

Winter 2012

Volume 14, Issue 2

# DuVal Family Association

Incorporated in Virginia in 1999

## **Important News**

- The Reunion
- Time to Pay Dues

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## Remember the Alamo! And The DFA Reunion!



*The Battle of Goliad Monument – (Photo Courtesy Ken Pfeiffer)*

## **Highlights for This Reunion**

- Reception and dinner (included in the registration)
- Trip to Goliad to see a re-enactment of the Battle of Coleto
- Interesting presentations about DuVal family members
- Opportunities to meet other DuVal family cousins

*Have you registered for the next DFA Reunion?  
Come join us in San Antonio, TX March 21-23, 2013.  
Make your reservation soon to get our special rate at  
the Hotel Indigo at the Alamo.  
Call the hotel at 210-933-2000  
And complete and send  
the enclosed registration form to James DuVal!*

## The Texas Revolution – Part III – by Ken Pfeiffer

The Goliad Massacre, March 27, 1836

After the Battle of Coleto and the surrender of Fannin's Command the prisoners were marched back to the fort at Goliad. The prisoners were kept in cramped quarters and fed bare subsistence rations for about a week.

Chapters VIII and IX

" On the morning of the 27th of March a Mexican officer came to us and ordered us to get ready for a march. He told us we were to be liberated "on parole" and that arrangements had been made to send us to New Orleans on board vessels then at Copano...When all was ready we were formed into three divisions and marched out under a strong guard... and the division to which my company was attached (moved) along the road leading to San Antonio... It occurred to me that this division of our men into three squads, and marching us off in three directions was a rather singular maneuver, but still had no suspicion of the foul play intended us. When about a mile above town, a halt was made and the guard on the side next to the river filed around to the opposite side. Hardly had this maneuver been executed, when I heard a heavy firing of musketry in the directions taken by the other two divisions. Some one near me exclaimed "Boys! They are going to shoot us!" and at the same instant I heard the clicking of musket locks all along the Mexican line. I turned to look, and as I did so the Mexicans fired upon us, killing probably one hundred of the one hundred fifty men in the division."

"We were in the double file and I was in the rear rank. The man in front of me was shot dead, and in falling he knocked me down. I did not get up for a minute and when I rose to my feet, I found that the whole Mexican line had charged over me, and were in hot pursuit of those who had not been shot and who were fleeing towards the river about five hundred yards distant. I followed on after them, for I knew that escape in any direction (all open prairie) would be impossible."

He made his way through the confused killing barely missed being bayoneted and swam the river under heavy fire. He joined up with two others and dodged patrols of Mexican lancers to make their escape. Back at the fort he later learned the fate of the others.

"Our own wounded men...were carried out to the square of the fort, and there cruelly butchered by the guard... Col. Fannin... was notified to prepare for immediate execution. He merely observed that he was ready then, as he had no desire to live after the cold blooded, cowardly murder of his men. He was thereupon taken out into the square by a guard, where he was seated on a bench, and his eyes blindfolded... I was told he drew a fine gold watch from his pocket, and handing it to the officer in command...requested him as a last favor to order his men to shoot him in the breast and not in the head. The officer took the watch, and immediately order the guard to fire at his head. Col. Fannin fell dead and his body was thrown into one the ravines near the fort."

*Continued on page 6*

A Successful Woman in Vulgar Times –

Elizabeth Paschal O'Connor (1853-1931) (S\*)

Although few remember her today, Elizabeth made national and international news many times in her life for reasons both notable and notorious.

A brief marriage to Franklin Harrison Gassaway ended abruptly when Gassaway left for California to become a distinguished poet under the pseudonym of “Derrick Dodson,” leaving an infant son born on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of 1874. In late May 1880 the following appeared in several national newspapers:

**A Washington Beauty with a History.**

“A most distressing affair recently occurred in the suicide of Captain Edward Wright, son of Judge “Jack” Wright, who was recently convicted and fined for his assault on Secretary Delano...Two years ago [Captain Wright] met at the Arkansas Hot Springs the beautiful Bessie Paschal, daughter of a noted Texas lawyer and divorced wife of Frank Gassaway. A more fascinating and lovely woman is seldom seen than she, and after a two weeks’ acquaintance they were married. Three months ago they separated, and since then Captain Wright has been depressed and gloomy. After a painful interview with her last week they parted finally, she winging her way to Philadelphia and fresh fortunes, and he ending his unhappy life by a pistol shot from his own hand. The career of his wife has been something remarkable. Seldom outside of novels and old memoirs do we know of a woman exerting such power over men by the mere spell of beauty. Graybeards and callow youths have worshipped her, and grave politicians and professional men have gone wild. As a young lady she was a belle, and as a lovely widow she exerted a more potent power. Don Cameron at one time was announced as about to marry her, and the list of his comrades is a long one. A graceful and perfect figure, great, sad, pathetic eyes, fine features and a most lovely smile first impress one on seeing her; but the indescribable charm, the strange fascination of her ways, the witchery and magic of her, are too evanescent and intangible for prose...As a figure in the social world she is destined to reappear, and those who have watched the amazing incidents of her life since she first entered Washington a precocious young witch of sixteen will not be surprised at any sequel.”



*“In these vulgar times, it's far better to be a vulgar successful woman than an unsuccessful lady”*

*~ Elizabeth O'Connor  
(1910)*

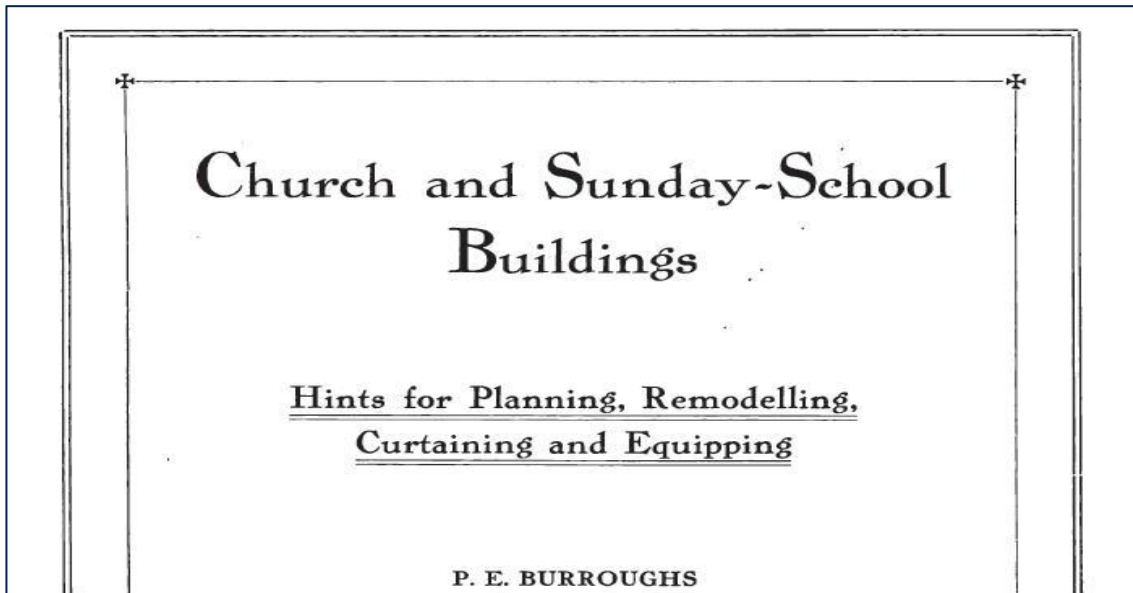
Elizabeth Paschal Gassaway Wright O'Connor was Daniel's 3<sup>rd</sup> great-granddaughter through his son Samuel (William, William Pope/Marcia Pope)

## Lemons, Lemonade and the Reverend Dr. Prince Emanuel Burroughs

It was late 1908, and Prince Emanuel Burroughs, minister of Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas used part of his 37<sup>th</sup> birthday to apply for a passport to take his wife on the trip of a life time – to the Holy Land!

The couple returned from the trip to find that the most disastrous fire in the history of North Texas had destroyed much of Fort Worth's South Side, including Broadway Baptist Church.

Broadway Baptist Church still remembers how much he did to help restore their church and in 1919, he wrote a book.



*And the first line in his book?*



*"If the old building has burned or collapsed or been blown away or has otherwise been suddenly rendered unfit for use, it is usually easy to start the movement for a new building."*

A man who made great lemonade from lemons!

\*Reverend Dr. Prince Emanuel Burroughs (1871-1948) was Daniel's 4<sup>th</sup> great-grandson through his son Daniel (James Thompson/ Benjamin James/John A/Virginia Susan)

## Meet Your New DFA Board Member

### ROBERTS JOINS DFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thomas DuVal Roberts II was confirmed as Vice President by vote of the Board of Directors during the Board meeting in April. Tom comes to us after having completed his Army career as an infantry colonel, and more recently having retired from ownership of several franchises in the disaster restoration industry. Raised as an “Army Brat,” Roberts graduated from the US Military Academy at West Point, NY and served as commander of airborne, mechanized infantry and special forces units in the United States, Southeast Asia and Europe. His service included three tours in Vietnam—two with the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) and one with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. He also served two tours in command of mechanized infantry units in Germany. His staff assignments included a tour at Headquarters, Department of the Army, at The Pentagon. After retiring from active military duty, Tom and his wife Marty invested in a disaster restoration franchise, and over the next fourteen years, grew the business to include three franchises, all in the State of Maryland. They have a daughter and son who live with their families in Charlotte and Richmond, respectively. As retirement approached again, Tom and Marty moved to establish their roots in Williamsburg, VA...in “DuVal Country.” Tom has an abiding interest in genealogical research, and enjoys the prospect of being useful to the Association while pursuing his personal interests at the same time.



# DuVal Family Association

## **The Texas Revolution** *(continued from page 2)*

The bodies of all those killed outside the fort were left to rot. Their remains were collected by the victorious Texan Army that returned to the area several weeks later. With no way to identify what was left, they were placed in a common grave just outside the fort. Many years later a monument was erected with the names of all the killed, including our cousin, Burr DuVal.

Although the battle cry "Remember the Alamo" is famously remembered, at the San Jacinto on April 21st 1836 "REMEMBER GOLIAD!!" was resounded with even more passion because the Alamo Defenders knew what was coming. The victims of the treacherous "Massacre at Goliad" did not. Our cousin John Crittenden DuVal led a long life full of adventures including service in the Confederate Army, enlisting when he was 48 years old. He wrote of his time with his friend "Big Foot" Wallace in the Texas Rangers in his book "The Adventures of Big Foot Wallace". As a result he was recognized as one of Texas' first men of letters. He died in Ft. Worth, Texas in 1897 at the age of 81.

### **Nomination Time for Board Members**

Every reunion also brings nominations for new board members!  
Board members serve for two years.

### **ELECTION OF ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

As provided in the By-Laws of the DuVal Family Association (DFA), an election of the Board of Directors of the Association will be held during the general meeting at the Reunion this coming spring (March, 2013) in San Antonio, TX.

Positions to be filled or re-elected are:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NAME OF INCUMBENT</u>
President	Ken Pfeiffer
Vice President	Tom Roberts
Treasurer	Jim DuVal
Secretary	Dorothy Nelson
Registrar	Joan Thomas
Genealogist	Joseph Hayes
Historian	Deana Snow
At-Large	Sarah DuVal (temporary as newsletter editor)
At-Large	Patricia Koenig
At-Large	Sue Blair

The general membership is hereby canvassed to provide recommendations to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee [Tom Roberts] or to Nominating Committee Member, Dorothy Nelson, not later than March 1, 2013. Nominations may also be submitted from the floor for any positions being filled.

To be elected, nominated candidates must be DFA Regular Members (not Associate Members) in good standing. The term of service is for two years.

Recommendations for candidates may be submitted by email to: [tdrii0@aol.com](mailto:tdrii0@aol.com) or to [nelsonno@bellsouth.net](mailto:nelsonno@bellsouth.net)

## **Elizabeth Paschal O'Connor – A Successful Woman**

*Continued from page 3*

In fact, she reappeared quickly with many surprise sequels. In New York, after a brief stint as an actress, cut short by illness, she worked for several years as a journalist for the New York World, until 1885, when she met and married T. P. O'Connor, powerful Irish politician of the day and moved to London. The press continued to laud her for her feminine charms and also her intelligence. For decades she made national news when she returned to the United States as play writer and outspoken advocate of women's suffrage. But she continued to be a woman of surprise and mystery. After her first husband left her, she renamed her son Francis Gassaway Howard and refused to name his father. A biography of her grandson published in 2007 details the anguished years of his search to discover the identity of his grandfather. He was a brilliant poet and much more, but that's another story.

## Contact Us!

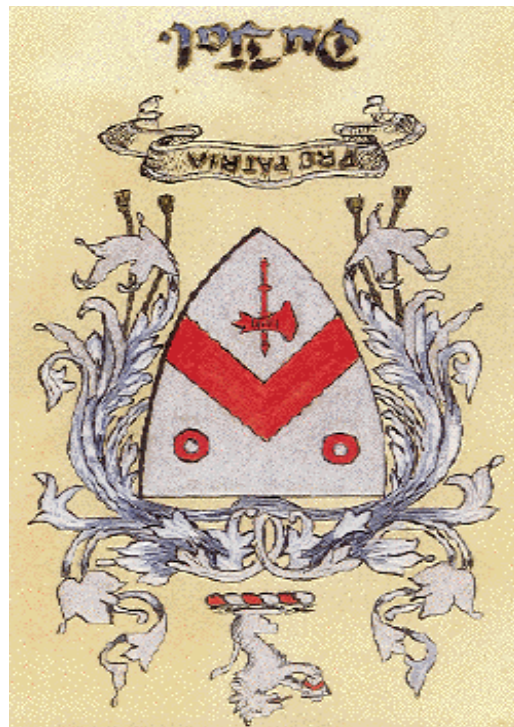
Ken Pfeiffer, President, [pfeiffer327@gmail.com](mailto:pfeiffer327@gmail.com)  
Tom Roberts, Vice-President [tdrii0@aol.com](mailto:tdrii0@aol.com)  
Dorothy Nelson, Secretary, [nelsonno@bellsouth.net](mailto:nelsonno@bellsouth.net)  
Jim Duval, Treasurer, [jimduval1@verizon.net](mailto:jimduval1@verizon.net)  
Joan Thomas, Registrar, [jd.thomas225@verizon.net](mailto:jd.thomas225@verizon.net)  
Joseph Hays, Genealogist, [allenhurst1872@gmail.com](mailto:allenhurst1872@gmail.com)  
Deana Snow, Historian, [nahm@aol.com](mailto:nahm@aol.com)  
Pat Koenig, Board Member, [paduval@mac.com](mailto:paduval@mac.com)  
Sue Blair, Board Member, [sblair55@aol.com](mailto:sblair55@aol.com)  
Sarah DuVal, Board Member, [sarahduval@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahduval@hotmail.com)

The DFA is on the Web!

[www.duvalfamilyassociation.org/](http://www.duvalfamilyassociation.org/)

# DuVal Family Association

SARAH A DUVAL  
POB 153  
ADAIRVILLE, KY 42202-0153





# DuVal Family Association

## Membership Renewal Form

Name _____
Address _____
Phone and E-mail _____
<u>Rates</u>
Active, Associate* and Allied** members: \$10.00 per year. *Associate members are usually the spouse of an active member **Allied members are those who support the missions of the DFA but cannot provide proof of lineage to Daniel DuVal.
Family (entire household including children): \$25.00 per year.
Checks payable to DFA and mailed to James Duval, Sr., 3123-B Stony Point Rd., Richmond, VA 23235.

2013 DFA Reunion Registration  
Thursday, March 21 – Saturday March 23, 2013  
San Antonio, Texas

DFA Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Names \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

( ) Yes, we plan to go to Goliad to see the re-enactment of the Battle of Coleto on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Amount enclosed for registration (\$45.00 each includes reception and dinner) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send Membership Renewals and Reunion Registrations to: Jim Duval, 3123-B Stony Point Rd.,  
Richmond, VA 23235