

# FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## *ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE*



This oral history is copyrighted 2018, by the Fort Bend County Historical Commission. All Rights Reserved. For information contact: Fort Bend County Historical Commission, Attn: Chairman-Oral History Committee, 301 Jackson St., Richmond, TX, 77469.

### Terms and Conditions

This file may not be modified or changed in any way without the express written permission of the Fort Bend County Historical Commission.

This file may not be redistributed for profit. Please do not 'hot link' to this file or repost this file.

---

**Abstract: Franklin Royce Schodek**

**08/06/2018**

Born in 1937 in Rosenberg, Mr. Schodek is a professional surveyor with extensive knowledge of the historical development of Fort Bend County. He is also the recipient of the Bert E. Bleil Heritage Award.

Franklin's ancestors are from the Czech Republic having migrated to Texas through Ellis Island & Galveston in the late 1800s. He retells stories about the hardships of growing up during the Great Depression and WWII as well as the impact of polio on family and friends.

After one year of college, Franklin returned to Rosenberg and spent his career as a land surveyor. He describes the method of measuring in the early years using a 200 ft tape and a theodolite. Today, land surveyors use GPS and a computer to measure.

32 Pages

↓ *Scroll down for Key Words from the Interview.* ↓

## Interview Summary

### People

Mrs Anders – neighbor  
 Ben Babovec – Rosenberg mayor  
 Biggy Bailey – high school friend  
 Nelson Bass – owner Bass Construction  
 George H Bernshausen = high school friend  
 Andrew Briscoe - attorney  
 Larry Burton – high school friend  
 Johnny Cabiness – high school friend  
 T J Cegelski – high school friend  
 Raymond Chachere – insurance agent  
 Ben Chupik – high school friend  
 Nesbitt Cumings – high school friend  
 Maxine Dickehut – secretary  
 Meredith Doggett - teacher  
 Stephen Doggett – attorney  
 Tiny Gaston – Richmond police chief & Sheriff  
 John Grillo – local businessowner  
 Johnny Hruzek – operated Old Richmond Drive In  
 Kelly Kaluza - engineer  
 Stanley Kucherka – county Engineer  
 Mirabeau Lamar – Second President of Texas  
 B D Leaman Family – neighbors  
 Gusty Lee Lenert – drainage district secretary  
 Jane Long – Mother of Texas  
 Ernest & Julius Luksa – grocery store owners  
 Charles Macek – worked at the German prison  
 camp in Rosenberg  
 Charles Mikeska – high school friend  
 Hilmar Moore – Richmond mayor  
 Michael Moore – museum curator  
 William Morton – Old 300 landowner  
 Julius Nowak – high school friend  
 Martha Payton – prominent citizen  
 Carolyn Barnes Pope – prominent citizen  
 Janice Ransom Powell – prominent citizen  
 Johnnie Pustka – county commissioner  
 James Raines – Rosenberg mayor  
 Travis Reese – director of FB Fairgrounds  
 Grant Roane – high school friend  
 Claire Rogers – director of FB museum  
 Raymond Rude – owner Rude & Sons  
 Jan Sabrsula – maternal grandfather

Rozina Molina Sabrsula – maternal grandmother  
 Virginia Scarborough – prominent citizen  
 Charles Frank Schodek – paternal grandfather  
 Daniel Lewis Schodek – brother  
 Frank Louis Schodek - father  
 Hermina Amelia Schodek – mother  
 Brad Schodek – son  
 Elizabeth Streiber Schodek – Daniel’s spouse  
 Janiece Licka Schodek - spouse  
 Louise Sklar Schodek – paternal grandmother  
 Mark Schodek - son  
 Mattie Schodek – aunt  
 Ross Schodek – son  
 Stacey Schodek – Brad’s spouse  
 Vickie Schodek – Mark’s spouse  
 Gene Gchultz - teacher  
 Sharon Scopel – prominent citizen  
 Jodie Stavinoha – county judge  
 Henry Steinkamp – land surveyor  
 James Syptak – business partner  
 Guy Traylor – high school principal  
 Reggie Traylor – high school friend  
 Lupe Uresti – Rosenberg mayor  
 Larry Waggoner - attorney  
 Jimmy Walzel – high school friend  
 W W Ward – landlord  
 Joe Wessendorff – prominent landowner  
 Dorothy Wiegat - friend  
 Dianne Wilson – County Clerk  
 Winona Wright – Richmond secretary  
 Sutton Young – high school friend  
 Albert Zuckero – high school friend

### Places / Businesses

See Interview

### Events

See Interview