

November 8, 2012

#### Dear Family Land Heritage Honorees:

It is my great pleasure and honor to welcome you to Austin for your well-deserved recognition as part of the 37th Annual Family Land Heritage ceremony. Today, in this historic House Chamber, I am reminded of our ancestors who came to Texas in search of a better life for themselves and their children. They created the foundation upon which each following generation of Texans has been able to build its dreams. They survived adversity through courage, fortitude and ingenuity, and their stories of survival and success make Texas what it is today – a nationwide leader in agriculture, an industry that provides more than \$100 billion to our state's economy.

For the past 100 years or more, you and those who came before you have made agriculture a way of life and, in turn, have made Texas a state rich in history and productivity.

Congratulations on receiving this momentous designation. I am pleased to add your name to our honor roll of Family Land Heritage recipients. You join an elite group of hardworking Texas men and women who help produce the safest, most abundant and most affordable food and fiber in the world.

On behalf of the Texas agriculture industry and the Texas Department of Agriculture, thank you for your tireless contributions. Best wishes to each of you as you continue to nurture the legacy of Texas with the next chapter in your historic operation.

Sincerely yours,

Jodd Dapler

Todd Staples

#### COMMISSIONER TODD STAPLES

As the 11th Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, Todd Staples remains diligent in his efforts to promote and support Texas agriculture while prioritizing private-sector job creation and economic development. Re-elected to serve a second four-year term in 2010, Commissioner Staples believes the free enterprise system and individual responsibility are the keys to prosperity for Texas.

With a philosophy that puts family and taxpayer interests first, Commissioner Staples has focused much of his efforts on education, private property rights, border security and conservation while also overseeing Texas' \$100 billion agriculture industry.

Born in Anderson County, Commissioner Staples graduated with honors from Texas A&M University and began serving in public office in 1989 when he was elected to the Palestine city council. In 1995, he was elected state representative and served three terms in the Texas House before being elected to serve two terms as a state senator. He was first elected to serve as Texas Agriculture Commissioner in 2006.

Commissioner Staples and his wife, Janet, have four grown children.



#### RON OLIVEIRA

Ron Oliveira is an award-winning journalist and has spent the past 34 years working in the television industry.

Ron graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in Radio-Television and Film in 1976. He is a native of Brownsville, Texas.

He started his career as a television news anchor in 1977 at KGBT-TV, the CBS affiliate in Harlingen, Texas. In 1980, he moved to Austin where he became lead anchor for KVUE, the ABC affiliate. Several times, Ron was part of the KVUE anchor team that won Best Newscast in the USA.

In 1994, Ron expanded his career in television when he started and became co-owner of KNVA-TV, the Warner Brothers affiliate in Austin. Then in 1999, he helped launch and became co-owner of KTLM-TV, a Telemundo affiliate in the Rio Grande Valley.

In 2005, Ron joined the KEYE TV news team.

Besides helping to rear four children, Ron is also very active in the community.

He currently serves on the board of the Lola Wright Foundation, the Texas Secretary of State's Election Advisory Committee and the advisory councils of Leadership Austin, Any Baby Can and Foundation for the Homeless.

Ron is a former member of the Executive Board of the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce and the Better Business Bureau.



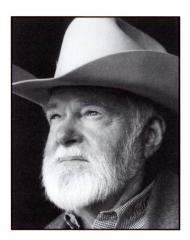
#### RED STEAGALL

For more than 40 years, Red Steagall has entertained around the globe as a recording artist, songwriter, television and motion picture personality, and cowboy poet.

In 1991, the Texas Legislature named Red the Official Cowboy Poet of Texas. By 1994, he launched his one-hour syndicated radio show, "Cowboy Corner," which is now heard in approximately 165 markets across 43 states.

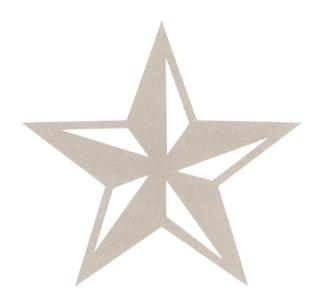
Musically, Red has won eight Wrangler Awards from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. As a writer, he has authored four books.

In recognition of Red's significant contribution to the western way of life, he was inducted into The Texas Trail Of Fame in October 1999. In 2003, he joined the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum's Hall of Great Westerners. A year later, Red was inducted into the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame.



In 2006, Red was awarded the prestigious Charles Goodnight Award and also was named The Poet Laureate for the State of Texas.

Red's television show, "In the Bunkhouse with Red Steagall," first aired in 2009 and is currently in its third year of production.



# Family Land Heritage Ceremony

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES Ron Oliveira

KEYE-TV

#### INVOCATION

Bryan Daniel Texas Department of Agriculture

#### PLEDGE TO THE FLAGS

Ben Chasey Amanda Rohan Bowie High School FFA

#### CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

The Honorable Todd Staples
Texas Agriculture Commissioner

#### CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

Family Land Heritage Honorees

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

Red Steagall Entertainer

#### BENEDICTION

Red Steagall

### Family Land Heritage Honorees 150 Year Honorees

#### BARFIELD RANCH

Brazos County • Two Miles South of Millican on FM 159

FOUNDED IN: 1831

FOUNDERS: ELLIOT McNeil Millican and

ELIZABETH CLAMPITT MILLICAN

CURRENT OWNER: CHARLES E. BARFIELD

Elliot McNeil Millican migrated to Texas from South Carolina with his parents in 1821 as part of Austin's 300. Elliot was at various times a mill owner, a constable, a state representative and a physician, but he was always a farmer and a rancher. Elliot had seven children with his first wife, Elizabeth Clampitt, and four children with his second wife, Marcella Boyce Triplett.

In 1847, Lucinda Jane Millican married William Dunlap, and around 1850 they built a house on the ranch. The well dug by William still produces water.

The size of the ranch dwindled until Elliot's great-great-granddaughter, Helen Ruth Dunlap, began repurchasing tracts. The ranch currently stands at 540 acres.

In 2005, Charles Barfield inherited the ranch from his grandmother, Helen Ruth Glover, and is working to restore the ranch to full production.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL:

Crops or livestock raised: 1831 — Beans, Cattle, Corn, Cotton, Potatoes and Turkeys; 2012 — CATTLE AND BEANS.

As told by Charles Barfield, great-great-grandson of the founder.

#### HERITAGE FARM

Collin County • six miles north of McKinney

Founded in: 1857

FOUNDER: CHARLES MOORE

CURRENT OWNERS: CLAUDE FRAZIER, LINNET FRAZIER DEILY

Charles Moore, born in Sumner County, Tennessee in 1822, traveled by wagon and foot to North Texas in 1857 and bought some 800 acres of land in Collin County. Charles, a man of many strong opinions, was an abolitionist. When the Civil War commenced, he decided to leave Texas. He moved to Illinois and lived with relatives in Jerseyville. When the war ended, Charles went to Tennessee and convinced his father, Ziza Moore, and his stepmother, Matilda, to return with him to Collin County.



Charles continued to improve the farm and in 1875, at the age of 53, he married Mary Dodd, some 20 years his junior. Charles and Mary produced only one surviving child, Linnet. Linnet married Claude White on Oct. 15, 1901, six weeks before Charles' death on Nov. 25. The farm passed on to Linnet and she and Claude continued to oversee the farming operation. Linnet and Claude had one child, Ruth White, in 1910. After Linnet died in the flu epidemic of 1919, Ruth inherited the farm.

In 1934, Ruth married Harold Frazier and they continued to operate the farm until their deaths in 1996 and 1994, respectively. Ruth and Harold had three children: Betty Ruth, Claude and Linnet. Betty Ruth passed away on Dec. 28, 2011, and is buried in the family cemetery located on the farm.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 360

Crops or livestock raised: 1857 — cattle, corn, cotton, hogs and wheat; 2012 — CATTLE, CORN, WHEAT AND POULTRY

As told by Claude W. Frazier, great grandson of the founder, and Linnet F. Deily, great granddaughter of the founder.

#### BIRDSONG RANCH

Kendall County • six miles northeast of Boerne on FM 474 Founded in: 1853

Founders: J.W. Phillip and Barbara Schweizer Phillip Current owners: Lewis and Betty Birdsong

J.W. Phillip was born in what is now the Czech Republic and traveled to America with his wife, Barbara Schweitzer Phillip. In 1853, they acquired acreage in Kendall County as part of a land grant. In 1861, they purchased acreage from Sam Houston.

In 1882, one of their sons, Anton, acquired title to 205 acres from his father. Katherine Meckel and Anton built a house and raised 10 children on the property.

In 1930, one of their daughters, Emilie, and her husband, Jay J. Ross, acquired 47 acres from her parents. They had two daughters, Joyce Pauline and Betty Jay. In 1974, they transferred the ranch to their children.

Betty Ross Birdsong bought her sister's share and with her husband, Lewis F. Birdsong, raised four children: Lewis Frederic, Jay Douglas, Michael Edward and Bernadette Louise.

Acres in original parcel: 32 Crops or livestock raised: 1853 — cattle, fruits, hay, nuts and vegetables; 2012 — cattle and hay

As told by Betty Ross Birdsong, great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### KOWIERSCHKE HEIM PLATZ

Llano County • Three miles east of Castell on CR 104 Founded in: 1862

Founders: August Heinrich Evers and Christine Lang Evers Current owner: Iva Kowierschke Galindo

August Heinrich Evers, along with his siblings and parents, emigrated to the United States in 1854. August served in the Confederate infantry. He acquired 220 acres in 1862. August and his wife, Christina, added additional acreage.



Their daughter, Anna, and her husband, Constantine Kowierschke, added additional acreage. Anna's son, Martin, and his wife, Eoline, added additional acreage as well.

The current owner, Iva Kowierschke Galindo, grew up on the property while working the land. Neighbors and relatives helped whenever it was needed.

#### ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 220

Crops or livestock raised: 1862 — apples, cattle, chickens, corn, cotton, hay, hogs, horses, figs, goats, grapes, milo, oats, peaches, pears, plums, pumpkins, sheep, sugar cane and turkeys; 2012 — cattle

As told by Iva Kowierschke Galindo, great-granddaughter of the founder.



#### ALEXIS RAMBIN HOME PLACE

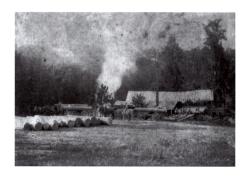
Nacogdoches County • 15 miles northeast of Nacogdoches on CR 269

Founded in: 1856

FOUNDER: ALEXIS RAMBIN

CURRENT OWNERS: CHARLES A. RAMBIN AND MARGARET B. RAMBIN

Alexis Rambin was born in Louisiana in 1824 and came to Nacogdoches County in 1846. He received a land grant from the state of Texas in 1856. He married Elizabeth Stephens and had 10 children.



In 1908, their son, Mitch, acquired the land and continued the ranching operation. He started running a general store from his home. He and his wife, Lela Boatman, had five children.

Their son, Roy, acquired a portion of the original acreage in 1934. He built two poultry houses in 1960. Roy and his wife, Altie Tindall, had two sons, Rufus Henry and Charles Alvin.

Charles Alvin started acquiring his father's acreage in 1978. He married Margaret Brandon. They have three children: Rhonda, Brandon and Charles Jr. They continued the ranching and farming operation. Charles Alvin Rambin died in 2011.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 320

Crops or livestock raised: 1856 — Cattle, Cotton, Goats, Sheep, Swine, Sugarcane and Tobacco; 2012 — Cattle

As told by Margaret Brandon Rambin, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.

#### JONES FARM

Parker County • 18 miles southwest of Weatherford

Founded in: 1861

Founder: John Westmoreland Jones Current owner: Larry Martin Jones

The Jones family left Kentucky in 1861 and settled in Parker County, Texas. Henry C. Jones and his wife, Elizabeth Simpson, had nine children. Their eldest son, John Westmoreland Jones, married Saphronia Renshaw before departing Kentucky. Upon arrival in Texas, John and Saphronia settled on the property next to his parents and had nine sons.



Their son, James Leroy Jones, and his wife, Alice Hardin, continued the farming tradition and raised nine children.

Their son, Martin Reid Jones, married Vivian Thomas and built a home on the property. They raised two sons there, David Kent Jones and Larry Martin Jones. In 1997, the sons divided the property.

Larry has a son, Douglas R. Jones, and a daughter, Lori Beth Jones Sullivan, along with three grandchildren: Reid, Ryan and Avery.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 160

Crops or livestock raised: 1861 — Cattle, corn, cotton, hogs, horses, mules and oats; 2012 — Cattle, hay and pecans

As told by Larry Martin Jones, great-grandson of the founder.



#### SLOAN SISTERS RANCH-HOMESTEAD

San Saba County • 13 miles southwest of San Saba on FM 2732

Founded in: 1862

Founder: John Elias Sloan

CURRENT OWNERS: PATSY MARSCHALL STEWART, CHRISTINE

Bessent and Keith Bessent

John E. Sloan came to Texas with his sibling and parents from Mississippi around 1848. His brother, T.A. Sloan, purchased land in 1862, and John later purchased 137 acres from his brother to raise livestock. The brothers used the JT brand, which is still used by family members.



T.A. Sloan married Emma Henderson and together they acquired more land, almost all of which is still owned by the family.

T.A. was one of the first to put up fences, marking the end of free-range lands. He helped build the school/church in the Sloan community.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 640

Crops or livestock raised: 1862 — cattle, hogs and oats; 2012 — cattle, horses and pecans

As told by Christine Bessent, great-grand-niece of the founder.

"Your Ancestors dreamed of owning land and building a better life. They survived frontier life and hardships with courage and ingenuity. You are the living proof they succeeded. You make their dreams alive today."

### - Commissioner Todd Staples

## Family Land Heritage Honorees 100 year Honorees

#### DITTERT RANCH

Austin • Six miles northwest of Sealy on Jalowy Road

FOUNDED IN: 1891

Founder: Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms CURRENT OWNER: MALCOLM NEAL DITTERT

Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms was married to Adolph Reibenstein. They raised five children. After Adolph's death, Johanna married John Helms from whom she inherited 400 acres.



In 1903, her son, Julius Reibenstein, purchased the original acreage from her and added additional acreage in 1919. Julius and his wife, Lizzie, raised two children on the farm, Edmund and Lillie.

After Julius and Lizzie died, Lillie sold their inherited interest to Edmund and his wife, Lodima. In 1986, they sold 120 acres to their daughter, Delores Reibenstein Dittert. Delores and her husband, Clarence, continue operations and lived on the property.

In 2004, Delores sold 67 acres to her son, Malcolm. Malcolm and his three children, Milton, Mitch and Molly, reside in the house built by his grandparents in 1919.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 400

Crops or Livestock raised: 1891 — cattle, chickens, corn, cotton and hogs; 2012 — cattle

As told by Malcolm Dittert, great-great-grandson of the founder.

#### FROEBEL RANCH

Austin County • 10 miles southwest of Sealy

FOUNDED IN: 1912

FOUNDERS: FRITZ AND MARY SENS

CURRENT OWNERS: CARRIE AND CECIL R. FROEBEL

Fritz Sens was born in Sealy in 1869. In 1895, he married Mary Kveton and together they had three sons: Edwin, Arthur and Arnold. In 1912, Fritz acquired land and built barns and sheds for the livestock, and a two-story house that still stands today.



When Fritz died in 1951, Arthur inherited a portion of the acreage. Arthur and his wife, Ivy, had one daughter, Carrie Eileen Sens.

Carrie inherited the land in 1964 after Arthur died. Carrie and her husband, Cecil, continue to raise cattle and live in the original house built by Fritz. Their two sons and grandchildren also have cattle on the ranch.

Acres in original parcel: 1,600 Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — cattle, corn, cotton, hay, hogs, horses, mules and sheep; 2012 - CATTLE, HAY AND RICE

As told by Carrie Froebel, granddaughter of the founder.



#### HILL HOUSE PROPERTY FARM

Austin County • 256 Park Road

Founded in: 1899

FOUNDERS: J. WALTER HILL AND CARRIE MAY ELDER HILL

CURRENT OWNER: FLORENCE FERRELL SIMS

Jacob Walter Hill was born in San Felipe in 1873. He married Carrie May Elder in 1897. Two years later he purchased property. They had seven children: Justice Walter, Raymond Asbury, Carrie May, George William, Florence Fleener, Robert Louis and Valry Alene.

Carrie May Elder Hill acquired land in 1962 after Jacob Walter's death. In 1982, when she died, the land transferred to Carrie May Jr. and Florence.

Carrie May Gaydosik had two children, Alton D. Ferrell and Florence Ferrell Sims. They both grew up on Hill House Farm.



In 1995, Florence F. Sims acquired her mother's share of the land, and in 2006 acquired the rest. Florence and her husband, John, continue to run a small herd of cattle.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 34

Crops or Livestock raised: 1899 — BEES, CATTLE, CORN, HORSES AND PIGS; 2012 — CATTLE

As told by Florence Ferrell Sims, granddaughter of the founder.

#### KAMINSKI RANCH

Austin County • five miles west of Sealy on Pyka Road

FOUNDED IN: 1894

FOUNDER: FRITZ THOMSEN

CURRENT OWNER: ALLEN KAMINSKI

Fritz Thomsen was born in 1842 in Germany. He arrived in Austin County in 1869 and married Christine Whittenburg in 1870. Fritz purchased land in 1894 and along with Chrstine, raised seven children on the farm.

In 1909, Fritz's son, Charles purchased the farm. Charles and his wife had five children. They carried on the farming tradition.



In 1967, Welda Ekarius inherited 121 acres from her father. Welda and her husband, Emanuel, worked on the land and raised four children there.

After the death of Welda Ekarius, her daughter, Darlien Kaminski, inherited 43 acres. Darlien and her husband, Emilian, kept the land.

In 2003, Darlien's son, Allen Kaminski, inherited the land from his mother after her death. Allen and his wife, Rebecca, continue to work the land and are active in the community.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 248

Crops or livestock raised: 1894 — cattle, corn, cotton and hogs; 2012 — cattle and hay

As told by Allen Kaminski, great-great-grandson of the founder.



#### KD RANCH

Austin County • 11907 FM 949

Founded in: 1875

Founder: August Dittert Sr. Current owner: Kermit Dittert

August Dittert Sr. was born in Prussia in 1841. He sailed to Texas with his family at the age of 9. In 1875, he purchased land from the state of Texas. He and his wife raised three children: August, Anna and Antonia.

In 1907, August Dittert acquired 276 acres of land. He and his wife, Emma, had four children: Alvin John, Richard Frank, Henrietta and Daniel.



In 1956, Richard Dittert acquired title to 67 acres of the land and purchased additional acreage from his brother. Richard and his wife, Hertha, acquired additional acreage from his sister in 1975. They had two sons, Kermit and Curtis Richard.

In 1993, Kermit acquired title to 133 acres, and in 2001 when Hertha died, he acquired title to 102 additional acres and continues to work on the land with his wife, Vernell, and their two children, Bruce Edward and Karen Sue. They have three grandchildren.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 276

Crops or Livestock raised: 1875 — Corn and Livestock; 2012 — Livestock

As told by Kermit Dittert, great-grandson of the founder.

#### L&M/TRIPLE J RANCH

Austin County • six miles northwest of Sealy on Jalowy Road Founded in: 1891 Founder: Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms Current owner: Melinda Dittert Brod

Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms was married to Adolph Reibenstein. They raised five children. After her husband's death, Johanna married John Helms from whom she inherited 400 acres in Austin County.



One of her children, Julius Reibenstein, purchased the acreage from her in 1903. He continued to work on the land. Julius and his wife, Lizzie, raised two children, Edmund and Lillie, on the farm.

Edmund and Lillie inherited the farm when their parents died. Lillie later sold her interest to Edmund and his wife, Lodima. They continued to work and live on the land.

In 1986, their daughter, Delores Reibenstein Dittert, received 120 acres. Delores and her husband, Clarence, reside on the property. In 2004, Delores gave 54 acres to her daughter, Melinda Dittert Brod. Melinda and her husband, Leonard, raised three children: Jason, Jeramy and Julie.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 400

Crops or Livestock raised: 1891 — cattle, chickens, corn, cotton and hogs; 2012 — cattle

As told by Melinda Dittert Brod, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.



#### L M ACRES

Austin County  $\bullet$  nine miles northwest of Sealy on FM 1094

FOUNDED IN: 1912

FOUNDER: H.F. LUEDECKE

CURRENT OWNERS: T.J. AND BRENDA MENKE

Henry Ferdinand Luedecke purchased land in Austin County in 1912. He and his wife, Julia Weber, worked the land to provide for their nine children. In 1947, one of their sons, Hilton Luedecke, purchased 25 acres from his parents. In 1949, he purchased the remaining acreage.



Hilton and his wife, Esther Reibenstein, continued to reside, farm and ranch on the property. Their daughter, Brenda, acquired 11 acres of the property in 1976 where she built a home. Brenda and her husband, T.J. Menke, acquired more of the land from her parents. They continue to reside on the property today with her mother, Esther, and work on the land.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 223

Crops or Livestock raised: 1912 — Cattle, Chickens, Corn and Hogs; 2012 — Cattle

As told by Brenda Luedecke Menke, granddaughter of the founder.

#### PRAIRIE PLACE RANCH

Austin County • Six miles north of Sealy off SH 36

Founded in: 1876

FOUNDER: OLIVER G. CANNON

Current owners: William Frederick and Betty B. Strauss

Oliver G. Cannon was born in Alabama and moved as a small child with his family to Texas in 1849. He married Winifred Margaret in 1871. Winnie was the great-granddaughter of Martin Allen, one of the original colonists who received land grants from Stephen F. Austin.



In 1876, Oliver bought land, which he eventually deeded to his six children. His daughter, Winnie Edna Cannon, married William Strauss in 1909. William secured title to the land from Edna's sister in 1935. After William died in 1944, Edna was the sole owner. She gave the land to her grandson, William Frederick Strauss, after she died.

The land has been used continuously to raise cattle since 1786. William Strauss built the farmhouse in 2000.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 192

Crops or Livestock raised: 1876 — Cattle and Horses; 2012 — Brangus Cattle

As told by William Frederick Strauss, great-grandson of the founder.

#### REIBENSTEIN PLACE

Austin County • six miles northwest of Sealy on FM 2187

Founded in: 1891

FOUNDER: JOHANNA BRILL REIBENSTEIN HELMS

Current owners: Brenda Menke

Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms was married to Adolph Reibenstein. They raised five children. After Adolph died, Johanna married John Helms from whom she inherited 400 acres in Austin County. One of her children, Julius Reibenstein, purchased acreage from her in 1919. He continued to work on the land. Julius and his wife, Lizzie, raised two children, Edmund and Lillie.



Lillie and her husband, Edward Caletka, sold their interest in the land to Edmund and his wife, Lodima. They continued to work the land and raised four children. In 1986, their daughter, Esther Reibenstein Luedecke, received 120 acres from her mother. In 2009, Esther deeded the property to her daughter, Brenda Menke. Brenda and her husband, T.J. Menke, run a cattle operation.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 400

Crops or livestock raised: 1891 — Cattle, Chickens, Corn, Cotton and Hogs; 2012 — Cattle

As told by Brenda Luedecke Menke, great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### REIBENSTEIN RANCH

Austin County • six miles northwest of Sealy on Hillboldt Road
Founded in: 1891
Founded in: 1891

Founder: Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms Current owners: Harold Reibenstein

Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms was married to Adolph Reibenstein. They raised five children. After Adolph died, Johanna married John Helms from whom she inherited 400 acres in Austin County. One of her children, Julius Reibenstein, purchased acreage from her in 1919. He continued to work on the land. Julius and his wife, Lizzie, raised two children, Edmund and Lillie.



Lillie and her husband, Edward Caletka, sold their interest in the land to Edmund and his wife, Lodima. In 1986, their grandson, Harold, received 60 acres of the original parcel. Harold and his wife, Connie, continue to raise cattle and built a home on the property where they raised their children, Ashley and Ryan. Harold's mother, Bernice, also resides on the property.

Acres in original parcel: 400

Crops or Livestock raised: 1891 — cattle, chickens, corn, cotton and hogs; 2012 — cattle

As told by Harold Reibenstein, great-great-grandson of the founder.

#### REIBENSTEIN-BRANDES RANCH

Austin County • six miles northwest of Sealy ON HILLBOLDT ROAD

FOUNDED IN: 1891

Founder: Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms

CURRENT OWNERS: SHARON BRANDES

Johanna Brill Reibenstein Helms was married to Adolph Reibenstein. They raised five children. After Adolph died, Johanna married John Helms from whom she inherited 400 acres in Austin County. One of her children, Julius Reibenstein, purchased acreage from her in 1919. He continued to work on the land. Julius and his wife, Lizzie, raised two children, Edmund and Lillie.



Lillie and her husband, Edward Caletka, sold their interest in the land to Edmund and his wife, Lodima. In 1986, their granddaughter received 60 acres of the original parcel. Sharon and her husband, Jack, raise cattle and live on the property. Their son, Jeff, and his wife, Jennifer, raised three children.

Acres in original parcel: 400

Crops or livestock raised: 1891 — cattle, chickens, corn, cotton and hogs; 2012 — cattle

As told by Sharon Reibenstein Brandes, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### SCHAFFNER RANCH

Austin County • nine miles west of Sealy on FM 1094

Founded in: 1872

FOUNDER: JACOB SCHAFFNER

CURRENT OWNER: LAURIE SCHAFFNER MICHALKE

Jacob Schaffner came to the United States from Switzerland in 1856 in search of land. He served in the Confederate Army for three years, and upon his return in 1867, he married Pauline Keng. Jacob and Pauline had six children.



In 1911, their son, Julius E. Schaffner acquired 240 acres from his parents and continued the farming and ranching tradition. Julius married Clara Frieda Kretzschmar in 1903. They had four children.

Their son, William J. Schaffner, acquired the 240 acres from his father in 1949 and continued to work the land. In 1929, William married Hilma Luedecke. They had two children.

In 1975, William J. Schaffner Jr. acquired a portion of the land. He married Doris Mae Georges and had two daughters, Laurie Jean Schaffner Michalke and Beth Ann Schaffner Fleming. In 2006, Laurie Michalke acquired the land from her father. She and her husband, Billy, continue operations with their two children, Brandon and Nathan.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 240 Crops or livestock raised: 1872 — cattle, chickens, corn, cotton and hogs; 2012 — CATTLE AND HAY

As told by Laurie Schaffner Michalke, great-great-granddaughter to the founder.

#### THOMSEN FARM

Austin County • 1019 Pyka Road in Sealy

Founded in: 1894

Founder: Fritz Thomsen

CURRENT OWNER: VERNELL DITTERT

Fritz Thomsen was born in Germany and sailed to Texas in 1869. In 1894, he purchased land. Fritz and his wife, Christina, had seven children: Albert, Carl, Lizza, Paul, Augusta, Ida and Mary.

In 1909, Carl purchased the original acreage from his parents. In 1909, Carl purchased additional land. Charles and his wife, Emma, worked the land and had five children: Quincy, Ester, Welda, Eiffie and Oradell.

Welda Ekarius acquired title to 120 acres in 1967. Welda and her husband, Emanuel, continue ranch operations. They have four children: Darlien Oridell Kaminski, Marvin Edward Ekarius, Calvin Charles Ekarius and Vernell Dittert.

Vernell acquired the land in 1996. With her husband, Kermit, she continues to work on the property. They have two children, Karen Sue Schomburg and Bruce Edward Dittert, and three grandchildren.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 248

Crops or Livestock raised: 1894 — corn, cotton and Livestock; 2012 — hay and Livestock

As told by Vernell Dittert, great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### 4 F RANCH

BEE COUNTY • 3552 CR 121

Founded in: 1908

FOUNDER: WILLIAM HENRY FOX

CURRENT OWNER: WILLIAM (BILL) ERNEST FOX JR.

William Henry Fox was born in Ireland. He and four brothers traveled from Ireland to Texas after the Civil War. William acquired 120 acres from the Southern Rock Island Plow Company in 1908. He was a cowboy and a horse trainer, and helped pay for the land selling animal bones, which were used as feed for cattle. He and his wife, Lillie Pearl Phelps Fox, had two children, William Ernest and Lillie Mae.



William Ernest acquired the land in 1961 after the death of his parents. He continued his operation while working for Pennzoil Oil Company.

In 1984, the acreage was deeded to brothers William Ernest Fox Jr. and James Sterling Fox. James deeded his interest to William in 1986. William and his wife, Erin, continue to work the land. They have one son, William Ernest Fox III, who will inherit the 120 acres from his parents.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 120

Crops or livestock raised: 1908 — Cattle, corn and cotton; 2012 — Cattle, garden crops and hay

As told by Erin and Bill Fox, granddaughter-in-law and grandson of the founder.



#### EMIL SCHOLZ FARM

Bexar County • Nine Miles North of Loop 1604 at the INTERSECTION OF BLANCO AND SPECHT ROADS

FOUNDED IN: 1912

FOUNDER: EMIL SCHOLZ

Current owners: LaVerne Rahe Welborn and

PATRICK "MAX" WELBORN

Emil Scholz was born in 1887 in Bulverde. In 1912, he and his brother, Clemens, purchased acreage in Bexar County. Emil married Clara Ludwig that same year. In 1914, Emil bought his brother's share of the property. They had two children, Delia Bertha Ida and Clarence Paul Otto.



In 1939, Delia Scholz married Werner Otto Rahe. They had two children, Stanley William and LaVerne Irene. Stanley died in a motor scooter accident in 1958. Delia inherited her half of the acreage when Emil and Clara passed away in 1970.

In 1992, Delia and Werner gifted 93 acres to their daughter, LaVerne. She and her husband, Patrick "Max" Welborn, and their two children, Catherine and William, moved into the old homestead on the farm. They built a new house in 1995 and continue to live and work on the farm.

Acres in original parcel: 200

Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — cattle, chickens, cabbage, corn, cotton, hegari, hogs, oats, SHEEP AND WHEAT; 2012 — CATTLE AND HAY

As told by LaVerne Rahe Welborn, granddaughter of the founder.

#### TOBIAS RANCH

Brazos County • One mile east of FM 1179 ON STEEP HOLLOW ROAD

Founded in: 1877

FOUNDER: ISAAC SMITH COOK

CURRENT OWNERS: OLAN GUY TOBIAS AND LINDA LOFTIS TOBIAS

Isaac Smith Cook was born in Louisiana in 1830. When his wife Elizabeth died, he married her sister, Nancy Sprawls, and moved to Texas. He acquired land in 1877. They had one son, Isaac Marion.



Isaac Marion was born in 1865. He married Joanna Duff in Texas and they had six children: Bill Cook, Jess Cook, Ted Cook, Annie Laura Tobias, Ima Mae Hensarling and Cora Emma Heaerne. Isaac purchased land in 1891 and, after his father's death in 1897, acquired the original acreage. He secured a mortgage on part of the acreage in 1918 and risked losing his ranch during the Great Depression.

Isaac's son-in-law, David Guy Tobias, purchased the property in 1933. David and his wife, Annie Laura, had three children: Olan Guy Tobias, Betty Taylor and Barbara Coker.

Olan and his wife, Linda, acquired the land in 1992. They have two children, James Tobias and Tiffany Cox.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 143

Crops or livestock raised: 1877 - Cotton, corn, cattle; 2012 - Hay, horses

As told by Linda Loftis Tobias, great-great-granddaughter-in law of the founder.



#### OWENS RANCH

Briscoe County • Three Miles North of Quitaque off FM 1065

Founded in: 1911

Founder: James Williams Owens Current owner: Bart Owens

James Williams Owens was born in Arkansas in 1855. He married Florence Love in 1885. They had 10 children. In 1911, he purchased approximately 30,000 acres from Edward Swift and added additional acreage in 1912. In 1929, he sold all of his land except for one section of 640 acres, which he left in trust for his surviving children.



James' grandson, Bart, has lived on the land since he left the Navy in 1970.

Acres in original parcel: 30,009

Crops or Livestock raised: 1911 — Donkeys and Livestock; 2012 — Cattle.

As told by Bart Carroll Owens, grandson of the founder.

#### PORTER/WILDER FARM & RANCH

Burleson County • Two miles northeast of Snook

on CR 266 and FM 166

Founded in: 1912

Founders: Julius and Alma Porter

Current owners: Alma Ann Porter Wilder

AND JOE WHITLEY WILDER

In 1912, J. Earl Porter acquired acreage trading a lumberyard for farmland. Earl and his wife had three boys: Earl Boswell, Marvin Milton and Julius Holland. They spent their lives farming. The boys were educated in a one-room schoolhouse in the farm.



The brothers and their mother acquired the land when J. Earl Porter died in 1954. They farmed together until 1968 when the property was divided. Julius Holland Porter received the original 100 acres known as the Home Place.

In 2004, Holland established a partnership with his daughter, Ann, and her children. Ann inherited Holland's portion of their partnership in 2008 when he died.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 100

Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — Alfalfa, Cattle, Corn, Cotton and Mules; 2012 — Cattle, Corn, Cotton, Oats, Soy Beans, Watermelon and Wheat

As told by Alma Ann Porter Wilder, granddaughter of the founder.

#### FELPS-CRIDER RANCH

Burnet County • 621 Crider Road in Marble Falls

FOUNDED IN: 1912

Founders: Julius W. and Nora Crider

CURRENT OWNERS: KENNETH RAY AND NANCY FELPS, JOHN EARL

AND CHARLES RANDALL CRIDER

Julius Crider was raised in Blanco County and married Nora Randall in 1904. In 1912, they bought land and lived in the cedar log cabin, which was built in 1873. They had five children: Clarence, Francis, Alfred, Harold and Vida.

Julius died in 1964 and Nora died in 1974. The land was divided among the five children. Harold and Vida and her husband, J.C. Felps, continued to raise livestock.

In 1974, John Earl and Charles acquired 112 acres from their father, Francis. In 1983, Kenneth Felps acquired 112 acres from his parents, J.C. and Vida. Kenneth and his wife, Nancy, raise cattle on the ranch. Kenneth and Nancy have two sons, David and Robert, who help with the ranch operation.



ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 561

Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — bees, cattle, chickens, corn, goats, hogs, peanuts, sheep and SUGAR CANE; 2012 — BEES, CATTLE AND DONKEYS

As told by Kenneth Ray Felps, grandson of the founder.

#### KIRK PLACE

Burnet County • eight miles northeast of Burnet on CR 254

FOUNDED IN: 1898

FOUNDERS: F.E. AND NANNIE CARTER KIRK

CURRENT OWNERS: JAMES CARTER AND LADEAN M. SMITH

F.E. Kirk was born in Fannin County and moved with his family to Burnet County in 1873. In 1898, he acquired 107 acres from Isaac Kirk. F.E. and his wife, Nannie, had no children but reared three girls of Nannie's sister who died. The girls were Juanita, Rachel and Marguerite.

Rachel and her husband, Elbert Smith, acquired title to the land in 1950 and continued to work the land. They took care of F.E. until he died in 1955. Rachel and Elbert had two sons, James Carter and Charles Glenn.

James Carter Smith acquired title to 178 acres in 1966. He worked the land with his wife, LaDean, and two children, Tamra Smith Gray and James Carter Jr. The family is active in the community.

Acres in original parcel: 107 Crops or livestock raised: 1898 — cattle, chickens, corn, cotton, hogs, oats and sheep; 2012 — CATTLE AND HAY

As told by James Carter Smith, great-nephew of the founders.



#### GRAHAM FAMILY FARM

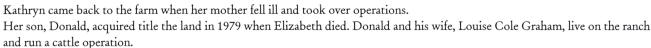
Caldwell County • Five-and-a-half miles south of

Lockhart on FM 1042 FOUNDED IN: 1885 FOUNDER: A.T. INMAN

CURRENT OWNER: DONALD F. GRAHAM AND LOUISE C. GRAHAM

A.T. Inman and his wife, Lizzie, came to Texas from Tennessee with his sister and her husband in the late 1870s. They settled on the east bank of West Fork Creek. A.T.'s sister decided to move back to Tennessee and died shortly thereafter. Her daughter, Elizabeth Leonard, was brought back to Texas to be raised by A.T. and Lizzie.

After A.T.'s death in 1910 the land passed to Elizabeth. She married Alonzo Luce Lipscomb and they had three children: Leonard, Prentiss and Kathryn. Later she married E.B. Glazier and had one son, Ben.



ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 215

Crops or Livestock raised: 1878 — Corn and Cotton; 2012 — Cattle and improved grasses

As told by Donald Graham, great-great-great-nephew of the founder.

#### CHARLES CASS SCALES FARM

Cass County • 756 CR 3547

FOUNDED IN: 1911

FOUNDER: CHARLES CASS SCALES

Current owner: Winnie Mozelle Scales Smith

Charles Cass Scales was born in Georgia and traveled to Texas by horse and wagon. In 1911, he acquired a parcel of acreage from Mary Jane Ball. Charles Cass and his wife, Mary Ellen Bradley, had four children: Opal, Willie Wayne, Ennis and Beatrice.

In 1933, Willie Wayne Scales acquired title to the land from his farther. Willie and his wife, Winnie Davis Barnwell, had three children: Winnie Mozelle, Charles William and Franklin Delano.

In 1979, Winnie Mozelle Scales Smith inherited the land from her father and continued operating the farm. Winnie and her husband, Carlton Douglas Smith, had two children, William Douglas Smith and Cheryl Lynn Smith Green.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 69

Crops or livestock raised: 1911 — Cattle, corn, cotton, hay and timber; 2012 — hay and timber

As told by Winnie Mozelle Scales Smith, granddaughter of the founder.





#### ROBERT SAMUEL BARNWELL ACRES

Cass County • seven miles north of Queen City on SH 59

FOUNDED IN: 1902

FOUNDER: ROBERT SAMUEL BARNWELL

Current owner: William Douglas Smith

Robert Samuel Barnwell was born in Georgia and traveled to Bosque County, Texas, where he met and married Sarah Hannah Lane. Finding it difficult to establish a farm there they moved to Cass County. In 1902, Robert purchased 80 acres from his brother John W. Barnwell. Sam and his wife had 11 children: Mary Emma, James Sanford, Robert Simeon, George Dewey, Lonnie Morris, Rodger Lee, Willa Lou, Annie Dee, Winnie Davis, Eula Bell and Samuel Hubert.

After Sam passed away, Willa Lou's son, Louis C. Cook, and Mary Emma's daughter, Lucille Johnson, each inherited a small tract. In 2005, Winnie Cook Parsons acquired the acreage.



William Douglas Smith acquired the land from her in 2006. William has three sons: William Douglas Jr., Gregory Scott and Christopher Eric.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 80

Crops or Livestock raised: 1902 — Chickens, Corn, Cotton, Horses, Pigs and Syrup cane; 2012 — TIMBER

As told by William Douglas Smith, great-grandson of the founder.

#### GRAY WYNN KLEIN RANCH

CLAY COUNTY • SEVEN MILES NORTHWEST OF BELLEVUE

Founded in: 1873

Founders: Christian and Lucy Sanzenbacher

CURRENT OWNER: CHERYL GRAY KLEIN, JANA BETH JOHNSON,

JENNIFER KLEIN, MARY SUE KLEIN

In 1873, Christian and Lucy Sanzenbacher joined their uncle in Clay County and started raising cattle. They had seven children. Their daughter, Ida, married Fred Wynn in 1920. In 1921, Fred and Lucy's land was split among the children.

Fred sustained an injury in World War I that made ranching difficult. He invented a mechanical range feeder that he eventually patented, marketed and sold in the U.S. and abroad. Their daughter, Maxine, was born on the ranch in 1924. She married Charles Gray in 1947.



Their other daughter, Cheryl, was born in 1949 and married Jim Kelin in 1971. They have three children: Jana Beth, Jennifer and Mary Sue. The children grew up with their parents and grandparents ranching and tending the farm.

Jana Beth married Josh Johnson and they have a son, Jackson Wynn Johnson.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 10,000

Crops or Livestock raised: 1873 — Cattle; 2012 — Cattle

As told by Mary Sue Klein, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.



#### HOOPS BARRY FARM

Collin County • seven miles southeast of McKinney on FM 378

FOUNDED IN: 1910

Founder: Joseph Jefferson Hoops

CURRENT OWNERS: JANICE FOWLER, WALLACE SCALF JR. AND

Patricia Davidson

Joseph J. Hoops acquired the acreage from Henry and Ione Lewis in 1910. He and his wife, Lillie Jenkins Hoops, had five children: Mary, Elvis, Alma, Thomas and James. They sold the farm to Joseph's sister, Martha Hoops Barry, and her husband, Andrew Barry in 1911.



Andrew and Martha had four children: Hattie, Thomas, Ethel and Alice. In 1952, Thomas acquired 56 acres of the land and continued to farm with his father.

Thomas and his wife, Annie Headrick Barry, had three daughters: Mildred, Marie and Ruby. In 1981, part of the land was divided among the three daughters. Mildred Barry Martin Bethel deeded her 13 acres to her daughter, Patricia, in 1981.

Ruby's daughter, Janice, moved to the farm in 1972 and acquired portions of the land with her brother, Wallace, in 2003.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 117

Crops or Livestock raised: 1910 — Corn, Cotton, Livestock and Wheat; 2012 — Cattle and Hay

As told by Janice Fowler, great-great-niece of the founder.

#### ALLEN FARMS

Comanche County • eight miles west of Sidney on FR 1689

FOUNDED IN: 1883 FOUNDER: S.B. ALLEN

CURRENT OWNER: BO GENE ALLEN AND PATSY ALLEN

S.B. Allen came to Texas from Western Tennessee. In 1883, he acquired 320 acres from Royal Towers. S.B. and his wife, Celia. They raised eight children on the farm: O.C., Robert, Otis, William Lawson, Homer, Jesse David, Naomi and Maggie. S.B. plowed a furrow from the farm to the schoolhouse so Maggie would not get lost going to and from school.



O.C. acquired title to the land in 1946 after S.B. died. He and his wife, Clyde, had two children, Bo Gene and Margaret Elizabeth.

Bo Gene acquired title to the land in 1985 due to the failing health of both parents. He continues to work the land. He and his wife, Patsy, have two children, Tanya Texannah and Bo Emory.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 320

Crops or Livestock raised: 1883 — HAY, LIVESTOCK AND MILO; 2012 — HAY, IMPROVED GRASS AND LIVESTOCK

As told by Bo Gene Allen, grandson of the founder.



#### JACOBSON FARM

Concho County • Six miles east of Eden on FM 2134

Founded in: 1905

Founder: Ola and Betty Jacobson Current owners: Billie, Marlin Cliff

AND JOHN WILLIAM JACOBSON

Ola Jacobson was born in Sweden in 1863. He came to the United States in 1884 and settled in Williamson County. His fianceé, Betty Peterson, arrived from Sweden several months later and they were married. Ola taught himself to speak English by reading mail order catalogs. Ola and Betty moved to Concho County and purchased land in 1905. They had four daughters and two sons.

Their son, Sam, served in the military during World War I and upon returning home married Hettie Tyler. They lived on an adjoining farm and had two sons, Byrne and Charles.



Byrne sold his share of land to Charles. Charles and his wife, Billie, had one son named Marlin Cliff Jacobson who was raised on the farm. Marlin Cliff had one son, John William Jacobson, who was also raised on the farm. Charles died in 2010 and left the farm to Marlin and John.

Acres in original parcel: 320

Crops or livestock raised: 1905 — Sheep and Wheat; 2012 — Sheep and Wheat

As told by Billie Jacobson, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.

#### PICK FARM

Cooke County • 504 CR 300 in Muenster

Founded in: 1911

FOUNDER: W.M. TRUEBENBACH

Current owners: Edward and Leona Pick

Edward and Leona Pick bought the farm from Leona's grandfather, W.M. Truebenbach and worked on the property. They kept one original barn and built two new ones. They rebuilt the original house and did most of the work themselves in 1979.



ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 165

Crops or livestock raised: 1911 — cattle, corn, oats and wheat; 2012 — cattle and hay

As told by Edward Pick, grandson-in-law of the founder.

#### DUTSCHMANN FARM & RANCH

Coryell County • Five Miles Southwest of The Grove on CR 354

Founded in: 1907

Founder: Matthaus Dutschmann

Current owners: Victor and Yvonne Dutschmann

Matthaus Dutschmann arrived in Texas from Germany in 1883. In 1907, he purchased 163 acres. Matthaus and his wife, Anna Maria, raised 10 children: Charlie, Paul, Ernest, Selma, Hulda, Alfred, Mary, Louise, Ella and Gerhard. After Anna Maria died, Matthaus married Mary and had a daughter, Ruth. The children worked the farm and attended school nearby.



Gerhard purchased the farm in 1949. He and his wife, Nora, had four children: Darlene, James Lee, Victor and Dale.

Victor purchased the land in 1978. He and his wife, Yvonne, have one daughter, Victoria. Victor has purchased additional acreage and continued operations. He has been involved in Texas Farm Bureau for more than 35 years and currently serves as Coryell County Vice President.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 163

Crops or livestock raised: 1907 — Cattle, Chickens, Corn, Cotton and Sheep; 2012 — Cattle, Hay, Oats and Wheat

As told by Victoria Dutschmann, great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### CLARY RANCH

COTTLE COUNTY • II MILES WEST OF PADUCAH CR 290

Founded in: 1897

Founders: Lee and Mary Clary Current owner: Carl Clary

Lee and Mary Clary came to Texas from Alabama. They were seeking to homestead new lands and raised four children on the ranch.

J.C., the only son, lived his whole life on the ranch. He took over daily ranch operations in 1931. J.C. and his wife, Macy, had two children.



J.C.'s daughter, Carleen, and her husband, J.T. Westbrook, operated the ranch from 1972 until their deaths in 2003 and 2005. They had no children of their own, but cared for their nephew, Carl Clary, as if he was their son. Carl lived with them in the summers where he learned the ranch. At the age of 14 he moved into their home.

Carl and his wife, Petra, have two children. They currently raise crossbred cattle on the ranch.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 765

Crops or Livestock raised: 1897 — Cattle, Cotton; 2012 — Crossbred Cattle

As told by Carl Clary, great-grandson of the founder.

#### HARTMAN 2H RANCH

DeWitt County • seven miles south of Cuero on FM 236

FOUNDED IN: 1872

FOUNDER: AUGUST HARTMANN II

CURRENT OWNER: SUSAN HARTMAN POPE

Christian Hartmann II was born in Germany. He traveled to the United States in 1845 and settled in 1872. Christian and his wife, Marie, raised 12 children: August, Marie, Caroline, Ferdinand, Elisa, Carl, Christian, William, Fred, Sophie, Louis and Emilie.



August acquired title to the land in 1876 after Christian died. August and his wife, Josephine, had six children: Otto, Lenora, Henry, August Jr., Edward and Herbert. In 1917, August Jr. and his wife, Elsie, acquired the land and continued to raise livestock. They had two children, Hazel and Wayne.

Wayne inherited the land in 1957 and continued to raise cattle with his wife, Emalee.

Susan Hartman Pope acquired the land in 2010 and with her husband, Michael, has continued the cattle operation.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 158

Crops or livestock raised: 1872 — Cattle; 2012 — Cattle

As told by Susan Hartman Pope, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### IBROM FARM & RANCH

DeWitt County • 1724 Matejek Road

FOUNDED IN: 1906

FOUNDER: ANTON IBROM

CURRENT OWNERS: VICTOR LAWRENCE IBROM, RAYMOND LEE

IBROM AND ALPHONSE HENRY IBROM

Anton Ibrom was born in Germany in 1867. He was drafted into the Army and forced to fight against his own countrymen. To avoid this he fled to the United States. He traveled to Cleveland where his brother lived.



By 1887, his parents arrived in the United States. They moved to Texas in 1891 and settled in Dewitt County. In 1893, Anton married Victoria Respondek and bought a parcel of land where they raised 10 children who helped with daily farming and ranching activities.

In 1921, Anton retired, leaving the operation to his children. In 1943, his grandson, Victor, purchased 105 acres. Victor raised four children.

In 1988, Victor gifted two acres to his son, Raymond, who built a house and barns. In 2001, Victor gifted 34 acres to his son, Alphonse, who raises cattle. Victor is now retired and more than 100 years old.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 212

Crops or Livestock raised: 1906 — Cattle, Corn, Cotton, Milo and Sorghum; 2012 — Cattle and IMPROVED GRASSES

As told by Raymond Lee Ibrom, grandson of the founder.



#### RANCHO DE ORO

Duval County • Two Miles North of Rios on SH 716

Founded in: 1879

FOUNDER: MANUEL GARCIA

Current owner: Olivia Stillman Martinez and

OTILIA ESTELLA CORTEZ

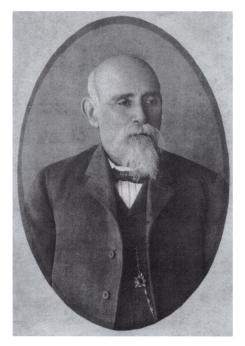
Manuel Garcia wanted a better life and along with is wife, Bernarda Saenz, emigrated from Mexico to Texas. Manuel purchased land and raised a family. They eventually acquired more land and had 11 children.

Their daughter, Otilia Garcia Stillman, inherited acreage in 1923. Otilia and her husband, Juan Stillman, worked on the land. They moved to the nearby community of Concepcion so their children could get an education.

In 1953, when Otilia and Juan had died, the acreage was divided among their four children. Their daughter, Olivia Stillman Martinez, inherited around 200 acres of the original tract. Since 1953 she has raised cattle on the land.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 5,851 Crops or livestock raised: 1879 — Cattle, corn and sheep; 2012 — CATTLE

As told by Otilia Estella Cortez, great-granddaughter of the founder.



#### TRES VENADAS RANCH

DUVAL COUNTY • 1783 CR 407

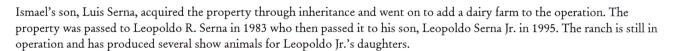
Founded in: 1876

FOUNDER: REFUGIO SERNA

CURRENT OWNERS: LEOPOLDO SERNA JR.

Refugio Serna was born in Mexico and arrived in Duval County in 1875 at the age of 26. Refugio and his wife, Agustina, settled on the land he purchased. They raised 10 children on the ranch.

His son, Ismael Serna, inherited land and followed in his father's footsteps. He added cotton to the farming practice.



ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 1,600 Crops or Livestock raised: 1876 — Cattle, corn, cotton, goats, grain sorghum and sheep; 2012 — CATTLE, OATS AND SWEET SORGHUM

As told by Leopoldo Serna Jr., great-great-grandson of the founder.



#### COPPERAS CREEK RANCH

Eastland County • one mile east of Rising Star on SH 36

Founded in: 1900

FOUNDER: WILLIAM T. NUNNALLY

Current owners: Sharolyn and Franklin Cox

William T. Nunnally was born in Arkansas and traveled with his family to Texas. He married Sallie Smallman and acquired 160 acres from the Texas Land and Cattle Company. William and Sallie had nine children: T.J., Charles, Roy, J.H., Kate, W.D., Rose, Lucille and Sam.



Kate's son, William E. Roach, acquired the land in 1931. He was never married and died suddenly in 1932, leaving the property to Kate and his siblings Travis, Terry, Bobby, John Weldon, Mary, Bess, Mae Clair and Velma.

John Weldon and his wife, Lottie Mae, purchased the original acreage from his parents in 1952. They raised two children, Sharolyn and James Weldon Jr.

After the death of her parents, Sharolyn Cox and her husband, Franklin, acquired the original parcel in 1997. James Weldon Jr. also claimed a portion of the land. Franklin and Sharolyn Cox continue to work the farm.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 160

Crops or livestock raised: 1900 — hay, livestock and wheat; 2012 — hay

As told by Sharolyn Cox, great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### GOLIGHTLY FARM AND RANCH

Erath County • 18 miles southeast of Stephenville on CR 270

Founded in: 1896

FOUNDER: G.H. GOLIGHTLY

CURRENT OWNERS: CHARLES AND CYNTHIA GOLIGHTLY

G.H. Golightly came to Texas from Alabama and purchased land in 1896. G.H. imported a Shorthorn bull from Missouri to cross with the native cattle, and in the 1920s brought in Red Polls cattle. G.H. built the family home in 1906. He was married in 1929.



Current owner Charles Golightly and his wife plan to keep the property in the family and look forward to passing the land onto their children.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 315

Crops or livestock raised: 1896 — Cattle, Chickens, Corn, Cotton, Horses, Mules, Oats, Sheep, Sorghum, Swine and Turkeys; 2012 — Cattle, Hay, Oats and Sorghum

As told by Charles Golightly, grandson of the founder.

#### RD RANCH

Fayette County • Two miles southeast of Flatonia

Founded in: 1912

Founders: Alois Dostalik, Marie Zabransky Dostalik Current owners: Richard and Dianne Niemann

Alois Dostalik was born in 1879 in Czechoslovakia. In 1900, Alois and his parents and two brothers and two sisters came to the United States. He married Marie Zagransky in Texas. They raised seven children: Louis, Adolph, Mary Ann, Annie Marie, Joe John, Ernest and Vlasta.



When Alois died in 1968, he titled the land to his brothers and sisters and his wife. Alois' brother, Ernest, worked the land until he died in 1983.

Starting in 1978, Alois' grandson, Richard Niemann, started acquiring the original acreage from his family members. He has continued to raise cattle and now harvests hay.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 100

Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — Cattle, corn, cotton and hogs; 2012 — Cattle and hay

As told by Richard Niemann, grandson of the founders.

#### J WEST PLACE

Fisher County • 17 miles west of Roby of SH 180

Founded in: 1900 Founder: R.B. Baird

Current owner: Juanelle B. Jordan

R.B. Baird and his family settled near the Brazos River sometime around 1890. Over the years, R.B. bought several parcels of land. At his death, he split the land between his seven children.

His daughter, Ava Baird Hefner, inherited the J West place. Ava and her husband, Thomas Fisher Hefner, acquired a herd of cattle. Their daughter, Irene Hefner Brown, inherited the land and a portion of cattle when they died.

Irene's daughter, Juanelle Brown Jordan, inherited the J West Place and the cattle when Irene died.

Acres in original parcel: 401 Crops or livestock raised: 1900 — cattle and hay; 2012 — cattle and hay

As told by Juanelle Jordan, great-granddaughter of the founder.



#### CARR FARMS

FLOYD COUNTY • 16 MILES SOUTHWEST OF FLOYDADA

FOUNDED IN: 1902 FOUNDER: W.H. CARR

CURRENT OWNER: CHARLES M. CARR

William Hardy Carr traveled with his family to Floyd County from Coryell County and purchased land in 1902. William and his wife, Martha Jane Carr, had five children: J.M., John, Mather, Anna and Martha. William also cared for his stepdaughter.



In 1936, William's grandson, William Wesley Carr, bought 80 acres and settled on it with his wife, Gertrude Bailey Carr. In 1950, William Wesley Carr bought an additional 80 acres.

In 2001, Charles Mather Carr and Louis Will Carr inherited the land from their mother. In 2006, Charles and his wife, Ann Word Carr, acquired his brother's interest in the farm.

Acres in original parcel: 640

Crops or livestock raised: 1902 — hay, small grains and wheat; 2012 — cattle, cotton, SUNFLOWERS AND WHEAT

As told by Charles Mather Carr, great-grandson of the founder.

#### GOOD CREEK FARM

Foard County • 18 miles southwest of Crowell on CR 374

FOUNDED IN: 1910

FOUNDER: WILLIAM AUBREY CHATFIELD

CURRENT OWNER: WAYNE NICHOLAS CHATFIELD AND

SHARRON CHATFIELD SAWYERS

The Chatfield family moved to Foard County in 1910 and settled in the Good Creek community. William Aubrey Chatfield bought acreage with A.W. Fortner, and in 1917, the shared land was partitioned. When William and his wife, Mary Jane, passed away, the land was inherited by their six children: Richard, Louise, Mamie, Fremont, Nick and Daisy.

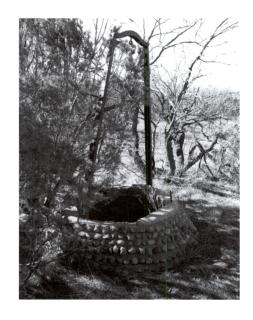
Richard and Nick bought out their brothers and sisters. Nick managed the ranch. They eventually purchased an additional 680 acres of adjoining land. Their brand was C up and C down.

Upon Nick's death in 1964, his portion of the land passed to his wife, Betty, and his children, Sharon and Wayne Nicholas. In 1969, the family bought Richard's

share of the acreage. Wayne Nicholas has operated the farm for 48 years since the death of his father. His brand is an interlocking N and C.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 195 Crops or Livestock raised: 2012 — CATTLE

As told by Wayne Nicholas Chatfield, grandson of the founder.



#### SANDIFER-CAMPBELL FARMS, INC.

Foard County • Six miles south of Margaret

Founded in: 1890

FOUNDERS: ARCHIBALD DAVID CAMPBELL

AND MOLLIE HARRIS CAMPBELL

CURRENT OWNERS: DORIS CAMPBELL BINNION, ROBERT LOWELL

CAMPBELL AND CALVIN DAVID CAMPBELL, M.D.

A.D. Campbell was born in Tennessee and came to Texas as a child with is father, Robert Fleming Campbell. Archibald served in the Confederate Army. When he returned, he married Mollie Harris. They had five children.



Their only daughter, Cora, eloped with Charles Sandifer as a youngster. They soon made their way to the area now known as Foard County. They brought more family members to the area, including Cora's parents. They acquired additional land and helped found the county.

The original parcel has now grown to more than 5,500 acres and is still in operation.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 85

Crops or Livestock raised: Not provided

As told by Calvin David Campbell, great-grandson of the founders.

#### BAND RANCH

Fort Bend County • five miles southwest of Rosenberg

Founded in: 1912 Founder: Henry Band

CURRENT OWNERS: CALVIN BAND, LEONA BAND HAUSLER, SHIRLEY

Band Hyatt, Larry Band and Cindy Band Stegemiller

Henry Band was born in Germany in 1864. He arrived in Galveston on Oct. 15, 1888. Working on the railroad took him to Caldwell County where he married Martha Ehrlich. Henry's wife needed a wetter climate for health reasons so in 1912 the family moved to Fort Bend County where he purchased several tracts of land.



When Henry died in 1937 his land was divided among three of his six children. Louis Band acquired 257 acres of the original parcel.

In the 1950s, Louis' son, Gilbert Band, took over the farming operation. When Louis died in 1972, the land was transferred to his three children: Gilbert Band, Calvin Band and Leona Band Hausler.

In 1993, Gilbert's son, Larry, took over the pasture. In 2006 Henry Band's great-great-grandson began raising cattle on the ranch.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 548

Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — COTTON, LIVESTOCK, MILO AND WHEAT; 2012 — CATTLE

As told by grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the founder.

#### GERALD EDWARD MANN FARM AND RANCH

Frio County • 14 miles east of Pearsall on Mann Road

FOUNDED IN: 1911

Founders: Edward and Minnie Mann CURRENT OWNER: GERALD EDWARD MANN

Edward and Minnie Mann moved from Lacoste in 1912. Edward's two brothers, Emil and Henry, bought the two farms north and south of Edward. The three brothers helped each other farm and ranch with mules. Most of the corn farmed went to feed the mules.

Their son, Edward William, grew up on the farm and went to school in Pearsall where he was a star running back on the football team. Future president Lyndon B. Johnson drove him home after practice. Edward and Minnie only saw him play one game his senior year. Edward was also a track star and went to state track where he won gold medals and set records in the four forty and javelin.

Edward drilled the first Carrizo water well in Frio County in 1947. He was the first to plant peanuts in the fall and the first to plant them on a bed.



As told by Gerald E. Mann, grandson of the founder.



Gaines County • 15 miles southwest of FM 181 FOUNDED IN: 1907 FOUNDER: DAN COBB CURRENT OWNER: JOYCE BISHOP HARGROVE,

David Bishop Hargrove, Steve Mark Hargrove

Dan Cobb was born in Tennessee in 1869. Around 1890, he moved to Texas where he met and married Aurelia Metcalfe. In 1904, the Cobbs moved to Gaines County where Dan had the largest mail delivery route in the state and a contract to build the Gaines County Courthouse. He acquired land in 1907. They raised six children: Lois, Ora, Dorothy, Edna, Denis and Dan Gordon. They were brought up in the house Dan Cobb built in 1906.



Aurelia inherited the land in 1937 and her son and grandsons continued to work the land. As each daughter and son died, the land was passed onto his or her children. The land remained in one tract.

Charles Hargrove acquired the tract in 2000 and works the land. After his death in 2010, Joyce B. Hargrove inherited the tract and continues to work on the land.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 640

Crops or livestock raised: 1907 — Cattle; 2012 — Cotton, Peanuts and Wheat

As told by Joyce Bishop Hargrove, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.



#### CHARLES AND MARY LOU KLEIN FARM

GILLESPIE COUNTY • ONE-HALF MILE NORTHWEST OF STONEWALL

FOUNDED IN: 1911

FOUNDERS: FRANK AND MARIA KLEIN CURRENT OWNER: CHARLES KLEIN

Frank Klein was raised in Tivydale, Texas. As an adult, he desired more farmland and purchased acreage along the Pedernales River in Stonewall. He was married to Marie Klein and they had eight children: Harry, Helmuth, Irvin, Francis, Louis, Zita, Erna and Eulalia.



In 1940, Louis and Irvin each bought half the property from their mother. Louis and his wife, Viola, made their living on the farm by planting peanuts and growing 30 acres of peaches.

When their son, Charles, and his wife, Mary Lou, bought the acreage in 1973 they planted more peaches and introduced squash. Their daughter, Kimberley Zuberbueler, and her husband, Robert, and their children, Katelyn and Rob, moved to the homestead in 2000 and continue the farming traditions.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 1,000

Crops or livestock raised: 1911 — cattle, corn, cotton, goats and hay; 2012 — cattle, goats, hay, OATS AND PEACHES

As told by Charles Klein, grandson of the founder.

#### NOVOSAD FARM

Gonzales County • Six miles northwest of Shiner

FOUNDED IN: 1911

Founders: Paul and Marie Pekar

Current owners: Quentin and Patricia Novosad

Paul Pekar was born in Czechoslovakia in 1862 and traveled to the United States in search of a better economy. In 1911, he bought land. Paul and his wife, Marie, had 11 children.



Their daughter, Mary, married Joseph Novosad and purchased 79 acres in 1919. In 1941, they purchased additional acreage from her parents. They had 11 children: John, Joseph, Frank, Edward, Paul, Bennie, Edwin, Adolph, Mary, Annie and Margaret.

Adolph and his wife, Annette, purchased land from his parents in 1973. They worked on the land and raised three children: Quentin, Adolph Jr. and Lynette.

Their son, Quentin, married Patricia and purchased land from his parents in 1992. They purchased more land from them over the years. Quentin and Patricia have three children: Tracey, Garrett and Courtney.

Acres in original parcel: 80

Crops or livestock raised: 1911 — corn, cotton and livestock; 2012 — livestock and hay

As told by Quentin D. Novosad, great-grandson of the founders.



#### ZAVA DIL RANCH

Gonzales County • eight miles south of Gonzales ON FM 1116 AND CR 196

FOUNDED IN: 1910

FOUNDER: INOCENZ ZAVADIL

Current owners: John L. Zavadil and Lois Jean Jackson

Inocenz Zavadil came to Texas in 1897 from Moravia. He worked until he was able to travel back to Moravia and bring his bride, Antonie Malatek, back to Texas with him. He purchased acreage in 1910 that was part of the grant from the Republic of Texas to William Newman, and is now part of the William Newman Survey. They raised five boys: Emil, Anton, Josef, Vilem and Alois.



Louis and his wife, Hilda Adel, acquired the land in 1943. They were the first to start raising poultry on the land.

After the passing of Louis and Hilda, their daughter, Lois Jean Jackson, and their son, John L. Zavadil, inherited the original 195 acres.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 195

Crops or livestock raised: 1910 — cattle, corn and cotton; 2012 — cattle and hay

As told by John Zavadil, grandson of the founder.

#### L.H. DARWIN FARM

Grayson County • Four Miles Southwest of Whitewright on Andy Thomas Road

FOUNDED IN: 1912

FOUNDER: LONNIE H. DARWIN JR.

Current owners: Robert H. Darwin, Jr., LaVerne K. Darwin,

KAREN DARWIN STIDHAM, CAROL HARPER BROWNLOW,

BARRY DARWIN HARPER, TODD ALLEN HARPER,

HOLLY JO HARPER CAMP

Lonnie H. Darwin Jr. was born in Grayson County in 1887 on the farm homesteaded by his grandparents. In 1912, he bought land from his grandparents. In 1918, he married Emily Lytle Biggerstaff and they had three children: Percy Jacquelyn, Robert Houston and Martha Jo. During the Depression years, Lonnie helped neighbors by sharing corn and vegetables with them.

Lytle acquired title to the land after Lonnie in 1965 and turned over management to her son, Robert Houston Darwin.

Robert Houston died in 2006 and left his share of the land to his wife, LaVerne K. Darwin. Their son, Robert H. Darwin Jr., works the land and continues operations.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 126

Crops or Livestock raised: 1912 — COTTON, HAY, GRAIN, LIVESTOCK AND VEGETABLES

As told by LaVerne Kilgroe Darwin, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.



#### DYER RANCH

Grimes County • Three Miles South of Bedias on SH 90

FOUNDED IN: 1894

Founder: Shepherd Franklin Dyer CURRENT OWNER: JERRY C. DYER

S.F. Dyer came to Texas with the Blount family as an orphan boy. S.F. bought his first parcel of land in 1894. John T. Dyer bought 100 acres from S.F. in 1901. In 1949, J.K. Dyer acquired the land from his father, John.

J.K. continued to work the land. In 1952, J.K. began a dairy farm on the property. In 2002, Jerry Dyer purchased the property from the J.K. Dyer estate.

Jerry's son, Jeffrey K. Dyer, currently lives on the property with his son, Zachery Zane Dyer.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 335

Crops or Livestock raised: 1894 — Cattle, corn, cotton and peanuts; 2012 — Cattle and hay

As told by Jerry Dyer, great-grandson of the founder.



Hale County • Four miles west of Hale Center

FOUNDED IN: 1907

FOUNDER: HARM FRANK KOELDER

Current owners: Ervin Kino and Willie Yvonne Koelder

In 1907, Harm Koelder heard about land for sale in Hale County and moved his family from Nebraska to Texas. He built the barn and then the house. He farmed the land with the help of his sons, Kindo, Dick and Herman. He retired in 1937 and Dick farmed the land.



Dick died in 1948, and Kindo and Herman farmed the land. When they retired, Herman's two grandsons, Calvin and Ervin, farmed it. After the death of Herman and Kino, Ervin bought the land. Ervin retired in 1994 when his wife, Yvonne, and his son, Gary, farmed the land. Both retired in 2001 and rented the land to Yvonne's daughter, Karen Koelder Boyce, and her husband, John Boyce.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 160

Crops or livestock raised: 1907 — cane, cow feed, grain and wheat; 2012 — corn, cotton,

MILO AND WHEAT

As told by Willie Yvonne Koelder, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.



#### COPE FARMS

HALL COUNTY • 12 MILES WEST OF ESTELLINE ON U.S. HWY. 86

Founded in: 1907

FOUNDER: THOMAS JEFFERSON COPE

Current owners: Thomas and Margaret Cope

Thomas Jefferson Cope was born in Denton County. When he was 13, he and his family moved to Hall County. To make the move, his parents and siblings took the train to Hall County, and Thomas Jefferson later brought the family's household goods by wagon using the railroad as his guide. He married Luna May Tarwater in 1903. In 1907, he acquired 160 acres. In 1918, he added another 200 acres. Thomas and Luna raised three children: J. Warner, Kenneth and Margaret.

J. Warner Cope was born in 1905. After college he returned to farming. He married Lucille Berryman in 1930 and together they raised two sons, Thomas James and Michael Warner. They lived and worked on the farm all their married life after acquiring title to the land in 1966 when Thomas Jefferson died.



Thomas James married Margaret Crump after serving in the Army and returned to the farm in 1967. They have three children: Tom Jr., Adam and Leigh Anne.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 160

Crops or Livestock raised: 1907 — COTTON AND LIVESTOCK; 2012 — COTTON

As told by Thomas James Cope, grandson of the founder

#### OLSEN'S FARM AND RANCH

Hansford County • Northwest of Gruver on FM 1262

FOUNDED IN: 1910

Founder: Gustav Adolph Olsen

Current owners: Burton and Mary Olsen

Gustav Adolph Olsen was born in Norway and traveled to Nebraska. He later traveled by train with his family to the Oslo community in Texas and bought land. Gustav and his wife, Johanna, had eight children: Alice, Grace, Sophie, Gustav, Elmer, Esther, Axel and Selma.



Gustav Jr. farmed the land with his wife, Bergit Helene. They had seven children: Genevieve, Marcella, Burton, Marvin, Camilla, Gordon and Luanna. The children grew up on the farm.

Burton and his wife, Mary, came to the farm in 1954 to live on the land. Their two sons, Jon and Wayne, were raised on the farm. Jon and his wife, Mary Elizabeth, have four children: Faith, Kristen, Hannah and Gustav. They all live on the farm. Wayne lives on the land and farms, and takes care of the livestock. Jon helps with upkeep and shop work.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 320

Crops or livestock raised: 1910 — cattle, corn, feed, horses and wheat; 2012 — chickens, cows, FEED, GOATS, RYE, SHEEP AND GOATS

As told by Mary Francis Olsen, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.

#### JOSSELET SWITCH

Haskell County • Five Miles North of Haskell

on U.S. Hwy. 277 FOUNDED IN: 1887

FOUNDER: VICTOR JOSEPH JOSSELET

CURRENT OWNER: BAILEY TOLIVER FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

Victor Joseph Josselet was born in 1846 in Belgium. After completing school and military training he emigrated to the United States with his three brothers. They all got jobs as coal miners. After two years of digging coal they went to Texas and bought a farm.

Victor met Catherine Pauline Hugon and they were married in 1880. They lived in Cook County where he farmed and ranched. He purchased land north of Haskell and made payments until 1890 at which time he built a house and moved his family to the property. They had nine children who each received 200 acres on the day of their marriage.



In 1916, their daughter, Ardonia Josselet Toliver, received her tract. Ardonia and her husband, J.L. Toliver Sr., divided the property equally among their children.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 2,952

Crops or Livestock raised: 1887 — Cattle and Wheat; 2012 — Cattle, Cotton, Milo and Wheat

As told by Bailey Toliver, grandson of the founder.

#### MARTIN FARM

Hunt County • six miles west of Commerce on FM 512

FOUNDED IN: 1900

Founders: Alvin Tate and Lula Ann Martin

CURRENT OWNERS: ALLEN LYNN AND BETTY ANN MARTIN

Alvin Tate Martin came to Hunt County from Alabama as a young man with his family. He met Lula Ann Wood and they were married in 1892. In 1900, they bought 74 acres. They had five children: Ester, Hilbert, James Allen, Roy and Myrtle. In 1916 they built a new home, which still stands today.



In 1939, their son, James Allen, and his wife, Vivian Lynn, bought the land. They continued to work on the land. They had two sons, Allen Lynn and Jimmy Glenn.

Allen inherited 60 acres of the original acreage in 1995 after the death of his parents. Allen and his wife, Betty, have three children: Lynda Ann, Susan Lee and Allen Andrew. Allen Andrew farms the land today.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 74

Crops or livestock raised: 1900 — corn, cotton, hay, livestock and oats; 2012 — cotton, hay, LIVESTOCK, MILO, SOY BEANS AND WHEAT

As told by Betty Ann Martin, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.



#### C. W. HELLEN RANCHES, LTD.

IIM HOGG COUNTY • 20 MILES SOUTH OF HEBBRONVILLE ON SH 16

Founded in: 1907

Founder: Charles Waugh Hellen

CURRENT OWNERS: C. W. HELLEN RANCHES, LTD.

Charles Waugh Hellen was born in Washington D.C. and came to Texas in 1894 after losing his leg to a streetcar accident at the age of 5. In 1895, at the age of 18, he leased land and started farming. In 1907, he purchased the parcel he had been leasing. In 1911, he purchased additional acreage, which he called El Ebanito Ranch. Charles and his wife, Alice Finckel Hellen, raised two sons, Dana Lincoln and Charles Waugh Jr.



Charles passed away at the age of 86. Dana and Charles Jr. divided the property into two ranches and continued to work the land. Charles Jr. and his wife, Billie, acquired title to the original parcel and raised three children.

When Charles Jr. died in 1999, his wife and three children formed C. W. Ranches Ltd. The ranch continues to be managed by Charles Jr.'s son and daughter, and their children.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 640

Crops or livestock raised: 1907 — Cattle and Mules; 2012 — Cattle

As told by Charlotte Brady Hellen, granddaughter of the founder.

#### HOFFMAN ROCKING H RANCHES, LTD.

JIM WELLS COUNTY • NEAR BEN BOLT

Founded in: 1897

FOUNDER: CHARLES HOFFMAN

CURRENT OWNER: BRUCE PAULUS HOFFMAN

The 2,000-acre La Trinidad division of the Rocking H is home to hundreds of native species. The brush is a perfect setting for mammals, reptiles, insects and birds to thrive. La Trinidad Creek is one of two seasonal creeks that meanders across the land.

Since the decision was made to focus on raising cattle instead of sheep in the late 19th century, the White-Faced Hereford has been the breed of choice for the Hoffmans. That tradition continues today.



The Hoffmans are committed to the conservation of wildlife and the land. They are active in many conservation organizations. The next two generations of Hoffmans have joined current owners, Bruce and Gail on the ranch; Brent and his wife, Jenna, and their son, Briggs.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 7,000

Crops or Livestock raised: 1897 — Cattle and Sheep; 2012 — Cattle and Horses

As told by Bruce Hoffman, great-grandson of the owner.



#### NEWMAN FARM

Jones County • Five Miles Southwest of Anson on FM 2746

FOUNDED IN: 1908

FOUNDER: WILLIAM SAMUEL HERNDON

CURRENT OWNERS: JUDITH AND RICHARD NEWMAN

William Herndon from Tennessee and Mary Lantrip from Arkansas got married in 1883 and made their home in Texas where they raised 13 children. When they died, the children acquired the land allocated to them.

Their daughter, Alma Herndon, eloped with Earl Scott in 1911 and raised five children. Their son, Adrian, married Virginia Smith in 1941 and helped his parents work on the land. He inherited the land and the house when they passed.

Their daughter, Judy, and her husband, Richard, bought the house from her mother and the remaining acreage in 1978. They continued to work the land while raising three children.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 220

Crops or Livestock raised: 1908 — Cattle, Chickens, Cotton, Hogs, Horses, Mules, Turkeys and WHEAT; 2012 — BERMUDA GRASS, CATTLE AND WHEAT

As told by Judy Newman, great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### GUSTAV MARQUARDT RANCH

Kendall County • 10 miles north of Boerne, four miles

SOUTHWEST OF SISTERDALE

FOUNDED IN: 1898

FOUNDER: GUSTAV MARQUARDT

Current owners: Royce and Dolores Marquardt Steubing

Gustav Marquardt as born on a ranch owned by his parents in 1861. His father was born in Prussia and arrived in Galveston in 1855.

Gustav and his wife, Lina Geizzler Marquardt, purchased land south of the

Guadalupe River in 1908 and built a homestead with their three children. Gustav died suddenly in 1917 and left the property to his widow.

Their son, Martin, returned to the farm after a bout of polio and bought the property from his mother's estate when she died in 1953. He continued the farming and ranching operation until his death in 1997. Martin and his wife, Nora Boos, gifted the property to their daughter, Dolores Jane Marquardt Steubing, and her husband, Royce Steubing, in 1972.

Dolores' daughter, Kerri Steubing Carpenter, lives on the ranch with her family and assists in operations.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 1,309

Crops or livestock raised: 1898 — cane, cattle, chickens, corn, ducks, hogs, goats, oats, sheep AND WHEAT; 2012 — CHICKENS, DUCKS AND GOATS

As told by Dolores Marquardt Steubing, granddaughter of the founder.





#### REED RANCH

Lampasas County • seven miles east of Lometa off FM 581

FOUNDED IN: 1912

FOUNDER: THOMAS NOBLE REED

Current owner: George W. Reed Jr. and Trey W. Reed

In 1912, Thomas Noble and Jessie Inez Mayben-Reed purchased land and settled on it along with their 10-month-old son, George William Reed. They arrived in a wagon that is still on the ranch today. They traveled to Lampasas once a month for supplies.



In 1965, their son, George, took over the ranch and worked there until his death in 1985. His son, George W. Reed Jr., moved to the ranch and lived with his mother, and continued raising cattle and goats. He still lives there today and works on the land.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 320

Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — Cattle, Chickens, Turkeys and Sheep; 2012 — Cattle and Sheep

As told by George W. Reed Jr., grandson of the founder.

#### BAR M RANCH

Lavaca County  $\bullet$  10 miles northeast of Hallettsville on CR 138

Founded in: 1894 Founder: Martin Fojt

Current owners: Alton and Bernice Michalcik

Martin Fojt traveled from Czechoslovakia to the United States in 1891. He purchased land in 1894. Martin and his wife, Anna, had two children, but lost one in infancy. They worked hard on the land they owned.



Their son, Joseph, and his wife, Johanna Tlucek, inherited the land. They worked the land until Joseph died in 1932.

Joseph's son, Emil, farmed the land until 1949. At that point, Emil's son-in-law, Alfons, took over operations. After Johanna died in 1954, the land was passed to their children, who sold the land to Lillie and Alfons Michalcik.

Lillie and Alfons farmed with a pair of mules and provided food for the family. They had three sons. In 1990, the land was given to their three sons who divided it into tracts where they all continue to work.

Acres in original parcel: 109

Crops or livestock raised: 1894 — cattle, chickens, grains, horses and vegetables;

2012 — CATTLE AND HAY

As told by Alton, Ervin and Glenn Michalcik, great-grandsons of the founder.

#### G7 RANCH

Lavaca County • 10 miles northeast of Hallettsville

on CR 138

Founded in: 1894 Founder: Martin Fojt

Current owners: Glenn and Barbara Michalcik

Martin Fojt traveled from Czechoslovakia to the United States in 1891. He purchased land in 1894. Martin and his wife, Anna, had two children, but lost one in infancy. They worked hard on the land they owned.



Their son, Joseph, and his wife, Johanna Tlucek, inherited the land. They worked the land until Joseph died in 1932.

Joseph's son, Emil, farmed the land until 1949. At that point, Emil's son-in-law, Alfons, took over operations. After Johanna died in 1954, the land was passed to their children, who sold the land to Lillie and Alfons Michalcik.

Lillie and Alfons farmed with a pair of mules and provided food for the family. They had three sons. In 1990, the land was given to their three sons who divided it into tracts where they all continue to work.

Acres in original parcel: 109 Crops or livestock raised: 1894 — Cattle, Chickens, Grains, Horses and Vegetables; 2012 — Cattle and Hay

As told by Alton, Ervin and Glenn Michalcik, great-grandsons of the founder.

#### MUNSCH SWEET HOME FARM

Lavaca County • One-and-a-half miles northwest of Sweet Home on CR 392

FOUNDED IN: 1912

Founders: Julius Peter (J.P.) and Emilie Munsch Current owners: Robert and Michelle Munsch,

Larry and Carolyn Sue Munsch

Julius Peter and Emilie Munsch bought a farm in Sweet Home in 1912. They built a two-story home, developed the land, added 30 acres to the initial 86-acre farm and raised three sons: Julius Edwin, Hubert John and Eugene Louis. The family grew an extensive variety of cash-crop vegetables, fruits, livestock, and sold daily milk to a local dairy company. J.P. operated a cotton gin and wood-hauling business. He was also a deputy sheriff for Dewitt County.



In 1972, J.P. left the farm to his three sons. Julius Edwin left his land to his seven children in 1978 and it was consolidated by his son, Robert Munsch, by 2006. Hubert sold his eastern third to one of his two sons, Larry Munsch, in 1982. Eugene willed his land to his nephew, Julius John, in 1994. Julius John willed this western third of the land to his brother, Robert Munsch, in 2006. The families continue to work and improve the land.

Acres in original parcel: 86

Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — Cattle, Mules, Turkeys, Pigs, Chickens, Corn, Cotton, Tomatoes 2012 - Coastal, Jiggs, and Native Hay, Horses, Cattle and Pecans

As told by Robert Joseph Munsch, grandson of the founder.



#### MX2 RANCH

LAVACA COUNTY • 10 MILES NORTHEAST OF HALLETTSVILLE

on CR 138

FOUNDED IN: 1894 FOUNDER: MARTIN FOJT

Current owners: Ervin and Jeannette Michalcik

Martin Fojt traveled from Czechoslovakia to the United States in 1891. He purchased land in 1894. Martin and his wife, Anna, had two children, but lost one in infancy. They worked hard on the land they owned.

Their son, Joseph, and his wife, Johanna Tlucek, inherited the land. They worked the land until Joseph died in 1932.

Joseph's son, Emil, farmed the land until 1949. At that point, Emil's son-in-law, Alfons, took over operations. After Johanna died in 1954, the land was passed to their children, who sold the land to Lillie and Alfons Michalcik.

Lillie and Alfons farmed with a pair of mules and provided food for the family. They had three sons. In 1990, the land was given to their three sons who divided it into tracts where they all continue to work.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 109

Crops or livestock raised: 1894 — Cattle, Chickens, Grains, Horses and Vegetables;

2012 - CATTLE AND HAY

As told by Alton, Ervin and Glenn Michalcik, great-grandsons of the founder.

#### NOLLKAMPER FARM

Lavaca County • five miles northeast of Shiner on FM 1891

FOUNDED IN: 1882

Founders: Franz and Catarina Nollkamper

CURRENT OWNERS: DALTON NOLLKAMPER, MAURICE WARD

and Sandra Blum

Franz H. Nollkamper was born in Germany and boarded a ship bound for the United States in 1852. There, he met his second wife, Catarina W. S. Nollkamper. They purchased land in Lavaca County in 1882. They had 11 children.



Their son, Rudolph, married Emma Roitssch and acquired the original acreage. They had four children: Ernest, Rosa, Arthur and Selma.

Arthur married Louis Wehman in 1916 and purchased land from Rudolph in 1920. Arthur had twins, Lester and Lillian, who inherited the farm together in 1970.

Lester's son, Dalton, inherited his share when his farther died in 2002. Lillian's son, Maurice W. Ward, helps his cousin work the land. The original home was restored in 2007 and is used by the family occasionally. The original two-story barn was renovated and modernized in 2011.

Acres in original parcel: 115

Crops or livestock raised: 1882 — Livestock, Cotton, Corn and Milo

As told by Maurice W. Ward, great-great-grandson of the founder.

#### PANUS FARM AND RANCH

Lavaca County • four miles west of Moulton on FM 532

Founded in: 1891

Founders: Anton and Rosa Zidek Current owner: Leonita Panus

Anton Zidek and Rosa Papacersk were both born in Czechoslovakia. As young adults they traveled to the United States separately.

They met in the United States and were married. They purchased acreage from W.O. and Callie Woodley in 1891. They had six children: Alois, Joe, James, Mary and twins Antonia and Rosa.



They farmed the land and raised animals. They lived off the land. Family members of the founders currently own the original acreage.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 521

Crops or Livestock raised: 1891 — Cattle, Chickens, Corn, Cotton, Guineas, Hay, Hogs, TURKEYS AND VEGETABLES

As told by Leonita Panus, great-granddaughter of the founders.

# PESEK HOMESTEAD AT SWEET HOME

Lavaca County • seven miles southwest of

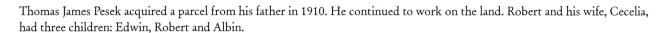
HALLETTSVILLE IN SWEET HOME

Founded in: 1905 FOUNDER: FRANK PESEK

CURRENT OWNERS: JUDY PESEK SKIPPER

Frank Pesek was born in 1858 in Austria and arrived in the United States with his family at the age of 9. In 1905, Frank purchased acreage from Mrs. Tennessee Muckleroy. Frank and his wife, Marie Turek, had 11 children: Mary, Emil, James,

Thomas, Anton, Charles, Carrie, John, Frank, Lillian and Albina. They raised all the children on the farm.



Robert and Edwin acquired title to a portion of the acreage in 1966 and continued to raise livestock. Robert acquired title to some of the acreage, and with his wife, Amelia, had five children: Thomas, Marianna, Judy, Connie and Joyce.

Judy Pesek Skipper acquired title to her father's land in 2003. Judy and her husband, Ron, have one son, Kyle. They continue to work on the land.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 253

Crops or livestock raised: 1905 — corn, cotton and livestock; 2012 — cattle

As told by Judy Pesek Skipper, great-granddaughter of the founder.





#### PETERS FARM

Lavaca County • five miles southeast of Shiner

Founded in: 1905 Founder: John Peters

Current owners: Daniel, Monica and Daryl Peters.

In 1905, John and Johana Peters acquired land. They had nine children: Mary, John, Josef, Albina, Julia, Vera, Rosie, Francis and Victor.

In 1946, Victor acquired the property. Victor and his wife, Frances, continued to raise cattle and work the land. They had two children, one of whom died as an infant.

Their son, Daniel, acquired the property after his father died in 1981 followed by his mother in 1984. Daniel and his wife, Molly, had three children: Daniel Jr., Monica and Daryl. In 2008, Daniel passed away and left the land to his children.

Acres in original parcel: 147

Crops or livestock raised: 1905 — cattle, corn and cotton; 2012 — cattle and hay

As told by Daniel Peters, great-grandson of the founder.

#### THE LOOS PLACE

Lavaca County • 20 miles southwest of Halletsville

Founded in: 1909

Founders: William and Mary Loos Current owner: Almon Gene Loos

William Loos was born in Germany in 1859. He came to the United States for a better life. He didn't speak English when he landed in Galveston and never learned to speak it well. William and his wife, Mary, had six children. He founded the homestead in 1909. He died in 1946



Their son, Paul, married Bessie Arnold and lived on the homestead with his parents. They had one child, Paul Otto Loos Jr.

Paul Jr. married Mildred Hammon in 1947 and they lived on the homestead. Bessie passed away in 1949. In 1975, Paul Sr. died. Paul and Mildred raised three children on the homestead: James Otto, Almon Gene and Sara lee.

In 1984, Paul Jr. passed away. In 1997, Mildred deeded the land to their three children. James and Sara deed their portion to their brother, Almon Gene Loos, in 2006. Almon continues to work on the land.

Acres in original parcel: 333 Crops or Livestock raised: 1909 — Cattle, Chickens, Corn, Hay, Hogs and Sheep; 2012 — Cattle and Hay

As told by Sara Loos Fikac, great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### LAZY J RANCH

Limestone County • 15 miles south of Groesbeck

NEAR FM 1246 AND FM 937

Founded in: 1899

FOUNDERS: ROBERT W. AND CORA JONES

CURRENT OWNER: KATHERINE H. JONES FORMAN

Robert W. Jones was born in Mississippi in 1865. He traveled with his family to Tennessee where he got his medical degree and practiced for five years before moving to Texas. He married Cora Neyland in 1894 and they had two children, Crystal and Mary.



Cora acquired the land after Robert died. In 1951, the land was passed to her brother, Crystal, and his son, Jack. They worked the land until 1978 when Crystal died and the land was passed to Jack and his daughter, Helen. Jack married Katherine Jones Forman who now owns a portion of the acreage. Her son, Mack, continues to work the land.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 913

Crops or Livestock raised: 1899 — Cattle, Cotton and Hogs; 2012 —

As told by Mack Jones, great-grandson of the founders.

#### HOUSTON RANCH

Llano County • 12 miles northeast of Llano

FOUNDED IN: 1903

Founder: Mike Houston

CURRENT OWNER: RAYBURN L. HOUSTON, JR.

Mike Houston was born in San Saba County in 1876 to J.T. and Sarah Houston.

Mike Houston acquired land in Llano County in 1903 and acquired more land in 1906. He added more land as time went by.

R.L. Houston acquired title to the land when his father died in 1953. He continued to work on the land until his death in 1999. R.L. Houston and his wife, Jerlene Buntyn, had two sons, Rayburn and Michael.

Rayburn Houston acquired title to the property in 1999. He continues to raise cattle with hay production. Rayburn has three sons: Alan, Richard and Tom. Richard resides on the ranch and is involved in daily ranch activities.

Acres in original parcel: 168

Crops or Livestock raised: 1903 — Cattle and Horses; 2012 — Cattle

As told by Rayburn Houston, grandson of the founder.



#### EVITT FARMS

Lubbock County • Northwest Quarter of Section 119

Founded in: 1907

FOUNDER: MITCHELL ALEXANDER EVITT
CURRENT OWNERS: GARY AND VIRGINIA EVITT

Mitchell Alexander Evitt was born in Georgia in 1854. He moved his family to Lubbock County in 1907 where he acquired land. He and his family worked the untilled land with mules and raised 10 children.

In 1913, his son, Lucas, purchased 160 acres. Lucas and his wife, Ocie, had two children, Joy and Gary. He drilled his first irrigation well in 1947 and survived the Dust Bowl and Great Depression. He continued to work the farm until 1969 when he rented the land to his son, Gary.

Gary and his wife, Virginia, lived on the farm from 1969 to 1997. They raised two children, Phil and Stephanie, in the same house Gary resided in his entire life. They continue to work the land as good stewards, being sure to conserve resources for future Evitt generations.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 640

Crops or Livestock raised: 1907 — Cattle, Cotton and Grain Sorghum; 2012 — Cattle, Cotton and Grain Sorghum

As told by Gary Evitt, grandson of the founder.

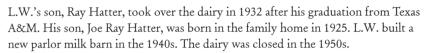
#### JOE RAY HATTER RANCH

McLennan County • six miles north of Moody on FM 2113

FOUNDED IN: 1907

Founders: L.W. and Ella Hatter Current owner: Joe Ray Hatter

L.W. Hatter and his wife, Ella, purchased acreage in 1907. They introduced a dairy around 1920. The old barn still stands today.





The land was deeded to Ray Hatter in 1946 and passed on to Joe Ray Hatter in 1994 when his father died.

With the help of his wife, Joe Ray Hatter has added more than 1,000 acres to the original farm. They have three daughters, Gail, Bonnie and Lisa, who have bought land from Joe Ray Hatter and own homes on their property. A grandson and two great-grandchildren also live on the property.

Acres in original parcel: 198

Crops or Livestock raised: 1907 — corn, cotton, dairy and wheat; 2012 — brangus beef

As told by Joe Ray Hatter, grandson of the founder.

# JOHNSON BURT WOODARD PROPERTY - "HILLTOP FARM"

McLennan County • 537 Ziegler Lane in Waco

FOUNDED IN: 1912

Founders: Thomas Andrew and Lillie Johnson Burt Current owner: Betsy Mae Woodard and Allie Mae Woodard

Thomas Andrew Burt was born in Lebanon, Texas in 1884. He moved to Erath with has parents and, after dropping out of school, lived and worked with a local family while employed at the Cicero Talbert Gin. This experience caused him to desire his own land.



Thomas and his wife, Lillie Johnson Burt, had one daughter, Allie Mae Burt, in 1913 in the original house, which still stands today. Allie Mae grew up on the farm and graduated from Baylor University.

Allie Mae's daughter, Betsy, was born in 1949 on additional acreage that had been acquired by the family.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 257 Crops or Livestock raised: 1912 — Bluestem, Cotton, Grains and Oats; 2012 — Cotton, Grains, HORSES, MAIZE, OATS AND WHEAT

As told by Allie Mae Burt, daughter of the founder.

#### STOKES FARM

Nacogdoches County • 12 miles northeast of Nacogdoches on CR 271

FOUNDED IN: 1910 Founder: P.D. Stokes

CURRENT OWNERS: JACK AND DELORES STOKES GRIFFIN

Traveling from Mississippi with their possessions loaded in box cars, the Stokes and the McDuffies arrived in Garrison in 1893. Pink Daniel Stokes and his wife, Adella, purchased land in 1910 and added more land in 1911. They raised six children: Ellis, Robert, Lou, Mack, Brady and Georgia.



Robert D. Stokes and his wife, Wilma, acquired the land from his father, brothers and sisters in 1926 and 1949. He continued to work on the farm while raising three children: Bobby, Delton and Delores. When Robert died in 1959, Wilma continued to work on the farm.

Delores Stokes Griffin acquired 130 acres of the land in 2004. Delores and her husband, Jack Griffin, moved into the farm home in 2008 and have continued to raise cattle and timber.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 322

Crops or Livestock raised: 1910 — corn, cotton, livestock and timber; 2012 — cattle and timber

As told by Delores Stokes Griffin, granddaughter to the founder.

#### TIPPING FARM

Navarro County • One-and-a-half miles west of BLOOMING GROVE FOUNDED IN: 1904 FOUNDERS: LYLA AND R.E. TIPPING

CURRENT OWNER: JANICE K. Ross TIPPING

Robert Edward Tipping was born in Navarro County. In 1906, R.E. and Lyla Tipping bought land from J.A. Medlen and raised five children on the farm: Myrtle Evelyn, Margaret Elizabeth, Ernest Doyle, Wynonia and Buna Fay.



Bobby Doyle and his wife, Janice, bought the farm from his grandfather, aunts and uncles in 1963 and raised cattle. Bobby and Janice had four children: Bobby David, Christopher Clint, Jamey Lynn and Johanna Lea. Janice has been active in the community.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 108

Crops or Livestock raised: 1904 — Cotton and Cows; 2012 — Horses

As told by Janice K. Ross Tipping, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.

#### BOCK-DAN RANCH

Nueces County • One-and-a-half miles SOUTHEAST OF CLARKWOOD FOUNDED IN: 1907

Founder: Johann Gerhard Buckholt CURRENT OWNER: JOE BOCKHOLT JR.

Johann Gerhard Buckholt was born in Germany and came to the United States in 1868. In 1907, Johann purchased acreage in Nueces County and traveled and farmed with his four surviving sons until his death in 1915.



His son, Anton, inherited a portion of the acreage. Anton and his wife, Bertha, had six children: Ben, Theresa, John, Joe, Robert and Lena. Anton died in 1918. Around 1941, the "u" in Buckholt was changed to an "o" in Bockholt.

In 1944, Joe Bockholt was deeded an acreage which he farmed until 1992. In 1996, his son, Joe Bockholt Jr., began raising cattle on 10 acres, and in 2003, he leased additional land from the family. Joe Jr. still raises cattle and lives in the original homestead which was built in the 1920s.

Acres in original parcel: 973 Crops or Livestock raised: 2012 — HAY AND CATTLE

As told by Joe Bockholt Jr., great-grandson of the founder.

#### STANFORD ESTATES

Polk County • Adjacent to FM 3186 and LEWIS STANFORD DRIVE NEAR ONALASKA

FOUNDED IN: 1912

FOUNDER: SAMUEL TYLER STANFORD

CURRENT OWNER: CHARLES LEWIS STANFORD

Thomas Duncan Stanford was born in Alabama in 1842. He served in the Confederate Army and upon his return made his way to Texas. In 1867, he married Amelia Elizabeth Vaughn. They had a son, Samuel Tyler Stanford, in 1875.



Samuel married Heloise Marie Benoit in 1890. Their son, Lewis Samuel Stanford, was born in 1908. Samuel helped build the sawmill in Trinity and moved to Polk County in 1912 where he bought land.

In 1927, Lewis Samuel Stanford married Besse May Clarke. They had a son, Charles Lewis Stanford. Charles married Fay Rene Robinson in 1950. After graduating from Sam Houston in 1950, Charles moved back to the farm with his wife where he has been working ever since.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 2,460

Crops or livestock raised: 1912 — cattle, corn, cotton, milo, pecans, sugar cane and vegetables; 2012 — PECANS AND VEGETABLES

As told by Charles Lewis Stanford, grandson of the founder.

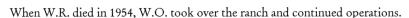
#### LEDBETTER RANCH

San Saba County • One-half mile west of Spring Creek

Founded in: 1906

FOUNDER: WILLIAM RILEY LEDBETTER CURRENT OWNER: MACY WADE LEDBETTER

William Riley Ledbetter was born in San Saba County in 1867. He married Mattie Shugart in 1898 and had two sons, Zabatus Delbert and Wade O-Brian. W.R. purchased acreage in 1906.



When W.O. died in 1964, his wife, Willie Belle, managed the ranch until splitting the land between their two children, Delbert Wayne and Marie Carolyn, in 1980.

D.W. maintained his portion of the ranch until his death in 2002. His son, Macy Wade Ledbetter, took over the property and currently runs the same operation.

Macy and his wife, Cathy, raise their two children, Wade and Shelby, on the land.

#### Acres in original parcel:

Crops or livestock raised: 1906 — apples, livestock, milo and oats; 2012 — cattle, chickens, HAY AND SHEEP

As told by Macy Wade Ledbetter, great-grandson of the founder.



#### RAYMOND C. ELLIS RANCH

San Saba County • 12 miles southwest of San Saba

Founded in: 1907 Founder: J.R. Ellis

CURRENT OWNER: KATHY OLIVER

James Robert Ellis was born in 1863 in the Rock Shoals community of San Saba. He married Mattie Sloan and they had seven children. Their son, Raymond, married Birda Lee Kattes in 1933 and they had three daughters, including Kathy Ellis.

Raymond lived his entire life on the ranch and worked for his father with his siblings. Raymond raised cattle, goats and lambs, and farmed oats.

Kathy Ellis married Chad Oliver in 1975 and they now live in the ranch home where Raymond and Birda Lee lived. Chad and Kathy have one son, Seth Andrew Oliver, and they continue to operate the ranch as a family.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 619

Crops or livestock raised: 1907 — Cattle, goats and sheep; 2012 — Cattle and hay

As told by Kathy Ellis Oliver, granddaughter of the founder.



Shackelford County • Three-quarters of a mile

east of Moran on FM 2408  $\,$ 

Founded in: 1909

Founder: Robert Hull Rodgers Current owner: Tommy Ray Brooks

Robert Hull Rodgers was born in Arkansas in 1854 and later moved to Texas where he married Ruth Dudley. They raised seven children. In 1909, Robert acquired land near Moran.



In 1919, his daughter, Minnie, and her husband, Burton Brooks, acquired half of the original acreage, including the original home. They had six children.

After Minnie's death in 1952, the children sold their inherited interest in the land to their brother, Jim Tom. After Burton Brooks' death in 1963, Jim Tom acquired the remaining portion of the parcel. Jim Tom and his wife, Ray Nell, had two children.

Their son, Tommy Ray, acquired title to the land in 1973 and worked it while operating a nearby dairy farm. Tommy and his wife, Billie, have two children, Tiffany Jean and Duston Ray.

Acres in original parcel: 40 Crops or livestock raised: 1909 — cattle, vegetables and wheat; 2012 — cattle, grain and vegetables

As told by Tommy Ray Brooks, great-grandson of the founder.





#### HODGES RANCH

Sterling County • 15 miles south of Sterling City on SH 163

FOUNDED IN: 1899

Founders: Robert N. Hodges and Lewis Crain Hodges

CURRENT OWNER: WESLEY ZANE HODGES AND

KAREN GAYLE HOELSCHER HODGES

Robert N. Hodges and his uncle, Lewis Crain Hodges, moved their families to Sterling County in 1899. Robert deeded his land to Lewis one year later.

Lewis' sons, Lewis Fred and James Newel, worked alongside him until James' sudden death. In 1935, Louis gifted the land equally between his son and his granddaughter, Orella. Having no children of her own, Orella eventually sold her share to James Clinton Hodges in 1993.

Lewis Fred married Jane Woods and together they had four children. Their son, James Clinton, took over the sheep flock and maintained the land. He married Joyce Marie Gartman and they had three children. Their son, Wesley Zane Hodges, currently owns and operates the family ranch.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 1,280

Crops or Livestock raised: 1899 — Cattle and Horses; 2012 — Cattle and Sheep

As told by Kalyn Nicole Hodges, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.

#### BRAUNE FARM

Taylor County • 15 miles west of Abilene on Hillside Road

FOUNDED IN: 1909

FOUNDER: CHRISTIAN BRAUNE JR. CURRENT OWNER: ALVIN E. BRAUNE

Christian Braune was born in Magdeburg, Germany. In 1881, he immigrated with his family to the United States. On April 16, 1909, he acquired 200 acres from R.A. and Anna Habermann. Christian and his wife, Antonia, raised five children: Erna Frieda, Otillia Lilly, Arthur Christ, William Edwin and Ella Julia.



When Christian died in 1959, his children inherited the land. Soon thereafter, Arthur and his wife, Fannie, acquired 100 acres of the land. Their three children - Edith Christena, John Christ and Alvin Edward - were born and raised there. When Arthur died, Fannie continued the farm with the assistance of their son, Alvin.

Alvin E. Braune acquired title to the 100 acres in 1980. He and his wife, Lillie, live on the farm where their two children, Wanda Kay and Glen Edward, were raised.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 200

Crops or livestock raised: 1909 — cattle, cotton, milo and wheat; 2012 — cattle, hay, OATS AND WHEAT

As told by Glen E. Braune, great-grandson of the founder.

#### TIMMONS HORSE & CATTLE RANCH

Throckmorton County • Two Miles East of Elbert on SH 79

Founded in: 1906

FOUNDER: WALTER JAMES TIMMONS

CURRENT OWNER: GORDON DAVID TIMMONS

Walter James Timmons was born in Tonk Valley, Texas, in 1888. In 1896, Walter and his two brothers, P.P. Timmons and Noble Timmons, acquired land in Throckmorton County. Walter later purchased his brothers' shares of the ranch.



Walter and his wife, Ella Mae Mack Carson, had six children: Audry, Gordon, Walter, Ima, Mary and McCarson. Walter passed away in 1970 at which time his son, Gordon, inherited the ranch. Ella Mae later passed away in 1989.

Gordon and his wife, Gene K. Timmons, were married in 1947. Gordon manages the ranch and he and Gene live in the original ranch home. Gordon and Gene's daughter, Kathleen Timmons, also helps with the property. Kathleen is a geologist.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 320

Crops or livestock raised: 1906 - Cattle, wheat, cotton, corn and maize; 2012 - wheat, hay, CATTLE AND HORSES

As told by Gordon David Timmons, son of the founder.

# WEATHERFORD WITT FARM

Tom Green County • Two Miles Northeast of

VERIBEST ON FIRST ROAD

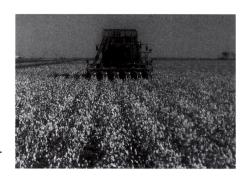
Founded in: 1903

Founder: Lucy Jane Weatherford

Current owners: Russ Weatherford, Ted Weatherford and

CINDY WEATHERFORD ADKINS

Lucy Thurman and Willis M. Weatherford were born in Maury County, Tennessee. Willis was 5-years-old when his father died in the Civil War. The Weatherfords grew tired of dealing with reconstruction in the South and moved to Texas. On Willis' gravestone in Manor is inscribed 'CAME TO TEXAS 1878.'



The Thurman family followed shortly thereafter. Willis and Lucy married in 1882 in Travis County and had nine children. Willis died in 1902 and Lucy moved the family to Veribest where she purchased the Weatherford Witt Farm.

Lucy never remarried, and after her death in 1948, the three surviving children and heirs sold their shares to their sister, Naomi Witt. Naomi and her husband, Henry, farmed the property until 1964. They leased it to Russ Ted and Cindy Weatherford until Naomi's death in 1972 when the Weatherfords purchased it from the Witt's heirs.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 214

Crops or Livestock raised: 1903 — Cotton, dairy cattle and milo; 2012 — Corn, Cotton and Wheat

As told by Ted Weatherford, great-grandson of the founder.

#### 111 RANCH

Uvalde County • Northeast of Uvalde between CR 101 and 102

FOUNDED IN: 1906

FOUNDER: GEORGE HENRY BRIGMAN

Current owners: John Turman Brigman

AND RUBY HUDDLESTON BRIGMAN

George Brigman was born in Cherokee County in 1853. He ranched in many counties before coming to Uvalde. George married Eula Vertna Cox in 1888. She was the daughter of the Hill County sheriff. They had one son, Fred Cox Brigman, in 1893.



Fred went to Southwestern University and the University of Texas. He was active in the community, and once went to Detroit and drove the Farris School's first bus back to Texas. Fred married Beatrice Lula Turman in 1921. They had three sons: Fred Jr., George and John.

John was born in 1933. He went to Southwestern University and was active in the community. After graduation John entered the ranching business with his father. He married Ruby Lee Huddleston in 1958. John now owns and manages the ranch.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 6,000

Crops or livestock raised: 1907 — Cattle, corn, goats, hay, horses, milo, oats and wheat; 2012 — Cattle, corn, goats, hay, horses, milo, oats and wheat

As told by John Brigman, grandson of the founder.

#### GURLEY-MCBEE RANCH

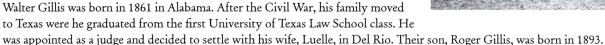
Val Verde County • 16 miles north of Del Rio

on U.S. Hwy. 277 Founded in: 1907

FOUNDER: WALTER GILLIS

Current owners: Susan Gurley McBee, Robert Gillis Gurley, James Robert McBee, Jacqueline Gurley Looney

AND JAKE GILLIS GURLEY



When Walter died in 1923, Roger took over the ranching operation and also attended the University of Texas law school. Roger and his wife, Willie, had two children, Walter and Dorothy. Walter had three children and Dorothy had two children, Susan and Gillis. Roger died in 1963 and his children continued to operate the ranch. Ownership has been passed to their children and grandchildren who continue the livestock operation.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 32,560

Crops or Livestock raised: 1907 — Livestock; 2012 — Livestock

As told by Susan Gurley McBee, great-granddaughter of the founder.



#### BOSWELL-REID FARM

Van Zandt County • five miles east of Canton, south of IH-20

Founded in: 1882 Founder: Joseph Reid

Current owner: Paulette Reid Boswell and

JERRY PAUL BOSWELL

Joseph was born in Alabama in 1825. His wife was born in North Carolina in 1837. They moved to Texas together in 1863 and in 1882 acquired land. Located on the property was a natural spring called Copper Springs. Caddo Native Americans used to camp on the Reid property and arrowheads and pottery pieces have been found there.



Joseph and Sabrina had eight children. Their son, Joseph Johnson, acquired title to the land in 1922 by purchasing the land from his siblings. He and his wife, Mattie, had seven children who were all raised on the farm.

In 1957, their son, Thomas Love, acquired a portion of the tract. He and his wife, Oleta, had five children who were also raised on the farm.

In 2003, their daughter, Paulette, acquired the original tract owned by her father. Along with her husband, Jerry, she has two sons, Danny and Randy.

Acres in original parcel: 160

Crops or livestock raised: 1882 — corn, cotton and livestock; 2012 — cattle and coastal hay

As told by Paulette Reid Boswell, great-granddaughter of the founder.

# JERRYME HEARD PATRICK HOMESTEAD

Van Zandt County • six miles southwest of Canton

FOUNDED IN: 1904

Founder: Thomas Jefferson Patrick Current owners: Jerry Heard Patrick

Thomas Jefferson Patrick left his home in Tennessee with his two brothers. In Mississippi, he met and married Mattie Norris. They had five children all born in Texas: Jeffie Lafarris, Dwight, Loy Dean, Avery and Lorene. Thomas acquired acreage in Texas.



Tom's son, Loy Dean, took over farm operations in 1939. Loy Dean married Hallie Heard. They have a son, Jerry Heard Patrick, who owns and operates the land today. Jerry built a home on the land in 1986 with Bette Pollock.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 80

Crops or Livestock raised: 1904 — COTTON, CORN, LIVESTOCK; 2012 — LIVESTOCK

As told by Jerry H. Patrick, grandson of the founder.

#### MARBACH RANCH

Victoria County • 8780 US Hwy 77, South, Victoria

FOUNDED IN: 1903

FOUNDER: ANTONIO MARBACH

CURRENT OWNERS: LOUIS AND OLIVIA MARBACH,

RICHARD AND DEBRA MARBACH

Antonio Marbach was born in a small country called Elsian Laraine between Germany and France. Antonio came with his brother to the United States looking for work as masons. They found work building the courthouse in Austin. They also helped build courthouses in Sonora and LaGrange, as well as the Victoria County courthouse.



In 1896, Antonio married Alvina Wieland on her birthday. In 1903, they acquired acreage and started their ranch. They had six children: Frank, Anton, Ludwine, Ollie and twins, Leonard and Lillie.

In 1910, Antonio purchased more acreage and began residing in the homestead that still stands today. His grandson, Louis Marbach, and his wife, Olivia, acquired the property in 2009. Louis' son, Richard Marbach, and his wife, Debra, acquired some of the property in 2010 and restored the original homestead.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 171

Crops or livestock raised: 1903 — Cattle and Hay; 2012 — Cattle

As told by Louis Marbach, grandson of the founder.

#### BAR D RANCH

Walker County • II miles west of Huntsville

NEAR DAVIS ROAD AND SH 30

Founded in: 1879

FOUNDER: JOSEPH GREEN DAVIS

CURRENT OWNER: HOWARD B. DAVIS SR., HOWARD B. DAVIS JR.

AND NANCY DAVIS MAYO

Joseph Green Davis was born in 1844 to David Davis and Martha Blackman on a farm in Alabama. After serving in the Civil War, he married Sarah Amanda Hudson. In addition to farming, he ran a blacksmith shop and was a carpenter and

wagon builder. In 1979, he came to Texas and started acquiring land. In 1916, he sold the farm to his two sons, Thomas Bunyan Davis and Grover Cleveland Davis.

Grover sold his interest to Thomas in 1918. Thomas continued to manage the farm and had three sons. The land was split in 1968, and in 1973, Thomas' son, Howard, started raising cattle with his wife, Gladys. They have one son, Howard B. Davis Jr., and one daughter, Nancy M. Davis.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 1,359

Crops or livestock raised: 1879 — cattle, corn and cotton; 2012 — cattle and hybrid grasses

As told by Howard B. Davis Sr., grandson of the founder.





#### BALEY FARM

WICHITA COUNTY • NINE MILES NORTH OF WICHITA FALLS ON POWELL ROAD

FOUNDED IN: 1900

FOUNDER: WILLIAM WASHINGTON BALEY CURRENT OWNER: GEORGE OLEN BALEY JR.

On Dec. 12, 1900, William and Thirzy E. bought 400 acres of land from W.T. Waggoner and built a home on the homestead. W.T. died in his home in 1915.

Thirzy inherited the farm when W.T. died. In 1920, Thirzy sold the land to her two sons, John Wesley and George Washington Baley.

George Washington and his wife, Annie, moved to the Baley Farm. George Washington died in 1938. Annie continued to live on the farm until her death in 1954.

George Olen and his wife, Gladys Swinford Baley, worked the land until George Olen died in 1975. George Olen Baley Jr. inherited the farm when his mother died in 2003. He continues to work the land.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 400

Crops or livestock raised: 1900 — cattle and wheat; 2012 — cattle and wheat

As told by Linda Baley Brock, great-grandaughter of the founder.

#### ALEX STREIT FARM

Wilbarger County • Two Miles South of Lockett

Founded in: 1891

FOUNDER: ALEXANDER STREIT

Current owner: Don Alex Streit

Alexander Streit was born in Switzerland and came to Wilbarger County with his family in 1882. He was a stockholder and director of the Waggoner National Bank of Vernon. He and his wife, Mary Guggisberg, raised six children: Rudolf, Mary, Rosie, Fritz, Lizzie and Henry. Following his wife's death, he married Emma Schmoker and had one child, Alex Christ Jr.



Alex Christ Jr. acquired the farm in 1939. He became director of the Waggoner National Bank in 1946. He and his wife, Clara Obenhaus, had three children: Robbie, Kay and Don.

Don acquired the farm in 1991. He has served on the board of Waggoner National Bank since 1979 and is currently chairman of the board. He and his wife, Jone Lutz, reside on the original acreage where the family home was located in 1891. They have two sons and one grandson.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 320

Crops or livestock raised: 1891 — Cattle, corn, cotton, hogs, horses, oats and wheat; 2012 — corn, COTTON, GUAR, MILO AND WHEAT

As told by Don Streit, grandson of the founder.



#### PARADISE CREEK FARMS, INC.

Wilbarger County • Two miles south of Lockett

Founded in: 1891

FOUNDER: ALEXANDER STREIT

CURRENT OWNER: FREDDIE HERBERT STREIT AND SUE ANN STREIT

Alexander Streit was born in Switzerland in 1868 and came to the United States with is father and brothers in 1882. He acquired title to land in 1891 and began farming. By 1904, he had acquired the full section of land.

Alexander's son, F.A. Streit, acquired a portion of the land beginning in 1939. In 1971, F.A.'s son, Otto, inherited 400 acres from his father. In 1978, Otto bought more land from his sister, Lillian Schoppa. In 2003, Otto sold the 480 acres to his son, Freddie.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 320

Crops or Livestock raised: 1891 — COTTON AND WHEAT; 2012 — ALFALFA, COTTON AND WHEAT

As told by Freddie Streit, great-grandson of the founder.

#### MAINESTAY FARMS

Williamson County • Three Miles East of CR 195 on FM 487

Founded in: 1882

Founders: J.C. and Minerva McLeod

Current owners: James D. and Dorothy Maines

J.C. and Minerva McLeod acquired land in 1882. When Minerva died in 1940, her unmarried sisters continued living in the home until they died and the house remained vacant. Family members later restored the house, adding two baths and a utility room. One original barn remains on the property.



In 1995, their grandson, James D. Maines, and his wife, Dorothy, purchased the homestead of James' grandparents. James and Dorothy are known as Bud and Dottye. They taught school in Mesquite ISD until Bud retired as an upper administrator in 1995.

They have two children, James and Dede. Dede and her husband, Byron, have three daughters: Dorothy Allison, Catherine Clare and Rachel McLeod.

Acres in original parcel: 160

Crops or livestock raised: 1882 — Cattle, Hogs, Cotton, Corn, Grains; 2012 — Cattle, Grains, Hay

As told by James D. and Dorothy Maines, grandson and granddaughter-in-law of the founders.

#### BAR SEVEN SIX RANCH

Wilson County • 14 miles northwest of Floresville

FOUNDED IN: 1882

FOUNDER: GRENADE DRAKE GILLILAND

Current owners: Lynn Drake and Sue Koch Witten

Grenade Drake Gilliland moved to Lockhart with his family from Alabama in 1837. Twenty years later, he moved to Wilson County where he purchased land on the Borrego Creek and built his homestead. He rode wild mustangs and drove cattle up the Old Chisolm Trail in 1873.



Grenade and his first wife, Polina, had two children: James Abel and Sarah. Grenade and his second wife, Margaret, had seven children: Grenade Jr., John Eckford, Juliet Elizabeth, Annie, Mary, Temple and Jesse.

Juliet "Bessie" Elizabeth married Claude Witten and had three sons: Don, Claude and Leslie. Bessie and Temple inherited the homestead in 1918. Don worked in the oil fields to send money home so Leslie could ranch. Don's sons, Gene and Lynn, bought the land from their uncles and raise cattle on 292 acres of the original 706.

ACRES IN ORIGINAL PARCEL: 706

Crops or Livestock raised: 1882 — Cattle, Cotton and Horses; 2012 — Brahman Cattle

As told by Lynn Drake Witten, great-grandson of the founder.

# THREE OAKS ROCKING X RANCH

Wilson County • 1721 CR 209 OFF FM 1344

FOUNDED IN: 1900

FOUNDER: MACZIEJ PAWELEK

CURRENT OWNER: ADRIAN L. PAWELEK

Mazciej Pawelek purchased land from the Don Gasper Flores Mexican Land Grant in 1900. From 1910-1950 his son, Charles Pawelek, and his wife, Florence, owned the land. In 1965, the land was divided among their children: Benjamin, Emil, Samuel, Rose and Charles Jr.



In 1975 Charles Jr. acquired 80 acres from his father. He still uses the Rocking X brand on his cattle today.

Acres in original parcel: 496

Crops or Livestock raised: 1900 — corn, maize, sugar cane, livestock; 2012 — cattle, hay

As told by Adrian L. Pawelek, great-grandson of the founder.

## PACE FARM

Wood County • Four Miles Northwest of Hawk on CR 3490

Founded in: 1911

Founder: John Thomas

CURRENT OWNERS: ROGER AND SHARON PACE

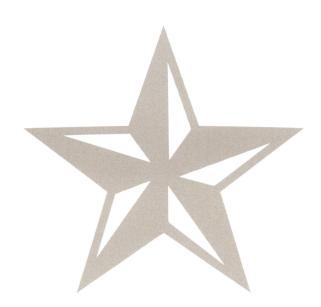
John Thomas was born in Waco. In 1911, he purchased 65 acres from Mary Corley. John and his wife, Melissa, had one daughter, Eunice. In 1938, John and Melissa divorced. Melissa received half of the land on which she and Eunice worked.

In 1944, Eunice Thomas Pace acquired title to the land. Eunice and her husband, Clarence, had seven children: Dorelle, Alice, Joe, Louise, Yvonne, Betty and Roger. The family worked the land, and when each sibling reached adulthood, they received one acre of land.

Their son, Roger, and his wife, Sharon, bought 21 acres from his parents in 1970. They have five daughters: Levida, Candy, Jennifer, Joanna and Jenny. They raise cattle.

Acres in original parcel: 65 Crops or livestock raised: 1911 — corn, cotton and peas; 2012 — brangus cattle

As told by Roger Pace, grandson of the founder.





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Texas; you are the families who made
Texas great. For that we honor you. And
for that, all Texans salute you.



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