

# FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## *ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE*



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### Abstract: **JACK HUTCHINS MOORE**

Jack Moore's family history begins before there was a Texas or a Fort Bend County or Stephen F. Austin. His first ancestor was his 4 times maternal great-grandfather James Britton "Brit" Bailey who arrived from Tennessee to an area along the Brazos River between West Columbia and Angleton about 1818. Along the way, Brit's daughter, Betsy Bailey was kidnapped by Indians, taken to San Antonio and eventually rescued. Betsy is Jack's 3 times maternal great-grandmother. Another ancestor who arrived in the 1820's was his 4 times paternal great-grandfather William Stafford. The City of Stafford is named for him and an historical marker is on the former grounds of his winter home near Riverbend County Club.

His paternal great-grandfather John Moore, Sr. and his great-grandmother, Lottie Dyer Moore, married in 1883 and built the now historic Moore Home with some of Lottie's inheritance. They also used the inheritance to purchase land in the area to add to Lottie's land and cattle. John, Sr. was appointed Secretary of State for Texas in the mid-to-late 1880s. By 1890 he ran for the state legislature and served several terms. He was the first congressman from Fort Bend County, serving from 1905-1913.

Jack's uncle, John Moore, III continued in the family cattle and land management business. Jack's mother was Hallie Kelley Peareson Moore. Her family included several attorneys. Jack is a fourth generation attorney on his mother's side practicing in Richmond. He shares stories and documents dating back to 1810 of his maternal and paternal ancestors who endured the hardships of early life in Texas. His love of history and following in the footsteps of his family, has well-served Fort Bend County.

22 Pages

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## Interview Summary

### People (in order mentioned in interview)

Stephen F. Austin – impresario

Betsy Bailey Milburn – maternal 3rd great grandmother

James Britton Bailey – maternal 4th great grandfather

Nancy Spencer Barnett Grey (1801-1863) – Old 300 Colonist and Lottie's maternal grandmother

Sarah Barnett Dyer – Lottie's mother (1835-1882)

James Foster Dyer – Lottie's father (1834-1881)

Sarah Stafford Dyer – Lottie's paternal grandmother

Thomas Barnett (1798-1843) – Old 300 Colonist and Lottie's maternal grandfather and signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence

C. C. Dyer – Old 300 Colonist and Lottie's paternal grandfather

Carl Hilmar Guenther – paternal 2nd great grandfather

Dorothea Pape Guenther – paternal 2nd great grandmother

Hilmar Louis Guenther (1862-1924) – paternal great grandfather

Marie Bachman Guenther (1870-1965) – paternal great grandmother

Jack Hutchins (1885 - 1946) – great uncle

Louise Kelley Hutchins (1889-1980) – great aunt

George Gerard Kelley (1859-1938) – maternal great grandfather

Margaret Lucy “Lou” Rust Kelley (1859-1931) – maternal great grandmother

Kathleen Joerger Lindsey (1916-2015) – first female attorney and started the county library system

David Milburn – Old 300 Colonist and maternal 3rd great grandfather

DeRugeley Peareson (1869-1950) – maternal great grandfather

Dorethea Guenther Moore (1894-1968) – paternal grandmother

Hallie Kelley Peareson Moore (1921-1982) – mother

Henrietta Huddleston Moore – John Moore, Sr. mother

Hilmar Moore (1920-2012) – father

Hilmar Moore, Jr. – brother

Jack Moore, Jr. – son

John Moore, Jr. (1892-1975) – paternal grandfather

John Moore, Sr. (1862-1940) – paternal great grandfather and Congressman

John Moore, III (1917-1991) – uncle

Lottie Dyer Moore (1865-1924) – paternal great grandmother

Louise Moore Selchau-Hansen – daughter

Mary Elizabeth Moore – wife

Dr. Matthew Moore – John Moore Sr. father. Jack's paternal 2nd great grandfather

Philip Moore – brother

Ray Moore IV – cousin

Hallie Rust Kelley Peareson (1897-1965) – maternal grandmother

Philip Edward Peareson (1841-1895)–  
maternal 2nd great grandfather

Philip Edward Peareson (1894-1970) –  
maternal grandfather

Andrew Jackson Rust (1828-1914) –  
maternal 2nd great grandfather

Mary Elizabeth “Mollie” Sargent Pearson  
(1869-1955) – maternal great grandmother

Virginia Scarborough – family friend

William Stafford – paternal 4th great  
grandfather and Lottie Dyer Moore’s  
paternal great grandfather

Helen Marie “Minnie” Pearson – maternal  
2nd great grandmother (1843-1896)

## Places / Businesses

C H Guenther & Son – produced flour  
products in San Antonio, Texas

Fort Bend County, Texas

George Foundation

Gulf Oil Company

Henderson- Wessendorff Foundation

Nacogdoches, Texas

Richmond, Texas

Riverbend County Club

San Antonio, Texas

Stafford, Texas

Texas A&M University

University of Texas

Wharton, Texas

## Events

Jack’s family tree is filled with original Old 300 colonist on both sides and going back at least 4 generations.

His great grandparents Lottie and John Moore, Sr. built the Moore Home in Richmond. His father, Hilmar Moore, was the longest serving Mayor of Richmond and possibly the longest serving elected official in the US.

Jack shares numerous stories about his ancestors and their impact on Texas and Fort Bend County.