

# MUSEUM MUSINGS

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Denton County Historical Museum, Inc., is to collect, preserve, and display artifacts including documents, photographs, and other records relative to the history of Denton County and its people for public education through exhibits, research facilities, and special events.

## DCHM, Inc., Board

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Willie Malone, Denton Dulci-Doodlers/Heritage Music Program

Holly Hervey, Genealogy Program

The DCHM, Inc., is a member of American Association of Museums, Texas Association of Museums, Greater Denton Arts Council, Denton Chamber of Commerce, and KERA Partners

## NEW PROGRAMS AT THE DCHM, INC.

The Museum is expanding its program department to include a variety of subjects of interest to our visitors and people throughout the county.

**Dr. Louise Alton**, past Board chairman, will head a program that addresses the needs of our senior citizens both within and outside of care facilities. Programs of interest to senior citizens will be conducted at the Museum as well as at selected sites around the county.

**Willie Malone**, our past program chair, will be concentrating her efforts on the Denton Dulci-Doodler group of mountain dulcimer players, and other Heritage Music enjoyed in this area of North Texas. The Dulci-Doodlers meet the third Saturday of each month at the Museum.

**Holly Hervey**, our col-

lection management coordinator, has long been our on-site genealogist. If you would be interested in the beginning genealogy group forming after the first of the year, call the Museum for more details.

Other programs in the process of forming include the Heritage Gardening Group, exploring early plants brought to this area by settlers, as well as native plants. This group will form after the first of the year, but it would be good to sign up now. Interest is

high, and participation will be limited.

Care of family heirlooms and vintage scrapbooking is another program that will fill up fast. If you are interested in this or any of the other programs, please call the Museum at 940-380-0877 for details and fees. Seating is limited, and will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

We are looking forward to serving new groups in the Denton County and North Texas community.



## MUSEUM LOSES A DEAR FRIEND AND SUPPORTER



Carol Lynn Addington with a group from Denton First Baptist Church, about 1950

*Volunteers are the soul of their community. . they make their community a better place to live.*

**Carol Lynn Graham Addington** died Wednesday, October 10, 2007, at Presbyterian Hospital of Denton.

Mrs. Addington was born May 3, 1936, in Dallas, TX, to **Clyde and Louise (Smith) Graham**. She was married to **James T. Addington** on June 5, 1959, in Denton, and was a homemaker. She was a 1954 graduate of Denton High School, and a 1959 graduate of the University of North Texas (NTSU). She was a member of Benjamin Lyon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and had been a member of the American Home Department of the Shakespeare Club, serving as an officer of the Federated Women's Clubs and the Delta Wives Club. She was an original donor of Denton County artifacts to The

Denton County Historical Museum, Inc., in 1979, and as she became homebound, she volunteered as an active telephone supporter of the Museum.

She is survived by her husband, **James Addington**; daughter, **Amanda Addington Kirkpatrick**; sister and brother-in-law, **Norma**

**Lynn and Gene Gamble**; granddaughter, **Caroline Kirkpatrick**, all of Denton; nephew, **Chester Mack Gamble**, and wife, **Sharon**, and great-nephew, **Matthew Graham Gamble**, of Ft. Worth, Texas.

Funeral services were held Saturday, October 13, with interment in Roselawn Memorial Park.

The family requested that memorials be made to The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc., PO Box 2800, Denton TX 76202.

The Board of Trustees, staff, and Friends of the DCHM, Inc., wish to express their condolences to the family of Carol Lynn Addington. She cared deeply about the Museum, and gave generously of her time, talents, and possessions. She will be greatly missed.



Carol Lynn Addington, circa 1970's, as a Flow Memorial Hospital Pink Lady volunteer.

Flow Memorial Hospital was an institution of great importance to Denton and Denton County. Read more about **Homer Flow** and the hospital in Holly's Corner (p. 3)

## HOLLY'S CORNER: FLOW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

The story of Flow Memorial Hospital starts after the Civil War and covers territory from Missouri to the Klondike to Denton County. Its cast of characters are all heavy hitters in the history of Denton County.

James Flow and his wife, Sally Inmon Flow, came to Pilot Point, Texas from Missouri in 1866. They had three children: Virgil, born 1866, Ada Gertrude, born 1867 and Homer, born 1870. His in-laws, the Inmons, also made the trip. James' sister, Josie, married James K. Russell. One of her sons was H. M. Russell, who founded Russell's Department store. James Flow was a blacksmith who had been a miner in the Klondike gold fields. All three of the Flow children had vision problems. Virgil, tall, ungainly, and not in good health, was listed as a musician in the 1900 Denton County census and was manager of the Wright Opera House. Virgil played the piano and Ada and Homer accompanied on violins. Virgil became blind when he was about 35. Ada, also unhealthy, became blind as a young woman. Homer worked with his father as a blacksmith until he also became

blind. Their mother and grandmother were both partially blind. In later life, Homer and Ada hired Mrs. W. E. Ford to care for them.

Sally Inmon's younger sister, Martha, married Joseph A. Carroll after his first wife died. The couple had one daughter that died in childhood. When Judge. Carroll died in 1891, his estate was divided between the children of his first wife and Martha. Martha left her estate to her sister Sally Flow at her death.

James Flow died in 1916 and Sally died in 1920. They left a substantial estate consisting of land and the blacksmith business. Virgil died in 1921. Ada never married and lived with Homer in a house on South Elm Street. Ada died in 1943 leaving Homer Flow the sole heir to his parents' estate. Near the end of his life he and his caregiver discussed the possibility that the State would take all of the estate unless he did something useful with it. Mrs. Ford suggested that some type of hospital be built for the citizens of Denton.

Homer Flow deeded 1,900 acres of land and his home to the city and county to be sold as a start toward the hospital. When he wrote his will in 1947, he left over

\$10,000.00 to various health agencies in the county and in Dallas. His will stipulated that the city and county were to participate in the purchase of land, and build a facility that would serve citizens who could not afford health care. The city and county purchased a 13-acre plot from the Scripture family, who moved their home down the street so the hospital could be built.

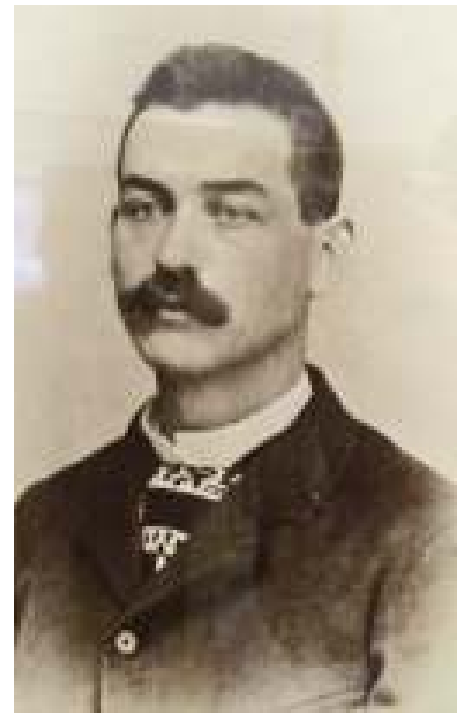
The completed Flow Memorial Hospital (named for Homer Flow) opened for business September 1, 1950 and served the community until September 30 1988 when it closed. The lifeblood of the hospital were the volunteers. They were Pink Ladies and Candy Stripers and they took care of patient needs that were not of a medical nature. They brought flowers, escorted patients to their cars, delivered mail and magazines and praised the mothers of newborn children. They consoled the family when there was a death. They banded together in a tight-knit organization that helped raise money for the hospital. There were bridal shows, bake sales, a cookbook, fashion shows and a booth at Spring Fling each year that supported Flow Memorial Hospital. The Candy Stripers were high school students who later in life became Pink Ladies and wore the coveted pina-



*Flow Memorial Hospital*

fore or jacket.

When the hospital closed in 1988 the Director of Volunteers donated all the yearbooks they had compiled from 1963 forward to the Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. so that the history of Flow Memorial Hospital would not be forgotten.



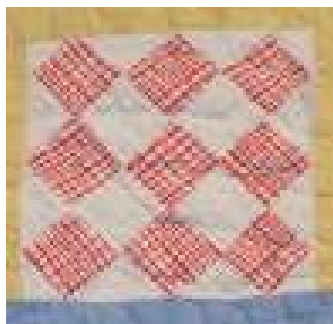
*Homer Flow  
1870-1947*

# FOLK ART IN DENTON COUNTY: THE TEXTILE ARTIST



*The Museum currently features a charming exhibit of folk art, textiles, and toys from Denton County families.*

*Drop in for an hour of nostalgia!*



*Nine-Patch Quilt Block*

People have been doing things with, to, on, and even under textiles for a long, long time.



*Double Wedding Ring*

Early textiles served the same purpose as the skins we had already been accustomed to using, and maybe it was the beauty provided by nature—spots, stripes, shades, gradations, variations—that prompted us to decorate the textiles we created. Whatever the reason, we rejoice in adorning walls, floors, tabletops, chairs, divans, beds—and, of course, people—with textile items created or decorated in a startling number of ways.



*Dutch Doll*

Bedding might be the first thing that comes to mind when we think of our forebears as textile artists: more specifically the ubiquitous, utilitarian quilt. The Dutch Girls, Dresden Plates, Double Wedding Rings, and Drunkard's Paths consumed many a dress or shirt or coat that still contained bits of cloth too good to throw away. "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without" was more than just a slogan to Texas folk; it was a way of life. A Nine-Patch quilt might contain bits of dresses, curtains, or even flour sacks.

Not all of the worn-out dresses and coats turned into bedding. Some met a more lowly fate: reincarnation as floor coverings of various sorts, but all sturdy, and each an attempt to create beauty. Large items such as coats became mile-long strips of

rag to be woven into rag rugs for stair runners or braided into sturdy ovals for the center of the floor.



*Braided Rug*

Some of those rags became narrow strips, dyed and hooked through burlap backing as colorful foot-warming hooked rugs.



*Tatted Edging*

## NEVER STRICTLY UTILITARIAN. . .

After a hard day of canning or cooking or washing or hoeing, the artist deserved a rest, but felt less guilty if her hands were occupied with "fancy work".

She embroidered and cross-stitched colorful, if often unidentifiable, flora across acres of dresser scarves. There were so many flowers they could cause allergies, if her feather pillows hadn't already done it. When she'd

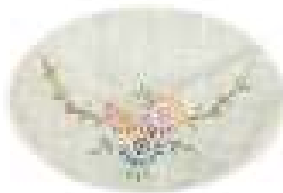
finished, she took her little ivory shuttle with fine, fine thread and, using just one knot in every possible permutation, tatted yards of fanciful edgings for her “good” linens.



*Embroidered Dresser Scarf with Tatted Edging*

Her taste might incline toward fancy work that did something practical. If the crochet hook was what set her fingers dancing, perhaps she enjoyed producing afghans or antimacassars. The Granny Square afghans produced from Aunt Lydia’s yarn gave new meaning to the word *multicolored*, and no one knows how many sick children learned the names of *all* the colors as they whiled away long afternoons warmed by a hand-crocheted lap robe.

Horsehair upholstery on the family’s best furnishings was so scratchy that the only relief from the itch was to remove the always spotless, heavy white antimacassars from the arms and back of the divan/sofa/chaise



*Embroidered Dresser Scarf*



*Crocheted Lace Collar*

longue, and sit on them. They had to be replaced before the men soiled the fabric with their hair oil (“macassar oil.”)

The most memorable combination of the utilitarian and the practical was the crocheted doily. Every lamp or vase had to be prevented from scratching (or more likely, sticking to) the varnished surface it sat on. Crocheted doilies were produced from pure white, or ecru, or variegated cotton thread, and the most desirable were formed after a pattern that required further treatment once the crocheter had finished. The center had the same diameter as the vase or lamp



*Crocheted Doily*

base, but the rim was so voluminous that it couldn’t merely lie flat on the table. Dipped in sugar water and coaxed into frills, it stood stiffly in ruffles, giving the lamp something of a Venus-born-from-the-waves appearance—at least until a damp day came along.

Unlike a lot of good things, the textile artist hasn’t disappeared. She is still making toy monkeys out of work socks; stitching appliques onto mass-produced towels; using plastic canvas and acrylic yarn for tissue-box covers. And some of the beauty she produces now adorns surfaces in surprisingly sophisticated places in Texas. Our grandmothers would be pleased.

Text adapted from “The Textile Artist,” by Diane H. Corbin, in **Folk Art in Texas**, Publications of the Texas Folklore Society XLV, Francis Edward Abernethy, Editor.



*A Crocheted Doily Hard at Work*



*Appliqued Design on Flour Sacking Towel*



*Hand-sewn Embroidered Clothespin Bag*

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING! SHOP FOR OUR MUSEUM ONLINE

*Help your Museum at no extra cost and make your Christmas shopping easier and faster*

The Museum participates in a wonderful fund-raising activity which allows our friends to help the Museum and simplify their lives. **Shop for our Museum Online** is a website you can reach through the Museum's website. When you click on one of the thousands of online merchants for your shopping, a percentage of your purchase is returned to the Museum, **at no extra cost to you.** No matter what you're looking for, you'll find your favorite online merchants through our

website. Books, CD's DVD's, tools, sporting goods, apparel, toys—whatever you buy online, you can find it through the site and help your Museum. Do you shop at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble.com, Bass Pro Shops, A Pea in the Pod, ToysRUs.com Lands' End.com, Buy.com, Overstock.com? They're all here and many more.

And it's easy to do: just visit the DCHM's website, [dentoncountyhistoricalmuseum.com](http://dentoncountyhistoricalmuseum.com), go to the Sponsorship page, and click on

the "shop for our museum" link. It's secure, and it takes you directly to the website of the merchant you choose. Each merchant's site shows what percentage of your purchase returns to us. You can even download a link for your desktop, so you won't need to go through our website. It couldn't be easier. *But you must go through the link to your merchant in order for your purchase to be credited to the DCHM, Inc.*

## CONSIDER BECOMING A FRIEND OF THE MUSEUM

*More ways to help your Museum*

The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc., is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation which receives no public funds and relies on its friends to carry out its mission of encouraging interest in the history of Denton County. There are many levels of support for

- Friends:
  - Elementary/Middle School: \$5.00
  - High School/University: \$10.00
  - Individual: \$20.00
  - Family: \$35.00
  - Sustaining: \$50.00

- Patron: \$100.00
  - Benefactor: \$500.00
- To become a Friend, fill out the form on the back of the Newsletter, and mail it to Friends of the Museum, PO Box 2800, Denton TX 76202

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## THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS FOR USING YOUR KROGER SHARE CARD! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

The Museum receives a percentage of your purchases when you use your Kroger Share Card, at no cost to you. Simply have the cashier swipe the card before ringing up your purchases, and the great folks at Kroger will take care of the rest. If you'd like to receive a card, call the Museum at 940-380-0877, and we'll mail you one.



Sample card

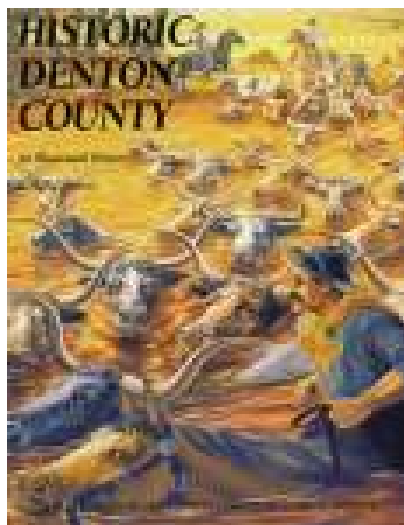
## WE CAN COUNT ON OUR FRIENDS!

In the July issue of the Newsletter, we told you about exploring our archives for information on a randomly chosen Dentonite, Miss **Maude Zumwalt**, shown here in a photograph from the Denton High School *Bronco* of 1910. We lost track of her in 1923, when the Zumwalts disappeared from the city directory. But thanks to a knowledgeable friend, **Idaleene Scheu Fuqua**, of Denton, we have learned that Miss Zumwalt married **George O. Hughes**, of Sanger, and had two children, **George, jr.**, and **Elizabeth**. She is buried in the Sanger Cemetery. Our appreciation to Mrs. Fuqua, who has written many interesting articles on Sanger history for the *Sanger Courier*.



Miss Maude Rachel Zumwalt

## FROM THE GIFT SHOP



*Historic Denton County*, Hollace Hervey (autographed), \$37.83

*Touring Texas Gardens*, Jessie Gunn Stephens, \$20.51

*An Illustrated History of Denton County, Texas*, E. Dale Odom, \$27.01

*Talk of the Town Cookbook*, St. David's Episcopal Church, \$10.83

*The Fort in Fort Worth*, Clay Perkins, M.D., \$19.33 paper; \$28.09, hardbound

*Wanted: Historic County Jails of Texas*, Ed Blackburn, jr., \$43.25

*Cowboy Mafia*, Roy Graham, reduced to \$10.83

*Alvin M. Owsley, Apostle of Americanism*, Marion S. Adams, \$10.83

(All prices include state tax; shipping and handling: \$6.00. Add \$.60 for each additional book.)

For other publications, visit our Gift Shop online.

To order, make checks payable to The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc., and mail to PO Box 2800, Denton TX 76202



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Please consider becoming a Friend of The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. Any donation is appreciated.

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