

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Jean Frances McCord Babineaux**

Jean Frances McCord Babineaux was born 02/25/1929 in Sugar Land, one of seven children. Her father worked at Visco/Nalco refinery and they lived in several homes in the area now called "old" Sugar Land. Her mother worked for the Sugar Land Telephone Company as a switchboard operator.

The entire family played various musical instruments for fun, for church services and for special functions such as weddings and funerals. Jean worked off and on over the years for Dr. Slaughter, Dr. Kuykendall and Dr. Jenkins (aka Dubbo) in the office handling bookkeeping tasks.

Jean shares many stories about people who grew up and worked in Sugar Land. She describes "the wreck" that almost killed her and her friends while driving down Hwy 90; swimming in scratchy wool suits and writing for her school newspaper about various teachers, students and activities.

Jean met and married Kelsey Babineaux in 1948 after only knowing each other about 6 weeks. She has numerous tales about raising their kids in Sugar Land, building their own house in 1959 and watching all the neighborhood kids grow up and have families of their own. Jean has an incredible memory naming hundreds of people and events.

Jean's recollection of people, places and events in the company town of Sugar Land will have you yearning for the "good ole days."

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Interview Summary

People (in order of appearance in interview)

Marvin & Williams – Hattie’s sons

Dr. Carlos Slaughter

Uncle Walter Smith

Parents from Rusk Texas

Aunt Leitha May Kelley

Aunt Monnye Smith Rozelle

Aunt Bell Matlock

Aunt Minnie Smith Jenkins

Mildred Rozelle

Hattie Lee Smith McCord –mother

Mary Rozelle Kinard

Emily Andre & Sammie – sisters

Ralph and Johnny Lee – brothers

Bennie Kinard

Monnye Alice & Caroline – sisters

Arthur Kinard

Jean & Wayne Boehm

Marie Muehr

Audrey & Verge Wooley

Mrs. Boyer

Dorothy Gandy

Mr. Adam Varnau

Mrs. Spain

Bythard Stallings

Billy Vic Krehmeier

Mr. Bennie Varnau

Mr. Willie Dirks

Mr. Bainman

Blas Rodriguez

Dr. Much (or Muche)

George Andre

Kelsey Babineaux

Mr. T. B. Wayne

Dr. Carlos Alba Slaughter

Dr. (Dubbo) Jenkins, Houston

Evelyn Ferguson

Mrs. Patsy Benner

Walter Wappler

Iris Hinchler

Ms. Nema

Mr. Guyer

Dr. Kuykendall

Mr. Hall

Dr. Leslie Wheeler

Albert Grohman

Buddy Wheeler

Verabelle Slaughter

Carlos Tarver

Buddy Blair

Carlos Medrano

Mildred – cousin

Sherman Texas (Whitewright)

Uncle Tom

T C Rozelle

Monnye Rozelle

Places (in order of appearance in interview)	
Laura Eldridge Hospital – Sugar Land	Visco/Nalco Chemical, Port Arthur Texas
Blue Ridge Prison Farm	Tremalite
Borger, Texas	Mississippi
Refugio Texas	Havana, Cuba
Sugar Land Telephone Company	Imperial Sugar Company
Char House	First Presbyterian Church
The Quarters	First Baptist Church
Schultz	Balinese Room - Galveston
The Flats	Methodist Church
Brocks	Richmond/Rosenberg
The Refinery	Damon/West Columbia
Lion's Club	Sugar Land Industries