



PRESERVATION NEWS

Newsletter of the Wichita County Historical Commission

Volume LXV

Robert Palmer, Chairman

October 1, 2015

Wichita County Archives

720 Indiana Avenue

Wichita Falls, Texas 76301

Hours of Operation: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:00am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Telephone 940-763-0020

E-mail Address - archives@co.wichita.tx.us

AGENDA FOR MEETING

Lunch at 11:30am Meeting 12:00 Noon - 1:00pm

1. Call to Order 2. Introduction of Guests 3. Business 4. Program 5. Adjourn

Monthly Meeting: Location: **The Country Club**. Price for the luncheon is **\$17.00 each** which includes: salads, main course, vegetables, drink & dessert. Please bring the correct change.

Reservations: Call the **Archives (763-0020)** and leave your name and number of reservations on the voice mail up thru Wednesday prior to the meeting. Call the Archives Wednesday (763-0020 or 322-7628) if you have a change of plans.

PROGRAM

Kenneth Johanan

Christians Escaping From Iran 1914 – 1915

From the Desk of Robert Palmer -

Americans and Texans, throughout history, have faced the terrible-ness, but sometimes necessity, of war with an opportunity to express their love of country, people, and thought through the expression of songs. We associate many historically popular songs with certain wars.

The American Revolution was fought at a time when the people of America were still clinging to the European heritage, but at the same time, beginning to realize they had become something distinctly new. The song YANKEE DOODLE was originally a British melody that satirized British soldiers. With significant changes in wordage, it became a popular American tune. The Civil War really charged emotions and the songs reflected it. DIXIE was written in the 1850s and is generally credited to Daniel Emmert of Ohio. It became popular during the War because it created a close tie with home for the Confederate Soldiers. THE BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC was written by Juliet Ward Howe to the tune of JOHN BROWN'S BODY. Howe's version was originally intended to be a song about the final judgment of God. One of the most interesting Civil War song's was AURA LEE. It was the first war song that played on the love of a girl left behind. This theme would show up in all major wars fought after that. It was written by W.W. Fosdick and George Poulton. It was rewritten and renamed LOVE ME TENDER for Elvis Presley's first movie. WHEN JOHNNY COMES MARCHING HOME AGAIN was written by Patrick Gilmore in 1863 and reversed the idea of love gone away by describing the girl at home missing the soldier at war.

ROUND HER NECK SHE WORE A YELLOW RIBBON appeared in a John Wayne movie about The Indian wars of the 1870s. It was, however, a popular song about The U.S. Army written by George Norton in 1817. It was taken from many earlier versions.

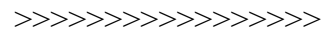
World War I brought a flood of songs. IT'S A LONG, LONG WAY TO TIPPERARY described how separating war can be. Tipperary is a town in Southern Ireland. The song was written by actor Jack Judge for a vaudeville performance, but became a symbol of the war. YOU'RE A GRAND OLD FLAG was written by Civil War veteran George M. Cohan. Unbelievably, he was criticized because many thought the song insulted the flag. Changing America was shown in the song HOW YOU GONNA KEEP THEM DOWN ON THE FARM...after they've seen Paree? After the first war, America

began the slow move from the rural to the urban. Sam Lewis and Joe Young wrote the song in 1919.

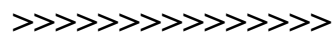
World War II produced many songs because of the now emergence of movies and popular singers. This didn't lessen the greatness of the songs, many of which are still sung. I'LL BE SEEING YOU was written before the war in 1938 by Irving Kahal and Sammy Fain, but became very popular during the war because of the version sung by Frank Sinatra. Again, it described the loneliness and separation of war. It added the theme of hope. DON'T SIT UNDER THE APPLE TREE added a new theme about devotion. Written just before the war, it became enormously popular when the Andrews sisters sung it in the movie, "Private Buckaroo". Without question the greatest war song ever is GOD BLESS AMERICA. First written by Irving Berlin while he was in World War I, it hit the American home and at war when Kate Smith began to perform it. It is rapidly becoming one of the most sung songs.

Viet Nam changed the theme of war songs in a way that could not have been imaged just short years before. I was a young First Lieutenant in 1968 and my fellow officers and I would have long discussions about, "Where is America headed?" The protest song had taken all of us by surprise.

We were dealing with a kind of soldier that America had never seen. BLOWIN' IN THE WIND was written by Bob Dylan in 1962 and recorded in 1963. It raised questions about war, peace, and freedom. The answer, "Blowin' in the Wind" was ambiguous. Dylan said, later, that, "even us hip people don't know the answer". It really typified the new idea of challenge everything and don't accept anything. The Viet Nam era song I like best is TIE A YELLOW RIBBON ROUND THE OLD OAK TREE. It portrayed all the old themes and had an uplifting feeling. That's what we all need.



Question of the Month



What Burkburnett resident is remembered for not investing in the Fowler Well?

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Wording for the **Zale** marker has gone back to state. Second correction on the **Perkins** marker wording has been sent. The **Bethania** marker dedication is waiting for United Regional to set the date. A minor correction was made on the **Dr. Fuller** wording and is awaiting state approval. A marker citing the integration of the MSU campus was approved for Undertold Marker funding.

Museum of North Texas History Upcoming Events

Still on Pointe, History of the Wichita Falls Ballet will open Thursday, October 1 with a dinner.

Our first in a series honoring **Hometown Legends** will take place on Tuesday, October 20 with **Nat Fleming** as the honoree. **Branding Iron** is serving their special fare.

City Lights is November 21 and we need volunteers to be present in each venue.

TEXANS AND PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS

According to Smart Politics, Sam Houston was the first Texan to seek the presidency, as an independent in 1852. Other early notables: Houston entrepreneur and Democratic National Committee Finance Director Jesse Jones in 1928 and U.S. Speaker of the House John Nance Garner in 1932 and 1940. Garner eventually became Vice President under Franklin D. Roosevelt. (Garner also made a somewhat off-color description of the Office of the Vice President.)

Sixteen years after Garner's last bid for the POTUS post, Lyndon B. Johnson gave it the ol' college try. After a couple runs and cinching the No. 2 spot under John F. Kennedy, we all know how that turned out.

Though he's perhaps more associated with Kansas, Dwight D. Eisenhower was born in Denison, on the northern edge of Texas.

Remember Ross Perot? The Texas billionaire famously made an independent bid in 1992 and a third-party bid in 1996. According to Smart Politics, Perot's 18.9 percent share in the 1992 general election was the best showing by a non-major party candidate since Theodore Roosevelt in 1912. Also, he was super into graphs and charts.

(From the Austin-American Statesman)

Since 1956, the Texas contenders for president have been: Lyndon Baines Johnson, 1956 (won delegates at Democratic convention), 1960, 1964, 1968 (name included on some primary ballots); Lloyd Bentsen, 1976; George H.W. Bush, 1980, 1988, 1992; John Connally, 1980; Ross Perot as a third-party independent, 1992, 1996; Ron Paul, 1988 (Libertarian Party nominee), 1992 (created an exploratory committee), 2008, 2012; Phil Gramm, 1996; George W. Bush, 2000, 2004; Rick Perry, 2012; and Ted Cruz, 2016.

(Dallas Morning News)