

Pierce/ Wilbanks Genealogy Newsletter 2000

Be At the First Pierce/Wilbanks family
Reunion of the New Millenium!! 800-398-5127
Editor LD Pierce 805 W Sante Fe Gage OK

Pierce Wilbanks Reunion 2000

Newsire

News for Millennia Pierce Genealogy
Descendants of Capt Andrew Jackson Pierce and
Nancy E Abercrombie Pierce

IN THIS ISSUE:

PIERCE WILBANKS FAMILY REUNION
JUNE 25 2000, 9:00 AM CLEBURNE, TEXAS,

**New Info Found on Clem Abercrombie
Pierce burial site. Idaho relative sends
obituary. CA Pierce was Rhoda Pierce
Wilbanks, and LD Pierce Sr.'s brother.**

C.A. Pierce
(Clemeth Abercrombie) born
December 16, 1842, Died April 5, 1908
(Cleburne, TX) Buried Cleburne cemetery
Brother to my Great Grandfather LD
"Peg-Leg" Pierce Editors Note: My dad
J.L. Pierce gave me several boxes of my
Mothers Papers the last weekend of June
1999, and my mom had this photograph--a
photocopy only. I think it looks
marvelous considering it is the only
known record of this man. I think it is
possible this photo's original exists in
my Uncle Allen's papers the Vernon's
have. or one of my grandmother's aunts
has it. Hope to find the original soon, but
until then it is very nice to find even this
photocopy!! **WANTED: WE NEED TO
CONTACT DESCENDENTS OF THIS
FAMILY WHO LIVE IN NEW YORK (WE
HAVE HEARD) AND STILL OWN PART
OF THE PIERCE RANCH AT
GOATNECK JOHNSON COUNTY TX.
WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR CLEM
PIERCE'S BURIAL SITE. (DEC 1999
found that CA Pierce is buried Cleburne
cemetery, Block 28, Lot 20.)**

**Reuben Pierce born Edgefield
Dist SC 1768 is the Probable father
of Andrew Jackson Pierce born
1815 GA**

THANKS TO INFORMATION AND
COPY OF OBITUARY RECEIVED FROM
JOAN MARKS OF SALMON, IDAHO,
RECEIVED JULY 12 1999 WE NOW
KNOW HE HE DIED IN 1908 AT HOME,
ACCORDING TO OBITUARY. WE NOW
KNOW HE WAS BURIED IN JOHNSON
COUNTY TX. WE KNOW THE WIFE
AND DAUGHTERS WERE WITH HIM IN
1907. OUR FAMILY HAS HEARD
NOTHING FROM THIS FAMILY FOR 80
YEARS OR MORE. UPON FIRST
READING OF THE OBITUARY BELOW I
HAD DETERMINED HE DIED IN
COLORADO BUT REVIEWING WHAT
WAS WRITTEN AND TITLE, HE MUST
HAVE DIED AT GOATNECK PRIOR TO
APRIL 5 1908. July 12, 1999: Newspaper
article sent to me by Joan Marks of
Salmon ID. Her great grandfather was
brother to Nancy E Abercrombie, and she
found this obituary of Clem Pierce among
his things. She also sent letter from
Fannie James (Nancy Abercrombie
Pierce's) JJJ Abercrombie (John Calvin)
JJJ Abercrombie of Trinidad Co. "Old
Citizen is Dead At Home" Article from
Johnson County TX newspaper. .

**Nancy E Abercrombie's Family
is well researched and she is
descended from families of
Cavender Corbin Deadman.
Other Abercrombies were in the
oil business in Houston TX.**



Peg Leg Pierce and family

Clem Pierce Yields to Grim Reaper and is
Called to Heavenly Reward
April 5th, 1907. On Sunday night at 8:15
o'clock Mr Clem Pierce, one is of the best
known ranchers and stockmen of
Johnson County, was called to his
heavenly reward. Mr. Pierce had been in
poor health of some time. For the past
several summers he had been spending
much of his time in the mountains of
Colorado. These summer trips seemed to
improve his health, but two weeks ago, he
was attacked by la grippe and since that
time slowly sank, until death claimed
him. The attack of la grippe was followed
by an attack of heart disease. On Friday
his condition became alarming, and
although he had the best of attention, it
was to no avail. He was born in Hall
County GA Dec 16, 1842, and was 66 years
old at the time of his death. (1908). He
leaves a wife, and several children to
mourn his death. The funeral was held
from the family residence on Monday
afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Gardner Wilbanks Biography

From Johnson County Tx History Book
Gardner Wilbanks moved to Rusk County, Texas from Tennessee in 1839. He fought in the war which won Texas independence from Mexico and was given a land grant in Rusk County for his service. Gardner, his son, Hiram Henry, and their families moved to Johnson County before 1883.

Hiram enlisted in the Confederate service, in Company B, Captain Childress' command, Stone's regiment, in 1882. He was in the Battle of Donaldsonville, Louisiana, and was later detailed to the mail service where he served until the end of the war. Socially, he was a member of the Masonic Order and the Grange; politically, a Democrat; and religiously, a member of the Christian Church

Hiram had fourteen children and has many descendants now living in Johnson County. Allen Mansel Wilbanks, son of Hiram, was born in 1858. Although a very small boy, Allen had to serve as a look-out for Indians during the War Between the States. The older youths and men were away at war and the community was in constant fear of Indian raids. He married Rhoda Pierce who had come to Johnson County from Georgia by covered wagon at the age of three.

In 1902, Allen and his family of eight

children, including two married sons, moved to Hansford County in the Texas Panhandle traveling by wagon for sixteen days. One son, Andrew Jackson, had married Dove Oakes of Hood County. The other son, Allen Mansel, Jr., had married Ophelia Ewing of Johnson County. Allen had a contract to drill forty water wells on the XIT Ranch and had purchased four sections of land in Hansford County for two dollars an acre. This land is being cultivated by his descendants today. Allen's two brothers, Earnest, married to the former Eva Mae Burran of Johnson County, and Floyd, married to the former Susan Bowden, also of Johnson County, traveled to the Panhandle and settled on adjoining land. Another brother, Arthur, died in Hansford County in 1908. He never married. Thomas Calvin Hazlewood an active businessman of Cleburne, is the great-grandson of Allen Mansel. Mary and Calvin Hazelwood of Fort Worth are his parents. His grandfather was Howell L. (His) Wilbanks who was born in Johnson County in 1888. Hix was a pioneer farmer and rancher and was Sheriff & Tax Collector of Hansford County for twenty years. Thomas is married to the former Gail Gumm of Fort Worth who is the daughter Mary and Charles C. Gumm of Fort Worth and the Double Dollar Ranch near Rio Vista Tom and Gail have one daughter, Holly. Travis Hazlewood of Fort Worth, brother of Thomas, is married to the former Charwynne Bass, daughter of Fleeta and J.T. Basof Cleburne. Travis and Charwynne have onson, George Bass. Article F795 by Gail Hazlewood Johnson County History Book pg 835 Reprinted
Editors Note the the author's husband Tom Hazlewood is Mayor of Cleburne Tx Johnson County

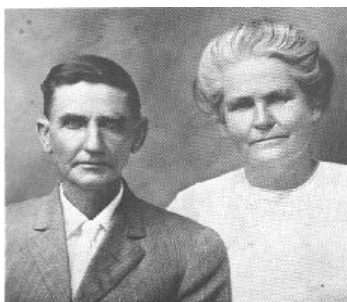
**PIERCE WILBANKS FAMILY
REUNION TO BE HELD THE
THIRD SUNDAY OF JUNE 2000
9:00 A.M.**

**AT THE GOATNECK
COMMUNITY CENTER. THIS
DATE IS JUNE 25 2000. AT THIS**

**POINT NO CATERING OF
FOOD/PICNIC ITEMS IS
PLANNED. IF YOU WHO ARE
COMING WANT A BUFFET
PROVIDED WE MUST MAKE
PLANS IMMEDIATELY. THERE
ARE PLENTY OF PICNIC
TABLES AVAILABLE AND THE
GOATNECK COMMUNITY
CENTER HAS SEVERAL ROOMS
AND KITCHEN WE CAN USE.
THE GOAT NECK AREA
COJMMUNITY HAS ALREADY
BEEN HAVING THIS ANNUAL
REUNION FOR 10 YEARS OR
MORE....NOW US PIERCES ARE
GOING.**

RSVP TO 800-398-5127
LD PIERCE SUGGESTED
805 Sante Fe Gage
Oklahoma 73483

Hix and Rhoda Pierce Wilbanks



Cleburne 1 1/2 hour south of Fort Worth on Interstate 35. Exiting Burleson, TX on I 35, it is then 20 more miles to Cleburne. GoatNeck is another 45 minutes although by milage is only 10-15 miles. The Road is very curvey, with lots of turns Donatons needed to mail newsletters and maps

Located at GoatNeck on the Brazos Johnson County TX (Cleburne) Located at GoatNeck not far from Goatneck community center on private property owned by Dyer but Deeded to Pierce Heirs. Surveyed June 1996 and 1999 by LD Pierce, Dallas TX. Andrew Jackson Pierce (born 1815 Lumpkin GA) and his wife Nancy Emaline Abercrombie (Pierce) are buried in the Pierce family in the Cemetery north of the old Pierce log cabin (torn down in 1996). This part of the Old Pierce ranch with the Cemetery is now owned by Dyer but deeded to pierce heirs. The Cemetery is approximately one acre. There is one very large tombstone marking AJ's and Nancy's graves. There is one other cement tombstone listing Jessie Pierce (Clem Pierce and Mollie Gordon's daughter) plus several flat native stone head and foot markers. They are buried edgeways with no identification. The cemetery used to be completely fenced with Cast Iron, but it has been torn down. The cemetery was almost completely covered by overgrowth in 1996 but Lester Jones, 2nd eldest of the Andrew Jackson Pierce descendents, paid to have most of the growth cut down. A gravel company excavated a large hold in search of gravel within 15 feet of the graves and left the hole open. The company went bankrupt and the hole is still there. Floods have washed even closer to the Cemetery, and needs to be filled in or the entire Cemetery will wash out soon. There is only one large rock tombstone in this Cemetery, which contains about 20 graves. Viola Block noted historian of Johnson County TX states that many of AJ's and and Nancy's Negro slaves (freed) are also buried in the cemetery. Andrew Jackson Pierce moved to Texas in 1866 some twenty miles from Waco, and moved to Johnson County in 1869. He died in 1892

LD Pierce is seeking donations to cover the cost of mailing newsletters maps ect. Printable Map to goatneck and list of hotels in Burleson and Cleburne can be found on Pierce website and might be sent out in next mailing Place your orders also for the Pierce Genealogy Book, and they will be delivered at this reunion!! \$35.00