



# THE STAR

## ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL

SERVING GOD  
AND NEIGHBOR...

COMPASSIONATE

TRANSFORMING

EMPOWERING

REACHING OUT

COMMUNITY

September 2009

*Cowboy Sunday which will be on Sunday, September 13 at 10:30 am, is St. David's celebration of our unique San Antonio heritage. Rena DuBose, who was Headmistress at St. David's School for 30 years, shares her story of growing up on a Texas ranch. Ginger Purdy interviewed Rena for National Public Radio's Story Corp. Rena's story will be archived at the American Folk life Center in the Library of Congress, and select stories are aired on NPR's Morning Edition. Rena's story was transcribed by Kirstin Wells.*

### Growing Up on a Texas Ranch

Rena DuBose



Although I was born in San Antonio and both my mother and father grew up here-in sight of Travis Park-my father used to say he was born in the lobby of the St. Anthony Hotel which was their home at the time. My mother was born around the corner on Broadway. I grew up on the Houston Ranch, not the Maverick Ranch. My grandfather bought the Houston Ranch in 1903, and my father went out there when he was 17. He lived there the rest of his life, having bought the ranch

from his mother. I grew up on the Houston Ranch. My grandmother, Rena Maverick Green, lived on the Maverick Ranch right down the road, and I spent a lot of time there.

In those days, we were not cared for by babysitters; we were taken to our grandmother's house. I was there anytime my parents went out of town. My Grandma was my best friend.



*The front of the Houston Ranch house.*

There are three stone houses that were built by Ernst Altgelt, the founder of Comfort, Texas and the King William area in San Antonio. Ernst Altgelt, his wife and one of his sons are buried at the Maverick Ranch. He built the first county schoolhouse which is still there although it has to be "re-chinked" periodically. The big house was a two-story ranch house. Once, when my grand  
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mother and her children had gone to New England to visit her sister, there was a fire which burned the big house except for the rock walls. My Great Aunt Lucy Maverick rebuilt it, but it was never the same. Now the big house is one enormous room that opens on to a terrace which is the old foundation. There is a fountain in the wall, and Great Aunt Lucy made stone rivers to water the flower beds from the fountain. It is quite wonderful.

In the 1920s when my father was young, he started a pure bred livestock exporting business, a rare business in those days. He exported show animals to Central and South America and Liberia. Our ranch was sort of an "animal hotel": animals stopped there to get their shots and were then sent on by ship or air to the final destination.



*Rena and her nanny, Harriett.*

My earliest memory is of my goat, Calico Kid. I simply adored that goat! However, my mother did not adore him because he ate the ivy off the house, and he chased my nanny up the stairs! She would beat him with a broom which I thought was the funniest thing I had ever seen! He ended up on the Maverick Ranch. One

day a terrible man there asked if I knew what I was eating. What a terrible thing to do to a child! I have never forgotten that moment.

I loved growing up in the country. I was back and forth between the city and the country, and I truly had the best of both worlds. All kinds of interesting visitors from Mexico and South America came to lunch. My father wanted me to learn Spanish, so I took it in school, but I did not learn it until my first job; I started a kindergarten at the Good Samaritan Center in San Antonio, and I had to learn how to speak Spanish where the children spoke only Spanish!

I went to a country school in Welfare, Texas, a one-room school house with wonderful teachers. It was remarkable because many of the teachers' fathers  
*(Continued in next column.)*



*Rena's 2nd grade class at the Welfare, Texas school om 1938. Rena is in the second row, second from the right.*

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and grandfathers had taught there as well. There were seven grades with 12 children. We walked four miles to Waring, Texas to play baseball. Afterwards, Mr. Loss would pick us up in his Model-T pickup and take us back to Welfare. We also had the privilege of having the Southern Pacific work train parked directly across the highway from the school, so we went over every morning for cookies from the kitchen car of the train! We always looked forward to the work train coming to Welfare.

In the 5th grade I went to school in Boerne because my father's office was there. That was in the days before school buses. For a year during the Second World War, my little brother and I rode the Los Angeles Express to school. We would ride the donkey to the end of the road at the ranch and flag the bus. When the bus arrived, the driver would get off and put the donkey back in the gate, and I would put my brother on the bus!

From the time I was seven, I had a horse, and I was happy riding every afternoon, looking at the sky and clouds. When I was with my grandmother, who was an artist, we painted all the time. She was a very interesting person: she was the first woman on the school board in San Antonio and she was one of the founders of the San Antonio Conservation Society. I used to tag along with her, so I went to Mission reconstructions and the Governor's palace. I took drawing classes on the river. It was a wonderful kind of freedom.

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My father and my wonderful stepmother wanted me to have a year at St. Mary's Hall, but I refused because I was having fun! I realized later that was a mistake, because at St. Mary's Hall I would have learned how to study. None of us had a clue how to study! How my friends and I got through college I don't know but, we managed. My parents decided I needed a year of girls' college, so I went to Mills College in Oakland California, which I adored. The wonderful cosmopolitan cities of San Francisco and Berkeley were just WOW! I never had so much fun. I stayed there for four years.

Growing up on a ranch was a special privilege. During my senior year of college when my friends and I returned from Christmas Break and were sitting around talking about who got engaged and who was going to Europe, someone asked me what was my favorite present. I said getting central heat at the ranch! They looked at me like I was crazy and said, "What did you have before?" And I said, "Well, Papa built fires! Not camp fires, but in a fireplace!" I have had an interesting life.

*(For the entire interview including holiday traditions on the ranch, see our website at [www.saintdavid.net](http://www.saintdavid.net).)*



*Rena and her mother.*



September is the month when the fall choir season starts. New members for all groups are always welcome, and we are able to accommodate conflicting schedules.

*St. David's Singing Choir:*

Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, August 26 with supper at 7:00 pm in McAllister Hospitality Hall followed by rehearsal in the Choir Room at 7:30 pm. Thereafter, our regular Wednesday rehearsals will be from 7:30 to 8:30 pm.

*St. David's Bell Choir:*

Weekly rehearsals begin on Monday, September 14 and are held from 9:30 am to 10:30 am; and we play approximately every six weeks.

For more information, please call Donald Sebesta at 824-2481

## **Music for the Country Western Service Sunday, September 13**

This year will mark the 20th anniversary of our Cowboy Service!

In addition to our choir and band, we will feature the song stylings of Davi McKinnie, The Gospel Hope Quartet, The St. Andrew's Sisters and our guest trumpeter, Jim Manzo.

The pre-service Musical Round-Up starts at 10:15 am, and the service starts at our regular time, 10:30 am.

We'll sing and hear old favorites such as "Blessed Assurance," "Just a Closer Walk," and "The Old Rugged Cross," plus some new C/W settings of the liturgy and a new song: "We Are the Church" sung by Davi McKinnie, our own Amy Grant sound alike!

Ya'll come, now!!



**FROM THE**  
**Assistant**  
**Rector**



*The Rev. Lisa Mason*

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*What does it mean to be an Episcopalian?*

*Why do we worship the way we do on Sundays?  
What does our liturgy mean?*

*Who is the parish of St David's?*

*How does one become more involved in the life of the parish?*

If any of these questions spark your interest to learn more about Christianity, the Episcopal tradition and St David's Episcopal Church, please come to St David's 101 beginning September 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am in the conference room.

The class is designed for newcomers and "long time members" alike who want to become more familiar with who we are and what we do as Episcopalians and as the parish of St David's. We will share our faith stories and experiences and learn more about ourselves and each other. We will learn about how and why the Episcopal Church has her foundations in scripture, tradition and reason. Together we will explore the Order for Holy Eucharist and the reasons we worship in a particular rhythm throughout the year. We will take a closer look at the sacraments, the Baptismal Covenant and at the different liturgies in our Book of Common Prayer. We will look at the different ministries of St. David's and explore how God calls and equips each of us with different spiritual gifts with which to minister.

I was raised in the Episcopal tradition and attended the same church most of my life, so I never thought about attending a newcomers' class. A friend suggested I come along with her one Sunday, and it was amazing! I discovered how much I did not know, but wanted to learn. It was also a great time to ask the questions I had always wanted to ask, but never did! So join us for St David's 101!

*Christian*  
*Formation*



*John Brooke*

## A Four-Week Exploration of St. Paul and His Letter to the Romans

Beginning on September 6, John Brooke will facilitate an in-depth study of St. Paul and St. Paul's Letter to the Romans with the Adult Formation Group.

*Qualifying the Witness:* The first session will be on the person of Paul-where he came from, his training, his philosophy, his vocation for persecution, his conversion and what he did thereafter.

*What, Why, and How:* The second session will be on Paul's technique on writing the various letters and his purpose in writing this specific letter.

*The Testimony:* The third session will be on Paul's Letter to the Romans which has been characterized as "Paul's Gospel." During the following three Sundays, the group will go as far into Paul's gospel as time permits.



**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**  
**OF SAN ANTONIO, INC.**

## St. David's Habitat for Humanity Father's Day Offering

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Father's Day Offering to help toward our goal to help a San Antonio family have a home.

**Given by:**

*Marty Lawrence in memory of Edward Cook*

*Patsy McGaughy in memory of Bruce Thomson*

*Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hawley & Family in memory of  
Harold T. Morrow*

*Janine Waller in honor of Barrie Waller*

*The Lillibridge family in honor of Bill Hester and Gary  
Lillibridge*

*The Myler family in honor of Malcolm Myler and in  
memory of Charles B. Myler*

*Heather Hoffman in honor of Bill Hoffman*

*Patricia and John Brooke in honor of Paul Castro*

*Beverly Axford in memory of Francis Axford*

*Deb Youngblood in honor of Phil Youngblood*

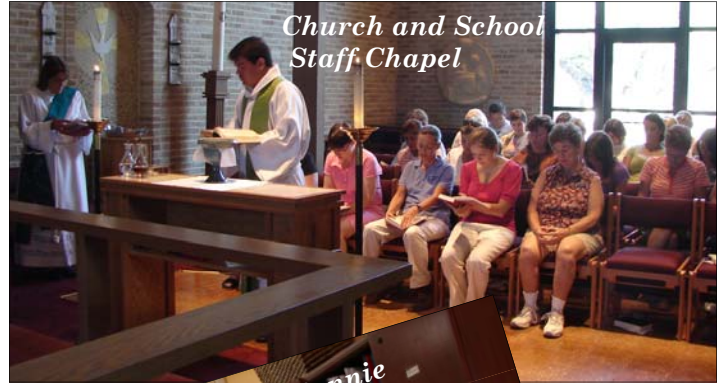
*Bettie Schrade in memory of Robert J. Grona*

*Linda Woodlee in memory of Robert Woodlee*

*The Kellner family in memory of our fathers*



Ashley Miles



Church and School Staff Chapel

**Widow's Lunch** will be Tuesday, September 8th at 11:30 am at Crumpets Restaurant. Please call Dorothy Brown at 824-2481 for more information.

**Men's Burn Your Own Steak** will be Tuesday, September 8th at 6:30 pm. Bring your own meat and a side to share. For more information, contact Bruce Harsh at 824-2481.



St. David's Pet Blessing  
Sunday, October 4 at 3:00 pm



Bonnie Babbitt,  
new  
Administrative  
Assistant



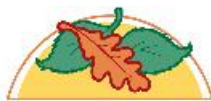
Students  
visit their  
classrooms  
at Open  
House.



Open House for  
Students

**Sunday,  
September 13  
Cowboy Sunday**

**8:00 am** Holy Eucharist Rite I featuring The Rev. Don Lee  
**9:15 am** Cowboy Presentation  
**10:15 am** Musical Round-Up  
**10:30 am** Holy Eucharist Rite II featuring The Rev. Don Lee and Special Music  
**BBQ Lunch** after 10:30 am service prepared by the world-famous Wack'em and Stack'em team.



**Women's Fall Gathering**

**October 23-25, 2009**

Sponsored by Commission for Women's Ministries  
Speaker: The Rt. Rev. David Reed

Come and spend the weekend in the Hill Country at Camp Capers with women from all over the diocese. Flyers will be available soon.

**St. David's  
School Begins  
2009-2010 Year!**



Pat Bose

*Save the Date*

## **Grief and the Holidays Presentation**

Offered through  
Porter Loring Family Care Services

**Tuesday, November 10, 2009  
Light Supper at 5:30 pm  
Presentation at 6:30 pm**

The holidays are an especially difficult time when one is grieving the loss of a loved one. The season renews memories, family ties and traditions, and we become painfully aware that our special loved one is no longer present. This is often difficult for families. The pain of the loss is confused with the spirit of the season. Grief and the Holidays is a workshop designed to help those who are grieving and their families to better understand the grief process, how it affects us during the holidays and how we can use this special time to continue to heal.

*How am I going to face the holidays and handle all those "first times"?*

*What are some things that I can do to eliminate unnecessary stress?*

*Do I want to attend social gatherings?*

*Do I need to develop a game plan or maybe even a game face just to get through?*

Contact Pat Bose at 824-2481  
if you are interested in attending.

## **Welcome, Sarah Cozad!**



Sarah  
Cozad



Peace be with you, St. David's. Praise God for you all. My name is Sarah Cozad. With God's help, I have accepted the call to be the Director of Children and Youth Ministries at St. David's. I am thrilled to be amongst this wonderful parish. I feel like a child on Christmas morning watching the clock, bursting with excitement! I feel like my whole life has prepared me for this position.

I am 25 years old with an undergraduate degree in Human Development and Family Sciences from the University of Texas at Austin, and I am proudly finishing my Masters Degree in Child Development from Texas Women's University in Denton. The past two years I have worked in Fort Worth, Texas for a nonprofit agency serving youth and families in Tarrant County. Homesick for the Diocese of West Texas, I decided it was time to move back. After spending 14 years in the Rio Grande Valley, I packed up my belongings (parents not included), left the family ranch, and moved into the dormitory at St. Mary's Hall in San Antonio. I graduated from St. Mary's Hall in 2002. It was an experience of great sacrifice and virtue. Away from home, I was forced to my knees in order to find strength. This strength was in our Lord Jesus Christ. It shaped me into the woman I am today: steadfast, confident, self-motivated and passionate.

My vocation and passion in life is families and children of all ages. I have a desire to know, love and teach children, parents and people. God has blessed me with many gifts. I look forward to using them and discovering many more in the days to come. I am in love with Jesus Christ, and I want to spread this bountiful love to the ends of the earth beginning right here at St. David's. I believe that children are the future, not only for this Diocese but also for this big world. The more children I come to know and the more I come to know Jesus Christ the more similarities I see in the two.

I whole-heartedly await our meeting face-to-face. Until then, Vaya con Dios.

## Tour The Southeast Mexico Diocese



The group will depart on a luxury bus from St. David's Church and travel to Mexico to tour areas where churches and congregations gather in different cities. The trip stops at the Diocesan Center in Xalapa, as well as the Anglican Center in Oaxaca, where several missions have done work alongside the communities they help and support.

This exploratory mission trip has been endorsed by Bishop Lillibridge in conjunction with our sister Diocese of Southeast Mexico presided by Bishop Benito Juarez.

For more information please call (210) 787-4365.

- tour coffee growing areas
- bake bread with the communities in Oaxaca
- visit a barrio and school children in Veracruz
- visit coastal towns by the beach
- visit colonial sites and monuments from the time of Cortez and the Toltec civilization

<i>Start and End dates</i>		
10/03/09 – 10/10/09	10/17/09 – 10/24/09	10/24/09 – 10/31/09
11/07/09 – 11/14/09	11/21/09 – 11/28/09 Thanksgiving	
12/05/09 – 12/12/09		
01/18/10 – 01/25/10 DSEM Council		

We need a minimum of 35 people per trip. Please e-mail three possible dates when you would be able to travel.

Use the contact form on our web site [www.cafebeneficio.com](http://www.cafebeneficio.com) or e-mail us at [customer\\_sales@cafebeneficio.com](mailto:customer_sales@cafebeneficio.com)

### **PRICE PER PERSON**

One person	\$1340.00
Two people	\$1090.00
Three people	\$ 995.00
Children under 12 can stay in parents' room.	\$ 850.00
<i>A 50% deposit must be paid 30 days before the trip begins. American Express, Visa and Master Card accepted</i>	<b>PASSPORT NEEDED FOR TRAVEL!!</b>

### **Price for eight days includes:**

- Transportation and accommodations (Children under 12 can stay in parents' room.)
- 20 meals
- Entry fees
- Workshops