

A FIERCE LOVE OF KETCHUP

Tumbleweed Smith



When our oldest son went to France on a Rotary Youth Exchange visit, he told us the family he was living with served ketchup from a silver bowl at mealtimes. Now we're talking about an upscale family that resided on an estate and had a yacht on the Mediterranean, a chalet in the Alps and upstairs and downstairs maids. They just had a thing for ketchup and considered it special. We thought it strange to find that in a country Fumbleweed Smith known for its culinary delights. Sure enough, when the youngster

from France came to spend a few weeks with us to complete the exchange, he had ketchup at every meal.

I have a friend who grew up thinking ketchup was a delicacy. His name is Jack Ed Irons and he lives in Dallas. He grew up on Big Spring's north side where his father ran a cotton compress. His dad also ran a compress in Stanton and occasionally Jack Ed would ride over there in the mornings with his dad. When his dad needed to stay in Stanton to tend to business, he gave his son train fare and Jack Ed rode the train the 18 miles back to Big Spring.

"Growing up in Big Spring was kind of a Normal Rockwell kind of experience. My dad would come home from work and we'd have lunch and listen to Paul Harvey. We sat at a counter my grandfather made. We all had our special places. After lunch my dad went back to work and my brothers and I went back to school.

Jack Ed admired his mother. A plaque on her wall carried the phrase: "There's a special place in heaven for the mother of three boys." Somebody added some more words: "Especially your three boys." Jack Ed, the oldest of the three, says he was lucky to have the two brothers he had.

Ketchup was a big deal among the three Irons boys.

"My brothers and I loved ketchup," says Jack Ed. "We put it on everything, much to the chagrin of my dad. He really didn't like that too much but he put up with us. We used lots of ketchup. My parents must have bought it by the case. Finally they started rationing our ketchup. They came up with a plan to give each of us one bottle of ketchup a week. And that was it. We would not get any more until the beginning of the next week."

Well that wasn't enough for the Irons boys. "We devised a way to sell ketchup back and forth to each other for ten cents a shake. Sometimes we would sneak some from another bottle from time to time. We all knew how to do that. We were famous about our love of ketchup."

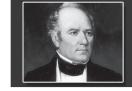
They labeled their bottles and kept them in the pantry. Jack Ed says he always tried to hide his bottle behind the other two. But his brothers did the same thing. They ran out of ketchup occasionally and those were horrible times at the Irons house.

Tumbleweed enjoys hearing good stories and sharing them with readers of his column. Contact him at ts@tumbleweedsmith.com.



JOURNAL OF TEXAS' PATH TO INDEPENDENCE continued...

Nobody who lived through the events of early 1836 in Texas could ever forget the atrocious weather plaguing everyone, especially soldiers on the march and persons on the run. Deep snows in South Texas in February with weeks of rainfall had turned everything into mud. Cold had been a factor well into March. Dry wood was a luxury. Persons passing through the country often made their cooking fires out of fence posts and fence rails before moving on. During the last of March, Texian armies under General Sam Houston took time to regroup and replenish the strength of the men. On March 31, they paused at the Brazos at Groce's Landing for 2 weeks of rigorous military training and to receive artillery. In early April, two cannon, known to history as the "Twin Sisters", were acquired as a gift from the citizens of Cincinnati, Ohio. Houston put the men on the march toward Nacodoches, and with with rivers high and creeks out of banks, the cannons were often ferried across, and the rest of the time, pulled by oxen and by men. The Sisters would prove their usefulness, however, at San Jacinto. Next, let's take a closer look at General Sam Houston. (taken in part from Harris County Historical Commission 'History in Our Backyard')



7 Things You May Not Know **About Sam Houston**

Sam Houston compiled an incredible political resume, serving at various times as a congressman, governor, senator and even a foreign head of state. He may be best known, however, for his military exploits that helped Texas earn its independence from Mexico. Find out more about the "George Washington of Texas

He attacked a congressman walking down Pennsylvania Avenue with a cane.

On March 31, 1832, Ohio Congressman William Stanbery accused Houston of fraud in a speech on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. When Houston encountered Stanbery walking down Pennsylvania Avenue two weeks later, he called the congressman a "rascal" before beating him repeatedly over the head with a cane that was fashioned from hickory harvested from the Hermitage, the estate of his political mentor, President Andrew Jackson. The congressman drew his pistol in self-defense, but when he pulled the trigger, the gun jammed and never fired. After Houston delivered several more blows he left the bludgeoned Stanbery on the side of the capital's main thoroughfare. Although high-profile lawyer Francis Scott Key, who penned the lyrics to the "Star-Spangled Banner," represented Houston, Congress convicted him of contempt. A civil court also found Houston guilty and ordered him to pay \$500, but he never paid a dime and Jackson eventually ordered the fine to remain uncollected. Houston was the only American elected governor of two different states.

The Virginia-born Houston was elected governor of Tennessee in 1827 after serving the state for four years in the U.S. House of Representatives. When the 35-year-old Houston's arranged marriage to 19year-old Eliza Allen fell apart after just 11 weeks, rumors of alcoholism and infidelity drove him to resign as governor in 1829. Three decades later, in 1859, Houston was elected governor of Texas. He was an honorary Cherokee.

After running away from his family as a teenager, Houston lived for nearly three years with the Cherokee tribe in eastern Tennessee. Houston learned fluent Cherokee, embraced the tribe's customs and was given the name "Black Raven." After resigning in disgrace as Tennessee governor, the despondent Houston took refuge with the Cherokee in the Arkansas Territory. There, the tribe formally adopted him, and he married a Cherokee woman, Tiana Rogers, in a tribal ceremony. Houston served as the tribe's spokesman and advocate with the federal government, and as a U.S. senator he pressed for Native American rights. He sometimes wore traditional Cherokee garb to government meetings in Washington,

Houston defeated the Mexican army in just 18 minutes. Battle of San JacintoBattle of San Jacinto As the Alamo was under siege in March 1836, the convention of Texans that voted for independence selected Houston commander-in-chief of the Texas Army. After the disastrous defeat at the Alamo, the War of 1812 veteran ordered a series of strategic retreats. Although unpopular with his men, the tactic bought Houston time to train his ill-equipped and poorly provisioned army. On April 21, 1836, Houston caught the Mexican forces under General Antonio López de Santa Anna completely by surprise as they camped along the banks of the San Jacinto River. Spurred on by the battle cry "Remember the Alamo, Houston's 800 men defeated a force twice its size in a mere 18 minutes. The spectacular rout at the Battle of San Jacinto forced Santa Anna to surrender and sign an armistice that granted Texas independence. Houston was the first elected president of the Republic of Texas.

After Texas gained its independence, the new country elected Houston its first president in a landslide giving him 80 percent of the vote against opponents Stephen F. Austin and Henry Smith. Prohibited by the Texas constitution from running for consecutive terms, Houston served in the Texas legislature before being elected president of the self-proclaimed Lone Star Republic once again in 1841. After Texas joined the United States in 1845, Houston was elected as one of the state's two new senators. The city named in his honor was the original capital of Texas.

Several months after Santa Anna's forces burned the provincial capital of Harrisburg to the ground, a new settlement arose near its ashes. Named for the hero of San Jacinto and the first Texan president. Houston was incorporated in 1837 and made the Lone Star Republic's capital. Two years later, the national capital moved to Waterloo, which was renamed in honor of another hero of Texan independence, Stephen F. Austin. Today, Austin remains the state capital and Houston is the fourth-largest city in the United States.

Houston opposed the secession of Texas to the Confederacy.

Sam Houston photographed by Mathew Brady. Sam Houston photographed by Mathew Brady. Although a slaveholder himself, Houston repeatedly voted against the spread of slavery to new territories of the United States during his 13 years in the Senate. An ardent advocate of the Union, Houston was the only Southern governor to oppose secession in the lead-up to the Civil War. Over his opposition, a state convention voted on February 1, 1861, to secede by a margin of 168 to. 8. When Houston refused a month later to swear allegiance to the Confederate States of America, the Texas legislature deposed him and replaced him with the pro-Confederacy lieutenant governor. Houston turned down a Union offer to lead a 50,000-man force against the Confederate rebels and retired to Huntsville, Texas, where he died in 1863.

Story courtesy of History.com

As we travel in time toward the 180th anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto, let's enjoy the cheerful Springtime spirit of bluebonnets in bloom wherever they appear.Perhaps the Texians were cheered by them as well! Til next week, I'll watch for you at the corral gate!



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Pilot Club of Sulphur Springs Hosts Annual Fundraiser

By Enola Gay Mathews

The Pilot Club of Sulphur Springs hosted about 200 ladies at their annual Spring Brunch on Saturday, March 28, 2016, in the League Street Church of Christ Friendship Room. There was a delightful spread of foods prepared by Pilot Club members, two generously-sized auction fundraisers, numerous door prizes, and a lot of laughter! The annual event is a time for ladies of all ages to gather, meet new friends and enjoy an inspirational, motivational program while assisting the Pilot Club to fund the many projects they do through the year.

Professional entertainment was provided by Miss Alice Ann Hostetter, niece of member Marilyn Holt. Alice Ann is a sophomore at North Texas University studying vocal performance, specifically opera! She graciously shared her talent and energy with the audience. Marilyn served kitchen duty too, along with Jane Goldsmith, Joyce Burchfield, Sarah Halter, Connie Newcomb and other members who enjoy cooking for a crowd. Beverley Owens, Club President, welcomed everyone and Sallee Pearce asked the blessing on the gathering.

Tammy Whitehurst is a HOOT! "If you can't hide, it, decorate it!" Tammy Whitehurst is a speaker, writer, and author from Longview, Texas. She speaks at women's gatherings all over the country, but especially loves talking to "Southern women" because that's who she is, too! With an abundance of humor, she relates directly to the kinds of challenges most women are facing with their jobs, husbands, children, parents and aging issues! She stands for "doing the right thing" as a Christian even when we might not want to, because "once your children needed a Mama, now they need an example!" She says "don't throw in the towel, use it to wipe your brow and keep going" and "give in and give up OR, give it all you've got" also, "instead of those who have done us wrong, let's try to get even with those who have done us right"! Addressing age and health issues, she says "hold a torch instead of a cane, and let's get back to work". As for living a joyful Christian life ALL our lives, she admonishes "let's don't age gracefully...let's age boldy, and courageously, sliding in to 'home' with a strong finish!" Find Tammy Whitehurst's "Joy for the Journey" Ministries on Facebook and at TammyWhitehurst.com.



Janie Chapman is elated over winning a door prize as her daughter, Julie Walker and Linda Dorsett look on.



Marissa Looney, age 13, was the youngest guest attending and was accompanied by her great grandmother, Pat Looney.



Pilot Club of Sulphur Springs Members



Speaker Tammy Whitehurst

Alice Ann Hostetter

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THE MILLENNIUM SHOPPER March 31, 2016

THE IDLE AMERICAN Thumbs in a Pinch... Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

If thumbs could talk, they might have more to say than walls. Chances are, they wouldn't talk, they'd scream: "We matter!" Sobbing, they might admit feeling deep hurt inflicted by our failure to acknowledge their true worth. There would be "boohooing" long felt from the sting of being outvoted, 4-1, by the other appendages coexisting in close proximity.

Armed with grand examples of their indispensability, thumbs have recognizable roles in daily lives once more, even as current attention points to overuse. Tendonitis looms for thumbs, which must have been largely absent when tendons were handed out. Each has just two; fingers alone have 14.

Thumbs get most attention now when they're "on the blink." If they had a theme song, it would be "One is the Loneliest Number."...

In days long ago, young braves--honing their bowand-arrow skills--may have complained of aching thumbs. Acknowledged "medicine men"--as well as unacknowledged "medicine women"--had simple answers. "Don't empty quivers so often; give other activities like canoeing, leather-working and smoke-signaling equal time."

Ah, in those days, thumbs and index fingers seemed joined at the hip. Both had to be at the ready if arrows were to find their marks. About the only time they seem to work together these days is to provide visual doughnuts, zeros or signals that everything is fine. The latter, however, seems to be fading into the technological tangle terday's dust. our world has become.

thumbs have pretty much as, "Don't-Do-It-Idiot-Dis-"gone it alone," often to ease." Their chorus: "Give starkly signify the "high your thumbs a rest."... drama" of authority figures decreeing live-or-die edicts with the familiar stress on thumbs is not gesture of a thumb ex- expected to go away soon. tended skyward or down- Each thumb's two tendons More ward. now is the expression "all that were very slippery. thumbs" describing ultimate awkwardness, or "green thumb," suggesting we can grow a row or two of several plots of planted petunias. Of course, the thumb also is the appendage which some spouses have the other under.... *****



Singer Susan Boyle with decorated thumbs.

have the time and if they'll and several uncles--none take the time, ask hand of whom had cars--dedoctors. Leslie Barker of scribed their hitch-hiking the Dallas Morning News on highways and byways. did, and did the doctors ever respond!

They had answers, chap- they almost always anter and verse--sometimes swered, "We 'thumbed' it." from the same translation -- Perhaps that was their pritracing the ills produced by mary use of thumbs at the thumbs working overtime time.... pressing iPhones, electronic games and such.

tions, such as practicing good posture, remaining Irish proverb. Doing so, it alert for tingling and numb- wouldn't likely have stayness, stretching, eating ing power like wishing you right and--most of all, like to be favored by wind from native Americans of yes- the back always pushing teryear who were told to you along. gives bows and arrows a rest. "PUT YOUR DEVICE the hope that if you grow OF CHOICE DOWN!"...

been better positioned and locked position. Mayto hold out for conditions be it'll land in the middle of unique to their extremity. a pie still warm from your For years, elbows injured mother's or grandmother's by tennis--and wrists im- oven, and a plum extractpaired by carpal tunnel- ed therefrom to sweeten have essentially rendered your day.... "nose-thumbing" regard for thumbs--extremities still waiting for a new disease er in the Dallas/Fort Worth bearing their name.

"BlackBerry thumb" might speakerdoc.com. Phone: get a toe-hold, but alas, 817-447-3872. Web site: technology has left the www.speakerdoc.com. BlackBerry behind in yes- Columns archived at ven-

Doctors might suggest bury blog. For several decades, a lengthy name, such

> Suffice it to say that common once had nice, thin linings Overworked, however, they become inflamed and "thicken up, get 'gunky' and don't move right, or they get stuck or swollen," the News' writer said.

> > Strange thing: In my youth, when I heard the word, it usually was extended by two letters -- "ed."

Why all this? Well, if you That's how my granddad

Asked how they arrived at whatever destination,

As usual, I offer no solu-Physicians offer solu- tions, only observations.

Perhaps I could pen an

Instead, may I offer weary of thumb-twiddling, worry not if your thumb Thumbs have never suddenly is in a downward

Dr. Newbury is a speak-Metroplex. Inquiries/com-For a time, it looked like ments to: newbury@ turegalleries.com, new-



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Surene Simmons Cody

Surene Simmons Cody, 73, of Sulphur Springs, went to be with the Lord on Easter Resurrection Day March 27, 2016. A funeral service was held at First United Methodist Church on Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Pete Adrian officiating and Rev. Fred Lewis assisting. Burial followed at City Cemetery. Visitation was held at West Oaks Funeral Home on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Pallbearers were Dr. Bill Dietz, Phil Morgan, Barry Ferrill, Tommy Kelty, Heath Hyde and Brett Brock. Special friends and Honorary Pallbearers were Darlene Kendricks, Janette Watson, Kay McCool, and Linda Hagar. Surene was born in Sulphur Bluff to Alvis Bailey Simmons and Mabel Martin Simmons on November 20, 1942. She graduated from Mt. Vernon High School in 1960 where she was Drum Major in the High School Band, Most Beautiful and Beauty Queen. She married Bob Cody on July 22, 1960. She graduated from Paris Junior College School of Nursing in 1975 as a Registered Nurse and worked at Hopkins County Memorial Hospital for 33 years where she was an operating room nurse and supervisor of surgery. She served 13 years as Secretary and Treasurer for the Hopkins County Boys Baseball. She was a member of First United Methodist

Church since 1962 and member of the Messengers Sunday School class. She enjoyed playing bridge and watching any sporting event her sons or grandchildren were playing.

Surene is survived by her husband, brother Joe Don Simmons and wife Linda of Mesquite, son Stuart Cody and wife Amber, son Stacy Cody and wife Kellie, son Robert Cody and wife Tracey, all of Sulphur Springs, grandchildren Katelyn Roden and husband Austin, Toni Cody and fiancé Justin Owens, Ross Cody, Cain Cody, Maci Merrell, Campbell Cody, sister-in-law Sue Adam and husband Dave, Patsy Cody Morrison and many nieces, nephews and cousins. She is preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.

Memorials can be made to the First United Methodist Church Memorial Fund in the name of Surene Cody.

John Tarno

Funeral arrangements for John Tarno, age 78 of Cumby are pending with Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. John passed away Tuesday, March 29, 2016, at Veterans Hospital in Bonham.



Karen Elaine Mays

Funeral service for Karen Elaine Mays, age 61, of Emory, was held Wednesday, March 30, 2016, 3:00 pm, at Bull Creek Cowboy Church near Lone Oak. Bro. Paul McMerrell officiated. Burial followed in Dunbar Cemetery. Visitation was 6:00-8:00 pm Tuesday evening at Wilson-Orwosky Funeral Home. Ms. Mays died Saturday night at Hopkins County Memorial Hospital in Sulphur Springs.

She was born Jan. 15, 1955, in Greenville to Orion Forrest and Edna Earl Porter. She married Gary Steven Mays in Bonham on Aug. 5, 1978. Karen was a school teacher for Rains I.S.D. for some 33 years before retiring. She attended Bull Creek Cowboy Church.

Survivors include: Husband: Gary Mays of Emory, Sons: Dustin Mays of Chicago; and Blake Mays (Kassi) of Edgewood Daughter: Lauren Taylor (Matt) of Caddo Mills, Brothers: Gary Michael Porter and Ken Porter (Beth) both of Bonham,

Grandchildren: Emma, Lainey, Charlee, Maysie, and Porter, Numerous nieces and nephews and other loving family and friends

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Edmond Bayard Basye

Funeral services for Edmond Bayard Basye, age 85 of Cumby will be held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, March 31, 2016 at First Baptist Church-Sulphur Springs in the Worship Center with Rev. Tommy Johnston and Rev. Fred Lewis officiating. Interment with military and mason honors will be at Long Cemetery with Alan Basye, Brent Robison, Kevin Robison, James Norris, Ferrin Long, Randy Slagle serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers are E.A. Junell and the Hopkins County Military Coalition. Visitation was held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Edmond passed away on Monday, March 28, 2016 at Founders Plaza Rehab in Wylie. He was born on February 16, 1931 in Dallas, the son of E.B. "Tot" and Rena (Butler) Basye. He married the love of his life, Geneva Long on December 25, 1953 in Dallas. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War in Japan, was a retired electrician; a sixty-seven year member of the IBEW Local #59 (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers), more than fifty years as a Master Mason and past Master of the Lodge, was a long time member of the Hopkins County Military Coalition serving as Squad Leader for the Honor Guard, was the a 2011 recipient of Volunteer of the Year for Hopkins County, and member of the First Baptist Church – Sulphur Springs. He graduated from North Dallas High School in 1948.

He is survived by his daughter, Cindy Robison of Blacksburg, VA; son, Alan Basye and wife, Kellye of Sachse; grandchildren, Brent Robison, Kevin Robison and Lauren Basye; three great-grandchildren, Zoey Robison, Konner Robison and Trent Robison and sister, Mary Jean Duncan of Pilot Point. He is preceded in death by his parents and wife, Geneva.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Long Cemetery Association, c/o Patsy Patterson, 1140 Bowie St., Sulphur Springs, TX 75482



Charles A. Johnson

Graveside service for Charles A. Johnson, 91, of Greenville, were conducted at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 29, 2016, at Mt Zion Cemetery with Bro. Jim Moore officiating. Honorary pallbearers were great-nephews, Brady Hunt, Shane Williams, Ben Marin, William Marin, Jeremy Johns, and Robert Johns. There was no formal visitation. Mr. Johnson passed away on March 25, 2016 at Rock Creek Health and Rehabilitation. He was born September 14, 1924 in Hunt County to Otha Lee Johnson and Mattie Irene Akers Johnson. Mr. Johnson was an Accountant and a longtime member of Wesley United Methodist Church in Greenville. Survivors include, sisters, Dorothy Tucker and husband Cullen of Cumby, and Helen Williams of Greenville, nieces, Betty Hunt and husband Dan of Cumby, Judy Thomas and husband Dennis of Dallas, Shirley Hayes and husband Leroy of East Tawakoni, Sandra Marin and husband Mike of Sachse, nephew, Charles Williams and wife Debbie of Randolph, and a host of great nieces and nephews. Arrangements under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home. www.westoaksfuneralhome.

Larry E. Phillips 11/30/1947 - 3/29/2016

com

Larry E. Phillips, 68 of Cumby, passed away on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at Christus DuBuis Hospital of Paris. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Mr. Phillips was born in Borger, Texas on November 30, 1947 to B.J. Phillips and Louise Elms Phillips. He married Tina James on June 5, 1993 in Dallas, Texas. He was a trucking/operations manager for NE-TX AG, a member of Crestview Christian Church and lifetime member of N.R.A. He is survived by his wife, Tina Phillips of Cumby, two beloved cats, Blue and Annie, sisters, Marilyn Ogilbee and spouse, Ron of Canton and Gail Thomas and spouse, Conny of Galveston, along with numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Nelda Sue Myers

Nelda Sue Myers, 74, of Celeste, died Sunday, March 27, 2016 at Medical Center of McKinney. Funeral services were 11:00 AM, Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at Coker-Mathews Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. James Ralson officiating. Interment will follow at Celeste Cemetery. Visitation was 10:00 AM until service time, Wednesday.

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