

History Of the



by
Bertie L. Calhoun

**History
Of the
Spring Creek Cemetery**

**By
Bertie Louise Speake Calhoun**

In
Collaboration with
Members of
The Spring Creek Cemetery Association
First Edition
1991

Second Edition
2006

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Dedication

To those men and women who lived before us, who had the foresight to fulfill a need for the community and all who gave of their time, effort, and gifts, this book is respectfully dedicated.

Foreword

There are many Spring Creek Cemeteries in our great nation. But this is the story of The Spring Creek Cemetery that is located in Cooke County, Texas approximately 5 miles southwest of Gainesville.

The author (Bertie Louise Speake Calhoun) of this book grew up in the Spring Creek Community and has many relatives interred in the cemetery. Bertie is my great aunt, being a younger sister of my grandmother, Mary Katherine Speake Martin who also grew up in the Spring Creek Community. Aunt Bertie's efforts are greatly appreciated. Many events have occurred at the Spring Creek Cemetery since the writing of this book. Hopefully they too will be chronicled in a publication, along with more detail of the history of the cemetery.

As the author noted, Isaac William (Ike) Stevens was one of the original organizers of the Spring Creek Cemetery Association and served as it's first Secretary. Isaac was my great, great grandfather. It has been my honor to serve as President of the Spring Creek Cemetery Association, and Chairman of the Board of the Spring Creek Cemetery Foundation for the last 3 ½ years. It is a tradition and honor that many in my family, and the families of other area residents have undertaken. As I read through this book I see the names and family histories of many of the current members of the Spring Creek Cemetery Association.

Our goal is to honor the memories of our forefathers, and to maintain and preserve the place where their bodies rest. Many of us will also rest there one day with our grandmothers, grandfathers, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, and cousins. We hope our children and others will continue this tradition.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Arnold Ander-

son who worked with Bertie on the first edition of this book in 1991. Uncle Arnold (husband of Bette Eugenia Speake Anderson, sister of Bertie) performed word processing and publishing of the first edition. Arnold has since passed and is resting at Spring Creek Cemetery.

Because only a few copies of the original publication are in existence, my children and I decided we should re-publish it. This will make it available to more people. This has been a fun and humbling family experience.

Electronic copies of this book are made available at no cost for you to download at www.welborntx.com. There are several versions depending on your need.

Enjoy this work of love.

God Bless you and yours.

James M. Welborn
President, Spring Creek Cemetery Association.

Preface

Perhaps no history is entirely factual. When complete documented records have not been found, word of mouth translations are usually relied upon. In this instance, interpretations may be misconstrued.

However, in this manuscript, we have attempted to substantiate the information furnished through the association records, from the descendants of those buried here, and from the gravestones.

We have also attempted to present this book in an orderly and chronological fashion, and in an interesting story form.

It is my fervent hope and prayer, that in the years to come, some member of the association, or some other interested person(s), will be so inclined to add to this history and keep it up to date.

We would assume that necessity prompted the first burial on the land, now the cemetery, for we have no knowledge of its establishment prior to such an event.

1875 In 1875, MARY C. UNDERWOOD – born March 20, 1875, and died September 11, 1875, was buried. Her tombstone still stands.

1882 The next account of burial is in a plot that we refer to as “Stranger’s Row”. NEWTON’S CHILD – born April 20, 1882; died August 12, 1882, reads on a simple marker.

1882 LEE FRANKLIN MULLINIX – the son of Catherine, January 14, 1882, age 10 years, is shown on a stone. We do not know if 1882 is the date of birth or the date of death.

1883 In 1883, by a marker in “Stranger’s Row”, an account of MAT DANIELS is given. We do not know whether his death was prior to the formation of the Association or later that year.

Formation of the Cemetery Association

Records indicate that in 1883, land for the cemetery was donated by J.P. Barnhart and the cemetery was named Barnhart Cemetery. In that same year, nine prominent residents of the community met at the E.R. Campbell Gin to form the Cemetery Association. J.P. Barnhart served as its first President and I.W. Stevens was chosen Secretary. I.W. Stevens had been responsible for organizing the group.

The above information was taken from Minutes in the Record Books of the Association.

- 1883 In 1883, JAMES ALBERT CLACK - the son of William Henry and Harriet Maria Morris Clack, died at the age of 19 years, and was buried. He was born in Kentucky and came to Texas with the J.A. Clack family in 1882, and was a brother of W.S., Eugene, and Perry Clack, well known residents of the area. He died during a typhoid fever epidemic. He was a Methodist.
- 1883 Two months after the death of James Albert Clack, JOHN OVERTON CLACK - died of the fever and was buried December 13, 1883 at age 21 years. His parents were James A. and Susan Morris Clack. He also was a Methodist, and was born in Kentucky.
- 1883 A monument with the inscription I.W. HEARE is dated December 18, 1883.
- 1884 G.M. HUTCHENS - buried with the dates 1826-1884 being the only record.
- 1884 In "Stranger's Row", PERRY MCCIMES CHILD – was buried in 1884.
- 1884 A tombstone stands for ALLIE H. BRYAN – 1866-1884 and we have no other record.
- 1884 LIZZIE K. VAN METER – born Febru-

ary 17, 1870 was buried March 12, 1884. We have no other record.

- 1884 ISABEL PETTY CLACK – died June 23, 1884. The daughter of a Baptist Minister, Ralph Petty, she was the widow of William Wood Clack, who died in Kentucky in 1853. At the time of her death, five of her children were still living and the names of four are: Elizabeth P., William Henry, John W., and James Alexander. It was with her son, James Alexander that she came to Texas from her native Kentucky. Her date of birth is given as March 13, 1802.
- 1884 THE WIFE OF JOHN L. GOODING – born October 20, 1841 and died June 23, 1884 is shown on a stone. No other name is given.
- 1884 NATHAN H. MULLINIX – born November 15, 1840 died March 17, 1884. We have no other information.
- 1885 THE INFANT SON of W.H. and E.W. Cloyd died November 5, 1885, and was buried. On November 20, 1885, a stone for Elizabeth W. Cloyd – stands and we assume this is mother and child. Her date of birth is given as June 9, 1849.

- 1886 SARAH EMMONS SARLES – wife of John C. Sarles was born in 1835 and died March 16, 1886.
- 1886 ELLEN D. SHOTWELL – born December 3, 1883, died October 9, 1886 and was buried here.
- 1887 A monument for N.S. BOYLES stands, with date of birth May 4, 1834 and date of death December 15, 1887.
- 1887 JOHN C. UNDERWOOD – died April 20, 1887 and his date of birth is given as May 17, 1808. There is no other information.
- 1887 BULAH B. GAMBLE – born April 1, 1878 was buried August 20, 1887
- 1887 ELIZA – wife of Robert Budlong, born in 1823, died November 14, 1887 at the age of 55 years. Her descendants remain in the Cooke County area.
- 1888 MARY HACKETT – born April 26, 1804 was buried September 19, 1888 and her monument remains.
- 1888 LAURA MAE MALONE – was born November 22, 1887 and died almost a year later, November 4, 1888. Her par-

ents were H.F. and Laura Susan Clack Malone. Laura Mae Malone was born in Era, Texas.

- 1888 JAMES MARION STEVENS – born December 13, 1870 died September 29, 1888 and was buried here, at the age of 17 years, 9 months and 16 days as evidenced by his monument. The son of Wright and Celia Snyder Stevens, James drowned in the Red River, north of Gainesville, Texas while riding a horse across the river.
- 1888 LUCY ANN WITT – daughter of William C. and Quincy A. Knight, was born February 22, 1866 and died December 1, 1888
- 1888 FLORENCE – wife of J.N. Flint, was born December 25, 1867 and died July 1, 1888. Her monument remains.
- 1889 MRS. H.M. FENNIE – with no given name listed, born May 28, 1832, died September 12, 1889.
- 1889 A monument stands for WILLIE COX – born October 31, 1831, died September 13, 1889.
- 1889 LUCINDA UNDERWOOD – born January 18, 1811, died December 10, 1889.

- 1890 QUINCY KNIGHT – 1889-1890. Daughter of John Allen and Elizabeth Ann Sarles Knight. She died a few months before her mother died of tuberculosis.
- 1890 W.G. KNIGHT – born December 26, 1829, died April 15, 1890 and was buried here.
- 1891 FRANK H. (OR M.)MALONE – was born January 8, 1890 and lived until March 4, 1891, but we do not have the cause of the child's death. His parents were F.H. Malone and Laura Susan Clack Malone and they lived at Era, Texas during the lifetime of their son.
- 1891 GREENVILLE DYE – born August 11, 1812 died August 27, 1891 and was buried at the then known Barnhart Cemetery.
- 1892 FRANK H. MALONE – The husband of Laura Susan Clack Malone, was born December 15, 1839 and died January 15, 1892. Four of his children, Laura Mae, Maggie E., Frank J., and Frank H. are buried also at Spring Creek Cemetery. Other known children were Clarence and Ethel Malone and Hattie Malone Hewlett. He was presumed to have been Methodist and had lived in Kentucky, prior to moving to Texas.

- 1892 In "Stranger's Row", there is a marker for MRS. KELSEY – 1892.
- 1892 M.C. BATTLEFIELD – born August 8, 1890, died April 25, 1892. We have no further information.
- 1892 ANNA R. VAN METER – born January 17, 1873, died November 1, 1892. Her monument stands in the Van Meter plot.
- 1892 LOUISA MYERS – born March 20, 1891, died October 20, 1892.
- 1893 BENJAMIN DAVID MYERS – born December 30, 1882, died August 4, 1893.
- 1894 MAGGIE E. MALONE – born January 14, 1883, died April 8, 1894. She was the daughter of H. F. and Laura Susan Clack Malone. She was born in Era, Texas and lived there all of her life.
- 1894 QUINCY A. KNIGHT – born November 28, 1828, died May 20, 1894.
- 1894 LESTER L. – son of A.S. and Kate Henderson was born June 25, 1893 and died almost one year later, June 19, 1894.

- 1894 ALFRED L. HILDRETH – born October 22, 1893, died June 5, 1894.
- 1894 WILLIE B. HUTCHENS – 1894-1895 is given on a stone.
- 1895 MOLLIE E. BATTENFIELD – born October 9, 1866, died April 27, 1895.
- 1896 MRS. SPRAY – was buried in the plot known as the "Stranger's Row" in 1896. No other information is given.
- 1896 ROSE DELL MYERS – is the name on a stone, with only the year 1896 given.
- 1897 LOUCINDA SARLES – daughter of John C. and Sarah Emmons Sarles was born in 1875 and died February 27, 1897.
- 1897 DORIS G. STEVENS – born May 31, 1897, died June 19, 1897.
- 1897 MARY BELL GASTON – born April 1, 1888, died July 15, 1897.
- 1898 J.P. BARNHART – On August 29, 1898, the man who donated the land for the cemetery, and for whom it was named, died. He was born March 9, 1825, and died at the age of 73 years,

5 months, and 20 days.

- 1898 ALBERT S. HENDERSON – born August 7, 1864, died November 19, 1898 and was buried here.
- 1898 CLEVELAND S. BRENHAM – born October 2, 1892, died April 16, 1898.
- 1898 LOIS LEE FENNIE – born February 7, 1880, died August 26, 1898.
- 1898 ROBERT BUDLONG – born March 22, 1827, died September 15, 1898.
- 1898 JENNIE E. – the daughter of John and Jennie Rose was born February 12, 1898 and died May 14, 1898.
- 1898 LIZZIE COX – born October 8, 1862, died August 10, 1898.
- 1898 H.B. GREER 1867 – 1898 is engraved on a stone with no other information.
- 1898 JENNIE ROSE – born November 7, 1878, died May 2, 1898.
- 1899 MARTHA RICH BECK – was born December 18, 1821, the daughter of Robert Simpson and Rachel Roll Pre-

ston, in Hamilton County, Ohio. She was married to Abner Chenault Beck on April 23, 1840, and they moved to Cooke County, Texas from Union County, Indiana. They were the parents of 10 children among them being Matilda Ermina Beck Stevens, who is buried nearby. Martha R. Beck died February 20, 1899. Today, her descendants are numerous among the Cemetery Association members.

- 1899 On a monument is the name BARNHART, December 18, 1850- July 3, 1899.
- 1900 RAY LANGSTON – born August 4, 1897, died August 14, 1900.
- 1902 C.E. SHOTWELL – born October 29, 1831, died August 15, 1902.
- 1902 LORA – the daughter of R.E. McBee died May 22, 1902. She was born December 26, 1901.
- 1902 MALETA STAPP KLEISER – born September 23, 1816 died August 28, 1902. A plaque on her grave honors her as a “Real Daughter” of the American Revolution.
- 1903 ALBERT HILDRETH – born November

24, 1829, died March 28, 1903.

- 1903 ABNER CHENAULT BECK – the son of Judith Elizabeth Chenault Beck and John F. Beck, was born in Union County, Indiana, in April 1821, one account giving April 22nd. His gravestone reads April 22, 1821. He was married to Martha Rich Preston on April 23, 1840 in Union County, Indiana, and they were parents to 10 children. They moved to Cooke County, Texas from Indiana, presumably in the late 1800's and were prominent citizens of the community.
- 1904 JENNIE DELL GORDON – date of birth given on her gravestone, January 19, 1902 and date of death December 2, 1904.
- 1904 LOUISA SELLARS, born March 24, 1835, died March 15, 1904.
- 1904 T. MILTON VAN METER, born June 4, 1882, died March 31, 1904
- 1904 THOMAS LEE, son of J.C. Wilder is written on a stone, the child only living one day, born June 7, 1904, died June 8, 1904.
- 1904 GEORGE STEPHENSON, the grandfa-

ther of association member, Leck McLaughlin, was born April 13, 1832 and died December 27, 1904. He had been a farmer in the Era Community, and was a member of the Church of Christ.

- 1905 LENA MCCRANEY, born August 22, 1870, died February 1, 1905. On September 24, 1904, she had given birth to twin sons, Francis M. and George. The husband and father was D.C. McCraney. On March 3, 1905, George McCraney died and later that year on August 10, Francis McCraney died.
- 1905 MARY NANCY STEPHENSON, who was born May 31, 1856 died June 13, 1905.
- 1906 MARY AND JIMMIE DAYTON, the children of F. Hannan and Bertie A. Dayton, died in November, 1906, Jimmie, on November 15, and Mary on November 20. Mary was born September 2, 1900 and Jimmie's date of birth was February 18, 1904. They died of diphtheria, a then known dread disease. Their ancestors on the maternal side were the Beck and Stevens families.
- 1906 GEORGIA F., the daughter of V.T. and Tommie Anderson, died June 26, 1906, less than one year of age. She was born August 1, 1905.

- 1906 HENRIETTA HAND, born May 8, 1850, died January 22, 1906.
- 1907 GUSTAV LOREK, 1824-1907. We have no further information.
- 1907 MARY L. MORDAH, 1865-1907. No other information.
- 1908 THE STILLBORN INFANT OF J.W. AND D.H. MORGAN was buried July 21, 1908.
- 1908 BERTHA NEUBAUER 1857-1908
- 1908 WALTER A. HILDRETH, born June 25, 1888, died December 22, 1908 and was buried.
- 1909 WRIGHT F. STEVENS, born January 11, 1824, died July 4, 1909. He was the son of William and Mary Fouts Stevens and was born in Union County, Indiana. He married Celia Snyder in Union County, Indiana February 23, 1847. His son Isaac William Stevens is buried on a nearby plot. Other children were Mary Catherine Stevens LaFuze, Daniel Wallas Stevens, Steven Stevens, Melinda S. Stevens McGinnis, Lucinda A. Stevens Benham, Sampson Lewis Stevens, John Van Buren Stevens, Charles Benton Stevens, infant

daughter Stevens, Evaline J. Stevens Curtsinger, and James Marion Stevens. His descendents are active members of the Association.

- 1909 LILLIE A. HILDRETH, was born December 10, 1890 and died June 19, 1909.
- 1910 S.J. HUTCHENS 1831-1910. No further information given.
- 1910 Elma, the wife of F.A. Williams was born August 2, 1864 and died June 19, 1910.
- 1910 AMANDA CLEMENTINE, the wife of Lee B. Speake, was born December 13, 1865 and died June 5, 1910. She was the mother of eight children: Henry, John, Jim, Roy Herman, Lucien, Eugene, Clinton and Mary. None are surviving.
- 1910 DORA, the wife of J.W. Morgan, was born May 19, 1871, died January 25, 1910. She was a member of the Baptist Church. She died following (3 days) the birth of a child.
- 1910 WILLIAM H. WILDER, born May 5, 1910, died May 18, 1910.

- 1910 SUSAN E. WILDER, born November 7, 1867, died April 12, 1910
- 1910 FRANK M. MORDAH 1867 – 1910. There is no other information.
- 1910 THE INFANT SON OF J.W. AND D.H. MORGAN, stillborn, was buried January 22, 1910.
- 1911 SARAH JANE, the wife of J.P. Barnhart, was born August 25, 1837 and died December 6, 1911. The original cemetery bore their name.
- 1911 JOHN A. KNIGHT, born August 12, 1855, died December 21, 1911.
- 1911 ABRAM VAN METER, born May 20, 1839, died November 12, 1911. His gravestone tells us he was born in Kentucky and died in New Mexico. We do not know the date of burial in this cemetery.
- 1911 PRESTON ROSE, February 8, 1911, aged 66 years, 8 months is written on his monument. Preston Rose married Esadora Blessing and they had 6 children. Preston Rose ran a ferry on Red River. He came from Illinois.

- 1912 DUDLEY LEWIS, born September 7, 1908, died April 14, 1912.
- 1912 ABBIE S. GASTON, born March 20, 1851, died October 1, 1912.
- 1913 EULA HENDERSON STEGER, was born May 24, 1889 and died August 10, 1913.
- 1913 INEZ BUDLONG was born June 25, 1896 and died March 14, 1913. She was the daughter of Willis King Budlong and Carrie Brumbaugh Budlong.
- 1913 SYLVIA BUDLONG, another daughter of Willis K. and Carrie Budlong, died a short time after her sister, Inez, at the age of 14. Her date of birth was February 1, 1899 and date of death was May 10, 1913.
- Also shown on a marker on the Budlong Plot is BABY (GIRL) BUDLONG. She too, was a daughter of Willis K. and Carrie Budlong. No dates are shown.
- 1914 In "Stranger's Row", several deaths are recorded in 1914. First, the BURLESON CHILD, no other information is known. ROBINSON – 1914 is another and then there is MARVIN HATCHER

CHILD, 1914.

1914 BERNARD NEUBAUER, died in 1914.
Dates shown are 1855-1914.

1914 M.D.L. SELLARS, born July 2, 1831,
died January 14, 1914.

1915 MISS SALLY JIGOUT, born February
27, 1898, died March 9, 1915. The Jig-
outs were French and pronunciation
was Jig o.

1915 LAURA S., wife of H.S. Malone, born
November 28, 1854, died February 26,
1915. She was the daughter of William
Henry Clack and Harriet Maria Morris
Clack. She was married to Frank
Malone on January 5, 1876. She was
born in Kentucky and was a Methodist.
She was a sister of James Albert
Clack, also buried at Spring Creek.
Her children were Clarence Malone,
Ethel Malone, Hattie Malone Hewlett,
Laura Mae Malone, Maggie Malone,
Vergie Malone Tolbert, and two sons
named Frank.

1916 LIZZIE MCLAUGHLIN, born January 8,
1861, died June 14, 1916. She was
the mother of Leck McLaughlin.

1916 ELIZABETH STEPHENSON, born Feb-

- ruary 9, 1834, died March 21, 1916. She was born in England and was a member of the Church of England. Upon coming to the States, she joined the Church of Christ. She and her husband, George, were farmers in the Era community.
- 1917 REVEREND C.C. WHITE, born June 22, 1875, died January 4, 1917. He was a Baptist.
- 1917 CELIA STEVENS, born September 22, 1826, died January 21, 1917. This lady was this writer's great grandmother. She was born Celia Snyder in Union County, Indiana and was married there to Wright F. Stevens. Celia's parents were Isaac Snyder, born in Lee County, Virginia and Catherine Miller Snyder born in Carter County, Tennessee. Celia was the mother of Isaac William (Ike) Stevens, who is buried nearby.
- 1917 DORA BARTLETT, born April 30, 1884, died December 7, 1917.
- 1917 KATIE, wife of S.C. Gipson, born February 21, 1855, died December 5, 1917.
- 1918 In Stranger's Row, MR. CARRADINE'S GRANDCHILD. No other information is

available.

1918 TRAVIS ANDERSON 1891 – 1918. Travis was Cooke County's first son to lose his life while in training for the Army. He died at Camp Travis, San Antonio January 31, 1918 after an attack of pneumonia. He was born at Whitewright in Grayson County. At the age of 9, he moved with his parents to Cooke County, where they bought a farm 5 miles southwest of Gainesville. He was a single man. He was a member of the Church of Christ. Earl Jenkins, writing an obituary for Travis in the Gainesville paper at the time, stated he was a most noble man, with exemplary habits, lofty ideals, kind, and generous in all his dealings and was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him.

His funeral was held at his parent's home on a Saturday afternoon at 2 P.M. under the direction of George J. Carroll Funeral Home.

1918 W.C. HAND, born July 11, 1842, died December 17, 1918.

1919 In Stranger's Row, a stone with LAWRENCE BRACK'S INFANT, February 3, 1919.

- 1919 LALLA F. MORGAN, wife of J.W. Morgan, born April 12, 1870, died April 22, 1919.
- 1919 G.W. ANDERSON, born 1843, died 1919.
- 1919 JOHN V.B. STEVENS, born June 12, 1862, died May 9, 1919. Hugo Allmann remembered being a pall-bearer at John's funeral.
- 1919 GRACE GASTON, born October 8, 1888, died October 26, 1919.
- 1919 MARY FRANCIS WILSON, born December 22, 1842, died April 21, 1919. She was the mother of Joseph M. Wilson, buried nearby. Her husband was Daniel Wilson.
- 1920 No burials were recorded in the year 1920.
- 1921 J.C. MCLAUGHLIN, born October 27, 1902, died April 12, 1921.
- 1921 BOB WILDER, 1895 – 1921 reads his tombstone.
- 1921 HATTIE EUGENIA HILTON PENDLETON, was born in Rye Cove, Virginia
-

on January 14, 1878 and died on December 10, 1921 (possibly 1924). She married James M. Pendleton and they had eight children: Francis Charles, John Clyde, Elsie Laura, Leonard (Toby), Garland E., Ekel, Mary and Guy.

- 1921 W.K. BUDLONG, born August 7 1859, died November 10, 1921. His parents had been Robert and Eliza Budlong. Willis King Budlong was born in Albert Lea, Minnesota, and had also lived in Michigan before moving with his parents to Grayson County, Texas at the age of 16. Later, they moved to a farm 6 miles southwest of Gainesville in Cooke County, where he lived until his death. He was a member of the First Christian Church.
- 1922 STERLENA STEPHENSON, daughter of Tom and Murl Stephenson. Died March 27, 1922.
- 1923 S.C. GIPSON, born February 26, 1845, died February 6, 1923.
- 1923 BESSIE VONCILLE, was born and died on September 9, 1923. She was the infant daughter of Lawrence D. and Bessie Ritchie Gaston.
- 1923 J.A. CLACK, born October 1, 1840,

died December 21, 1923. James Alexander Clack was the son of William Wood Clack and Isabel Petty Clack. He was born in Barren County, Kentucky and had lived there and in Metcalf County, Kentucky before bringing his family to Texas in 1882. He and his wife, Susan Maria Morris Clack were the parents of 7 children. They were: John O. Clack, Jerman B. Clack, Henry P. Clack, Mary Elizabeth Clack Randle, Laura Belle Clack, Celia Pearl Clack Echols and Mattye Eugenia Clack. Mr. Clack was a well-known figure in Cooke County, being a pioneer settler. He always took an active part in community development. He served as Commissioner of the County for about 18 years. The cornerstone of the present Court House at Gainesville bears his name. During the time he was Commissioner, he was instrumental in getting the Spring Creek Road built. He was a Methodist.

1923

JAMES M. PENDLETON was born in Rye Cove, Virginia on October 4, 1870 and died August 13, 1923. He was married to Hattie Eugenia Hilton Pendleton. Their children were Francis Charles, John Clyde, Elsie Laura, Leonard (Toby), Garland E, Ekel, Mary, and Guy.

1924

EMILY DISHMAN, born June 20, 1891, was buried August 19, 1924. She was

the wife of Will Dishman.

- 1924 ANNIE E. VAN METER, born in Kentucky September 13, 1839, died September 11, 1924.
- 1925 THE WIFE OF T.M. CASON, born November 7, 1844, died November 6, 1925.
- 1925 SGT. W.J. CASON, Co. 1, 18 Tennessee Infantry CSA, born December 11, 1836, died January 20, 1925.
- 1926 ISAAC WILLIAM STEVENS, this writer's maternal Grandfather, was born in Union County, Indiana May 24, 1848 to Wright F. and Celia Snyder Stevens. He was married to Matilda Ermina Beck March 10, 1870 and they were the parents of 5 children: Abner Wright Stevens, Bertie Alesta Dayton, Katie M. Wilson, Mary Paul and Greta Nora Speake. One child, Zilla, died in infancy. He was a 32nd degree Mason, becoming a Master Mason in 1869. For many years, he lived in the Spring Creek Community, where he farmed, and became one of the first organizers of the Cemetery Association and served as the First Secretary. He died on June 6, 1926. A full Masonic funeral was held.

- 1927 ARMANTHA HOWSER, second wife of L.B. Speake, was born November 21, 1873, died and was buried November 29, 1927.
- 1927 PATRA ANN ALLEN, born February 10, 1841, died December 3, 1927.
- 1928 KATE M. KLEISER, born July 30, 1841, buried December 16, 1928.
- 1928 DOVIE INEZ, wife of S.M. Ownby, born July 29, 1906 died October 16, 1928.
- 1929 J.W. MORGAN, born January 10, 1864, died January 14, 1929. He was a member of the Baptist Church.
- 1930 ROXIE CAUBLE GALE, wife of Joe Gale, born October 8, 1883, died August 15, 1930.
- 1930 JAMES M. BATTENFIELD, born February 25, 1867, was buried March 4, 1930.
- 1931 LAURA BELL CLACK, born July 18, 1878, died March 15, 1931. Laura Bell or "Miss Laura", as she was known to her many friends was a single woman. Her parents were James Alexander Clack and Susan S. Morris Clack. A

quote from her obituary read "Miss Clack was born in Kentucky and came to Texas in her early childhood with her parents, residing in Era until 1917, when she came to Gainesville. She was dearly loved by her friends and was a splendid Christian woman."

1932

LEROY BASCUM (L.B.) SPEAKE was born March 28, 1857 at Paint Lick, Garrard County, Kentucky. He migrated to Texas, about 1872, with his mother, sister Sarah, and brother Lucien. They settled near the Fannin County and Delta County Line, between Dial and Pecan Gap. Mandy, his mother, whose real name was Mahala (Morris) remarried to a man named Dobbins. L.B.'s sister, "Sallie" (Sarah) married Joe Gibson.

Leroy married Amanda Clementine Watson on October 20, 1881, when he was 24 years old and she was 15. To them were born 8 children: Henry, Mary, Roy Herman, James, John, Lucien, Eugene and Robert Clinton. Lucien died at age 4. In 1901, L.B. moved his family to Cooke County. Amanda died in 1910. Leroy remarried to Armantha, who died in 1927. L.B. married a third time to "Tennie," who survived him at his death on December 9, 1932.

- 1933 No records of burials during this year.
- 1934 No records of burials during this year.
- 1935 WILLIAM BATTENFIELD was born October 23, 1861. His granddaughter, Anita Alexander, reports that her grandfather came to Texas from Pope County, Arkansas. He married Mary Elmira (Molly) Pyle, who died in 1895. They were married in Woodbine, Texas but later moved to the Spring Creek Community. He died January 1, 1935.
- 1936 JAMES STEPHENSON, born October 2, 1855, was buried January 5, 1936.
- 1937 GEORGE V. MCLAUGHLIN was born December 5, 1850 in Kentucky. He married Elizabeth Stephenson and they were the parents of 7 children, among them, Leck McLaughlin, a long time member of the Cemetery Association who has since passed away. The McLaughlins were members of the Church of Christ. George was buried February 10, 1937.
- 1938 MATILDA ERMINA BECK STEVENS, this writer's maternal grandmother, was born in Union County, Indiana on October 16, 1849. She was the daughter of Abner Chenault Beck and Martha Rich Preston Beck. She married Isaac Wil-

liam Stevens on March 10, 1870 and they were the parents of Abner Wright Stevens, Katie Matilda Stevens Wilson, Bertie Alesta Stevens Dayton, Mary Elizabeth Stevens Paul, Greta Nora Stevens Speake and a daughter Zilla Lester Stevens, who was born February 10, 1871 and died December 28, 1872. She is buried in Richland Cemetery, Union County, Indiana. Matilda was affectionately known to her family and close friends as "Til". She was very dedicated to the work of the Cemetery Association and was instrumental in money making projects to buy the chain link fence and gate, which still stands. Her hobbies were growing flowers and plants, knitting and piecing quilts. She died at her Gainesville, Texas home on July 7, 1938 at the age of 89. Her pallbearers were: Frank Morris, R. H. Young, Jack Howeth, W. H. "Hill" Campbell, Jim Reese and H. H. Hamilton.

- 1938 SAMPSON (SAM) LEWIS STEVENS, born 1860, died and was buried in 1938. Sam was a brother of I. W. (IKE) Stevens. Sam was a carpenter.
- 1939 STORER M. READY, born November 10, 1846, died August 24, 1939. We have no other information.
- 1939 ROY HERMAN SPEAKE, born March

13, 1888 in Fannin County, Texas, moved with his parents to Cooke County, Texas at the age of 13. His parents were Amanda Watson Speake and Leroy Bascum Speake. He married Miss Greta Nora Stevens on November 22, 1910 and they begat 11 children: Sterling Stevens Speake, Gladys Lucille Speake Sparkman, Mary Katherine Speake Martin, Mildred Mae Speake Hundley, Roy Herman Speake, Jr., Bertie Louise Speake Calhoun, Robert William Speake, Bette Eugenia Speake Anderson, Claude Everett Speake, Greta Sue Speake Wylie and Shirley Helen Speake Kennemer. Herman, as he was known, engaged in farming all of his life. He was a member of the Baptist Church, but attended the Spring Creek Methodist Church, where his funeral service was held. He died August 30, 1939. His pallbearers were four brothers: Henry, John, Clinton, and Eugene and two sons; Sterling and Roy, Jr.

- 1940 No records of burials during this year.
- 1941 MINNIE JOHNSON, born January 15, 1875, died February 28, 1941. We have no other information.
- 1941 SUDA GASTON, born September 3, 1886 in Wayne County, Kentucky. Her parents were John William Alexander

and Kizzie Troxell Alexander. Suda married Edward Newton Gaston and they were the parents of 5 children. She was a Methodist. The Gastons lived in Cooke County, in the Muenster, Myra and Hood Communities, and, lastly, in the Spring Creek Community.

- 1942 FRANK MALONE, born January 15, 1892, died February 8, 1942. He was a private in the 108th Infantry, 27th Division. Frank's parents were H. Frank Malone and Laura Susan Clack Malone. Frank was the second son of Frank and Laura, who bore his father's name. The first son named Frank died at the age of 14 months. Since the second son, who was born the next year and since he was born on the day his father died, Laura gave the second boy his father's name also.
- 1942 A headstone marked: L. D. GASTON 1885 – 1942.
- 1943 MELVIN WHITE, born April 19, 1900, died November 5, 1943. He was the son of C. C. White and Dora Gertrude White.
- 1944 SGT. ROY HERMAN SPEAKE, JR., born October 17, 1918 in the Downard Community, Cooke County, Texas, died June 6, 1944 (D-Day) in the European Theater of World War II. Roy was

with Company C, 506 Parachute Infantry, 101st Division. Roy's parents were Roy Herman and Greta Nora Stevens Speake. He grew up in the Spring Creek Community and was an active member of the Spring Creek Methodist Church.

1945 BROOKS F. DAYTON, born August 28, 1944, died January 18, 1945. Brooks was the infant son of Ogden Dayton.

1945 DAVID HOUSTON GURLEY was born December 23, 1911 in East Texas, the son of Dave and Ora Gurley. Houston served in the Armed Forces 11 years, first in the 9th Infantry and then transferred to the Air Corp. He was a Master Sergeant. He died June 8, 1945.

1947 AARON OGDEN DAYTON was born April 23, 1899 in Gainesville, Texas and served in World War I. He was the son of Fowler Hannan Dayton and Bertie Alesta Stevens Dayton. Aaron Ogden played football at Texas A & M and received an appointment to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. During his lifetime, he lived in Gainesville, Sherman, Valley View, Ropesville, Denton and Houston, Texas and Marion, Alabama. He first married Jo Lorene Miller of Sherman and his second wife was Bonnie Dell Fugate. His children were; Frances

Eloise Dayton Harvey, Hannan Edward Dayton, George Aaron Dayton and Brooks Fowler Dayton. Ogden died on December 19, 1947. He was a Baptist.

- 1947 JOSEPH MARTIN WILSON was born to Daniel and Mary Frances Wilson on October 14, 1870 in Texas. He died July 15, 1947. His children were Leroy Wilson, Martha Wilson Herin, Charles Wilson, Ermina Wilson and twins Rueben Wilson and Ruel Wilson. He was married to Katie Matilda Stevens.
- 1948 No records of burials during this year.
- 1949 JANE WEBB (MONTAGUE) ANDERSON was born in Tennessee September 22, 1859, the daughter of Thomas James Montague and Pricilla Jane Jackson Montague. She was the widow of George William Anderson, who is also buried at Spring Creek. Jane and George were the parents of 8 children. After George's death, Jane spent the remaining 30 years of her life living in Wichita Falls, Texas. Jane's parents died by the time she was 7 years old and she was raised by various relatives. She began teaching school when she was 17, usually in one-room schoolhouses. She moved to Denton County, Texas in early 1880. Records show that she taught at the Double Oak School for a time receiving sala-

ries ranging from \$35 to \$45 per month. Jane was a member of the Church of Christ.

1950 SARAH E. READY, born November 13, 1862, died September 5, 1950.

1950 GEORGE AARON DAYTON was born in Denton, Texas in 1939, the son of Aaron Ogden Dayton and Bonnie Dell Fugate Dayton. He died at the age of 11 on November 21, 1950.

1950 CARRIE BUDLONG was born September 1, 1866, died March 3, 1950. She was the widow of Willis King Budlong.

1950 WILLIAM M. PEARSON was born March 1, 1876 and died December 26, 1950. He was a farmer. He and his wife, Grace, had six children: Elizabeth Pearson Cook, William Pearson, Robert Pearson, Hugh Pearson, Dorothy Pearson Stanfield and Gerald Pearson.

1950 CELIA PEARL ECHOLS died May 24, 1950. She was the daughter of James Alexander Clack and Susan Morris Clack. She was born in Barron County, Kentucky and came to Texas at age 2, with her parents. They settled near Era where she was educated. In 1904, she married Samuel Lee Echols and they

were the parents of 3 children; Margaret, Alice and Raymond. She was a Methodist. Her date of birth was October 21, 1880.

1951 No records of burials during this year.

1952 No records of burials during this year.

1953 BERTIE ALESTA STEVENS DAYTON was born in Union County, Indiana on September 25, 1875, the daughter of Matilda E. Beck Stevens and Isaac William Stevens. She married Fowler Hannan Dayton and they were the parents of: Aaron Ogden Dayton, Mary Elnora Dayton, Frances Ermina Dayton Chapman, James Dayton, George Hannan Dayton and Greta Alesta Dayton Hughes. Bertie attended Spring Creek School and The Young Ladies Academy in Gainesville, Texas. She attended the Spring Creek Methodist Church until her marriage, then became a Presbyterian. She will be remembered for her handiwork such as doll making and doll clothes, among other crafts. One of her hobbies was crossword puzzles, which she was very adept at working.

1954 No records of burials during this year.

1955 No records of burials during this year.

- 1956 No records of burials during this year.
- 1957 No records of burials during this year.
- 1958 KATHERINE (KATE) CARTER HENDERSON was born in Kentucky on January 25, 1869 and died November 17, 1958. She was the widow of Albert S. Henderson. They moved to Valley View, Texas from Van Alstyne, Texas and bought 450 acres from Bill Daugherty. She was a member of the Church of Christ.
- 1959 No records of burials during this year.
- 1960 FOWLER HANNAN DAYTON was born on March 12, 1872 in Breckenridge, Illinois, the son of Dr. Aaron Ogden Dayton and Elnora Mariah Hannan Dayton. He married Bertie Alesta Stevens and they were the parents of 6 children. He died October 12, 1960. He had been a charter member of the Cooke County, Texas School Board and served on that organization for 30 years. Prior to the formation of the Cooke County, Texas School Board, he served on the Valley View, Texas School Board. He taught school at one time at Prairie Grove, Texas. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Woodmen Of The World.

- 1961 No records of burials during this year.
- 1962 WILL DISHMAN, born June 27, 1891, died May 30, 1962.
- 1962 KATIE MATILDA STEVENS WILSON was born March 17, 1873 in Liberty, Indiana. She moved to Cooke County, Texas as a small child with her parents, Isaac and Matilda Stevens. She married Joe M. Wilson on November 18, 1894 and they were the parents of 6 children. They lived in Valley View, Texas for 60 years. She was a Methodist. Death came October 11, 1962 and her services were held at the Vernie Keel Chapel in Gainesville, Texas.
- 1963 NEWT GASTON was born March 19, 1881 and died August 9, 1963. He was a Methodist. His full legal name was EDWARD NEWTON GASTON, but he was always known as NEWT. His parents were Edward Baxter and Amanda Sophia Wynne Gaston, and they lived in the Muenster/Myra/Hood Area. Newt was married to Suda Alexander and after her death he moved to Fort Worth, Texas and for a time lived in Stephenville, Texas.
- 1963 SAMUEL LEE ECHOLS, the son of S. P. and Frances Atkins Echols was born March 9, 1876 and died March 3, 1963. He was born in Lamar County, Texas
-

and had lived in Denton County at Sanger, Texas and in Cooke County at Valley View, Texas and Gainesville, Texas. Mr. Echols was a farmer, but records show that in 1910, he went into the grocery business with his brother-in-law, H. P. Clack. He moved to Gainesville in 1922 and worked for Grammar Brothers Grocery. Later, he worked for L. L. Seagraves Grocery Store.

1964 ELZADA H. SPEAKE, the wife of Henry Speake, died in Gainesville, Texas on February 5, 1964. She was born June 6, 1893. She was the Mother of Dwight and Vincent Speake.

1964 EUGENE SPEAKE was born May 15, 1900 and died August 8, 1964. He was the son of Lee B. and Amanda C. Speake. "Gene" was a graduate of the Texas State School For The Blind in Austin, Texas.

1964 JOHNNY C. LEWIS, born April 10, 1918, died August 24, 1964. His tombstone reads TEC/4 473 QM Truck Company, WWII.

1965 No records of burials during this year.

1966 No records of burials during this year.

- 1967 No records of burials during this year.
- 1968 No records of burials during this year.
- 1969 No records of burials during this year.
- 1970 MARVIN BARTLETT was born April
11, 1884 and died June 8, 1969.

REORGANIZATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

During a holiday visit to my mother, Greta Speake, in late November, 1969, she and I made a short trip to the Spring Creek Cemetery. We found it to be in a deplorable state, with weeds and grass knee high and some tombstones fallen. Mother was greatly distressed and wondered what could be done to restore this once serene and beautiful place. We decided to go into Gainesville and talk with Miss Mattye Clack, who was the last Secretary / Treasurer of the now defunct Spring Creek Cemetery Association. The three of us decided that something must be done about the cemetery, and among us, we would inquire from the County, State and Federal Governments if assistance could be expected from any of these sources. It was placed upon my shoulders (being the youngest, I suppose) to write letters to the Department of Interior, Congressman Graham Purcell, First State Bank of Gainesville President William Lewis and Cooke County Judge William Carroll. All of the aforementioned responded negatively.

Thinking of my mother's despair of the situation, I proceeded to reorganize the association by sending out announcements to twenty six families (and enclosing several announcements for them to give out) that we would have a reorganizational meeting on Saturday, October 3, 1970 at the Spring Creek Methodist Church. Fifty three persons attended this meeting, among them Miss Clack. She brought with her all the old records she had, and these were given to Claude Speake, who was elected the new President.

During his Presidency, Claude Speake walked through the entire cemetery recording names and dates on the Tombstones which proved to be a tremendous asset in assembling the needed information for this book.

Gerald Pearson was elected Secretary / Treasurer.

The newly elected Board of Trustees consisted of:

Hugh Morgan
Isaac Stevens
Leroy Wilson
Robert Speake
John Speake

It was decided at this meeting to continue holding meetings the first Saturday in May and the first Saturday in October of each year.

Among those expressing concern of the cemetery and voicing their support of the reorganization were:

Irl Budlong
Miss Mattye Clack
Ermina Wilson
Greta Speake
Isaac Stevens

An announcement of the intent to reorganize appeared in the Gainesville Daily Register July 20, 1970 and they also ran an article the week of October 10, 1970. The Denton Record-Chronicle also reported the event.

Since the reorganization, many of the staunch supporters of the Spring Creek Cemetery have deceased. Miss Mattye Clack died before the next meeting in 1971. Others include:

Hugo Allmann*
Hugh Morgan
Lillian Allmann*
Grace Pearson*
Agnes Anderson*
Annell Rankin
Carl A. Braun*
Dwight L. Speake*

Mary Stevens Braun*
Greta Stevens Speake*
Nadine Speake Bridges
Henry B. Speake*
Annette Budlong
John W. Speake
Irl Budlong
Isaac F. Stevens*
Gordon G. Cook*
Ermina Wilson*
Martha Herin
Izetta Wilson
Greta Dayton Hughes
Leroy Wilson
Ivan T. Martin*
Billy Jack Wylie*
Leck McLaughlin
Dr. Sandra McCormick / Yates*

*Denotes those listed above who are buried in the Spring Creek Cemetery and included in the following listing.

- 1971 GRACE PEARSON, the wife of WILLIAM M. PEARSON was born July 15, 1885 and died June 16, 1971. The Pearson's had six children: Elizabeth Pearson Cook, William Pearson, Robert Pearson, Hugh Pearson, Dorothy Pearson Stanfield and Gerald Pearson.
- 1972 No records of burials during this year.
- 1973 CHARLES E. WILSON was born November 16, 1900 in Cooke County, Texas. He died in 1973. He was married to Lois Theal Clay Wilson and they had a daughter, Lois Gwendolyn. He attended Austin College in Sherman, Texas. He was the son of Joe M. and

Katie M. Wilson.

- 1974 GORDON G. COOK was born August 17, 1902 and died May 18, 1974. He was the husband of Elizabeth Pearson Cook.
- 1974 HENRY B. SPEAKE was born November 6, 1882 at Dial in Fannin County, Texas. He moved to Cooke County, Texas in 1901. He was a farmer. He died September 29, 1974. He was married to Elzada H. Speake and they had two sons, Vinson F. Speake and Dwight L. Speake.
- 1974 DWIGHT L. SPEAKE was born February 10, 1921 and died November 24, 1974. He was a Private First Class in the United States Army and served in the South Pacific during World War II. He was the son of Henry B. and Elzada H. Speake.
- 1975 LILLIAN F. ALLMANN was born June 13, 1890 and died December 15, 1975. She was the second wife of Hugo Allmann.
- 1976 AGNES ANDERSON was born in 1893 and died in 1976.
- 1976 GRETA NORA STEVENS SPEAKE

was born May 25, 1890 in the Spring Creek Community, Cooke County, Texas. She was the daughter of Isaac William Stevens and Matilda Ermina Beck Stevens. She was a school teacher for a few years before and after her marriage to Roy Herman Speake on November 22, 1910. They had eleven children: Sterling Speake, Gladys Sparkman, Mary K. Martin, Mildred Hundley, Roy Speake, Jr., Bertie Calhoun, Robert Speake, Bette Anderson, Claude Speake, Greta Wylie and Shirley Kennemer.

- 1977 No records of burials during this year.
- 1978 VERA HENDERSON ATCHLEY was born in 1891 and died in 1978.
- 1979 No records of burials during this year.
- 1980 No records of burials during this year.
- 1981 No records of burials during this year.
- 1982 CARL A. BRAUN was born August 18, 1920 and died December 5, 1982. He was the husband of Mary Stevens Braun. He served in the United States Navy during World War II.

- 1983 No records of burials during this year.
- 1984 VINSON F. SPEAKE was born in Gainesville, Texas on June 23, 1919 and died September 30, 1984. He was a Private First Class in the United States Army and served in the South Pacific during World War II.
- 1985 HUGO P. ALLMANN was born September 27, 1885 and died April 22, 1985. He was a lifelong farmer. His first wife was Mabel Stevens Allmann and they had five children: Louise, Cora Lee, Virginia, Jack, and Bill. After Mabel's death, he married Lillian. Hugo was known for his remarkable memory.
- 1986 No records of burials during this year.
- 1987 No records of burials during this year.
- 1988 IVAN THERON MARTIN was born in the Era Community, Cooke County, Texas on November 7, 1911 and died November 13, 1988. He married Mary Katherine Speake on October 15, 1932. They had two daughters: Dorothy Jean Martin and Greta Katherine Lowrie. He was a member of the I.O.O. F. Lodge #82 and a faithful member of the Spring Creek Cemetery Association.

- 1989 BILLY JACK WYLIE was born in Gainesville, Texas on January 31, 1928 and died on January 7, 1989. He was the son of Walter S. and Zola Armstrong Wylie. He married Greta Sue Speake on October 5, 1947. They had two children: Joe Walter Wylie and Carol Sue Wylie Hunter. He was a Private First Class in the United States Army and served in the South Pacific. He was a faithful member of the Spring Creek Cemetery Association.
- 1989 Dr. SANDRA JO MCCORMICK / YATES was born in Denton, Texas on November 14, 1956 and died on May 1, 1989. She had one son, James Cyrus McCormick. She graduated from the University of Texas Medical School at Galveston.
- 1989 MAMIE B. STEPHENSON was born on June 2, 1902 and died February 14, 1989.
- 1990 ISAAC F. STEVENS was born in Cooke County, Texas on January 22, 1921 and died on June 27, 1990. He was the son of Abner W. and Mamie Enderby Stevens. He married Theresa Samek on January 27, 1946 and they had five children: Sarah Stevens Cain, Isaac Stevens, Betty Stevens White, Michael Stevens and infant John Abner Stevens, who died in 1962. Isaac was a

lifelong farmer-rancher in the Spring Creek Community and received the Outstanding Farmer Award in 1963 and the Claude Jones Award in 1974. He was a faithful member of the Spring Creek Cemetery Association.

1990 ERMINA MATILDA WILSON, was born on September 26, 1905 and died December 31, 1990. She was the daughter of Joe M. and Katie M. Wilson.

1991 MARY ENDERBY STEVENS BRAUN was born April 25, 1916 and died January 3, 1991. She was the daughter of Abner W. and Mamie Enderby Stevens. Mary was married to Martin King Welch and they had a son, Abner Levi Welch. She later married Carl A. Braun. Mary was a school teacher for over forty years.

1991 ELIZABETH PEARSON COOK was born February 23, 1911. She died October 25, 1991. She was the daughter of William N. and Grace Knight Pearson. She married David H. Gurley in 1937 and they had one child, David R. Gurley. After the death of her husband in 1943, she returned to Gainesville, Texas to make her home while her son attended school. She married Gordon Cook in 1949 and they moved to Tucson, Arizona where they lived until 1958, when they moved to Fort Worth,

Texas. Gordon Cook died in 1975. She continued to make her home in Fort Worth, Texas until her death. She was an active member of the Connell Baptist Church.

An event of national attention occurred in the Spring Creek Cemetery at the time of the May 6, 1989 Spring Creek Cemetery Association meeting. The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) honored a "Real Daughter", Maleta Stapp Kleiser who was buried there almost eighty seven years earlier. Thus, ended a long and tedious search by one of the DAR members for the only "Real Daughter" buried in Texas. Quite a delegation attended the service, at which time a plaque was placed on her grave.

This concludes my saga of the burials and events concerning the Spring Creek Cemetery.

BERTIE L. CALHOUN