took Elmer when they were sixty-five years old. Elmer made a career of the army. He was in World War II and the Korean War. He lived at Killeen, Texas.

Velma married Elmer Huey Durrett. They had two children, Betty Jo and James Thurman "Sonny." Betty Jo married Eldred Lee Bolton. Their children were Eldred Lee "Rocky," Sarita Jo, and Russell Dewayne. Rocky married Melena Jones and they have a daughter, Kyla Lynn. James married Jean McDougal, and their children are Kellie Renee, who married Ben Hold, Stephen Paul, who married Tammy Burt, and Clinton Wade. After Velma's children were grown, she married Rupert Murphy.

Luther bought the Thomas and Rachael Womack place from the Womack family. Velma and



her daughter and family now live on the place as well as Luther's sister, Ollie Mae Herring. Luther had various jobs along with his farming. The hardest was helping build the early highways from Jacksonville to Summerfield and Troup to Summerfield. Much of this was done by hand because they did not have labor saving equipment then.

The happiest time for him and the children was when he picked the last of the pink tomatoes and carried them to Jacksonville to sell. He used the money to buy makings for ice cream. He invited all the nieces and nephews to help make the ice cream. The children took turns sitting on top of the freezer while the adults turned the crank. While this cream was being made, the other boys and girls played tag or some other active game.

The Colvins lived very much like their pioneer parents did; therefore, they always had time for others.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## THE EDMUND CORBIN FAMILY

Edmund Corbin was born in Robertson County, Tennessee on October 17, 1875. He was the eighth child of seventeen children born to Estill Wade Corbin (born August 2, 1844) and Maranda Hicks Dunn (born September 11, 1849). His grandfather was Bud Singleton Corbin (born 1807, died 1871), who served as justice of the peace in both Tennessee and Kentucky, his home being built on the boundary line between the two states. When a couple came to be married, if they were old enough, he married them in the living room in Tennessee. If they were not old enough, he carried them to the kitchen, which was in Kentucky, where they could get married at an earlier age.

On March 2, 1896, Edmund was married to Pauline Pepper, born May 14, 1876, daughter of Dave and Sabrina Pepper of Springfield, Tennessee.

Edmund was the only one of the Corbin children to leave the Robertson County, Tennessee area. He, along with his wife and three children, Herbert, Ray, and Bertha, migrated to Texas in 1902, stopping for two years in Cedar Hill near Dallas, Texas, and arriving in New Summerfield in 1904. He had been a successful farmer in Tennessee and came searching for good farm land, settling and maintaining a very good farm just north of New Summerfield, containing 200 acres.

A son, Clyde Daniel, was born after the family came to Texas, on March 10, 1910. He married Garnet Hammersmith and moved to California after completing his college education in 1939.

Vernon Ray Corbin (born January 31, 1899) married Ollie Cook (born May 10, 1898). They had five daughters: Mattie Frances and Frances Lauren, who died as infants; Annie Mae, Evelyn Eloise, and Billie Jean. They moved from this area to Milano, Texas, where he was section foreman for Missouri Pacific railroad.

On May 18, 1918, Bertha Pauline Corbin (born June 25, 1901) married Marvin Wallace (born September 28, 1896). They lived in the New Summerfield area all of their lives and reared their ten children: Clyde Ellis and Stella Pauline, who died at an early age; Annie Pearl Thames, who lives in Sinton, Texas; Doris Session, who lived in Ponta until her death in 1974; Eva Faye Session, who lives near New Summerfield; Mary Frances DeVaudrecourt, living in Kingsville, Texas; Ray Earl, who was killed in the army in 1951; Roy Merle, still living near New Summerfield; Doyle Glenn and Tony Neal, both living in Houston area.

Herbert Moore Corbin (born December 31, 1897) first married Recey Louise Murphy (August 30, 1900) on August 10, 1918. They had two children, Bertha Louise and Herbert Edmund. They were divorced and she moved to Lufkin with the children. He married Hattie Violet Moore (February 25, 1895) on December 28, 1925. They had two sons, Calvin and Joseph David.

Calvin Daniel (November 22, 1926) married Lorena Fay Dagley on December 23, 1961. They live in the Dallas area. He served in the Navy during World War II.

Joseph David (October 20, 1928) served in the Army in World War II as a Sgt. 1st Class in the South Pacific and Japan. On November 7, 1948, he married Vesta Ann Burton (October 7, 1930). They live in New Summerfield where they reared their four children. He served as mayor one time and is currently a city councilman and a deacon of the Church of Christ.

John David (December 22, 1949) married Linda Lewis. They have two sons, Michael Shane (December 31, 1970) and John David, Jr. (August 14, 1974). Then he married Billie Gail Pepkin and they had two sons, Joseph David (September 1, 1977) and James David (June 18, 1980). They live in Summerfield.

Patricia Ann (July 27, 1952) married Danny Garrett. They had one son, Scott Allen (August 24, 1974). Later she married Ronnie Sullins and lives in Longview.

In 1975 Robert Dale (February 23, 1957) was valedictorian of his graduating class. He married

Aletha Masters. They have two daughters, Jessica Leigh (November 2, 1981) and Laura Michelle (August 26, 1983). They live in Irving, Texas.

Karen Suzanne (December 9, 1960) married Rick Little. They now live in Summerfield with their two children, James Matthew (June 12, 1977) and Lana Ann (April 8, 1981).

Edmund Corbin died on March 26, 1939 and Pauline Corbin died May 19, 1947. Both are buried in McDonald Cemetery. Hattie Corbin died December 9, 1929, and Herbert Corbin died July 13, 1965. They are buried in Griffin Cemetery.

*Compiled by Ann Burton Corbin*

## WALTER BRITTON COWAN FAMILY

Walter B. Cowan, who was born March 20, 1896, was the son of John Wallace Cowan and wife, Mary E. "Mollie" Couch Cowan. He married Libbie Mayfield, who was the daughter of Andrew Jackson Mayfield and wife, Nora Mayfield, on December 18, 1916. They had four children: Louise married Ralph O'Day, and they had three children, Jacqueline "Jackie," Michael Lee, and Kathleen. Then she married Herbert L. Dixon and they have one child, Marilyn; Leon, who married Annie Pearl Chupp; Treva who married Jack Marks; and Walter Lelan, who married Dorothy, and they had two children, Donna Marie and Walter Bret.

John Wallace Cowan was born May 13, 1856, died on May 7, 1899, and was buried in the Couch Cemetery near Emmaus. Mary E. "Mollie" Couch Cowan, who was born March 1, 1869, was the daughter of Henry A. and Ida Holden Couch, died on December 31, 1955, and was buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Walter B. Cowan with his family, lived in Cherokee County all of their lives, except for one year, about 1926 when they lived in Greenville, Texas. Walter B. Cowan died on July 15, 1974, and Libbie Cowan died on October 21, 1978. Louise lives in Arizona, Treva in Houston, Lelan in Pearland, and Leon is a resident of New Summerfield. Leon was in the military service during World War II and Lelan was in the military service during the Korean conflict.

*Compiled by Annie Pearl Cowan*

## THE GILBERT OWEN COX FAMILY

In the spring of 1940 when Gilbert Cox decided it was time to put down firm roots for his growing family, he returned to the part of East Texas most familiar to him — not far from where he had worked in the 1930's during the great East Texas oil boom. In finding a place to build a home, one of his top priorities was settling in an area with good schools for his children. Summerfield offered the reputation of having an excellent rural school system under the superintendency of H. C. Schochler.

Gladys (Darby) Underwood sold him five acres of land two miles north on the Troup highway in the vicinity of a crossroads known long ago as the Pleasant Plains area. He and his father, Jasper Newton Cox, roomed and boarded with the Summerfield postmaster, Hollis Edwards, and husband, Roscoe, while working on the weekends to build a small frame home. When it was finished, he moved his family from Corpus Christi where he had previously been working for the Magnolia Oil Company in the oil fields of South Texas.

His wife and children were happy to settle in their first new home and especially loved the many wonderful new neighbors who were so helpful to them. Living across the highway were Mack and Jewel Tennison, and nearby were their neighbors, Tom and Ruth Tennison, Newman and Eva Mae Darby, Boyd and Ima Tennison, "Miss Effie" and "Miss Fannie" Gill Haws, and the families of Floyd Richardson, Jimmy Thames, Frank Tennison, Grady Underwood, and Marvin and Bertha Wallace.

In 1941 Gilbert Cox went to work for the Missouri Pacific Railroad as a fireman, retiring in 1974 as an engineer.

Gilbert Owen Cox was born in Ohio County, Kentucky, the son of Jasper Newton and Eva Caroline (Smith) Cox on October 10, 1909. He married Frances "Frankie" Lavada Altman in Sayre, Oklahoma, January 19, 1930. She was the daughter of Bertie Bertram and Regina Palestine



(Stockton) Altman. Frances was born in Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, October 20, 1912. Gilbert and Frances Cox had four children:

(1) Janice Geraldine married Cyril Conrad Brown, son of Mart and Trudy (Boatman) Brown. Janice and Conrad of Arp, Texas, have three daughters: Jennifer Elaine of Dallas; Teresa Lynn married Michael Norman Bice of Vail, Colorado. They have two sons, Brennan Jasper and Dillon Owen; and Amy Elizabeth, age 15.

(2) Gilbert Owen Cox, Jr., never married.

(3) Douglas Eugene married Jane Cox, daughter of Claude and Zora Belle (Gray) Cox. They live in Sugarland, Texas, and have five children: Douglas Eugene, Jr. married Janet Dumay, one daughter, Tiffany Lynn; Pamela Jane married James Hester, two daughters, Jamie Michelle and Ashley Nicole; Carolyn Sue married Jay Hancock; Rebecca Diane and David Neal.

(4) Eva Regina married Walter Ray Turner, son of Charles and Berniece (Graham) Turner. They had twin daughters, Terry Lynne and Linda Gail, who died in infancy, and one son, Walter Ray Turner, II, stationed in the Navy in Sinop, Turkey. Eva Regina is now married to Thornton Carswell, and they live in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Gilbert Owen Cox, Sr. died August 19, 1984, and is buried at McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield, in the family plot near the graves of his wife's parents. His mother, Eva Caroline Cox, age 95, continues to live across the highway in her own home. His father, Jasper Newton Cox, died September 21, 1974, and is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery at Tyler.

*Compiled by Janice Cox Brown*

## THE ISAAC K. DALBY FAMILY

Isaac Knight Dalby was named after his grandfather, Knight Dalby, who died in Bedford County, Tennessee, on his way to Texas with his family. Isaac Knight, a son of Thomas D. Dalby and his wife, Martha Hickerson, was born about 1841, in Tennessee. He was reared in the New Summerfield community and married a neighbor girl, Malinda Lowe, on March 1, 1860. They reared their children in the New Summerfield area, most of whom also married neighbors.

Their known children are: Martha J. born February 25, 1861, died May 28, 1862; Lilly O. married Joe C. Dotson; Emma Elizabeth married Andrew Caswell Payne; Elmore Payton married Rose Ellen Jones, January 9, 1890. This record is from the Bible records of Lilly O. Dalby Dotson and from a newspaper report of Rose Ellen's death in Mena, Arkansas, on May 1, 1907. This was reported in the Jacksonville Banner dated July 19, 1907. County marriage records record her name as Laura R. which seems to be a recording error.

I. E. M. died at the age of two years; Ida M. (June 12, 1874 - January 12, 1910) made her home with Andrew C. and Emma Dalby Payne; Azille L. was born October 25, 1876, and died August 6, 1885, at the age of nine years; Kitty Belle married Henry W. Dotson; Isaac Knight Dalby died before his children were all grown, and his brother, John Ward Dalby, was made guardian of his minor children.

Several descendants of the Dalby and Payne family still reside in New Summerfield. The time and place of Isaac Knight and Malinda Low Dalby's deaths are not available for this report.

*Compiled by Vernon Duty Dalby  
from public records and entries in the  
Lilly O. Dalby and the Andrew C. Payne family Bibles*

## THOMAS D. DALBY AND FAMILY

Knight Dalby and his wife, Nancy Ann, lived in Granville County, North Carolina, in the early 1800's. All their children were born there. They later began a westward move and stopped for a while in Bedford County, Tennessee, where Knight died. Nancy and her family came to Bowie County, Texas, where they settled in 1839. Nancy obtained a grant for a section of land (640 acres) there, and most of her children remained in that area. In later years a small health resort named "Dalby Springs" was developed there and became widely known for its healing "red" water.



One son of this family, Thomas D., chose to move on South with his family, and they settled in the southern area of the present New Summerfield community. This area known as "Friends" had a social neighborhood with a school, church, and at least one private cemetery. It was later known as the "Dalby School" area. The family was living there before 1850 when Thomas D. was listed on the Cherokee County tax assessment rolls.

Thomas D. Dalby and Martha Hickerson were married in 1836, in Shelby County, Tennessee, where she was born in 1818. He was born in North Carolina in 1812. They brought with them to Texas two sons, Isaac Knight, born about 1837, and John Ward, born about 1838. Another son, S. T. W. (Seth), born about 1842, and a daughter, Martha Julia, born about 1849, were born in Texas.

Isaac Knight Dalby married Malinda Lowe in Cherokee County, Texas, in 1880. She was a daughter of C. Finley Lowe and wife, Selia. They lived all their married life in the New Summerfield-Dalby School area.

John Ward Dalby was married in 1867 to Sophia Alice McDonald (born in Texas in 1849). Sophia Alice was a daughter of Mrs. Catherine McDonald, who married John McCaskill in 1850, and Sophia was reared in that home in Cherokee County, Texas. John Dalby and Sophia made their home in the New Summerfield area.

Seth T. W. was a soldier in the Confederate Army and died in service at Ringgold, Georgia, in July 1862.

Martha Julia Dalby married Cally Amos Summers. They lived in the Dalby School area a few years before moving to Palo Pinto, Texas, about 1873. Martha Julia died and is buried there. Cally Amos was back in New Summerfield with his children in the 1890's.

Thomas D. Dalby was deceased before 1873, when his heirs deeded 200 acres of land in the Noblett Survey between Ponta and New Summerfield to his son, John W. Those signing the deed were his widow, Martha; I. K. (Isaac Knight) and wife, Malinda; C. A. (Cally Amos) Summers and wife, Martha J. (Julia). After this land was sold, Martha Dalby made her home with John W. and his family. She was visiting the C. A. Summers family in Palo Pinto when she became ill and died about 1886, and she is buried there.

Thomas D. Dalby is buried in the Lowe's Chapel Cemetery, Cherokee County, Texas.

*Compiled by Vernon Duty Dalby*

## **BEN RAY DARBY FAMILY**

Ben Ray (born December 5, 1885, died July 15, 1963) married Nettie E. Jeffcoats on November 27, 1907. This wedding ceremony was performed by Bro. W. J. Loftis, the pastor of the Summerfield Methodist Church, in a buggy on a cold rainy night. They started their married life on a rented farm now known as the "Payne Farm," but later bought the Johnson place, a farm joining Julius Darby's place to the North.

In 1910 a girl was stillborn. On March 23, 1912, another daughter, Mavis Leona, was born, followed by the birth of Macie Wyona, on October 31, 1913.

By this time the family was struggling to make a living and pay for the farm. Arthur Dickson loaned Ben R. \$50.00 to buy the necessities and finance a crop. They were very thrifty and worked hard. Soon conditions improved, and Frank Fullerton was contracted to build a house for the family. In 1920 electricity was installed, being furnished by a Delco plant. The lights, fan and iron were added conveniences.

B. R., Jr., (born August 1, 1920) and Gerald Marlin (born February 7, 1926) were added joys to the family. Ben R. searched ways to make a living and later began growing and shipping vegetable plants. This was the beginning of the plant growing business in Summerfield.

Mavis and Macie attended Dalby School before it consolidated with Summerfield in 1924, and both graduated from Jacksonville College. Mavis taught school at Concord two years before marrying Zack Taylor on November 11, 1933. Their children are Shelby, Donna, Joe, and Sandra. In 1952 they moved to Troup where the children all graduated from high school. The girls graduated from T. W. University and Joe from A&M University. Mavis received her B. S. Degree from SFA in 1963 and taught school fourteen years before retiring in 1977.

Macie married Henry Campbell and their children are Billie Sue, Betty Lou, Carolyn, and James, all of whom graduated from John Tyler High School and attended Tyler Junior College. Betty Lou graduated from SFA and has taught in the elementary grades several years. Henry was killed in a construction accident June 21, 1969.

B. R., Jr. married Anna Lou Anderson of Royce City on August 8, 1942. They had two sons, Ken (deceased) and Don. After returning from service during World War II, B. R., Jr. has lived on



the homeplace and carried on the plant and flower business. Don, with his wife, Patricia "Pat" and two daughters, Jennifer and Kelly, also reside in New Summerfield.

Gerald married Jeane Cummins September 1951, and their children are Dan, Dianna, Bruce, and Betsy. Gerald served in World War II; and after he returned home, he returned to A&M University and graduated in the field of agriculture. He now lives in Fairfax, Virginia, and is Chief Agronomist in Washington, D.C.

Ben R. Darby loved the "old pore farm" where he spent his life. He practiced soil and water conservation and was honored as the "one Thousandth Tree Farmer of Texas." He served many years on the school board as well as precinct chairman.

*Compiled by Mavis Darby Taylor and  
Marcie Darby Campbell*

## **JOHN L. DARBY FAMILY**

John L. Darby (born March 14, 1806, died December 14, 1883) married Julianne McDonald (born December 1, 1819, died June 29, 1916) on April 25, 1844. This family came to Texas by 1867, and possibly earlier, because of the ravaged condition of the country. The children were all born in Georgia and all came to Texas, except Major John Darby; however, he made several visits.

The following children were born to this couple:

Virgil Miller, who was born April 5, 1845, lived in the Troup area. There were several children, including Tommy, who married Trudie Tipton (daughter of Hugh Tipton). At one time the family lived at Summerfield and Dalby where the children attended school. Virgil Miller died March 31, 1914; Major John, born May 31, 1846, lost an arm while serving in the Civil War. He died June 3, 1914; Thomas M., who was born June 29, 1848, died October 25, 1913; Julius Gage who was born August 10, 1850, died January 5, 1929; Martha Jane (Stockton) was born January 14, 1851, and died January 14, 1879; She lived in the Tecula area; James William, who was born July 31, 1859, died May 15, 1937. He married Helen Cordia Summers (born November 12, 1874, died December 21, 1892). They lived their entire lives at New Summerfield. Their children were Nina Nevla (died November 8, 1918), Joe Thomas (died July 27, 1953), and Thelma (McCown). Julianne (Granny) made her home with James William (Bill) and wife, Helen Cordia, after John L. died.

*Compiled by Mavis Taylor and Marcie Campbell*

## **JULIUS GAGE DARBY FAMILY**

Julius Gage Darby, born in Macon, Georgia, August 10, 1850, was the son of John L. and Julianne McDonald Darby (born December 1, 1819, died June 29, 1916), married Josephine Gill (born May 18, 1854, died June 19, 1922). They lived on a farm about 2½ miles south of Summerfield which they later bought. To this union ten children were born.

Ella Mae (born October 10, 1870, died February 21, 1961) married Thomas Jefferson Heath, and their children were Kittie Reba, Ruby T., Thomas Lee, Charlie Ray, Freddie Roy "Dutch," and Coy Weaver.

Lucy Neva (born April 25, 1872, died March 21, 1891); Mollie Isabelle (born August 29, 1874, died April 12, 1891); Julius Lee (born August 29, 1876, died April 17, 1891). In the year 1891, typhoid fever struck the Darby family and in three weeks Lucy, Mollie and Lee were victims. They were buried in McDonald Cemetery.

George Henry (born October 31, 1877, died July 12, 1930) married Cora Etta Ramey (born January 15, 1895, died July 10, 1920). Soon a lovely baby girl (Blanche) was born, but she died before her second birthday. Twin girls were born July 9, 1920. The mother (Cora Etta) and one baby died. George Henry with his baby daughter, Cora Helen, moved close to his sister, Ella Mae and family, where the family cared for the baby daughter.

Charlie (born July 7, 1879, died December 26, 1970) married Minnie Mayfield (born December 20, 1886, died June 14, 1971). Their children were Herman, Aubrey, Bernice, Vermie, and Hubert. D. Troit (born October 28, 1881, died August 11, 1955) married Alice Greenwood. To this union,

the following children were born: Agnes, a baby stillborn, Melba, Gordon, and Marshall. D. Troit, with his family, moved to Jordanton in the early 1920's.

Fannie Olivia (born March 14, 1884, died June 26, 1959) married Owen McNair.

Ben Ray (born December 5, 1885, died July 15, 1963) married Nettie E. Jeffcoats (born February 12, 1890. To this union the following children were born: a daughter stillborn in 1910; Mavis Leona, born March 23, 1912, who married Zack Taylor; Macie Wyona, born October 31, 1913, married Henry T. Campbell; B. R., Jr., born August 1, 1920, married Anna Lou Anderson; and Gerald Marlin, born February 7, 1926, married Jeane Cummins.

Archie Guy (born September 9, 1888, died November 9, 1972) married Elizabeth (Ninnie) Payne (born March 20, 1887, died July 4, 1966). Their children were Armen, Gladys, Newman, Chester, and Erma Lee.

Times were hard and life was difficult, but neighbors were ever ready to help in time of need, illness, and sorrow.

Even a family with this number of children always had room for someone who needed a home. In 1867 Charles A. Gordon returned to East Texas after serving in the Civil War and married Lucy Gill (sister of Josephine Darby). George Mills Gordon was born to them (August 21, 1868, died May 29, 1895), and Lucy Gill Gordon died when George Mills was only about six years old. At the time of his mother's death, they were living in the home of Julius and Josephine Darby because his father, Charles A. Gordon, had gone out west. Later Charles A. Gordon came and got George Mills Gordon to go live with him.

Some of the ways of making a living were quite different at this time. Since travel was by wagon or horseback, most necessities were produced at home; however, the "chicken peddler" had a very distinct place in the community. Julius Darby engaged in this means of helping to supply his neighbors with needed items in the home, which also added to the family's meager income. He established a route in the community for certain days to visit homes where the needed supplies were exchanged for chickens — hence the name "chicken peddler." After he finished his route, an overnight trip to Tyler would be made to sell the chickens and buy needed supplies. Of course, this trip was made by wagon which they parked in the "wagon yard." They replenished supplies and spent another day making the trip home. He also had a small store at home where these supplies were sold.

*Compiled by Mavis Darby Taylor,  
Marcie Darby Campbell and Mabel Heath*

## THE J. W. DAVIS FAMILY

William Andrew Davis was born on June 14, 1843 and died on November 8, 1910. He was buried in the Union Grove Cemetery in Smith County. His wife was Sally Stanley, daughter of Nathan L. and Mary Ellis Stanley and granddaughter of Edmund Ellis. She died June 27, 1927 at the age of 83 and was buried next to her husband in the Union Grove Cemetery. They moved from Cannon County, Tennessee to Union Grove, Texas, where they bought a farm in 1890. On the second day of their journey to Texas, one of the oxen used to pull the wagon died. Not being able to obtain another ox, they had to use one of the saddle horses.

To this couple were born five girls: Mary Jane, Altha, Lula, Annie, and Rachael. They also had three boys: Francis Marion, John William, and Marvin. John was born in Cannon County, Tennessee on January 28, 1871. He came to Lone Star, Cherokee County, Texas, on business and he met Susan Elnora Gray, daughter of Robert N. Gray and Ruthy McKinney Gray.

The Gray family had moved to Lone Star, from De Kalb, Kemper County, Mississippi. They left Mississippi in December of 1868 in an ox drawn wagon. To this couple were born four girls: Dilliah, Paralee, Susan, and Inez. They also had six boys: Ruben, John, Alexander, Will, Charlie, and Ben. All were born in Cherokee County except the two older boys. Susan was born on February 22, 1876, in Lone Star, Texas.

John and Susan fell in love and were married at her parents' home on October 20, 1895 by Rev. T. J. Womack. At first they share-cropped, and in 1901 they bought a hundred-acre farm one mile south of New Summerfield, Texas. A few years later they purchased the adjoining farm. One of the things John Davis enjoyed most in life was singing and working in the church. He died on February 10, 1928, and Susan died on March 23, 1967. They were buried in McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield.

John and Susan's children were: Nathaniel Andrews, born July 31, 1896; John Richard, born January 26, 1898; Lewis Washington, born May 27, 1902; Mary Leora, born January 27, 1905;



Silas Lawrence, born April 19, 1909; Jewel Devida, born October 12, 1912, and Ima Louise, born December 16, 1918.

Nathanial Davis married Jenny May West in 1916. To them were born Roy Arthur, Dorothy May, John Boyd, and Robert James. They had seven grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. Nathanial died April 13, 1968, May died March 3, 1971, and Roy died August 25, 1971. They all are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

John Richard Davis married Eura Lee King in 1919. They had one daughter, Gwendolyn Fay, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Eura died May 28, 1983, and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Lewis Davis married Grace Henderson in 1929. Their children are Charles Lewis, Gerald Morris, Shirley Anne, and Linda Beth. They have eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mary Leora married Irville Andrews in 1925 and had one son, Irville Wayne. They had four grandchildren, one step-granddaughter and seven great-grandchildren. After Irville died in 1956, Leora married Adreine Malone.

Silas married Beatrice Brown in 1928. They had two boys, Harold Gene and Michael Dean. They had four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Jewel married Leon Hendrix in 1939 and Clifton Benoit in 1951. Both men are dead. There were no children.

Ima Louise married Walter Lee "Pat" Carney in 1937. They had two sons, David Bruce and Donald Lee, and one daughter, Betty Louise. They had nine grandchildren, four step-grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Pat died in 1982 and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Ima Davis Carney*

### THREE GENERATIONS OF DICKSONS

Capt. William K. Dickson, Co. A, Roddey's Brigade, Forrest's Division of the Confederate Army returned to Tishomingo County, Mississippi, at the end of the War Between the States to find his farm home burned and his wife and children living in a lean-to. Union soldiers had come to the Dickson farm searching for Capt. Dickson when his brigade was in the area; and when they failed to find him, followed Gen. Sherman's order to lay waste with fire and sword to the land of Gen. Forrest and his men. The Dickson family was given an hour to save what they could; the Union soldiers then burned the house to the ground.

William Dickson, his wife and six children left Mississippi in mid-December, 1869, and arrived in Cherokee County, Texas, in January, 1870, settling near the Lone Star community southeast of New Summerfield. Five more children were born in Texas. The family farmed and built a brick kiln for their own use and as a business.

William K. Dickson (born 1837 in Tennessee, son of Hugh and Nancy Dickson) married Harriet F. Phelps (born 1837 in Tennessee, daughter of Albert M. and Epilinda S. Phelps) in Tishomingo County, Mississippi, on March 18, 1857. They had eleven children.

Hugh McNeel Dickson, born 1858 in Mississippi, died 1938 in Texas, married Ella Perkins; James Henry Dickson, born 1861 in Mississippi, died 1943 in Texas, married Molly Hogan, lived in Troup; Ella Dickson, born 1863 in Mississippi, died 1957 in Texas, married G. W. Sowell, lived in New Summerfield; Minnie Dickson, born 1865 in Mississippi, died 1933 in Texas, married Medwin McFall, lived in Eastland County, Texas; Edwin Dickson, born 1867 in Mississippi, died 1870 in Texas; Lula Dickson, born 1869 in Mississippi, died 1902 in Texas married John Sowell, lived in Cherokee County, Texas; Alfred Forrest Dickson, born 1872 in Texas, died 1948 in Texas, married Nezzie Cowan, lived in Greenville, Texas; Charles Dickson, born 1874 in Texas, died 1948 in Texas, married Nina Hogan, lived in Troup, Texas; Arthur Dickson, born 1876 in Texas, died 1954 in Texas, married Overa "Vera" Dotson, lived in New Summerfield; Walter Dickson, born 1878 in Texas, died 1910 in Texas, married Ollie Bond, lived in Texas and Oklahoma; Jesse Lee Dickson, born 1881 in Texas, died 1952 in Texas, married Tola Summers, lived in Jacksonville.

William K. Dickson died in 1907; Harriet Phelps Dickson died in 1918. Both are buried in Myrtle Springs Cemetery near Lone Star.

The sixth son of William K. and Harriet Dickson, Arthur Dickson graduated from the Lone Star Institute and taught the 1900 term at Union Chapel school (now New Summerfield). In 1903, he married Overa "Vera" Dotson (born 1884, Cherokee County, Texas, daughter of J. C. Dotson and Lilly O. Dalby). They built their home, a general mercantile company, and a blacksmith shop in New Summerfield across the Rusk highway from the school.

During the depression, Arthur Dickson lost his mercantile business. He refused to declare bankruptcy; instead, he closed the business and paid his debts while supporting his family by blacksmithing.

Arthur and Overa "Vera" Dotson Dickson had three children: Coy Dickson, born 1904, Cherokee County, died 1983, married Esther Richey, born 1904, Cherokee County, died 1981; Lois Dickson, born 1905, Cherokee County, died 1926; Curtis Dickson, born 1913, Cherokee County, died 1967, married Geneva Davis. Arthur and Overa Dotson Dickson both died in 1954 and are buried in McDonald Cemetery in New Summerfield.

Coy Dickson and his wife, Esther Richey (born September 12, 1904, Cherokee County, daughter of Neal Richey and Edith Cook) also built their home across the Rusk highway from the New Summerfield school where they both worked for many years. Coy served as constable for the New Summerfield precinct and was known for his talents and his willingness to use those talents to help his neighbors. Coy and Esther Dickson had one son, Kenneth P. Dickson, who now lives in Littleton, Colorado.

Curtis Dickson was a well-known sports figure in East Texas, first playing basketball for New Summerfield, then attending Lon Morris Junior College and Sam Houston State Teachers College on basketball scholarships. He continued his participation in sports after graduating from college by officiating for many years at basketball and football games throughout East Texas. He lived for several years in Nacogdoches and was living in Dallas at the time of his death. Curtis Dickson married Geneva Davis (born 1915, Cherokee County, Texas, daughter of John Franklin Davis and Myrtie Branham); they had one child, Charles L. Dickson.

*Compiled by Nell F. Dickson*

## THE WILLIAM DONAHO FAMILY

This family was in the Ponta-Dalby-New Summerfield area during its very earliest development. William was born about 1800 and his wife, Jane, was born about 1798, both in South Carolina. They migrated to Mississippi where some of their children were born. They must have started to Texas soon after their son Hiram was born in 1832, as a daughter, Keziah, was born in Texas in 1834.

Isaac E. Donaho, believed to be their son, was listed on the very first Cherokee County tax assessment roll in 1846 as a resident. Cherokee County was not formed until 1846. In 1847 William Donaho was on the assessed tax roll and by 1848-50 both William and Isaac were on the tax rolls.

The 1850 census shows William Donaho and his family living in the Dalby area. Isaac Donaho and his family were living nearby. Isaac had just married Elizabeth Edwards on June 27, 1849, and was living on a place adjoining her parents, James and Elizabeth Edwards. Isaac had a four-year-old son, William, by a former marriage living with him. Isaac was married again to Mary Hardgraves on January 13, 1859.

By 1860 four young Donaho children were in the home of Elizabeth Edwards, their grandmother. They were Elizabeth J., Nancy A., Amanda, and Lucinda. No other records are available on this family.

William and Jane had other children living in their home in 1850. They were: Lewis, born about 1830 in Mississippi; Hiram, born about 1832 in Mississippi; Keziah, born about 1834 in Texas and married to William Evetts about 1850; Francis A., born about 1837 in Texas; Daniel W., born about 1840 in Texas.

Little is known of these children except Hiram, who was married on April 3, 1851 to Henrietta Lowe, a daughter of Charles Finley and Selia Lowe, old pioneer settlers living in the Dalby community. One H. Donaho was granted a patent on a tract of land near Mud Creek on February 7, 1852. Mrs. Hattie Joplin Roach, in her book, *The Hills of Cherokee*, states that "the town of Ponta had its beginning in 1901 in the would-be village of Donaho, so named because of its location on the Donaho Survey." She also said Robert Montgomery, a well known Ponta citizen, moved his business from Donaho to Ponta.

Hiram, a carpenter, and his two children, Mary J., born 1854, and William Finley, born about 1856, were living in the home of his wife's parents, C. Finley and Selia Lowe, in 1860. These children continued to live with the Lowes until they were grown.

On February 1, 1877, Mary J. (some records show Nancy J.) married T. M. "Tom" Darby. Mary J. and Nancy A. Donaho were cousins. The Darbys resided in the New Summerfield area for a while. Their known children were Minnie, Julia, and Martha.

William Finley and Mary J. must have lost their parents at a very young age, and they were reared as orphans by their grandparents. Living near them was the widow, Catherine Ellis, with

her children. Her husband, John Wesley Ellis, had died in 1864, leaving her with five small children.

On February 2, 1873, William Finley Donaho married Hannah Leslie Ellis, the oldest living child of John Wesley and Catherine Ellis. They made their home in the New Summerfield area where three children were born: Orin, born December 1, 1873; Octavia Catherine, born November 12, 1875; and Janie Mae, born May 15, 1878.

William Finley and Hannah moved to Comanche, Texas, about 1879, and other children were born there. They were Bertha Edith, Cody Lee, William Reuben, and Hiram Ellis. They continued to live there, and their children married and lived in that area.

William F. died December 20, 1924, and Hannah L. died July 9, 1940. Both died at Hassie, Texas, west of Comanche, and both are buried in the Pendergrass Cemetery in Comanche County. This was an outstanding family who all migrated out of New Summerfield.

Note: Civil War records show Hiram H. Donaho was listed on the roll of Company A — (100 men enrolled for Cherokee County) being the first sub-district of the 5th district of the State of Texas. H. H. Donaho died July 1861 while in Company C, 3rd Texas Cavalry as a private in Ross' Brigade.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## THE DE TROIT DOTSON FAMILY

De Troit (D. T.) "Troit" Dotson was born in Augusta, Houston County, Texas. He was the oldest son of Josiah and Amanda Dotson and came to Cherokee County with his parents about 1856. They settled in the area south of the present New Summerfield townsite near his grandfather, William; his uncle, Jeremiah; and his aunt, Mary E. Tipton. He married Eliza T. "Lyde" Kelsey Heath August 15, 1872, in Cherokee County, Texas. Eliza was born March 6, 1851, in Harrison County, Texas, but little is known of her family as she lived with another family in Cherokee County, Texas. They owned a large farm where they lived the rest of their lives and reared five children. Troit was very active in community activities serving as school trustee and as church leader. His granddaughter, Marjorie Brown Farley, and husband, Belton, still live at the old home place. They dismantled the old family house and rebuilt at the same site in 1959.

Troit died in 1936 at his home, and Eliza died in 1935 at their home. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery. The well-known Dotson quartet with their sisters provided the music for the burial services of Troit, at his request.

Their children were Henry W., who married Kitty Belle Dalby; Bevie, who married James "Jim" Brown; Claudia, who married Martin H. Brown; Berta "Bert", who married Onimus R. Perkins; and Annie Frances, who married Douglas Clifton Boss. These children all lived at New Summerfield and reared their children here except "Bert" and Onimus Perkins who moved to the neighboring community of Ponta.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## THE FAMILY OF HENRY WESTBROOK DOTSON

Henry W. Dotson, son of De Troit and Eliza Dotson, was born November 19, 1878, in the southwestern area of the Summerfield community. He was married August 7, 1898, to Kitty Belle Dalby, daughter of Isaac Knight and Malinda Dalby. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Dunn and witnessed by Walter Dickson and Madge Tipton.

Henry was a farmer, but he also did peanut thrashing for his neighbors, road construction work, and hauled logs as well as other heavy hauling, using heavy wagons and mule teams. About 1920 he hauled the wooden "rig" for Summerfield's first oil well from the railroad station at Gould, Texas.

Born to Henry and Belle were ten children: William Harmon married Bessie Waldrop, and their children were Amaryliss, Wyatt, and Calvin; Henry Travis married Novie Oaks, and their children were James and Evelyn; Roy Troit married Carmen Sales, and they had one son, Dennis; Claude Allen married Gladys Wilkerson, and they had three sons, Harley Frank "Butch," Johnny, and Randy; Emma Mildred married Plemon B. Davis, and their children were Wanda, Sue, Mary Nell, and Julie; Ernest Floyd was married, first, to Josie Sessions; they had a son, Dale, and a daughter, Gay; after Josie's death, he married Gloria Pears.



Clifford married Doris Carter, and they had one son, Ronald Cliff; Azile married Charles W. Harrison, and they had two daughters, Jan and Ginger; Ima Mae married Thomas "Bert" Smith, and they had one son, Keith; Cora Belle married A. C. Wiley, and they had three sons, A. C., Jr. "Zeek," Mike, and Cris, and one daughter, Susan (deceased); Henry and Belle also reared a nephew, Roscoe Dalby, who married Erma Booth; they had no children.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The well known Dotson Brothers Quartet, singers of Gospel Music, was composed of Roy, Allen, Floyd, and Clifford with sister, Mildred as pianist; but any one of the brothers or sisters could fill a place in a quartet, even to composing a Dotson Sisters Quartet. At the request of their grandfather, Troit Dotson, these children provided music for his funeral services.

Henry Dotson died May 1, 1950, and Kitty Belle died September 13, 1976. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield.

*Compiled by Mildred Dotson Davis*

## THE JOSIAH DOTSON FAMILY

Josiah Dotson was born April 4, 1831 in Bledsoe County, Tennessee, the oldest son of Wm. Dotson and Margaret "Peggy" Stewart. When he was 16, he moved with his parents to Georgia. In 1850 he married Sarah Amanda Leverton. Soon after their marriage, a large group of the Dotsons, as well as some friends, started for Texas. When they arrived, they settled first in Houston County where they farmed for a few years; but Josiah's family as well as his father's family and those families of some married brothers and sisters, came to the New Summerfield area by 1856. They all lived close together for a time. Some families returned to Houston County near Grapeland, but Josiah and Amanda reared their children here and remained here until their deaths. He died October 1, 1900, and she died January 1, 1903. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield.

They reared ten children most of whom married and lived in the area for several years. De Troit "Troit" married Eliza Kelsey Heath, and they remained here all their lives; Sarah E. "Sally" married J. J. Gill and they lived here all their lives; Elizabeth "Bett" married Charles C. "Charlie" Morris. They resided here for a number of years but moved to Palestine, Texas; Margaret Ann married John Garrison Ellis; Joe Caswell married Lilly Dalby. They each spent the rest of their lives here; Martha Minerva "Matt" married Hugh M. Tipton. After living here a number of years, they moved to Troup where they died; Laura Anderson Dotson married Isaac Washington Tipton. They remained here for a number of years, and he ran the first general store in Summerfield, as well as the first post office. They moved to Temple, Oklahoma, but later settled in Fort Worth, Texas.

Willie married Frank F. Fullerton, son of Dr. G. F. and Annie Darkins Fullerton. They moved to Oklahoma after residing here several years, but finally settled in Tyler, Texas; Mary Eliza married Wilmoth Garrett and resided here for a time; Luther was married, first to Della Casey, and second to Mrs. Thelma Tyler. He made this his home all his life. He died at the age of 101 and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Josiah was a farmer. He owned and operated a cotton gin along with other farm operations. He served in the Confederate Army, having enlisted in Rusk County, Texas, in 1862. He was promoted to the rank of 5th Sgt. He and his brother, Jeremiah, were in the battle of Manassas, Virginia. He was fortunate to be able to return to his family uninjured and to continue his farming. He was active in church, school, and community growth.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton  
and Jo Erma Houseright*

## LUTHER DOTSON FAMILY

Luther Dotson was born in Cherokee County, Texas, in 1874, in the community now known as New Summerfield. He lived in the area all his life. He married Della Ann Casey in 1898, and they made their home at Summerfield. She was born in 1884 and died in 1934. He was a farmer.

Both were members of the Church of Christ. They reared their children at Summerfield. They were Christine, Will, Mauvrine, Verna Dean, Weldon, and Grace.

After the death of Della Ann, Luther married Mrs. Thelma Stafford Tyler. They made their home at New Summerfield. There were no children born to this union.

Luther Dotson celebrated his 99th birthday on March 11, 1973, with a party at Town Hall Estates in Rusk where he resided with his wife, Thelma. Appropriately 75 friends and relatives visited him that evening. On the night of April 1, 1974, at the age of 100 years, he was admitted to Nan Travis Hospital in Jacksonville for an emergency appendectomy. He was in Intensive Care nine days but his nurse said, "It was a miraculous recovery." After two weeks his daughter, Grace Wallace, and his daughter-in-law, Lucille Dotson, took him from the hospital back to Town Hall Estates, a convalescent center in Rusk. He continued to reside there until his death in 1975 at the age of 101 years. His wife, Thelma, still resides there.

Mr. Dotson was the youngest and the last living of eleven children born to Josiah and Amanda Leverton Dotson. Both Luther Dotson and Della Ann Dotson are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## THE WILLIAM DOTSON FAMILY

William Dotson was born in North Carolina about 1802 and was married to Margaret "Peggy" Stewart in Jackson County, Alabama, in the early 1820's. Peggy was a daughter of William Monroe Stewart and Celia Hayes Stewart. William and Peggy Dotson lived in Tennessee, and the available records show nine children were born in Tennessee and one in Georgia. These children were Jane, Mary E., Josiah, Jeremiah, James, Milo, Harrison, Catherine (Kate), and John. Margaret Elizabeth was born in Georgia.

This family left Walker County, Georgia for Texas in 1850, and upon arrival in Texas, they settled in Houston County, where they farmed for a few years before coming to the New Summerfield area.

Jane married William Lively first and her second husband was Tom Lively. They remained in the Grapeland area. Mary E. married Albert Gallatin Tipton. It is believed that they married about 1845 before coming to Texas as their first children were born in Georgia but they were in this area before 1860. Josiah married Amanda Leverton in 1850 in Georgia and in a short time they started for Texas. They probably came with his parents and other relatives. When they came to the New Summerfield area about 1856, William and Peggy Dotson with their unmarried children, James, Harrison, John, and Margaret, settled in a neighborhood near the families of Josiah and Amanda Dotson, Jeremiah and Selia Dotson, Albert Gallatin and Mary E. Dotson Tipton, and Col. William "Bill" Lively and Sarah Catherine Dotson Lively.

John Dotson married Elizabeth Sullivan, and they made their home in Houston County, Texas. Margaret Elizabeth Dotson married Tom Sullivan, and they also lived in Houston County, Texas. Col. Wm. "Bill" Lively and Sarah Catherine "Kate" returned to Houston County from New Summerfield where they resided for years. James "Jim" Dotson married Molly McCollough and moved to West Texas. He died at Colorado City, Texas.

Milo Dotson married (1) Ella Jane Henson; (2) Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Greenway Gateway; (3) Sally Chipley; (4) Mrs. Amanda Owens. He lived in the Van Zandt County area and died near Canton, Texas. Harrison Dotson moved to Little Rock, Arkansas.

These pioneer Dotsons were mostly self-supporting farmers who operated their own gin, syrup mill, blacksmith shop, etc. James Dotson's son, Harrison, settled at New Summerfield with his wife, Callie. They reared five children: Milo, Finis, John, Dickie, and Winnie. Milo moved away. Finis married Novice Garrett. John was married to (1) Audie Greenwood and (2) Beatrice Pitts. Dickie married Thaxter L. "Fadie" Smith. Winnie married Jack Collins. They all resided here.

William Dotson died in Cherokee County before 1870, but the place of burial is unknown. Peggy died sometime later in Houston County, Texas, and is buried in the Livelyville Cemetery.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton  
and Jo Erma Houseright*



## ROSCOE EDWARDS FAMILY

Roscoe Conklin and Hollis Christine Edwards were married March 17, 1935, in Athens, Texas. They moved from Troup, Texas, to the Ellis division of New Summerfield in 1935. He operated a gasoline station at the same location for 26 years until his death December 8, 1961. At this same location, Mrs. Edwards operated a cafe for 14 years. She was appointed postmaster in January 1943 and served the same position for 35 years until her retirement December 31, 1977.

Roscoe, a native of Polk County, North Carolina, was born June 3, 1881. He came to Texas with his parents, Martin and Myra Elizabeth Thompson Edwards, and settled in Cherokee County near old Knoxville.

Hollis was born December 25, 1907, in Kemp, Kaufman County, Texas. Her parents were Harry Floyd and Bettie Pearl Ward Hooker, and her brother, Floyd Dante Hooker, came to Jacksonville in 1911. Mr. Hooker worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad. Later he was a peace officer where he died in line of duty on July 22, 1913.

Mrs. Hooker later married J. S. Riden. After his death, she resided with the Edwards in New Summerfield until her death November 28, 1975.

Mrs. Edwards' brother married Lois E. Mitchell of Dallas in January 1923. Their children were Rayburn (deceased), who married Jean Tipton of New Summerfield; Betty Clare, married Gene Cormack; and Bobbie, married Charlotte. The Hookers moved to Texarkana in 1942, where he died in 1973. His widow lives in Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards' children are Robert Floyd, who married Gloria Bundrick of New Salem; they have two sons, Davey Lee and Christopher Floyd, and one daughter, Hollie Christine, born August 10, 1984; Robert is employed by U. S. Postal System in Jacksonville as rural carrier on Route #5; Betty Ann married Jackie Charles Stewart of Rusk and they have three children, Charles Edward, Jacquelyn Annette "Sissy," and Todd; they resided in New Summerfield until 1983, when they moved to Nacogdoches where they own and operate a dairy farm.

Mrs. Edwards helped to secure an election to incorporate the town of New Summerfield and was on the committee to organize the same after the election June 1, 1963.

*Compiled by Hollis Hooker Edwards*

## THE JOHN GARRISON ELLIS FAMILY

John Garrison Ellis was born December 18, 1858 in Mississippi. He came to the New Summerfield area with his parents, John Wesley and Cathrine Ellis, about 1860. His father, a Methodist minister, died when John Garrison was five years old. His mother remained in the area and reared her five children. They grew up and married neighbors, but by 1900 they had all migrated out of the county except John Garrison. On December 18, 1881, he married Margaret Ann Dotson at Lone Star, Texas (Cherokee County). Margaret Ann, a daughter of the pioneers Josiah and Amanda Dotson, was born in Cherokee County on January 7, 1858.

This couple bought a farm on Coon Creek in the early 1900's and farmed for several years before moving closer to the New Summerfield townsite to be near a school. John Garrison was a successful farmer although he was slightly crippled by polio when he was a child. He was a community leader, active in church and school and served as a notary public and justice of the peace, and taught school at the Dalby School in 1899. Margaret "Peggy" and all their children were also outstanding community leaders.

Children of John Garrison and Margaret Ann are listed with their spouses: Olin Kyle, born September 9, 1882, married Bonnie Clara McNeil; Jessie Mozel, born November 11, 1884, married Mack Rushin Shaw; John Thurman, born July 16, 1886, married Eula Day; Carl Grady, born February 20, 1888, married (first) Maud Mona McMeans, (second) Mrs. Lutie W. McDonald; Herbert Caswell, born May 27, 1892, a W.W.I. U.S. Navy Veteran, married (first) Eunice Henley and (second) Madge Schiefforth; Leslie Mae, born February 26, 1894, married William Booth Jones; Kate Helen, born December 23, 1895, married Ammiel Godbey Acker; Barney Hobson, born September 3, 1898, married (first) Nannie Mae Pillow and (second) Gertrude Dunnivant; Olin Kyle "O. K." was a farmer, real estate developer, and a teacher of gospel music; Jessie was a housewife. Thurman "J. T." was a public school teacher, having taught at Dialville and Union Chapel (New Summerfield) before moving to Oklahoma. Carl was a farmer, rancher, and stockman. Herbert was a Vocational Agriculture teacher, having taught at Kline's Prairie (near Huntsville), Chester, and Carthage, Texas. Leslie taught school at Liberty with her sister, Kate. Thurman and Leslie attended



summer teacher normals in Denton, Texas. Kate taught school at Liberty under her sister, Leslie, as principal when she was just sixteen years old. She also taught a few years near Kerens, Texas, and in Jacksonville, Texas. She attended summer normals in Rusk and Dialville.

John Garrison Ellis died November 25, 1919, and Margaret Ann died March 2, 1923. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## THE JOHN WESLEY ELLIS FAMILY

John Wesley Ellis was born December 23, 1823, in Blount County, Alabama, the third son of Jesse Ellis, Jr., whose father Jesse Ellis, Sr., migrated from Virginia to North Carolina and South Carolina. Jesse Ellis, Jr. (born in North Carolina, September 25, 1791) married Hannah Murphree in 1810. Hannah, a daughter of Solomon Murphree and Sarah Ward Murphree, was born in South Carolina, August 25, 1791. Her Ellis children were included in the will of her father, Solomon Murphree, in 1852.

Jesse, Jr. and Hannah reared twelve children in Alabama and lived there until their deaths. Jesse, Jr. was a well known Methodist minister and held positions of leadership in the Methodist conferences as well as ministering full time to pioneers, Indians, and slaves of the Alabama Territory before it became a state. Three sons also became Methodist ministers including John Wesley Ellis.

John Wesley Ellis married Cathrine Garrison at Cedar Bluff, Alabama, September 9, 1848. She was born September 23, 1824 in Crawford County, Georgia. He had been a circuit rider for about four years at that time and continued preaching in Alabama and Mississippi until he started to Texas with his family about 1859. They traveled by covered wagon and stopped in Hattisburg, Mississippi, probably for the winter, and arrived in the New Summerfield area in 1860-61. One daughter, Octavia, died in Mississippi in 1851, but they brought five children with them to Texas.

This family settled just south of the present townsite of New Summerfield, and he continued as a circuit rider in the East Texas Conference.

In 1864 their oldest living daughter, Mary Cathrine, died just two weeks before the birth of Walter Pierce Ellis, the only child of John W. and Cathrine, born in Texas. Two weeks later John W. died (October 9, 1864) while on a preaching mission. It is believed that he died at Old Kickapoo in Anderson County, Texas, near the Methodist Camp Grounds at Brushy Creek south of Frankston, Texas. Place of burial in unknown.

Cathrine Ellis was left with five children, all under ten years of age, to rear in a pioneer area during the trying days of the Civil War and re-construction. She kept her family together; and when the children were grown, they married neighborhood friends. Hannah Leslie Ellis married William Donaho and lived here for several years before moving to Comanche, Texas. Jesse W. Ellis worked (when a young teenage boy) in Washington, D. C., as a page boy in Congress. He never married and died in Palo Pinto County, Texas, when a young man. John Garrison Ellis married Margaret Ann Dotson, and they lived and died at New Summerfield. Annie Mae Ellis married C. Wade Johnson and later moved to the Dallas area. Walter Pierce Ellis married Susan Hardgraves and after a few years moved to DeLeon, Texas, where he died. In later years Cathrine Ellis became crippled. She died December 18, 1889 and is buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery near New Summerfield.

Some descendants of this family are still in New Summerfield and Cherokee County. Mrs. Earla Ellis Clifton, a great granddaughter of John Wesley and Cathrine Ellis, resides in New Summerfield now, as do her daughters, Mrs. LaNelle Wilcox and Mrs. Linda Bailey and her grandsons, Craig and Jason Wilcox. This Ellis line has continuously been at New Summerfield over 123 years. A. G. Acker, a great grandson, resides in Jacksonville, with his wife, Dottie as does his son, Godbey Acker, and his family.

No other descendants of John Wesley Ellis now reside in Cherokee County.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## THE O. K. ELLIS FAMILY

Olin Kyle Ellis, the oldest son of John Garrison Ellis and Margaret Ann Ellis, was born September 9, 1882, in a pioneer log cabin just south of the present New Summerfield townsite on the farm owned by John Hillin. He grew up in that area and attended school in the Dalby and old Summerfield Schools. In 1905, he attended the W. A. Orr Summer Hill Select School at Omen, Texas. After finishing Orr College in 1905, Olin homesteaded and "proved-up" on 40 acres of land in Greer County, Oklahoma, where he and his brother, Thurman, lived three years in a "dugout." He decided he didn't like Oklahoma and came back to Summerfield to live.

In 1911 he bought a lot in the new town of Summerfield, but soon sold it to Elmer Cowan, who put in a drug store and barbershop. Olin ran an ice cream parlor in the drug store.

Olin married Bonnie Clara McNeil, a daughter of James M. and Zada McNeil, on February 21, 1913. She was born July 9, 1882 at Glenfawn, Rusk County, Texas. Bonnie attended Sam Houston College at Huntsville, Texas, in 1908-1909 and later taught school in Marion County, Texas. Prior to their marriage, Olin built their first home in the eastern part of the Summerfield community where they made their home for eight years. In 1921, when their children became school age, they purchased a farm closer to the Summerfield townsite and built a new home. This farm adjoined the farm upon which Olin was born. They lived there until they died. He resided in that home 44 years, and Bonnie resided there 60 years. Now, in 1984 their granddaughter, LaNelle Clifton Wilcox, and her family reside in the old home.

Olin and Bonnie reared four children: June Arlington, born November 26, 1913; Earla Ione, born February 22, 1916; Margarette Ovilla, born July 26, 1921; and Olin Kyle, Jr., born February 8, 1931. The family farmed, raised cattle, poultry and hogs. "Ellis Country Cured Hams" and fresh country butter and eggs were in demand in nearby towns.

In his spare time, Olin taught Gospel music schools, directed music for church revivals, served as a church elder, was a local school trustee and served over thirty years on the County School Board. He also worked several years with the Farm Home Administration, was a notary public for forty years, served on various county committees and boards, developed a new townsite addition in New Summerfield, and was active in all community activities. Bonnie also was active in church, school, and community affairs.

June Ellis graduated from Lon Morris College. She taught school before marrying James M. Banks. She and James operated a service station and grocery store in the Iron Hill community east of Rusk for forty years. They have no children.

Earla Ellis finished Lon Morris College and received a B.A. Degree from Stephen F. Austin University. She taught school in Cherokee County for 25 years — the last fourteen years were in her hometown, New Summerfield. She retired in 1970 and makes her home in New Summerfield. She married Letcher W. Clifton, who died in 1978. They had two daughters, Dorothy LaNelle and Linda Arlene. LaNelle married Larry Preston Wilcox, and they have a daughter, Lucinda, and two sons, Craig Olin and Jason Wade. Linda married Wayne Bailey and has no children. They all live at New Summerfield. LaNelle is a substitute teacher, and Linda is a computer programmer.

Margarette Ellis graduated from Stephen F. Austin University with a Masters Degree in Business Administration and Counseling. She worked in schools in Nacogdoches County for 35 years. She married Stewart Thomas Pitts, and they had two daughters. Bonnie Alice married David Windham; they have three children, Cathrine and twins, William and Allison. Thomasann married Harvey Butler; their children are Kevin, Kathy, and Thomas.

Kyle Ellis married Rosemary Tipton. He was killed at the age of 20 in an oil field accident. They had no children.

Olin Kyle Ellis, Sr. died March 4, 1965, and Bonnie Clara Ellis died July 5, 1981. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton*

## THE WILLIAM C. FULLER FAMILY

William C. (W. C.) Fuller, 1851-1928, his wife, Dee M., 1861-1940, and their three daughters moved to New Summerfield, Texas, from Hopkins County, Texas, in the late 1800's.

Their daughters were Grizzie, 1889-1965, Sibbie, 1890-1980, and Bammie, 1893-1970. W. C. was a farmer. His specialty was truck farming especially berries — strawberries, black and dew



berries. In 1919, he moved to Jacksonville where he continued his truck farming until his death in 1928.

Grizzie married Elmer Cowan (Emmaus, Texas), a barber and carpenter. They had one daughter, Lometa. They moved to Jacksonville in 1918 where they continued to live until their death.

Lometa married R. F. "Dick" Quisenberry, a real estate and insurance broker in Jacksonville, Texas. They lived there until their deaths. There were no children to this marriage.

Sibbie married I. H. "Ivan" Morris (New Summerfield), who served in the Army during World War I. After his discharge from the service, he returned to school and obtained a degree in agriculture. He taught until his retirement. When he retired, they returned to Jacksonville where they lived until their deaths. There were no children.

Bammie married Hubert "Hub" Nicholson who was a farmer and carpenter in New Summerfield. He farmed in New Summerfield almost his entire life. Near the time of his retirement they moved to Jacksonville where he worked and farmed until his retirement. Bammie and Hub had one daughter, Bennie. Bennie married Fuller Moses, a produce broker. They retired in Northwest Arkansas. Bennie now resides in Dover, Arkansas, since "Mutt's" death in 1977.

*Compiled by Bennie Nicholson Moses*

## THE J. H. GADDIS FAMILY

Joe Henry Gaddis was born at Ellijoy, Georgia, March 22, 1868. He came to Texas as a young man, having worked enroute at various jobs such as a railroad employee and an employee in a hospital during an epidemic of smallpox. He settled at Lone Star, Texas, where he married Ella Emma Perkins on August 13, 1896. She was born at Lone Star, Texas, on July 26, 1874.

Joe and Ella purchased a farm a few miles East of Summerfield in 1911. They raised cotton, corn, melons, peanuts, and ribbon cane. In the fall they made ribbon cane syrup and invited all their friends and neighbors to the syrup mill to drink juice, watch the mill work, and to get a jug of fresh cane juice to take home.

They were the parents of seven children: Marlin (1897-1975), Mabel (1899-????), Myrtle (1901-????), Maggie (1904-1982), Minnie (1906-????), Melvin (1909-1979), Mary (1914-????). These children attended church and school at Summerfield, and the three oldest married while the family lived here.

In 1922 they sold their farm and moved to Colfax, Van Zandt County, Texas, but in two years the family returned to Summerfield. Then in 1927, they bought a small farm about three miles northeast of Jacksonville where they lived and raised peaches and tomatoes. Joe and Ella lived on this farm until their deaths.

Ella died March 2, 1958, at the age of 83, and Joe died March 27, 1963, at the age of 95. Both are buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery near New Summerfield.

*Compiled by Mary Gaddis Stewart*

## THE GANDY FAMILY

In 1880 the Cherokee County census listed a Mrs. Marthy Harrell as a fifty-five year old female from Georgia. Living in the household with her were a daughter, Gussie Hendley, and her husband Charley Hendley, another daughter, Vienne Gandy, and her two children, Augustus and Roxie.

Vienne Gandy was the widow of Walter Gandy, who had died in 1874 and had been buried in a family cemetery plot near the Gandy home. The children were later known as T. A. Gandy of the Summerfield area and Roxie of the Turney community.

T. A. Gandy married Ada Dement, and they settled on the Gandy farm east of Mud Creek. To this couple were born eight children: Gussie, Beatrice, Otho, Vina, Minnie, Virgil, Rufus, and Ruby. After the marriage of Gussie, Beatrice and Minnie, the remaining ones of the family moved to Fort Worth and lived there for a number of years. Only Ruby returned with T. A. and Ada to the Summerfield area in the 1930's.

Gussie married Seburn Haws, and they were successful farmers of this area for the remaining



years of their lives. They had two sons, Bert and B. T. Bert was also a farmer and lived here until his death in 1979. He married Ruby Fern Brown, and they have a daughter, Ada Ruth. Ruth married Billy Powell, and they have three sons, Barry, Cliff and Randy. All of Ruth's family live in or near New Summerfield today. Barry married Vickey Ridgley, and they have a son, Blake, and a daughter, Kara. Barry is operating a plant business started by his grandfather, Bert Haws. Cliff is married to Debbie Lake, and they have two sons, Jason and Brandon. B. T. married Tommye Adams, and they have two daughters, Susan and Nancy. Nancy also has two daughters.

Beatrice first married Doc Haws and lived in the Summerfield area for a number of years. Later she married A. B. Bishop and moved to Arkansas. She returned to the Gandy home place after the death of A. B. and remained for some time. She is presently living at Twin Oaks.

Minnie married Sam Mayfield, and they lived in Summerfield until their son, Kenneth, and daughter, Brenda, were almost grown. Later Minnie married Frank Thompson. Since Frank's death, Minnie is living in the Travis Towers in Jacksonville. Kenneth married Suzanne Powers and they have two children, Stephanie and Kyle. Stephanie is married to J. P. Hall, and they have a son, Denver. Kenneth and his family live in the Gilmer area. Brenda married Fred Heath of New Summerfield, and they have a daughter, Susan, and two sons, Skip and Dan. Brenda and her family live in the Houston area.

Ruby Gandy was first married to Bishop Fitzpatrick and later to Jack O'Brien. Ruby and Jack live in Little Rock. They have a grandson, Chris Johnson. Their daughter died when Chris was a small child.

Otho, Vina, Virgil, and Rufus did not return to live in Summerfield, but remained in the Fort Worth area. All four are deceased. Neither Vina nor Rufus left heirs. Virgil has a daughter, Gwen Boaz, who lives in Breckenridge. She has three daughters, a grandson and a granddaughter. Otho has two sons, Otho Jr. and Richard, who live in the Beaumont area.

*Facts by Fern Haws*

## **WILMOTH FRANKLIN GARRETT**

Wilmoth Garrett was born in Grapeland, Houston County, Texas, on February 19, 1884. His father was John Franklin Garrett, and his mother was Nannie Lee Mathis Garrett. He was married to Mary Eliza Dotson on January 17, 1901. Her parents were Josiah and Amanda Dotson of New Summerfield.

Four children were born to Wilmoth and Mary Eliza. They were Nora Novice, Eunice Fanette, Lolita, and Elnor Lee.

Novice married Finis Dotson, a son of George Harrison and Cynthia Caldonia "Callie" Blasingame Dotson. They had one daughter, Adelle, and three sons, Adolph, Jim, and Adean. Novice, Adolph, and Jim still have homes in New Summerfield.

Eunice Fanette married Troy Isaac of Rusk, Texas. They had one son, Eldres Lee, deceased. They live in the old Bell Community (in the old church house), but they attend church and other activities at New Summerfield.

Loleta married Paul West and resides in Houston, Texas. Elnor Lee married Clyde Moran and resides in Houston, Texas.

After Mary Eliza died September 8, 1909, Wilmoth moved away from New Summerfield. He married Mattie Elizabeth Cherry on June 11, 1911. Children of Wilmoth and Mattie were Alleen Lou, born July 24, 1912, died at four months old; Verona Mae, born August 13, 1913, married Mr. Wright; William "Bill" Garrett Cherry, born November 17, 1915, was adopted by his grandmother, Mattie Cherry; Callie Jewel, born February 18, 1918, married Mr. Fannette. Her two daughters were reared in Boles Orphan Home at Quinlan, Texas; Twin daughters, born August 27, 1921, were: Ruby Ester, married (1) Alvin Kelly, (2) Jim Parker. She lives in Ft. Worth, Texas; Ruth Estell married (1) George Weaver and they had two children; (2) David Dick; Ellie Faye, born May 10, 1923, married Mr. Portalicha and lives at Victoria, Texas; Ophelia, born February 18, 1925, at Temple, Texas, married Frankie Ray Thompson. She was killed in a car wreck near Jacksonville, Texas; Johnnie Neilson, born November 27, 1928, at Temple, Texas, lives near there.

Wilmoth followed the cotton harvest and moved his family from place to place. Sometimes they lived at New Summerfield and sometimes they moved elsewhere. After his children were all grown, he returned to New Summerfield where he lived until bad health forced him to go to a nursing home. He chose the Gunter Christian Home for men at Ft. Worth, Texas, operated by members of the Church of Christ. He died there on April 20, 1968. Wilmoth and Mary Eliza Dotson Garrett are both buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield, Texas.

*Facts by Novice Garrett Dotson*

## THE MONROE AND "MATT" GIBBS FAMILY

Monroe R. Gibbs was born May 1, 1871. He first came to New Summerfield with Tom Mack when he returned home from a cotton picking trip to West Texas. He met Tom's sister, Martha "Matt," and they were married on April 5, 1909. She was born December 19, 1882. They moved to Jacksonville for a few years where Monroe was a cotton buyer. They returned to the old Monroe-Ollie Mack homeplace where they lived the rest of their lives and where their children grew up. Their children were:

William Powell "Pal," born February 1, 1910, and married Verna Dean Dotson, a daughter of Luther and Della Casey Dotson. They had one child who died at birth. Pal was an electrician who later moved his business to Jacksonville. He died December 19, 1965, and is buried near their infant in the McDonald Cemetery.

Pauline was born August 7, 1912, and married (1) Jim Holloman from Longview, Texas. They had two daughters: Peggy, who married Harold Harper, and their children were Larry, Jerry, and Katherine "Kathy"; Mary Beth married Dennis Jones, and their children were Georgia Lynn and Julia Denise. Pauline later married (2) F. C. Shuptrine of Rusk, Texas. She died November 8, 1979, and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Pearl was born December 14, 1913, and married Gus Graham (born July 4, 1910). Their children were: Sharon Leslie, born September 13, 1932, and died September 29, 1933; Reba Ann, born ?, died June 2, 1941; Harold L., born 1934 and died 1936. These babies were all buried in the McDonald Cemetery. Gilbert Wayne was born April 3, 1940, and Gary "Randy" Randolph was born February 28, 1941. Randy was injured while playing football at Kilgore, Texas. After several operations and therapy, he can now use his hands and feet. He lives in Houston with his Aunt Pansy. Gus died April 3, 1964, and Pearl died June 4, 1971. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Pansy married Chester Davis from Pasadena, Texas. Their son, Phillip Michael, born June 30, 1942, lives in Houston, Texas.

James Pasco was born January 31, 1922 and married Ruby Orail Underwood (born October 22, 1924). She is a daughter of Gene and Ada Underwood. They had one son, James Mac, born February 26, 1945. He married Vicki Ann Bass from Nacogdoches, Texas, and their children are Gena Gay, Malissa Ann, and Monica Kay. James Mac has a mobile home air conditioning service in Nacogdoches, Texas. Pasco was an electrician (retired).

Patsy Louise married Woody Skinner of Rusk. Their children were Phillis Jo (her children are Tammy and Tina) and Martha Jane, who married Dennis McIntire. They had one son, Shane, deceased.

Monroe Gibbs died January 10, 1930, and Matt died April 6, 1965. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Information by Ruby Gibbs*

## THE JAMES J. GILL FAMILY

James J. Gill, the oldest son of John M. Gill and wife, Lucy, was born in Arkansas in 1834. He settled with his parents south of the New Summerfield townsite in the early 1850's. He was married in Cherokee County, Texas, to Elizabeth Jane Tennison, on February 24, 1867. She was a daughter of Matthew and Mary Ann Harrison Tennison. She was born in Texas in 1850.

These children were born to J. J. and Elizabeth Jane Gill: Mathew, Mary Jane and James William.

Matthew (1866-1934) never married. He taught school for many years in Cherokee County after he had attended the local Jones and New Summerfield Schools, and had finished the Summer Hill Select School at Omen, Texas, under Prof. Orr. The schools where he taught were Stallings School, Lone Star, Black Jack, Griffin, and Walkers Chapel. He was a master Mason and attended the Lone Star Lodge. He taught Masonry at his home where the men gathered under the shade of trees away from the house so no one could hear them. He was known by his generation as a great mathematician.

Mary Jane (1870-1928) was married January 12, 1890 to Joseph W. Duty (1859-1923) of the Black Jack community between Troup and New Summerfield. They had four children: Mack (1891-1960), William R. (1894-1963), Verna (1907-?) and Bernice (1912-?). When Verna was old enough to begin school, they moved to New Summerfield. J. W. Duty was a farmer who raised cotton, corn, peanuts, potatoes, and grain crops. He owned a syrup mill and each fall made ribbon cane syrup for the surrounding communities.



The third child, James William "Will" (1873-1949) married Mertis Edwards (1883-1951). He was a farmer. They reared their four children Ruby, Roscoe, Reba, and Charles at New Summerfield.

Eliza Jane Tennison Gill died in August 1876, and James J. Gill married Sarah Catherine "Sally" Dotson July 2, 1877. They had these three children who lived to be adults, George Frank, Fannie, and Marvin Henry. A son, Charlie, and a daughter, Maud, died as infants. Also a set of twins and possibly another child died as infants. George Frank married Effie Goodman. They had five children, Bertha, Tom, Jimmie, Kenneth, and Oveda Beth. Marvin Henry married Bonnie Heath. They had no children. Marvin H. died in 1976. Fannie married F. E. Haws January 1, 1904, and they had one daughter, Eloise.

James J. Gill died May 5, 1926. Sarah "Sally" Gill died in 1891. James J. Gill, Elizabeth Jane Gill, Sarah "Sally" Gill, and all his children are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Information by Verna Duty Dalby*

## THE FAMILY OF JOHN M. GILL

John M. Gill was born about 1803 in South Carolina and his wife, Lucy M., was born in Tennessee about 1819. It is not known when or where they married. Their oldest known child, Emily, was born in Louisiana about 1834. Records of this family show them in Arkansas where three children were born: James J. born in 1834, Henry C. born in 1838, and Mary A. born before 1842.

Census records show this family back in Tennessee by 1846, where two daughters, Lucy A. and Frances, were born. They were in Texas when George W. and Josephine were born. They are known to have been in New Summerfield area September 16, 1854, when he signed a mortgage to James M. Anderson.

John M. and Lucy came to this area with their children: James J., Henry C., Mary A., Mrs. Emily Gill Kelsey, and her infant daughter, Eliza T. Kelsey. Emily's husband was killed when a horse fell on him.

This was the first and only Gill family in the area for years. They settled southwest of the present New Summerfield townsite on a tract of land on which he was granted an original state patent. It included a high hill known today as "Gill Mountain."

The Gill children married and remained in the area.

James J. was married first to Eliza Jane Tennison, a daughter of Matthew and Mary Ann Harrison Tennison. His second wife was Sarah Catherine Dotson, a daughter of Josiah and Amanda Dotson.

Henry C. Gill married Roxanna Tennison, a daughter of Thomas and Melissa Tennison, who was reared in the home of her uncle Matthew Tennison.

Mary A. Gill married G. W. Loughmiller July 19, 1876, and was divorced before 1880. She made her home with her sister, Josephine Gill Darby, and her husband, Julius Darby.

Lucy A. was married September 6, 1866, to Charles Alexander Gordon, a son of pioneer G. A. Gordon and Margaret Adeline Gray Gordon. Charles A. had served in the Confederate Army before he married. Charles and Lucy had one son, George Mills Gordon. Charles went back West and reportedly patented and sold some type medicine. Lucy and Little George lived with her parents. She died about 1874, and George Mills lived as an orphan with his Gill and Darby relatives until his father, who had settled in Bosque County, Texas, moved him there to live with him.

Frances married W. W. Carter November 23, 1865.

Josephine married Julius Darby in 1869, and they made their home at New Summerfield.

Emiline "Emily" Gill Kelsey married B. W. Heath in 1852, and her daughter, Eliza T. Kelsey, married D. Troit Dotson in 1872.

It is believed that John M. and Lucy Gill died at New Summerfield.

*Facts by Verna Duty Dalby*

## THE ALEXANDER AND ROBERT GRAY FAMILIES

It is believed that the Gray family came from Scotland to Virginia where they bought their first



land in 1761. From Virginia, they moved on to North Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Texas.

Alexander Gray III (1795-1879) married Susannah Vanderbilt and moved to Cherokee County, Texas, in 1852. He joined the Griffin Masonic Lodge #132 on October 7, 1854. He was passed to Fellowcraft in 1855, and raised to a Master Mason on April 5, 1856. Their children were John, Louisa, George, Cassenia, Malissa, Catherine, and James. After moving to Texas, Alexander married Sarah McBee (1857), Elizabeth Edwards (1862), and Clairissa McDonald (1878).

In 1857 Alexander Gray bought four parcels of land totaling 410 acres in Cherokee County. He bought other parcels near what is now New Summerfield, Texas. He sold 100 acres to Robert N. Gray in 1873, for \$300.00 cash, and another 150 acres to him in 1877 for \$500.00.

Robert N. Gray (1845-1916) was born in DeKalb, Kemper County, Mississippi, to Reubin and Maria Gray. His grandfather, John H. Gray, was the brother of Alexander Gray. Robert was only sixteen when the Civil War started, but he enlisted on November 15, 1862, in the 26th Regiment of Mississippi. His enlistment was for a period of three years. He was wounded and permanently disabled in the Battle of Cold Harbor, Virginia, on June 2, 1864. He returned to DeKalb and married Ruthy McKinney (1841-1925), daughter of Robert and Jane McKinney in 1864 or 1865. In the winter of 1868, Robert and Ruth came to Texas in an ox-drawn wagon with their two small sons, Reuben (1866-1930), who married (1) Matilda J. Johnson, and (2nd) Sissie Crews, and John (1868-1951), who married (1) Sally Sanderson and (2) Pauline Betts. They also had Ruth's brother's children, Cathy and Tom McKinney. Their children were Dilliah (1871-1899), who married J. A. Jenkins; Alexander (1872-1951), who married Rosa Ella Worley; Paralee (1873-1947), who married Wiley Stone; Susan E. (1876-1967), who married John M. Davis; Will M. (1877-1903), who never married; Charles (1880-1945), who married Elizabeth Colvin; Ben O. (1882-1962), who married Jessie Crews; and Inez F. (1884-1905), who married Jim W. Fox. All of these children were born at Lone Star, Cherokee County, Texas.

Susan Elnora Gray married John William Davis on October 20, 1895, in her parent's home at Lone Star. They bought a farm one mile south of New Summerfield in 1901 and spent their entire life there. Their children were Nathaniel Andrews (1896-1967), John Richard (1898), Lewis Washington (1902); Mary Leora (1905), Silas Lawrence (1909), Jewel Devida (1912), and Ima Louise (1918). Two infants died at birth, one in 1899 and one in 1907. Nathaniel married Jenny May West in 1916. John Richard married Eura Lee King in 1919. Lewis married Grace Henderson in 1929. Mary Leora married (1) Irville Andrews in 1925, and (2) Adreine Malone in 1964. Silas married Beatrice Brown in 1928. Jewel married (1) Leon Hendrix in 1939 and (2) Clifton Benoit in 1951. Ima Louise married Walter Lee (Pat) Carney in 1937.

Several of the Gray family are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Ima Davis Carney*

## **BENNIE OTHNIEL GRAY AND FAMILY**

Bennie Othniel "B.O." Gray was born April 22, 1882. He married Jessie Lee Crews October 19, 1904. She was born November 30, 1889. Bennie was a farmer and rancher.

Thirteen children were born to this couple. Three children died in infancy. They reared the following children: Lester Numan, Ronnie Doris, Sudie Belle, Bill, Buford, Sidney, Zora Belle, Pauline, Gracie, and Willie Ray.

Sidney became an invalid with rheumatoid arthritis at the age of 21. He became a Church of Christ minister and preached from his bed which was designed with wheels. The Church of Christ at New Summerfield built a house across the street from the Church for Sidney and his father. They moved into the house and Sidney preached at that church as well as other churches in nearby communities. At one time his sister, Sudie Belle and her husband, Ottis Gilliam, lived with them and took care of Sidney. Later his brother Willie Ray and wife, Maria, lived with him. Also, Janie Timms lived with them at the time of Sidney's death February 4, 1957. He was 36. To know Sidney was to love him. In spite of his pain, he always had a smile and a kind word for everyone.

Lester, Sudie Belle and Bill are deceased. Buford and wife, Edna Merle (Magee), as well as Zora Belle, and her husband, Claude Cox still reside in New Summerfield. Zora Belle and Claude are the parents of seven children: Jane and Janet—twins, Bettie Marie, Jerry Don, Robert Jack, Claude Andrew "Andy," and Gary Lynn. They all attended New Summerfield School.

Jane married Douglas Cox, and they live in Sugarland, Texas. They have five children, Douglas, Jr. married Janet Ellen Dumay and they have one child, Tiffiny Lynn. Pamela Jane is married to James W. Hester, and they have one child, Jamie Michelle. Carolyn is married to Jay Handcock. Becky and David are not married. Janet married Larry Dean Underwood. They live near Jackson-

ville, Texas. Their only child, Bryan Dean, is married to Terri Curry, and they have a son, Grady Dean. Bettie Marie married James Herring, and they live near Jacksonville. They have five children: James Edwin, Jr., who married Holly Hassell; Deborah Lynn who married Phil McClain, and they had a son, Craig Allen, deceased, and a daughter, Brandi Marie; Sharon Lee is married to Norman Earl Theobald, and she has a step-son, Robbie; Jaqueline Denise and Timothy Wayne are not married. Jerry Don married Gayle Richey, and they have two children, Denicia and Jerry Don, Jr. Jerry and Gayle divorced, and he married Vicki Banks. They live in Arlington, Texas.

Robert Jack married Gladys McNew, and they live in New Summerfield. They have three children: Robin Carol, who married Marvin Ray Ursy and they have one son, Jacob Ray; Robert Jack, Jr. and Christopher Jack "Chris" are still in school. Claudie Andrew "Andy" married Linda Kay Hamilton, and they live in Concord near New Summerfield. Their children are: Andrea, who married Gary Sowders, and they have one daughter, Shauna Lee Ann; Mandy Kay and Claudia are in school. Gary Lynn married Pamela Carpenter, and they have one daughter, Rachel Suzanne. They divorced and he is married to Debra Whorley. They have two children, Kandi Lynn and Gary Lynn, Jr. They live in New Summerfield.

Bennie Othniel Gray died in January 1962, at the age of 80 years. Jessie Lee died February 2, 1942, at the early age of 52. Both are buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

*Compiled by Zora Belle Gray Cox*

## **JASPER NEWTON GREENWOOD FAMILY**

Jasper N. Greenwood was born August 12, 1849. His family is believed to have come from Ireland. He married Sarah Jane Sanderson, who was born May 16, 1849, died on March 4, 1866. Jasper was the son of W. W. Greenwood, who died August 6, 1875. To this union sixteen children were born; a baby boy born May 12, 1867, somewhere in Mississippi, died and was buried there. Two years later a little girl was born and died December 23, 1869, in Mississippi. They still had not reached East Texas. Newton Greenwood was born May 8, 1874 and died August 3, 1875, probably in Van Zandt County. Franklin was born December 24, 1882, and died same day, and is buried in Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

Eleven children lived to be grown. William T. Greenwood (named for his grandfather, W. W. Greenwood) was born November 24, 1870, and married Mattie Bell, May 20, 1888. They had three children, Homer D., Audie, and Arthur. Omino married Bill Murphy December 2, 1895. Several children were born to this family: Alma and John Atkinson married December 25, 1895 and they had two sons; Dr. J. T. Greenwood married Ollie Fuller December 2, 1896, and they had two daughters, Manilla and Ovilla. Ollie died and the doctor married Jimmie Crews and had one daughter, Imogene, born September 11, 1915.

Eva married Virge Murphy, and they had one daughter, Evie Doris. Mattie married Lonnie M. Wallace, and they had three sons, Foy, Wayne, and Woodie. Mathella "Sadie" married Henry Perkins, and four children were born, Treaburn, J. B., Grace, and Henry C. Alice married Troit Darby, and they reared four children, Agnes, Melba, Gordon, and Marshall.

Collie (Oscar) married (1) Eula Perkins and three children were born to this couple, Clavis, Oma Merl, and Billie Ruth; (2) Mamie Burton Darnell, to which union no children were born. Stanley married Ina Sowell December 29, 1912, and three children were born, Mildred, Wilma Frances, and Ernest Guinn. Stanley later married Lula Fitch on December 17, 1919, and their living children are Stanley, Jr. and Joyce Marie. Buna married Emory Dickson, and they had two children, Johnnie Merrill and Sara Joy.

Jasper N. Greenwood died on December 11, 1900. Sarah Jane Greenwood died on December 1, 1938, and all of their children have since died. Descendants still residing in New Summerfield area are Clavis Greenwood, Stanley Greenwood, Jr., Wilma Frances Spraggins, and Joyce Marie Gardner.

*Compiled by Wilma Greenwood Spraggins*

## OSCAR COLQUIT GREENWOOD FAMILY

Oscar Colquit Greenwood was born March 20, 1890, in the Lone Star community located three miles southeast of New Summerfield, Texas, and was the sixth son of Jasper Newton Greenwood. Jasper Newton Greenwood was born August 12, 1849, in Tennessee and later went to Alabama. On March 14, 1866, he married Sarah Jane Sanderson. The couple left Alabama and migrated to Texas with three hundred dollars in silver hidden in the bottom of a trunk. The couple crossed the Mississippi, Red, and Sabine Rivers on their way to Texas. As they came to the Sabine River, Sarah watched fearfully as Jasper crossed the river on an old mule that either could not or would not swim. Not only was the mule a poor swimmer but Jasper also lacked skill in swimming. The couple settled approximately two and a half miles southeast of New Summerfield sometime in the early 1880's. Jasper was known as "Old Man Greenwood" due to his long, white goatee; however, he spent his life as a landowner, horse trader, and farmer. The couple had nine daughters, Omino, Alma, Evie, Effie, Mattie, Mathella, "Sadie" Alice, Buna, and Eliza who died as an infant, and seven sons, Willie, Jim, Newton, Franklin, Oscar Colquit, Stanley, and a son who died on the way to Texas.

Oscar Colquit became known as "Collie" Greenwood. He married Eula Ethner Perkins on December 29, 1907. The couple settled within a mile of where "Collie" was born in the Lone Star community located three miles southeast of New Summerfield. He was a successful landowner, cattleman, and farmer. He became a bonded cotton buyer and operated a tomato shed in Jacksonville, Texas. "Collie" enjoyed going to church and served as a Baptist deacon in the Lone Star, Myrtle Springs, and New Summerfield communities for many years. The couple had two daughters, Oma Muri and Billie Ruth, and one son, Clavis Nolan Greenwood. At the time of his death in 1979, he had six grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren, and eleven great-great-grandchildren.

At the present, "Collie's" son, Clavis Nolan Greenwood, lives on the William M. Wallace Survey located two miles southeast of New Summerfield. He was born November 4, 1908, in the Lone Star community. On October 28, 1926, he married Jessie Marie Wallace. Like his father, Clavis is a successful landowner, cattleman, and farmer. In 1960 he was given the "Outstanding Soil Conservationist" Award for his district in Cherokee County. For fifteen years he served on the Agriculture Stabilization Conservation Service Committee. The couple had two daughters, Mary Lou, who died in an automobile accident in 1963, and Vickie Carolyn, and two sons, Harold Glen and James Oscar. They have thirteen grandchildren: Roy Glen "Butch," Michael Lynn "Mike," Jimmy Nolan, Robert Norton, Rebecca Sue "Becky," Joe Dave Walley, who died a few days following the automobile accident in 1963; Alaina Ann, Alan Wade, Jessica Dawn, and Jon Darrell Greenwood; Stacy Denise, Kimberly Anne "Kim," and a son who died at birth, Parsons. They also have eleven great-grandchildren: Johnny, Kenneth, Brian Keith, Teresa, Lisa, who died shortly after birth, Tammy, Susan, David, and Chad Walley; Craig and Dustin Ballew. The couple has helped and supported the community and attend the First Baptist Church of New Summerfield.

*Compiled by Jessie and Alaina Greenwood*

## THE STANLEY GREENWOOD, SR. FAMILY

Stanley Greenwood, Sr., born June 30, 1892, near Lone Star, Texas, was the fifteenth child born to Jasper N. Greenwood and Sarah Sanderson Greenwood. He was a rancher, farmer, cotton buyer, school trustee, worked in the A.S.C. office at Rusk, and was a deacon in the First Baptist Church at New Summerfield.

He married Ina Sowell December 29, 1910. She was born November 22, 1892, and was the daughter of John and Lula Dickson Sowell. To this union, three children were born: Mildred Louise, born November 1912, died in 1914; Wilma Frances, born May 4, 1915; Ernest Guinn, born January 1, 1917, died January 13, 1919. Ina died January 11, 1919, and Stanley married Lula Fitch, born January 6, 1892. She was the daughter of Young D. Fitch and Ida Shaw Fitch. To this union five children were born: James Beall, born January 4, 1921, and died November 7, 1921; Stanley, Jr., born April 17, 1923; Luther Mae, born October 12, 1924, died November 10, 1924; Joyce Marie, born November 29, 1927, and an infant son stillborn, November, 1926.

Wilma F. Greenwood married Weldon C. Hillin, July 9, 1933, at Emmaus, Cherokee County, Texas. He was the son of Howard L. and Buelah Mae Munn Hillin. To this union one child, Kay Joyce, was born on December 16, 1937, in Lone Star. In 1946 said marriage was terminated by divorce and on March 7, 1947, Wilma married Travis O. Spraggins, son of Selvin and Sammie Lee Roddy Spraggins. To this union one child, Travis Ray, was born on March 25, 1951, in Jackson-



ville, Texas. Kay Hillin married Charles E. Jenkins, son of Alton B. and Elizabeth Jenkins, in Ft. Worth, Tarrant County, Texas, September 2, 1960. To this union one child, Phillip Stanley, was born July 11, 1964, in Plainview, Texas. Travis Ray Spraggins married Vickie Lynn Allen, daughter of Murl and Juanita Keith Allen October 2, 1976, in Jacksonville. A son, Joseph Ray Spraggins was born December 15, 1979. Travis Ray died July 17, 1980, at the age of 29. Vickie Lynn then married Don Allen Snow on January 10, 1981.

Stanley Greenwood, Jr. married Ruth Evelyn Burton in Bossier City, Louisiana, January 28, 1949. She is the daughter of Fulton H. and Ethel Roberson Burton. To this union two daughters were born: Carolyn Ruth on November 18, 1949, and Marilyn Jane on February 5, 1951. Marilyn married Floyd R. "Ricky" Cleveland III, son of Floyd R. Cleveland, Jr. and Silverine Watts Cleveland, on December 26, 1970. To this union three children were born: Jennifer Dianne, May 22, 1977; Jeffery Lee, stillborn August 28, 1979, and Jana Carol, February 6, 1981.

Joyce Marie Greenwood married James D. Gardner, son of James H. and Della Moore Gardner, August 4, 1946, in Atlanta, Texas, and to this union three daughters were born: Peggy Marie, May 19, 1947, Sue Lynn, September 7, 1948, and Barbara Gayle, October 1, 1953. Peggy Marie married Jimmie McMahan July 13, 1965, and they have two children, Jimmie Dewayne, born March 25, 1968, and Jennifer, born November 5, 1970. Sue Lynn married Joe Langley, June 1, 1968, and they have three children: Joe Russell, born November 26, 1971; Judd Gardner, born September 4, 1973; and Cara Sue, born December 6, 1976. Barbara Gayle married Ronnie Hawkins December 8, 1974, and they have two sons, Christopher Shea, born December 19, 1975, and Jason Wayne, born May 21, 1977.

Stanley Greenwood, Sr., died September 11, 1975, and Lula died September 26, 1979.

*Compiled by Wilma Greenwood Spraggins  
and Stanley Greenwood, Jr.*

## EVERETT AND GLADYS HALL

Everett was born January 27, 1901, at Concord, Texas. His father was William Marvin Hall. He was born in Kingsland, Arkansas. He settled at Concord and married Jo Roundtree Martin, who was the daughter of Britt Martin. Jo's mother died when she and her sister were small. Two faithful freed slaves reared Jo and her sister. These good black people are the only black people buried at the Cumberland Presbyterian Cemetery at Concord, Texas. Jo was born and reared at Concord. Everett's father, Marvin, had a store close to the Presbyterian Church at Concord, Texas. It is said that Marvin donated the land for the church of the Nazarene at Martin's Chapel. He named it after his wife's family.

Everett married Gladys Wornick from Hamilton, Correll County, Texas, on August 23, 1923. Gladys was born August 4, 1905. Her parents were Ira Terry and Pearl Pennington Wornick. Everett was a farmer and lived at Concord until the Concord school consolidated with Troup, Texas. He moved his children to New Summerfield because he firmly believed a small school would give his children more individual attention. They moved here in 1944.

Gladys worked at the Powell Plant Farm. She retired in 1975, and lives next door to her daughter, Pearlene.

Everett and Gladys' children are: Opal Lee, who married James Murphy, the son of Ray and Allie Payne Murphy, and their children are James Rodney, Willie Bryan, and Cynthia Marie.

Everett Wayne, who married Betty Jo Mayfield, whose parents were Denver and Lee Mayfield, and their children are Kathy Ann, Janice Lynn, and Douglas Wayne.

Billy Harper married Barbara Brisco, whose parents were Albert Herbert "Bud" and Mary Josephine "Jo" Williams Brisco from Eagle Lake, Texas. Mary Jo now lives at New Summerfield. Their children are Russell "Rusty," who was killed in a car accident on January 11, 1976, and Denice Ann.

Pearlene married James Hilton Derrington, the son of Ike and Mary Sue Sherman Derrington. These Shermans are believed to be descendants of General Sherman. Their children are Deena Cheryl and James Keith. Carol Ann married Kenneth Fincher from Neches, Texas. Their children are Kevin Wayne and Branda Lee. Everett died October 23, 1973, and is buried in Concord Cemetery.

*Facts by Gladys Hall and Pearlene Derrington  
Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## THE HAWS FAMILY

The Haws Family became established in East Texas in the early 1800's. J. B. Haws, the forerunner of the Haws clan in the Summerfield area, migrated from Mississippi. He married in 1881 Mrs. S. V. Gandy (widow of Walter Gandy), who had two children, T. A. Gandy and Roxie Gandy. They remained on the Gandy tract of land east of Mud Creek. When Mrs. Vinnie Gandy Haws died, she was buried in a family cemetery plot near the Gandy home where Walter Gandy had been buried.

J. B. Haws then married Mrs. Mary Jane Blackburn in 1887. At the time of their marriage, Mrs. Blackburn had three children, Cora, Ethel, and Lena. It was this marriage (the last of five) that gave J. B. Haws his only heirs. He and Mary Jane had three sons, Seburn, Doc, and Dave. Doc married Beatrice Gandy, daughter of T. A. Gandy. This marriage ended in divorce, and he married Nell Reynolds. Doc died without an heir. Dave married Offie Dudley. Both Dave and Offie died soon after the birth of a daughter, Daisy Haws Hallmark, who lives in Tyler.

Sebe Haws married Gussie Gandy, also a daughter of T. A. Gandy. Sebe and Gussie bought land near the Gandy tract and were successful farmers for many years. They grew cotton and tomatoes and were among the first of the plant growers of this area. To this couple were born two sons, Bert and B. T. B. T. attended school in New Summerfield, Nacogdoches, and Huntsville. He married Tommie Adams of Sherman. They have two daughters, Susan and Nancy. B. T. was County Agent in Nacogdoches, Cooke, and Wichita Counties before he retired. B. T. and Tommie live in Wichita Falls.

Bert Haws married Ruby Fern Brown in 1934. They had one daughter, Ada Ruth. Bert was a real farmer at heart, and he continued this pursuit in the form of plant growing by beginning a business known as Bert Haws Greenhouse. After the death of Bert in 1979, the business was renamed Barry's Plants and is operated by Barry Powell, the oldest grandson.

Ruth Haws married Billy Powell, and they have three sons, Barry, Cliff, and Randy. It was Ruth and Billy who built the first greenhouse in the New Summerfield area. Two of their sons, Cliff and Randy, are working with their mother and father in the business of Powell Plant Farms. Cliff is married to Debbie Lake, and they have two sons, Jason and Brandon. Barry married Vickey Ridgley; they have a son, Blake, and a daughter, Kara. They live in New Summerfield, and are operating the plant business started by Barry's grandfather, Bert Haws.

*Facts by Fern Haws*

## THE BURRELL WESTBROOK HEATH FAMILY

Burrell Westbrook Heath, born in North Carolina in 1818, came to Tennessee and on to Rusk County, Texas, with his family and later came on to Cherokee County, Texas, where he married Emily J. Gill Kelsay (born February 23, 1832, died in 1866).

To this marriage six children were born: John James, born July 11, 1853, married Louisa E. Longsdon. She was a member of the Eastern Star, and John James was a Texas Ranger and mayor of DeLeon, Comanche County, Texas. John James died December 31, 1927 and he and Louisa E. are buried in the DeLeon Cemetery; Richard H. Heath, born June 10, 1863, died in the Civil War while in service. Susan "Sook" Frances Heath, born August 12, 1861, married Fred Holland, died June 20, 1943 and was buried in Comanche County, Texas. Everyone loved "Aunt Sook," for she always had plenty cooked for everyone to eat and was always so kind to everyone.

Eliza T. Kelsay, daughter of Col. Thomas S. Kelsey and Emily J. (Gill) Kelsay, was born March 6, 1851. After Burrell Westbrook and Emily J. (Gill) Kelsay were married, Eliza T. Kelsay lived with them, and after she was grown, she married De Troit Dotson. After the death of Emily J. (Gill) Kelsay Heath in 1866, Burrell Westbrook married Lavinia Morris (born 1855), daughter of Stephen and Sarah Morris. Born to this union was one son, Thomas Jefferson, on January 22, 1867. Lavinia died January 4, 1868, and Burrell Westbrook married Lou Smith.

Burrell Westbrook was a farmer and was living in Comanche County at the time of his death, on September 29, 1883, and was buried in Ebernezer Cemetery near DeLeon, Comanche County, Texas. He was a Mason and has a Mason Marker.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## FAMILY OF FRED ROY HEATH

Fred Roy "Dutch" Heath, son of Thomas Jefferson and Ella Mae Heath, was born July 1, 1904, in Comanche County, but with his family moved to the Summerfield area in 1918. He finished his latter years of school at Dalby and Ponta, where he was a good basketball player, and his team won a trophy at Rusk College. He married Mabel Lee McLeod (daughter of Earl Lamar and Flossie Tipton McLeod) September 24, 1930. She was born November 8, 1909.

Fred Roy and Mabel were active members of the Church of Christ, and he was a deacon and church treasurer until his death April 8, 1984. He was buried in McDonald Cemetery. Fred Roy and Weaver were partners in plant growing for many years, and Fred Roy later retired from farming and became a paint contractor. To this union one son was born, Fred Roy Heath, Jr., born March 5, 1941.

Mabel Lee graduated from high school as valedictorian of her class and received a scholarship to Lon Morris College, where she received a certificate to teach. She taught two years at West Shady Grove and also helped with plant farming. When Freddie was a junior in high school, she decided to continue her education at Stephen F. Austin College, where she was an honor student, became a member of Alpha Chi, received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics on August 23, 1957, taught one year in Arp, 17 years in Jacksonville, and retired in 1975. Mabel is a member of the Major Thaddeus Beall Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Moses M. Buckner Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy, Clan McLeod Society of U.S.A., and Cherokee County Genealogical Society. (McLeods are of Scottish descent and Tiptons are of English descent).

Freddie Roy, Jr. graduated as valedictorian from New Summerfield High School, finished two years at Tyler Junior College with honors, graduated with B. S. Degree in mathematics, and was designated as Distinguished Student for the fall semester. He married Brenda Sue Mayfield (born November 23, 1941) March 16, 1963. Brenda (daughter of Samuel and Minnie Gandy Mayfield) graduated from New Summerfield with honors, and after graduation she worked at the First National Bank. After finishing college, Freddie Roy, Jr. got a job in Huntsville, Alabama with Boering where he worked with the people who provided the power to get the shuttle on the Moon where Armstrong walked on the Moon. He has also worked in Florida and is now in Houston.

Freddie Roy and Brenda are the parents of (1) Fred R. "Chip" III, who graduated from Roundrock with honors, and was selected a President's Endowed Scholar at Texas A&M University; (2) Susan Shalaine, born June 20, 1967, who will graduate from high school in 1985, and (3) Jeffrey Dan, born June 6, 1973, who was the best in spelling in Clear Lake School and won \$50.00 for other honors. Chip and Susan are members of the Church of Christ.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## THE RICHARD F. HEATH FAMILY

This family was in the New Salem, Rusk County area, in the 1850's. Richard F. Heath was born there April 15, 1856. He was a son of Thomas J. Heath (1817-1889) and Mary Heath (1822-1874), who lived for years at New Salem. Richard F. Heath married Amanda Elizabeth Cornelison who was born at New Salem October 13, 1859. They moved to Griffin, Cherokee County, where their oldest son, Thomas Porter "T.P." Heath was born November 13, 1879.

Richard F. moved his family back to New Salem where the following children were born: Tessie, born September 27, 1881, died November 18, 1883; Ethel Irene, born July 26, 1884, died December 11, 1964. She never married; Henry C., born December 23, 1886, died July 11, 1913; Lillian Maude, born February 17, 1889. She married L. Pool; Bonnie, born January 21, 1891, died March 7, 1969. She married Marvin Gill in 1923, and they made their home at New Summerfield. He died in 1976. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield; Ellena Lee "Lena," born May 25, 1893, died January 18, 1984. She married W. E. Landers. They had no children; Viola, born November 18, 1895, died April 26, 1976. She never married.

One Thomas J. Heath and wife, E. M. Heath, bought land from Frank F. Fullerton at Summerfield, Texas, in November 1896, and sold it to G. W. Sowell on August 7, 1897. This land joined land later owned by Mrs. Amanda "Mandy" Heath and her children in Summerfield. Mrs. Amanda Heath and her children sold this land to J. H. Tipton in the late 1920's, and moved to a new home in New Salem, Rusk County, where Amanda, Ethel, Viola, and Lena lived the rest of their lives.

Thomas Porter married (1) Gertha Morris, daughter of J. J. and Jane Morris of Summerfield, and a local school teacher. They made their home in New Summerfield where they reared two children: Frances Willard, who married George Anderson and had one son, Pat — Frances died



in 1984; James Franklin, who married Estelle Ramey, and they had one son, Marion Thomas. Thomas P. married (2) Mrs. Mattie Greenwood Wallace. They had no children.

Thomas J. Heath and his wife, Mary; Richard F. Heath and his wife, Amanda; Henry C. Heath; and the infant daughter of T. P. and Gertha Heath are buried in the Caison-Heath Cemetery at New Salem. Lena, Viola, and Ethel are buried in the Griffin Cemetery, Cherokee County. Thomas P. and Gertha Heath are buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield.

*Facts Provided by Dorothy Darby and Cecil Cone*

## THOMAS JEFFERSON HEATH FAMILY

Thomas Jefferson Heath, born January 22, 1867, in Cherokee County, Texas, lived part of his early life in Comanche County with his half sister, Susan Frances; and after he was grown, he came back to Cherokee County and married Ella Mae Darby, January 8, 1893. She was the daughter of Julius Gage and Josephine Gill Darby. Thomas Jefferson was the son of Burrell Westbrook and Sarah Lavinia Morris Heath. Sarah Lavinia died April 4, 1869, and Burrell Westbrook died August 29, 1883.

Thomas Jefferson and Ella Mae Heath had six children: Kittie Reba, born March 19, 1895, in Cherokee County, married Otis Montraville Chupp February 19, 1915. Otis Montraville died July 19, 1945, and Kittie Reba died January 10, 1983, in Cleburne, Texas, and both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery; Ruby T. Heath, born February 9, 1898, in Cherokee County, started to teaching school at the age of 16 years in Comanche County. Later she moved to Cherokee County and continued her education. She taught school 28 years before retiring. She married Lee Attison Gibson December 23, 1923. His parents were Eli Terry Gibson and Kathryn Teresa Burton. He was in military service during WWI, serving in Germany, France, and England.

Thomas Lee, born April 4, 1900, married Manda Fields in 1940. Lee was a barber, later he farmed, growing vegetable plants, i.e. cabbage, pepper, and tomatoes — first shipping some by mail to other states, and later truckers came to Summerfield to pick them up. He was also a partner in Fields, Heath & Heath Hardware. Manda worked in the post office about 50 years, first helping her uncle and was appointed postmaster in 1930 in which capacity she served until the post office was closed at Ponta, and she retired in 1972. Lee died May 12, 1964, and was buried in McDonald Cemetery.

Charlie Ray Heath, born July 3, 1902, married Martha Fields (twin to Manda), and to this union two daughters were born, Patricia and Diane. Ray was a plant grower and a partner in Fields, Heath & Heath Hardware. After he retired several years ago, Ray and Martha sold their home in New Summerfield and moved to Jacksonville, in 1980.

Freddie Roy "Dutch" was born July 1, 1904, in Comanche County, moved with his family to Cherokee County in 1918, and finished his later years of school in Dalby and Ponta. He and his brother, Weaver, worked together growing vegetable plants, first in hot beds and open field. He later quit farming and became a paint contractor. He married Mabel Lee McLeod September 24, 1930, and they had one son, Freddie Roy, Jr. Freddie Roy "Dutch" died April 8, 1984 and was buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Coy Weaver, born February 24, 1907, married Bonnis Johnson in August, 1928. He was a plant farmer, growing vegetable plants in hot beds and in the open field. When the weather got extremely cold in the winter, the plants were covered with "tomato sheets" to keep them from freezing. He now raises vegetable plants and flowers in hot houses, as well as some cabbage plants in the open field. Weaver and Bonnis had three sons, Davey Lee (deceased), Howard Glen, and Ronald Gene.

Cora Helen Darby, born July 9, 1920, was the daughter of George Henry Darby and Cora Ramey Darby. Cora Ramey Darby died July 10, 1920, and George Henry died July 12, 1930. Cora Helen lived with Thomas Jefferson and Ella Mae Heath all of her life and grew up as a member of the family. She married Carl "Dick" Tipton July 10, 1936, and two children were born, George Carl, who married Judy Stewart, and Helen Jane, who married Jim Barrow. Carl "Dick" Tipton died May 2, 1975 and was buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## THE JOHN B. HICKS FAMILY

John B. Hicks came to New Summerfield from Roberson County, Texas. While he was here he was a busy man; he performed marriage ceremonies for a large portion of the community's young people. He was a Baptist minister. He was married to Dora Vinson. The Hicks family lived in the old Captain Dickson house on the present Highway 79. They often entertained the young people in their home with nice parties. The youngsters enjoyed the parties, and the parents were pleased that their young people had wholesome supervised entertainment.

John's dad was in the Civil War. John and Dora's children were: Travis Bugg, married to Clara Parker, some of whose children now live in Jacksonville, Texas; Young Edwin married Viola; William Rudolph married Dollie Tomerlin; Sam Houston married Eva Morris; Rudolph was an ordained Baptist minister; Beulah Permulia married (1) Lawrence Matteson, and after his death (2) Ernest Matteson (his brother), now deceased; Robert died at the age of 7 and is buried at Myrtle Springs Cemetery (no marker).

Houston and Beulah are still living and live at Bossier City, Louisiana. They return annually to the cemetery memorial services to honor their dead and to visit old friends and relatives. John and Dora Hicks moved to the Snyder and Bowie, Texas area, where they are buried.

*Facts by Dollie Hicks  
Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## DALLAS AND ELLIE JAY

Dallas Jay was born September 4, 1876, near Rusk toward the Dialville area. He was the second son of Charles Fushea and Sally Elizabeth Johnson Jay. Charles and Sally Elizabeth were married at the New Salem Baptist Church. Sally Elizabeth was a daughter of Joel and Emily E. Johnson. Her family lived in the area now known as the Dr. Jones place. The old Jones log home burned recently. It was one of the old landmarks of New Summerfield. Charlie Jay was a deputy sheriff of Smith County and later was the Chief of Police in Tyler, Texas. It is reported that Charlie's father was a Confederate soldier, and Charlie's mother was a medical doctor.

There were eleven children in the Jay family. Two died young but most of the Jays lived long lives and were scattered all over Cherokee and Smith Counties. Dallas married Ellie Myrtle Fox on June 18, 1889. She was the daughter of Samuel Love Fox and Mary E. Prothro. She was born August 30, 1880. Their four children were Ross Dexter, Charles Victor "Vick" Gordon Taylor, and Elizabeth Blanche, who married Elzie Dickson, the son of Charlie H. and Nina Hogan Dickson. The children of Elzie and Blanche are Mary Beth, who married Leonard Max Berry from Rusk, Rita Monylene, who married Robbie Hammett, and Lloyd Robert, who has not married. Leonard and Mary Beth Berry's children are Julia Beth, who married Julian Noel, and Lynn Max, who married Renee Reese. Monylene and Robbie Hammett's children are Russell Bryan and Scott Jaye. Robert and Blanche live in Jacksonville now. They sold the old Jay homeplace to Billie Powell.

Dallas Jay was a very successful farmer who diversified his farm activities. He owned and operated a grist mill and blacksmith shop. He was a carpenter and a leather tanner. He made harness and other leather goods for himself and his neighbors. His daughter still has his leather making tools. The family didn't like it when he worked with leather because he "smelled." He put the cowhide down in a barrel and covered it with salt "to let it tan." Dallas also owned teams of large mules which he used to grade county and state roads. Dallas, in his early years, was a guard for a prison in Eagle Pass, Texas. Blanche has his recommendation from this institution.

Ellie Fox Jay's parents were some of the oldest settlers in this area. Their home was the house now owned by Hayden Brown near Black Jack, Texas. It is known as the Fox Home. Ellie's three sisters were Azele, who married Will Pace, who was an attorney and served as a state senator; Ora, who married Dr. Lanier of Henderson, Texas. (He was also a teacher); and Mary, who married Ross Dorbandt. Among his activities, Ross was best known as the operator of the old Palace Theater. Her brothers were Prothro, who married (1) Ola Mayfield, and their sons were Samuel and Donald, and (2) Virginia Tucker and their son, Kenneth, of California is the only Fox boy now living; Jimmy (died in infancy), and Nolan died in 1958.

His children remember what a great treat it was when Dallas let them sit in the children sized chairs at Bando's Ice Cream Parlor and Kandy Kitchen.

*Information by Blanch Jay Dickson*

## THE JAMES A. AND RUTHA ANN TIPTON JOHNSON FAMILY

Rutha Ann Tipton, daughter of Albert Gallatin Tipton, was born April 24, 1854, in Cherokee County, Texas, and died January 10, 1935. She married (1) Augustus Butler, and they had three children (no records) and a great granddaughter, Anna Beth Butler in Nacogdoches, Texas; (2) married James A. Johnson and had three children, Napoleon Johnson (N.A.F.), Fora Johnson, and Dolly Johnson Bowers. Rutha Ann married (3) William Wiggins, and they had two daughters. Lula Bell Wiggins married Selma Boone, lived in Longview and had four children. Lola married Will Ferguson. When Rutha's husband died, she stayed with her children as she saw fit, also with her brother, Alexander Tipton, and the Earl McLeod family. She was a remarkable woman and everyone loved her.

Napoleon (N.A.F.) Johnson married Lillian Jeffcoat. Their children were: Odelle Johnson, married Grady Underwood; Foy Johnson, married Opal Lee Wilkins; Daphne Johnson, married Lance Warren; Anita Johnson, married Walter Womack; Boyd Johnson, served in World War II; Haden Johnson, married Gladys Turrentine; Yvonne, married Marshall Waldrup. Howard Leslie died in infancy. Nearly all of these children left New Summerfield.

Bonnie Johnson married Weaver Heath on August 14, 1928, and they have lived in this area, working with plant hot houses and farms. Children of this family were: Davey Lee, born January 4, 1930, died July 2, 1931; Howard Glenn, born January 21, 1933, married Hertha Faye Westbrook, November 25, 1952; their children are Howard Glen Heath, Jr., Marty Lee Heath, and Julie Ann Heath.

Ronald Gene Heath married (1) Freida Jean Minter, and they had two sons, Richard Lynn Heath and Jeffrey Scott Heath; and married (2) Cara Jo Barker, and they have two sons, Ronald Eric Heath and Jason Weaver Heath.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## ROSIE LEE STINECIPHER KELLY

Rosie Lee was born October 24, 1891, near Tennessee Colony, Texas. Her family moved to Troup, Texas. She married Othen Pack from Oklahoma in 1912. They had a son, Wayne, born in 1913. When he was three years old, he died of diphtheria and is buried at Union Grove. Othen Pack went back to Oklahoma before his son died, and they divorced. She married again in 1930 to William J. Kelly. They lived together for twenty years. After his death in 1950, she sold her home in Henry's Chapel and moved to New Summerfield in 1960, so she could be close to her nieces, Ollie Mae Herring and Minnie Jennings Bland. They took care of her until she was seventy-nine years old when ill health forced her to go to a nursing home. She is in Gardendale Nursing Home in Jacksonville now.

*Compiled by Ollie Mae Herring*

## ERASTUS WILLIAM LACY

Erastus William Lacy was born in 1827 in Monroe County, Georgia, died around 1892 in Cherokee County, Texas, was buried in Myrtle Springs Cemetery, and was a Civil War Veteran with the rank of Private. He married Mary Elizabeth Willis September 12, 1854, in Upson County, Georgia. She was the daughter of Anan and Elizabeth Pitts Willis.

Erastus William and Mary Elizabeth Willis Lacy came by train to Texas in 1877, and settled at New Salem. They sold 100 acres of land in Barnesville, Georgia and brought five children. Franklin was born in 1858, married 1880 to Elizabeth Tipton, settled in Lindale, Texas, and died 1942. William was born in 1863, married 1886 to Sarah Rogers, settled in Troup, Texas, and died 1938. Jasper was born in 1866, married 1889 to Mary Montay Tipton, settled in New Summerfield, died 1947, buried in McDonald Cemetery. Their eight children were Estel, Jessie, Jewel, Alton, Raymond, twins Elmer "Buddy" and Velma, and Margie.

Erastus William was a farmer as was his family before him. His lineage was: Son of William and Martha Brown Lacy.



1. William, born c. 1787-95, North Carolina, married September 11, 1821, Jones County, Georgia, died c. 1832, Veteran of War of 1812.
2. Son of Philemon, Jr. and Susanah Snipes. Philemon, Jr., born c. 1763, probably Virginia. Served 10 days at close of Revolutionary War, died 1848.
3. Son of Philemon, Sr., and Anne Lacy. Philemon, Sr., born c. 1725, probably Virginia, was a revolutionary patriot because he loaned money to colonies, died 1808, Chatam County, North Carolina, came from Brunswick County, Virginia to North Carolina 1768.
4. Son of Benjamin Lacy of Brunson County, Virginia, died c. 1768 or shortly thereafter. All were planters and farmers and owned many acres of land in North Carolina and Georgia.

*Compiled by Margie Lacy Varden*

## THE J. L. LACY FAMILY

Jasper L. "Jay" Lacy was born on a farm ten miles east of Barnesville, Georgia, on April 14, 1865. At age 13 he came to Texas with his parents, Erastus W. Lacy and Mary Elizabeth Willis Lacy, three brothers, Frank, Billy, and Johnnie and one sister, Pearly, the youngest in the family. The family settled at New Salem in Rusk County.

As Jay became older and more interested in the young ladies, he chose for his wife a pretty blackeyed young girl, Mary Montay Tipton, the twelfth child of Albert Gallatin Tipton and Mary Dotson Tipton. This family had come from Walker County, Georgia in 1850 and settled at Lone Star, Texas, in Cherokee County. "Montie," as Mary Montay was called, was 12 years old when her mother died in 1883, leaving the family responsibilities in her care. Because she was a small child, a box was placed at the stove and sink for her while she tended the cooking and the dishes.

December 24, 1889, Montie and Jay married and took up housekeeping in New Summerfield, raising a family of eight. Jay was a farmer as his father Erastus W. Lacy before him. His father, mother, brother Johnnie, and sister Pearly Lacy Baker are all buried at Myrtle Springs Cemetery, located north of Ponta, Texas off F.M. 2274 in Cherokee County. Erastus' tombstone is one of a Confederate veteran, having served his country as Private, Company E, 3rd Battalion, 37th Regiment, Georgia Infantry. Erastus had enlisted on November 5, 1862, at The Rock, Georgia, and was in the war three years. He was listed as being captured near Nashville, Tennessee and was sent to Camp Douglas. At war's end Private Lacy was 39 years old and returned to his family and farm near Barnesville, Georgia. At the time there were three sons; but after the birth of two other children, a decision was made to sell the land and go to Texas in the latter part of the 1800's.

Montie's father, Albert Gallatin Tipton, had a second marriage to Mary Bostic, and they had one child, Edgar Tipton. Albert G. Tipton died December 22, 1901, and he and his first wife, Mary Dotson, are buried at Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

Jay and Montie are buried at McDonald cemetery, New Summerfield. Jay died March 30, 1947. Montie followed June 16, 1947.

This Lacy family, scattered throughout East Texas and other parts of Texas, gather once a year for a reunion, the 4th Sunday in June, at the Veteran's Building in Troup, Texas.

*Compiled by Minnie Mae Lacy*

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

Jasper "Jay" and Montie Lacy's children married and lived in the New Summerfield area for years. Estel married Ada Couch and later moved to Houston. Jessie married Mack Duty and later moved to Jacksonville and then to Houston. Jewel married Mack Tennison and remained in New Summerfield all her life. Alton married Basil Birdsong and remained in New Summerfield most of his life. Basil still resides there. Raymond married Alma Richardson and later moved to San Antonio. Elmer "Buddy" and his twin, Velma, and the youngest daughter, Margie settled in Jacksonville. Elmer married Minnie Mae Turner. Velma married "Red" Edwards. Margie married (1) William Ball and (2) William Leinback.

## ALONZO DOBBER AND AZALEA LAWSON

Alonzo Dobber Lawson was born in Waco, Texas, McClelland County, on September 1, 1906. His father was Frank Monroe Lawson, born on a place near Waco, which is now covered by Lake Waco. His mother was Mollie Elizabeth Dameron, born at Seagoville, Texas. He married Azalea Bonner in Ft. Worth, Texas, on November 3, 1932. They have been married fifty-one years at this time.

Azalea was born near Dallas, Texas, on November 3, 1900. She was a daughter of Eugene Lockhart Bonner and Bennie Broles Bonner of the Athens area. He was a railroad man all his life and the family moved often. Azalea had two sisters, Leita who married George Brock, and Hazel who married Mack McLarry.

Dobber and Azalea had no children, and neither Leita nor Hazel had any children. He had several brothers, who are all deceased — only one of his sisters-in-law is still living. He has some nieces and nephews. His brothers were Lloyd, Herbert, Arthur, Jack, and Leslie.

This couple came to New Summerfield to make their home not knowing anyone or anything about the community. They had jobs working in Ft. Worth, Texas, at Consolidated, making B-24 and B-32 airplanes. They were on vacation and came through New Summerfield on the way to Shreveport, Louisiana, for a fishing trip. They saw a place listed for sale. On the way back home Dobber remarked to his brother when they passed the place for sale, "I would like to see that fellow." In less than a week they loaded two cars with their possessions, including their twelve dogs, and they were on their way to New Summerfield.

They settled on that place near Mud Creek in 1948, built a glass hot house, and a place for their dogs. They prospered running a florist business from the hothouse and selling their miniature Boston Bulldogs to people in almost every state in the United States. They had to retire and give up their flowers and dogs because of poor health.

*Information by A. D. Lawson  
Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## THE JERRY LILES FAMILY

Jeremiah "Jerry" Liles was born in Fairplay, Texas, in 1873. He and Lula Pennington (born in Brenham, Texas, in 1879) were married November 17, 1897. The first seventeen years of their married life were spent in Texarkana, Texas, where Jerry owned a cotton gin, a grist mill, and a sawmill. Three sons and three daughters were born to this couple during this time. The family moved to Ponta, Texas, in 1914. A seventh child (a daughter) was born the first year after moving to Cherokee County. Jerry bought land, primarily for timber, located between Ponta and Summerfield. Here he engaged in sawmilling and farming. Later he bought a gin and moved the sawmill to Ponta. He was aided in his endeavors by his sons. The children attended the Dalby, Ponta, and Summerfield schools.

Helen Irene married Ira Collins. To this union one daughter, Lou Ellen, was born, who married L. J. Leinback. To this couple a daughter, Barbara Joel, was born. She now lives in Dallas.

Cecil Earl married Heativa Lewis. To this union two children, Cecil Earl, Jr. and Mary Nell, were born. Earl, Jr. married Jean Strain, and they had three children: Larry Jean, Michael Earl, and Rebekah. Larry is married, has three children, and now lives in Jacksonville, Texas. Michael is married, has five children, and lives out from New Summerfield. Rebekah is married, has two children, and lives in Shreveport, Louisiana. Mary Nell married Carlton Lloyd, who is employed by Dow Chemical Company. They live in Kilgore and have three children: Linda Christine, Carol, and Carlton, Jr.

Earl and Heativa were divorced. Later he married Dorothy Barnes, who now lives in Jacksonville. He was engaged in cotton ginning, chicken ranching, cattle ranching and plant and truck farming.

Marion Elmer "Johnny" was engaged in sawmilling and cotton ginning. He married Lessie A. Saulsby Waldrup, and to this union two sons were born, Johnny Ray (deceased) and Leslie Alton, who has a B.S. in Pharmacy from the University of Houston. He and his wife, Melinda Ray, live in Conroe, Texas, where he is a pharmacist. Lessie lives in Rusk, Texas, and is a retired employee of Rusk State Hospital.

Lois Lorene graduated from Jacksonville Baptist College and married Dr. P. E. Jones, who received his M.D. Degree from Barnes Medical College, St. Louis, Missouri. He practiced medicine at Pon-

ta until the time of his death. Lorene is a licensed Vocational Nurse and is still nursing at the Nan Travis Memorial Hospital, Jacksonville, Texas. She lives in Ponta.

Mittie Alma, who was employed by Rusk State Hospital until she retired, married Samuel Edgar Irwin, Jr., who was a machinist and welder. To this union were born three children: Glenn Liles, who is employed by Rusk State Hospital and lives in Ponta; Kenneth Ray, a sawmill, welder, truck farmer, and concrete worker, married Nanette Schochler. They have three daughters: Gina Renee, Christinia Evette, and Alysia Lynette and live on a farm east of Rusk. Elizabeth Ann married Billy Joe McCutcheon. They have four children: Sheila Gail, Billy Mark, Gary Britt, and Shonda Kay. Ann is employed by Bealls in Jacksonville, and Billy works for Cherokee County, Precinct 4. They live on a farm between Ponta and New Summerfield. Their home was destroyed by fire on January 26, 1984. Some years after Edgar's death, Alma married Leland Crawford, who now lives in a nursing home in Rusk.

Ralph received a B.S. Degree from Baylor University and a M.D. Degree from Baylor College of Medicine. He served as a Lieutenant in the Navy during World War II. He enjoyed a very successful practice in emergency medicine and traumatic surgery in Houston until he retired. He married Jeraldine Barnett. They have a son, Jerry Barnett, B.B.A., University of Houston, who lives in Houston, and is an accountant and a realtor. The daughter, Linda Lou, graduated from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London, England. She married Justin Murray Noble and has a son, Justin Noble. She has spent most of her married life in London. Ralph and Jeraldine now live at Emerald Bay on Lake Palestine.

Elnora, who was born in Cherokee County, received a B.B.A. Degree from Baylor University. She married Clifford M. Simmang (B.S., M.S., Texas A&M University, and Ph.D, University of Texas). He served in the Army during World War II and is now a Brigadier General (retired), U. S. Army Reserves. He was a professor and head of the Mechanical Engineering Department at Texas A&M until his retirement. They have one son, Clifford Liles (B.S., M.S., Texas A&M University, M.D., University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Texas) who is a certified flight surgeon. He served his internship in medicine at Brooke Army Medical Center and is in the first year of a four-year residency there in general surgery. He married Karen Black, and they have one son, Clifford Jonathan. They live in San Antonio. Elnora and Cliff live in Bryan and are enjoying cattle ranching.

Elmer, Lorene, Alma, Ralph and Elnora, Lou Ellen, Earl Jr., Mary Nell, Larry, Mickey, and Rebekah, all attended the New Summerfield School. Alma's grandchildren, Billy Mark, Gary Britt, and Shonda Kay, are currently attending New Summerfield School.

Jerry and Lula Liles, Irene, Lou Ellen, Earl, Earl, Jr., Elmer, and Johnny Ray are buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield. Alma is buried in Lowell's Chapel Cemetery.

*Compiled by Elnora Liles Simmang*

## BARCELOUS LIMBAUGH FAMILY

Barcelous and wife, Eula Mae Brand, came to New Summerfield, Cherokee County, Texas, from Hubbard, Texas, in the year 1935. He was a farmer. Barcelous was the son of Buck Limbaugh and Betty McLain. He was born in Alabama, June 27, 1890. Eula Mae Brand was the daughter of Thomas Brand and Derma Lee. She was born October 26, 1894, in Panola County. Thomas Brand came to Panola County from Alabama. Derma Lee was from a prominent family of Panola County. She died at the age of 25, died giving birth to her sixth child, a son. Thomas Brand left his baby son with a childless couple who ran away with him.

Thomas Brand took his other children and moved to Hubbard, Texas. There his daughter Eula Mae met and married Barcelus Limbaugh. In later years her baby brother advertised for his lost family members and was united with them. He was artistic in leather craft and did leather crafts for some of the famous movie stars. He had a business in Hobbs, New Mexico, known as Matt Brands. It was said that the Lees were very wealthy people owning extensive properties in Marshall, Texas, as well as throughout Panola County, but disowned the children of Derma Lee Brand because they did not approve of her marriage to Thomas Brand.

These are the children of Barcelous and Eula Mae Brand: Ruby Marrine, who married Roy Grissom from Hubbard, Texas; Cpl Berniece, who married Hollis D. Tipton of New Summerfield, Texas; Coy Liles, who married Ovis Marie Tipton, sister of Hollis D. Tipton; Floy Elziar, who married Erma Dean Bell of Frankston, Texas; Roy Ezam, who died at the age of eight years in 1918; Eula Lucille, who married J. W. Dial from San Antonio, Texas; Pauline, who married Bruno Witwiskey from Houston, Texas; Arnold Sanders died at age of 29, in 1958, was a Corporal in U.S.



Air Force and died of cancer, not in combat; Helen Ruth, who married Billy Gene Gilliam; E. B. died at age of seven years; Charles Lee married a girl from Oklahoma whose name was Elenor.

*Compiled by Betty Tipton Ivy*

## **SOLOMON GEORGE McCOWN**

Solomon George McCown was born at Stockdale, Texas, on September 22, 1868. His family moved to Mt. Enterprise, Texas, when George was a young lad. His father was Abraham "Abe" McCown, who came from Tennessee to Texas. It is not known who Abe's wife was. George McCown married Mary Angeline "Annie" Beddington from Mt. Enterprise. They moved to Emmaus and then to Griffin before they moved to New Summerfield.

George and Annie's children were: (1) Claud Abraham, who married Lena Lester, daughter of Dr. Lester from Rusk. Claud was born in 1896. They had one son, Claud A., Jr.; (2) One infant that died. Claud and the infant are buried at McDonald Cemetery; (3) Floyd Conley was born in 1900. He and his wife, Ada, had two children, George Conley and Dale. They live in California; (4) George Tennison married Agnes Birdsong from Myrtle Springs near New Summerfield. Their daughter is Helen Quillin who lives in Jacksonville, Texas; (5) Syble B. married Luke Wallace, an oil field worker. He is buried at McDonald Cemetery. Their sons were Sonny and Gary. They live in Corpus Christi, Texas; (6) Lois married Wiley Raylander. Lois and her son, Terry, live in Portland, Oregon. Their daughter, Janene, lives in Hawaii; (7) Alice Mae married Roy Polan. He was a jet airline pilot from Dallas. Roy is buried at Dallas, Texas. Their two sons are Danny and Roger; (8) Andrew Jackson "Jack" and wife, Janet, live in Missouri with their son and daughter; (9) Fred Lacy was born May 28, 1897, and named for Dr. Lacy of Mt. Enterprise. Fred was the only child to remain in New Summerfield to make his home. He married Thelma Julia Darby, whose parents were James William "Bill" and Cordia Summers Darby. Cordia was the daughter of Caley Summers and Julia Dalby Summers. Thelma was born December 2, 1899. They married April 28, 1918. When Thelma was asked if Fred was in the World War, she said that Fred appeared before his draft board and was told, "Go home, the war is over."

Thelma was the last Summers descendant to hold on to some of the old Caley Summers homeplace, which she sold in early 1984. Fred and Thelma's children were: (1) Cora Aurelia, born 1919, was six years old when the George McCown and Fred and Thelma families moved to Thorps Springs, Hood County, Texas. She died there sometime that year and is buried there. They returned to New Summerfield; (2) Ophelia was born January 3, 1921, and married Ernest King from Hutchinson, Kansas. They had one son and one daughter. Fred Ernest "Freddie" who married Carry Parker, and they have one son, John Parker, and Wanda Lee King has not married. Ophelia was married (2) Wayne R. Gandy. They have no children; (3) Royce Lacy was born January 1, 1924, and married Gracie Ledger. Their children are Michael Lynn and Dona Lisa; (4) Floyd Rayburn was born December 26, 1930, and married Margaret Halbert from Dialville. Their children are: Patrick "Pat," who married Robin Treadwell, and their children are Randy, Josh Luke, and Amy; Timothy "Tim" married Donna Gorham, and their children are Mark, Gregg, and Kirk; Marion Andrews "Andy" and Julia Ann "Julie" are not married.

Fred died July 28, 1982, and is buried at McDonald Cemetery. Thelma lives in the Twin Oaks Nursing Home in Jacksonville. George McCown died July 19, 1947, and Annie McCown died in 1976. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Facts by Thelma McCown*

## **FAMILY OF GILES CHAPMAN McLEOD**

Giles Chapman McLeod was born November 13, 1848, near Grove Hill in Clark County, Alabama. On November 3, 1967, he married Frances Stewart, daughter of John Stewart and Nancy Calhoun. Giles' father was Malcolm McLeod, born April 3, 1824, and his mother was Ruth Pugh Chapman McLeod. Malcolm McLeod served in the Civil War in Company E — 32nd Regiment Alabama Infantry C S A and died at Missionary Ridge, Tennessee, on December 20, 1863. It is not

known where he was buried. Malcolm's father, Neil McLeod, and his wife, Sally Bethune, came to North Carolina in 1774 from Isle of Skye, Scotland.

Giles was a man of many trades. He made grave markers, coffins, furniture (stripping wood to make thin veneer), and owned a country store. He also owned an interest in a grist mill and a farm in Clark County, Alabama. Giles helped write the by-laws of Masonic Lodge Number Seven of Alabama and was raised to a Master Mason February 22, 1873. He was a mason in Ponta after they moved to Texas. Malcolm wrote letters to Giles telling him to be good to his mother, how to plant the fields, to beware of how he acted, what type of company to keep, and many other encouragements.

To this family were born nine children: (1) John Malcolm McLeod, born July 28, 1868, and died as an infant; (2) Stephen Pugh McLeod, born February 11, 1870, in Clark County, Alabama, married Clerah McLeod October 10, 1896, and they had nine children; (3) Beard Lewell McLeod, born June 1, 1872, died as an infant; (4) Leva Lavinia McLeod, born September 23, 1873, married Elo Kinman; (5) Bobby McLeod died at birth; (6) T. Neal McLeod died at birth; (7) Earl Lamar McLeod, born March 6, 1887, married Flossie I. Tipton, January 1, 1909. Earl McLeod died May 21, 1951 at New Summerfield, Cherokee County, and Flossie died September 20, 1980. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery; (8) Frances Alice "Fannie" McLeod, born July 10, 1890, married Earl Elmo Kirkland, August 14, 1910; (9) Mara Amanda McLeod, born March 17, 1877, died as an infant.

Frances McLeod died in a "flu epidemic;" Giles McLeod was married second to Sally Singleton on August 20, 1893. Giles and Sally with five children came to Angelina County. In 1900 they moved to New Summerfield where his first cousin, Caley Summers, was living. In 1907 he bought a home where Fadie Smith later lived.

Children born to Giles and Sally were: (1) Richard Singleton McLeod, born October 27, 1894, at Grovehill, Alabama — married Eulie McMichael from Shreveport, Louisiana. Richard and Eulie both worked for the railroad in Shreveport; (2) Ethel McLeod married Leslie G. Knight from Kansas City, Missouri. After finishing high school, Ethel went to Normal School at Lone Star and taught school in Troup and Bullard; (3) Ellie McLeod died young; (4) A baby boy was born dead.

Giles Chapman McLeod died December 13, 1913, at New Summerfield and is buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery. Sallie was born May 16, 1861, and died December 25, 1944, in Norfolk, Virginia, while living with her daughter, Ethel Knight. Her body was cremated and her ashes were spread on the Potomac River.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## FAMILY OF EARL LAMAR McLEOD

Earl Lamar McLeod was a resident of New Summerfield for a long time. He left Alabama in 1904 and moved to this area. He was born in Clark County near Grovehill where he grew up with lots of cousins where he went to school. Earl was born March 6, 1887. His mother died in a flu epidemic when he was 3 years old. His father, Giles Chapman McLeod, moved here about 1900.

Fannie, his sister, introduced a friend, and he fell in love with this beautiful blackeyed girl named Flossie Tipton, daughter of Alexander and Lula Clay Tipton. They were married January 29, 1909, at the home of a Methodist preacher, W. J. Loftis. Flossie was born March 4, 1892, at New Summerfield and died September 20, 1980. Earl died May 12, 1951, in New Summerfield. His mother was Frances Stewart. Earl Lamar and Flossie both were members of the Church of Christ.

Earl was a farmer which was at that time, raising cotton, corn, cows, chickens, and later tomatoes, which were sold as pinks. He had mules and hoes to help with the farm work. He also sold real estate with his father-in-law, Alexander Tipton. The family went to Kerens and on to Vernon to pick cotton, as so many did. They left Vernon and went to Muleshoe to farm, but stayed only five months as it was a fraudulent deal, came back to Kerens, for probably three years and made a real good crop. Lee Dickson and wife, Tola, sold the old Caley Summers place to Earl and Flossie, where the family was so happy to settle back in New Summerfield. Earl and family had lived in twenty houses since they were married.

Born to this family were six children: (1) Mabel Leeanna McLeod, born November 8, 1909, married Freddie Roy "Dutch" Heath September 24, 1930, at Canton, Texas; Fred was born July 1, 1904, in DeLeon, Texas; (2) Eula Mae McLeod, born June 23, 1912, at New Summerfield, married Moody Melton Glass May 31, 1947. Moody was born February 24, 1908. Eula was a graduate of Lon Morris and received her B. S. Degree in 1947 at East Texas, Commerce, Texas. She taught school eleven years; five at Bell School, four at Atoy, one at Overton, and one at Jacksonville. Moody

served in the Army in World War II in Germany, England, France, and Luxemburg. He had a Texaco station for many years and was also a farmer. They have one son, Moody Melton Glass, Jr., who was born May 30, 1949, and married Patricia Bolton, who is the daughter of Jack and Jesse Bolton. Patricia is a school teacher, also. Moody Melton Glass, Jr. and Patricia, are the parents of two children, Matthew Ryan and Sarah Elizabeth Glass; (3) Ovis Tipton McLeod, born April 30, 1916, at New Summerfield, married Jimmie Gill July 7, 1934, served in World War II, being a Marine veteran and lost a leg in service. He died December 29, 1970. Their children were Jacqueline, Frank Earl, Randy, and Michael. His second marriage was to Joan Tipton; (4) Hubert Giles McLeod, born February 14, 1918, at New Summerfield, married Marguerite Bowling, June 10, 1939. Their children are Hubert Gene (deceased), Kenneth Wayne, and Curtis Don; (5) E. L. McLeod, born July 8, 1921, at New Summerfield, married Hilda Blankenbecker, October 11, 1952, in Houston, Texas. Their children are Gregory, Denise, and Diane Sue; (6) Tipton H. McLeod was born October 8, 1926 at New Summerfield, married (1) Opal Odell Christopher. Their children are Carol Ann, Vicki Lou, Gloria Dene, James Richard and Lamar Christopher. Tipton H. was married (2) to Sharon Howland and they have one daughter, Jennifer.

Earl Lamar McLeod sold places for homes that helped New Summerfield grow.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## **FAMILY OF E. L. McLEOD**

E. L. McLeod was born July 8, 1921 at New Summerfield, Texas. He is the son of Earl Lamar McLeod and Flossie Tipton McLeod. E. L. finished high school at New Summerfield and helped with the farm work at home. E. L. McLeod served in World War II as a Marine. He was first sent to San Diego, California, for training. Earl and Flossie went to visit him at San Diego before he was sent overseas. E. L. was sent to New Zealand twice, Guadalcanal, Tara Island, Hawaii, Siapan, Tiwan, and to Oregon in 1944. The family was happy to get a notice from Western Union that E. L. had arrived at the U. S. Naval Hospital in Oakland, California, Ward 65-B, September 5, 1944.

After the war, he went to work in Houston where he met a beautiful girl named Hilda Blankenbecker. They were married October 11, 1952. She was the daughter of Pete Blankenbacker and Edna Wolverton from Illinois and Houston. Hilda worked as a secretary until the children were born. E. L. worked for Champion International in Pasadena, Texas, until he retired. They moved back to New Summerfield, and Hilda works part time as a secretary for the City of New Summerfield. E. L. and Hilda are both members of the Church of Christ.

Three children were born to this family: (1) Gregory Alan McLeod was born September 10, 1953, in Houston, Texas, and married M. Kathy Cooper. They have one daughter, Melissa; (2) Denise Lyn McLeod was born April 1, 1956, in Pasadena, Texas, and married Jimmy Bailey. They have two daughters, Stephanie Sue and Shawna Nicole Bailey; (3) Diana Sue McLeod, born June 6, 1957.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## **FAMILY OF HUBERT GILES McLEOD**

Hubert Giles McLeod was born February 14, 1918, at New Summerfield. His parents were Earl Lamar McLeod and Flossie I. Tipton McLeod. He graduated from New Summerfield High School, and he served in the Army in the 23rd Infantry during 1935 and 1936, before World War II.

On June 10, 1939, Hubert married Marguerite Bowling of Reklaw, Texas. She was born December 14, 1920, and her parents were Ross Bowling and Zada Matteson from Reklaw. Hubert and Marguerite moved to Texarkana where he drove a truck transporting cars. Next, they moved to Houston where he drove city buses. Later they moved back to New Summerfield where he worked for the State Highway Department for 25 years before retiring. Marguerite worked for the J. C. Penney Co. for 25 years before retiring. Hubert and Marguerite are both members of the Church of Christ, and he is church treasurer.

Born to this family were three children: (1) Hubert Gene McLeod, born September 12, 1940, at New Summerfield, died in an automobile accident June 24, 1953, and was buried in the McDonald



Cemetery. He was a member of the Church of Christ; (2) Kenneth Wayne McLeod was born November 30, 1944, in Houston. He married Marla Thibodeaux on February 4, 1964, at Troup, Texas. They had three sons, Kenneth Wayne McLeod, Jr., Timothy Ian McLeod, and William Casey McLeod. Kenneth Wayne's present wife is Linda Coats Morris. Linda had two sons when they married, Shawn and Kenny Morris. Kenneth Wayne and Linda have one son, Hubert Gene McLeod. Kenneth Wayne works for Kelly Tire Company in Tyler.; (3) Curtis Don McLeod was born March 9, 1948, at New Summerfield. On February 21, 1969, he married Barbara Ann Meadow, who was from Michigan. They have a beautiful red-headed daughter, Tiffany, who was born September 19, 1971. Curtis ran a Fina station in New Summerfield for a time. For several years he worked for the Goodyear store in Jacksonville. Through hard work and good management he has won promotions and several trips to various places. Presently he is the manager of a large Goodyear store in Huntsville, Texas.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## **FAMILY OF RICHARD SINGLETON McLEOD**

Richard Singleton McLeod was born October 29, 1894, at Grovehill, Alabama. His parents were Giles Chapman McLeod and Sally Singleton McLeod. Giles moved to New Summerfield in 1904, and lived just off Highway 110 toward the Union Chapel Cemetery. Later, he purchased the farm where Fadie Smith lived later. Richard helped with the farm and went to school until his father died. When World War I began, his mother and sister began living with his brother, Earl McLeod, and lived there until the war ended.

Richard ran a garage at Bullard for a while. Then he worked for the Missouri-Pacific Railroad in Shreveport, Louisiana. While working there, he met Quida Eulie McMichael, who worked as an office secretary for the same company. They were married January 9, 1926, in Texas. She was born in Grand Cane, Louisiana. Her father was C. G. McMichael and her mother was a Bozeman. Richard was a member of the United Methodist Church and Eulie was a member of the Christian Church. They lived in Jacksonville, Texas for seventeen years after he retired.

His sister, Ethel, was born May 6, 1899, and married Leslie Knight in Kansas City, Missouri. She went to Normal School at Lone Star and taught school at Troup. Ethel died December 20, 1977 and was cremated December 23, 1977.

To Richard and Eulie was born one son, Richard Kenneth McLeod, in Shreveport, Louisiana, on September 30, 1933. He went to college at Rice University in Houston and taught school at TCU. He received his Master's Degree at Charleston, Virginia. He earned a Doctor's Degree in Chemistry and worked at Monsanto in Texas City. On July 28, 1962, Richard Kenneth McLeod married Linda Roberts at Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her parents were E. S. Roberts and a McDowell. Born to them were two sons, Robert Kevin McLeod, who was born at Fort Worth on April 20, 1964, and Richard Stephen who was born on June 24, 1968, at Galveston, Texas.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## **FAMILY OF OVIS TIPTON McLEOD**

Ovis Tipton McLeod was born April 30, 1916, at New Summerfield and went to school there. His parents were Earl Lamar McLeod and Flossie Tipton McLeod. He served in World War II in the Second Division of the Sixth Marine Corps and was a member of the American Legion. During the war Ovis lost his leg while in New Zealand and was given a U. S. Marine Corps Honorable Discharge after his injury. He married Jimmie Gill. She was the daughter of Frank Gill and Effie Goodman Gill.

Ovis and his family were members of the Church of Christ. He attended college in Abilene and became a preacher. Surgeries on his leg and bad health caused him to give up preaching. For a while after the war he worked with Edna Boone with a county recreational program. Later he drove a butane truck and delivered gas to customers.

Ovis bought the land where the City Hall is located and encouraged its building. Ovis and Jim-

mie sold the land to other interested citizens, and plans were made for the City Hall. There is now a City Hall, a water corporation, and natural gas company because of his and other citizens' interest in the town. He also helped the people of the Pine Hill community to get a community water system.

Born to this family were four children: Jacqueline McLeod, born February 22, 1936; Frank E. McLeod, born June 13, 1943; Randy Joe McLeod, born January 25, 1949; and Michael McLeod, born September 12, 1952. Joan Hawthorn Tipton McLeod was Ovis' second wife. Ovis Tipton McLeod died December 20, 1970, and is buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## FAMILY OF TIPTON H. McLEOD

Tipton H. McLeod was born October 8, 1926, at New Summerfield and is the son of Earl McLeod and Flossie Tipton McLeod. He finished high school at New Summerfield and is a member of the Church of Christ. During World War II, he served in the Navy on board the aircraft carrier **Bunker Hill**, (S2/c 358-27-39 U.S. 55 BUNKER HILL (v-17) Division VIH SO F, P.O. San Francisco, California). The ship's home port was San Francisco, but it made raids on Tokyo and Okinawa. On May 11, 1944 while the mighty carrier was off Okinawa, two Japanese planes plowed into the ship. The attack left 373 dead, 264 wounded, and 19 missing. On board the carrier at that time was one Cherokee County boy, Seaman Second Class Tipton Herman McLeod, who escaped without a scratch. He was eighteen years old, had been in the Navy almost a year, and on sea duty about seven months.

On July 24, 1946, he married Opal Odell Christopher, daughter of Luther Dean Christopher and Lea Ammer Walker. She was born March 29, 1927, at Reklaw, and died June 11, 1976. They lived in New Summerfield, Reklaw, and Houston. While living in Houston, Opal was a city librarian. Tipton owned a jewelry store for a time, then became a policeman and served in that capacity for many years. He retired and moved back to New Summerfield due to a health problem.

Born to this family were five children: (1) Carrol Ann McLeod, born November 4, 1947, in Jacksonville, Texas, married James Cribbs in Houston, Texas; (2) Vicki Lou McLeod was born October 16, 1949, in Jacksonville, Texas, and married John Pittinger Garrett in Houston, Texas; (3) Gloria Dene McLeod was born March 25, 1952, in Pasadena, Harris County, Texas, and married Mike Mitchell; (4) James Richard McLeod was born March 3, 1956, in Houston, Texas; (5) Lamar Christopher McLeod was born May 8, 1959, in Houston, Texas. He married Brenda Winzenried in January 1984.

Tipton is married to Sharon Howland, and they have one daughter, Jennifer McLeod. Tipton and Sharon both work at the Rusk State Hospital. In 1983, Sharon was presented the award for the Outstanding Psychiatric Aide of the Year.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## FAMILY OF LENNIE BURLESON McMEANS

Lennie Burleson "Burley" McMeans was born in 1886. His parents were John Paschal McMeans and Bertie Cornelison McMeans. He married Annie Mae Tipton October 26, 1913. She was a daughter of Alexander G. Tipton and Lula Clay Thomason Tipton. She was born March 7, 1890. Burley died in 1946. Burley was a farmer all of his life. He was a member of the Church of Christ, and Annie Mae who is now 94 years old, has been a member of the Church of Christ for many years.

Born to this family were six children: (1) Paschal A. McMeans, born August 23, 1914, married Emma Jean Hays February 6, 1939; (2) Eva Mae McMeans, born December 31, 1915, married Newman Darby July 10, 1937; (3) Estelle McMeans, born January 1, 1917, married A. T. Shoemaker; (4) Ruby Jewel McMeans, born November 28, 1920, married James Whitesides January 29, 1939; (5) Dorothy Jean, born December 22, 1925, served in the WAC's in W.W. II; (6) Lenita Ann, born February 28, 1933, died March 8, 1933.

This family followed varied occupations. Paschal hauled automobiles from the factory to dealers for many years. Eva Mae received a Bachelor of Science Degree and taught school a number of

years. The last several years before she retired, she taught at Troup, Texas. She also does china painting. Estelle and Ruby Jewel are very talented in all kinds of crafts. Dorothy Jean was in military service during WW II. Lenita died as an infant.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## THE MONROE MACK FAMILY

The first Mack known to live in the New Summerfield area was Augustus "Gus" Mack, born about 1836, in Georgia. He was living in the home of Elzy K. Berry Patterson in 1870. He married Virginia W. "Jennie" Johnson on August 15, 1882. She was the daughter of William Johnson and Clarissa "Clara" Adeline Johnson. (She may have been Clara Garrison, born August 13, 1818). This family lived in the area a few years but moved away before 1880.

The next Mack to live in the New Summerfield community was Monroe T. Mack, a relative of Augustus Mack (probably a brother). Monroe was born June 11, 1852, and was married in 1879-80 to Laura Olivia (Oldocia) McDonald, known to her friends as "Ollie." She was a daughter of Thomas McDonald and Clarissa Adeline Johnson McDonald, and a half-sister of Virginia W. Johnson Mack.

Monroe and Ollie had three children: (1) Martha "Matt" Devine, born December 19, 1882, and married to Monroe Gibbs on April 5, 1909; (2) John Thomas "Tom" never married. He died in November 1967; (3) Lula married James Euke Cowan on January 19, 1904. He was a street car or trolley car operator before moving to New Summerfield where he farmed. He was a son of Wm. B. Cowan and Selisha Lane Cowan. (This information given by Florence Faye Cowan Russell, a daughter of Lula Mack Cowan).

Children of James and Lula Cowan were: (1) Ray, born September 21, 1902. He never married. He was a cab driver for years. He died in Alvin, Texas, and is buried in the Griffin Cemetery near New Summerfield; (2) Florence Faye was born August 20, 1905. She married Guy Russell from Mississippi. He went from place to place building rigs for oil wells. Faye and Guy had one daughter, Carolyn, born February 25, 1939. She married Weldon "Rip" Clardy of New Summerfield, a son of Jay and Aline Clardy. They had two daughters, Janna who married Steven Looney, and they live at Whitehouse, and Stacey who attends Kilgore College. Weldon lost his life in a car wreck; (3) Vassie married Carl Lane, who died in 1984. Vassie had one son, Richard Dennis, who lives on South Padre Island. He operates a deep sea fishing service and carries fishermen out to sea. He has been interviewed on television sports programs.

Glynn married Kelly Shay. Their children were Mike, Pat, and Jim. Glynn was killed by an unknown gunman. She was shot while sitting in her living room crocheting. Monroe died November 9, 1924, and Laura O. "Ollie" died July 12, 1931. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton and  
Earla Ellis Clifton*

## THE JAMES FLERNOY MAGEE FAMILY

James Flernoy Magee, born November 3, 1864, was married to Martha Ellen Wallace in Cherokee County, Texas, on January 1, 1886. Martha Ellen was a daughter of William and Mary Wallace, who homesteaded on a large tract of land a short distance east of the present New Summerfield townsite.

The eleven children born to this couple were: Ophelia Elizabeth, born October 18, 1886, died December 10, 1970; she married J. F. Banks; William Jonathon, born March 18, 1888; John Thomas, born March 15, 1890, died November 4, 1964; Emmett Gordon, born June 13, 1891, died in 1900; Lawrence Edward, born May 4, 1893, died November 23, 1975; Oscar Odis, born November 23, 1894, died September 27, 1966; Ethel Lee, born November 16, 1896, died in 1983; Oran Texie, born July 11, 1898, died in 1982; Bertha Susan, born October 8, 1900; Howard Liston, born November 5, 1902, died September 7, 1958; Aubrey Elmer, born April 23, 1904, died June 27, 1977. All of these men, except Oscar, were Masons, including the father and grandfather.

After the death of Martha Ellen, James Magee married Amanda Lewis, and one daughter,



Frankie Jonathon, was born to this union. Amanda served as postmaster at Lone Star, Texas, from January 29, 1915, until that post office was discontinued and mail routed to Ponta, Texas, on December 15, 1916. Many descendants of these Magees have lived at New Summerfield during the past years and some still reside here.

*Facts Provided by Mattie Belle Smelley*

## **JOHN THOMAS MAGEE FAMILY**

John Thomas Magee was born March 15, 1890. He was the second son of James Flernoy Magee and wife, Martha Ellen Wallace, daughter of William and Mary Wallace, who homesteaded in the New Summerfield area.

John Thomas Magee married Tressie Lee Boatman and the following children were born: (1) Chester Emmanuel, who married Ruthie Carpenter. To them one daughter, Jeanine, and one son, Don, were born. He was employed for several years by Nichols Industries; (2) Walter Clifford Magee, born June 12, 1911, died July 6, 1983, married Amy Katherine Wilbourn, born October 19, 1914, died March 15, 1961. Walter "Bud" was employed by the WPA in Rusk during the 1940's, Peacock Box Factory in the 1950's, the Cherokee County Bridge and Road Department (Precinct 4) for 16 years and was a parttime farmer. Their children are two daughters, Linda Lee and Oleta Faye, and one son, Robert Loyd. Linda married Robert Neil Crank and has two children, Amy LaShay and Mikel Shane; Grady Pearl Magee married Ludie Wells. Grady worked for the State of Texas Highway Department; Dorothy Oleta Magee Townley, born February 28, 1918, died July 18, 1969, married Clifford Townley, born July 30, 1908, died February 7, 1982, and they had one son, Fred Allen Townley, born September 21, 1945, died November 19, 1961; Evelyn Magee was born September 10, 1921, and died October 13, 1921.

*Compiled by Oleta Magee*

## **THE LAWRENCE EDWARD MAGEE FAMILY**

Lawrence Edward "Ed" Magee and Fannie Viola Johnson were married at Lone Star, Cherokee County, Texas, August 28, 1912. "Ed," a son of James Flernoy Magee and Martha Ellen Wallace Magee, was born May 4, 1893, at Lone Star. Fannie Viola, a daughter of Joseph Benson Johnson and Rose Ann Fults Johnson, was born June 30, 1890, at Swift, Shelby County, Texas.

Rose Ann Fults' father was a full-blood Cherokee Indian doctor or "medicine man." He taught Rose Ann how to practice medicine. She learned how to use herbs for medicine and had "curing recipes" for various mixes to cure various diseases. She mixed a salve for sores, which she gave to many people. She also had a mixture of herbs which cured blood poison. When a licensed doctor could not be reached, Rose Ann went to help the sick. Doctors appreciated her help and her herbal medicines. Rose Ann died in Oklahoma when an old lady.

Ed and Viola lived most of their married life at New Summerfield, where they farmed. He was a carpenter and a "fifty year" Mason. He was a "fiddle player," and Viola picked a guitar and played the piano, and so they often entertained their family and friends with music. He was the community Santa Claus. Viola was known for her nice quilting.

Born to this couple were seven children: Mattie Belle, born April 19, 1914; James Benson, born October 29, 1915, died March 4, 1916, at Lone Star, Texas; Infant, stillborn in April, 1917, at Lone Star; Wilma Neddie, born May 3, 1918, at Lone Star and died September 20, 1920, at New Summerfield; Leon Truman, born September 10, 1920; Robert Lee, born November 4, 1921, died November 8, 1921; Edwin Earl, born October 5, 1924.

Mattie Belle married Oscar Cleo "Cotton" Sowell on April 26, 1929, at Ponta, Texas. They made their home in New Summerfield where they reared their two daughters, Gaylia Regina, born July 18, 1930, and Joyce Juanita, born October 12, 1932. Gaylia married L. D. Morgan, June 25, 1947, and Joyce married Bob Mayo, June 28, 1947. Oscar Sowell was a farmer and a produce hauler. Mattie Belle worked for years at Nichols Pistol Factory and Marja Brassiere Co. in Jacksonville, Texas. They were active members of the Church of Christ. Oscar Sowell died December 16, 1979.

Mattie Belle married Virgil Smeley on May 27, 1981, and he, too, is an active member of the Church of Christ. Mattie Belle was the first woman in Cherokee County to serve as a juror on a criminal case at Rusk, Texas. She was also the only woman on that jury. The murder case was in court two weeks, and she was not allowed to come home during the trial. The trial was in April term of court 1961.

Leon Truman Magee married Willie Mae Terry on February 17, 1940. Born to this couple were a daughter, Joyce Diane, and a son, Tony Leon. Diane married Wilmer Byers, and they have three children, David, Lisa, and Tammy. Diane and Wilmer reside in Lufkin, Texas. Tony lives with his parents at New Summerfield. Truman worked for the county several years doing road work. He was the first city marshall of the newly incorporated town of New Summerfield, is a trustee of the New Summerfield Cemetery Association, and is an active member of the Baptist Church.

Edwin Earl married Edith Mayo on June 13, 1947. They have one son, Jimmy. Edwin is employed in Tyler by Trane Company, formerly General Electric Company. Edwin went into the U. S. Navy on November 8, 1943, and was in boot camp at San Diego, California. He went to Honolulu, Hawaii, where he served in the 82nd Submarine Corps of the Navy under Commander Spurance. They captured three Japanese suicide ships and brought them into Pearl Harbor. He was in Tokyo, Japan, for six months of occupation and came home May 2, 1946.

Lawrence Edward "Ed" Magee died November 23, 1975. Fannie Viola Magee died March 20, 1968. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield, Texas.

*Facts Provided by Mattie Belle Smelley*

## **PATRICK FLOYD MOORE**

Floyd Moore lived in New Summerfield at least two separate times — first about one mile east of town, and years later he lived near the city water tank south of town. Floyd was born July 20, 1893, and was the son of William Riley Moore and Minnie Ola Alexander Moore. He had the good fortune of marrying Bessie Lorena "Rena" Gradick from Tyler, Texas. She was a very gracious lady. Her parents were James "Jim" and Mary Ellen Gradick.

Floyd and Rena had three girls, who are just as lovely as their mother. They are Nellie, who married Thoys Banks, Lois Eldora, who married Archie Richard Rogers, and Opal, who married Stanley Crook. These girls all live in Tyler, Texas, within a one-block area of each other.

Rena worked in the cafeteria of Nan Travis Hospital for a number of years. She died January 1, 1954 and is buried in Memorial Park Cemetery, Tyler, Texas. Floyd continued to live in their home on the old Tyler Highway. Because of his health, his neighbors kept an eye on him until he met and married Connie, who was very good to him and waited on him in old age.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## **WILLIAM RILEY AND OLA MOORE**

William Riley "Will" Moore was born February 14, 1865. He and his wife were not natives of New Summerfield. They migrated this way because of his daughter, Texia May Moore Tipton. Will's folks came from around Athens. At one time when his daughters were about grown, he worked in Malakoff. While he was there, he lost two of his daughters by marriage to young men who worked in the surface coal mines.

Will married Minnie Ola Tibatha Ann Alexander, born December 23, 1875, who was the daughter of Patrick Fountain and Anne Rose Wallace Alexander. Anne was the second wife of Patrick Alexander. Ola's brothers and sisters were: Vaner, born May 14, 1877, married Leonard Hodges; Patrick Lee, born July 7, 1879, married Mrs. Edna Grimes Isaacs; Ethel C., born in 1881, married Charley McElyea and their son Charles A., born 1886, married Nettie Myrtle Gregory. Her daddy was a minister.

The Moores moved about quite a bit in their early years. Some of the places they lived were Mixon, Ponta, Atlanta, and in Louisiana. Their oldest child, Texia Mae, was born in Louisiana. In his later life, he returned to this area and lived at Gallatin, Texas. Then he moved to New Summerfield and lived on Dr. Tennison's place for 15 years.

Their children were: Texia Mae, who married John Henry "Johnny" Tipton; Patrick Floyd who married (1) Bessie Lorena "Rena" Gradick and (2) Connie?; Laura Lee, who married Thomas Richard Sheffield; Willie Dee, who married Taylor Cook; Rosa Viola, who married John Evans Beard; a baby girl buried at Myrtle Springs; Idella Christine, who married DeWitt Jenkins; William Riley, Jr., buried in Myrtle Springs; and Gladys Juanita, who married Isaacs Ashley "Shorty" Broomfield.

Will Moore was a power to his wife and family. A fine example of this was taking two rooms from his home to let his grandson, Clavis Tipton and his wife, Odessa Thompson, have an apartment when they married. Will was a music teacher. He taught singing and violin at one time. Will Moore died October 26, 1943, and Ola died December 1, 1942. Their daughter, Gladys Moore Bloomfield, died January 21, 1961, in a fire which destroyed her home, at New Summerfield. Gladys' daughter, Della Mae Bloomfield Mitchell, the wife of James "Buddy" Mitchell, also died as a result of that house fire. They are all buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## **J. J. MORRIS FAMILY**

James Jefferson Morris, who was born in Texas in 1851, married Jane Cowan on August 31, 1881. To this union were born four children: Gertha Leora, Annie Izora, Velma Belton, and Ivan Holland. Gertha married Thomas Porter Heath. To this union were born Frances Willard and James Franklin. Frances married George T. Anderson, and they had one son, George Patrick. Pat has two children, Bryan and Christina. James Franklin married Estelle Ramsey, and they had one son, Marion Thomas.

Annie Izora married J. F. Jones, and they had four children, Morris B., Leon, Roy V., and Sidney Merle. Morris B. married Marion Robinson, and they have one son, Jimmy. Leon and Roy had no children. Sidney Merle married R. F. Carnes, and they had two daughters, Virginia Joy and Janet. Joy married R. E. Spitzenberger, and they had three children, Rudy, Randy, and Rhonda. Janet married Jerry Hicks, and they have two children, Georgyanna and Timmy. Velma B. married Edgar Tipton, and they had one daughter, Cecile, who married Jimmie H. Cone, and they had two children, Michael M. and Karen. Michael married Joanne Hensley, and they have three sons, Scott, Mark, and Christopher. Karen married Robert E. Joiner, and they have three sons, Jim Bob, David, and John Andrew. Ivan Holland married Sibbie Fuller, and they had no children.

The land owned by J. J. and Jane Morris is still in the family. Only one of the mentioned people still resides in Cherokee County, and she is Cecile Cone. J. J. Morris was active in his community and church. He was certified to teach in 1875. He was elected county commissioner of Precinct 4 in November 1888, and was elected constable in 1876. James Jefferson was a son of Stephen and Sarah Morris, a pioneer family of New Summerfield.

Children of Stephen and Sarah were: Lavenia, born in Tennessee, Elizabeth, Sarah, and William, born in Mississippi, and Ruffin, James J., Charles, and Henry S., born in Texas. This family was probably in New Summerfield by 1845-47. It is believed that Stephen Morris was a son of Silas M. Morris, born in North Carolina, and Catherine, born in Tennessee. Silas M. Morris received a patent for land in New Summerfield, and he and Catherine were on the 1860 census as ages 64 years and 56 years. James and Henry lived on this land before James married Jane Cowan. James and Jane continued to live on this land, originally patented to Silas Morris, who was probably the father of Stephen. This is the land mentioned in this story and is now owned by their descendants.

*Compiled by Cecile Tipton Cone*

## **THE RAY MURPHY FAMILY**

Willie Ray Murphy was born January 10, 1892, the third son of James Monroe and Jenny (Rae), who moved from Alabama to the Troup, Texas area. There they owned and operated a hotel and a hardware store.

December 20, 1914, Willie Ray Murphy married Allye Mae Payne, daughter of Andrew C. and Emma E. Payne of the Dalby Community. She was born February 6, 1895. Ray and Allye Murphy



made their home at Emmaus, Texas, where they owned and operated a farm. Ray, better known as "Red" to his friends, did mechanic work in his spare time on the farm. In 1936, he bought a garage in New Summerfield, Texas, and moved his family here, where he continued to operate the garage until he retired about 1977. He died May 10, 1979, at age 87.

Five children were born to Ray and Allie Murphy: A son, Rex Raymond Murphy, born February 12, 1916, married Oweta Marie Bowling, December 23, 1939. They have one son, Jerry Rex Murphy, born August 17, 1941, married Charlotte Dianne Davis, December 31, 1962, and they have one daughter, Jennifer Elaine Murphy. They live in Tyler, Texas; a daughter, Erma Genelle Murphy, born June 22, 1918, died January 17, 1921, at the age of two years and seven months; a daughter, Emma Ahnolia Murphy, born May 20, 1921, married William Roscoe Gill, January 18, 1941. They have three children, William Anthony "Tony" Gill, born February 6, 1943, married Sandra Jean Hunt, September 3, 1961, and they have one son, William Michael Gill. They live in New Summerfield, Texas; Larry Neal Gill, born February 4, 1948, married Mary Ann Bell, October 4, 1969, and they have two sons, Larry Neal Gill, Jr. and Barry Wayne Gill. They live in Beckville, Texas. Scherri Rae Gill, born November 16, 1951, married Jimmy Don Davis, August 21, 1971, and they have two sons, Gary Don Davis and James Allyn Davis. They live in New Summerfield, Texas; a son, James Ervin Murphy, born November 12, 1926, married Opal Lee Hall, December 3, 1948. They have three children, James Rodney Murphy, born August 15, 1956, married Karen Faye Watkins, July 11, 1975, and they have a son and a daughter, James Rodney Murphy, Jr. and Amy Gayle Murphy. They live in Jacksonville, Texas. William Bryan Murphy, born August 20, 1959, married Sheryl Kay Kline, August 4, 1983. They live in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Cynthia Marie Murphy, born October 2, 1960, married James Paul Blanton, May 24, 1980. They live in the Cushing area; a son, Lawrence Neal Murphy, born March 21, 1928, married Jeanette Wiggins, September 19, 1955. They have one son, Kenneth Neal Murphy, born December 11, 1957, married Patricia Elena De la Cruz, January 3, 1981. They have one daughter, Erin Nicole Murphy. They live in the Dallas area.

Ray and Allie Murphy were Sacred Harp singers. They raised their children to sing and to play string instruments. They often had a string band to entertain themselves and others. The children attended and graduated from New Summerfield High School and still live in the New Summerfield area.

*Compiled by Oweta Murphy and Ahnolia Gill*

## THE DANIEL TAYLOR NICHOLSON FAMILY

Daniel Taylor Nicholson, 1847-1914, was born in Neshoba County, Mississippi, the first son of Daniel Nicholson. His mother's name was Mary. Daniel, Mary, and their family moved to Polk County, Texas. They lived the rest of their lives near Livingston, Texas, where Daniel Sr. farmed.

Daniel Taylor Nicholson married Mattie Rebecca Hubert, born in Eaton, Putman County, Georgia, and moved to New Summerfield, Cherokee County, Texas. D. T. was a farmer and farmed until his death in 1914. Mattie continued to live in the area until her death in 1948. Nine children were born to this marriage with only four sons surviving.

Edward M. Nicholson, 1880-1950, oldest son, married Vannie Shaw of Troup, Texas. They had one daughter, Mattie Rebecca, who lived only one year. He owned and operated the grocery in New Summerfield until his death in 1950.

Daniel Newt Nicholson, 1885-1962, the second son, became a pharmacist. He was married to Lois Barron of New Orleans, Louisiana. There were no children born to this marriage. They made their home in Dallas, Texas. Newt was a 32nd degree Mason for several years before his death.

Hubert "Hub" Bennie Nicholson was born in 1888 and died in 1968. He married Bammie Fuller, New Summerfield. They farmed most of his life in the New Summerfield and Jacksonville areas. They had one child, a daughter, Bennie Jaunita. She married Fuller Moses, 1910-1977, of Brownsville, a produce broker. There were no children born to this marriage. Bennie now resides in Dover, Arkansas.

Archie Dreburn Nicholson, 1895-1939, served in the 5th Army 7th Division Engineers during World War I. He received injuries to his back and leg. Upon his return from the service he was employed by Ideal Bakery of Dallas, Texas. When he retired, he returned to New Summerfield to farm. He resided there until his death in 1939.

*Compiled by Bennie Nicholson Moses*

## THE ANDREW CASWELL PAYNE FAMILY

The Andrew Caswell Payne family was a farming family. Although five of the six children were girls, they all proved capable farm helpers; and they always found time to participate in church, school, and community activities. Andrew Caswell served on the local school board, and Dalby School teachers often boarded in the Payne home. They and their children were all singers of the old "Sacred Harp" gospel songs, using a four note musical scale. This type music is almost a lost art today.

Andrew Caswell, the oldest son of Andrew Erwin Payne and Elizabeth J. Cook Payne, was born March 18, 1862, and his wife, Emma Elizabeth Dalby, a daughter of Isaac Knight and Malinda Lowe Dalby, was born in 1867. They grew up as neighbors and were married November 20, 1884. They made their home near their parents, acquired a nice farm and reared five daughters and one son there.

Their children were: Malinda Elizabeth "Ninnie," born March 20, 1887, and married A. G. "Guy" Darby, died July 4, 1966; Edith Leone "Ette," born July 24, 1889, married Richard Murphy, and died July 17, 1973; Rossye Ophelia "Doss," born May 28, 1891, never married, and died October 13, 1970; Allie Mae, born February 6, 1895, married Ray Murphy; Clytie Ovilla, born August 12, 1899, and married Jeff Berry; Rubye F., born September 28, 1904 and married Annie Brown.

Andrew Caswell died in 1949, and Emma E. died in 1957. Both are buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery. All the Payne children remained in or near New Summerfield after their marriages and reared their children here. Some moved away later, but several descendants remain in the community in 1984.

*Facts by Rubye Payne*

## THE FRANK O. AND FANNIE MAE RICHARDS FAMILY

Fannie Mae Naylor was born December 1, 1902, at Bollevier, Tennessee. She was the daughter of Freland Tyson Naylor and Ella Becky Matley, who were married at Bollevier, Tennessee in 1901. Freland Tyson was accidentally killed when he tripped and fell while out hunting, causing his gun to fire. Ella Becky's parents, Bill Matley and his wife Margaret Gibson Matley, also lived in Bollevier, Tennessee.

After her father's untimely death, Fannie Mae and her mother, Ella Matley Naylor, lived with her grandfather, Bill Matley, until 1909. Her grandmother was deceased. In 1909 they came by train to Cherokee County, Texas, to live with Ella's uncle and aunt, Henderson and Emily Riggs. They only lived there a short time before going to live with Joe and Malinda Kennedy where Ella assisted with the cooking for a crew of log haulers, who used ox wagons for hauling.

Before many months passed, Ella met and married W. B. Martin from Mississippi in 1909. Three daughters were born to this couple: Ruby Catherine, who married Major Berry of Rusk; Cora Lee, who married Claud Poovy of Henderson; and Gracie Mae, who married Wiley E. McNaughton of Turney. Fannie Mae Naylor married Frank Odeal Richards of Henderson in August, 1926.

Frank Odeal "F.O." Richards was a son of Frank and Lula Thompson Richards, who lived in West Texas near Lipan and Breckenridge.

Born to Frank O. and Fannie Mae Richards were six children: Mable Lois, born October 31, 1927; Iva Mae, born September 6, 1930, and died October 19, 1932, at Henderson; Amos, born October 24, 1934; O'Daniel James, born September 11, 1938; Jerry Lee, born January 14, 1941; and Tyson Odeal, born September 22, 1946. The boys were all born at Turney, Texas.

Frank O. and Fannie Mae moved from Henderson to Turney, Texas in 1933, to work at the Peacock Basket Factory where they were employed 13 years. After living in Turney 26 years, they moved to New Summerfield, Texas, in 1957. Fannie Mae also worked a short time at the Newton-Shank Basket Factory and Marja Brassiere Factory. She was employed 32 years by the Jacksonville Candy Company. Along with her other work, she spent 26 years selling Avon cosmetic products. Frank Odeal worked for Andrews Lumber Company, Miller Handle Company, S & K Furniture Company, and Darby Greenhouses.

Mabel Lois was married first to Bruce Hobbs of Temple, Texas, and second to Nathan James Read of Bryan, Texas. She took a three-year nurse's training course at King's Daughters Hospital in Temple and worked 35 years at the V.A. (Veterans) Hospital in Temple. Amos married Louise Folley of Belton, Texas. He was employed as a carpenter in Jacksonville. O'Daniel James married Patricia McGee of Gallatin, Texas. He has been employed by Brown and Root for several years and

lives in Baytown. Jerry Lee married Sheryl Thompson of Sherwood, Oregon, and worked several years as a machinist. He is now employed by Brown and Root and lives in Baytown. Tyson Odeal married Diane Ikerd of Brunswick, Ohio. They now operate a printing and office supply business in Portland, Oregon, and live in Sherwood, Oregon.

Frank Odeal died August 6, 1980, and is buried at Laneville, Rusk County, Texas. Fannie Mae resides at New Summerfield and keeps busy quilting, visiting, and attending church services.

*Compiled by Fannie Mae Richards*

## THE JAMES HENRY RICHARDSON FAMILY

This family came to Summerfield in December, 1917, from the Salem Community in eastern Smith County. James and Sarah Richardson bought 103 acres of land on the Summerfield-Troup road, now State Highway 110, a short distance north of the main townsite. It was here they reared four sons. They joined the local Methodist Church and became active members. On July 3, 1934, they were on their way to attend church services with their family when their car was in a collision with another car on Highway 79, just off the church grounds. Sarah was killed instantly, and James Henry only lived a few days.

Their children were: Clyde Thomas Richardson, who married Willie Clark; Vesta Henry, who married (first) Pearl Johnston, who died in childbirth, and (second) Ona Clark, a sister of Willie Clark; Wm. Floyd married Mrs. Mary Crow Klements; Jessie Andrew married (first) Mary McIntosh, and after her death, he married again. He and his present wife, Oda, reside in Ft. Worth.

Clyde ran a garage and shop in New Summerfield for years before moving away. Vestal and Jessie also moved away, but Floyd remained on a part of the old home place. He has one step-son, Louis A. Klement, who married Eloise Sanders, and they also still live on the old home place. Louis A. served in W.W. II and Korean War. Children of Louis A. and Eloise Klement were: Robert Glenn, who married Peggy King; Martin Louis Klement, who served four years in the U.S. Navy; and Sandra Elizabeth Klement McDaniel.

*Compiled by Eloise Klement*

## JOHN HENRY RICHARDSON

John Henry Richardson, born 1857, Lawrencebury, Tennessee, married September 6, 1877, Susan Piety Scott in Coldwater, Calloway County, Kentucky, died December 30, 1930, Craft, Texas, buried in Jacksonville, Texas, City Cemetery. He was a farmer most of his life, but also had been a sheriff at one time around Dallas, Texas, and a storekeeper in Kaufman County, Texas, before moving to Cherokee County around 1918.

He came from Calloway County, Kentucky, where he and his father had raised fine horses. They moved to Kentucky after the Civil War from Lawrencebury, Tennessee. John Henry's lineage: Son of 1) Simeon and Sarah Serina Harwell Richardson, last lived in Terrell, Texas; Son of 2) Amos and Mary "Polly" Richardson of Maury County, Tennessee; Son of 3) Thomas and Jane Willis Richardson; Son of 4) William and (unknown) Richardson of Wilkes County, Georgia.

John Henry had one son, Leonidas "Lee," born in Kentucky and eleven other children born in Texas: (1) Leonidas "Lee" Richardson, born 1878, Calloway County, Kentucky, married 1901, Mary Magdaline Nixon, died 1950, Tyler, Texas, three children; (2) Bertha (died young); (3) Virginia, born 1883, Forney, Texas, died 1925, Shiner, Texas; (4) Minnie, born 1885, Forney, Texas, died 1918, Jacksonville, Texas, married Ben Hudspeth, three children; (5) Lucy, born 1887, Forney, Texas, died 1979, Houston, Texas, married Ben Hudspeth 1919, no children; (6) Oscar, died 1952 in California; (7) William Troy, died 1955, Houston, Texas; (8) Madison, born 1894, died 1980, California; (9) Thomas Henry, born 1897, died 1960, Terrell, Texas; (10) Jessie (died young); (11) Johnnie, born 1900, died 1977, Jacksonville, Texas; (12) Alma Suzie, born 1904, Kaufman County, Texas, married April 14, 1927, Raymond Lacy, Jacksonville, Texas, two children, Margie and Bennie Rae. They reside San Antonio, Texas.

*Compiled by Margie Lacy Varden*



## THE FAMILY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON SOWELL

This family came to the New Summerfield-Lone Star area in the 1870's. George Washington was born in Georgia and his wife, Annie Ellie, was born in Alabama, but both her parents were born in Georgia. George Washington died in 1878, and is buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery. Mrs. Annie Sowell and several of their young children continued to live in the Myrtle Springs area near their oldest married daughter and son-in-law, Martha Ann "Mattie" and O. Augustus Perkins.

The first five children of this family were born in Mississippi. They were Mattie Ann, who married Augustus Perkins in 1877; George W., who married Ella Dickson in 1888; John M., who married (1) Lula Dickson in 1888, and (2) Susan Summers in 1904; Lucinda Jane, who married Hugh M. Dickson in 1882; and Thomas, who moved away from the New Summerfield area. Other children born in Texas were Mary Donia, who married Will Clapett; Ella May, who married (1) J. Henry Lovett in 1892 and (2) Hugh M. Dickson in 1904; and Leana Alice, who married (1) J. H. Vansickle in 1894, and (2) John Allison Steelman. Most of this family remained in the New Summerfield-Lone Star area for years and several descendants are still in the area. They were mostly farmers.

Geo. W. "Bud" and Ella "Ellie" bought land close into the present townsite soon after their marriage and built a nice home in which they resided until death. He died in 1937 and she died in 1957. Both are buried in Myrtle Springs Cemetery. They reared two children: Myrtie, who married Lee Prater, and Luther, who died when a young man. Myrtie and Lee Prater moved away but returned to New Summerfield to live in 1937. They had two sons, Carlton D., who married Neva Matteson, and Jesse W. "Jake," who married Ethel Summers, and they have made their homes on the old Sowell place. Jake and Ethel dismantled the old "Bud" Sowell home and built a new home on the same site and still reside there. They have no children. Jesse W. "Jake" served 44 months in the Army, serving only three months in the United States. He was a Sp. Technician Fourth rating (T-4) in the motor pool of Tripler General Army Hospital in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Carlton and Neva built on the east section of the place and lived there the rest of their lives. Their children were: Dewey Lee, who married Judy Owens, and they live in Longview, Texas; Wayne, who married Polly Stockton, and they live in the Craft community; and Roy, who married Sherrie Gray, and they reside in the Carlton Prater home. Neva Prater died in a car wreck in 1964, and Carlton died in 1984. Both were buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

John M. Sowell and wife (1) Lula, also moved to the present townsite soon after they married. He ran a general store in the early 1900's and also was a farmer. They had two daughters, Ina and Zora. Ina married Stanley Greenwood and they resided here. Their daughter, Wilma Spraggins and husband, Travis, now reside here. Zora, who married Claude Edwards, moved to the Troup area. John M. and wife (2) Susan, had two children, Weldon who married Ruth Masters and moved away, and Oscar, who married Mattie Bell Magee. They made their home here; he is deceased, but she still resides here.

Another descendant of this family, Violet Steelman (McCann Woodall) Jackson still resides here. Her son, Edward McCann, resided here until his death in 1952. These families played a major roll in the development of the community as they were all civic leaders, church leaders, and great neighbors.

*Compiled by Earla Ellis Clifton  
Assisted by Violet Jackson and Jake Prater*

## GEORGE ROY STADLER AND FAMILY

George Roy Stadler was born in Blackjack, Cherokee County, Texas, October 19, 1903. He was the youngest of eight children born to John M. Stadler and Phoebe Ann Gann Stadler. After graduating from Jacksonville High School, he attended Draughton Business School in Ft. Worth, Texas. Roy was a member of the Baptist Church and a member of the Masonic Lodge. He was employed by the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company.

Roy met Eva Irene Beene in Palestine, Texas, where she was employed as a registered nurse at the Missouri Pacific Railroad Hospital. They were married June 24, 1925 in Palestine. Irene was born September 16, 1905 to James A. Beene and Ada L. Abbott Beene of Leon County, Texas.

Roy and Irene lived in Jacksonville, later moving to Orange, Texas, where their first child, James Robert, was born in 1929. They moved back to the Jacksonville area where their second child, John Allen, was born in 1935. In the fall of 1938 the family moved four miles east of Summerfield on Highway 79. Roy continued to work for Missouri Pacific Railroad Company in Palestine. He also

raised cattle and engaged in farming. James Robert and John Allen graduated from Summerfield High School. The family were members of Summerfield Baptist Church where Irene still attends.

James Robert entered the Army January 26, 1951, and was discharged January 15, 1953. He is married to the former Doris Ann Cook of Jacksonville, and they live in Houston where he is employed by Union Pacific Railroad Company. He is a member of the Houston Chapter, Sons Of The American Revolution, Albert Sidney Johnston Camp 67, Sons Of Confederate Veterans and the Mount Vernon Civic Club.

John Allen is married to the former Hazel Williams of Jacksonville, and they live in Jacksonville where he is employed by Southwestern Electric Company. John Allen is the father of one child, John Wilson Stadler. John Wilson is married to the former Cyndi Watson of Jacksonville. They live near Reklaw, Texas.

Roy died March 11, 1982, and is buried in Resthaven Cemetery in Jacksonville. Irene has remained active as a volunteer of the Newburn Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and has continued to live in the same location since 1938.

*Compiled by Irene Stadler*

## **ANGUS LONZIE (ANG) STEWART**

Ang Stewart, born October 26, 1841, was the oldest son of Balaam Stewart from Moore County, North Carolina. Balaam was born in Moore, Alabama, on December 21, 1815, and was married to Mary Deaton Smith on December 6, 1838. She was born in 1814. Balaam was a Methodist circuit rider minister. At the age of ninety-six, he rode a mule twenty miles to his church and back. He moved his family to Bebb County, Alabama, in the Antioch community eight miles east of Centerville, Alabama. He died June 14, 1914. He was buried in Antioch Cemetery, Alabama.

Balaam's father, George Stewart, was born March 22, 1789, at Chatham, North Carolina. Balaam's mother was Clarissa Dickenson, born in Moore County, North Carolina, on September 4, 1781. George's father was Edward Stewart, born in 1767 in Orange County, North Carolina. George's mother was Mary McPherson.

Clarissa Dickenson's father was Robert Dickenson, Jr. Her mother was Nancy Seal. Mary McPherson's father was William McPherson and her mother was Pheba McPherson.

Ang Stewart and Mrs. Martha E. Deaton O'Hair were married February 16, 1868 in Cherokee County, Texas. Martha was married to John P. O'Hair, and they had one son, John T. O'Hair, in 1862 or 1863, who was in Ang Stewart's household in 1870. He died early in life.

Martha's father was Matthew Deaton, Jr., born 1805 in North Carolina. Her mother was Sarah, born 1814 in North Carolina. Matthew's father was Matthew Deaton, Sr., born 1768, died 1822. Matthew Jr.'s mother was Margaret. Matthew Sr.'s father was William Deaton, who was in the British Army. His mother was Sarah.

Ang Stewart moved to Texas with his brother, George, and settled at New Summerfield. He owned several lots in New Summerfield, including the land around the gin and where Alvis Parsons now lives and across the road. There was a house there where his gasoline powered grist mill was located. He also owned a cotton gin at Lone Star where he lived. He later moved the gin to New Summerfield.

Ang's children were: Mary "Mollie," born 1868, married J. T. Murphy; Sarah Evalyne, born 1870, married John Likely; Hannah Louisa, born 1872, married F. C. Mints; Infant C. Stewart (male), born 1875; Zellah, born 1878, married James Lewis Womack. Angus was a deacon of the Baptist Church, a charter member, and served as school trustee at Union Chapel School.

*Facts by Annie Perry  
Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## **DAVID C. STEWART FAMILY**

The David C. and Janie Hundell Stewart family came to Texas from Thomaston, Georgia, by train in 1892. They settled on the John V. Smith place two miles west of Summerfield to be near

her brother-in-law and her sister, James and Eugenia "Jean" Stallings, who came to Texas earlier. The sisters both died in their early thirties.

The oldest daughter of David and Janie Stewart, Mable Dona, married William Dellis Tipton at the age of 14. They lived on the Rogers Plantation of 600 acres. In those days everyone "petted" by a spring that is still being used today. The Stewart Farm is still in the family, the 7th generation. It is now owned by Mrs. Pearl Tipton Case, but it will probably be sold to the Mud Creek Reservoir and covered by water.

William Dellis Tipton was the oldest son of William H. Tipton and Sarah "Sallie" A. Rogers Tipton. He was a grandson of Albert Gallatin and Mary E. Tipton and Seaborn and Sarah Rogers. William Dellis and Dona celebrated their 71st Wedding Anniversary on November 2, 1967, with all ten of their children present. Dona died February 10, 1968. At the age of 93 years, Dellis was still living at home, and he lived to be 98 years old. He died August 23, 1976. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Jewel Tipton Caveness*

## CALEY AMOS SUMMERS FAMILY

Caley Amos Summers was born January 2, 1841, in Alabama, the son of Whitfield and Martha Robinson Summers. Caley Amos served in the Civil War in Company I 5th Alabama Cavalry. After the war, he came to Texas to the Dalby community in Cherokee County, south of New Summerfield. Caley Amos married Martha Julia Dalby about 1868. Martha Julia Dalby was the daughter of Thomas D. and Martha Dalby.

Caley and Julia resided in the Dalby area until 1873 when they sold out and moved their family to Palo Pinto County, near Gordon, Texas. While living there, several more children were born. Their children were: Seth (1868); Sally (1872); Helen Cordie (1874); Viola (1880); Susan Ellen (1881); Tola Mae (1883); Jessie Knight (1885); Dollie (date unknown); Johnny (date unknown); and Albert W. (1889).

In the winter of 1889 during a typhoid fever epidemic, Julia, two children, Dollie and Johnny, and Julia's mother, Martha Dalby, were victims of typhoid. All are buried in the Blue Flat Cemetery near Gordon, Texas. Shortly after their deaths, a distraught Seth Thomas (age 21) left home. Only one letter was received from him, from El Paso, Texas, then nothing more.

Caley Summers left Palo Pinto County, bringing his children back to Cherokee County to be close to his deceased wife's family. He bought land in the Summerfield area. His home was used as a "mail drop" in the area for a while. Willing to aid growth in the area, he offered land on which to locate a school. He worked to establish a school, post office, and other community services. He did not put much faith in ownership of land, due to the treatment of Confederate soldiers at the end of the Civil War. He saw his friends and fellow soldiers return "home" to find the home burned, land taken, and families in need of help where none was available.

Though he was a fairly young man, he was unable to do much physical labor due to health problems. In spite of declining health, he often had passers-by in for a meal at his home. He lived about one-half mile east of the crossroads now known as Highway 110 and U. S. Highway 79. It was at that home he reared two sons and five daughters and saw them all married except Albert W.: Sally to Willis B. Walley; Cordie to Thomas William "Bill" Darby; Viola to Maston Bolton; Susan Ellen to John Sowell; Tola Mae to Lee Dickson; and Jessie Knight to Onie Catherine Murphy; after Caley passed away, Albert W. married Minnie Lee Miller. Caley Amos Summers died October 29, 1915, and is buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery.

*Compiled by Tola Mae Summers Lott*



## THE JESSIE KNIGHT SUMMERS FAMILY

Jessie Knight Summers was a son of Caley and Martha Julia Summers. He was born in Palo, Pinto County, Texas, in 1885, but resided most of his life at Summerfield. Jessie Knight married Onie Catherine Murphy on June 10, 1906, and they lived in the Summerfield community until the fall of 1916 when they moved their family to Vernon, Texas. He farmed there one year before moving to Lubbock, Texas, in the fall of 1917. They lived there until the fall of 1927, when Onie's father died. She inherited a farm near Summerfield, and this caused them to move back to Cherokee County.

Three children were born to Jessie Knight and Onie in Cherokee County before they moved to Vernon: Jennie Julia was born July 14, 1907 and died March 29, 1915, age eight years; James Amos was born December 18, 1909, married Lucile Gray November 23, 1944, died October 21, 1971; Jessie Calvert was born August 29, 1911, married Mary Kate Darby June 9, 1934, died April 5, 1972. Mary Kate died in October 1957; Edith Ovilla was born June 29, 1914; never married.

After moving to Lubbock five other children were born to this couple: E. K., born March 29, 1917, married (1) Clara Mae Lott January 24, 1942, (2nd) Maurine Blake October 1, 1948. He served in World War II from February 1942 to 1945, and was involved in the European Theater. Maurine died October 18, 1978; Ethel Eugene was born June 8, 1918, and married Jessie W. Prater June 8, 1946; Tola Mae was born July 2, 1921, and married J. L. Lott August 11, 1946. J. L. died December 26, 1963. He was a military policeman. He served in Europe in World War II; Seth Thomas was born September 19, 1923, married Ela Mae Clardy December 7, 1946, served three years in the Pacific Theater in World War II. He was killed in an industrial accident in Temple, Texas, May 19, 1962. Ela Mae died in an automobile accident near New Summerfield December 8, 1964; Viola was born April 17, 1925, and died October 27, 1929; Hope Juanita "Pat" was born May 5, 1928, after the family returned to Summerfield. She married Howard D. Jones December 1, 1957. He served a number of years in the U. S. Navy.

Jessie Knight was a farmer, raising cotton, corn, peanuts, and sugar cane for many years. In 1934 he began raising vegetables for market. He and his family raised and sold turnips and greens, pepper, tomatoes, and other vegetables along with vegetable plants such as tomato, pepper, cabbage, and sweet potato.

Onie Summers died January 31, 1957. Jessie Knight died August 9, 1973. Both are buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery.

*Compiled by Ovilla Summers*

## JAMES "JIM" KNOX TENNISON AND FAMILY

The only Tennison people in Cherokee County, from 1850 to 1880 were the New Summerfield Tennisons. James was one of those Tennisons and related to the wellknown Dr. W. R. "Rube" Tennison.

James K. was born February 1, 1850 in Alabama. He was married to (1) Charlotte Dallas on July 15, 1875, (2) Mrs. M. A. Hendly on October 29, 1885, (3) Mary F. Morgan on July 11, 1886, (4) Mrs. Anna Mariah Haws Pirtle, (born November 13, 1852) on August 26, 1886.

No family records are available on his first marriages but it is known that he and Anna Mariah reared their children at New Summerfield. Their children were: Tom, who married (1) Leona Riley from Louisiana, (2) Ruth Scates; Major Frank, who married Claire Aline Nichols; James Matthew "Mack," who married (1) Jewel Lacy, (2) Mary Elizabeth Durisoe; Pearl, who married Cullen South.

These children all remained in New Summerfield and lived on or near the old home place except Pearl and Cullen, who lived here only a short time before moving to Mixon where they reared their family and lived until their deaths. The Souths had three sons and three daughters, Oattie Mae, Grace, Marvin, Vestal, Aubrey, and LaVerne. Grace married Olen Dickey of Black Jack, and LaVerne married Willis Neil Holcomb of Jacksonville.

James Knox Tennison was married again to Elizabeth "Lizzie" Fegurson, and they had three children, Jimmie, who married Clyde McElroy, Marcus, and Benjamin. After James Knox's death, Lizzie married Tom Rucker whose son, J. B., made his home with them. James Knox died July 9, 1923, and Anna Mariah died December 20, 1915. Both are buried in the Griffin Cemetery.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## JAMES MATTHEW (MACK) TENNISON

Mack was the youngest child of James Knox Tennison and Anna Mariah Haws Pirtle Tennison. He spent his life in New Summerfield until his children were all grown. He worked for the state highway department for a number of years. Then he worked for Shanks' Basket factory until he had an accident at the factory. He was helping load some logs on a train and the logs rolled over on him. He was seriously injured and forced to retire.

Mack was born April 12, 1898, and married Jewel Nettie Lacy, the daughter of Jay and Monte Tipton Lacy. She was born March 6, 1899, and died June 8, 1982. They had three daughters. Two of them still live at New Summerfield.

One daughter, Annie Florine was born April 12, 1919, and married Oliver Cloyd Waldrup on June 20, 1936. Florine and Cloyd's children were: William Cloyd, born November 24, 1937; Shirley Ann, born May 3, 1941, died October 15, 1941, and buried at McDonald Cemetery; Jerry Lynn, born September 24, 1942, and married Barbara Sue Gober on June 1, 1963. Their children were Jerry Lynn, Jr., born September 15, 1964, and Johnnie Lyle, born July 3, 1969. Both boys were born at Hillsboro, Texas; Phillip Mack, born March 7, 1944, married Donna Jean Childress from Concord, Texas, on July 10, 1964. Their children are Phillip Duane, born December 26, 1966, in Baum Holder, Germany, where Phillip was stationed while in the Army and Donna Denise, born February 26, 1974.

A second daughter, Pansy Ruth "Curley" was born June 8, 1925, and married Jess Overton Martin December 19, 1942. Jess Overton was born April 6, 1924, and his parents were John Ross and Ada Martin from Concord, Texas. Their children are: Barry Max, born October 27, 1946, married Sue Crouch in March, 1967. Their son is Jess Allen, born June 22, 1968. Barry Max is a self-employed plumber. His favorite pasttime is hunting and fishing; Sandra Kay was born August 27, 1949, and she married Nolan Lewis on June 25, 1968. Nolan was born June 12, 1948. Their children are Angela Lynn, born April 1, 1969, and Cris Brandon, born April 12, 1972. They live at Longview, Texas, and Nolan works as an electronic engineer for Strohs Can Plant. They make cans for Strohs beer, formerly Slitz. Sandra is a housewife.

The youngest daughter, Jo Ann, was born March 8, 1927, and married James Eugene Payne. They live at Memphis, Tennessee. He has a car dealership and specializes in the Volkswagons. Their five children are: James Eugene (Jimmy) Payne, Jr. born February 4, 1946. He married a girl named Sheri, and they have two daughters and one son; Brenda Payne was born February 17, 1949. She married Lee Schelly and they have a daughter and a son; Terry Bruce and Sherri Payne had a son and a daughter; other children of Jo Ann were Cheryl and Kevin Payne.

Mack was married a second time to Mary Elizabeth "Bessie" Durisoe from Concord, Texas. They had one son, Johnny Mack, and he has one son, Billy Mack. Mack and Bessie moved to Jacksonville where they lived until they died. He died April 12, 1982, and Bessie died in January, 1983.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## THE MAJOR FRANK TENNISON FAMILY

The Tennison ancestors were from North Carolina and Alabama. Some were in New Summerfield before 1850. Major Frank, a son of James Knox and Anna Mariah Haws Pirtle Tennison, was one of the descendants of these early Tennisons. Frank married Claire Aline Nichols, a daughter of George Washington Nichols and Emily Victoria Langford Nichols. Born to Frank and Claire were four boys and one girl.

James Hubbard "Hub" was born April 12, 1912, and married Mary Elizabeth White. Their children were Bethwin and Nicole. Hub died in 1965 in Channelview, Texas.

Boyd George was born April 17, 1914, and married Ima Ivelle Ward on June 26, 1933. Ima, a daughter of William Andrew and Emma Hughs Ward, was born June 7, 1917. Children of Boyd and Ima are: Boyce Edward, born in 1934. He married (1) Norma Smith, and they had one son, Carl Edward, (2) Mary Earline Cowan Jimmerson, and they had one daughter, Nancy Elaine; Caroline June, born September 24, 1936, married Billy Devine Gay. Their children are Randall, David, Karen Lynn, and Roger David; Clifford Wayne, born December 25, 1940, married Sylvia Lynn Davis. Their children are Scott Anthony, Stephen Wayne, and John David; George Ward, born January 17, 1950, married Tenata Urike Hartman, and they had one child, Tina Dianne.

Marlin Franklin, born June 11, 1918, married Helen Moore. He died in Worth, Texas, on July 5, 1968, and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery at New Summerfield.

Major Glenn, born September 28, 1922, married Gladys Clyburn, born May 19, 1922. Their children are Eddie, Bobbie and Johnny.

Violet Faye, born February 28, 1924, married T. J. Weenser on September 30, 1944. He was from Elkton, Maryland.

After Clair's death, Major Frank married Mrs. Pearl Scates Stewart. She had two daughters, Mozelle and Estelle Stewart, who made their home with Frank and Pearl until they were grown. Major Frank and Pearl had no children. Claire died August 6, 1925, and Major Frank died January 16, 1957. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## MATTHEW C. TENNISON AND FAMILY

Matthew C. Tennison (1810-1930) and his wife, Mary Ann Harrison Tennison (1828-1891), came to Texas before 1850 and settled north of the present New Summerfield townsite. He was born in North Carolina, and she was born in South Carolina; but it is said they came here from around Atlanta, Georgia. Deed records show that he bought at least three large tracts of land from the Wm. Gates Survey west of highway 110 and near the present New Summerfield. He built his home on the northern tract of this land and that is where they reared their children.

They had the following children: Eliza Jane (1850-1876), William Reuben (Dr. Rube Tennison) (1854-1936), and Elizabeth Victoria Tennison "Miss Vickie," who never married (1857-1924).

Eliza Jane married J. J. (James-Jim) Gill in 1867 and they had the following children that lived to be grown: Matthew (1867-1934) never married, Mary Eliza (1870-1928) married J. W. Duty (1873-1928) in 1890, James William (1873-1949) married Mertis Edwards (1883-1951).

With quite a bit of acreage and their Negro help along with other hired hands, they developed a small plantation. They had mules, horses, cattle, sheep, goats, chickens, and turkeys. They had all kinds of farm equipment available those days and large storage barns and smoke houses for curing meat.

After the early deaths of his brother, Thomas and his wife, Melissa, Matthew and Mary Tennison took Thomas' children into their home and reared them with their own children.

Matthew Tennison was a Master Mason in the Masonic Lodge at Griffin, Texas, since there was no community center in New Summerfield when he settled here. He was active in the Griffin and Lone Star areas having witnessed deeds as early as 1854. With such a large operation it is not unusual that the daughter, Eliza Jane and her husband, J. J. Gill, settled on a part of the Tennison estate. They reared their children there and most of them also remained on the estate. Dr. W. R. "Rube" remained at home to practice medicine and continued to make it his home until his death. Victoria "Miss Vickie" also remained in the home all her life, keeping house for Dr. Rube after their parents' deaths. This family made a great contribution to the development on New Summerfield.

*Compiled by Verna Duty Dalby*

## TOM TENNISON FAMILY

Tom Tennison, a son of James Knox Tennison and Anna Mairiah Haws Pirtle Tennison, was reared in the New Summerfield area. He married Leona Riley from Louisiana. Leona and her sister came to New Summerfield to visit their cousins. While they were here the community was placed under quarantine for some contagious disease, probably smallpox. The girls were not allowed to leave the community. Leona met Tom Tennison at that time, and they were soon married.

Children of Tom and Leona were: Clyde, who married Ethel Womack. They had one son, Carol Lewis, who married (1) Joyce Moore (2) Hattie from Georgia. Carol has two sons, Carol Lewis, Jr. and Michael; Jessie married Clatis Womack, brother of Ethel Womack. They had one son, C. W. "Sonny" who married Carol. They live in Topeka, Kansas; Roscoe "Bud," never married; Walter "Babe," never married. After Leona's death, Tom married Ruth Scates. Their children were James and Tommie Ruth. James married Patricia Heath, a daughter of Ray and Martha Heath. James



and Patricia have three children, Diane Patrice, who married Gary Minton, Sari Lea, and James Randall. Tommie Ruth married Calvin Dotson, and they have two daughters, Rita Dotson Ballard and Judy Dotson Terry.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## **HENRY CLAY THOMASON FAMILY**

Henry Clay Thomason was born March 9, 1842, in Crawford County, Georgia, and resided there until he was grown. His parents were Jonathan Thomason and Sarah Brown. He then moved to Alabama where he married Mary Ann Brown, a school teacher. She was born January 8, 1841, at Birmingham, Alabama, and her parents were Frances Marion Brown and Martha Horne Brown.

Henry Clay served in Company A, First Light Duty Man, Georgia Militia in the Confederate Army. After 1870, he and other members of the Thomason and Bailey families came to Cherokee County, Texas. The Baileys stopped at Alto, and the Thomasons came on to Rusk and New Summerfield. He was a Baptist, a member of the Sacred Harp Singing Convention, and he received a Confederate Soldier's Pension.

Born to this family were eight children: Wilburn B. Thomason, born March 6, 1863, in Georgia, died in 1938 and was buried in the McDonald Cemetery. He married Anne Forte; Lula Clay Thomason, born September 29, 1865, in Birmingham or Georgia, and died September 10, 1952. She married Alexander G. Tipton on October 1, 1882, in Cherokee County, Texas; John H. Thomason, born March 4, 1868, in Georgia, and died July 31, 1951. He married Evaline Cook; Salena Victoria Thomason, born September 5, 1869, married Y. O. (Dock) Wallace on August 17, 1892; Franklin M. Thomason, born in Georgia July 1, 1871, and died young; Sarah Donia Thomason, born January 27, 1873, in Alabama, married Dick Dudley; May Hoyt Thomason, born August 24, 1877, in Alabama, married Noble Tomerlin, born in Alabama; Hilary H. Thomason, born May 12, 1879, in Alabama, died November 15, 1959. On July 17, 1904, he married Elizabeth (Lizzie) Stewart.

Henry Clay's second wife was Susan "Sudie" Claricy Banks. They were married June 2, 1885. To this marriage five children were born: Nancy Caroline "Carrie," whose first husband was Silvay, and December 20, 1903, she married Dave Wallace, her second husband; Ethel Thomason was born October 12, 1889, died October 15, 1973, in Astoria, Oregon. She married Claude C. Boatman on January 14, 1911; Charlie M. "Sam" Thomason was born in 1895 at Ponta, Cherokee County, Texas, and married Callie Keahey. He died July 6, 1975, and is buried in the Shady Grove Cemetery. Edgar Thomason married Ollie Marshall and lives in Fort Worth. Bessie Thomason was born September 14, 1898, and died November 16, 1898.

Henry Clay Thomason died in February, 1928, at the age of 86. He is buried in the Shady Grove Baptist Cemetery near Rusk. Mary Ann Brown Thomason died in 1883 in Cherokee County, Texas, and was buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## **MARTIN AND ROSA WOMACK THOMPSON**

Martin Alexander and Rosa Womack Thompson were married January 15, 1911, at the Union Grove Church with their friends and relatives there. They were married on his birthday. He was born in 1890.

Rosa Melvina was born September 4, 1889, in Union Grove, Texas, east of Troup. Martin and Rosa lived on the Stone place between where she was born and where he was born at "Screech Owl Bend" west of Wright City in Smith County. Their oldest daughter, Ruby Odessa, was born there December 26, 1911. They moved to Tyler, Texas, where their second daughter, Iva Roberta, was born. They later built a home at Wright City, Texas, where their only son, Thomas Frank, and their youngest daughter, Netta Paralee, were born.

While they lived there, Martin farmed a little, worked at a sawmill and in the oil field at Breckenridge, Texas. In 1918, he started working for the Southern Pacific Railroad as a brakeman in Jacksonville, Texas. His run was from Dallas and Beaumont to Jacksonville. At one time, he had

a run with only a short stop in Jacksonville. If he saw his family, they had to meet him there. Because of this and the loss of their home by fire, he moved his family to Beaumont.

Rosa's parents' health failed so she moved the family back to Jacksonville and eventually moved to New Summerfield where her parents, Thomas Jehu and Rachael Morning Stanley Womack, lived, to help take care of them. The first time they lived in New Summerfield was when Martin began working for the railroad. The family lived here a short time before moving to Jacksonville. They were in the old Alex Tipton house on the Rusk-New Summerfield road. Their oldest daughter, Odessa, went to school for a short time in the old school at Union Chapel. Their daughters, Odessa, Iva, and Nettalee, and son, Frank, went to the New Summerfield school later. They moved in with Rosa's parents while they were ill in 1923.

After a few years following railroad work and living in Beaumont and Jacksonville, the family once again moved to New Summerfield. Odessa finished high school that year in Jacksonville and then took a beauty course in Dallas. She met and married Clavis Tipton that year.

Rosa had most of the responsibility of rearing the children as they moved about and when Martin was away on a train run; however, he was always there if his children had any major illness. Rosa and Martin imparted good moral principles into their children's lives. They believed in a good strong education and saw that they got it as best they could, and they also believed in the worth of travel. She took their four children on long railroad trips to the West, because she had a pass and she could visit her sisters in far West Texas and the Panhandle. She also instilled a love for people into her family. She not only cared for her parents, but she went to live with Martin's mother when she was old and alone.

She had sisters and brothers who were all born in Cannon County, Tennessee, except her youngest sister, Eva Colvin.

Martin and Rosa's children were Ruby Odessa, who married Clavis Carson Tipton; Iva Roberta, who married (1) Rupert Murphy, and (2) Charles Pinkney Kee, the father of her children; a son, Thomas Frank, who married Azalea Margarette Stuart; and Netta Paralee (Nettalee), who married R. D. Dudley. There are nine grandchildren in the Martin Thompson family.

Rosa was a member of the Baptist Church at New Summerfield. She was not so much church orientated as living right orientated. Rosa died December 31, 1948. Martin married Mrs. Gladys Johnson Stringer. She was the daughter of Samuel Joel Thomas "Buck" and Cora Orene Wallace Johnson. Cora Orene was the sister of Bertie Wallace Compton, who once lived in New Summerfield.

Descendants of this family now residing in New Summerfield are Odessa Thompson Tipton and her daughter, Frankye Dwire; also her granddaughter, Lesa Sue Dwire Isom, with her husband Boyd Lynn Isom, and their children Kewin and Nicole Diane.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## **FAMILY OF ALBERT GALLATIN TIPTON**

Albert Gallatin Tipton, a son of Samuel Tipton and Jane "Jennie" Inks, was born about 1819-22 in Blount County, or Carter County, Tennessee. He married Mary Elizabeth Dotson March 3, 1843, in Walker County, Georgia or Bradley County, Tennessee. He died December 12, 1901, in Cherokee County, Texas, and was buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery. Mary Elizabeth's parents were William Dotson and Margaret Stewart Dotson. She was born about 1825-27 in Jackson County, Alabama, or Bledsoe County, Tennessee.

Albert Gallatin was a Mason and served in the Civil War. He was a farmer and probably interested in minerals. In recent years members of the Tipton Reunion gave money to have a marker put at the grave showing his and his wife's names.

Twelve children were born to the family: Margaret Jane Tipton, born November 15, 1845, in Walker County, Georgia; Martha Elizabeth Tipton, born August 12, 1847, in Walker County, Georgia, married C. M. Meeks October 5, 1865, in Cherokee County, Texas; Thomas Jefferson Tipton, born May 22, 1850 in Walker County, Georgia, married Molly Gallagher "Eliz" in 1875-76. He died February 23, 1902, at Lone Star and is buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery; Paulina A. Tipton, born April 6, 1852, in Walker County, Georgia, was married to J G. (C) Burns, April 25, 1871. She died in Houston, Texas; Ruth Ann, born April 24, 1854, in Walker County, Georgia, married (1) Augustus Butler, who died January 10, 1936; (2) James Johnson, and (3) William Wiggins; Samuel A. Tipton, was born September 16, 1855; William Henry Tipton, born July 22, 1857, in Cherokee County, Texas, married Sally Ann Rogers; Augustus A. was born April 22, 1859, in Cherokee County, Texas; James J. Tipton, born August 25, 1861, in Cherokee County, Texas, mar-

ried Georgia Smith, April 9, 1880; Isaac Columbus Tipton, born August 18, 1863, in Cherokee County, Texas, married Isabell Jackson; Alexander Gray Tipton, born October 6, 1865, in Cherokee County, Texas, married Lula Clay Thomason. He died April 24, 1941, and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery; Mary Monte Tipton, born September 31, 1870, in Cherokee County, Texas, married Jasper "Jay" Lacy. She died April 30, 1952.

After the death of Mary Elizabeth Dotson Tipton, Albert Gallatin married Mary Bostick. They had one son, Edgar Tipton, born in September 1883, and he married Velma Morris. He died April 30, 1952.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## **FAMILY OF ALEXANDER G. TIPTON**

Alexander G. Tipton was born in Cherokee County, Texas, October 6, 1885, and married Lula Clay Thomason in 1882. Alexander's parents were Albert Gallatin Tipton and Elizabeth Dotson Tipton. Lula was born in Birmingham, Alabama or in Georgia, September 29, 1865. Lula's parents were Henry Clay Thomason and Mary Ann Brown Thomason. Outside of a few years in Ellis County near Ennis, Texas, they lived all of their lives in New Summerfield. While they lived at Ennis, there was a water spout, and the water flooded the farm where they lived. Lula, a small woman, took the children, one at a time, on horseback, to a two story house nearby. The mules washed out of the feed lot and swam to higher ground, but the chickens drowned. Soon after the flood, they all took typhoid fever except Lula. They were sick for a long time. Two doctors came out of Ennis to treat them and saved their lives. After they were well, they came back to New Summerfield. Lula had told the doctors that they would send payment as soon as they could, and they did.

A Mr. McCrimmin helped "Alex" with a loan of corn and money so he could get a new start. Alexander farmed for many years near Gill Mountain. Later he had a store with a large variety of items needed in a small town. In the days before salesmen started taking orders and bringing the items to the store, he went to Jacksonville in a wagon and purchased supplies from the Frank's store and other places. he would always bring commercial ice cream, and his grandchildren would eat it out on the porch until they nearly froze. He was a wonderful person, a Christian man, who never said no to a needy person. Many people took advantage of his compassion and never paid. He, all of his children, and his wife were members of the Church of Christ, and also many of his grandchildren. He was one of the first elders of the Church of Christ established in New Summerfield. He made a wonderful impression on my life. In later years with the change of the highway, he built a new home and store across from the school building. He was a merchant there until his death September 10, 1941.

Born to this family were: John Henry Tipton, born May 29, 1885, married Texie Mae Moore in Cherokee, and died March 24, 1965; Mary Ann Tipton, born September 8, 1887, married John H. Wilkins July 4, 1905, and died January 26, 1957; Maggie Tipton, born 1889, died ?; Annie Mae Tipton, born March 7, 1890, married Lennie Burleson McMeans, October 26, 1913; Flossie I. Tipton, born April 4, 1892, married Earl Lamar McLeod January 29, 1909, and died July 20, 1980; Thurman Tipton, born May 6, 1894, married Bertie Chandler January 24, 1914; Herman Tipton, born May 6, 1884 (baby-twin to Thurman), died in infancy; Ira Magee Tipton, born July 7, 1898, married Jewel Upchurch April 7, 1924, died May 25, 1955; Alvie Tipton, born September 25, 1902, married Velma Birdsong December 28, 1922, died May 5, 1959.

Alexander G. Tipton died April 24, 1941, and Lula Thomason Tipton died September 10, 1952. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## **FAMILY OF ALVIE GROVER TIPTON**

Alvie Grover Tipton was born September 25, 1902, in Cherokee County, Texas. His parents were Alexander G. Tipton and Lula Clay Thomason Tipton. He married Velma Birdsong on



December 28, 1922, at New Summerfield. She was born July 17, 1902, at Martinsville, Texas, and was a daughter of Lewis Birdsong and Julie Williamson Birdsong. Alvie and Velma were members of the Church of Christ.

Born to this family were two children: Alvie Grover Tipton, Jr., born in February 1924, who died in infancy; Mary Jean Tipton was born October 26, 1926, at New Summerfield, Texas. She married Floyd Rayburn Hooker on December 11, 1943, at New Summerfield, Texas. His father was Floyd Dante Hooker, and his mother was Lois Clinor Mitchel.

Alvie worked for Bearden's Furniture Store in Jacksonville, Texas. In 1952 he died with cancer at M. D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, Texas.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## CLARENCE ORVAL TIPTON FAMILY

Orval is the son of Albert Thurman and Bertie Chandler Tipton. He was born March 23, 1922 in New Summerfield, and grew up with three brothers: Oliver, Carl, and Dewey, and one sister, Hazel, along with his cousins, the Earl and Flossie McLeod family, the Johnny Tipton family, and the Burley McMeans family. These cousins were very close.

Orval married (1) Joyce Dunn, and they had two children: Linda Joyce who married Mickey Wiggins, and Clarence Orval Tipton, Jr., who married Nan Caveness on August 9, 1964. Her parents were Dewey and Lula Belle Caveness. Linda Joyce's children were James Lynn, born August 22, 1963, and Nickie Kay, born April 6, 1966. Orval, Jr.'s children were Clarence Orval III, born July 22, 1965, and George Edward, born September 20, 1969.

Clarence Orval, Sr. married (2) Elsie Retilla Rawlinson Bergstresser on May 12, 1951. Elsie's parents were Aaron Ray and Willie Odom Rawlinson. Aaron was from Cushing, Texas, and Willie was born in Maydelle. Elsie was born December 8, 1925. Her son by John Bergstresser was John Watson Bergstresser, Jr. He was born March 17, 1946. John married (1) Delores Ann Williams on May 29, 1974. Her parents were Roy and Ruth Williams. John and Ann's daughter was Lori Kay Bergstresser, born March 7, 1972. John married (2) Linda Ruth Fisher, who was the daughter of O. T. and Mrs. Fisher, and their children were John Watson Bergstresser III, born August 7, 1975, and Bryan Wayne, born July 18, 1983.

Orval and Elsie's daughter, Judy Carol, married Su Van Bui from Siagon Viet Nam, and their daughter, Brandi Michelle, was born December 11, 1976. After Su's tragic death, Judy married Jack G. Vaughn, Jr. on January 1, 1980. His parents were Jack G. Vaughn and Marie Vaughn Brown. They have a son, James Aaron, born October 18, 1982.

*Compiled by Elsie Tipton*

## DEWEY M. TIPTON FAMILY

Dewey Tipton was born March 19, 1920, the fourth child of Albert Thurman Tipton and Bertie Bell Chandler Tipton of New Summerfield, Texas. On September 9, 1939, he married Rossie Bowling, born near Ponta, Texas, September 29, 1922; and they have lived in New Summerfield all of their married life. Rosie was a daughter of Colonel Ross Bowling and Zada Matterson Bowling. He has been a self-employed farmer and rancher, and they own Dewey M. Tipton Plant Farm, Inc., growing bedding plants that are shipped to Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas.

Dewey Tipton served in the navy from 1944 to 1946. He was first class seaman on an aircraft carrier in the South Pacific during invasions of Leyte, Iwo Jimia, Luzon, and Okinawa. Three children were born to this union.

The first was Dewey Ross, born December 31, 1940. He was the valedictorian of New Summerfield High School and attended Texas A & M University. He received his B.S. Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1964, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant with the U. S. Army. He received his M. S. Degree from A & M in 1965, and spent two years in service. He was promoted to Captain

at Arlington, Virginia. He returned to his job with General Dynamics in Fort Worth, Texas, and has lived there since. Dewey Ross married Freida Payne April 18, 1962. They have two children, Gregory Allan Tipton, born March 13, 1965, and Lauri Elizabeth Tipton, born February 2, 1970.

Herschel Wayne Tipton was born December 17, 1946. He was valedictorian of New Summerfield High School in 1965, and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Tyler Junior College June 2, 1967. He entered the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A & M College. He received his Doctor of Veterinary Degree on August 7, 1970, graduating with honors. He worked two years at City Small Animal Clinic in Tyler, Texas, and then in 1972, purchased it. He married Gwynn Renfro from Jacksonville, Texas, on August 19, 1967, and they have two children, Clayton Wayne, born February 2, 1971, and Jonathon Wayne, born November 12, 1972. They live at Hide-a-Way Lake near Lindale, Texas.

Carolyn Joy Tipton was born August 21, 1949, and graduated from New Summerfield High School in 1967. She married Robert Riddle of Gallatin, Texas, August 25, 1967. Robert served in the Army from April 1968 to January 1970. He was an E-5 Sergeant in the 173rd Airborne Brigade and received a Bronze Star with two Oak Leaf Clusters for Meritorious Service. Carolyn and Robert are Vice-Presidents of Dewey M. Tipton Plant Farm, Inc. They manage and oversee growing and selling of plants in 63 greenhouses. They have two children, Robert Shannon, born October 18, 1968, and Chad Wayne, born October 28, 1971. They live in New Summerfield, Texas.

*Compiled by Rossie Tipton*

## **FRANK CONLEY TIPTON FAMILY**

Frank Tipton was born May 12, 1874, in the area between New Summerfield and Lone Star, Texas. He was the son of Pleasant "Plezz" Marion and Mollie West Dial Tipton. Pleasant's parents were Samuel and Jane Inks Tipton. He was the brother of Albert Gallatin Tipton, who has descendants living at New Summerfield now.

Frank married Minnie Ola Wallace, born September 3, 1877, the daughter of William M. and Mary Montgomery Wallace, and the sister of John and Oscar "Dock" Wallace. Frank and Ola lived at the foot of Dodson Hill on the Lone Star road. They lived there until all of their children were born. They left there in 1921 in a covered wagon and were in Grimes, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma, in 1924. Despite the hardship of this trip, Ola managed to have hot biscuits every morning.

Thelma and Percy Marion Tipton, Frank and Ola's oldest son and family, sold out to Olin and Bonnie Ellis and followed his parents to Sweetwater, Oklahoma in 1925. From Sweetwater, the Frank Tipton family drifted on to Farwell, Texas, where they lived fifteen miles from Clovis, New Mexico. Frank farmed the fine land there, and Percy worked at a grain elevator at Farwell, Texas. Frank and Ola were the kind of people who made everything fun for the family.

Their children were: Clara Belle, who married H. L. (Bud) Orr. They lived most of their married life at Carlsbad, New Mexico; Percy Marion married Rosa Thelma Watkins of New Summerfield. They always lived near or with Frank and Ola; Oscar Clarence, born 1904 or 1905; James Pearl "Jim Hog" married Laurine Gamon of New Summerfield. Jim and Laurine lived near the Frank Tiptons for a few years but drifted to Lubbock, Texas where Laurine and her children live now. Jim died there; Mary Zuda "Zud" married William M. "Bill" Yell. They married while Frank and Ola were in Oklahoma. They now live at the edge of Oklahoma and Arkansas; Mattie Macyl married J. O. Yell, the brother of Bill; Johnnie Cecil "Tice" married E. E. Stewart. Macyl and Tice both have lost their husbands, married again and live at Eric, Oklahoma; Onnie Conley married Lee Doshier in Farwell but moved to Tipton, Oklahoma, and live on the place where his family homesteaded; Elmo Fosh married Eula Doshier, a sister of Lee.

Macyl, Tice, and Onnie are the only ones living now. Frank and Ola are buried at Oklahoma Lan Cemetery in Palmer County, New Mexico, near Farwell, Texas.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## IRA MAGEE TIPTON FAMILY

Ira Magee "Gee" Tipton was born July 7, 1898, and died May 25, 1955. He was the son of Alexander G. Tipton and Lula Clay Thomason. He was a Pfc. in the U. S. Army during World War I. On July 4, 1924, he married Jewel Upchurch. She was a daughter of Jessie Stacey Upchurch and Minnie Brandon Upchurch. She was born in 1900 and died in 1967. Both Ira and Jewel were members of the Church of Christ. Ira lived at Muleshoe, Houston, and New Summerfield. He was a postmaster at New Summerfield for a short time before moving to Houston where he was a bookkeeper.

Born to this family was one son, I. M. Tipton, who served in World War II. I. M. was a storekeeper, 3-C, U.S.N.R. He trained at Camp Peary, West Virginia, where he was assigned to the commissary until he was sent overseas to the Southwest Pacific area. I. M. Tipton married Johnnie Simmons, and they have two sons.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## FAMILY OF ISAAC WASHINGTON TIPTON

The "Town of Summerfield," named for the Summers family, owners of the site, dates from the late 1890's when Isaac Washington Tipton and his wife, Laura Dotson Tipton, opened the first store. He was also the first postmaster. In 1905 the Isaac W. Tipton family left their business here in the care of Ed. M. Nicholson and moved to Temple, Oklahoma, where they owned a general merchandise store. Isaac Washington Tipton was the son of Isaac K. Tipton (1825-1881) and Margaret Ann Roddy Tipton. He was born in Cherokee County, Texas, February 14, 1864, died at El Paso, Texas, and was buried in Evergreen Cemetery. He married Laura A. Dotson, born in Cherokee County, March 11, 1865, died in Ft. Worth, June 16, 1957, and was buried in McDonald Cemetery, Cherokee County, Texas. Laura and young Isaac were very young sweethearts, walking to school together. They went to the Old Friendship School, a long way, and had to cross old "Bend About" Creek on a foot log. When the creek got up, they had to spend the night with friends, some being named Cook.

Three children were born to this family, one son and two daughters: George Elry Tipton married (1) Carrie King, (2nd) Minnie Eva McCarty. Jo Erma Tipton Housewright was born in Cherokee County, Texas, April 16, 1890, and married Walter Wallis Housewright at Temple, Oklahoma April 15, 1909. He was born at Wylie, Collins County, Texas, October 22, 1888. They lived in San Benita, Texas, until he died. She moved to Dallas to be close to her son. They had one son, Joe Tipton Housewright, who married Nancy Louise Straiton. They have two sons, James Tipton Housewright and Edwin Housewright. Jo Erma Tipton Housewright is deeply interested in the Tipton heritage and has spent many hours in Tipton research. She probably has more information on the Tiptons of Texas than any other person. She is a member of Daughters of the American Revolution. Alma Allen Tipton, born February 4, 1895, married Edward James Swisher of El Paso, October 24, 1916. They had two sons Edward James Swisher, Jr. and Armond Tipton, and a daughter, Alma.

Walter Wallis Housewright was president of San Benita Bank and Trust Co. His service record to his country has been great. The Tipton descendants can never, never thank Jo Erma for all she has done for them.

*Facts from Joe Erma Tipton Housewright  
Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## FAMILY OF JOHN HENRY TIPTON

John Henry Tipton was born to Alexander Tipton and Lula Clay Thomason on May 29, 1885 in Cherokee County, Texas. John Henry died March 24, 1965. He was a member of the Church of Christ. He was an elder in the church and preached for other congregations at times. On July



29, 1906, he married Texie Mae Moore, also a member of the Church of Christ. Texie was born in Louisiana and died March 24, 1976. They are both buried in the McDonald Cemetery. John and his sons were farmers.

John and Texie had fourteen children: Willie Tipton was born April 10, 1907, and died November 15, 1908; Hollis D. Tipton was born April 4, 1909, at Ennis, Ellis County, Texas, and died August 22, 1966. He served in World War II. On February 17, 1928, he married (1st) Opal Limbaugh; and (2nd) Joan Hawthorne; Travis T. Tipton was born March 20, 1911, at New Summerfield, Cherokee County, Texas, and died March 23, 1911. He was a twin to Clavis Tipton; Clavis Carson Tipton was born March 20, 1911, and died November 25, 1971. He was buried in the McDonald Cemetery. He married Odessa Thompson on March 20, 1931. Clavis owned a store and Odessa ran a beauty shop in the same building. Odessa also taught school a few years; Operia Marie Tipton was born February 27, 1913, at New Summerfield. She married Estel Cameron on April 26, 1929.

A. G. Tipton was born December 20, 1914, at New Summerfield. He served in World War II. He first married Mildred Sweringer and later in September of 1937, he married Nona Grace Speck; Wilma Tipton was born February 14, 1917, and died February 25, 1917; William Riley Tipton was born November 20, 1919, and died August 16, 1974. He married Marie Murray; Evelyn Ruth Tipton was born May 20, 1922. She married Andrew Jackson Morgan December 22, 1941. She served in World War II; Elvin Tipton, twin of Evelyn, was born May 20, 1922 and died young; Johnny Sarah Tipton was born January 19, 1925 and married James Holman Wallace; Bertie Pearl Tipton was born August 8, 1928. She married Raymond Woodall on December 16, 1946; Vada Mae Tipton was born February 19, 1931. She married James Daniel Walker on November 23, 1949.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## THE SAMUEL TIPTON FAMILY

Great grandparents, Samuel Tipton, (born in 1795) and wife, Jane Inks, with their big family of children came out of Blount County, Tennessee, in the early 1830's together with Samuel's parents, Thomas Tipton and wife, Rebecca Lacy Tipton. They came to Walker County, Georgia, where Thomas died before the 1850 census. Rebecca died after 1850.

Thomas Tipton was a Captain in the Carter County military service. He was married first to Sarah Broyles, and they had two children; his second wife was Rebecca Lacy, a daughter of Philemon Lacy, Sr.

On September 1, 1816, Samuel Tipton married Jane Inks. In 1850 they came with their family to Texas and settled in Cherokee County. They were ancestors to many East Texas Tiptons. Their son and his wife, Isaac and Margaret Ann Roddy Tipton, were life long neighbors to Josiah Dotson and wife, Sara Amanda Leverton Dotson.

Nine children came to Texas with Samuel and Jane Tipton: Paulina Tipton, born 1815-17, was married in 1833-34 to John Henson; Albert Gallatin Tipton, born in 1822-23 in Carter or Blount County, Tennessee, married Mary Elizabeth Dotson. He died at Summerfield and is buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery; Elizabeth (Liza) Tipton, born August 30, 1821-23, in Carter County, Tennessee, was married (2nd) to John Edwards in 1839. She died May 28, 1893; Lovina Tipton was born 1821-23 in Tennessee. She married 1841-42. Her 1st husband was an Airhart, 2nd husband was Daniel L. Mitchel; Isaac Tipton, born December 12, 1825, married Margaret Ann Roddy in Tennessee in 1850-51. He died November 11, 1881, in Cherokee County, Texas; Mary Ann Tipton was born November 28, 1828 in Blount County, Tennessee. She married (1st) in 1840-48 to Tom Sampson McDonald and (2nd) to Judge Abraham Myers, in 1856 in Cherokee County, Texas. She died August 10, 1913, in Haskell County, Texas; Thomas Jefferson was born February 15, 1830, in Blount County, Tennessee. He married (1st) Mary E. Cook in Cherokee County, Texas, in 1858, and (2nd) Mary Margaret McDonald. He died October 7, 1883 in Cherokee County, Texas.

Jacob Tipton, the eighth child, was born in 1834, and married (1st) Amanda Eliza Jones (2nd) Safronia Montgomery Messick. He served in the Civil War, died in the Confederate Home in Austin, and was buried in the Veterans' Cemetery in Austin, Texas; Pleasant Marion Tipton, born in 1838, probably in Walker County, Georgia, married (1st) Mrs. Martha Ann Blair (Greenway) in 1855, (2nd) Mollie West Dial (3rd) Cynthia L. Bobbitt, and (4th) Mary Watson Tipton. A grandchild once asked Pleasant Tipton, "Why do you always marry a widow?" Pleasant's reply was, "Well, my Bible says to take care of the widows and the orphans." George Washington Tipton was born 1841-50, in Walker County, Georgia, and married Lucinda Edwards in Cherokee County, Texas, June 16, 1860.

He died in 1871 near Iredale, Bosque County, Texas. This was a large family and most of the children had large families.

*Facts by Jo Erma Tipton Housewright*

## THE THURMAN TIPTON AND MARVIN GARNER FAMILIES

Alexander G. Tipton was born October 6, 1865, the eleventh child of Albert Gallatin Tipton and Mary Elizabeth Dotson. In 1882 he married Lula Clay Thompson, born in Georgia, September 29, 1865. They lived in New Summerfield, Cherokee County, Texas, most of their lives. He was a farmer and business man. He had a general merchandise store in New Summerfield for many years. To them were born seven children, four boys and three girls. Albert Thurman Tipton, son of Alexander G. Tipton and Lula Clay Thompson, was born May 6, 1894, married Bertie Bell Chandler, January 24, 1914. Bertie was the daughter of Leonard and Helen Pool Chandler of Cherokee County.

Born to Albert Thurman and Bertie Bell Tipton were four boys and one girl. All four boys served in World War II. Carl M. Tipton served in the Army for twenty years with highest rank of Major. Oliver Tipton volunteered for service during World War II and served as corporal in the Army Cavalry. Dewey Tipton served in the Navy during World War II in the South Pacific. Orval Tipton served in World War II in Alaska. All the boys still maintain their homes in New Summerfield. Hazel Lanora Tipton, daughter of Albert Thurman and Bertie Bell Tipton, was born October 26, 1914, in the area of New Summerfield, Cherokee County, and married Marvin Henry Garner July 11, 1929. Hazel attended Lon Morris College and worked as a vocational nurse for twenty years at Nan Travis Memorial Hospital.

Born to Marvin and Hazel Tipton Garner were three boys and one girl. Norman Ray was born November 28, 1931. He served in the Army during the Korean War as a clerk-typist in the Panama Canal Zone, being cleared for service by the secret service. When he returned from the service, he attended Stephen F. Austin State Teacher's College, received his B.A. degree at the Pan American College, and taught school for seventeen years. He was married to Earnestine Tupper of Maine, and they had two daughters, Christine Lanora and Carrie. Norman and his second wife, Norma Jean, are now living in Boulder City, Nevada. Christine Lanora married Larry Bender, and they have two children, Leandra and Paul Norman. They are presently stationed with the Navy in Guam. Carrie Garner is married to Fred Zewig, and they are living in Tuscon, Arizona.

Kenneth G. Garner was born December 2, 1936, attended Lon Morris College and Stephen F. Austin State Teacher's College, then married Marie Hesser. To them were born four children, George, Shelia, Gary, and Sheryle. Kenneth served in the Vietnam War. During his enlistment in the Air Force, he served in Korea. He retired as Captain after 20 years service. While he was in the service, he received a B.A. Degree from a college in North Dakota. Kenneth and his second wife, Lee, adopted a 9-month-old daughter, Lisa. Kenneth and Lee now live in Tacoma, Washington, where he is presently employed with the Civil Service.

Loleta Beth Garner was born October 7, 1939. She received a Master's Degree at Stephen F. Austin State University. She married Harold Gene Davis, and to them were born two children, Tommy Gene and Theresa. Harold Gene does heavy duty construction work, and Loleta has been teaching school in Rusk for 19 years. Harold and Loleta make their home in New Summerfield. Tommy Gene Davis, born May 18, 1958, attended Texas A & M University and majored in engineering. He is now employed as a tool designer. Tommy married Hope Slider. Theresa, born January 1, 1961, attended Texas A & M University. She is now married to Cary Carr, and they have a daughter, Karah Beth, born April 15, 1984.

Steve M. Garner was born September 24, 1944. He attended Tyler Junior College. Steve was married to Ann Caveness from Jacksonville, and they moved to Houston. To Ann and Michael was born one child, Anita Kay; and Anita Kay was named valdictorian of her class in 1984, a class of over 400 students. She will attend Angelo State University.

Marvin H. Garner died February 1980, and Hazel married Jessie Mack Allen on June 10, 1981. Mack Allen died January 20, 1984.

*Compiled by Hazel Tipton Allen*

## THE WILLIAM DELLIS TIPTON FAMILY

William Dellis Tipton was born October 22, 1878, at Lone Star, Cherokee County, Texas. He was a son of William Henry Tipton and Sally Anne Rogers Tipton. He was married on November 2, 1896, to Dona Stewart, a daughter of David C. and Janie Howell Stewart. Rev. Jack Loftis performed the marriage ceremony. Dona was born on March 2, 1882. Dellis and Dona settled in (New) Summerfield and lived on the same farm most of their married lives. They reared ten children at that homestead.

Ruby, born January 15, 1898, married Henry Webb. They had no children; Opal, born January 15, 1899, married Guy Tilley. They had two sons, Joe Dell and Cecil Rogers; Jewel, born September 25, 1900, married Edward Everett "Bob" Caveness. They had one son, Edward "Sonny." Douglas, born November 28, 1905, married Minnie Gaddis. They had two sons, Joe Douglas and Billy Rogers; Pearl, born April 25, 1906, married Roy Case. They had one son, Joe Roy.

Carl "Dick," born January 7, 1908, married Cora Helen Darby. They had one son, George Carl, and one daughter, Helen Jane (Barrow). George Carl married Judy Stewart. They have two sons, Jimmy Carl (unmarried) and Timmy Paul, (who married Ronda Miles, and they have a son, Dustin, and a daughter, Julie), and a daughter, Elizabeth Ann "Liz." Helen Jane and James Barrow have one son, Jeff, and one daughter, Joni. These families still reside at New Summerfield. Carl "Dick" died May 2, 1975 and is buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

Hazel, born January 15, 1913, married Lynn Culberson. They had two daughters, Suzanne and Sara Lynn; William Dellis, Jr. "Dell," born June 12, 1915, married Frances Benthall. They had five children: Myrna (Brown), Donna Sue (Humphry), William Dellis III "Sonny," Lloyd Douglas "Scooter," and Lori Kay. Marilyn, born November 24, 1921, married Charles Edward Gill. They had one son, Charles Lynn, whose children are Rachael and Josh. Julianne, born August 6, 1923, married Louis B. "Bo" Emerson. They had two sons, Charles and David.

Dellis and Dona celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary on November 2, 1967. She died February 10, 1968. He lived alone for a few years. He passed away on August 23, 1976, at the age of 97. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Facts by Marilyn Tipton Gill*

## E. D. "ED" AND MONTIE TOMERLIN FAMILY

Ed D. Tomerlin first came to New Summerfield to visit an older brother, Nobel Tomerlin. Nobel had married Mae Thomason, a sister of Lula Tipton and Lena Wallace. While visiting here, he met and courted Montie Smith, a daughter of T. L. Smith and wife, Amanda E. Patterson. They were later married. Amanda E. Patterson was a daughter of E. K. Berry Patterson and Ann E. Stell. Montie Era was the oldest child and only daughter of T. L. Smith and Amanda Patterson. They also had four sons, Stephen Elzie, Merril, Edgar, and Thaxter LaFayette (Fadie).

When Ed and Montie Tomerlin married, they went to Weches, Houston County, Texas, to live. Several of their children were born in Weches. This family lived in and out of New Summerfield until Ed's death on February 27, 1926. Then Montie moved her girls next door to her brother, Fadie Smith, at New Summerfield where her children attended school. Dollie, the only child born at New Summerfield, married a local boy, Rudolph Hicks. The family later moved back to Houston County where the other girls married.

Children of Ed and Montie were: Malone Eunice, born November 18, 1901; Eula Leona, born October 20, 1904; Dollie, born July 1, 1906; Daisy Myrtle, born November 6, 1908; and Rossie Faye, born August 2, 1913.

Some relatives of this family who were natives of New Summerfield were Mrs. Susan Kennedy Jones and son, Dr. Pearl Jones, J. J. Kennedy and son, Everett, Mrs. Lela Loughmiller Clark and family, the Elzie Smith family, Lester Loughmiller family, and other members of the Smith and Patterson families.

Faye Tomerlin wrote a book "The Berry Patterson Story," a copy of which can be found in the Crockett, Texas, public library. Montie Smith Tomerlin was born November 4, 1880, and died November 2, 1965. Ed and Montie are buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery at New Summerfield. The Tomerlin girls continue to feel ties to New Summerfield. They always come to the annual New Summerfield Cemetery Memorial Service to meet old friends and neighbors.

*Information by Dollie Hicks  
Compiled by Odessa Tipton*



## HARBERT T. UNDERWOOD FAMILY

Harbert was born 1882 in Laurel, Mississippi, and died at age of 84 in New Summerfield in 1966. The community he lived in was Sanderville, Mississippi. Harbert married Annie Haire, who was born in 1882. Her parents were William B., Sr. and M. A. Haire. Mrs. M. A. Haire, wife of William B. Sr., is buried at Myrtle Springs Cemetery, Cherokee County, Texas. After William B. Haire, Sr.'s wife died, he moved back to Mississippi and married again. Annie was the sister of Katie Waldrup, Cloyd Waldrup's mother, and Bessie Hendry, wife of Lee Hendry from Black Jack.

Harbert and Annie moved to Texas and rented from Onimus Perkins' family. He later bought the Henry Dickson place on the Emmaus road. Annie died in January 1919 during the terrible 1918 flu epidemic. Their very small baby died with the flu also, and they are both buried next to her mother, Mrs. M. A. Haire at Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

Harbert and Annie's children were: Lonie, who was born in 1902, and married Wilson Hodges. They had three children. They lived at Sanderville; Onie, who was born in 1904, and married George Stockman. They had three children. They lived at Bay Springs, Jones County, Mississippi; Grady Henry, who was born 1907, and he moved with his parents to Texas and married Odell Johnson, the daughter of Napoleon and Lillian Jeffcoat Johnson; Bernice Harbert, who was born in 1909, and married Gladys Darby. Bernice came to Texas with his parents. Gladys' parents were Guy and Malinda Elizabeth (Ninnie) Payne Darby.

After Annie's death, Harbert married Mrs. Annie Perkins Scott, widow of Robert Scott, in 1921. Annie and Robert had four children, Dewey, Doyle, Pearl, and Bobbie Scott.

Harbert and Annie Perkins Scott Underwood's children were: Mary Frances, who married John Clardy, and they lived on the old Drury Couch farm until they moved in with her Dad and Mother to wait on them in their old age. John and Mary Frances had no children, and they both died at an early age; John Thomas, born July 2, 1924, married Nellie Beatrice Turner, daughter of Inglewood and Nelda Turner. Their children were John Robert, who married Dorothy "Dot" Gallagher, had two children, Mary Beatrice "Bea" and John Robert Underwood II; Harold Thomas married Ann Caris; and Timothy Lloyd.

Harbert's sons were ranchers and plant growers. Grady retired and moved to Jacksonville, Bernice was Justice of Peace for Precinct 4 when he died. Grady and Odell's children are Juanice, who married Nolan Smith; Lynette who married A. C. Wright, Jr.; Larry, who married Janet Cox, the daughter of Claud and Zora Belle Gray Cox. Bernice and Gladys' children are Shirley, who married David Irwin; Charlotte, who married Willard Martin; Brenda, who married Sherman Clem; and Archie. Harbert and Annie Perkins Scott Underwood are buried at Myrtle Springs Cemetery.

*Facts by Odell Underwood*

## THE GLEN WOOD VICKERS FAMILY

The Vickers family moved to the New Summerfield area from Dallas, Texas, in August of 1969. Glen, Gladys, and Bobby are originally from Tennessee approximately 60 miles east of Nashville. Bradley is the only true Texan in our entire family.

We were both raised in the country, and growing up in the country was a good life. We were poor, yet we were rich. We worked hard from dawn to dusk in the tobacco patch and cornfields. Both of our families were self-sufficient, and we had the necessities of life. In many ways, New Summerfield is like Tennessee. That is why we like it here and have made our home in this area.

Glen Wood Vickers was born March 13, 1936, near Woodbury, Cannon County, Tennessee, in the Short Mountain Community, the son of Willie Delter and Louzetta (Blair) Vickers. He is the fourth of seven children, four boys and three girls. A large family during the depression years had to work together and work hard to survive. Glen, his dad and brothers broke horses and mules for the public so they could have a way to drag the logs down the mountain to the sawmill. They farmed, milked cows, raised most of their food, and it mattered not how many people came or when they came, the table was always full and none left without eating. They were a very religious family and a pillar in the community. There was never a dull moment around the Vickers household, and in later years when we would be sitting around the fireplace, they would start re-living their years "growing-up" — what memories, and what a joy to listen to those conversations!

Gladys Marilyn (Judkins) Vickers was born January 11, 1935, (delivered by her great grandmother who was a midwife) near Lancaster, Dekalb County, Tennessee, in the Cove Hollow Com-

munity. The daughter of Edward Burrice and Lucy (Anderson) Judkins, she is the second of three girls. On August 28, 1931, Lucy (her mother) put on her wedding dress and over it she put on her work clothes. Her job was to go to the pasture and drive in the cows to be milked. The cows never came so her mother and step-father went looking for her. They found her old work clothes hanging on the fence, she had eloped — at age 28! They got married on the side of the road under a big oak tree which still stands today. The Judkins family are all musical; most can play several instruments. My ambition when growing up, was to play my guitar and sing on the Grand Old Opry in Nashville.

Glen and Gladys Vickers were married July 17, 1954, in Cannon County, Tennessee. All dressed up, nervous, and waiting for the minister to arrive—he didn't show up. He had forgotten all about the wedding and was helping put up a tent for a revival meeting. Eventually he arrived, but he married us with his overalls on. Our children are as follows:

Bobby Glen Vickers, born October 10, 1955, Woodbury, Cannon County, Tennessee, and Bradley Edward Vickers, born December 20, 1964, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas.

Bobby attended Dallas school eight years and attended high school at New Summerfield where he graduated in 1973. He worked in Ohio for some time in a recording studio and recorded some of his own songs and music. He is currently employed by his dad as a truck driver. He married Sharon "Sharri" Blount of Jacksonville, Texas on August 14, 1984. Bradley attended school in New Summerfield all twelve years and graduated in 1982. He attended T.S.T.I. in Waco and is currently employed in Jacksonville as a diesel mechanic.

After being laid off from his job in Nashville, Glen, Gladys, and Bobby moved from Woodbury, Tennessee, in August 1956 to Waxahachie, Texas. From 1956 to 1969 they lived in Waxahachie, Texas, Grand Prairie, Texas, Farmington, New Mexico, and Dallas, Texas. In August 1969 they moved to New Summerfield.

Glen has been an independent trucker for 19 years, leased to C & H Transportation most of that time. He also raises Registered Quarter Horses. Gladys is employed as Purchasing Agent for a firm in the Jacksonville area. Lucy Judkins died in Tennessee on August 14, 1984.

*Compiled by Gladys Judkins Vickers*

## ADAM HUGGER WALDRUP

Adam was born in Bay Springs or Louin, Mississippi. He married Katie Haire from the same place in Mississippi. She was the daughter of William and Mrs. M. A. Haire.

When the Adam Waldrup family came to Texas, they left his brothers, Allen, Hubert, and Tom, in Mississippi. Tom was a Baptist preacher. The Adam Waldrup family got on the train at Louin, Mississippi, with all of their household goods in the baggage car. This train was filled with people coming to Texas. They arrived in Ponta on a snowy winter day and were met by Katie's brother, Ruffe, at the station, and he carried them to the farm on the Old Ponta road at Bend-About Creek. Unknown to the family, they were infected with the 1918 "flu bug," which they probably caught on the train. They all became ill and not knowing they had a very contagious type of flu, their Aunt Annie Haire Underwood visited them and caught the flu. She and an infant son died.

Ruffe had written back home that money grew on trees here. So Katie and family came to join him. Later her brother, Ruffe, moved to Arp with his family where some of the Haires still live.

Adam farmed the homeplace where many arrows and Indian artifacts were found strewn on the land beside Bend-About Creek, showing that this was an Indian Camp. The Waldrups were an upstanding family, and according to James Everett in his story, Adam was one of those starting the Baptist Church at Ponta. The Waldrups were border line Ponta-New Summerfield citizens.

Adam's and Katie's son, William Gladstone (Buddie), married Lessie Saulsby. Lessie's parents lived on an adjoining farm at the back of Adam Waldrup's farm. Buddie had a store and meat market at Ponta. Their son, Marshall, married Yvonne Johnson, daughter of Napoleon and Lillian Johnson. They lived a long time at Mineola, Texas, but now live at Center, Texas. He works for Southwestern Electric. Spurgeon works for an oil company office at Orange. After Buddie's death from diabetes, Lessie married Elmer Liles who was in the lumber business. They had a son, Leslie Alton, who is a pharmacist in Austin, Texas.

Bessie Waldrup married Harmon Dotson, and their children were: Wyatt, Calvin, who married Tommy Ruth Tennison, and Amaryliss. Bertie married Forrest Jones, who was a barber for many years. Bertie had a dress shop at Rusk and sold out to Bertie Richey. She now works at Citizens Bank, Rusk, Texas. Elsie Mae married Clyde Smith from Rusk, who was a carpenter but is now

retired. Catherine married Ford Conway. They had a daughter, Cleta Fern, and she married John Marvin "Bo" Traylor. They had two daughters.

Cloyd Oliver was born August 17, 1914. He was three years old when they came to Texas. He married Florine Tennison and their children are: William Cloyd; Jerry Lynn, who married Barbara Gober, and they had two sons; Jerry Lynn, Jr. and Johnny; Phillip Mack, who married Donna Jean Childress, and they have two children, Duane and Denise. Cloyd and his sons were in the plant business, but Cloyd and Florine are retired now.

*Facts by Cloyd Waldrup*

## THE MARVIN WALLACE FAMILY

Marvin Ethan Wallace of the Lone Star community married Bertha Pauline Corbin of Summerfield May 18, 1918. They owned a farm northeast of Summerfield where they farmed all their lives. To Marvin and Bertha Wallace were born ten children. The children were: Clyde Elvis, born February 20, 1919, died November 8, 1923; Stella Pauline, born October 18, 1920, died June 24, 1922; Anna Pearl, born September 29, 1922, married to Anderson Thames, and their two daughters are Cheryl Dean Thames, who married Joe Pullis and they have two sons; Jana Carol Thames, married and has one son, "Scrap," and one daughter, Amy.

Doris Marie born February 28, 1924, died February 11, 1975, married Dreaburn Sessions who was born April 17, 1921, died March 4, 1976; their children are Michael Sessions, born September 28, 1946, died January 1, 1972; Denny Ray Sessions, married Laynette Elzie, and they have one son, Michael Drue. Eva Faye, born October 27, 1925, married Aurburn Sessions, born December 17, 1923, died November 25, 1982; their children are Elvis Glenn, born December 8, 1947, served in Viet Nam war, married Micah Jean Murphy, and they have two girls, Lori Denise and Amy Renee; Judy Faye Sessions, born January 8, 1950, married (1st) Doyle George, and their children are Bradley Paul George and Rocky Lynn George; married (2nd) Paul J. Morcom, and they have one son, Jamie Lee Morcom; Linda Kaye Sessions, born December 23, 1954, married W. M. "Bubba" Solomon, and they have one son, Wade Kevin.

Mary Frances, born November 25, 1927, married Raoul de Vaudrecourt, and their children are Billy Raoul Vandrecourt and Frances Jean Vandrecourt. Ray Earl (a twin), born September 21, 1930, married Helen de Vaudrecourt, died December 29, 1951. Ray volunteered for service in Korea. He married only a few days before going overseas. He was wounded, recovered, returned to the front and was killed one month later, in military service in W.W. II. Roy Merl (a twin), born September 21, 1930, married Evelyn Casper, December 1, 1951, and they have one son, Royce Earl, married to Donna Kemp, who have one daughter, Laura, and one son, Steven. Doyle Glenn, born August 10, 1939, married Joyce Bratcher, and their three children are Kenneth (with one daughter, Katrina), Kayla, and Karen. Tony Neil, born October 19, 1939, married Joan Taylor, their children are Tonya Dawn and Jeffery.

Marvin Ethan Wallace, a son of John Wallace and Mary Magee Wallace, was born September 28, 1896, and died April 19, 1953. He had two brothers, Lonnie and Jack, and one sister, Stella. Lonnie married Mattie Greenwood, and they had three sons; Foy, who spent several years in the Navy; Wayne, who married Ewell Sessions; and Woodie, who married Grace Dotson. Jack married Maybelle Sherrard and had one daughter. Stella married Bill Brady, and they had two sons; Bill Brady, Jr., wife, Eleanor, and "Bud" Valton Brady, wife, Blanche.

Bertha Pauline Corbin Wallace, a daughter of Edward and Anna Pauline Corbin, was born in Tennessee. When she was very small, the family moved to Duncanville, Texas. Later her father bought a farm northeast of Summerfield and moved his family there. Edward and Pauline Corbin lived the rest of their lives on that farm. They are both buried in the McDonald Cemetery. Marvin Ethan Wallace and Bertha Pauline Wallace are buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery at New Summerfield near their young children, Clyde and Stella.

*Compiled by Eva Faye Wallace Sessions*



## YOUNG OSCAR WALLACE FAMILY

Young Oscar Wallace was born August 11, 1875, in Cherokee County, Texas, and was the youngest son of William M. Wallace. William M. Wallace was born April 18, 1831, in Alabama and migrated from Alabama to the New Summerfield, Texas, area to homestead in 1870. On July 3, 1856, he married Mary S. Montgomery. The couple built a log house two miles southeast of New Summerfield. Along with homesteading a farm, William made cabinets and furniture. The couple had three daughters, (Martha Ellen, Minnie Ola, and Senea Jane) and four sons, (John Talbert, William Edward, James Christopher, and Young Oscar).

Young Oscar became known as "Doc" Wallace. He married Selena Victoria Thomason on August 17, 1892. The couple resided on the William M. Wallace Survey located two miles southeast of New Summerfield. "Doc" was a successful farmer, land acquirer, and carpenter. He acquired a high reputation as a contractor and home builder. In 1918, he built two additional rooms onto his home. "Doc" also built homes in Reklaw, Ponta, New Summerfield, and Troup. He would travel with his tools and work crew in a wagon. One home still remains in Ponta, known as the Joe L. Bailey home. One home also remains outside of New Summerfield. Many considered him to be one of the most outstanding carpenters in the area. He was a member of the Woodmen of the World Lodge and helped the community grow. The couple had three daughters, (Tavie Mae, Jessie Marie, and the youngest died shortly after birth) and four sons, (William, Lemuel, Arnold, and Elton). After Young Oscar died April 18, 1918, his wife maintained and managed the homestead.

At the present, "Doc's" daughter, Jessie Marie Wallace Greenwood lives on the William M. Wallace Survey located two miles southeast of New Summerfield. She was born August 23, 1907, in Ponta, Texas. On October 28, 1926, she married Clavis Nolan Greenwood. The couple continued to farm and ranch the homestead. She has spent her life as a housewife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. The couple has two daughters, (Mary Lou Walley, who died in an automobile accident in 1963, and Vickie Carolyn Parsons) and two sons, (Harold Glen and James Oscar). They have thirteen grandchildren; Roy Glen "Butch," Michael Lynn "Mike," Jimmy Nolan, Robert Norton, Rebecca Sue "Becky," (Ballew), Joe Dave Walley, who died a few days following the automobile accident in 1963; Alaina Ann, Alan Wade, Jessica Dawn, and Jon Darrell Greenwood; Stacy Denise, Kimberly Ann "Kim," and a Parson's son who died at birth. They also have eleven great-grandchildren: Johnny, Kenneth, Brian Keith, Teresa, Lisa who died shortly after birth, Tammy, Susan, David, and Chad Walley; Craig and Dustin Ballew. The couple has helped and supported the community and attend the First Baptist Church of New Summerfield.

*Compiled by Jessie and Alaina Greenwood*

## FAMILY OF JOHN HORN WILKINS

John Horn Wilkins was born November 30, 1886, at Kerens, Navarro County, Texas. His parents were Port Wilkins and Anne Kirkland. He married Mary Ann Tipton, daughter of Alexander and Lula Tipton, on July 4, 1906, at New Summerfield. Mary Ann was born September 8, 1886, in Cherokee County, Texas, and died January 26, 1957. They were both members of the Church of Christ. They lived at New Summerfield and Kerens where he was a farmer, raising large acres of cotton and corn.

To this family were born three children: Roy Clifton Wilkins was born July 16, 1908, in Cherokee County, Texas. He married Naomi Crawford at Kerens in 1926. He died May 15, 1965, at the age of 65 and was buried in the McDonald Cemetery. He was a member of the Church of Christ. Clifton was considered a wizzard at working up abstracts. Thetus O'Quindale Wilkins was born October 8, 1914, in Cherokee County, and married Marguerite Miller. She was born July 19, 1915, at New Baden, Texas, and was the daughter of Conrad Culberson and Olga Annie Reichert. T. O. "Quindale" is a Baptist preacher and has an automotive mechanic shop. Opal Lee Wilkins was born July 27, 1917, in Navarro County, Texas. She married Foy E. Johnson on February 10, 1934. Foy's parents were N. A. F. Johnson and Lillian Jeffcoat Johnson. Foy was an artist.

*Compiled by Mabel Heath*

## JAMES LOUIS WOMACK AND FAMILY

Louis Womack was a son of Thomas Womack and Racheal Stanley Womack. He was born in Obran, Cannon County, Tennessee on November 21, 1877. On July 16, 1898, he was married to Rozellah "Zellah" Stewart, a daughter of Angus and Martha Deaton O'Hair Stewart. Zeddie, as Louis called her, was born April 2, 1878, at Lone Star, Cherokee County, Texas.

Zellah's father, Angus Stewart, was a Civil War veteran. The following was taken from his veteran pension records:

"Application was made April 1, 1915. Angus Lorenzo Stewart, age 73, was born in Moore County, North Carolina, and died August 14, 1925, in Cherokee County, Texas. He had lived in Cherokee County, Texas, since November 1865. He served from Alabama nearly four years in Co. K 28, Alabama Infantry as a Private. Records show he was captured December 16, 1864, near Nashville, Tennessee and discharged at Camp Chase, Ohio, on May 15, 1865, upon taking the Oath of Allegiance. His wife, Martha, died December 18, 1910. Both are buried in the Myrtle Springs Cemetery near New Summerfield.

Children of Louis and Zellah are: Eda, born in 1900 and married to Gilbert Washington Brown on November 16, 1921. They were married at Bridge Creek by Bro. Vermillion. Their witnesses were Douglas "Doug" Evans and Mabel Gaddis. They have one daughter, Audrey Brown Parsons; Clatis was born in 1903, married Jessie Tennison, and had one son, C. W., who married and lives in Topeka, Kansas; Lois Laveta was born in 1906, and married Alton Orist Cameron on December 2, 1923; Ethel Martha was born in 1909 and married Clyde Tennison on November 20, 1928.

Louis Womack operated the old Angus Stewart cotton gin for years. He was in partnership with Arthur Dickson, who finally sold his interest to Louis. Louis sold the gin to Grady Rountree when he became too old to operate it. Lincoln Barber also had an interest in the gin. Zellah was the last living charter member of the New Summerfield Baptist Church. Louis was a deacon in that church. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 680. He was made an E. A. Mason at Lone Star on December 10, 1910, passed to F. C. January 14, 1911, and raised to the sublime degree of A. M. Master Mason February 11, 1911. Throughout his life Louis' good deeds and kind words were an inspiration to his family, his friends, and the public in general. He died September 22, 1945. Rozellah died January 4, 1966. Both are buried in the McDonald Cemetery.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*

## THOMAS JEHU WOMACK

Thomas was born in 1851 in the hills of Cannon County, Tennessee, near Woodbury. His parents were James Jasper, born September 22, 1828, and Juliann Parker Womack. He was the oldest child of thirteen children. He also had a half-brother, Solomon Arthur. Arthur was well known in Summerfield because he married a New Summerfield girl, Leona Boone. Thomas also had a half-sister, Hassie Womack West. Her husband, Lee West, was a half brother of Mae West Davis, Nathaniel Davis' wife. He also had a step-sister and a step-brother. They are Mae West Davis and Jimmie West.

Thomas married (1) Almeda Collins. They had one son, William Jasper Willie Womack. Willie married Amanda Mullins. After Almeda's death Thomas married Mrs. Rachael Morning Stanley Merleer. She was born 1845. Her parents were Nathan and Mary Ellis Stanley. Rachael had a daughter, Mary Merleer, who married Ben Womack.

Thomas and Rachael's children were Hattie, who married (1) Robert "Bob" McKenny, (2) Ovie Dallas Richardson.

James Louis married Rozellah (Zellah) Stewart Womack, whose parents were Angus L. and Martha Deaton O'Hair Stewart. Julius Andrew married Ada Nunn Stephenson. Julia Sophronia Ann married Joseph "Joe" Nelson Richardson, the brother of Ovie Richardson and James "Jim" Henry Richardson, who lived at New Summerfield and reared a family here. Sarah married Homer Hunt.

Martha Etta married (1) John "Jack" Patterson Watkins from Bells, Texas, in Dennison County. Jack disappeared and was never seen or heard from. Some of the family believe he was killed for the money he had on him. Children of Martha and Jack were Rosa Thelma, who was two years old, and Winnie, who was three months old when their father disappeared. Thomas and Rachael had to take the girls because Martha's health failed and she could not take care of them. Martha married Johnny Gee and their children were Roy Duward Gee and an infant son who died.

Rosa Melvina married Martin Alexander Thompson. Martin's parents were Benjamin Franklin and Sarah Jane Wilson Thompson.

Eva married Benjamin Luther "Luke" Colvin. Luke's parents were Coleman and Mary Henson Colvin. They did not have children but reared Velma Womack, daughter of Julius and Ada Womack.

All of Thomas' and Rachael's children were born in Tennessee except Rosa and Eva. They came to Texas in 1888 or 1889, probably influenced by Rachael's sister, Sophrina and husband, Julius Deaman. They settled in the Union Grove community east of Troup, Texas. Thomas was a minister who preached and performed marriage ceremonies for many of the Union Grove and New Summerfield couples. The Womacks came to New Summerfield in 1917. They bought a farm on the old highway to Jacksonville. Thomas immediately set out fruit trees and put down ribbon cane stalks in the field to raise cane for making the thickest of ribbon cane syrup, to be eaten with the biggest brown biscuits made by Rachael on an old wood stove.

Thomas died about 1925 at the home of his son, Louis Womack, at New Summerfield. He is buried at Union Grove where he helped start the church and the cemetery. Rachael is buried beside Thomas where her sister and Thomas' folks are buried. Thomas lived to be an elderly man after having survived an attack by a rabid dog. He was treated with a "mad-stone" before modern medical shots were available.

*Compiled by Odessa Tipton*



## Conclusion

In concluding these memories, appreciation is extended to all who so graciously contributed in any way to this effort. The family histories submitted, the prized pictures loaned, the time given for personal interviews, etc., have each helped to make this publication a reality.

The committee responsible for this publication wishes to express its gratitude to the publishers, Ed and Evelyne Kiely, for their advice, assistance and patience in getting this publication printed. Their encouragement has boosted us to finalize this endeavor.

Family histories were not submitted on many families known to have resided in New Summerfield for a number of years. Since there were not enough facts available to compile a report on them, a surname list of some known long-time residents (both former and present) will be given. There are also "new-comers" too numerous to list.

Adams, Alexander, Arnold, Bird, Birdwell, Bradshaw, Bussell, Carpenter, Caveness, Clardy, Davenport, Derrington, Ebanze, Edwards, Farley, Ferguson, Flowers, Fly, Fox, Gamon, Garrett, Gibson, Godsey, Green, Ham, Henson, Jones, Jobe, Kitzman, Lively, Loughmiller;

McCutcheon, McFarland, Manning, Mayhar, Meeks, Muse, Myers, Petty, Perry, Powell, Prater, Pruitt, Rawlinson, Reeves, Reyes, Roddy, Roper, Russell, Sample, Scruggs, Sing, Smith, Stallings, Tankersley, Terry, Thames, Tilley, Traylor, Wade, Walters, Webb, Whitesides, Wiggins, Work, and Yancy.

## Sources

1. Abstracts of land deeds
2. Birth records of Cherokee County
3. Cemetery markers
4. **Cemetery Records of Cherokee County** by Helen Crawford
5. Church records
6. **Civil War Pension Records of Cherokee County** by Ogreta Huttash
7. **Civil War Records of Cherokee County** by Ogreta Huttash
8. County Court records of Cherokee County
9. Death records of Cherokee County
10. Deed records
11. Diaries
12. District Court records of Cherokee County
13. Family Bibles
14. Federal Census records
15. **Hills of Cherokee** by Hattie Joplin Roach
16. Land grants, surveys and patents
17. **Marriage Records of Cherokee County** by Ogreta Huttash
18. Masonic Lodge records
19. Notary Public records by O. K. Ellis
20. Old letters
21. Old pictures
22. Old publications
23. Original Survey Map of Cherokee County
24. Other researchers
25. Pedigree charts — family group records
26. Personal interviews
27. Probate Court records
28. Query columns from publications
29. Tax rolls and tax receipts
30. Texas General Land Office
31. Texas Practice by Fred A. Lance "Land Titles and Title Examinations"
32. The Jacksonville Banner — old issues
33. The Troup Banner — old issues
34. Traditional stories
35. U.S. Postoffice records
36. **Vanishing Towns of Cherokee County** by Bernard Mayfield
37. Voter registrations
38. Wills

## Notes



This home of Andrew Caswell Payne, Emma Dalby Payne, and their children is a typical pioneer home. From left to right on the back row are Andrew, Rossye "Doss," Malinda "Ninnie," Edith "Det," and Emma's sister, Ida Dalby; front row: Allye, Emma, Clytie, and the baby, Rubye. Mother Emma spun the yarn and wove the plaid material used in the girl's dresses.



Early merchant, Alexander Gray "Alex" Tipton, was assisted in his general store by his wife, Lula.



This picture shows pupils who attended the one-room school located near the first Summerfield store operated by Ike Tipton. Pupils cannot all be identified, but some known pupils were Velma Morris, Lee Dickson, Lula Mack, Zora Morris, Gertha Morris, Vera Dotson, Matt Mack, Tom Mack, Olin Kyle Ellis, Ed Nicholson, Mary Tipton, Berta Perkins, Hubert Nicholson, and Knight Summers. Other pupils were of the Dotson, Tipton, Edwards, Haws, Gill, Dalby, and Gray families.





Dr. W. R. "Rube" Tennison is shown as a young student and as a practicing physician making a "house call" at the Andrew Payne home.



Grades three and four at (New) Summerfield School during 1923-24 term were: back row: Jewell Mae Smith, Altha Smith, Vera May Holman, June Ellis, Opria Tipton, Miss Lurty Maris (the teacher), Bobby Scott, and Dorothy Casey; middle row: Ruby Gill, Bertha Gill, Louise Brown, Annie Brown, Elnora Liles, Mattie Bell Magee, Eula Mae Galaway, Van Boone, and Rufus Gandy; front row: Boyd Tennison, Woodie Wallace, Gordon Jay, Cloyd Waldrup, Cecil Clark, Ray Crawford, Odell Chisolm, and Dellis Tipton.



Dr. Judson E. Beall had this picture taken before 1916. He was practicing in the Summerfield area at this time.





Frank F. Fullerton constructed the first brick school building at (New) Summerfield in 1920 and it is still in use. He is shown here with his wife, Willie Dotson Fullerton, and Ila Morris.



DeTroit and Eliza Dotson pose in a typical farm yard about 1925.



Arthur Dickson, one of Summerfield's earliest merchants, and Olin K. Ellis, who developed the Summerfield Ellis addition where most of the business district is today, were visiting in this picture.



This may have been a Civil War Reunion as these were Civil War veterans: standing: an unknown man and Angus Stewart; seated: Porter Cornilison and J. J. "Jim" Gill.





Attending the Dalby School about 1911 were these pupils: back row: Ira Collins, Fay Collins, Beatrice Spain (the teacher), and Allye Payne; middle row: Harmon Dotson, Robert Scarbrough, Travis "Tobe" Dotson, Jack Collins, Walter Clark, and Clytie Payne; front row: Willie Clark, Roy Dotson, Ruby Payne, Theodora Scarbrough, Roscoe Dalby, Agnes Darby, and Malone Tomerlin.



It was probably in 1913-14 when these students attended the Union Chapel (Summerfield) High School. Back row: Thrumman Ellis, Faye Boone, Herbert Ellis, the teacher, Frank E. Sowell, Kate Ellis, Ed White, Leslie Ellis, I. H. "Ivan" Morris, Zora Sowell, and Leo Collins; front row: Richey McLeod, Lena Dickson, Elton Dickson, Ethel McLeod, Luther Sowell, Lena Heath, Robert Gray, Buna Greenwood, Dreborn Nicholson, Cora Walley, Emory Dickson, and Gladys Gray.



This picture shows a family gathering at the Caley Summers home on his Summerfield farm. It was from that farm that the earliest merchants purchased their business lots. Left to right: Lee, Tola, and Joyce Dickson; Knight, Onie, and Jenny Summers; Maston, Viola and Beatrice Bolton; Albert Summers; Sally Walley; Julia Dickson (leaning); Caley Summers (seated); Cora, Cody, and Norton Walley; Thelma Darby (standing in front); Bill, Cordia, Nina, and Joe Darby.





Grades one and two at the Summerfield School during the 1923-24 term were: back row: Gladys Moore, Ruth Manning, Earla Ellis, Ruby Gandy, Mrs. Vera Rawlinson (the teacher), Nelson Chislom, A. G. Tipton, unknown, and Hubert Carpenter; middle row, Kathryn Waldrup, Cecil Bell Greenwood, unknown, unknown, Opal Boatman, Lula Chislom, Roscoe Gill, Elmer Casey, Jeff Sheffield, unknown, and ? Doris; front row: Milton Boatman, Herman Henderson, Miller Jones, unknown, Bert Haws, Tom Gill, unknown, and Earl Brown.

A Baptist Church baptizing conducted by the Rev. F. N. Fone, probably the year the congregation was organized in 1911.



Ivan Morris, Fay Boone, Lee Morris, Zora Sowell, Leslie Ellis, Clint Trotter, and Kate Ellis in front of the original Ike Tipton home when it was owned by John Sowell.





This tent is believed to have been used for a revival about 1910. Standing are: Eddie Mayfield, Leslie Ellis, O. K. Ellis, Ina Sowell, Forest Boone, Will White, Kate Ellis, and Ed Edwards; center row: Sybbie Mayfield and I. H. "Ivan" Morris; seated: Charlie Conner, Libby Mayfield, Mack Duty, Zora Sowell, and Clint Trotter.



Students and teachers from the Summerfield School located near the Union Chapel Church about 1913-14.





Vannie Shaw, Louis Womack, Leslie Ellis, Bertie McMeans, Cora Walley, Selma Boone, and Mary Cope at the (New) Summerfield School located near the Union Chapel Church. This is thought to be the closing of a music school taught by Mary Cope.



Julia, Joyce, Letha, and Carl Dickson pose with their grandfather, Caley Summers, about 1912.



These were (New) Summerfield High School pupils in 1923-24. Back row: Inis Boatman, Eula Tomerlin, Trudy Boatman, Bonnis Johnson, Homer Rawlinson (the teacher), Joyce Dickson, Altha Smith, Dollie Tomerlin, Loleta Garrett, and Myrtle Tomerlin; middle row: unknown, Carl Dickson, Nellie Robuck, Dewey Finkley, Lorene Liles, Buddy Lacy, Pearl Scott, Elmer Liles, Beatrice Brown, and Vestal Richardson; front row: Dan Corbin, unknown, Floyd Richardson, Weldon Dotson, Foy Johnson, Elvin Clark, Mart Brown, and two unidentified.





This (New) Summerfield school house was built about 1906 near the Union Chapel Cemetery.



This was New Summerfield's first oilwell drilled by the Summerfield Oil and Development Company around 1914.



Dr. G. F. Fullerton lived in (New) Summerfield and practiced medicine from 1875 until his death in 1908.



# A

## ABBOTT:

Ada L. 125  
Diane 22

## ACKER:

A.G. 95  
Ammiel Godbey 94  
Dottie 95  
George 10,46  
(Mrs.) George 10  
Gladys 21  
Godbey 95  
Kate Helen 94

## ADAMS:

Glenn "Red" 21  
Ora 21  
Tommye (Tommie) 98,105

## AIRHART:

Lovina 137

## ALBRITTON:

Nelle 12

## ALEXANDER:

Anne Rose 120  
Edna 120  
Ellen 21  
Ethel C. 120  
James M.  
Minnie Ola 120  
O.K. 8  
Patrick Fountain 120  
Patrick Lee 120  
Tabatha Ann 120  
Varner 120

## ALLEN:

Hazel Lanora 138  
Jessie Mack 138  
Juanita Keith 104  
Mack 21,27,49,50  
Muri 104  
Ruby 50  
Vickie 32  
Vickie Lynn 104

## ALLENDER:

Francis J. 63  
John W. 63  
Margaret 63  
Martha C. 63  
Mary E. 63  
Susan 63

## ALTMAN:

Bertie Bertram 84  
Frances Lavada 84  
Regina Palestine 84,85

## ANDERSON:

Annie 79  
Annie Lou 86  
Bryan 121  
Christina 121  
Frances 7  
Frances Willard 106, 121  
George 17,106  
George Patrick 121  
George T. 121  
James M. 100  
Lucy 141  
Pat 106

## ANDREWS:

Irvile 89,101  
Irvile, Wayne Jr. 89  
Mary Leona 89,101

## APPLETON:

Coleen 21

## ARCENEUX:

Earlie 8

## ARNWINE:

Ruth Glenn 75  
Sherrel 75

## ASHLEY:

Ovilla (Mrs. E.E.) 62

## ATKINSON:

Alfred A. 28,36  
Alma 102  
John 102

## ATKISSON:

James Washington 78  
Mattie 78

## ATTAWAY:

Daisy 82

## ATTERBURY:

Janice 22

## AULT:

Leona Fannie 69  
Mr. 47  
W.S. 69

## AUSTIN:

Stephen F. 82

# B

## BAILEY:

Carl 22  
Denise Lynn 115  
Jimmy 115  
J.L. 17  
Joe L. 143  
Linda 82,95,96  
Mollie 46  
Shawna Nicole 115  
Stephanie Sue 115  
T.E. 21  
Wayne 36,82,96

## BAKER:

B. Joe 21  
Pearly 110

## BALL:

Margie 110  
William 110

## BALLARD:

Lila 35  
Rita 131

## BALLEW:

Craig 103,143  
Dustin 103,143  
Rebecca Sue "Becky" 143

## BANKS:

James M. 96  
J.F. 118  
June Arlington 96  
Nellie 120  
Ophelia Elizabeth 118  
Susan "Sudie" Clarley 131  
Thors 120  
Vicki 102

## BARBER:

Lincoln 30,144

## BARKER:

Cara Jo 109

## BARNES:

Dorothy 111  
John (Mrs.) 21

## BARNETT:

Jeraldine 112

## BARNHILL:

Jimella 69

## BARRON:

Eddie 9  
Etta 7,9  
Lois 122

## BARROW:

Helen Jane 107,139  
James "Jim" 107,139  
Jeff 139  
Joni 139

## BASS:

Josiah L. 24  
Vicki Ann 99

## BATTON:

Pansy Omie 73  
Preston 73

## BEAL:

Wayne 27

## BEALL:

Cordillia 59,60  
Effie O. 38,43,59,60,68  
Hollis 59  
J.D. (Dr.) 2,60  
J.E. 29,37  
J.F. (Captain) 5,59  
Judson (J.E.) (Dr.) 5,29,38,46,49,  
57,59,60,68,150  
Wendell, Dr. 59,60

## BEARD:

John Evans 121  
Rosa Viola 121

## BEARDEN:

J.O. 42

## BEATY:

Doug 20,21

## BEDDINGFIELD:

Alice  
Dasie 38  
W.B. 38

## BEDDINGTON:

Alice 74  
Mary Angeline "Angie" 113

## BEENE:

Ada L. 125  
Eva Irene 125  
James A. 125

## BELL:

Erma Dean 112  
Mary Ann 122  
Mattie 102

## BELVA:

Jessie Fern 79

## BENDER:

Christine Lanora 138  
Larry 138  
Leandra 138  
Paul Norman 138

## BENEFER:

Cynthia 7

## BENOIT:

Clifton 89,101  
Jewel 89,101

## BENTHALL:

Frances 139

## BERGSTRESSER:

Bryan Wayne 134  
Deloris Ann 134  
Elsie 31,134  
Elsie Retilla 134  
John 134

John Watson, Jr. 134  
John Watson, III 134  
Linda Ruth 134  
Lori Kay 134

## BERRY:

Clytie Ovilla 123  
Jeff 123  
Julia Beth 108  
Leonard Max 108  
Lynn Max 108  
Major 123  
Mary Beth 108  
Renee 108  
Ruby Catherine 123

## BERRYHILL:

William 38

## BEST:

Pam 22

## BETHUNE:

Sally 114

## BETTS:

Pauline 101

## BICE:

Brennan Jasper 85  
Dillon Owen 85  
Michael Norman 85  
Teresa Lynn 85

## BIRD:

Eva 31  
Jim 31,36

## BIRDSONG:

Agnes 72,113  
Basil Brooks 72,110  
Callie 72  
Earl Lee 72  
Julia Ann 72  
Julie 134  
Larry 72  
Lawrence 72  
Lewis 134  
Lewie Leab "Bid" 72  
Margaret 72  
Mary Weiner 72  
Oweda 72  
Velma 72,133

## BIRDWELL:

R.L. 35  
Ruby Nell 34

## BISHOP:

A.B. 98  
Beatrice 17,98

## BLACK:

Karen 112

## BLACKBURN:

Cora 105  
Ethel 105  
Lena 105  
Mary Jane 105

## BLAIR:

Louzetta 140  
Martha Ann 137

## BLAKE:

Maurine 128

## BLAND:

J.A. 65  
Lonnice 50  
Melissa 65  
Minnie 109

## BLANKENBECKER:

Edna 115  
Hilda 115  
Pete 115



**BLANKINSHIP:**

Dr. 61  
Gus 38

**BLANSETT:**

E.L. 21

**BLANTON:**

Cynthia Marie 122  
James Paul 122

**BLASSINGAME:**

Cynthia Caldonia "Callie" 98

**BLOOMFIELD:**

Della Mae 121  
Gladys Juanita 121  
Isaac Ashley "Shorty" 121

**BLOUNT:**

Sharon "Sharri" 141

**BOATMAN:**

Ancil 52  
Ancil Leon 73  
Avis Leon 73  
Billie Louise 73  
Carolyn Ann 73  
Charlotte Ann 73  
Claude C. 131  
Donna Lynn 73  
Duffie 73  
Elmer Floyd 73  
Ethel 131  
Geraldine 73  
Gerald Wayne 73  
Henry 73  
Henry Bell 73  
Henry Milton 73  
Ida 73  
Inis 73,155  
John William 72,73,77  
Kenneth Nolan 73  
Leda Odell 73  
Lula Gertrude 73  
Mary Etta 73  
Mary Frances 73  
Mary Ida Victoria 73,77  
Maxine Juanita 73  
Milton 153  
Minnie 73  
Opal Louisa (Louise) 73,153  
Pansy Omie 73  
Sybil Katherine 73  
Tressa 73  
Tessie Lee 119  
Trudie (Trudy) 34,73,76,77,85,155  
Viola 73  
William A. 52,73  
William Ancil 73  
Winona Marie 73

**BOAZ:**

Gwen 98

**BOBBITT:**

Barbara 40  
Cynthia L. 137  
James "Jim" 51  
Jessie Lee 9  
John 51  
Laverne 76  
Myron Mavis 76  
Shala Jean 76

**BOGGS:**

Diamond 21  
Eva 21  
Goldie 21

**BOLES:**

Lois 21

**BOLEY:**

T. Reginald 8

**BOLTON:**

Beatrice 152

Betty Jo 82  
Eldred Lee 82  
Eldred Lee, Jr. "Rocky" 82  
Jack 115  
Jessie 115  
Kyla Lynn 82  
Maston 127,152  
Melena 82  
Patricia 115  
Russell Dewayne 82  
Sarita Jo 82  
Viola 127,152

**BOND:**

Ollie 89

**BONNER:**

Azalea 35,111  
Bennie 111  
Eugene Lockhart 111  
Hazel 111  
Leita 111

**BOONE:**

Carrie 73  
Clara 13  
Edna 116  
Erma 73  
Evelyn 73  
Faye 152,153  
F.M. (Forest) 2,13,37,73  
Forest 7,154  
Frank Marion 73  
Leona 7,144  
Lois 21  
Lula 7,73,109  
Malton 73  
Morris 73  
Omie 38  
Selma 73,109,155  
Van 73,150  
W. Vester 38

**BOOTH:**

Erma 92

**BOREN:**

Joseph A. 24

**BOSS:**

A.H. 38,74  
Alice 38,74  
Annie 9,43,74  
Annie Frances 91  
Clifton 52  
Cora 9  
Douglas 74  
Douglas Clifton 74,91  
Frances 9,74  
Hubert 9  
Loris Wendell 74  
Margaret 9  
Obert 9  
Obert M. 74  
Paul 9,74  
Paul Clifton 74  
Raymond Lee 74

**BOSTICK:**

Mary 110,133

**BOTHWELL:**

Elsie Jack 76,77

**BOWERS:**

Dollie 109

**BOWLING:**

Cleve 52  
Colonel Ross 134  
John "Soup" 21  
Larkin Sanders 81  
Margurite 115  
Mary Frances "Mollie" 81  
Mary Jane 81  
Oweta 34  
Oweta Marie 122  
Ross 115  
Rossie 134

S.H. 17  
Zada 115,134

**BRADY:**

Bill 142  
Bill, Jr. 142  
Blanche 142  
Bryan 56  
Diamond 20,56  
Eleanor 142  
Joe 2,19,28,56,65,71  
Lizzie 2,8,19,56  
Stella 142  
Valton "Bud" 142

**BRAND:**

Derna Lee 112  
Eula Mae 112  
Matt 112  
Thomas 112

**BRANDON:**

Carrie 73  
Minnie 71,136

**BRANHAM:**

Joyce 21  
Myrtle 90  
Wm. 24

**BRATCHER:**

Joyce 142

**BRAZIER:**

Billy Paul 27,31,74,79  
Gary 74,79  
H.B. 72  
Henry 72  
Hollis 72  
Ida 74  
James Henry 27,74  
Jan 74  
J.T. (Mrs.) (Manilla) 62,74  
Linda Sue 74  
Manilla 62,74  
Margaret Belle 74  
Marion 72  
Nedra 31,34,35,79  
Nedra Orast 74  
Oweda 72  
Pamela 74,79  
Paula 74,79  
Scott 74  
Tant 39,74  
Tony William 74  
Wm. Henry Harrison 51,74

**BRIDGES:**

E.T. 8

**BRISCO:**

Albert Herbert "Bud" 104  
Barbara 104  
Mary Josephine "Jo" 104

**BRITTAIN:**

Jack 79  
James M. (Dr.) 21,24,57  
Wanda Beth 79

**BROCK:**

George 111  
Leita 111

**BROLES:**

Benny (ie) 111

**BROOKS:**

H.P. 7

**BROWN:**

Alta Mae 7,43,76,77,78  
Amy 76  
Amy Elizabeth 85  
Andrew Walter 77  
Annette 77  
Annie 76,77,123,150  
Audrey 9,60,76,77,144  
Audrey Evelyn 75

Barbara 76  
Beatrice 76,89,101,155  
Bertha 78  
Betha "Beth" Yolette 73,76,77  
Bevie 9,44,75,77,91  
Bill 76  
Billy Joel 77  
Bobbie 76  
Carmellea (Carmelia) 76,77  
Claude 9,35  
Claudia 76,91  
Cleo Merle 75  
Clyde 9,76  
Cyril Conrad 73,76,77,85  
Derwin 76  
Diane Lee 77  
Earl 76,77,153  
Eda 75,144  
Elsie 9  
Elsie Jack 76,77  
Elsie Ray 76,77  
Emaline 77  
Ella Mae 78  
Eula Pearl 7,76  
Frances 31,77  
Francis Marion 131  
Frank Tilman 78  
Felecia Ann 76  
Garland Blanton 77  
George Roland 78  
Gilbert 36,75,76  
Gilbert Washington 74,78,144  
Hayden 108  
Henry Turner 77  
James "Jim" Thomas 75,77,91  
Janice 73,76,78,85  
Jennifer 76  
Jennifer Elaine 85  
Jerry 77  
Jim 44,75,76  
John 74  
John Lott 75,77,78  
John Oliver 78  
J.T. 47  
Julia 78  
Kim Loree 76  
Linda Mae 77  
Lola Mae 76  
Louise 76,150  
Marie 36  
Marjorie 9,74,75,91  
Mart 29,31,32,34,35,73,85,155  
Mart Lowell 75,77  
Martha 109,131  
Martha Horne 76  
Martin Homer 91  
Mary (Mrs.) 21  
Mary Alta Mae 77  
Mary Ann 131,133  
Mary Ethel 77  
Mary Frances 76  
Mildred 36,77  
Minnie 77  
Minnie Jane 77  
Myrna 139  
Nannie Louise 77  
Nora 76  
Nora Elizabeth 77  
Ona Pearl 9  
Rickey 34,36,77  
Rickey Lowell 76  
Ronald 76  
Ruby Fern 21,98,105  
Rufus 76  
Ruth Glenn 9,75  
Sallie Mae 78  
Sam 7,28  
Sam Edward 76  
Samuel  
Samuel Edward (S.E.) 36,47,77  
S.E., Jr. 53,76,77  
Shala 22  
Shala Jean 76  
Sarah 131  
Susan 74  
Susan J. 77,78  
Susan Jane 75

**BROWN (cont'd)**

Tennie 76  
 Teresa 76  
 Teresa Lynn 85  
 Trudy (Trudie) 31,34,76,77,85  
 William Taylor 77  
 Willard Wayne "Billy" 76

**BROYLES:**

Sarah 137

**BUI:**

Brandi Michelle 134  
 Judy Carol 134  
 Su Von 134

**BULLARD:**

Ella C. 63  
 James T. "Jim" 63  
 J.B. 63,66  
 Joseph B. 63  
 Joseph William "Will" 63  
 Mary 63,66  
 Mary Elizabeth "Betty" 63  
 Mary P. 63  
 Nancy "Nannie" 63

**BUNDRICK:**

Gloria 94

**BUNN:**

Anna Lou 35,78  
 Brenda Lou 78  
 Bros. 49  
 Cecil Franklin "Doc" 78  
 Doyle 36  
 Doyle Edwin 78  
 Irene 78  
 Mary Ann 78  
 Warren D. 78

**BURCHFIELD:**

Charlotte 79  
 Jackie 31,79  
 Jeannie Sue 22,25,31,32,79  
 Tommy Jack 79

**BURKE (Burk):**

Don 22  
 Gail 21

**BURNETT:**

David G. 54

**BURNS:**

Frank 79  
 Frank, Jr. 50,79  
 J.G. (C) 132  
 Jimmy 79  
 Mozelle 79  
 Paulina A. 132  
 Theta 22

**BURT:**

Tammy 82

**BURTON:**

Ethel 104  
 Fulton H. 104  
 John 52  
 Kathlyn Teresa 107  
 Mammie 74,102  
 M.Y. 19  
 Ross 52  
 Ruby Evelyn 104  
 Ruth 60  
 Vesta Ann 83,84

**BUTLER:**

Anna Beth 109  
 Augustus 109,132  
 Harvey 96  
 Kathy 96  
 Kevin 96  
 Rutha Ann (Ruth) 109,132  
 Thomas 96  
 Thomasann 96

**BYERS:**

David 120  
 Joyce Diane 120  
 Lisa 120  
 Tammy 120  
 Wilmer 120

**BYNUM:**

J.D. 31

**C****CALDWELL:**

Billy Wayne 73  
 Pansy Omie 73  
 R.M. 73  
 Virginia Carol 73

**CALDHOUN:**

Nancy 113

**CAMEL:**

George 35  
 Joseph "Joe" 35

**CAMERON:**

Alton 5,31,74,78,79  
 Alton Orist 144  
 Belle 78,79  
 Bernice 78,79  
 Beverly 78  
 Brenda 78  
 Connie 78  
 Curtis 78  
 Delores 78  
 Edwin Lee 27,34,53,79  
 Ella Mae 31,32  
 Estell 34,78,79,137  
 Gladys "Tip" 78,79  
 Howard (Gale), Sr. 5,34,36,53,78  
 Howard Gale, Jr. 78  
 James Samuel 51  
 Jewel "Judy" 27,34,78  
 Lisa 78  
 Lois 31,74,78  
 Lois Lavetta 78,144  
 Loweta 79  
 Mack 78  
 Maurice 78  
 Maurine 78  
 Melvin Jefferson 78,79  
 Mozelle 78,79  
 Nedra 31,78,79  
 Nedra Orast 74  
 Ollie 31,32,48  
 Opria Marie 27,34,78  
 Ruth 80  
 Shirley A. 9,79

**CAMPBELL:**

Betty Lou 86  
 Billy Sue 86  
 Carolyn 86  
 Henry T. 86  
 James 86  
 Macie Wyona 86,87,88  
 Martha 81

**CANNON:**

J.H. 17

**CARIS:**

Ann 140

**CARLISLE:**

Jerry 35,50

**CARMICHAEL:**

Mary 68

**CARNES:**

Janet 121  
 R.F. 121  
 Sidney Merle 121  
 Virginia Joy 121

**CARNEY:**

Betty Louise 89  
 David Bruce 89

Donald Lee 89  
 Ima Louise 89,101  
 Walter Lee "Pat" 89,101

**CARPENTER:**

Buddy 34  
 Charles 36  
 Hubert 153  
 Pamela 102  
 Ruthie 119

**CARR:**

Cary 76,138  
 Karah Beth 76,138  
 Theresa 76,138

**CARROL:**

Jane 20,21  
 Karen 76

**CASWELL:**

Eva Regina 85  
 Thorton 85

**CARTER:**

Doris 92  
 Frances 100  
 W.W. 100

**CASE:**

Joe Roy 139  
 Pearl 127,139  
 Roy 80,139

**CASEY:**

Annie 79  
 Annie Jo 79  
 Ben 79  
 Betty Fern 79  
 Bonnie 7  
 Della Ann 92,99  
 Dorothy 79,150  
 E.E. 65  
 Elmer Godfrey 53,79,153  
 Flora 79  
 Guella 79  
 Horace R. 79  
 Jessie Fern 79  
 Jessie N. 65  
 Little "Annie" 79  
 Mary Elizabeth "Mollie" 79  
 Ora 65  
 Roland Hill 79  
 Wanda Beth 79  
 W.D. 9  
 William 79

**CASH:**

Francis J. 9

**CASPER:**

Evelyn 34

**CAVENESS:**

Ann 138  
 Bob 31,35,50  
 Bobby D. 31,50  
 Dewey 134  
 Edward "Sonny" 139  
 Edward Everett "Bob" 31,139  
 Jewel 31,35,127,139  
 Lula Bell 134  
 Nan 134  
 Willie Elizabeth "Missie" 31,32

**CHAMPION:**

Ann 21

**CHANDLER:**

Bertie Bell 35,79,133,134,138  
 Elmer 36,79  
 Ernest 79  
 Helen 79,138  
 Iva Lee 9  
 Jettie Lou 35,79  
 Leonard L. 79,138  
 Linnie M. 7  
 Loushion 7  
 J.W. 14

**CHAPMAN:**

Ruby 21  
 Ruth 113

**CHERRY:**

Mattie Elizabeth 98  
 William "Bill" Garrett 98

**CHILDERS:**

M.R. (Mrs.) 8  
 W.J. 8

**CHILDRESS:**

Brenda Lou 78  
 Courtney Rene  
 Donna (Dona) Jean 129,142  
 Michael 78  
 Savannah Leigh 78

**CHIPLEY:**

Sally 93

**CHISOM:**

J.W. 8

**CHISOLM:**

Odell 150  
 Nelson 153  
 Lula 153

**CHOATE:**

Anna Lou 78  
 Mattie 78  
 Roy M. 78

**CHRISTOPHER:**

Bertha 75  
 Celesta Nan 77  
 Charles Columbus 77  
 Charlie 76  
 Danny Francis 77  
 Larry Charles 77  
 Lea Ammer 117  
 Luther Dean 117  
 Nora 76,77  
 Opal Odell 115,117

**CHUPP:**

Adell 80  
 Annie Pearl 63,80,84  
 Barbara 80  
 Carolyn 80  
 Christie 80  
 Clifton 80  
 Danny 80  
 Frances 80  
 Glenda 80  
 Grady 53,80  
 Herman 80  
 Irene 80  
 Jesse Morris 54  
 John M. 80  
 Kittie Reba 80,107  
 Marvin 31,32,35,53,80  
 Maxine 80  
 Morris 80  
 Otis Montraville 27,80,107  
 Paul 31,32,48,49,50,54,80  
 Pauline 80  
 Ronzie 80  
 Rosa Lee 80  
 Ruth 80  
 Vickie 80

**CLAPETT:**

Mary Donia 125  
 Will 125

**CLARDY:**

Aline 118  
 Carolyn  
 Ela Mae 128  
 Jana (Janna) 118  
 Jay 118  
 John 140  
 Mary Frances 140  
 Stacey 118  
 Weldon "Rip" 118



**CLARK:**

Arnold 80  
Ava 80  
Bernice 81  
Bertha Lee 80  
Carrie Linnie 81  
Cecil Lawrence 53,81,150  
Cecil Lawrence, Jr. 81  
Debra Darlene 81  
Delores 81  
Douglas Len 81  
Drew Quinton 81  
Earl 81  
Edna Inez 81  
Elvin 81,155  
Era Faye 81  
Evelyn Inez 81  
Genola 81  
Hubert 81  
James 80  
Kenneth Wayne 81  
Lela 139  
Lela Alice 80  
Lottie Mae 81  
Lydia Louise 81  
Marion Edward 80  
Mary Helen 81  
Mattie 78  
Noble "Nob" 80  
Ona 81,124  
Patricia 81  
Ruby Pearl 81  
Sheila MacDarnell "Maxie" 81  
Teresa 81  
Toni Lynn 81  
Walter Ray, Jr. "Dub" 34  
Walter Ruby "W.R." 81,152  
William Andrew "Will" 80  
Willie 124,152  
Woodrow Wilson 81

**CLAY:**

Earlene 22

**CLEAVER:**

Kate 25,32

**CLEGG:**

David 22,50

**CLEM:**

Brenda 140  
Sherman 140

**CLEVELAND:**

Floyd R., Jr. 104  
Floyd R. III, "Ricky" 104  
Jana Carol 104  
Jeffery Lee 104  
Jennifer Dianne 104  
Marilyn Jane 104  
Silverine 104

**CLIFTON:**

Della Ophelia 81  
Dorothy LaNelle 82,96  
Earla 2,5,8,9,10,11,14,17,20,21,  
24,28,38,41,44,50,56,58,60,63,  
81,82,91,92,93,95,96,118,125  
Jessie 81  
LaNelle 17,40,44,63,95  
Laveda 81  
Letcher 36,81,82,96  
Linda Arlene 82,95,96  
Martha 81  
Murph 81  
Robert Earl 81  
Ruby 81  
Wanda 81

**CLINDANIEL:**

Rocky 22

**CLYBURN:**

Gladys 130

**COATS:**

John (Mrs) 21

Linda 116

**COCKE:**

T.A. 24  
Thomas A. 18

**CODGILL:**

Roy 8

**COFER:**

C.C. 8

**COLLINS:**

Almeda 144  
Bill 52  
Faye 152  
Helen Irene 111  
Ira 111,152  
Jack 93,152  
Leo 7,8,28,152  
Lou Ellen 111  
Malissa 18  
Winnie 93  
Wm. L. 24

**COLLITON:**

J.A. (Jack) 38

**COLQUIT:**

O.B. (Gov) 60

**COLVIN:**

Benjamin Luther "Luke"  
82,83,145  
Coleman 145  
Daisy 82  
Elijah Coleman 82  
Elizabeth 101  
Eva Mae 43,132,145  
John Wesley 82  
Martha 82  
Mary 145  
Mary Elizabeth "Bessie" 82  
Mary Jane 82  
Mary Lila 82  
Ollie Mae 82,83  
Robert 82  
Sally Ann 82  
W. Thomas 82

**COMPTON:**

Bertie 132

**CONE:**

Cecile 107,121  
Christopher 121  
Jimmy H. 121  
Joanne 121  
Karen 121  
Mark 121  
Michael M. 121  
Scott 121

**CONNER:**

Charlie 28,37,46,154  
Jesse Jackson 51

**CONWAY:**

Anita 21  
Catherine 142  
Cleta Fern 142  
Ford 142

**COOK:**

Alice C. 66  
A.R.  
Caswell 13,64,65,66,69  
Caswell W. (C.W.) 64,69  
Charles 66  
Cornelia A.R. 64  
C.W. 51  
David M. 55  
Doris Ann 126  
Edith 90  
Elizabeth 64,69  
Elizabeth J. 66,123  
Evaline 131  
George S. 64  
James B. 64,65,69

James C. 66

John D. 13,51,64,65  
John W. 66  
Joseph W. 64,66  
J.W. 17,51  
Kizzie 21  
Malinda 64  
Margaret E. 64,66  
Martha A. 64  
Martha 66  
Mary E. 18,137  
Mary J. 66  
Mary Jane 17,64  
Nancy C. 64,69  
Ollie 83  
Peter 21  
Rebecca E. 64,69  
Sarah M. 64  
S. Eva 66  
Taylor 121  
Willie Dee 121

**COOLEY:**

Roy 21

**COOPER:**

M. Kathy 115  
Nan 22  
W.M. 45

**COPE:**

Mary 42,155

**CORBIN:**

Aletha 84  
Allie Mae  
Ann 84  
Annie Mae 83  
Annie Pauline 142  
Bertha 83  
Bertha Louise 83  
Bertha Pauline 83,142  
Billy Gail 83  
Billy Jean 83  
Bud Singleton 83  
Calvin D. 9,53  
Calvin Daniel 83  
Clyde Daniel 83,155  
Edmund 83,84  
Edward 142  
Estell Wade 83  
Evelyn Eloise 83  
Frances Lauren 83  
Garnet 83  
Hattie 84  
Hattie Violet 83  
Herbert 9,83,84  
Herbert Edmund 83  
H.M. 47  
Hubert Moore 83  
James David 83  
Jessica Leigh 84  
Joe (David) 50,53  
John David 83  
John David, Jr. 83  
Joseph D. 9  
Joseph David 83  
Karen Suzanne 84  
Laura Michelle 84  
Linda 83  
Lorena Fay 83  
Mattie Frances 83  
Michael Shane 83  
Miranda Hicks 83  
Ollie 83  
Patricia Ann 83  
Pauline 83,84  
Ray 83  
Recey Louise 83  
Robert Dale 83  
Vernon Ray 83  
Vesta Ann 83

**CORMACK:**

Bettie Clare 94  
Gene 94

**CORNELISON:**

Amanda Elizabeth 106  
Aubrey 36  
Bertie 28,68,117  
Elizabeth 68  
John 68  
Jesse Porter 51,68,151  
Mary 68  
Ruthie 68

**COTTON:**

Jerry 21  
Jewel Lee 20,21

**COUCH:**

Ada 110  
Andrew 64  
Chelley C. 64  
Drury 51,64,140  
Elizabeth Mary  
Epsey H. 64  
Fannie C. 7,38  
Hannah 64  
Henry 7,84  
Henry A. 11,38,51,64  
Ida 64,84  
James C. 64  
John G. 64  
Johnny 64  
Mary 64  
Mary Elizabeth "Mollie" 64,84  
Mollie 11  
Paralee 64  
Sillias Messer 64  
Susannah "Susan" 64  
Thomas 64  
William M. 64

**COWAN:**

Annie Pearl 63,80,84  
Donna Marie 84  
Dorothy 84  
Earl 36  
Elmer 29,35,37,46,96,97  
Florence Fay 20,21,118  
Glynn 118  
Grizzie 97  
James Euke 118  
James H. 51  
Jane 121  
John Elmer 28  
John Wallace 84  
J.W. 11,64  
J.T. 67  
Lelan 54  
Leon 21,53,80,84  
Libbie 84  
Lometa 97  
Louise 84  
Lula 67,118  
Mary E. "Mollie" 64,84  
Mary Earline 129  
Nezzie 89  
Ray 118  
Selisha 118  
Treva 84  
Vallie 68  
Vassie 57,118  
Walter Bret 84  
Walter Britton 84  
Walter Lelan 84  
Wm. B. 118

**COWART:**

Mrs. 21

**COX:**

Andrea 102  
Becky 101  
Bettie Marie 101  
Carolyn 101  
Carolyn Sue 85  
Christopher Jack "Chris" 102  
Claude 36,85,101,140  
Claudie Andrew "Andy" 101,102  
David 101  
David Neal 85



**COX (cont'd)**

Debra "Debbie" 31,102  
 Don 34,81  
 Don, Jr. 81  
 Donicia 81,102  
 Douglas 101  
 Douglas, Jr. 101  
 Douglas Eugene 85  
 Douglas Eugene, Jr. 85  
 Edna Gall 81  
 Eva Carolyn 84  
 Eva Regina 85  
 Frances Lavada 84,85  
 Gary 31  
 Gary Lynn 101,102  
 Gary Lynn, Jr. 102  
 Gayle (Gall) 102  
 Gilbert Owen 84,85  
 Gilbert Owen, Jr. 85  
 Gladys 102  
 Jane 85,101  
 Janet 85,101,140  
 Janet Ellen 101  
 Janice 73,76,78,85  
 Jasper Newton 84,85  
 Jerry Don 101,102  
 Jerry Don, Jr. 102  
 Larue 21,22  
 Larue (Mrs.) 21  
 Kandi Lynn 102  
 Linda Kay 102  
 Mandy Kay 102  
 Pamela 102  
 Pamela Jane 85,101  
 Rachel Suzanne 102  
 Rebecca Diane 85  
 Robert Jack 101,102  
 Robert Jack, Jr. 102  
 Robin Carol 102  
 Tiffany Lynn 85,101  
 Vicki 102  
 Zora Belle 85,101,102,140

**CRAFT:**

Vanita 21

**CRAIN:**

Burton 25

**CRANK:**

Amy LaShay 119  
 Linda Lee 119  
 Mikel Shane 119  
 Robert Neil 119

**CRAWFORD:**

Alma 112  
 Helen 60,147  
 Leland 112  
 Naomi 143  
 Ray 150

**CREWS:**

Jessie 32,101  
 Jessie Lee 101  
 Jimmie 61,102  
 Sissie 101

**CRIBBS:**

Carol Ann 117  
 James 117

**CROOK:**

Opal 120  
 Stanley 120

**CROSS:**

Brian 78  
 Erwin (Irwin) 21,78  
 Larry 78  
 Maurine 78

**CROSSLAND:**

Raymond 81  
 Shiela MacDarrell "Maxie" 81  
 Ted Allen 81  
 Tommy Ray 81  
 Wanda Jean 81

**CROUCH:**

Sue 129

**CROW:**

Lettie 9  
 Mary 124

**CRUISE:**

Jessie 31

**CULBERSON:**

Conrad 143  
 Hazel 139  
 Lynn 139  
 Sara Lynn 139  
 Suzanne 139

**CUMMINS:**

Jeane 87  
 Ross 48

**CUNNINGHAM:**

Charles 53,79  
 Wanda Beth 79

**CURRY:**

Terry 102

**D****DAFFT:**

Annie 79  
 Jettie Lou 79  
 Joseph 79

**DAGLEY:**

Lorena Fay 83

**DALBY:**

Azille 85  
 Elmore Payton 85  
 Emma 92,149  
 Emma Elizabeth 69,85,123  
 E.P. 17  
 E.P. (Mrs.) 7  
 Eutha 7  
 I.E.M. 85  
 Ida M. 149  
 Isaac Knight 12,51,68,71,85,86,  
 91,123  
 John W. (Ward) 12,18,51,85,86  
 Kitty Belle 85,91  
 Knight 85  
 Laura 72  
 Lillie (Lilly) 92  
 Lilly O. 28,49,68,85,89  
 Malinda 1,12,18,68,85,86,91,123  
 Nancy Ann 85  
 Martha 85,127  
 Martha (Julia) J. 85,86,127  
 R.E. (Mrs.) 7  
 Roscoe 9,92,152  
 Rose Ellen 85  
 Seth T.W. 51,86  
 Sophia Alice 86  
 Thomas D. 85,86,127  
 Tom 72  
 Verna 59,85,86,100,130

**DALE:**

George 35  
 George (Mrs.) 35

**DALLAS:**

Charlotte 70,128

**DAMERON:**

Mollie Elizabeth 111

**DANSBY:**

Annye B. 20,22

**DARBY:**

Agnes 102,152  
 Alice 7,8,87,102  
 Anna Lou 21,86  
 Archie Guy "A.G." 88,123  
 Armen 27,79,88  
 Aubrey 14,87

Ben 26,35  
 Ben R. 87  
 Ben Ray 86  
 Bernice 87  
 Betsy 87  
 Blanche 87  
 B.R., Jr. 27,53,86  
 Bruce 87  
 Charlie 26,87  
 Chester 27,88  
 Clara 8  
 Cora Etta 87,107  
 Cora Helen 34,87,107,139  
 Cordie (Cordia) 113,127,152  
 Dan 86,87  
 Destine 31  
 Dianne 87  
 Don 27,87  
 Dorothy 79,107  
 D.T. 80  
 D. Troit 87  
 Ella Mae 80,87,107  
 Erma Lee 88  
 Ethna 34  
 Eva Mae 35,84,117  
 Fannie Olivia 7  
 F.T. 51  
 George Henry 87,107  
 Gerald Marlin 53,86,87  
 Gladys 84,88,140  
 Gordon 102  
 Guy 26,36,140  
 Helen Cordia 87  
 Herman 87  
 Hubert 5,31,87  
 James William (Bill) 87,113,152  
 Jeane 87  
 Jennifer 87  
 Joe 31,34,152  
 Joe Thomas 52,87  
 John L. 87  
 Josephine 87,88,100,107  
 Juanita 27  
 Julia 90,113  
 Julianne 87  
 Julius 86,88,100  
 Julius Gage 87,107  
 Julius Lee 87  
 Kelly 86  
 Ken 86  
 Lucy Neva 87  
 Macie 87  
 Macie Wynona 86,88  
 Major John 87  
 Malinda Elizabeth "Ninnie"  
 88,123,140  
 Marshall 102  
 Martha 90  
 Martha Jane 87  
 Mary J. 90  
 Mary Kate 128  
 Mavis 67,87,88  
 Mavis Leona 86  
 Melba 102  
 Minnie 87,90  
 Mollie Isabelle 87  
 Nettie 7,35,86  
 Newman 84,88,117  
 Nina Nieva 87,152  
 Patricia "Pat" 87  
 Tammy 87  
 Thelma Julia 75,87,113,152  
 Thomas M. 87  
 Thomas William "Bill" 127  
 T.M. (Tom) 90  
 Tommy 47,87  
 Troit 26,102  
 Trudie 87  
 Vermie 87  
 Virge M. 51  
 Virgil Miller 87

**DARKINS:**

Annie 58,92

**DARNELL:**

Mamie 74,102

Margaret Belle 74  
 William 74

**DAVENPORT:**

John B. 20,21

**DAVIDSON:**

Hasie N. 18

**DAVIS:**

A.D., Jr. 53  
 Altha 80  
 Annie 88  
 Beatrice 89,101  
 Boyd 27  
 Casey 76  
 Cathryn 20,21,22  
 Charles Lewis 89  
 Charlotte Dianne 122  
 Chester 99  
 Dorothy Mae 89  
 Edwin 8  
 Emma Mildred 91  
 Eura 74  
 Eura Lee 89,101  
 Francis Marion 88  
 Gary Don 122  
 Geneva 90  
 Gerald Morris 89  
 Gladys 7,8,18  
 Grace 89,101  
 Gwendolyn 74,89  
 Harold Gene 89,138  
 Harold 76,138  
 Hope 76,138  
 Howard 7  
 Ima Louise 89,101  
 James Allyn 122  
 Jennie Mae 89,101  
 Jewel 89  
 Jewel Devida 89,101  
 Jimmie Don 122  
 John 7  
 John Boyd 89  
 John Franklin 90  
 John M. 101  
 Johnny 27,74  
 John Richard 88,89,101  
 John William 88,101  
 Julie 91  
 J.W. 88  
 Karen 76  
 Lewis 89  
 Lewis Washington 88,101  
 Linda Beth 89  
 Loleta Beth 34,76,138  
 Lucille 32  
 Lula 88  
 Mary Jane 88  
 Mary Leona 88,89,101  
 Mary Nell 91  
 Marvin 88  
 May 8,144  
 Michael 27,76  
 Michael Dean 89  
 Mildred 43,92  
 Myrtle 90  
 Nathaniel 7,8,89,144  
 Nathaniel Andrew 88,101  
 Pansy 99  
 Paralee 101  
 Paula 50,74  
 Phillip Michael 99  
 Plemon B. 91  
 Rachel 88  
 R.C. 21,48  
 Richard 74  
 Robert James 89  
 Roy Arthur 89  
 R.P. 7  
 Ruby 19  
 Sally 88  
 Scherri Rae 122  
 Shirley Anne 89  
 S.L. 14  
 Silas 76,89,101  
 Silas Lawrence 89

# DAVIS (cont'd)

Sue 91  
Susan 7,88  
Susan Elnora 88,101  
Sylvia Lynn 129  
Tammy 40,74  
Tavie 35  
Teresa 76  
Thurman 32  
Tiny 7  
Tom 76  
Tommy Gene 138  
Ura 74  
Wade 74  
Wanda 91  
Wesley 76  
William Andrew 87

# DAY:

Eula 8,94

# DEAMAN:

Julius 145  
Sophrina 145

# DEARMAN (Deerman):

Iva 19

# DEATON:

Frankie 7,65  
Judson 65  
Margaret 126  
Martha E. 75,126,144  
Mary E. 126  
Matthew, Jr. 126  
Matthew, Sr. 126  
Sarah 126  
William 126

# DECKER:

Floyd A. 8

# DE LA CRUZ:

Patricia Elana 122

# DEMENT:

Ada 97

# DENNIS:

Jack 25  
Richard 118

# DENTON:

J.W. 8

# DENYER:

Samuel J. 64  
Zerelda A. 64

# DERRINGTON:

Denna Cheryl 104  
Ike 104  
James Hilton 104  
James Keith 104  
Mary Sue 104  
Pearlene 104

# DIAL:

Eula Lucille 112  
J.W. 112  
Molly 135,137

# DICK:

David 98  
Ruth Estell 98

# DICKEY:

Grace 128  
Minnie Jane 77  
Olen 128  
R.L. 77  
Robert 51

# DICKENSON:

Clarissa 126  
Nancy 126  
Robert, Jr. 126

# DICKSON:

Alfred Forrest 89  
Alvin 9  
Arthur 2,8,19,26,28,30,32,37,  
39,46,49,73,86,89,90,144,151  
Blanche 11  
Buna 43,102  
Capt. 108  
Carl 9,43,155  
C.H. 8  
Charles 89  
Charlie H. 108  
Charlie L. 90  
Coy 9,36,90  
Curtis 36,43,90  
Edwin 89  
Elizabeth Blanche 108  
Ella 89,125  
Ella Mae 125  
Elton 152  
Elsie 11,108  
Emory 102,152  
Esther 35,90  
Geneva 90  
Harriet F. 89  
Hattie 9  
Henry 28,35,38,46,140  
Hugh 89  
Hugh M. 125  
Hugh McNeel 89  
J. Henry 8,38  
James Henry 89  
J. Lee 9  
Jessie Lee 89  
Johnnie Merrill 102  
Joyce 9,152,155  
Julia 9,152,155  
Kenneth 54  
Kenneth P. 90  
Lee 8,12,39,114,127,149,152  
Lena 152  
Letha 9  
Lloyd Robert 108  
Lois 9,90  
Lucinda Jane 125  
Lula 89,125  
Mary Beth 108  
Mauverine 9  
Mildred 9  
Minnie 89  
Monyne 108  
Mollie 8,38,89  
Nancy 89  
Nell F. 90  
Nezzie 89  
Nina 8,89,108  
Ollie 9,89  
Overa 89,90  
Rita 108  
Sarah Joy 102  
Tola 9,12,89,114,127,152  
Tola Mae 127  
Vera 7,8,28,43,49,89,90  
Walter 89,91  
William K. (Capt.) 89  
W.K. 19,51

# DIXON:

Herbert L. 84  
Louise 84  
Marilyn 84

# DODSON:

Cordilla 11,56  
Eliza 2,8,11,12,19,56  
James L. 11  
Laban (Labanon) 11,24,26,35,  
39,55,56  
Margaret 11,55,56  
Thomas (L) 2,11,19,26,29,35,  
55,56,64

# DOGGETT:

Anne 72  
Bobby 72

# DOLLAR:

Bertha Lee 80

# DONAHO:

Amanda 90  
Bertha Edith 91  
Cody Lee 91  
Daniel W. 90  
Elizabeth 90  
Elizabeth J. 90  
Francis A. 90  
Hannah Leslie 91,95  
Henrietta 68,90  
Hiram Ellis 91  
Hiram H. 51,68,90,91  
Isaac E. 90  
Jane 90  
Janie Mae 91  
Keziah 90  
Lewis 90  
Lucinda 90  
Mary 90  
Mary J. 90  
Nancy A. 90  
Nancy J. 90  
Octavia Catherine 91  
Orin 91  
William 90,95  
William Finley 90,91  
William Reuben 91

# DORBANT:

Mary 108  
Ross 108

# DOSHER:

Eula 135  
Lee 135  
Onnie Conley 135

# DOTSON:

Adelle 98  
Adean 34,98  
Adolph 27,53,98  
Allen 9,53,92  
Amanda 91,92,93,94,98,100  
Annie 74  
Annie Frances 91  
Amaryllis 91,141  
Audie 93  
Azile 9,92  
Beatrice 93  
Belle 8,92  
Berta "Bert" 91  
Bessie 91,141  
Bevie 75,77,91  
Callie 9,93  
Calvin 91,131,141  
Carmen 91  
Catherine (Kate) 93  
Christene 9,93  
Claude Allen 91  
Claudia 76,91  
Clifford 9,52,92  
Cora Belle 9,92  
Cynthia Caldonia "Callie" 98  
Dale 91  
Della 9,98  
Della Ann 92,93  
Dennis 91  
De Troit (D.T.) (Troit) 8,74,75,  
91,92,100,105,151  
Dickie 9,93  
Doris 92  
Dorothy 34  
Eliza 75,92,151  
Eliza "Lyde" 8,74  
Elizabeth "Bet" 92,133  
Eliza T. 91,100  
Ella Jane 93  
Emma Mildred 91  
Ernest Floyd 91  
Evelyn 91  
Finis 33,93,98  
Floyd 9,92  
Gay 91  
George Harrison 98  
Gladys 91  
Gloria 91  
Grace 93,142

# Harley Frank "Butch" 91

Harmon 141,152  
Harrison 9,93  
Henry 5,8,26,35,85,92  
Henry Travis 91,152  
Henry W. 91  
Henry Westbrook 91  
Ima Mae 9,92  
Ina Mae  
James 91,92  
Jane 93  
Jeremiah (J.M.) "Jim" 51,91,92,93  
Jim 27,53,98  
Joe C. 7,85,89  
Joe Caswell 92  
John 93  
John A. (J.A.) 47  
Johnny 91  
Josiah 26,71,91,92,93,94,98,  
100,137  
Josie 91  
Judy 131  
Kitty Belle 85,91,92  
Laura A. 136  
Laura Anderson 92  
Lilly O. 7,28,49,68,85,89,92  
Lucille 93  
Luther 92,98  
Margaret 132  
Margaret Ann 92,95,96  
Margaret Elizabeth 93,94  
Margaret "Peggy" 92,93  
Martha Minerva "Matt" 92  
Mary 110  
Mary E. 91,93  
Mary Elizabeth 132,137,138  
Mary Eliza 92,98  
Maverine 9,93  
Mildred 9,43,92  
Milo 93  
Molly 93  
Novice 9,93,98  
Novie 91  
Overa 89,90  
Peggy 93  
Randy 91  
Rita 131  
Ronald Cliff 92  
Roy 9,53,92,152  
Roy Troit 91  
Sarah Amanda 92,137  
Sarah Cathrine "Kate" 93,100  
Sarah E. "Sally" 92,93  
Sarah Elizabeth 93  
Selia 93  
Thelma 92,93  
Tommy Ruth 131,141  
Troit 35  
Vera 28,89,90,147  
Verna Dean 93,98  
Weldon 93,155  
William 12,91,93,132  
William Harmon 51,91  
Will 9,93  
Willie 20,92,151  
Winnie 93  
Wm. 92  
Wyatt 91,141

# DOTY:

DeLonda 22

# DOWLING:

Carrie Linnie 81

# DUDLEY:

Dick 131  
Netta Paralee 132  
Offie 105  
R.D. 132  
Sarah Donia 131

# DUMAY:

Janet 85  
Janet Ellen 101

# DUNCAN:

Charles T. 63



**DUNCAN (cont'd)**

M.V. 47

**DUNN:**

Bro. 91  
G.A. 8  
Joyce 134  
Maranda 83

**DUNNAVANT:**

Gertrude 94

**DURISOE:**

Mary Elizabeth "Bessie" 128,129

**DURRETT:**

Betty Jo 82  
Clinton Wade 82  
Elmer Huey 82  
James Thurman "Sonny" 82  
Jean 82  
Kellie Renee 82  
Stephen Paul 82  
Tammy 82  
Velma 82  
W.R. 21

**DUTY:**

Bernice 9,99  
James William 130  
Jessie 110  
Joseph W. 99  
J.W. 8,39,130  
Mack 28,29,37,99,110,154  
Mary 8  
Mary Eliza 130  
Mary Jane 99  
Mertis 130  
Verna 9,59,85,86,99,100,130  
William R. 99  
W.R. 52

**DWIRE:**

Frankye 8,30,132  
Lesa Sue 132

**E****EBANEZ:**

Maria 22  
Shirley 22  
Thomas, Jr. 54

**EDWARDS:**

Betty Ann 32,94  
Christopher Floyd 94  
Claude 125  
Davey Lee 94  
Doris 9  
Ed 154  
Elizabeth "Lizzie" 7,90,101,137  
Gloria 94  
Hollis Christine (C) 25,31,32,33,84,94  
Ida 7  
James 90  
James M. 24  
John 137  
Julia A. 71  
Lucinda 137  
Martin 94  
Mary 7  
Mertis (Mertle) 100  
Myra Elizabeth 94  
"Red" 110  
Robert 25  
Robert Floyd 94  
Roscoe 5,31,32,84  
Roscoe Conklin 94  
Velma 110  
Zora 125

**ELLIS:**

Annie Mae 95  
Aubrey 31,69  
Barney 7  
Barney Hobson 94  
Bonnie 9,36,43,81,135

Bonnie Clara 94,96  
Carl 26,36,47,56,69  
Carl Grady (C.G.) 20,47,94  
Cathrine 66,90,91,94,95  
Earl 20  
Earla Ione 2,5,8,9,10,11,15,17,28,38,41,44,50,56,58,60,63,81,91,92,93,95,96,118,125,153  
Edmund 88  
Eula 8  
Eunice 94  
Gertrude 94  
Grady 69  
Hannah 95  
Hannah Leslie 91,95  
Helen 20,21  
Herbert 7  
Herbert C. (Caswell) 52,94,152  
Jesse, Sr. 95  
Jesse, Jr. 95  
Jesse W. 95  
Jessie Mozell 94  
J.G. 18  
John G. 7,46  
John Garrison 92,94,95,96  
John Thurman (J.T.) 19,94  
John Wesley 66,91,94,95  
June Arlington 9,96,150  
Kate Helen 7,94,95,152,153,154  
Kate Iris 69  
Kyle 9,31,96  
Leslie Mae 7,94,95,152,153,154,155  
Lutie W. 94  
Madge 94  
Margaret Ann "Peggy" 7,92,94,95,96  
Margaret Ovilla 9,96  
Mary 88,144  
Mary Cathrine 95  
Maud Mona 69,94  
Mona 7,56  
Nannie Mae 94  
Octavia 95  
O.K. 5,7,9,30,31,32,34,42,47,81,147,154  
O.K. (Mrs.) 14  
Olin Kyle, Sr. 28,31,36,94,96,135,149,151  
Olin Kyle, Jr. 9,31,96  
Orel 69  
Quinda 69  
Rodrick 69  
Rosemary 96  
Susan 95  
Thurman 7,8,96,152  
Walter Pierce 95

**ELZIE:**

Laynette 142

**EMERSON:**

Charles Edward 139  
David 139  
Julanne 139  
Louis B. "Bo" 139

**ETHERIDGE:**

Flora 29  
Nick 29

**EVANS:**

Bertie 69  
Douglas "Doug" 144  
Henry 69  
Mary Ethel 77  
Mary Rosanna 81  
Raymond 9  
Sallie Mae 78

**EVERETT:**

James 21,141

**EVETTS:**

Keziah 90  
William 90

**EZELL:**

Bob II 72  
Mary Jean 72

**F****FALLIS:**

Ossie 9

**FANNETTE:**

Callie Jewel 98

**FARLEY:**

Belton 12,18,36,75,91  
Marjorie 12,18,74,75,91

**FAZZELL:**

Thelma 21

**FERGUSON:**

Al 30,31  
Connie 31  
Elizabeth "Lizzie" 128  
Lola 109  
Susan J. 77  
Susan Jane 75  
Will 109

**FERRELL:**

Charlene 9  
Era Faye 81  
Lorene 9  
Z.O. (Ovilla) 9

**FIELDS:**

James Albert 53  
Manda 25,107  
Martha 32,107

**FINCHER:**

Branda Lee 104  
Carol Ann 104  
Kenneth 104  
Kevin Wayne 104

**FINKLEY:**

Dewey 7,68,153  
Jennie 68

**FISHER:**

Linda Ruth 134  
O.T. 134

**FITCH:**

Audry 13,35,60,77  
Dewey 60  
Effe O. 18,59,60  
Eli 51,59  
Ely 60  
F.D. 51  
Helen 38  
Ida 38,60,103  
Jim 51  
Lula 60,102,103  
Martha 59  
Ora E. 24  
Owen 38  
Phyllis Carolyn 77  
Sally 60  
Tom 51  
Vollie 60  
W.F. 38  
Y.D. 13,35,77  
Young 60  
Young D. 60,103

**FITZPATRICK:**

Bishop 98  
Ruby 98

**FLOWERS:**

Lavenia 7  
W.T. 7,19

**FOLLEY:**

Louise 123

**FONE:**

F.N. (Rev.) 153

**FORD:**

Effe 35

**FOREST:**

Will 61

**FORTE:**

Annie 131

**FOSTER:**

Joe 54

**FOX:**

Azele 108  
Donald 108  
Ellie Myrtle 108  
Inez F. 101  
James D. 11  
Jimmy 108  
Jim W. 101  
Kenneth 108  
Mary E. 11,108  
Nolan 108  
Ola 108  
Ora 108  
Protho 108  
Rinee M. 66  
Samuel 108  
Samuel L. 11  
Samuel Love 108  
Virginia 108

**FREDRICK:**

Alfred (A. Onellus W.) 65  
Amanda M. 65  
James F. 65  
Jessie N. 65  
Julia 65  
Laura J. 65  
Mattie N. 65  
Ora A. 65  
Sarah 65  
Susie E. 65  
W.C. 51,65  
William Calvin (W.C.) 65  
Willie 65

**FULLER:**

Albert 20,21  
Bammie 96,97,122  
Dee M. 7,14,96  
Grizzie 28,96,97  
May Bell 20  
Ollie 61,74,102  
Sybie 42,96,97,121  
William (W.C.) 7,14,96

**FULLERTON:**

Annie 58,92  
Elizabeth 58  
Frank F. 20,86,92,106,151  
Franklin Forest 58  
Fredrick Marion 58  
Fredrick Marion, Jr. 58  
George Franklin 58,59  
G.F., Dr. 1,7,14,19,20,58,92,156  
Ira Leland 58  
James 58  
James C. 58  
John 58  
Laura Annie 58  
Lebe Alton 58  
Martha "Mattie" Pricilla 58  
Mattie 1,7,14,19  
Richard Herbert 58  
Robert 58  
Robert Edwin 58  
Thomas Payne 58  
Willie 20,92,151

**FULTON:**

Morris 52

**FULTS:**

Rose Ann 119



**GADDIS:**

Ella Emma 97  
Joe 26  
Joe Henry 97  
Mabel 97,144  
Maggie 97  
Marlin 97  
Mary 97  
Melvin 97  
Minnie 97,139  
Myrtle 97

**GALLAGHER:**

Dorothy "Dot" 140  
Molly "Eliz" 132

**GALLAWAY**

Eula Mae 150

**GAMON:**

Jack 52  
Laurine 9,135  
Lee D. 53

**GANDY:**

Ada 9,10,19,97  
Augustus 97  
Beatrice 17,97,98,105  
Gussie 97,105  
Gwen 98  
Minnie 17,34,97,98,106  
Ophelia 113  
Otho 97,98  
Otho, Jr. 98  
Richard 98  
Roxie 97,105  
Ruby 97,98,153  
Rufus 97,98,150  
S. Vienne 105  
T.A. 97,105  
Theodore A. 9,10,19  
Vienne 97  
Vina 97,98  
Vinna 105  
Virgil 97,98  
Walter 12,17,97,105  
Walter (H.W.) 12  
Wayne R. 113

**GANN:**

Phoebe Ann 125

**GARDNER:**

Barbara Gayle 104  
Celestia L. 73  
Della 104  
James 60  
James D. 104  
James H. 104  
Joyce 60  
Joyce Marie 102,104  
Peggy Marie 104  
Sue Lynn 104

**GARNER:**

Anita Kay 138  
Ann 138  
Carrie 138  
Christine Lanora 138  
Earnestine 138  
Gary 138  
George 138  
Hazel 34,138  
Hazel Lanora 138  
Kenneth 54  
Kenneth G. 138  
Lee 138  
Lisa 138  
Loleta 34,76  
Loleta Beth 9,138  
Marie 138  
Marvin 26,34,138  
Marvin Henry 138  
Michael 138  
Norma Jean 138  
Norman Ray 9,54,138  
Shelia 138  
Sheryl 138

Steve M. 138

Viola 73  
Willey 73

**GARRETT:**

Alleen Lou 98  
Bertha 31  
Callie Jewel 98  
Danny 50,83  
Ellie Faye 98  
Elnor Lee 98  
Eunice 9  
Eunice Fanette 98  
Joe March 31,53  
John Franklin 98  
Johnny Neilson 98  
John Pittinger 117  
Lolita 98,155  
Mary Eliza 92,98  
Mattie Elizabeth 98  
Nannie Lee 98  
Nora Novice 98  
Novice 93  
Ophelia 98  
Patricia 83  
Ruby Esther 98  
Ruth Estell 98  
Scott Allen 83  
Verona Mae 98  
Vickie Lou 117  
William "Bill" 98  
Wilmoth 92,98

**GARRISON:**

B. 51  
Catherine 66,95  
Clara 118  
Clarissa  
David W. 66  
Emeline "Emily" 66  
Emma 66  
J.W. 66  
Lelah 66  
Malinda 66,69  
Margaret E. 64,66  
Martha M. 66  
Mary 66  
Mittie 66  
Thomas 13,65,66  
Thomas J. 65  
Willie 66  
Wyatt 66

**GARTMAN:**

L. 66

**GATES:**

Wm. 2,13,54,57,130

**GATEWAY:**

Sarah Elizabeth 93

**GAULT:**

Jim 36

**GAY:**

Billy Devine 129  
Caroline Jane 129  
David 129  
Karen Lynn 129  
Randall 129  
Roger David 129

**GEE:**

Johnny 144  
Linda 22  
Martha 144  
Mary Lila 82  
Roy Durward 144

**GEORGE:**

Bradley Paul 142  
Doyle 142  
Judy Faye 142  
Rocky Lynn 142

**GIBBS:**

Gena Gay 99  
James Mac 99

James Pasco 99

Malissa Ann 99  
Martha Jane  
Martha "Matt" 67,99  
Martha Devina "Matt" 118  
Matt 13,67  
Mattie D. "Matt" 7,38  
Monica Kay 99  
Monroe R. 38,67,99,118  
Pansy 67  
Pasco 36,67  
Patsy 67,99  
Patsy Louise 99  
Pauline 67,99  
Pearl 13,67,99  
Powell 67  
Ruby Orall 99  
Verna Dean 99  
Vicki Ann 99  
Walter 21  
William Powell "Pal" 99

**GIBSON:**

Att 36  
Attison Lee 52  
Eli Terry 107  
Kathryn Teresa 107  
Lee Attison 107  
Margaret 123  
Ruby T. 107

**GIFFORD:**

Malinda 64

**GILL:**

Ahnolia 43,50  
Barry Wayne 122  
Bertha 31,100,150  
Bonnie 100,106  
Charles 100  
Charles Edward 139  
Charles Lynn 139  
Effie 84,100,116  
Elizabeth Jane "Eliza" 99,100,130  
Emeline "Emily" 100  
Emily J. 105  
Emma Ahnolia 122  
Fannie 65,84,100  
Frances 100  
Frank 116  
Frankie 65  
George Frank 100  
George W. 100  
Henry 2,51  
Henry C. 65,70,100  
Isabelle (Isabel) 65  
James J. 99,100,151  
James William "Will" 100,130  
Jean 65  
Jim J. 39  
Jimmie 100,115,116  
J.J. 7,65,92,130  
J. Mathew 99  
John James 51  
John M. 65,66,99,100  
John T. 65  
Josephine 87,100,107  
Josh 139  
Kenneth 100  
Larry Neal 54,122  
Larry Neal, Jr. 122  
Lucy 65,66,88,99  
Lucy A. 66,100  
Lucy M. 100  
Marilyn 34,139  
Marvin 39,52,106  
Marvin Henry 100  
Mary 65  
Mary A. 100  
Mary Ann 122  
Mary Eliza 100  
Mary Jane 99  
Mathew 18,39,47,65,99  
Maud 100  
Melissa 65  
Mertis 100,130  
Oveda Beth 100  
Rachael 139

Reba 100

Roscoe 31,53,100,153  
Roxanna "Roxie" 65,70  
Ruby 100,150  
Sandra 20  
Sandra Jean 122  
Sarah "Sally" Cathrine 92,100  
Scherri Rae 122  
Tom 100,153  
Tony 43  
William Anthony "Tony" 122  
William Michael 122  
William Roscoe 122

**GILLIAM:**

Betha Yolette 76  
Billy Gene 113  
Helen Ruth 113  
Judena 76  
Judy 30  
Julian 76  
Otis 32,101  
Sudie Belle 101  
Trudie 76

**GLASS:**

Eula Mae 114  
Hassie 21  
Matthew Ryan 115  
Moody Melton 115  
Moody Melton, Jr. 114  
Patricia 115  
Sarah Elizabeth 115

**GOAD:**

Bertha 78  
Julia 78

**GOBER:**

Barbara Sue 129,142

**GODSEY:**

Mrs. 47

**GOODMAN:**

Effie 7,100,116

**GOODSON:**

A.H. 69  
Sarah M. 64,69

**GORDON:**

Caroline Malinda 66  
Charles Alexander 66,88,100  
George A. (G.A.) 14,63,66,100  
George Mills 66,88,100  
Lucy A. 88,100  
Margaret Adeline 66,100  
Rince M. 66

**GORHAM:**

Donna 113

**GOURLEY:**

Dollie 7,29  
J.C. 29

**GRADICK:**

Bessie Lorena "Rena" 120,121  
James "Jim" 120  
Mary Ellen 120

**GRAHAM:**

Bernice 85  
Gary Randolph "Randy" 99  
Gilbert Wayne 99  
Gus 13,99  
Harold Lee 99  
Pearl 13,99  
Reba Ann 99  
Sharon Leslie 99

**GRAMMER:**

Lois 21

**GRASTY:**

G.G. 8  
Quinton 81  
Sheila McDarrell "Maxie" 81

# GRASTY (cont'd)

Winona 81

# GRAY:

Alexander 13,88,100,101  
 Alexander III 101  
 Bennie Othniel "B.O." 101,102  
 Ben O. 88  
 Bill 101  
 Buford 50,101  
 C.A. (Mrs.) 67  
 Cassenia 101  
 Catherine 68,100  
 Charles 101  
 Charlie 82,88  
 Clarissa 101  
 Clarissa A. 13  
 Dilliah 88,101  
 Edna Merle 101  
 Elizabeth 101  
 George 101  
 Gladys 20,152  
 Gracie 101  
 Ida 69  
 I.L. 29  
 Inez F. 88,101  
 James 101  
 Jessie 7  
 Jessie Lee 101,102  
 John 88,101  
 John A. 69  
 John H. 52,101  
 John J. 54  
 John W. 35  
 J.W. 19,29  
 Lester Numan 101  
 Louisa 101  
 Lucile 128  
 Malissa 101  
 Margaret Adeline 66,100  
 Maria 101  
 Mary A. 69  
 Mary Elizabeth "Bessie" 82  
 Matilda J. 101  
 Paralee 88,101  
 Pauline 101  
 Reuben 88,101  
 Robert 51,100,152  
 Robert N. 88,101  
 Rosa Ella 101  
 Ronnie Doris 101  
 Ruth 101  
 Ruthy 88,101  
 Sally 101  
 Sarah 101  
 Sherri 125  
 Sidney 8,35,101  
 Sissie 101  
 Sudie Belle 101  
 Susan 88  
 Susan Elmore 88,101  
 Susannah 101  
 Willie Ray 101  
 Will M. 88,101  
 Zora Belle 85,101,102,140

# GREEN:

Robert 54

# GREENWAY:

Martha Ann 93,137

# GREENWOOD:

Alaina Ann 103,143  
 Alan Wade 103,143  
 Alice 87,102,103  
 Alma 102,103  
 Arthur 39,102  
 Audie 93,102  
 Billy Ruth 102,103  
 Buna 18,19,102,103,152  
 Carolyn Ruth 104  
 Cecil Belle 153  
 Clavis 14,27,102  
 Clavis Nolan 103,143  
 Collie 102  
 Ernest Guinn 102,103

Effie 103

Eliza 103

Eula 102

Eula Ethner 103

Eva 102

Evie 103

Franklin 102,103

Harold Glenn 103,143

Homer D. 102

Imogene 61,102

Ina 102,125

James Beall 103

James Oscar 103,143

James Thomas (Dr.) 10,18,39,

57,61,62,73,74,102

Jasper Newton 39,61,102,103

Jessica Dawn 103,143

Jessie 35

Jessie Marie 103,143

Jim 103

Jimmie 61,102

Jon Darrell 103,143

Joyce Marie 60,102,103,104

Lula 60,102,103,104

Lula Mae

Luther Mae 103

Mamie 74,102

Manilla 61,74,102

Marilyn Jane 104

Mary Lou 103,143

Mathella "Sadie" 102,103

Mattie 38,65,102,103,107,142

Mildred 102

Mildred Louisa 103

Newton 102,103

Ollie 74,102

Oma Muri (Merle) 102,103

Omino 102,103

Oscar Colquit "Collie" 103

Ovilla 61,102

Ruth Evelyn 60,104

Sarah 61

Sarah Jane 102,103

Stanley, Jr. 27,60,102,103,104

Stanley, Sr. 14,27,60,102,103,

104,125

Vickie Carolyn 103,143

Will T. 38,47

William T. 65,102

Willie 103

Wilma Frances 9,102,103,

104,125

W.W. 102

# GREER:

A.E. 47

# GREGORY:

Kim 34

Lee 34

Macyl 18

Mikki 34

Nettie Myrtle 120

# GRIFFIN:

A.L. 51

Ethel 19

Ora 18

# GRIMES:

Edna 120

# GRISHAM:

Hassie 21

Leighton 25

# GRISSOM:

Roy 112

Ruby Marrine 112

# GROFT:

Flossie 34

# GRUBBS:

Emma 71

# GUESS:

Earlene 21

# H

# HAIRE:

Annie 140,141

Bessie 140

Katie 140,141

M.A. 140,141

Ruffe (Ruffe) 141

William B., Sr. 140,141

# HALBERT:

Margaret 113

# HALL:

Barbara 104

Betty Jo 104

Billy Harper 104

Carol Ann 104

Cleophas 20,21

Conrad 31,33

Denice Ann 104

Denver 98

Douglas Wayne 104

Everett 104

Everett Wayne 104

Gladys 104

Ida 74

Janice Lynn 104

Jo Roundtree 104

J.P. 98

Kathy Ann 104

Opal Lee 34,104,122

Pearlene 104

Russell "Rusty" 104

Stephanie 98

William Marvin 104

# HALMARK:

Daisy 105

# HAM:

Bernice 7

# HAMILTON:

Edwin 53

George 7,8

Linda Kay 102

Willis

# HAMMERSMITH:

Garnet 83

# HAMMETT:

Rita Monylene 108

Robbie 108

Russell Bryan 108

Scott Jaye 108

# HAMPTON:

Willie 39

# HANCOCK:

Carolyn 85,101

Joy Jay 85,101

# HARDGRAVES:

Amanda M. 65

Ann E. 65

Fannie 64

F.C. 65

James 51

Mary 90

Susan (Susannah) 64,95

William 64

# HARPER:

Harold 99

Jerry 99

Katherine "Kathy" 99

Larry 99

Peggy 99

# HARRELL:

Gussie 97

Martha (Marthy) 97

Martha (Mrs.) 12

S.J.D. 12

Vienna 12,97

# HARRIS:

Rickey 22

# HARRISON:

Azile 92

Charles W. 92

Ginger 92

Jan 92

Mary Ann 58,99,100,130

# HARTMAN:

Tenata Urike 129

# HARWELL:

Sarah Serina 124

# HASELL:

Holly 102

# HAWKINS:

Barbara Gayle 104

Christopher Shea 104

Jason Wayne 104

Ronnie 104

# HAWS:

Ada Ruth 27,98,105

Andrew 70

Anna Mariah 128,129,130

Beatrice 98

Bert 10,27,48,98,105,153

B.T. 98,105

Daisy 105

Dave 105

Dock 98,105

Eloise 65,100

Fannie 65,84,100

F.E. 100

Fern 10,27,98

G.E. 100

Gussie 10,35,97,105

J.B. 12,105

Mary Jane 105

Nancy E. 70,98,105

Nell 105

Offie 105

Ruby Fern 21,48,98,105

Sebe 27,35,39,105

Seburn 97,105

Susan 98,105

S. Vienne (Vinnie) 97,105

Tommye 98,105

# HAWTHORNE:

Joan 117,137

# HAYES:

Celia (Selia) 93

Davis 21

# HAYS:

Emma Jean 117

# HEATH:

Amanda "Mandy" 25,106,107

Amanda Elizabeth 106

Bonnie 100,106

Bonnie 34,107,109

Brenda Sue 98,106

Burrell Westbrook 105,107

B.W. 100

Cara Jo 109

Charlie Ray 87,107

Coy Weaver 87,107

Dan 98

Davey Lee 107,109

Diane 107

Diane Patrice 131

Dutch 27,43

Eliza T. 91,92

Ella Mae 80,87,106,107

Ellena Lee "Lena" 106,152

E.M. 106

Emeline "Emily" 100

Emily J. 105

Estell 107,121

Ethel Irene 106,107

Frances Willard 7,106,121

**HEATH (cont'd)**

Freddie Roy 87  
 Fred R. 9,98  
 Fred Roy III, "Chip" 98,106  
 Fred Roy "Dutch" 106,107,114  
 Fred Roy, Jr. 106,107  
 Freida Jean 109  
 Gene 54  
 Gertha 7,38,106,121  
 Gertha Leona 107  
 Glen 27,54  
 Henry C. 106,107  
 Hertha Faye 109  
 Howard Glen 107,109  
 Howard Glen, Jr. 109  
 James Franklin 107,121  
 James H. 54  
 James Randall 131  
 Jason Weaver 109  
 Jeffery Dan 106  
 Jeffery Scott 109  
 John 51  
 John James 105  
 Julia Ann 109  
 Kittie Reba 87,107  
 Lavinia 105  
 Lee 27,35  
 Lillian Maud 106  
 Lou 105  
 Louisa E. 105  
 Mabel 27,50,54,88,93,105,109,  
 114,115,116,117,131,133,134,  
 136,137,143  
 Mabel Lee 106,107  
 Mabel Leeanna 114  
 Manda "Mandy" 25,107  
 Marion Thomas 107,121  
 Martha 32,107,130  
 Marty Lee 109  
 Mary 106,107  
 Mattie 107  
 P.A. 7  
 Patricia 107,130,131  
 Ray 27,29,32,39,43,130  
 Richard F. 106,107  
 Richard H. 105  
 Richard Lynn 109  
 Ronald Eric 109  
 Ronald Gene 107,109  
 Ruby T. 87,107  
 Sarah Lavinia 105,107  
 Sari Lea 131  
 Susan 98  
 Susan Frances "Sook" 105,107  
 Susan Shalaine 106  
 Tessie 106  
 Thomas J. 106,107  
 Thomas Jefferson "Tom" 80,  
 87,105,106,107  
 Thomas Lee 87,107  
 Thomas Porter "T.P." 106,  
 107,121  
 Tom 28,32,35,42  
 T.P. 38  
 Viola 19,106,107  
 Weaver 26,27,34,43,48,50,106,  
 107,109

**HELM:**

Patricia 22

**HENDERSON:**

Gracie 21,89,101  
 Herman 153

**HENDLEY:**

Bettie (Betty) 19  
 Charlie (Charley) 12,97  
 Gussie 97

**HENDRIX:**

Jewel 89,101  
 Leon 89,101

**HENDRY:**

Bessie 140  
 Lee 140

**HENLEY:**

Bettie 20  
 E.B. 20  
 Eunice 19,20,94

**HENSLEY:**

Joanne 121

**HENSON:**

Ella Jane 93  
 John 137  
 John "Jack" 82  
 Mary 145  
 Mary Adeline 82  
 Mary Jane 82  
 Pauline 137  
 Tom 82

**HEROD:**

Earl W. 73  
 Floyd Wilton 73  
 Gary Louis 73  
 Inis 73

**HERRING:**

Betty Marie 102  
 Deborah Lynn 102  
 Earl 82  
 Holly 102  
 Jacqueline Denise 102  
 James 102  
 James Edwin, Jr. 102  
 Ollie Mae 82,83,109  
 Sharon Lee 102  
 Timothy Wayne 102

**HESSER:**

Marie 138

**HESTER:**

Ashley Nicole 85  
 James 85  
 James W. 101  
 Jamie Machele 85,101  
 Pamela Jane 85,101

**HICKERSON:**

Martha 85,86

**HICKS:**

Beulah Permulla 108  
 Clara 108  
 Dollie 108,139  
 Dora 108  
 Eva 108  
 Greogyanne 121  
 Janet 121  
 Jerry 121  
 John B. (J.B.) 47,108  
 Miranda 83  
 Richard 28  
 Robert 108  
 Rudolph 139  
 Sam Houston 108  
 Timmy 121  
 Travis Bugg 108  
 Viola 108  
 William Rudolph 108  
 Young Edwin 108

**HILLIN:**

Beulah Mae 103  
 Howard 25  
 Howard L. 103  
 John 96  
 Kay Joyce 103,104  
 Nat 51  
 Weldon C. 103  
 Wilma Frances 103

**HOBBS:**

Bruce 123  
 Mabel Lois 123

**HOBSON:**

Aline 21

**HODGES:**

Leonard 120

Lonnie 140  
 Vaner 120  
 Wilson 140

**HOGAN:**

Cornellia A.R. 64  
 J.H. 51  
 Molly 89  
 Nina 89,108  
 Oscar 9,75  
 Peter J. 64  
 Porter F. 51

**HOLCOMB:**

Henry 21  
 LaVerne 128  
 Maurice 75  
 Ruth Glenn 75  
 Willis Neil 128

**HOLD:**

Ben 82  
 Kellie Renee 82

**HOLDER:**

Ida 64,84

**HOLLAND:**

Dorothy 34  
 Fred 105  
 Susan "Sook" Frances 105

**HOLLOMAN:**

Jim 99  
 Mary Beth 99  
 Pauline 99  
 Peggy 99  
 Vera Mae 150

**HOLMES:**

Laura 65  
 W.A. 65

**HOOKER:**

Betty Claire 94  
 Betty Pearl 94  
 Bobbie 94  
 Charlotte 94  
 Floyd Dante 94,134  
 Floyd Rayburn 134  
 Harry Floyd 94  
 Hollis Christine 31,94  
 Jean 94  
 Lois Clnor 134  
 Lois E. 94  
 Mary Jean 72,134  
 Rayburn 72,94

**HOOPER:**

W.R. (Mrs.) 21

**HOOVER:**

Mary Jane 81

**HORN:**

Annie Joe 79  
 Glenn 79

**HORNE:**

Martha 131

**HOUGHTON:**

Boyd 31  
 Gail 20,21,22  
 Ima 68  
 Joe 36  
 Ronnie 31  
 Troy 34

**HOUSEWRIGHT:**

Edwin 136  
 James Tipton 136  
 Jo Erma 92,93,136,137  
 Joe Tipton 136  
 Nancy Louise 136  
 Walter Wallis 136

**HOWARD:**

Prof. 17

W.C. 36

**HOWELL:**

Janie 139

**HOWLAND:**

Sharon 115,116

**HUBERT:**

Mattie Rebecca 122

**HUDNELL:**

Janie 126

**HUDSPETH:**

Ben 124  
 Lucy 124  
 Minnie 124

**HUGHS:**

Emma 129

**HUMPHREY:**

Colonel 38  
 Donna Sue 139

**HUNT:**

Homer 144  
 Sandra Jean 122  
 Sarah 144

**HUTTASH:**

Ogretta 147

**HYDEN:**

R.C. 21  
 R.C. (Mrs.) 21

**I****IKERD:**

Diane 124

**ING:**

C.W. 8

**INKS:**

Jane "Jennie" 132,135,137

**IRWIN:**

Alma 31  
 Alysia Lynette 112  
 Christina Evette 112  
 David 21,140  
 Edgar 31  
 Elizabeth Ann 112  
 Gina Renee 112  
 Glenn 31  
 Glenn Liles 112  
 Kenneth Ray 112  
 Mittie Alma 112  
 Nanette 112  
 Samuel Edgar, Jr. 112  
 Shirley 140

**ISAAC:**

Dub 34  
 Edna 120  
 Eldres 98  
 Eunice 98  
 Troy 98

**ISOM:**

Boyd Lynn 132  
 Kevin 132  
 Lesa Sue 132  
 Nicole Diane 132

**IVY:**

Betty 113  
 Bruce 50

**J****JACKSON:**

Addie Lee 34  
 C.T. 20,21  
 Ina (Mrs. C.T.) 21  
 Ina Maud 20  
 Isabell 133



**JACKSON (cont'd)**

Leverne 76  
Lizzie 56  
Violet 125

**JACOBS:**

Henry 55  
James 55  
Jewel "Judy" 78

**JAY:**

Blanche 11  
Charles Fishea 108  
Charles Victor "Vick" 9,108  
Charlie 108  
Elizabeth Blanche 108  
Ellie Myrtle (Ella) 38,108  
Gordon Taylor 108,150  
J. Dallas 26,35,38,108  
Ross Dexter 108  
Sally Elizabeth 108  
Victor 53  
William 64  
Wm. H. 51

**JEFFCOAT:**

Lillian 109,140,143  
Nettie 35,86

**JENKINS:**

Alton B. 104  
Charles E. 104  
Clarence 21  
Della Ophelia 81  
De Witt 121  
Dilliah 101  
Dolph 81  
Elizabeth 81,104  
Greenberry 81  
Idella Christine 121  
Inez 81  
J.A. 101  
Kay Joyce 104  
Lonnie 81  
Mary Frances "Mollie" 81  
Mary Rosanna 81  
Ona 21  
Phillip Stanley 104  
Ruby 18  
Sidney Adolphus "Dolph" 81

**JENNINGS:**

Kenneth 32  
Minnie 109  
Reddick 124

**JETER:**

Jack 22

**JIMMERSON:**

Mary Earline 129

**JOBE:**

Ella 69  
J. David 69  
Sarah Lee 69

**JOHNSON:**

Adeline 67  
Anita 109  
Ann E. 13  
Annie Mae 95  
Bernice 22  
Bonnie 34,107,109,155  
Boyd 53,109  
Chris 98  
Clarissa A. 13,67,69  
Clarissa "Clara" Adeline 13,118  
Clifford 75  
Cora Orene 132  
Cris  
C. Wade 95  
Daphne 109  
Dollie 109  
Eda 75  
Elizabeth 65  
Emily E. 68,108  
Fannie Viola 67,119,120

Flora 109  
Foy E. 109,143,155  
Frankie 75  
Gladys 109,132  
G.H. 7  
Hayden 53,109  
Howard Leslie 109  
I(J). Newton 13,67  
James 132  
James A. 109  
Joel 108  
John (Joseph) B. 13  
Joseph Benson 13,67,119  
Lillian 7,109,140,141,143  
Linda Sue 74,75  
Malinda 64  
Martha C. 63  
Matilda J. 101  
N.A.F. 143  
Napolean 5,7,140,141  
Napolean (N.A.F.) 109  
Odell 109,140  
Opal Lee 143  
Paralee E. 64,65  
Pearl 124  
Rose Ann 13,67,119  
Ruth Ann 109,132  
Sally Elizabeth 108  
Samuel Joel Thomas "Buck" 132  
Sudie 7,8  
Virginia 69  
Virginia W. "Jennie" 13,67,118  
William 65,67,118  
W.M. 51  
Wm. 2,7,13,14,65,67,69  
Yvonne 109,141

**JOHNSTON:**

Dick 31,34

**JOINER:**

Dad 38  
David 121  
Jim Bob 121  
John Andrew 121  
Karen 121  
Minton H. 25  
Robert E. 121

**JONES:**

Amanda Eliza 137  
Annie Izora 121  
Armer (V) 60  
Bertie 141  
Dennis 99  
Forrest 141  
Frank 47  
Georgia Lynn 99  
Gretna 21,81  
H.A. 7  
Homer 18,60  
Hope Juanita "Pat" 128  
Howard D. 53,128  
James (Homer) 68  
Janie 21  
J.F. 121  
Jimmy 121  
John C. 1,18,57  
John Calhoun 60  
Johnnie 60  
Julia Denise 98  
Laura R. 85  
Lee 81  
Lena 18  
Leon 121  
Leslie Mae 94  
Lois Lorene 60,61,111  
Loris 60  
Lucy 19  
Marion 121  
Mary Beth 99  
Mary E. 68  
Melena 82  
Miller 153  
Morris B. 121  
Olevia 8  
Otis 8  
P.E. (Dr.) 1,18,57,60,62,108,111

Pearl E. (Dr.) 18,39,139  
Pearl Elzie 60  
Pickney 71  
Pickney Rhodes 51  
Pierce 60  
P.R. 7,22  
R.L. (Mrs. Gretna)  
Rose Ellen 85  
Roy V. 121  
Sidney Merle 121  
Susan 18,57,60,139  
Susan (Sarah) 1  
Susan E. 68  
Thomas N. 68  
William Booth 94  
Wm. T. 24  
Zora 7

**JORDON:**

James W. 8

**JUDKINS:**

Edward Burrice 141  
Gladys Marilyn 140,141  
Lucy 141

**K****KEAHEY:**

Callie 131

**KEE:**

Charles Pinkney 132  
Iva Roberta 132

**KEEN:**

A.N. 31

**KELLEY:**

Pauline 80  
Scott 80

**KELLY:**

Alvin 98  
Rosa Lee 109  
Ruby Ester 98  
William J. 109

**KELSEY:**

Eliza 75,92  
Eliza T. 91,100,105  
Emeline "Emily" 100  
Emily J. 105  
Thomas S. 105

**KEMP:**

Donna 142

**KENDRICK:**

Irabel 55  
Isaac 38,55

**KENNEDY:**

A.A. (Alfred) 1,12,17,51  
Alfred 67,68,70  
Catherine 68  
Clarence 22  
Elizabeth L. 1,12,17,67,70  
Emily 68  
Everett 68,70,139  
Ima 68  
Jacob G. 67  
James J. "Jim" 7,57,60,68  
Jennie 68  
Jesse 60,64,67,68  
Jessie D. 51,57,67,68,70  
J.W. 68  
J.J. 139  
John H. 1,12,67  
McLain 24,56,67  
Martha 20  
Martha Emeline 60,68,70  
Pearl 30,68  
Sabert 67,68  
Susan 18,60,67,68,139  
Susan C. (Sarah) 57  
Susan E. 68  
Vallie 57,68  
Wm. J. 67,68

**KENNINGHAM:**

S.C. 8

**KENT:**

Will 21

**KEY:**

Charles Pinkney 132  
Iva Roberta 132

**KIBLINER:**

Cathy 27,56  
John 56

**KIELY:**

Ed 146  
Evelyn 146

**KILLION:**

Ida 29  
M.T. 29  
Nettie 29  
W.G. 29

**KING:**

Carrie (Carry) 113,136  
Elizabeth 68  
Ernest 113  
Eura 74  
Eura Lee 89,101  
Fred Ernest "Freddie" 113  
John Parker 113  
Ophelia 113  
Peggy 124  
Wanda Lee 113

**KINMAN:**

Elmo 114  
Lena Lavinia 114

**KIKRLAND:**

Anne 143  
Earl Elmo 114  
Eloise 65  
Francis Alice "Fannie" 114  
Joseph 64  
Mary E. 64

**KITZMAN:**

Herbert 27  
Rebecca 40

**KLEMENT:**

Eloise 124  
Louis A. 53,54,124  
Martin Louis "Marty" 124  
Mary 124  
Peggy 124  
Robert Glenn 124  
Sandra Elizabeth 124

**KLINE:**

Barney 56  
Orin 56  
Sheryl Kay 122

**KNABEL:**

John 32  
Shirley 34

**KNIGHT:**

Ethel 114  
John 58  
Leslie 116  
Leslie G. 114  
Martha "Mattie" Priscilla 58  
Sarah 58

**L****LACY:**

Ada 7,110  
Alma Suzie 110,124  
Alton 31,32,72,109,110  
Anne 110  
Basil Brooks 32,72,110  
Benjamin 110  
Bennie Ray 124  
Billy 110

# LACY (cont'd)

Buddy (Buddie) 43,155  
Dr. 113  
Elizabeth 109  
Elmer "Buddy" 109,110  
Erastus W. 110  
Erastus William 109  
Estel 109,110  
Frank 110  
Franklin 109  
Jasper 109  
Jasper L. "Jay" 110,133  
Jay 5,36,38,129  
Jessie 109,110  
Jewel 109,110,128  
Jewel Nettie 129  
Johnnie 110  
Majorie 9  
Margie 109,110,124  
Martha 109  
Martha Elizabeth 110  
Mary Elizabeth 109  
Mary Monta "Montie" 109,110,133  
Minnie Mae 110  
Montie 38,129  
Pearly 110  
Philemon, Jr. 110  
Philemon, Sr. 110,137  
Raymond 43,109,110,124  
Rebecca 137  
Sarah 109  
Susannah 110  
Velma 9,109,110  
William 109,110

# LAKE:

Debbie 98,105  
Mildred 36,77

# LAMBERT:

Bobbie 76

# LANCE:

Fred A. 147

# LANDERS:

Ellena Lee "Lena" 106  
W.E. 106

# LANE:

Carl 118  
Richard Dennis 118  
Selisha 118  
Vassie 118

# LANGDOM:

James 32  
Tony 32

# LANGFORD:

Emily Victoria 129

# LANGLEY:

Cara Sue 104  
Joe 104  
Joe Russell 104  
Judd Gardner 104  
Sue Lynn 104

# LANGSTON:

Nettie 32,36  
Willie 21

# LANIER:

Dorothy 11  
Dr. 108  
Ora 108

# LASSETER:

Ed C. 47

# LATTIMORE:

Susie E. 65

# LAWSON:

Alanzo Dobber 35,111  
Arthur 111

Azalea 35,36,111  
Edford "Skinny" 27,32  
Frank Monroe 111  
Herbert 111  
Jack 111  
Leslie 111  
Lloyd 111  
Mollie Elizabeth 111

# LEA:

Jennifer 22

# LEATHERWOOD:

E. P. 7  
Minnie 7

# LEDGER:

Gracie 113

# LEE:

Derma 112

# LEINBACK:

Barbara 111  
L.J. 111  
Lou Ellen 111,112  
Margie 110  
William 110

# LESTER:

Dr. 113  
Frances 1  
Harley 82  
Lana 113  
Louise 18

# LEVERTON:

Amanda 93  
Sarah Amanda 92,137

# LEWIS:

Amanda 118  
Angelina Lynn 129  
Ben 31  
Chris Brandon 129  
Destine 31  
Heativa 111  
John 52  
Kate 32  
Linda 83  
Majorie 25,32  
Nolan 129  
Sandra Kay 129

# LIKELY:

John 126  
Sarah Evaline 126

# LILES:

Alma 31,112  
Cecil Earl 111  
Cecil Earl, Jr. 111  
Dorothy 111  
Earl 30,31,48,112  
Earl, Jr. 112  
Elizabeth 112  
Elmer 36,112,141,155  
Elnora 112,150  
Heativa 111  
Helen Irene 111,112  
Jean 111  
Jeraldine 112  
Jeremiah "Jerry" 111  
Jerry 36,112  
Jerry Barnett 112  
Johnny Ray 111,112  
Larry Jean 111,112  
Leslie A. (Lessie) 111,141  
Leslie Alton (Lessie) 111,141  
Linda Lou 112  
Lois Lorene 111,112  
Lorene 60,155  
Lou Ellen 111  
Lula 111,112  
Marion Elmer "Johnny" 111  
Mary Nell 111,112  
Mattie Alma 112  
Melinda Ray 111

Michael Earl "Mickey" 111,112  
Ralph 112  
Rebecca 111,112

# LILLY:

J.F., Sr. 8

# LIMBOUGH:

Arnold 54  
Arnold Sanders 112  
Barcelous 112  
Betty 112  
Buck 112  
Charles 9  
Charles Lee 113  
Coy Liles 112  
E.B. 113  
Elenora 113  
Erma Dean 112  
Eula Lucille 112  
Eula Mae 112  
Floy Elizar 112  
Helen Ruth 113  
Horace 9  
Opal Bernice 112,137  
Ovis Marie 112  
Pauline 112  
Roy Ezma 112  
Ruby Marrine 112

# LITTLE:

James Matthew 84  
Karen Suzanne 84  
Lana Ann 84  
Ricky 84

# LIVELY:

Jane 93  
Sarah Catherine "Kate" 93  
Tom 93  
William 93  
William, Col. "Bill" 93

# LLOYD:

Albert 20,21  
Carol 111  
Carlton 111  
Carlton, Jr. 111  
Linda Christine 111  
Mary Nell 111  
Mr. 10  
Mrs. 10  
Felecia 22

# LOCKEY:

D.O. 21

# LOFTIS:

Bryan H. 20,57,68  
E.B. "Birdie" 20  
E.C. 68  
Emory C. 20,57  
G.W. 19,65,66  
Jack 51  
Jack, Rev. 139  
James W. (J.W.) 51,57,68  
Louisa 65,66  
Martha Emeline 20,58  
Opal L. 20,57,68  
W.J. (Rev.) 19,20,37,39,57,58,68,70,71,77,86,114

# LONG:

Anice 32  
Hattie 32  
Med 5,32

# LONGSDON:

Louisa 105

# LOONEY:

Clyde 76  
Eula Pearl 76,77  
Jana (Janna) 118  
Steven 118  
William Clyde 77  
William Neal 77

# LOPER:

Robert 22

# LOTT:

Clara Mae 128  
J.L. 53,128  
Tola 22,61,128  
Tola Mae 127

# LOUGHMILLER:

Beulah 80  
Elizabeth 69,80  
Fred 80  
G.W. 100  
Ida 80  
Lela Alice 80,139  
Leonard 35,53,80  
Leroy 80  
Lester 52,80,139  
Lydia 80  
Mary 100  
William 80  
W.L. 69

# LOVE:

John Wesley 81  
Mary Rosanna 81

# LOVELL:

Myrtle 20,22

# LOVETT:

Arthur 9  
Ella Mae 125  
J. Henry 125

# LOWE:

C. Finley 68,86  
(C.F.) Charles Finley 90  
E.J. 68  
Elizabeth 68  
Finley 1,12  
Henrietta 68,90  
James 68  
Malinda 1,68,85,86,123  
M.E. 68  
Nancy 68  
Robert 68  
Selia (Celia) 1,12,68,86,90  
William 68

# LUCAS:

David 21  
Michael 22

# LUSCRI:

Carmela 76,77

# Mc

# McANALLY:

Oscar 21,48

# McBEE:

Sarah 101

# McCANN:

Edward 125  
Violet 125

# McCARTY:

Minnie Eva 136

# McCASKILL:

Catherine 86  
Emma 18  
John 86

# McCOLLOUGH:

Molly 93

# McCORMICK:

Max 22

# McCOWN:

Abraham 113  
Ada 113  
Agnes 72,113  
Alice Mae 113

**McCOWN (cont'd)**

Amy 113  
 Andrew Jackson "Jack" 113  
 Annie 9  
 Claud Abraham 113  
 Claud A., Jr. 113  
 Cora Aurelia 113  
 Dale 113  
 Dona Lisa 113  
 Donna 113  
 Floyd Conley 113  
 Floyd Rayburn 113  
 Fred 9,34,35,75  
 Fred Lacy 113  
 George 113  
 George Conley 113  
 George Tennison 113  
 Gracie 113  
 Gregg 113  
 Helen 113  
 Jack 9,34  
 Janet 113  
 Josh Luke 113  
 Julia Ann "Julie" 113  
 Kirk 113  
 Lena 113  
 Lois 9,113  
 Margaret 21,113  
 Marion Andrew "Andy" 113  
 Mark 113  
 Mary Angeline "Annie" 113  
 Michael Lynn 113  
 Ophelia 9,113  
 Patrick "Pat" 113  
 Randy 113  
 Robin 113  
 Royce 9,53  
 Royce Lacy 113  
 S. George 9  
 Solomon George 113  
 Syble B. 9,113  
 Tannison 72  
 Thelma 9,87  
 Thelma Julia 113  
 Timothy "Tim" 113

**McCRARY:**

H.L. 8  
 Pauline 22

**McCRIMMON:**

Mr. 133

**McCURDY:**

Deloris 81

**McCUTCHEON:**

Billy Jo 112  
 Billy Mack 112  
 Elizabeth Ann 112  
 Gary Brett 112  
 Shelia Gail 112  
 Shonda Kay 112

**McDANIEL:**

Sandra Elizabeth 124

**McDONALD:**

Catherine 86  
 Clarissa Adeline 13,67,101,118  
 Julianne 87  
 Laura Olivia "Ollie" 118  
 Lutie W. 94  
 Mary Ann 137  
 Mary Margaret 137  
 Olivia (Oldocia) "Ollie" 13,67  
 Sophia Alice 86  
 Thomas 13,67  
 Thomas J. 13,67,118  
 Tom Sampson 137

**McDOUGAL:**

Jean 82

**McELROY:**

Clyde 128  
 Eugene 21  
 Jimmie 128

**McELYEA:**

Charles A. 120  
 Charley 120  
 Ethel C. 120  
 Nettie Myrtle 120

**McFALL:**

Medwin 89  
 Minnie 89

**McGEE:**

Patricia 123

**McINTIRE:**

Cora (Mrs. J.A.) 35  
 Dennis 99  
 J.A. 10,35  
 Martha Jane 99  
 Shane 99

**McINTOSH:**

Mary 124

**McKELLER:**

Ann 72  
 John 72  
 Margaret 72

**McKINNEY:**

Cathy 101  
 Hattie 144  
 Jane 101  
 Robert  
 Robert "Bob" 101,144  
 Ruthy 101  
 Tom 101

**McKNIGHT:**

S.P. 17

**McLAIN:**

Betty 112  
 Brandi Marie 102  
 Craig Allen 102  
 Deborah Lynn 102  
 Phil 102

**McLARRY:**

Hazel 111  
 Mack 111

**McLEOD:**

Barbara Ann 116  
 Beard Lowell 114  
 Bobby 114  
 Brenda 117  
 Carol Ann 115,117  
 Clerah 114  
 Clinton 68  
 Curtis Don 115,116  
 Denise Lynn 115  
 Diane Sue 115  
 Earl 7,9,109,116,117,134  
 E.L. 53,115  
 E.L., Jr. 9,34  
 Earl Lamar 106,114,115,116,133  
 Ellie 114  
 Ethel 7,114,116,152  
 Eula Mae 114  
 (Quida) Eulie 114,116  
 Fannie 8  
 Flossie I. 9,34,106,116,117,  
 133,134  
 Frances 113  
 Frances Alice "Fannie" 114  
 Frank Earl 54,115,117  
 G.C. 8,39  
 Giles Chapman 113,114,116  
 Gloria Dene 115,117  
 Gregory 115  
 Gregory Alan 115  
 Hilda 50,115  
 Hubert 50,53  
 Hubert Gene 115,116  
 Hubert Giles 115  
 Jacqueline 115  
 James Richard 115  
 Jennifer 115,117

Jimmie 9,10,48,115

Joan 115,117  
 John 53  
 John Malcolm 113  
 Kenneth Wayne 115,116  
 Kenneth Wayne, Jr. 116  
 Lamar Christopher 115,117  
 Lena Lavinia 114  
 Linda 116  
 Mabel 9  
 Mabel Lee 106,107  
 Mabel Leeanna 114  
 Malcolm 52,113,114  
 Malissa 115  
 Mara Amanda 114  
 Marguerite 115  
 Maria 116  
 Michael 115,117  
 M. Kathy 115  
 Neil 114  
 Opal Odell 115,117  
 Ovis Tipton 8,9,10,31,48,53,  
 115,116  
 Pearl 30,68  
 Quida Eulie 116  
 Randy 54,115  
 Randy Joe 117  
 Richard Kenneth 116  
 Richard S. 7,52  
 Richard Stephen 114,116  
 Richard Singleton 116,152  
 Robert Kevin 116  
 Ruth 113  
 Sallie (Sally) 8,113,116  
 Sharon 115,117  
 Stephen 114  
 Tiffany 116  
 Timothy Ian 116  
 Timothy H. 50,53,115,117  
 Tipton Herman 117  
 T. Neal 114  
 Vicki Lou 115,117  
 William (Casey) 52,116

**McMAHON:**

Jennifer 104  
 Jimmy 104  
 Jimmy Dwayne 104  
 Peggy Marie 104

**McMEANS:**

Anna Mae 9,35,68,117,133  
 Bertie 7,28,43,49,59,68,69,117  
 Burley 133,134,155  
 Dorothy 34  
 Dorothy Jean 68,117,118  
 Emma Jean 117  
 Estelle 68,117,118  
 Eva Mae 9,35,68,117  
 John 68  
 John Paschal 68,117  
 Joseph W. 68  
 L.B. 9  
 Lenita Ann 68,117,118  
 Lennie Burleson "Burley" 68,  
 117,133  
 Maud Mona 68,69,94  
 Nancy 68  
 Paschal (P.A.) 9,50,68,117  
 Ruby Jewel 9,35,68,117,118  
 Ruthie 68

**McMICHAEL:**

C.G. 116  
 C.W. 24  
 Eulie 114  
 Quida Eulie 116

**McNAIR:**

Fannie Olivia 88  
 Owen 88

**McNAUGHTON:**

Gracie Mae 123  
 Wiley E. 123

**McNEW:**

Gladys 102

**McNIEL:**

Bonnie 28  
 Bonnie Clara 94,96  
 James M. 96  
 Zada 96

**McPHERSON:**

Mary 126  
 Pheba 126  
 William 126

**M****MACK:**

Augustus "Gus" 13,67,69,118  
 John Thomas "Tom" 99,118  
 Laura Olivia "Ollie" 67,99,118  
 Lula 67,118,149  
 Martha Devine "Matt" 67,118  
 Monroe 13,67,99  
 Monroe T. 118  
 Olivia (Oldocia) "Ollie" 7,67  
 Thomas "Tom" 7,28,149  
 T.J. "Tom" 13,29,67  
 Virginia W. "Jennie" 67,69,118

**MAGEE:**

Amanda 24,118,119  
 Amy Katherine 119  
 Aubrey Elmer 118  
 Bertha Susan 118  
 B.R. 53  
 Chester Emmanuel 119  
 Don 119  
 Dorothy Oleta 119  
 Ed 18,36,39,43,67  
 Edith 120  
 Edna Merle 101  
 Edwin 53,67  
 Edwin Earl 119,120  
 Emmett Gordon 118  
 Ethel Lee 118  
 Evelyn 119  
 Fannie Viola 67,119,120  
 Frankie Jonathan 119  
 Grady Pearl 119  
 Howard Liston 118  
 J.A. 51  
 James Benson 119  
 James Flerney 118,119  
 Jeannine 119  
 Jim 51  
 Jimmy 120  
 John T. 73  
 John Thomas 118,119  
 Joyce Dianne 120  
 Lawrence Edward 118,119,120  
 Leon Truman 119,120  
 Linda Lee 119  
 Ludie 119  
 Mattie Belle 67,119,120,125,150  
 Martha Ellen 118,119  
 Mary 142  
 Oleta Faye 119  
 Ophelia Elizabeth 118  
 Oran Texie 118  
 Oscar Odys 118  
 Patricia 123  
 Robert Lee 119  
 Robert Lloyd 119  
 Ruthie 119  
 Tony 67  
 Tony Leon 120  
 Tressa 73,119  
 Tressie Lee 119  
 Truman 36,48,50,67  
 Viola 43  
 Walter Clifford "Bud" 119  
 Will 18,36,39  
 William Jonathan 118  
 Wilma Neddie 119  
 Willie Mae 67,120

**MAGNESS:**

Ella Mae 36

**MALONE:**

Ardeine 89,101



- MALONE (cont'd)**  
 Leora 89  
 Mary Leona 101
- MANNING:**  
 C.R. 34,65  
 Mary  
 Ruth 153
- MARCOM:**  
 Jamie Lee 142  
 Judy Faye 22,142  
 Paul J. 142
- MARIS:**  
 Ila 20,41,47  
 Lela 20,21,41,47  
 Lurtie 20,150  
 Nell 21  
 Rosa 20,41,47  
 Waycl 9  
 Wiley, Dr. 57
- MARKS:**  
 Jack 84  
 Treva 84
- MARSHALL:**  
 Ollie 131
- MARTIN:**  
 Ada 129  
 Barry Max 31,129  
 Britt 104  
 Charles 21  
 Charlotte 140  
 Cora Lee 123  
 Ella Becky 123  
 Gracie Mae 123  
 Jess Allen 129  
 Jess Overton 31,36,129  
 Joe Frank 21  
 Jo Roundtree 104  
 John Ross 129  
 Pansy Ruth "Curley" 31,129  
 Ruby Cathrine 123  
 Sandra Kay 31,129  
 Sue 129  
 W.B. 123  
 Willard 140
- MASTERS:**  
 Aletha 84  
 Ruth 125
- MASON:**  
 R.H. (Mrs.) 21
- MATHIS:**  
 Nannie Lee 98
- MATLEY:**  
 Bill 123  
 Ella Becky 123  
 Margaret 123
- MATTERSON:**  
 Beulah Permulla 108  
 Celestia L. 73  
 Ernest 108  
 Laurence 108  
 Mary Ida Victoria 73,77  
 Neva 125  
 Phelps Perry 73  
 Zada 115,134
- MATTHEWS:**  
 Ginger 22
- MAXWELL:**  
 Ava 80
- MAYBREY:**  
 Kay 22
- MAYFIELD:**  
 Andrew Jackson 84  
 Bernard 147
- Betty Jo 104  
 Brenda Sue 98,106  
 Denver 104  
 Eddie 154  
 Kenneth 98  
 Kyle 98  
 Lee 104  
 Libbie 84,153  
 Minnie 34,87,98,106  
 Nora 84  
 Ola 108  
 Sam 80,98  
 Samuel 106  
 Sibbie 153  
 Stephanie 98  
 Susan 98  
 Suzanne
- MAYO:**  
 Bob 119  
 Edith 120  
 Joyce Juanita 119
- MEADOW:**  
 Barbara Ann 116
- MEDFORD:**  
 Elizabeth 81  
 Mollie 8  
 M.L. (Mrs.) 38  
 Shirley 9  
 W.M. 8
- MEEKS:**  
 C.M. 132  
 Martha Elizabeth 132
- MELTON:**  
 Sally 60
- MENG:**  
 Kathy 22  
 Mark 22
- MERCHANT:**  
 Key 21
- MERLEER:**  
 Mary 144  
 Rachel Morning 144
- MESSICK:**  
 Safronia 137
- MICHAEL:**  
 Davis 22
- MILES:**  
 Rhonda 139
- MILLER:**  
 Abbie Ruth 21  
 Allen 21  
 Frances 1  
 Marguerite 143  
 Minnie Lee 127  
 Nancy C. 64  
 W.M. 64
- MINTER:**  
 Freida Jean 109
- MINTON:**  
 Diane Patrice 131  
 Gary 131
- MINTS:**  
 F.C. 126  
 Hanna Louisa 10,126
- MITCHELL:**  
 Daniel L. 137  
 Della Mae 121  
 Doris F. 24  
 Gloria Dene 117  
 James "Buddy" 121  
 Lois Clinor 134  
 Lois E.  
 Loving 137
- Mike 117
- MONK:**  
 Genola 81
- MONROE:**  
 C.D. 72  
 Mary Wetner 72
- MONTGOMERY:**  
 Isaac 24  
 Robert (Robt.) 24,47,90  
 Mary 135  
 Mary S. 143  
 Sofronia 137
- MOORE:**  
 Bessie Lorena "Rena" 120,121  
 Connie 120,121  
 Della 104  
 Floyd 120  
 Gladys Juanita 9,121,153  
 Hattie Violet 83  
 Helen 129  
 Idella Christine 121  
 Joyce 130  
 Laura Lee 121  
 Lee 9  
 Lois Eldora 120  
 Minnie Ola Tibatha Ann 120  
 Nellie 120  
 Opal 120  
 Patrick Floyd 120,121  
 Rosa Viola 121  
 Textie Mae 120,121,133,137  
 Viola 9  
 Will 43,121  
 William Riley "Will" 120  
 William Riley, Jr. 121  
 Willie Dee 121
- MOOSE:**  
 Eva 31
- MORCOM:**  
 Jamie Lee 142  
 Judy Faye 142  
 Paul J. 142
- MORAN:**  
 Clyde 98  
 Elnora Lee 98
- MORGAN:**  
 Andrew Jackson 137  
 Betty 29  
 Evelyn Ruth 137  
 Gaylia Regina 119  
 J.W. 29  
 L.D. 119  
 Mary F. 128
- MORRIS:**  
 Annie Izora "Zora" 121,149  
 Cathrine 121  
 Charles 121  
 Charles C. "Charlie" 92  
 Egbert "Red" 30  
 Elizabeth "Bet" 92,121  
 Eva 108  
 Frances 30  
 Gertha 19,106,107,149  
 Gertha Leora 121  
 Ila 151  
 Henry S. 121  
 Ivan "I.H." 7,21,52,97,121,152,153,154  
 James J. 121  
 James Jefferson 121  
 Jane 7,106,121  
 J.J. 7,8,106,121  
 Kenny 116  
 Lavinia 105  
 Lee 153  
 Linda 116  
 Marion Thomas 121  
 Ruffin 121  
 Sarah 105,121
- Sarah Lavinia 107,121  
 Shawn 116  
 Silas M. 121  
 Stephen 64,105,121  
 Sybie (Sibbie) 43,97  
 Velma Belton 121,149  
 William 121,133
- MORRISON:**  
 John C. 65
- MORTON:**  
 P.H. 19
- MOSES:**  
 Bennie Juanita 97,122  
 Fuller "Mutt" 97,122
- MULLINS:**  
 Amanda 144
- MUNN:**  
 Buclah Mae 103
- MUNSINGER:**  
 Oleta 21
- MURPHREE:**  
 Hannah 95  
 Sarah 95  
 Solomon 95
- MURPHY:**  
 Allie 34,104,122  
 Allye Mae 121,123  
 Amy Gayle 122  
 Bill 102  
 Bryan 122  
 Charlotte Diane 122  
 Cynthia Marie 104,122  
 Dewey 35,53  
 Edith Leona "Ette" 123  
 Emma 7,21  
 Emma Ahnolia 122  
 Erma Genelle 122  
 Ervin Nichole 122  
 Eva 102  
 Evie Doris 102  
 Guella 79  
 Iva Roberta 132  
 James 34,53,104  
 James B. 52  
 James Ervin 122  
 James Monroe 121  
 James Rodney 104,122  
 James Rodney, Jr. 122  
 Jeanette 43,122  
 Jenny (Rae) 121  
 Jennifer Elaine 122  
 Jerry Rex 122  
 J.T. 126  
 Karen Faye 122  
 Kenneth Neal 122  
 Laurence Neal 122  
 Mary Mollie 126  
 Micah Jean 142  
 Neal 34,36,43,53  
 Omnia 102  
 Onie Cathrine 127,128  
 Opal Lee 34,104,122  
 Oweta 34  
 Oweta Marie 122  
 Patricia Elena 122  
 Ray 34,39,43,104,121,122,123  
 Recey Louise 83  
 Rex 5,34,43,53  
 Rex Raymond 122  
 Richard 36,123  
 Rupert 32,82,132  
 Sheryl Kay 122  
 Velma 82  
 Virge 102  
 William Bryan 122  
 William Ray 121  
 Willie Bryan 104
- MURRAY:**  
 David 21

# MURRAY (cont'd)

Marie 137  
Tony 20,21

# MUSICK:

Delbert 9,10,31,32  
Nettie 9,10,32,36

# MYERS:

Abraham 13  
Judge Abraham 137  
Mary Ann 137

# N

# NASH:

John 21

# NAYLOR:

Ella Becky 123  
Fannie Mae 35,123  
Fredland Tyson 123

# NEEDHAM:

Ida 69

# NEWBURN:

Gwendolyn 74  
Jan 74  
Lum, Dr. 74  
Lum, Jr. 74

# NEWSOM:

Isaac Lockhart 29,39  
Kiziah 10,29  
Leona 29

# NICHOLS:

Claire Aline 129  
Colman D. 8  
C.R. 8  
Emily Victoria 129  
George Washington 129  
Will 21

# NICHOLSON:

Archie Dreburn 52,122  
Bammie 7,38,97,122  
Bennie 97  
Bennie Juanita 122  
Daniel 122  
Daniel Newt 122  
Daniel Taylor 122  
Dreaborn 7,152  
D.T. 7,19  
Edward M. "Ed" (E.M.) 5,28,32,  
34,46,49,122,136,149  
E.M. 37,47  
Hubert (H.B.) "Hub" 38,47,97,  
122,149  
Lois 122  
Mary 122  
Mattie 8  
Mattie Rebecca 122  
Taylor 52  
Vannie 7,34,43

# NIXON:

Mary Magdaline 124

# NOBLE:

Justin 112  
Justin Murray 112  
Linda Lou 112

# NOEL:

Julia Beth 108  
Julian 108

# NORMAN:

Alpine "Chink" 76,77  
Chink  
Elsie Ray 76,77

# NORTHCUTT:

Terry 22

# NUNN:

Ada 144

# O

# OAKS:

Novie 91

# OBAR:

Claude 9

# O'BRIEN:

Jack 98  
Ruby 98

# O'DAY

Jaqueline "Jackie" 84  
Kathleen 84  
Louise 84  
Michael Lee 84  
Ralph 84

# ODEN:

Francis 74

# ODOM:

Irene 40  
Jessie 21  
Ray 40  
Wiley 21  
Willie 134

# O'HAIR

John P. 126  
John T. 126  
Martha 144  
Martha E. 126  
Mary E. 126

# O'NEIL:

Bonnie 21

# O'QUINN:

Lottie Mae 81

# ORR:

Bud 135  
Clara Belle 135  
H.L. "Bud" 135  
Prof. 99  
W.A. 95

# OSBORN:

O.G. 30,42

# OTT:

Mr. 47

# OWENS:

Amanda 93  
Boyd 25  
Cora 18  
D.B. "Boyd" 18  
Hubert 18,52  
Joe 21  
Judy 125  
Mattie 65  
W.E. 65

# P

# PACE:

Azale 108  
Will 108

# PACK:

Othen 109  
Rosa Lee (Rosie) 109  
Wayne 109

# PAISLEY:

T.L. 8

# PARHAM:

B.B. 21

# PARISH:

J.W. 29

# PARKER:

Birdie 22  
Clara 108  
Jim 98

Julian 144  
Ruby Ester 98

# PARKS:

Alcy 69  
Cyrus 64,69,70  
Cyrus, Jr. 69  
George W. 69  
Isaac J. 69  
John 52  
K.C.A. 69  
Mahala W. 64,69,70  
Mary J. 69  
Mary Jane 70  
M.V. (W.) 19  
Nancy C. 64,69  
Rebecca E. 64,69  
Samuel L. 69  
Sarah M. 64,69  
William 69  
W.S. 19  
W.S. (Mrs.) 19

# PARNELL:

R.A. 7  
Rachel 7

# PARSONS:

Alvis 36,48,75,126  
Audrey 75,144  
Audrey Evelyn 75  
Bertha 75  
Beverly Sue 75  
Bryan Theo 75  
Cleo Merle 75  
Frankie 75  
Frankie Marie 75  
Gayle 75  
Gayle Lynn 75  
Kimberly Ann "Kim" 103,143  
Maxine 80  
Roger 75  
Stacey Denise 103,143  
Theo 36,75  
Thomas 75  
Vickie Carolyn 143  
Wayne 75

# PATE:

Leslie 21

# PATMAN:

Wright 24,55

# PATTERSON:

Amanda E. 69,139  
Ann E. 69,70,139  
Ann Elizabeth 80  
E.K. Berry 18,69,70,80,139  
Elisa Elzy K. "Berry" 118  
Elizabeth 69,80  
Ida 69  
James A. 69  
Martha C. 69

# PAYNE:

Allie 34,104,152  
Allie Mae 121,123,149  
Alvin 52  
Andrew 36,66,150  
Andrew C. 38,121  
Andrew Caswell 66,85,123,149  
Andrew E. (A.E.) 52,64,65,66,69  
Andrew Erwin 69,123  
Annie 77  
Brenda 129  
Cheryl 129  
Clytie Olilla 123,149,152  
Denton 69  
Edith Leona "Ette" 123,149  
Emma E. 121,149  
Emma Elizabeth 69,85,123  
Elizabeth 64  
Elizabeth J. 66,69,123  
Elizabeth "Ninnie" 88,123  
Freida 77,135  
James Eugene 129  
James Eugene, Jr. "Jimmy" 129

Jimella 69  
Jo Ann 129  
John R. 69  
Kevin 129  
Leone Fannie 69  
Malinda 66,69  
Malinda Elizabeth "Ninnie"  
140,149  
Margret R. 69  
Martha C. "Mattie" 69  
Mary A. 69  
Rossie 27  
Rossie Ophelia "Doss" 123,149  
Rubye 27,69,77,149,150  
Rubye F. 38,123  
Sarah E. 69  
Sheri (Sherri) 129  
Terry Bruce 129

# PEACE:

Nannie J. 77

# PEACOCK:

Cordellia 59  
Exum 59  
Martha 59

# PEARMAN:

Susie 18

# PEARS:

Gloria 91

# PENDLETON:

Carolyn 22

# PENNINGTON:

Lula 111  
Pearl 104

# PIPKIN:

Billy Gail 83

# PEPPER:

David 83  
Pauline 83  
Sabrina 83

# PERKINS:

Annie 140  
Augustus R. 67  
Berta "Bert" 43,91,149  
Daisy 21  
Ella 89  
Ella Emma 97  
Eula 102  
Eula Ethner 103  
Grace 102  
Henry 102  
Henry C. 102  
J.B. 102  
Martha Ann "Mattie" 67,125  
Mathellita "Sadie" 102  
O. Augustus 125  
Onimus R. 25,91,140  
O.R. 21,47  
Treaburn 102

# PERRY:

Annie 126

# PETRI:

Callie 72  
Ernest 72

# PHELPS:

Albert M. 89  
Epilinda S. 89  
Harriet F. 89

# PICKETT:

Henry 17

# PIERCE:

Armer V. 60

# PILLOW:

Nannie Mae 94

**PIRTLE:**  
 A.J. 69  
 Ann 69  
 Anna Mirah 128,129,130  
 Susan 70

**PITTS:**  
 Beatrice 93  
 Bonnie Alice 96  
 Elizabeth 109  
 Margarette Ovilla 96  
 Stewart Thomas 96  
 Thomasann 96

**PLEDGER:**  
 Nora 7

**POLAN(d):**  
 Alice Mae 113  
 Danny 113  
 Roy 113  
 Roger 113

**POLK:**  
 Eda 75

**POOL:**  
 Belle 78  
 Gussie 78  
 Helen 79,138  
 L. 106  
 Lee 78  
 Lena 78  
 Lillian Maude 106  
 Minnie 78

**POOVY:**  
 Claud 123  
 Cora Lee 123

**POPHAM:**  
 T.A. 19

**PORTALICHE:**  
 Ellie Faye 98

**POTEET:**  
 Bill 50

**POTTER:**  
 Sarah Jane 71  
 W.M. 71

**POWELL:**  
 Ada Ruth 27,98,105  
 Ann 34  
 Barry 27,50,98,105  
 Billy 27,35,98,105,108  
 Blake 97,105  
 Brandon 98,105  
 Cliff 98,105  
 Debbie 98,105  
 Homer 18,19  
 Jarrett 35  
 Jason 98,105  
 Kara 98,105  
 Randy 98,105  
 Vickie (Vickey) 98,105

**POWERS:**  
 Susan 98

**PRATER:**  
 Carlton D. 125  
 Dewey Lee 54,125  
 Ethel Eugene 128  
 Jessie W. "Jake" 53,125,128  
 Judy 125  
 Lee 125  
 Myrtle 125  
 Neva 125  
 Polly 125  
 Roy 125  
 Sherri 125  
 Wayne 125

**PRICE:**  
 Irene 40

**T.E. 21**

**PRIESLEY:**  
 S.H. 19

**PRIVETT:**  
 James C. (J.C.) 57  
 J.C., Dr. 13,57,70  
 Martha 13  
 Martha E. 13,57,68  
 Martha Emeline 57,60,70  
 Mary Ann 13,57

**PROTHO:**  
 Dozier 56  
 Mary E. 108

**PRUITT:**  
 Anna Lisa 7  
 Sena 7

**PRYOR:**  
 Thomas 19

**PUGH:**  
 Cole 22  
 Roy 21

**PULLIS:**  
 Amy 142  
 Cheryl Dean 142  
 Joe 142  
 Scrap 142

**QUILLIN:**  
 Helen 72,113  
 Herbert 72

**QUISENBERRY:**  
 Lometa 97  
 R.F. "Dick" 97

**R**

**RAMEY:**  
 Cora 107  
 Cora Etta 87  
 Estelle 107,121

**RAWLINSON:**  
 Aaron Ray 134  
 Aven 78  
 Ella Mae 78  
 Elsie 31  
 Elsie Retilla 134  
 Helen 34  
 Homer D. 20,155  
 Vera 20,153  
 Willie 134

**RAYLANDER:**  
 Janene 113  
 Lois 113  
 Terry 113  
 Wiley 113

**READ:**  
 Mabel Lois 123  
 Nathan James 123

**REAZIN:**  
 Mrs. 21

**RECTOR:**  
 Anice 32  
 Clarence 32,48  
 Eva 32  
 Hattie 32  
 Lee 32

**REDDEN:**  
 Audry R. 25  
 Julia 65  
 L.C. 65

**REED:**  
 Grace 20  
 Isaac 38

**Raymond 21**

**REEVES:**  
 Barbara 40  
 Wm. A. 65

**REICHERT:**  
 Conard Culberson 143  
 Marguerite 143  
 Olga Annie 143

**RENFRO:**  
 Gwynn 135

**REYES:**  
 Carol 22

**REYNOLDS:**  
 Nell 105

**RICHARDS:**  
 Amos 123  
 Diane 124  
 Fannie Mae 36,123,124  
 Frank 123  
 Frank Odeal 123,124  
 Iva Mae 123  
 Jerry Lee 123,124  
 Louise 123  
 Lula 123  
 Mabel Lois 123  
 O'Daniel James 123  
 Patricia 123  
 Sheryl 124  
 Tyson Odeal 123,124

**RICHARDSON:**  
 Adell 80  
 Adrian 80  
 Alma Suzie 124  
 Alma 110  
 Amos 124  
 Arlene 80  
 Bertha 124  
 Clyde 5,31,34,80,81  
 Clyde Thomas 124  
 David 80  
 Floyd 155  
 Gwendolyn 81  
 Hattie 144  
 James "Jim" Henry 124,144  
 Jane 124  
 Jane Willis 124  
 Jessie 124  
 Jessie Andrew 124  
 John Henry 124  
 Johnnie 124  
 Joseph "Joe" Henry 144  
 Julia Sophrina 144  
 Leonidas "Lee" 124  
 Lillian 81  
 Lucille 81  
 Lucy 124  
 Madison 124  
 Mary 124  
 Mary Magdoline 124  
 Mary "Polly" 124  
 Minnie 124  
 Oda 124  
 Ona 124  
 Oscar 124  
 Ovie Dallas 144  
 Pearl  
 Reba 80  
 Roger 80  
 Roland 80  
 Sarah 124,144  
 Sarah Sarina 124  
 Sharon 80  
 Simeon 124  
 Susan Piety 124  
 Terry 80  
 Thomas 124  
 Thomas Henry 124  
 Troy 42  
 Vesta Henry 81,124,155  
 Virginia 124  
 William 124

William Troy 124  
 Willie 124  
 Wm. Floyd 124

**RICHEY:**  
 Bertie 141  
 Edith 90  
 Eris 8  
 Esther 90  
 Gayle 102  
 Neal 90  
 Ethna 34

**RIDDLE:**  
 Carolyn Joy 135  
 Chad Wayne 135  
 Robert 54,135  
 Robert Shannon 135

**RIDEN:**  
 Betty Pearl 94  
 J.S. 94

**RIDGLEY:**  
 Vickey 98,105

**RIGGS:**  
 Emily 123  
 Henderson 123

**RILEY:**  
 James 57  
 Leona 128,130

**RIMMER:**  
 Nikki 32

**RISINGER:**  
 Camelia 21

**RITEHEY:**  
 Edna Gail "Gayle" 81  
 Edna Inez 81  
 Leo 34  
 Leo Riley 81

**ROACH:**  
 Hattie Joplin 2,5,16,90,147

**ROBERSON:**  
 Ella Mae 31  
 Ethel 104  
 Gerald 53

**ROBERTS:**  
 E.S. 116  
 Linda 116

**ROBINSON:**  
 Marion 121  
 Martha 127  
 R.L. 11

**ROEBUCK:**  
 Nellie 155

**RODDY:**  
 Ann 136  
 Margaret 66  
 Margaret Ann 17,137  
 Sammie Lee 103

**RODGERS:**  
 G.W. 7

**ROGERS:**  
 Archie Richard 120  
 Lois Eldora 120  
 Sally Ann 132,139  
 Sarah 109  
 Sarah A. "Sallie" 127  
 Seaborn 127

**ROPER:**  
 Vernon 53

**ROUNDTREE:**  
 Grady 30,144



**ROWBARTS:**

J.E. (Dr.) 57

**RUCKER:**J.B. 128  
Lizzie 128  
Tom 31,128**RUMBY:**

G.W. 9

**RUSSELL:**Carolyn 118  
Florence Faye 118  
Guy 118**S****SALES:**

Carmen 91

**SALOMON**

J. Merl 21

**SANDERS:**Addis Eugene 77  
Billy Gene 77  
Eloise 124  
Elsie Ray (Rae) 76,77  
Evelyn Inez 81  
Gene 76  
Imogene (Mrs. D.A.) 62  
James M. 24  
Timothy Ray 77**SANDERSON:**Sally 101  
Sarah 61  
Sarah Jane 102,103**SAULSBY:**

Lessie A. 111,141

**SCARBROUGH:**Bettie 7  
Lizzie 7  
Robert 152  
Theodora 152**SCATES:**Pearl 130  
Ruth 128**SCHELLY:**Brenda 129  
Lee 129**SCHIEFFORTH:**

Madge 94

**SCHOCHLER:**Carol 32  
H.C. 5,21,32,33,84  
H.C. (Mrs.) 21  
Nanette 112**SCOTT:**Annie B. 20,21,140  
Bobbie 140,150  
Dewey 140  
Doyle 9,140  
Malissa 70  
Pearl 140,155  
Robert 140  
Susan Piety 124**SCRUGGS:**

Ray 53

**SEAL:**

Nancy 126

**SEARCY:**Jason Riley 81  
Jimmy Quinton 81  
John Mark 81  
Mary Helen 81  
Oscar Quinton 81  
Penny Sue 81**SESSIONS:**Amy Renee 142  
Auburn 142  
Denny Ray 142  
Doris 83,142  
Doris Marie 142  
Doyle 43  
Dreaburn 142  
Elvis Glenn "Patty" 54  
Eva Faye 83,142  
Ewell 142  
Josie 91  
Judy Faye 142  
Laynette (Lanette) 142  
Linda Kay 142  
Lori Denise 142  
Micah Jean 22,142  
Michael D. 54,142  
Michael Drue 142  
Pam 22  
Reba 27  
Sharon 22**SEWELL:**Bessie (Mrs. F.S.) 19,46  
Frank E. 152  
F.S. 19,23,46  
J.B. 19  
J.B. (Mrs.) 19**SHAW:**Alta Mae 76,77,78  
Emaline 77  
Ida 60,103  
Jessie Mozel 94  
Mack Rushin 94  
Mart 77  
Martin Van Buren "Mart" 77  
Mary 21  
Mary Alta Mae 77  
Minnie 21  
Nancy J. 77  
Ninnie J. 21  
Noma 18  
Vannie 34,122,155  
Walter 77**SHAY:**Glynn 118  
Jim 118  
Kelly 118  
Mike 118  
Pat 118**SHEFFIELD:**Jeff 153  
Laura Lee 121  
Thomas Richard 121**SHEPHARD:**

Audrey 32

**SHERMAN:**Jack 73  
Mary Sue 104  
Leda Odell 73**SHERRARD:**Baker 7,8  
Frances 80  
Kate 8  
Mary 8  
Mary E. 7  
Maybelle 142  
M.J. 8  
M.J. (Mrs.) 7  
Rosa 7  
Sam 7,8  
Unice 7,8  
Velma 7**SHOE:**

Bill 34

**SHOEMAKER:**A.T. 117  
Estelle 117,118**SHUPTRINE:**F.C. 99  
Pauline 99**SILVAY:**

Nancy Caroline "Carrie" 131

**SIMMANG:**Clifford Jonathan 112  
Clifford Liles 112  
Clifford M. 112  
Elnora 112  
Karen 112**SIMMONS:**

Johnnie 136

**SIMMS:**

Elizabeth 58

**SINGLETON:**

Sally 114,116

**SITTON:**

Texana 21

**SKILLEN:**Carl 9  
Chester 9**SKINNER:**Martha 99  
Mary Ann 78  
Patsy Louise 99  
Phyllis Jo 99  
Woody 99**SLIDER:**Hope 76,138  
Jim 21**SMELLEY:**Mattie Belle 39,67,119,120  
Virgil 120**SMITH:**Altha 150,154  
Amanda E. 69,139  
Bernice 79  
Boyce 21  
Clyde 141  
Delbert Lee 73  
Destine 29  
Dickie 93  
Duffie 73  
Edgar 139  
Elsie Mae 141  
Elzie 139  
Emma 9  
Ernest 5,29,31  
Eva Caroline 84  
Fadie 114,116  
Georgia 133  
Greg 47  
Ima Mae 92  
Irwin 31  
Israel P. 24  
Jessie 29  
Jewel Mae 47,150  
John V. 126  
John Dwain 73  
Juanice 140  
Keith 92  
Lela 21  
Lem 79  
Lou 105  
Mary 126  
Maxine Juanita 73  
Merril 139  
Mid Walker 73  
Montie Era 139  
Nolan 140  
Norma 129  
Opal Louise 73  
Stephen Elzie 139  
Thaxter LaFayette "Fadie" 93,  
139  
Thomas "Bert" 92T.L. 9,52,69,139  
W.R. 12  
Zed 29  
Zorita 29**SNIPES:**

Susannah 110

**SNOW:**Don Allen 104  
Vickie Lynn 104**SOAP:**

R.E. 21

**SOLOMON:**Linda Kaye 142  
Wade Kevin 142  
W.M. "Bubba" 142**SOUTH:**Aubrey 128  
Cullen 38,128  
Eula 21  
Grace 128  
Laverne 128  
Lorene 21  
Marvin 128  
Ottie Mae 21,128  
Pearl T. 38,128  
Vestal 128**SOWDER:**Andrea 102  
Gary 102  
Shauna Lee Ann 102**SOWELL:**Annie Ellie 125  
Ella (Ellie) 8,89,125  
Ella Mae 125  
Gaylia Regina 119  
George W. "Bud" 125  
George Washington 125  
G.W. "Bud" 8,19,43,46,47,89,106  
Ina 102,125,154  
John 2,9,28,32,36,37,39,46,89,103,  
127,153  
John M. 125  
Joyce Juanita 119  
Lena Alice 125  
Lola 89  
Lucinda Jane 125  
Lula 43,89,103,125  
Luther 7,9,125,152  
Martha Ann "Mattie" 125  
Mary Donia 125  
Mattie Belle 9,67,119,125  
Myrtle 125  
Oscar Cleo "Cotton" 9,43,119,125  
Ruth 9,125  
Susan 125  
Susan Ellen 127  
Susie 9  
Thomas 125  
Weldon 9,43,47,125  
Zora 125,152,153,154**SPAIN:**Beatrice 18,152  
Ella 18**SPALDING:**

Gene 34,50

**SPEARY:**

Frank 48

**SPECK:**

Norma Grace 137

**SPITZENBERGER:**Joy 121  
Randy 121  
R.E. 121  
Rhonda 121  
Rudy 121  
Virginia 121

- SPRAGGINS:**  
Joseph Ray 104  
Sammie Lee 103  
Selvin 103  
Travis 27  
Travis Ray 32,103,104  
Travis O. 103,125  
Vickie 32  
Vickie Lynn 104  
Wilma 27,103,104  
Wilma Frances 102,125
- SPRAYBERRY:**  
Earl 50
- STADLER:**  
Cindi 126  
Doris Ann 126  
Eva Irene 125,126  
George Roy 125,126  
Hazel 126  
James Robert 125,126  
John Allen 125,126  
John M. 125  
John Wilson 126  
Phoebe Ann 125
- STAFFORD:**  
Louie P. 53  
Thelma 93
- STALLINGS:**  
Duward 22,34,36  
Ella Mae 10,22,36  
Eugenia "Jean" A. 1,14,17,127  
H.D. 10  
H.P. 52  
James 127  
James L. 17  
J.L. 1,14  
Lonzie W. 54  
Orphie 7,8  
Willard 53  
Willie 1,14
- STANLEY:**  
Mary 88,144  
Nathan 88,144  
Rachel 82  
Rachel Morning 132,144  
Sally 88  
Sophrina 145
- STARR:**  
Faye (Mr.) 21  
James H. 38
- STEINSIFER:**  
Izeta 35
- STEELMAN:**  
John Allison 125  
Lena Alice 125  
Violet 125
- STELL:**  
Ann E. 69,70,139  
Ann Elizabeth 80  
Elizabeth 1,12,57,69  
Elizabeth L. 67,70  
Elvira 70  
H.R. 57,69,70  
John W. 69,70  
Martha E. 13,68,70  
Martha Emeline 57,60,70  
Mary Jane 69,70
- STEPHENS:**  
Ada Nunn  
Nan 22
- STEPHENSON:**  
Ada 144
- STERLING:**  
James N. 70  
John 70  
Sarah L. 70
- Thomas J. 70  
Wm. R. 70
- STEVENSON:**  
Minnie 77
- STEWART:**  
A.L. 19,46  
Angus 2,26,28,29,30,144,151  
Angus Lonzie "Ang" 10,37,75,126  
Angus Lorenzo "Ang" 52,144  
Balaam 126  
Betty 32,34  
Betty Ann 94  
Celia 93  
Charles Edward 94  
Clarissa 126  
David C. 126,127,139  
Donna 139  
Edward 126  
E.E. 135  
Elizabeth "Lizzie" 131  
Estelle 130  
Frances 113,114  
George 126  
Hanna Louisa 126  
Herman Albert 53  
Izeta 35  
Jackie 32  
Jackie Charles 94  
Janie 126,127,139  
Jaqueline Annette "Sissy" 94  
John 113  
Johnny Cecil "Tice" 135  
Judy 107,139  
Mable Dona 127  
Margaret "Peggy" 92,93,132  
Martha 144  
Martha Deaton 74  
Martha E. 126  
Mary 97,126  
Mary Deaton 126  
Mary Mollie 126  
Mozelle 130  
Nancy 113  
Paul 27,32,50  
Pearl 130  
Robert 36,38,55  
Roy 50  
Rozellah "Zellah" "Zadie" 75,144  
Sarah Evalyine 126  
Todd 94  
W.H. 52  
William Monroe 93  
Zellah 126
- STIDHAM:**  
Adrian 32
- STINCIPHER:**  
Rosa Lee (Rosie) 109  
Sally Ann 82
- STOCKTON:**  
George 140  
Martha Jane 87  
Onie 140  
Polly 125  
Regina Palestine 85
- STONE:**  
Emerson 48  
Polly 34
- STOVALL:**  
Anita 21  
Birdie (Mrs. E.B.) 20  
Ted 31  
W.L. 5
- STRAIN:**  
Jean 111
- STRAITON:**  
Nancy Louise 136
- STRINGER:**  
Gladys 132
- STROUD:**  
John 7
- STUART:**  
Azalea Margarette 132  
Robert 36
- SULLINS:**  
Patricia Ann 83  
Ronnie 83
- SULLIVAN:**  
Elizabeth 93  
Margaret Elizabeth 93  
Tom 93
- SUMMERLIN:**  
Edgar 21
- SUMMERS:**  
Albert W. 127,152  
Amos 43  
C.A. 1,24  
Caley 19,26,28,52,113,114,128,152,155  
Caley Amos 28,86,127  
Clara Mae 128  
Cordie 113  
Dollie 127  
Edith Ovilla 128  
E.K. 53,128  
Ela Mae 128  
Ethel 125  
Ethel Eugene 128  
Etta 17,18  
Helen Cordia "Cordie" 87,127  
Hope Juanita "Pat" 128  
James Amos 128  
James Milton 52  
Jennie Julia 128,152  
Jessie Calvert 128  
Jessie Knight 127,128  
J.M. 17  
Johnny 127  
Julia 113,127  
Knight 36,149,152  
Lucile 128  
Martha 127  
Martha Julia 86,128  
Mary Kate 128  
Maurine 128  
Minnie Lee 127  
Onie Cathrine 127,128,152  
Ovilla 35  
Sally 127  
Seth 53,127  
Seth Thomas 128  
Susan 125  
Susan Ellen 127  
Tola 89  
Tola Mae 127,128  
Viola 127  
Whitfield 127
- SUTTLES:**  
Newt 27
- SWERINGER:**  
Mildred 137
- SWISHER:**  
Alma 136  
Armond Tipton 136  
Edward James 136  
Edward James, Jr. 136
- T**
- TACKETT:**  
Isaac 8
- TANKERSLEY:**  
Annie 79  
Jobe R. 79  
Little "Annie" 79
- TANT:**  
J.D. 8
- TARNOW:**  
Tippy Carol 28,31,32,34
- TAYLOR:**  
Barbara 76  
Bobbie 76  
Chrls 76  
Chuck 76  
Cindy 76  
Derwin 76  
Donna 86  
Earl 29  
Elizabeth 29  
Faye Beth 29  
Joan 142  
Joe 86  
Mavis Leona 67,86,87,88  
Maxine 9  
Sandra 86  
Shelba 86  
Sherry 76  
Zack 27,86
- TEAR:**  
Evelyn 73
- TENDELL:**  
T.J. 21
- TENNISON:**  
Anna Mariah 128,129,130  
Annie Florine 129  
Benjamin 128  
Bethivin 129  
Billy Mack 129  
Bobbie 130  
Boyce Edward 27,129  
Boyd 31,84,150  
Boyd George 129  
Carl Edward 129  
Carol Lewis 130  
Carol Lewis, Jr. 130  
Caroline June 129  
Charlotte 70,128  
Clair Aline 128,129,130  
Clifford Wayne 129  
Clyde 39,130,144  
Clyde (Mrs.) 63  
Diane Patrice 131  
Eddie 130  
Edmund R. 70  
Elizabeth Jane 99,100  
Elizabeth Lizzie 128  
Elizabeth Victoria "Miss Vickie" 7,130  
Eliza Jane 130  
Ethel 130  
Ethel Martha 144  
Florine 35,142  
Frank 84,129  
George Ward 129  
Gladys 130  
Graham 27,50  
Gussie 12  
Hattie 130  
Helen 129  
Ima 84  
Ima Ivelle 129  
James 130  
James Hubbard "Hub" 129  
James Knox 129  
James Knox "Jim" 128,129,130  
James Mathew "Mack" 128,129  
James P. 70  
James Randall 131  
Jessie 144  
Jewel 84,110,128  
Jewel Nettie 129  
Jimmie 128  
Jo Ann 129  
John David 129  
Johnny 130  
Johnny Mack 129  
Joyce 130

# TENNISON (cont'd)

Leona 128,130  
M.A. 128  
Mack 84,110  
Major Frank 128,129,130  
Major Glenn 130  
Marcus 70,128  
Marcus L. 70  
Marlin Franklin 129  
Mary Ann 58,99,100,130  
Mary Earline 129  
Mary Elizabeth "Bessie" 128,129,130  
Mary F. 128  
Matthew 26,39,70,99,100,130  
Matthew C. 58,130  
Melissa 65,70,100,130  
Michael 130  
Nancy Elaine 129  
Nancy Elizabeth "Betty" 70  
Nicole 129  
Norma 129  
Pansy Ruth "Curley" 31,129  
Patricia 130,131  
Pearl 128,130  
Roscoe "Bud" 130  
Roxanna "Roxie" 65,70,100  
Rube, (Dr.) 2,28,120  
Ruth 84,128,130  
Sari Lea 131  
Scott Anthony 129  
Stephen Wayne 129  
Susan 70  
Sylvia Lynn 129  
Tenata Urike 129  
Texas Ala 70  
Thomas 65,70,130  
Thomas H. 70  
Tina Dianne 129  
Tom 84,100,128,130  
Tommy Ruth 130,131,141  
Victoria 7  
Walter "Babe" 130  
William Reuben 57,58,130  
W.R. (Rube) (Dr.) 20,39,46,59,128,150  
Violet Faye 130

# TERRY:

Billie Louise 73  
Judy 131  
Willie Mae 120

# TEUTSCH:

John Michael 77  
LaMonte 76,77  
Louise 76,77  
Morris Ray 77

# THAMES:

Anderson 142  
Annie Pearl 83,142  
Cheryl Dean 142  
James H. 54  
Jana Carol 142  
Jimmy 84  
Walter W. 53

# THEOBOLD:

Norman Earl 102  
Robbie 102  
Sharon Lee 102

# THIBODEAUX:

Marla 116

# THOMASON:

Anne 131  
Besse 131  
Callie 131  
Charles 79  
Charlie M. "Sam" 131  
Clay 131  
Edgar 131  
Elizabeth "Lizzie" 131  
Ethel 131  
Evaline 131

Evie 8,131  
Franklin M. 131  
Henry C. 131  
Henry Clay 52,131,133  
Hillary H. 131  
Jeanne Sue 31,79  
John H. 131  
Jonathan 131  
J.V. (Victor) 13  
Lena 35  
Lola Mae 9,76  
Lula 68  
Lula Clay 34,117,131,133,136,138  
Mae 139  
Mary Ann 133  
May Hoyt 131  
Mozelle 79  
Nancy Caroline "Carrie" 131  
Ollie 131  
Salena Victoria "Lena" 131,143  
Sarah 131  
Sarah Donia 131  
Susan "Sudie" Clarecy 131  
Wilburn B. 131

# THOMPSON:

Azelea 132  
Azelea Margarette 132  
Benjamin Franklin 145  
Frank 98,132  
Frankie Ray 98  
Gladys 132  
Iva Roberta 131,132  
Lula 123  
Martin Alexander 131,145  
Minnie 17,98,132  
Myra Elizabeth 94  
Netta Paralee 131,132  
Odessa 36,132,137  
Ophelia 98  
R.G. (Mrs.) 21  
Rosa 82,131,132  
Rosa Melvina 145  
Ruby Odessa 131,132  
Sarah Jane 145  
Sheryl 124  
T.F. 18  
Thomas Frank 131,132  
Wiley 25  
W.M. 8

# THRASH:

Pamela 74  
Ron 74

# TILLEY:

Cecil Roger 139  
Guy 139  
Helen Jane 20,21  
Joe Dell 139  
Opal 35,139

# TIMMS:

Janie 101

# TIPTON:

A.G. 20,21,25,137,153  
A.G. "Alex" 2,7,8,34,37  
A.G., Jr. 9,53  
Albert Gallatin 39,52,93,109,110,127,132,133,135,137,138  
Albert Thurman 134,138  
Alex 8,26,28,29,33,36,46,132  
Alexander 68,114,143  
Alexander Gray 28,117,131,133,136,138,149  
Alma Allen 136  
Alvie 9,32,72  
Alvie G. 52  
Alvie Grover 133  
Alvie Grover, Jr. 134  
Amanda Eliza 137  
Andrew A. 52  
Anna Mae 35,68,117,133  
A.T. 52  
Augustus A. 132  
Bertie 9,34,79,133

Bertie Bell 138  
Bertie Pearl 9,137  
Bettie Corine 9  
Betty 113  
Beulah 80  
Billy Rogers 139  
Carl 27,50,134  
Carl "Dick" 107,139  
Carl M. 138  
Carolyn Joy 135  
Carrie 24,136  
Cecile 107,121  
Clara Belle 135  
Clarence Orval 27,134  
Clarence Orval, Jr. 134  
Clarence Orval III 134  
Clavis 5,8,9,33,34,36,121,132,137  
Clavis Carson 137  
Clayton Wayne 135  
Cora Helen 34,107,139  
Cynthia L. 137  
Dallas 29  
Dellis 139,150  
Dewey 27,48,53,134,138  
Dewey M. 134  
Dewey Maurice 9  
Dewey Ross 54,77,134,135  
Dick 34,50  
Dona 139  
Donna Sue 139  
Dorothy L. 9  
Douglas 139  
Dustin 139  
Edgar 47,110,121,133  
Elizabeth 109,133  
Elizabeth "Liza" 137  
Elizabeth Ann "Liz" 139  
Elmo Fosh 135  
Elsie 134  
Elsie Retilla 134  
Elvin 137  
Emeline 66  
Eula 135  
Evelyn 9,53  
Evelyn Ruth 137  
Flossie L. 106,114,115,116,117,133  
Frances 139  
Frank Conley 135  
Frankie Virginia 9,34  
Frankye 30,132  
Freida 77,135  
Gee 9  
George Carl 27,107,139  
George Edward 134  
George Elry 136  
George W. 24,52  
George Washington 137  
Georgia 133  
Gregory 77  
Gregory Allan 135  
Gwynn 135  
Hazel 9,34,134,138  
Hazel Bounds 9  
Hazel Lanora 138  
Helen 5,139  
Helen Jane 107,139  
Herman 133  
Herschel Wayne 135  
H.M. 47  
Hollis 5,9,53  
Hollis D. 112,137  
Hugh 2,24,87  
Hugh M. 28,92  
L.M., Jr. 53,71,136  
Ira Magee "Gee" 25,33,52,71,133,136  
Isaac "Ike" 1,2,19,28,34,37,39,59,65,71,153  
Isaac C. 17,66  
Isaac Columbus 133  
Isaac K. 136,137  
Isaac W. 24,136  
Isaac Washington "I.W." 28,29,92,136  
Isabell 133  
Jacob 52,137

James J. 132  
James Lynn 134  
James Pearl "Jim Hogg" 9,135  
Jane 132,135,137  
J.C. 52  
Jean 94  
Jeannie Marie 34  
Jewel 9,31,71,127,133,136,139  
J.H. 106  
Jimmy Carl 139  
Jimmy Lynn  
Joan 115,117,137  
Joe Douglas 139  
Jo Erma 136,137  
John Henry "Johnny" 8,33,121,133,136,137  
Johnny 26,134,136  
Johnny Cecil "Tice" 135  
Johnny Sarah 9,137  
Jonathon Wayne 135  
Joyce 134  
Judy 30,107,139  
Judy Carol 36,134  
Julanne 139  
Julie 139  
Laura A. 43,136  
Laura Anderson 92,135  
Laurie 77  
Lauri Elizabeth 135  
Laurine 135  
Linda Joyce 134  
Lloyd Douglas "Scooter" 139  
Lori Kay 139  
Lovina 137  
Lucinda 137  
Lula 7,9,21,43,68,114,117,139,143,149  
Lula Clay 34,131,133,136,138  
Mable Dona 127  
Madge 19,91  
Maggie 133  
Margaret 66  
Margaret Ann 17,136,137  
Margaret Jane 132  
Marie 137  
Marilyn 34,139  
Martha 28  
Martha Ann 137  
Martha Elizabeth 132  
Martha M. 66  
Martha Manervia "Matt" 92  
Mary 110,133,137,149  
Mary Ann 133,137,143  
Mary E. 18,91,93,127,137  
Mary Elizabeth 132,137,138  
Mary Jane 17,64,66  
Mary Jean 72,134  
Mary Margaret 137  
Mary Monta "Montie" 109,110,133  
Mary Zuda "Zud" 135  
Mattie Macyle "Macie" 135  
Mildred 137  
Minnie 139  
Minnie Eva 136  
Minnie Ola 135  
Mollie 132,134,137  
Monte 129  
Myrna 139  
Nan 134  
Nickie Kay 134  
Nona Grace 137  
Odessa 8,9,30,32,33,34,36,72,74,75,79,83,104,111,118,120,121,126,128,129,130,131,132,135,137,139,144,145,150  
Oliver 9,53,134,138  
Onnie Conley 135  
Opal 9,137  
Opal Bernice 112,139  
Opria 9,78,150  
Opria Marie 78,137  
Orval 31,53,138  
Oscar Clarence 135  
Ovis Marie 112  
Pauline 137  
Paulina A. 132  
Pearl 127,139



# TIPTON (cont'd)

Percy 9  
Percy Marion 135  
Pleasant Marion "Plezz" 52,135,137  
Rebecca 137  
Robert 52  
Ronda 139  
Rosa Thelma 135  
Rosemary 96  
Rossie 9,134,135  
Ruby 139  
Ruby Odessa 137  
Ruth Ann 132  
Rutha Ann 109  
Safronia 137  
Sally Anne 132,139  
Samuel 12,132,135,137  
Samuel Edgar 121,133  
Sarah A. "Sallie" 127,137  
Texie Mae 9,120,133,137  
Thelma 135  
Thomas 137  
Thomas J. 18  
Thomas Jefferson 132,137  
Thurman 9,35,133,138  
Timmy Paul 139  
Travis T. 137  
Trudie 87  
Velma 7,9,32,72,133  
Velma Belton 121,133  
Viola 18  
Waylon Ray 30  
William Dellis 127,139  
William Dellis, Jr. "Dell" 139  
William Dellis, III. "Sunny" 139  
William H. 127  
William Henry 132,139  
William Riley 137  
Willie 137  
Wilma 137  
W.R. 9,53  
Vada Mae 137

# TOMERLIN:

Daisy Myrtle 139,155  
Dollie 108,139,155  
Ed. D. 139  
Eula Leona 139,155  
Faye 139  
Mae 139  
Malone Eunice 139,152  
May Hoyt 131  
Montie Era 139  
Nobel 131,139  
Rossie Faye 139

# TOWLES:

M.A. (Mrs.) 18

# TOWNLEY:

Clifford 119  
Dorothy Oleta 119  
Fred Allen 119

# TRAYLOR:

Cleta Fern 142  
John Marion "Bo" 142

# TREADWELL:

Helen 21  
Marshall 21  
Robin 113

# TROTTER:

Clint 25,28,37,46,153,154

# TROUTMAN:

Hiram B. 55

# TRYOR:

Delores 78

# TUCKER:

Virginia 108

# TUPPER:

Ernestine 138

# TURNER:

Alan 77  
Bernice 85  
Brian 77  
Charles 85  
Eva Regina 85  
Inglewood 140  
John Michael  
Kenneth 9,77  
Linda Gail 85  
Minnie Mae 110  
Nelda 140  
Nellie Beatrice "Bea" 140  
Phyllis Carolyn 9,77  
Terry Lynn 85  
Walter Ray 85  
Walter Ray II 85

# TURNEY:

James E. 7

# TURRENTINE:

Gladys 109

# TYLER:

Thelma 92,93

# U

# UNDERWOOD:

Ada 34,99  
Ann 140  
Annie 9,140,141  
Archie 140  
Bernice Harbert 13,27,140  
Brenda 140  
Bryan Dean 102  
Charlotte 140  
Dorothy "Dot" 140  
Gene 34,99  
Gladys 27,84,140  
Grady Dean 102  
Grady Henry 34,84,109,140  
Harbert T. 35,140  
Harold Thomas 140  
Janet 101  
J.H. 9  
John Robert 140  
John Robert II 140  
John Thomas 27,140  
Juanice 140  
Larry Dean 32,34,101,140  
Lonie 140  
Lynette 140  
Mary Beatrice "Bea" 140  
Mary Frances 9,140  
Nellie Beatrice 140  
Odell 109,140  
Onie 140  
Ruby Oriol 99  
Shirley 140  
Terry 102  
Timothy Lloyd 140

# UPCHURCH:

Arma 71  
Delila 71  
Emma 71  
James 71  
James S.  
James "Jessie" Stacey 71,136  
Jewel C. 71,133,136  
John B. 71  
Martha 71  
Minnie 7,71,136  
Nancy 71  
Samuel 71  
Stacey 43  
Stephen 71  
Robert 71  
Thomas 71

# USRY:

Jacob Ray 102  
Marvin Ray 102  
Robin Carol 102

# V

# VAMILLION:

Bro. 144

# VANDERBILT:

Susannah 101

# VANDRESCOURT:

Billy Raoul 142  
Frances Jean 142  
Helen 142  
Mary Frances 83,142  
Raoul de 142

# VANSICKLE:

J.H. 125  
Lena Alice 125

# VARDEN:

Margie 110,124

# VARNER:

Jess 24

# VAUGHN:

Jack G. 134  
Jack G., Jr. 134  
James Aaron 134  
Judy Carol 36,134  
Marie 36,134

# VICKERS:

Bobby 140  
Bobby Glen 141  
Bradley Edward 140,141  
Gladys Marilyn 140,141  
Glenn 141  
Glen Wood 140  
Louzetta 140  
Sharon "Sharri" 141  
Willie Delter 140

# VINSON:

Dora 108

# W

# WADE:

Stanley 22

# WALDRUP:

Adam 141  
Adam Huggar 141  
Allen 141  
Barbara Sue 129,142  
Bertie 141  
Bessie 91,141  
Catherine 142,153  
Cloyd (Oliver) 9,27,35,140,142,150  
Denise 129,142  
Donna Jean 129,142  
Duane 142  
Elsie Mae 141  
Florine 35,129,142  
Hubert 141  
Jerry Lynn 129,142  
Jerry Lynn, Jr. 129,142  
Johnny Lyle 129,142  
Katie 140,141  
Lessie Alton 111,141  
Marshall 109,141  
Oliver Cloyd 129  
Phillip 21,54  
Phillip Duane 129  
Phillip Mack 129,142  
Shirley Ann 129  
Spurgeon 141  
Tom 141  
William 27,39  
William Cloyd 129,142  
William Gladstone "Buddie" 141  
Yvonne 109

# WALKER:

Amy 20,21  
Dan 21  
James Daniel 137  
Lea Ammer 117

Louise 21  
Obie 21  
Vada Mae 137

# WALLACE:

Anne Rose 120  
Annie Pearl 83,142  
Arma 9  
Arnold 143  
Bertha 83,84  
Bertha Pauline 83,142  
Bertie 132  
Clyde Elvis (Ellis?) 83,142  
Cora Orene 132  
Dave 131  
Doc 72  
Donna 142  
Doris 83  
Doris Marie 142  
Doyle Glenn 83,142  
Elton 35,143  
Eva Faye 83,142  
Evelyn 34,142  
Ewell 142  
Foye 102,142  
Gary 113  
George W. 52  
Grace 93,142  
Helen 142  
Jack 142  
James Christopher 143  
James Holman 137  
Jeffrey 142  
Jessie Marie 103,143  
J.F. 19  
Joan 142  
Joe 47  
John 135,142  
John Talbert 143  
Johnny Sarah 137  
Joyce 142  
Karen 142  
Katrina 142  
Kayla 142  
Kenneth 142  
Laura 142  
Lemuel 143  
Lena 35,72,139  
Lonnie M. 43,102,142  
Luke 113  
Martha Ellen 118,119,143  
Marvin Ethan 142  
Marvin F. 52,83,84,142  
Mary 118,135,142  
Mary Frances 83,142  
Mary S. 143  
Mattie 102,107,142  
Maybelle 142  
Minnie Ola 135,143  
Nancy Caroline "Carrie" 131  
Neva 9  
Oscar 36  
Oscar Dock 143  
Ray 54,83  
Ray Earl 83,142  
Roy Merle 36,83,142  
Royce Earl 142  
Selena "Lena" Victoria 131  
Senea Jane 143  
Sonny 113  
Stella 142  
Stella Pauline 83,142  
Steven 142  
Syble 113  
Tavie 9  
Tavie Mae 143  
Tony Neal 83,142  
Tonya Dawn 142  
Wayne 102,142  
William 118,143  
William Edward 143  
William M. 103,135,143  
Winnie 35  
Wm. 52  
Woodie 102,142,150  
Y.O. "Doc" 39,131  
Young Oscar "Doc" 135,143

**WALLEY:**

A.N. 14,27  
 Betty 22  
 Brian Keith 103,143  
 Chad 103,143  
 Cody 9,152  
 Cora 152,155  
 David 103,143  
 Jewel 27  
 Jimmy Nolan 103,143  
 Joe Dave 103,143  
 Johnny 103,143  
 Kenneth 103,143  
 Lisa 103,143  
 Mary Lou 143  
 Michael Lynn "Mike" 103,143  
 Norton 39,152  
 Rebecca Sue "Becky" 103,143  
 Robert Norton 103,143  
 Roy 21  
 Roy Glenn "Butch" 103,143  
 Sally 127,152  
 Susan 103,143  
 Tammy 103,143  
 Teresa 103,143  
 Willis B. 127

**WALLING:**

Ann 71  
 James 55  
 Jesse 71  
 John 55,71  
 John C. 71  
 Martha A. 71  
 Nancy 71  
 Sarah Jane 71

**WALTERS:**

Evon 34  
 Ezekiel 52  
 Margaret 66  
 Martha A. 64,66  
 Mary Emily 66  
 W.H. 66

**WARD:**

Bertie Pearl 94  
 Emma 129  
 Ima Ivelle 129  
 Sarah 95  
 William Andrew 129

**WARNER:**

Hazel 21

**WARREN:**

Byron T. 76  
 Daphna 109  
 Frances 31,76,77  
 Lance 109  
 Lucy 76  
 Mary Frances 76  
 Minnie 73

**WATKINS:**

Charlotte 79  
 John Jack 144  
 Karen Faye 122  
 Rosa Thelma 135,144  
 Winnie 35,144

**WATSON:**

Cindi 126  
 Mary 137

**WATTS:**

Silverine 104

**WEATHERED:**

H.S. 29

**WEATHERFORD:**

James 21  
 James (Mrs.) 21

**WEAVER:**

Connie 22  
 George 98

Richard 27  
 Ruth Estell 98  
 Wanda 21

**WEBB:**

Henry 139  
 Otis 20  
 Ruby 139

**WEEKS:**

J.W. 65  
 Sarah 65

**WEENSER:**

T.J. 130  
 Violet Faye 130

**WEIGMAN:**

Kim 34

**WELLS:**

Irene 80  
 Ludie 119

**WESLEY:**

Donald Wayne 79  
 Gladys "Tip" 78,79  
 J.C. 79  
 John Alvis 79

**WEST:**

Hassie 144  
 Jennie May 89,101,144  
 J.G. 19  
 Jimmie 144  
 Lee 144  
 Loleta 98  
 Mollie 135,137  
 Paul 98

**WESTBROOK:**

Heather Faye 109

**WHITE:**

Ed (Will) 152,153  
 J.T. 8  
 Mary Elizabeth 129  
 Ray 22  
 R.F. 19

**WHITEHEAD:**

Georgia 7

**WHITESIDES:**

James 36,50,117  
 Lila 35  
 Ruby Jewel 35,117,118

**WHITMAN:**

M.J. 21

**WHITT:**

J.T. 8

**WHORLEY:**

Debra 102

**WIGGINS:**

Betty Fern 79  
 Fannie 17  
 Irene 78  
 James Washington 78  
 Janette 122  
 Linda Joyce 134  
 Lola 109  
 Lula 73  
 Lula Bell 109  
 Mary Etta 73  
 Mattie 78  
 Mickey 134  
 Nickie Kay 134  
 Ruth Ann 132  
 Rutha Ann 109  
 Tommy 79  
 William 109,132

**WILBOURN:**

Amy Katherine 119

**WILCOX:**

Craig Olin 82,95  
 Dorothy LaNelle 82,96  
 Jason Wade 82,95  
 John Washington 73  
 LaNelle 17,40,44,63,82  
 Larry P. 54,82,96  
 Lucinda Kay 82  
 Lula Gertrude 73

**WILEY:**

A.C. 92  
 A.C., Jr. "Zeek" 92  
 Cora Belle 92  
 Cris 92  
 Mike 92  
 Susan 92

**WILHITE:**

J.W. 8

**WILKERSON:**

Gladys 91  
 Leona 29  
 R.W. 29

**WILKINS:**

Anne 143  
 Clifton 9,143  
 John 9  
 John Horn 133,143  
 Marguerite 143  
 Mary 9  
 Mary Ann 133,143  
 Naomi 143  
 Opal Lee 109,143  
 Port 143  
 Roy Clifton 143  
 Thetus O'Quindale 143  
 T.O. "Quindale" 143

**WILLIAMS:**

Betty 21  
 Hazel 126  
 Mary Josephine "Jo" 104  
 Patsy 9  
 Pearl 9

**WILLIAMSON:**

D.B. 2,19  
 Deloris Ann 134  
 Floyd 27,31  
 Floyd, Jr. 31  
 Julia Ann 72  
 Julie 134  
 Ray 134  
 Ruth 134  
 Travis 27

**WILLINGHAM:**

J.A. 70  
 Texas Ala 70

**WILLIS:**

Anan 109  
 Elizabeth 109  
 Jane 124  
 Mary Elizabeth 109,110

**WILSON:**

Ethel 8  
 J.H. 7  
 Mary Adeline 82  
 Sarah Jane 145

**WINDHAM:**

Allison 96  
 Bonnie Alice 96  
 Catherine 96  
 David 96  
 William 96

**WINDSOR:**

Jacob 52,71  
 Jesse H. 71  
 John G. 71  
 Joseph L. 71  
 Julia A. 71

Mary Jane 71  
 Paralee 71

**WINZENRIED:**

Brenda 117

**WISENER:**

W.C. 47

**WITCHER:**

W.C. 8

**WITWISKEY:**

Bruno 112  
 Pauline 112

**WOLVERTON:**

Edna 115

**WOMACK:**

Ada 75,78,82,144,145  
 Almeda 144  
 Amanda 144  
 Anita 109  
 Arthur 5,38,144  
 Ben 144  
 Carol 130  
 Clatts 130,144  
 C.W. "Sonny" 130,144  
 Eda "Edie" 75  
 Elmer 82  
 Ethel 130  
 Ethel Martha 144  
 Eva 145  
 Eva Mae 82  
 Hassie 144  
 Hattie 144  
 James Jasper 144  
 James Louis 30,75,126,144  
 Jessie 130,144  
 J.L. (Louis) 26,30  
 Juliann 144  
 Julie Sophronia Ann 144  
 Julius Andrew 82,144,145  
 Leona 144  
 Lois 74,78  
 Lois Laveta 78,144  
 Louis 2,39,144,145,155  
 Martha Etta 144  
 Mary 144  
 Rachel 82,144,145  
 Rachel Morning 75,132,144  
 Rosa 82  
 Rosa Melvina 131,145  
 Rozellah "Zellah" 144  
 Sarah 144  
 Solomon Arthur 144  
 Thomas 144,145  
 Thomas Jehu 75,82,132,144  
 T.J. (Rev.) 88  
 Velma 82,145  
 Walter 109  
 William "Willie" Jasper 144  
 Zella (Zellah) 10,43,74  
 Zellah "Zedie" 144

**WOODALL:**

Bertie Pearl 137  
 Jean 65  
 Jodie 65  
 Raymond 137  
 Violet 125

**WORK:**

Charlie 36  
 Clarence 9,36  
 Frances 76,77  
 Ida 80  
 Jack 36  
 Johnny 36  
 Loris 36  
 Mary Frances 76

**WORLEY:**

Debra 102  
 Rosa Ella 101

WORNICK:

Gladys 104  
Ira 104  
Pearl 104  
Terry 104

WRIGHT:

A.C., Jr. 140  
Lynette 140  
Verona Mae 98

WYSICK:

Willard 9

Y

YARBROUGH:

Charles Edward 81  
Charles Edward, Jr. 81  
Dennis 81  
J.M. 35  
Jo Carol 81  
Lydia Louise 81  
Sherry 81

YELL:

J.O. 135  
Mary Zuda "Zud" 135  
Mattie Macyl 135  
William M. "Bill" 135

YOUNG:

Martha 69  
Nell 12  
R.H. 69  
Willie Elizabeth "Missie" 31

Z

ZEWIG:

Carrie 138  
Fred 138



## Notes

## Notes

## Notes



