

Museum Musings Article- Krum News
Sept 2012

Some Early Krum Families

W.Y. & Parolee (Moreman) Barnett

Arrival in Krum area-Before 1888

By Kathryn Dodd, Della Davis, & Grand children & Great grandchildren of W.Y. & Parolee Barnett
Some Information from the book: "History of Texas- Fort Worth and the Texas Northwest-1922"

William Young "W.Y." Barnett was born a mile north of Plano in Collin County on November 16, 1857. His father, George W. Barnett, was born in Kentucky and at three years of age his family moved to Mississippi. George W. came to Texas at age nineteen; going to the northeastern section of the Republic in 1844, more than a year before Texas became a state. W.Y's mother was Miss Letitia Hawkins Foreman who was born at Bardstown, Nelson County, Kentucky and came with her parents William and Ruth (Chenoweth) Foreman to Texas in 1852. Her mother was a descendant of Lord Baltimore, founder of the Maryland Colony.

After W.Y. left the old homestead near Plano, Texas, he located near Anna in Collin County and during 1883-1884 was a merchant in Anna, associated with Capt. J.L. Greer. After this venture he returned to farming and stock raising and that would remain his main line of business for 35 years.

Parolee Moreman was born in Smith County, Texas in May 1870 to Chapley R. and Mollie (Yarbrough) Moreman. Her father, Chapley Moreman was a native of Mississippi and her mother Mollie a native of Alabama. Parolee was reared in Collin County where her father was in the milling and ginning business and he subsequently moved to a ranch in Deaf Smith County.

"W.Y. and Parolee married on July 21, 1886. About a year after their marriage the Barnett's moved to Denton County and settled in the north west corner of the county near Krum. Mr. Barnett began here with a small farm which cost eight dollars an acre. As a livestock man, Mr. Barnett worked consistently toward higher standards of animal husbandry. His cattle have been high grades of the Aberdeen-Angus and Herefords; his hogs were the Red Durocs, and another profitable feature of his enterprise was the mule industry. Mr. Barnett continued active on the farm, until 1919, when he established his home at Krum. He had helped establish the Continental Bank at Krum and was a vice president and a director. He was associated with the Baptists, who founded the Plainview Baptist Church near the Barnett ranch, being chairman of the building committee and deacon of the congregation for many years. He was also a trustee of the Plainview School District." (From book History of Texas Fort Worth and the Texas Northwest Edition by Capt. B.B. Paddock Vol III-1922)

W.Y. and Parolee had five children-one of whom died at birth.

George Bowman "Fred" Barnett born in 1888 and married Eunice McGee on December 27,1907. George was a cashier of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Krum. George and Eunice had four children Mary Bess, George Bowman Jr., Weldon Guy and William Young Barnett.

Joseph Moreman Barnett was born in 1889. On December 18, 1910, Joseph married Mae Rucker, daughter of Ed Rucker and Mollie Batis. Joe and Mae had two sons Ray Rucker Barnett who died in 1935 and Billy Joe "Buddy" Barnett. Mae and Joe settled on a part of the Barnett land. After their deaths, their son Billy Joe "Buddy" and his wife Billie, lived in the home and operated the farm where he was reared. Buddy died in 2007 and Billie continues to live in the home. Buddy and Billie's son Joe E. "Skip" Barnett continues to farm the land.

Ava Lenore Barnett was born in 1891 and married John Henry Miller. John and Ava spent their lives in the Plainview community and raised eight children, two of whom lived there until their deaths Ralph Bishop Miller and Mary Ruth Miller Briscoe. Ralph married Mildred Stokes in 1944 and they had two children Jimmy and Betty. Ralph died in 1979 and Mildred in 2010. Mary Ruth married C.L. Briscoe and they had three daughters Linda, Donna and Charlene. Mary Ruth died in 1990. Ava and John's other children were Joe Thomas, Harry Weldon, John Henry, Young Jack, Barnett, and Dorothy Neil.

Bessie Bernice Barnett was born in 1894 and married John E. Huffhines of Dallas. They had three children Marjorie, Frances and Billie.

Infant Son Barnett born and died 1899.

W.Y. Barnett died in 1929 and Parolee in 1941. They are buried at Plainview Cemetery.

There is a story told by Dean Mason about W.Y. Barnett and R.L. Cole who evidently liked to play pranks on each other. It was said that a man had brought in a pitiful load of corn to the Cole elevator, owned by R.L. Cole. The corn cobs had hardly any corn on them and weren't worth anything but Mr. Cole knowing that the poor farmer had a family to feed bought the corn from him anyway. R.L. Cole took one of the pitiful cobs to the bank where he was the president; put the cob in the window along with a note. W.Y. Barnett had come into town and noticed folks looking at him funny and snickering when he walked by them. Finally somebody told him to go look at the note in the bank window. There in the window was one of the pitiful corn cobs with a note written in grease pencil by R.L. Cole and it read:

“Corn grown by W.Y. Barnett”

W.Y. Barnett saw the note, went into the bank asked for R.L. and was told he wasn't there. He grabbed the note and asked for a grease pencil. The next person looking at the note saw this:

“Corn grown by W.Y. Barnett from corn seed sold by R.L. Cole Grain”



William Young “W.Y.” & Parolee Barnett



Back: Joe & Fred
Front: Ava_Bessie_W.Y._Parolee

We have now added Birth & Marriage Records for Krum to our ever growing research library. If you are doing research on Krum families come see what we have.

Visit the museum on line at www.krumheritagemuseum.com