

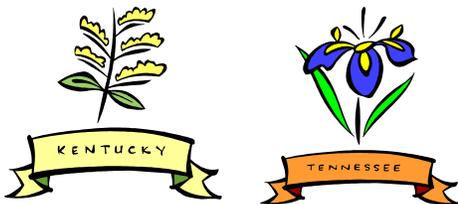
# ◆ DCGS NEWS ◆

Volume 16, No. 6

March 2003

## March Program:

### Migration into Kentucky and Tennessee



Immigration into Kentucky and Tennessee was one of the most pivotal events in the young country. Kentucky was settled by survivors of some of the bloodiest events in American history. The Indians killed several thousand of the early settlers to prevent them from occupying ancient hunting grounds. The British also used the Indians to fight their battles during the Revolution. But the hunger for land was stronger than all the dangers and hardships these early pioneers endured. The eastern area of what was then Virginia was explored as early as 1750. Daniel Boone, who was born in North Carolina, began his explorations in 1773. Kentucky became a state in 1792.

Tennessee was part of North Carolina when exploration began. The Blue Ridge mountains formed a barrier that prevented exploration from the east. Most of the early settlers came into the region from Virginia as early as 1768. By 1783 the settlers wanted a separate state and attempted to organize the territory into a new state, Franklin. The venture failed but the settlers kept coming. It wasn't until 1796 that Tennessee became a state.

Who they were and how they came to these states will be the subject of the presentation this month.

THE DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY MEETS ON  
THE SECOND THURSDAY  
DURING THE MONTHS OF  
SEPTEMBER -  
NOVEMBER AND  
JANUARY - MAY.  
  
7:00 P.M.  
LDS CHURCH  
3000 OLD NORTH RD.  
DENTON, TEXAS



1896- Denton County Courthouse-1996

#### 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.



- I. Call to Order
- II. Introduce Guests
- III. Program- "Migration into Kentucky and Tennessee"
- IV. Minutes & Treasurer's Report
- V. Librarian's Report
- VI. Special Projects
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Announcements & Adjourn



DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
PO Box 424707  
DENTON, TX  
76204

#### \*\* OFFICERS \*\*

BOB MCCOMBS	PRESIDENT
LINDA TOURAINE	VICE-PRESIDENT
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KATHY STRAUSS	SECRETARY
LINDA TOURAINE	LIBRARIAN
KATHY STRAUSS	NEWSLETTER
JUNE KNOX	PARLIAMENTARIAN

## Paper Chains and Popcorn

– Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG

In the business world we often are required to go to training classes. Many years ago, in a class on effective meetings, I learned a technique that I find useful in genealogy. It was called popcorning, which is the process of encouraging as many ideas as possible to be listed quickly, with no evaluation. Since then, I have heard it called brainstorming and mind mapping. However, those terms are not the best descriptions for what I am discussing, which is a very focused technique. Brainstorming implies wild ideas out of left field, and mind mapping implies that the focus is on our own minds.

What I find helpful is document-focused popcorning. You consider a single document (record) and quickly list as many as potential documents (records) as you can that the document brings to mind. I used to visualize paper chains, with each document leading to another document, but I have come to realize that this was too simplistic. My visual chains became a tangle, with too many loops connected to the original loop (document) I was considering.

This is not about record groups or research techniques. It is about identifying records that you might overlook otherwise. As an example, let's look at a single document, say a will for William Wilson. Sit down in a quiet place with just the will (no other documents or files allowed) and a pencil and paper.

What other documents do you think of? Immediately, documents related to probate come to mind. I usually jot down "probate" and then list at least some of them next to it, such as "proving the will," "inventory," "accounting," "bond," and so on. Oh, yes, and if this is the will book copy or an abstract, then I add "original will."

A will is about death. What other documents are directly related to this death? We might add "death certificate," "obituary," "burial," and "funeral home record." That last item would remind me to add "funeral card."

The earlier article "Vital Information without Vital Registration - Marriage & Death Records" has some additional ideas, but don't go read it at this point. The idea of popcorning is for ideas to pop from your brain freely and indiscriminately, preferably faster than you can write them down. Think of popcorn bursting from a hot-air popcorn popper. The heat source is the document. Your ideas should burst forth as randomly and quickly as the popped kernels of corn.

This process isn't about listing documents related to death, however. It is about documents related to THIS document, which just happens to be a will. It's time to get specific. Start scanning the will. The testator asks for his body to be

buried in a Christian-like manner. Aha! We can add "church records, membership and death." Do not stop to evaluate whether or not you think his wish was sincere or to review other research that you have done. This is one time when evaluating is counter-productive. We want as many ideas as possible, as quickly as possible.

Continue scanning. He left the 100 acres where he now lives to his eldest son John. At this point we can observe an important difference between this technique and traditional evaluation of the document. Ignore John. Yep, completely. We could go research John, but in this exercise, we're listing documents. We don't want to get sidetracked from the important element of that bequest, the land. Where did it come from? We list "Document acquiring 100 acres--grant, deed, will, etc." I can't think of land without thinking of taxes, so "taxes" goes on my list. In my brain acquisition naturally leads to disposition. Obviously this will was the document by which William disposed of the land and John acquired it. But John disposed of it. Add "John disposing of 100 acres--deed, will."

His eldest daughter, Mary Morris, receives money; his youngest daughter Ethyl receives a bed and a horse. Marriage pops into mind. "Mary Wilson marriage to \_\_ Morris, before date of will" and "Ethyl Wilson marriage to \_\_\_\_, after date of will."

There are several mentions of his loving wife Tabitha. Obviously, we want to look for "marriage of William Wilson and Tabitha \_\_." And, gosh, what happened to her after his death? When did she die? Did she remarry or not? Add "Burial for Tabitha Wilson," "Tabitha Wilson marriage to \_\_\_\_, after date of will," and (putting the previous two together) "Burial for Tabitha \_\_ in area cemeteries." Where did she go to live? Add "next census, look for old lady with one of children."

Continue scanning, jotting down documents that pop into (maybe that should be "out of") your mind. Don't organize or analyze. At the end of the will are the names of the witnesses. I've already said you can't say "go research so-and-so," but there are some documents you want to list if a name is unfamiliar: "other wills from same township for names of witnesses." This may help eliminate witnesses who were the scribe or other official person. (This applies even more to deeds.)

The document ends with the signature (proving and recording information are technically another document). This, too, adds another item to the list. Whether the will was signed with a signature or a mark, you should add "compare to form of other original signatures and facsimiles (in deed books, for example) to validate same person."

Notice how often during the popcorning one thought led to another. We never stopped to evaluate how likely it is that a document exists or would be useful. We never thought

about research or finding records. We never considered what we had already done. We just listed documents. This is by no means all the documents that will occur on your list through the popcorning technique. Your mind and your document will produce many additional or different ideas. Good luck. (And for some reason, I'm hungry. I guess that was an advantage that the paper chain image has over the popcorning image.)

*Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG is a technical writer, instructor, and professional genealogist. She has written, edited, and produced numerous publications and has written articles for The American Genealogist, The Maine Genealogist, the New Hampshire Genealogical Record, The Virginia*



**THIS  
&  
THAT**



## Queries

Diana **Hammock**, 4677 Marlene Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93455, Res098qu@verizon.net

I am trying to find information on William Murl **Hammock**, born 1858, Hopewell, Calhoun Co., MS. He died 1900 in Denton County. He was married to Nancy Amanda **Burge** 28 Dec 1876 Independence Co. AR. I would like to know where he is buried and if he had an obituary.

Lisa **Williamson**, 283 Devonshire Blvd., San Carlos, CA 94070

My mother's family lived in Denton County for years. My mother, Mildred A. **Ferrell**, was born 11 May 1922 in Krum, Denton Co., TX, and moved to California in the 1940's. Her father was James Simpson **Ferrell**, born 17 Sep 1879 in GA and died 16 Mar 1931 in Denton Co., TX. He married Buna Etta **Cook**, about 1905 in Salada, TX. She was born 15 Sep 1881 in Salada and died 18 Jun 1967 in Krum, Denton Co., TX. Both are buried at Swisher Cemetery. Buna's parents were William Wallace **Cook** and Sibby Ann **Bullock**.



## Geraldine Elizabeth "Gerry" (Fouts) Spain

Geraldine Elizabeth "Gerry" (Fouts) Spain, 84, formerly of Haskell, Texas, died at 4:15 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2003 in Hilltop Haven Nursing Home in Gunter, Texas, after an extended illness. Services were 2 p.m., Jan. 31, 2003, at the First Baptist Church in Haskell. Dr. Troy Culpepper, former pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiated. Burial was in Willow Cemetery directed by Holden-McCauley Funeral Home.

Mrs. Spain was born Dec. 15, 1918, in Jud, Texas, the daughter of J.R. "Jim" and Mary (Malone) Fouts. The Fouts family migrated to Haskell County in 1902, becoming prominent and active members of the farming community.

On May 6, 1938, Gerry married Harold Russell Spain in Ardmore, Okla. After the war, the couple moved to Haskell in September of 1946 to live and raise their family. Harold R. Spain was postmaster from 1948 to 1966 and past president of the Texas State Postmasters Association in 1963. He was a rural carrier from 1966 until his death Jan. 4, 1977.

Gerry (Fouts) Spain graduated from Haskell High School in 1936, Hardin Simmons University in 1955 and was an elementary school teacher in Haskell. She retired in May of 1980 with the elementary faculty presenting her with a breakfast and a plaque in appreciation for her 25-year teaching career. She was a member of the Texas State Teachers Association, Haskell County Teachers Association, Association of Texas Educators and Retired Teachers Association.

Mrs. Spain was a longtime member of the First Baptist Church of Haskell and taught Sunday school classes for young people for many years.

Survivors include one daughter, Gayle (Spain) Maxson and husband Dwight of Denton, Texas; sons, Phillip Spain and wife Helen of Denton, Texas, and Hal Spain and wife Kimberly of Robert Lee, Texas; six grandchildren, Kevin Maxson and wife Corinia of Denton, Texas, Laura Kirk and husband Allen of Bayfield, Colo., Stephanie Spain of Sanger, Texas, Angela Spain of Dallas, Texas, Christi Savage and husband Obie of New York, N.Y., and Wade Spain of Waco, Texas; eight great-grandchildren, Ariel and Robert Maxson of Denton, Texas, and Luke, Zachary, Jessica, Matthew, Michael and Melissa Kirk of Bayfield, Colo.; and one sister, Lois (Fouts) St. Clair of Lubbock, Texas. She was preceded in death by her parents, James Robert "Jim" and Mary (Malone) Fouts and her husband, Harold R. Spain.

Pallbearers for the service were grandsons, Kevin Maxson of Denton, Texas, and Wade Spain of Waco, Texas, grandson-in-law, Allen Kirk of Bayfield, Colol, George Fouts, John Fouts and Carl Bailey, all of Haskell, Texas. Honorary pallbearers were deacons of the First Baptist Church of Haskell.

# Lectures & Seminars



**26 March 2003, 7-9 p.m.— Beginning Genealogy.** Denton Public Library, 502 Oakland, Denton, Texas

**30 March 2003, 2:00 p.m. — United Daughters of the Confederacy Reorganization Tea.** Women's Club of Denton, 610 Oakland, Denton, TX.

**5 April 2003 — Dallas Genealogical Society— At the J. Erik Jonsson Public Library Auditorium, Barbara Vines Little.** Barbara has been a professional researcher since 1982. She is currently serving as a director of NGS. In the past she has served in a variety of board positions for the Virginia Genealogical Society and Orange County Historical Society. She is editor of the Virginia Genealogical Society's quarterly Magazine of Virginia Genealogy and the Virginia Genealogical Society's Newsletter. Her dedication and work in the genealogical field has awarded her with the NGS Quarterly Award for Excellence in 2001, NGS Distinguished Service Award in 1999, First-Place NGS Newsletter Competition (as co-editor) in 1995 and 1996, and made her an Honorary Life Member, Virginia Genealogical Society in 2000.

**Apr. 11 & 12, 2003 - The Hamilton County Genealogy Society - Genealogy Seminar - 209 W. Henry, Hamilton, Tx. 76531, - Guest Speakers:** Granny G. Storyteller: Topic: Cynthia Ann Parker; Pat of Book's and Thing's: Topic: Genealogy information you can find in the newspaper; Debbie Rudolph, Hamilton County Clerk: Topic: What you can find in the Courthouse and New Laws; David Lane: Hamilton County Surveyor: Topic: How to read a Deed. - Phone number is 254-386-4566. Email address: hcgsh@htcomp.net.

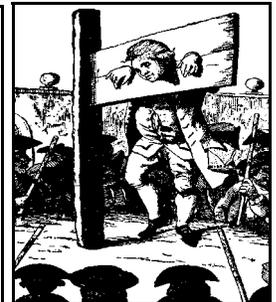
**May 28-31—NGS 2003 Conference in the States.—Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.**

**June 6, 2003 -** The 2003 Scottish Family History Symposium sponsored by the Texas Scottish Festival and Highland Games will be held at the LaQuinta Conference Center in Arlington, Texas. The theme of this year's Symposium is Scottish emigration to North America. The speaker is the renowned genealogist and historian David Dobson of St. Andrews, Scotland. Dobson is considered the foremost expert on Scottish emigration and is the author of numerous books on the subject. Each lecture period will include time for questions. A syllabus will be distributed to attendees. For further information call 800 650-1918.

**June 13-19, 2003 —** National Institute on Genealogical Research will be held in Washington, D. C. Classroom lectures at the National Archives facilities in Washington and in College Park, Maryland will offer in-depth discussion of federal records in those facilities.

**April 25-26, 2003 — Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society** celebrates the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase and its 50th Anniversary by hosting the Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Conference on Genealogy in Baton Rouge, LA. This two-day seminar will feature Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FUGA, FNGS, FASG on methodology topics and various other speakers on Louisiana topics. Complete details and a registration form are available on our website. Contact Jim Perrin at e-mail: ponchatoula1@i-55.com; web site: [www.roots web.com/~la-lghs/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~la-lghs/).

**Deadline  
for  
April  
Newsletter is  
March 31**





# Minutes

# Treasurer's Report



The Denton County Genealogical Society held its regular monthly meeting on February 13, 2003, at the Stake Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3000 Old North Road, Denton, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by President, Bob McCombs. Fifteen members were present.

Linda Touraine introduced the speaker for the evening, Kathy Strauss, secretary of the Denton County Genealogical Society. Kathy talked on migration into the Old Northwest Territory, giving the historical background on the formation of the territory and significant events that effected migration.

Following the program, the business meeting was held. The minutes and the treasurer's report were approved. Linda Touraine announced during the Librarian's Report that the genealogy work stations were up and running at the library.

Nancy Cantwell shared the history of the Southern Cross of Honor, a Confederate medal bestowed upon Confederate veterans by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. George Hubbard announced that the Family History Center Family History Fair would take place on March 7-8, 2003 in the Family History Center, 3000 Old North Road in Denton. George will also have a book signing at Hastings Bookstore in Denton on Saturday February 15.

There was no old business to discuss. In new business, it was announced that the March program would be Migration into Kentucky and Tennessee, presented by Holly Hervey. Holly also announced that the Denton County Genealogy Society would automatically renew its dues to other selected genealogy societies.

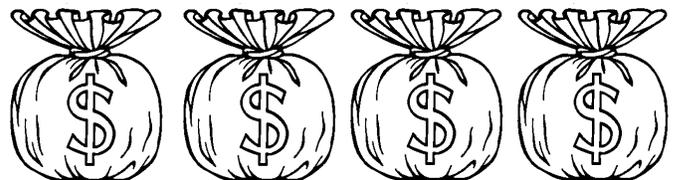
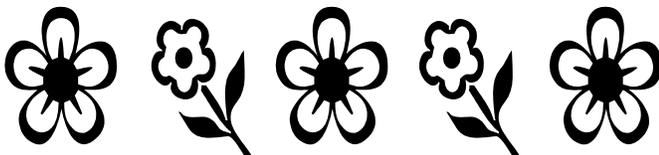
The meeting was adjourned at 8: 45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Strauss, Secretary

March 2003

Bank Balance December 31, 2002		\$1,546.55
Funds Deposited		
Interest earned		<u>.99</u>
Total Deposits		\$ .99
Cash on Hand February 28, 2003		\$1,547.54
2002-2003 Paid Members – 48		
Library Donations		
Books bought April, 1995 thru May, 2000		\$1,599.72
Books bought June 2000 thru May 2001		318.50
Books bought June 2001 thru May 2002		76.00
Books bought June 2002 thru May 2003		799.15
	Will Books/Cost	Death Books/Cost
Copies Sold	151 \$3,807.06	117 \$2,629.72
Printing Cost	200 -1,618.62	300 -1,593.15
Consignment Fee	-340.00	-270.00
Postage	-376.62	-154.29
Sales Tax Paid	-113.93	-77.19
Advertising	<u>-101.00</u>	<u>-237.45</u>
Profit	\$1,256.89	\$ 297.64

Respectfully Submitted  
Holly Hervey, Treasurer



Denton County Genealogical Society  
PO Box 424707  
Denton, TX 76204