

# DCGS NEWS

D E N T O N C O U N T Y G E N E A L O G I C A L S O C I E T Y

## OCTOBER MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007



1896- Denton County Courthouse-

The Denton County Genealogical Society meets on the second Thursday during the months on September-November and January-May.

6:30 P.M.

Denton Public Library, Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland St., Denton, TX 76201

[www.rootsweb.com/~txdcgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txdcgs)

**Program: Tennessee**  
**Speaker: Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck**

Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck is Supervisor of the Genealogy Section at the Dallas Public Library. He is a noted author of several books, including: *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments*,

*Virginia's Colonial Soldiers*, and *Genealogical Research in Texas*. His column, "Family Tree" has appeared in the *Dallas Morning News* since 1991.

Lloyd is a member of a myriad of lineage societies and he was the first recipient of the Filby Prize for Genealogical Librarianship in 1999. He

is also on the faculty of the Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research at Samford University.

The Denton County Genealogical Society has looked forward to welcoming Lloyd as our speaker for a long time. We hope all of you can join us for this wonderful program.

### OCTOBER IS FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

Family History Month takes place every October and is a time to bring your family together to remember and honor your ancestors.

Making Family History Month nationally recognized has been a project many have worked hard on for years. Senator Orrin Hatch helped pass legislation that designated October as Family History Month in 2001, 2002, and 2003. He has said, "Researching ancestry is a very important component of identity. It can lead to long-sought-after family

reunions or allow for life saving medical treatments that only genetic links will allow."

Celebrate your roots with your family this month.



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## MY TRIP TO SALT LAKE

By Marilyn Simms

My daughter-in-law, Misti Simms and I visited Salt Lake City this summer and were quite happy with the results. Despite a diligent search, some relatives maintained their illuiveness; we were, however, successful in many areas.

The staff was very helpful and eager to please. It was the first trip there for both of us and when we arrived that morning, we were given a name tag indicating first time visitors. I accepted the tag gracefully thinking I probably resembled someone who had just fallen off a turnip truck (if you know what I mean). Soon I appreciated that name tag because I quickly

realized that I was one lucky searcher!

As I entered, people came up to see if they could help in any way and I had but to put my hand in the air for additional help or even look slightly perplexed and someone would come hustling over. The help offered was outstanding and geared to my level of expertise. When we needed help on the international floor, language specialists would translate and give helpful tips. It was easy to make copies and those copies were very inexpensive. We were able to carry in and out materials and computers for our use. There were computers on the floors with on the spot help

available with no wait time.

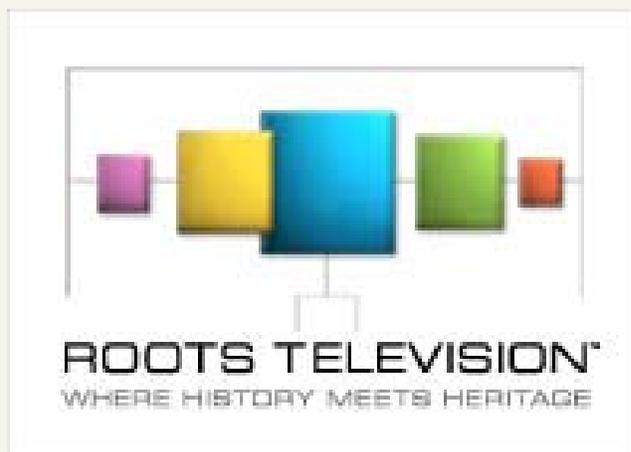
Diana White gave me helpful advice before I left Denton and put me in touch with a fellow genealogist who has made several trips to Utah. That was probably the main thing that made the trip so successful. Be prepared before you go! Use the internet to look up numbers in their catalog, check to see which reels you may want to view, etc. The more you can do before you go, the more time you have to use their fabulous facilities. Less than a week is too short a time and more than a week would be too much time for me. I would love to go back.

## ROOTS TELEVISION

Roots Television is a privately owned company founded by professional genealogist Megan Smolenyak and media producer Marcy Brown. This online television company can be accessed at [www.rootstelevision.com](http://www.rootstelevision.com).

Roots Television offers a great variety of programs, including, genealogy lectures, DNA stories, "how-to" guidance, and user-submitted content. There are even blogs to keep you informed of the most up-to-date genealogy news and trends.

Take a look at this valuable resource and pass the word!



## MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 2007

The Denton County Genealogical Society met in the meeting room of the Emily Fowler Central Library on September 13, 2007. Refreshments were provided by the society's board members for the 6:30 to 7:00 social time.

Linda welcomed our guest speaker and the 23 members and 6 visitors, who were present. Linda announced that we had two new members present, Stanley and Shirley Sawyer.

Linda presided over the business meeting, during which a current membership roster was distributed. All present were asked to verify their current information. A card was also circulated for member Joyce Poole, who recently suffered serious injuries from an accident at her home. The minutes and treasurer's report from the May

meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

There was no old business. Under new business, librarian Kathy Strauss discussed the Genealogy after Hours lock-in scheduled for September 28, at the library. The Texas State Genealogical Conference on November 9 and 10, in Tyler was also discussed. Holly Hervey mentioned that she would not be able to represent our society at the conference this year. Anita Cowan made a motion and Bob McCombs seconded that Lori Nalley be appointed our delegate at the conference. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mel Brewer introduced our guest speaker, Don Raney., whose topic was "Early American Migration Routes" and how they can help us located our ancestors. Mr.

Raney provided a very informative program on this subject, along with detailed handouts.

Mel announced that the October program on Tennessee will be presented by Loyd Bockstruck. He asked if anyone would be able to drive Mr. Bockstruck back home to Dallas after the meeting, but no one present volunteered.

Linda adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm in order for us to clear the room before library closing time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vickie Davis, Secretary



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**12 October 2007—Burnet County Genealogical Society Seminar with Emily Croom. Contact JoAnn Myers, P.O.Box 1151, Burnet, TX 78611 \$45, Community Center. [www.rootsweb.com/~txburnet](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txburnet).**

**9-10 November 2007—Texas State Genealogical Society Conference. [www.rootsweb.com/~txsgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txsgs).**

**OCTOBER 27, 1007 – VanZandt County Genealogical Society, all day seminar in Canton, TX. Speaker, Trevia Wooster Beverly. Contact [treviawbeverly@comcast.net](mailto:treviawbeverly@comcast.net) for more information.**



## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

### A Virtual Tour

Saturday, October 20, 2007

3:30 pm

At night, Denton seems like such a quiet town, but there are places that experience unexplained disturbances suggesting there may be supernatural forces at play. Numerous sightings have been reported of spirits lurking at Old Alton Bridge and of a ghost named Wanda who haunts Bruce Hall at UNT. Join us at the Emily Fowler Central Library as the Denton Area Paranormal Society (D.A.P.S.) takes us on a virtual tour. Lance Oliver will lead a panel discussion and multimedia presentation about D.A.P.S. investigations of a few of Denton's haunted places.



### Haunted Places Exhibit

October 15–November 16,

Stop by the Emily Fowler Central Library to view a photographic exhibit featuring a few of Denton's haunted places and discover the legends behind the haunting. The exhibit will also feature photographs taken during paranormal investigations.



### Story Swap

Thursday, October 25, 2007

7:30 pm

Have you had a supernatural experience in Denton and would like to tell your story? Or do you have a good ghost story about Denton that you would like to share? Join us at the Emily Fowler Central Library for a story swap, lead by storyteller Thom Anderson.



Photograph courtesy of Tranna Simmons



Denton Public Library

[www.dentonlibrary.com](http://www.dentonlibrary.com)

Emily Fowler Central  
Library



[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)  
ADA/EOE/ADEA

Published 10/2007

## ANCESTRY QUICK TIPS

### Journaling Timeline

I read a suggestion from Lauren which said, "I am also writing in a 'blank book' journal about all sorts of things I remember from my growing up years."

If I might, I'd like to make a suggestion about doing this. I am seventy-five and shortly after getting my first computer about a dozen years ago, I started chasing down family names, facts, etc. and was bitten by the genealogy bug. In addition, I found that I craved more personal information about some of these folks. I decided to try to get my own "things" in order.

I have a computer journal in addition to a written one. In the computer journal I wrote down every year starting with 1932 and saved it on my computer. As I found time or as I thought of things I started filling in events that happened in certain years. I'd find photos of me starting school and the house we lived in when we lived in certain towns (my father was an oil field worker, so we moved a great deal). I added historical events-- Pearl Harbor, D-Day, V-E Day, V-J Day, and many other things. It got to be so much fun.

When I thought I was through, I sent copies to my children and they added events that I had omitted. I also add to it as medical events are occurring these days. It has become so useful for me in remembering when personal things happened in our family. Now I have a great timeline that has become a springboard for my own children to hopefully grow their own timeline from.

Jody

### Birth Record May Not Include Given Name

I have a deceased aunt and I was having difficulty locating her birth certificate in the Massachusetts archives. I did have a baptismal certificate with her birth date but when I searched the 1903 Massachusetts birth roster her name would not come up. In checking the birth date there was a female born in that year

(no first name but correct last name). I ordered the birth certificate and it shows the very date my aunt was born. Apparently in those days when a baby was born and hadn't been named yet it was just listed as female or male.

Another aunt was found in the same manner. Hope this helps someone.

Ed Hickey

### Black Back for Newspaper Copies

It may not be known by most people, but whether copying a newspaper a newspaper article for research or any other reason, insert a piece of black paper on the back side of the article before making the copy. Do not forget to also copy the masthead of the newspaper.

Warren Basore

### Polite Persistence Pays Off

When searching for documents, you should not always take the word of the person onsite. I recently revisited a courthouse that merely had a note in a book that divorce proceedings had been dropped. After explaining that there had to be documentation for the divorce entry and refusing to accept that there was not any documentation, I was led to the basement where twenty-six boxes sat. There I found the filing for the divorce of the ancestor I was searching and it listed all living children, a marriage date, etc. My determination paid off.

Anita Keller



### 2006-2008 OFFICERS

President—Linda Touraine

Vice-President—Mel Brewer

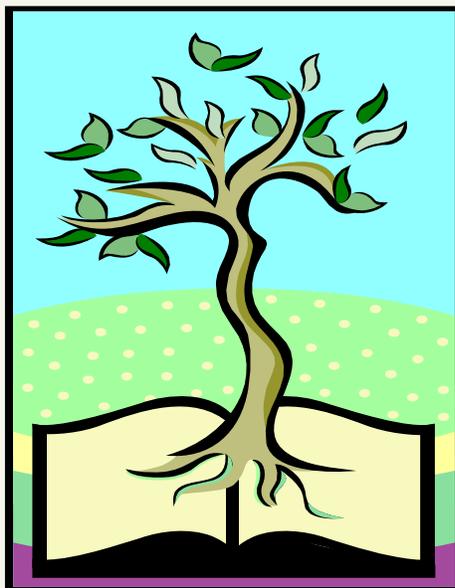
Secretary—Vickie Davis

Treasurer—Holly Hervey

Librarian—Kathy Strauss

Webmaster—Chris Strauss

Parliamentarian—Diane Abner



**NEXT MEETING OF  
THE DENTON  
COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY WILL BE ON  
November 8, 2007  
Speaker: Dr. Richard B.  
McCasin**

**DUES ARE :  
\$15 FOR INDIVIDUALS  
\$25 FOR COUPLES**

DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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