

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Charles Fredrick Mahler II**

Charles Mahler was born at Polly Ryon Hospital in Richmond, Texas on February 1, 1952 and spent most of his life Fort Bend County. He is a member of the Briscoe family on his mother's side. His mother wrote an historical account of her family who came to Fort Bend through Stephen F. Austin in the second group to settle the area from the Brazos River basin from West Columbus to Richmond.

His family farmed and ranched about 400 heads of cattle on about 7000 acres of land purchased from John Foster (Original 300). The land was located from FM 1093 to Brazos River along FM 723.

Charles and his wife Paula raised two sons and a daughter in Fort Bend and he is proud of his deep roots. As a former rancher, he now spends his time as a homebuilder and general contractor.

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Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Briscoe Family – mother's side
Stephen F. Austin
Father's family from Germany
John Foster – sold land to Briscoes
Bill Mahler – brother
Buddy Mahler – brother
Drew Mahler Warren – sister
Charles Frank Mahler – uncle
Jetti Priest Mahler – uncle
Renee Rosenbush – classmate & neighbor
Paula Mahler – wife
Eric Mahler – son
Amanda Mahler – daughter
Trey (Charles F. Mahler, III) –son
Mike Renfro – football player
Dolph Briscoe – a governor of Texas
Wiliford Family
Frank Briscoe – a Harris County District Attorney
Andrew Briscoe II - uncle
Mason Briscoe – uncle
Bill Briscoe – uncle
Frank Briscoe – uncle
Chip Briscoe - cousin

Places / Businesses

St. John's Methodist Church – Richmond
Texas A&M University
Matagorda TX – fishing
Rosenberg/Richmond Helping Hands
Grace International Children's Foundation
Twin City Drive-In
Cole Theater
Fort Bend Opry

Events

Briscoe family came to Fort Bend as the second group of Stephen F. Austin's settlement along the Brazos River
Briscoes purchased land from John Foster (Original 300) in early 1900s
Grandfather had a ranch in Monterrey Mexico raising horses and mules for the Mexican Army.
Family farmed/ranched about 400 heads of cattle on about 7000 acres.
Large family gathering for holidays with plenty of food and games.
Raised two sons and a daughter in Fort Bend County
Builds homes and is a contract general contractor.