

# ◆ DCGS NEWS ◆

Volume 15, No. 3

November, 2001

## A Message from Your President: Diana White

Here it is November and another calendar year is nearly past. Some of you have been members since the organization of the Denton County Genealogical Society; some for many years; and some are relatively new or new members. In accordance with the stated goals of the Society, we strive to preserve the records of the city and county. We have accomplished two very important projects: first, the publication of the *Wills of Denton County from 1875-1940* and second the *City of Denton Deaths from 1900 to 1957*. Both of these are admirable projects. There are still many of the Death records books for sale, but we are almost out of the Will books. Book donations to libraries make a nice honorarium or memorial. If you are interested in purchasing books for your self, as gifts, or as memorials contact Diana, 940-387-4741. Each sells for \$25.00.

One of our on-going projects has not had many volunteers recently. Remember we are compiling the obituaries to accompany the mortuary records we extracted many years ago. This project requires going to the library, using the obituary indices compiled by Mattie Frank Pierce, and copying or extracting the obituary information to attach to the mortuary information. Mary Tate is the coordinator of this project, so please see her to get an alphabetic section to work. We have not completed a third of the records.

An almost completed project is the City of Denton Births from 1900-1950 and from 1951-1957. Proofreading and correcting a small part of the project is all that remains to be done. Mary La Jean Sherrill and your president promise to complete this before this year is over.

The Society made a major commitment to the Denton family when we encouraged them to donate the Denton Collection to the Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. At the time we worked with the Denton family members, we realized that little of the material actually

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THE DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY MEETS ON  
THE SECOND THURSDAY  
DURING THE  
MONTHS OF SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER AND  
JANUARY - MAY.



1896- Denton County Courthouse-1996

7:00 P.M.  
LDS CHURCH  
3000 OLD NORTH RD.  
DENTON, TEXAS

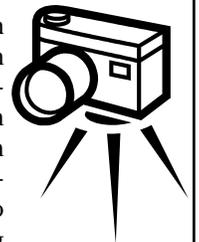
### 2001-2002 PROGRAMS

- Sep - Ancestor Chronologies
- Oct - Leslie Collier
- Nov - Digital Cameras
- Jan - Evaluating Resources
- Feb - UNT Library
- Mar - 1930 U.S. Census
- Apr - The Non-Population Census
- May - Organizing Materials

## Digital Cameras For the Genealogist

by  
**Bettie Tadlock Chaney**

Bettie has been a leader in using new technologies in her classroom and her personal life. Retirement from the elementary classroom has not changed this attitude - she continues to challenge herself in using the digital camera. It is the digital camera that furthered the decline of Polaroid. Not only can one make an instant picture, that picture can be used in many ways. Bettie will explain many of the ways she has discovered for using the digital camera from copying documents to making her own arrangements with old pictures.



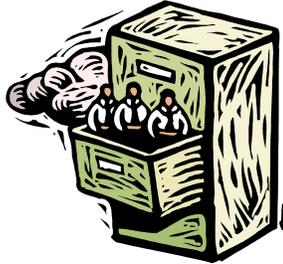
Teacher with 40 years experience teaching for Denton I.S.D., University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University; Denton resident since 1958; family names include Tadlock, Parrish, Moore, and Harty (focusing on the Harty and Tadlock names at present) relatives in Cass, Upshur, and Collin counties of Texas.

Demonstration of various ways a digital camera can be used to record and enhance genealogy includes simple explanation of benefits/drawbacks of camera's features. Lecture with demonstration will explain how images of old documents and other objects are captured, saved, and used with genealogy applications. Methods of digitally repairing photos, use of computer to share photos on internet or at family events will also be discussed as time permits.



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had any connection to John B. Denton, but it would be a nice collection to be located in Denton. Many people inquire about the Denton name not really knowing that the city and county were names for John B. Denton. I challenge each member to volunteer at least 10 hours to the organization of these materials, which are housed at the Museum at the Outlet Mall. Please consider the commitment of the Society to this project. A few members volunteered on this project several years ago, but many of us, including your president, supported the project and have not worked on it. Lets make the remainder of this organizational year the "Year of the Volunteer." Volunteer to support the projects of the Denton County Genealogical Society, Inc.



## Digital Photography The Textbook A Free On-Line Course Dennis P. Curtin Beta Version 1.1

"Welcome to <http://www.PhotoCourse.com> and a new approach to teaching and learning digital photography on the Internet. Although photography technology is changing at a rapid pace, photographic traditions remain unchanged. This site teaches digital photography while paying homage to the masters who have used different technologies over the past 150 years. As you can tell, this site is under development. It's a community project with contributions from leaders in the field of digital imaging."

Other Sites that might be helpful:

<http://www.lonestardigital.com/#top>

<http://members.home.net/jonespm/pjdigphot.htm>

<http://www.internetbrothers.com/phototips.htm>

<http://www.cliffshade.com/dpfiw/>

<http://www.dpcorner.com>

<http://www.dogitalphotography.com>



## Lectures & Seminars

Utah Genealogical Association will present the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, Jan. 7-11, 2001 at the Wyndham Hotel in Salt Lake City. The courses offered will be "American Records & Research: Focusing on Families", "Preparing for Accreditation and Advanced Methodology", "Ancestors in the Isles: British, found in FHL Records",

"Southern States Research", "Producing a Quality Family History", "Genealogical Research using the Internet", "Research Methodology: Problem Solving I & II", "Becoming Master of Your Genealogy Computer Program" and "Genealogy Librarianship". Some of the instructors are John Philip Colletta, Patricia Law Hatcher, Paul Smart, Kory Meyerink and Alan E. Mann. Contact UGA at 1-888-INFO-UGA, or email [info@infouga.org](mailto:info@infouga.org), or on the web at [www.infouga.org](http://www.infouga.org).

**GENTECH 2002** will be held in Boston January 25-26, 2002. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> year for GENTECH and how it has grown. The New England Historic Genealogical Society will host the conference. For information write GENTECH2002, c/o NEHGS, 101 Newbury St., Boston MA 02116-3007 or visit their website at [www.gentech.org/2002](http://www.gentech.org/2002).

**Dallas Genealogical Society - Historical Research Methodology: Engaging the Process to Find All the Answers**, Curt Witcher, February 9, 2002, 9 am - 4 pm Place to be announced. Many genealogists miss opportunities to find consequential documents for advancing their research because they do not follow a standard research methodology, namely the "historical research methodology." Special care is given in this lecture to emphasize the importance of some rather fundamental basics which, when used together, make for a powerful data-gathering methodology: (1) working from present to past, from known to unknown; (2) documenting, *everything* that is recorded, always looking for particular facts of pieces of data to reveal or uncover yet more information; (3) using the yardstick of "researching as broad as on researches deep." i.e. using geographic contexts to open doors to migration and settlement groups, ethnic churches, cemeteries, and limited edition publications; and (4) placing one's genealogical research in the proper historical context to



## News From The Library

Burroughs, Tony. *Black Roots : a Beginner's Guide to Tracing the African American Family Tree*. (2001) G 929.1089 BUR

Cothem, John W. *Confederates of Elmwood : A Compilation of Information Concerning Confederate Soldiers and Veterans Buried at Elmwood Cemetery, Memphis, Tennessee*. (2001) G 976.8 COT

Dixon, Walter Clay. *Richland Crossing : a Portrait of Texas Pioneers*. (1994) TEX 920 DIX

Sturdevant, Katherine S. *Bringing Your Family History to Life Through Social History*. (2000) G 929.1 STU

Thackery, David T. *Finding Your African American Ancestors : a Beginner's Guide*. (2000) G 929.1089 THA

# General Preservation Guidelines

Michael McColgin, Preservation Officer,  
Arizona History and Archives Division,  
Arizona State Archives

## Preserving Personal Papers and Photographs

The preservation staff of the Arizona State Archives recently received a call from a woman who had become the "family historian" after her aunt's death. She was determined to do a better job than her aunt who had kept everything in a couple of shoe boxes, so she purchased albums with special pages in which she could organize the materials and then reposition them in case she changed her mind. A few months later she discovered that all the papers and pictures had become securely stuck to the pages.

Of all the things that a person can do to preserve papers and photographs, providing a good environment is the single most important. Such an environment includes a moderate temperature and relative humidity. Extreme variations in either can cause mold growth, cracks in pictures, premature aging and other damage. Although 68° F. and 50% relative humidity are frequently cited as being close to ideal, stability plays a major role in long-term preservation, so it is better to have a stable temperature of perhaps 78° and a relative humidity of 30% than wild variations in either.

Another environmental factor to consider is light. All light damages paper and photographs to some degree, so they should be stored in a dark or dimly lit area if possible. Direct sunlight on valued materials must be avoided, because it causes severe damage very quickly, as witnessed by a newspaper that is left outside for only one day.

Air quality is a third factor to consider. Air pollution, especially in large cities, contains many gases that combine with water to form acids that eat everything from paper to bronze statues. By properly maintaining air conditioning filters and regularly cleaning materials with non-oily dust cloths, much of this type of damage can be avoided.

Creating and maintaining a good climate for an entire house can be difficult and expensive. Interior closets, those located away from the outside walls of the building, tend to provide an environment which is more stable. If they are kept shut, fluctuations in temperature and relative humidity will be reduced, and the interior will be dark and less dusty.

Storage materials and handling also play key roles in preservation. Common cardboard boxes and file folders usually contain acids that contaminate historical materials, so they should be avoided. Several companies provide a wide variety of safe boxes and enclosures for both paper and photographs, and a modest investment in proper storage will add considerably to the expected life of family

records.

Ideally, family treasures should never be handled, but that is usually an unacceptable option. Natural oils on hands transfer to documents and leave oily spots. To prevent this, at the very least hands should be thoroughly cleaned before working with papers. The same oils do irreparable damage to pictures, so inexpensive gloves available at photo stores should be worn when handling either prints or negatives. If materials are to be handled frequently, photocopies of papers and duplicates of photographs will save the originals from being inadvertently damaged.

## Preserving and Handling Photographic Images

Photography recently celebrated its 150th birthday. Many of the early photographs have survived, proof that black and white photos can, theoretically, last for hundreds of years. Although the typical color films and prints of today keep better than those of even a few years ago, they are not as permanent as black and white. In either case, though, proper handling and storage will do much to increase the life expectancy of a photo collection.

Photographs are made to be seen, and that is one of the main reasons why many do not survive. Viewing a picture requires light and frequently involves handling, both of which can result in damage. All light damages photographic materials to some degree, so it is best to store them in complete darkness. Few people want to look at negatives, so keeping them in the dark isn't much of a problem. Prints, however, are made to be seen and those that are on constant display will be damaged. Black and white prints can normally withstand more light than those in color, but subdued light, such as that found in many hallways, can do much to retard the rate of deterioration of both types. If a photo must be hung in a brightly-lit room, copies are easily obtained through photo dealers. That way, the duplicate is viewable, and the original can be safely stored in the dark.

Handling photographs with bare hands can cause irreparable damage, because the natural oils on fingers can leave permanent fingerprints on the surface. Inexpensive gloves are available at camera stores and should be used whenever handling prints or negatives. Even when wearing gloves, it is a good idea to handle prints and negatives only along the edges, and then very gently, because both films and prints may crack if bent.

There are several acceptable methods of storing photographic materials. If a collection will not be used frequently, then special paper or synthetic fabric envelopes may be used. The paper used for storing photographic materials is quite different than the paper normally recommended for the storage of paper documents. Synthetic fabrics such as Tyvek are also suitable, because they are chemically inert and very smooth. The main problem with using either paper or synthetic fabrics is that the pictures are not visible unless removed from their envelopes, and routine handling can cause damage.

If frequent and easy viewing is a prime consideration, then clear plastic enclosures are one possible option. Several types of plastics are suitable for use with photographic col-

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(Preservation, Continued from page 3)

lections, but one common plastic, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), must be avoided. This particular plastic is very unstable chemically, and it will damage photographic materials rapidly and permanently. One clue to identifying PVC is its distinct odor—if it smells like the inside of a brand new car, it's probably PVC. Reputable vendors provide safe plastic sleeves, and a variety of boxes made specifically for storing items of various sizes. There is one major problem that may arise with plastic sleeves— if the relative humidity gets too high for too long, the plastic may stick to the print or negative.

Another option for a browsing collection is a three-ring notebook or album, but almost all of those available at local department stores are made with unstable materials and adhesives, so they should be avoided. Several national vendors do carry safe products, and photographs may be mounted on special paper pages or housed in plastic pages in these binders. If paper pages are chosen, old-fashioned photo corners made of either safe paper or plastic are the safest method of attachment. Some authorities recommend using only three corners per print, because it is easier to remove and replace the photo if that becomes necessary.

#### **PLEASE DO NOT**

Pull a book by its headcap. Contrary to popular opinion, headcaps are not handles.

Use adhesive tapes on your treasured papers, bindings or photographs. although some are advertised as "archival," I do not recommend them for rare/valuable items.

Store materials in garages, attics or similar places. The environment fluctuates too much, and the materials are much more likely to be damaged by insects, water, and fungi.

Use the so-called "magnetic" scrapbooks. The adhesive may permanently bond to your treasures. I don't like scrapbooks in general, but non-damaging ones are available from several suppliers.

Store materials on the floor. They are much more likely to be damaged by insects and water. Store items at least six inches above the floor.

Store newspaper clippings with other materials. I recommend photocopying clippings, and then either destroying the originals or segregating them completely.

#### **PLEASE DO**

Keep your shelved materials clean. Regular dusting with either One-Wipe® or Dust Bunny® cloths will discourage insects and prevent damage caused by dust.

Use only the best-quality materials for long-term storage. Just because an item is advertised as "archival" or "acid-free" does not mean that it is safe to use, so you must ask for specifications and learn how to interpret them.

**DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
PO Box 424707  
DENTON, TX  
76204**

**\*\* OFFICERS \*\***

**DIANA WHITE  
PRESIDENT**

**VIC NIELSEN  
VICE-PRESIDENT**

**BOB McCOMBS  
TREASURER**

**HOLLY HERVEY  
SECRETARY**

**LINDA TOURAINE  
LIBRARIAN**

**WILLIE MALONE  
NEWSLETTER**

**MARY LAJEAN  
SHERRILL AND  
MARY TATE  
PROJECTS**



#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to individuals, libraries or societies. Dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for couples. The membership year begins in June and expires the following May. Members will receive the monthly newsletter, except for the summer months.

Members may submit article of interest. Please cite sources. Queries, reunion notices and book reviews will be also be accepted.

Turn off all unnecessary lights. All light, no matter the source, damages paper, bindings and photographs. Sunlight and fluorescent light are especially bad, but you can help control them by using curtains, shades and ultraviolet filters.

Store papers flat and not folded when possible. Folding causes irreparable damage.

Maintain as stable an environment as possible.

Ideally, the temperature should be kept at 68° F. ±2° and the relative humidity maintained at 30% ± 5%. Ask for help when in doubt.

## **Molecular Genealogy: Is DNA the Answer to Lost Family Records?**

Genealogy doesn't often make news headlines, but in recent months it has been a hot topic in newspapers worldwide. The reason? Genetics and genealogy have merged into an amazing new research field which allows us to prove family connections beyond all doubt. *Nature* Magazine recently reported that DNA testing was used to support the probability that Thomas Jefferson fathered the last child of Sally Hemmings. DNA testing in 1997 established that Cheddar Man, Britain's oldest complete skeleton buried over 9000 years ago, has descendants still living in Cheddar. Traditional genealogy research and DNA have even come together to identify the remains of missing American servicemen. Now new research studies claim that we can use DNA not only to prove a relationship to an individual, but to actually determine our ancestry.

Dr. Scott Woodward and his research group at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah are among the pioneers in this new research field. The Molecular Genealogy Research Group, under his direction, is using the genetic information contained in DNA to reconstruct worldwide family trees. This study is based on the fact that each individual carries within them a unique record of who they are and how they are related to all other people on earth, both living and dead. "We are a walking, living, breathing record of our ancestors," says Woodward. "Genealogy is really a genetic question."

We all know that DNA has the ability to identify individuals but, because it is inherited, there are also regions of the DNA strand which can relate an individual to his or her family (immediate and extended), tribal group and even



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an entire population. Molecular Genealogy can use this unique identification provided by the genetic markers to link people together into family trees. Pedigrees based on such genetic markers can mean a breakthrough for family trees where information is incomplete or missing due to adoption, illegitimacy or lack of records. There are many communities and populations which have lost precious records due to tragic events such as the fire in the Irish courts during Civil War in 1921 or American slaves for whom many records were never kept in the first place.

The main objective of the Molecular Genealogy Research Group is to build a database containing over 100,000 DNA samples from individuals all over the world. These individuals will have provided a pedigree chart of at least four generations and a small blood sample. Once the database has enough samples to represent the world genetic make-up, it will eventually help in solving many issues regarding genealogies that could not be done by relying only on traditional written records. Theoretically, any individual will someday be able to trace his or her family origins through this database.

In the meantime, as the database is being created, molecular genealogy can already verify possible or suspected relationships between individuals. "For example, if two men sharing the same last name believe that they are related (i.e. they have a common ancestor from whom they got the last name), but no written record proves this relationship, we can verify this possibility by collecting a sample of DNA from both and looking for common markers (in this case we can look primarily at the Y chromosome)," explains Ugo A. Perego, a member of the BYU Molecular Genealogy research team.

The two basic principles that makes Molecular Genealogy possible are: We inherit our DNA from our parents. DNA is shuffled, recombined and transmitted from one generation to another. Each individual on this earth received 23 pairs of chromosomes from their parents (23 from dad and 23 from mom). Because DNA is maintained to a certain degree from one generation to the next one, it is possible to trace family lines by identifying specific markers.

The inhabitants of the Earth are more closely related than what it is generally thought. Today there are 6 billion people living on this planet. If we do some math, and we consider a generation to be about 25 years, 30 generations ago (=750 years) every individual living today would have over 1 billion unique ancestors. The estimated world population for the year 1250 AD was 400 million people. This means that the number of actual ancestors for each individual is smaller than the number of possible ancestors and that we all start sharing common ancestors within just few generations. These common ancestors were able to transmit specific markers that are present in our DNA and that we share with others today.

The Molecular Genealogy Research Group is very inter-

ested in people with known genealogies that would be willing to participate in this study and help in building this database. Being 18 and older and having at least a four-generation pedigree chart are the only two qualifications in order to take part in this study. Write to the Molecular Research Lab or check out their Web site (<http://molecular-genealogy.byu.edu/events.htm>) to find out when samples will be collected in a location near to you. Also, if you can organize a group of 150+ people who are willing to participate in the study (such as a Family Reunion group), the research group will make arrangements to come to you sooner.

## UNT Seminar

By  
Holly Hervey

On October 27, 2001, the Friends of the University of North Texas Libraries sponsored a seminar for genealogists to showcase the research material available in the Willis Library that is family history oriented.

Reference Sources, Government Documents and Electronic Databases were discussed by Stacy Anderson, Reference Librarian. Some of the research sources were *The Source, A Guidebook to American Genealogy*, *Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources*, *International Vital Records Handbook*, *Virtual Roots: A Guide to Genealogy and Local History of the World Wide Web*, *Genealogies in the Library of Congress*, *Map Guide to the U. S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920*, *Genealogical Resources at the Texas State Library* and *Genealogical Records in Texas*. There are also abstracts and indexes listing newspapers available in the United States and in what facility they may be housed. There are many dictionaries containing biographical information, mostly people who were already in the news. Military resources range from the Revolutionary era to a period after World War II.

There are many maps and gazetteers and other finding aids. *Abstract of All Original Texas Land Titles Comprising Grants and Locations to August 31, 1941* and its supplement are valuable resources for early settlers to the state. *Using Maps in Genealogy* is available both in hard copy and on the Internet. If an ancestor moved by rail instead of in a wagon *Railroad Maps of North America: The First 100 Years* will be a valuable tool to trace their route.

Compiling a family history is pretty dry unless there is some story to include. Events going on in the nation, state or community can add perspective to the story. There are several chronologies that will furnish material on events affecting your ancestor. *The American Years: A Chronology of United States History 1776-1999* covers much of the time period researchers are working in. If the ancestor is from Europe or other continents *Chronology of World History*, prehistory to 1998 will help explain events in their lives. There are other books in the Reference section that furnish information on immigration and ethnic groups.

For those interested in the Civil War period, *The War of*

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*the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* contains a wide variety of documents. There are battle assessments, memos and reports, orders, correspondence and court proceedings. The information has not been edited for accuracy, contains contradictory information and must be evaluated from other sources before accepting. The publication has four series. The first series has 53 volumes and focuses on military operations and battle reports for both the Union and the Confederacy. The second series contains 8 volumes and contains Union and Confederate correspondence, orders reports and returns regarding prisoners of war. The third series has 5 volumes and contains mostly logistics reports on the Union side. Series 4 has 3 volumes and contains Confederate orders and reports. This material is located in Government Documents on the third floor of the library.

The *Territorial Papers of the United States* is another research tool found in Government Documents. The Papers contain letters maps, postal schedules, muster rolls, territorial appointments and juror lists of persons, among other events taking place, living in Federal territories that eventually became states. The territories near Texas are Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Missouri, as well as many others. Texas, of course, is not included in the territorial papers.

The library at UNT subscribes to several very useful databases, all of which must be used at the library. Some of the most useful are "Genealogy and Local History Online", which is a collection of genealogies, local histories, primary source materials; "Texas Digital Sanborn Maps 1867-1970" which is wonderful for people having ancestors who lived in towns and cities across the state (Sanborn maps were produced for insurance purposes); "Archives USA", which is a directory of over 5400 repositories and over 124,000 collections of primary source materials across the United States and includes the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collection, and "America: History and Life", which contains abstracts of more than 231,000 articles concerning the history and cultures of the United States and Canada.

The Rare Book room contains 239 Texas county histories and about the same number of town histories. If your ancestor lived in Berlin, Cat Spring, Plemons or Rule you can find those histories on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Willis Library. *The Remarkable Stories Behind the Naming of Texas Towns*, also in the Rare Book room, may give you some insight into the naming of a town you are researching. *Texas Confederate Soldiers 1861-1865*, Vol. I- Name Roster and Vol. II - Unit Roster and *1890 Census Index of Civil War Vets or Their Widows* are two excellent research tools found in the Rare Book Room.

Richard Himmel, Archivist at the University of North Texas, spoke about the Local Records available on microfilm, which was a project between the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and the Genealogical Society of Utah, to film all the Texas county records (with the exception of those counties not participating - such as Denton County) and place copies of them in repositories around the

state. Those repositories make the microfilm available through interlibrary loan. The Texas State Library has a website which lists the county and identifies the depository holding those records.

Another collection in the Archives worth investigating is the Oral History Transcript Project which contain over 2500 interviews with individuals. Most of those interviewed are World War II veterans. However there are also over 100 interviews with Denton county residents. There is a catalog available for compiled oral histories through 1997. These oral histories may be copied at 25c per page.

The Archives also contains the personal papers of many north central Texas residents, especially those in Denton County. There are manuscripts, newspaper articles and other material on Denton County and the library has compiled an index of the County residents, places and events found in those records.

The Archives has, in off-site storage, many of the old county records books from Cooke and Montague Counties. Reservations to view them are necessary and usually done several days in advance so the books may be brought to the main library.

In the microforms area, the library has all of the Texas Census on microfilm and some of the Soundex or Miracode. It also has early 1820-1840 Census for other states. There are many newspapers on microfilm that are useful to researchers.

To view the genealogical materials in the Willis Library on the Internet go to [www.library.unt.edu/subjects/genealogy/genealogy.htm](http://www.library.unt.edu/subjects/genealogy/genealogy.htm).

If you wish to spend time researching in the library, remember that students occupy all the parking places during the week, so unless someone can drop you off and pick you up, it is best to visit on the weekend. On Saturday the microform area is open from 9 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. On Sunday it is open from 1:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. The Archives and Rare Book Room are only open Monday-Friday 8.00 to 5:00, unless an appointment is made for a different time. Check for parking details on the library website.

The seminar was very informative and the Willis Library at the University of North Texas is certainly a destination worth exploring.



Deadline  
for  
January  
Newsletter is  
**December 28th!**





## Minutes

The October 11, 2001 meeting of the Denton County Genealogical Society was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Diana White. Visitors Betty Chaney, Marilyn Sims, Barbara Holliday and former member, Mona Carrico, were introduced.

Leslie Smith Collier presented a program using the writings of Laura Ingalls Wilder to illustrate some basic rules of genealogy. She stressed that our ancestors were largely farmers and that if a family on the edge of the frontier was literate, it meant that the mother was literate and she taught her children. She also presented an interesting phenomenon found in most families – that there are three generations of women living at the same time.

The business meeting opened with a correction to the minutes of the September meeting. The books being acquired by the Denton Public Library on Panola County, Texas, will be donated instead of purchased in January. The corrected minutes and the Treasurers Report were approved with motion from Bob McCombs and second by Holly Hervey.

Linda Touraine reported that the Denton Public Library is open for special genealogical research on the last Friday of each month. The hours are 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Only one person came to the library on September 28 when it was open late. Volunteers are needed to help the public coming in to research their families. The library will not be open late on the last Friday in November or December. If attendance on Friday does not increase, the library may consider changing the evening it will be open to Wednesday.

Mary Tate, Special Project Coordinator, stated that two packets of obituaries had been completed and more were available for research. There has been no activity on the Birth Record editing. Diana White reported that Richard Hooverson of the Texas State Genealogical Society had presented a favorable review of the *City of Denton Death Records 1900-1957* in its quarterly, *Stirpes*.

The Society agreed to place the above Death Records books at the Courthouse-On-the Square Museum as a 60/40 consignment.

In November a committee will be appointed to consider the cost of producing the newsletter.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted, Holly Hervey, Secretary.

## Genealogy Problems of the Future

A modern mother is explaining to her little girl about pictures in the family photo album. "This is the geneticist with your surrogate mother. Here's your sperm donor. This is your father's clone. This is me holding you when you were just a frozen embryo. The lady with the very troubled look on her face is your aunt, she's the family genealogist."

## Treasurer's Report



### Through October 31, 2001

Bank Balance on September 30, 2001	\$2,138.27
Funds Deposited	
Dues (7)	75.00
Total Funds Collected	\$ 75.00
Funds Disbursed	
Newsletter Printing & Postage	63.27
Book—Denton Public Library	36.00
Speaker's Fee	50.00
Total Funds Disbursed	<u>\$149.27</u>
Cash on Hand October 31, 2001	\$2,064.00

### Number of Paid Members (Married Couples count as one)

96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03
41	59	55	49	44	34	3

	Will Books/Cost	Death Books/Cost
Copies Sold	146 3682.06	110 2454.72
Printing	200 -1618.62	300 -1593.15
Consignment Fee	-300.00	-210.00
Postage & Mailing	-376.62	-154.29
Sales Tax Paid	-113.93	-75.42
Advertising	<u>-101.00</u>	<u>-237.45</u>
Profit	1,171.89	184.41

Books bought April, 1995 thru May, 1996	576.59
Books bought June, 1996 thru May, 1997	217.76
Books bought June, 1997 thru May, 1998	577.92
Books bought June, 1998 thru May, 1999	182.50
Books bought June, 1999 thru May, 2000	44.95
Books bought June, 2000 thru May, 2001	318.50
Books bought June, 2001 thru May, 2002	36.00

Respectfully Submitted, Bob McCombs, Treasurer

## Holiday Gifts from Ellis Island

Celebrate the holidays with a unique heritage gift from Ellis Island! You can find and purchase your immigrant ancestor's ship manifest and ship picture that document your family's historic voyage to America. These unique documents are now available for purchase on our web site [www.ellislandrecords.org](http://www.ellislandrecords.org). Frame them individually or as a set to commemorate your family's personal history!

Click <http://email.ellislandrecords.org/ellis.asp?mid=19&lid=2&id=11,390,568> to start your search. When you find the manifest you want just click on Add to Shopping Cart to purchase!

Thank you for making the [www.ellislandrecords.org](http://www.ellislandrecords.org) site one of the most popular web sites in history. All proceeds support the continuing work of The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation.