

# 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

## NOVEMBER MEETING THURSDAY, NOV. 13, 2008



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: “A Pig in a Poke—Misleading, Misunderstood & Misused Resources”**

**Speaker: John Wylie**

John Vincent Wylie serves the Association of Professional Genealogists as Secretary, the National Genealogical Society (NGS) as a member of the NGS-GENTECH Advisory Committee and the National Standards Committee; the Dallas Genealogical Society as Acting Special Interest Groups Leader and his church as Chair of the Information Technology

Committee, and as a member of its History Committee. From 2000 through 2004, he served on the Board of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He is the 2004 recipient of the Dallas Genealogical Society’s Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck Distinguished Service Award.

He and his wife, Barbara, were coordinators of the 2006 Dallas Genealogical Society Research Trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

One of GENTECH's founders,

John was an active participant in the Genealogical Data Model Working Group, and served on the NGS Computer Interest Group Committee in 1999 and 2000. John and Barbara have taught genealogical courses at Mountain View College and to church and Boy Scout groups.

He specializes in teaching genealogists how to use computer technology and computer users how to do sound genealogical research.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Program: “A Pig in a Poke-Misleading, Misunderstood & Misused Resources” Speaker: John Wylie Orphan Train Lecture	1
Lori Nalley Publishes Family History Treasurer’s Report	2
Minutes Beginning Genealogy	3
News from the Library Genealogy Holiday Gift Suggestions	4
Ancestry Quick Tips	5

### ORPHAN TRAIN LECTURE

Kathy Strauss, Genealogy and Special Collections Senior Librarian at the Denton Public Library, will give a lecture on the Orphan Trains at 12:15, Friday, November 14, in the Denton County Commissioners Courtroom at the Courthouse on the Square, 110 W. Hickory Street.

The free event will focus on the more than 200,000 children who rode “Orphan Trains” between 1854 and 1930. They were part of the placing-

out program created to find homes for children who were orphans or whose parents could not take care of them. Most of the riders came from New York or other large cities in the East.



## LORI NALLEY PUBLISHES FAMILY HISTORY

Denton County Genealogical Society member Lori Nalley has published a new book, *The Herr Family of Annville, Pennsylvania: 220 Years and Counting*. Lori's book documents the history of the Herr family and the history of the community in which they lived.

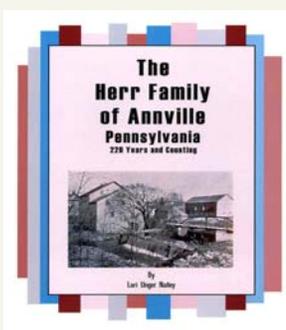
Lori's book is organized by the decade years of the U.S. Census from 1790-1930. We see the locations of the Herr family land, their businesses, grave sites, and many photographs of the Herr family. We learn about the contributions the Herr family made to Annville throughout its history.

In her introduction, Lori says, "I never intended to write a book about my family but when Annville started to become mindful of its place in history, I

felt the Herr family was a big part of that history." This book is a valuable contribution to the history of Annville, and will assist any Herr descendant from Annville trace their family history.

Lori Unger Nalley was born and raised in Annville, Lebanon County, PA. She is a graduate of Annville-Cleona High School and East Stroudsville University. After leaving the airline industry after 13 years as a flight attendant, she became interested in genealogy. She has been an amateur genealogist for 12 years. When she is not researching her family roots, she is traveling or playing golf, although sometimes incorporating all three. She is the sixth great granddaughter

of Abraham Herr, the first Herr of Annville. Her ancestors have provided her with the opportunity to join several lineage societies, including Daughters of the American Colonists, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of 1812, and Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. Lori and her husband George reside in Corinth, TX.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>Balance Sept. 30, 2008</b>	<b>\$2,052.75</b>	Library Donations	
		April 1995 - May 06	\$2,876.52
<b>Funds Deposited</b>		June 2006 - June 08	500.00
Dues	\$ 140.00	Birth Books Sold (59)	\$1,915.00
Lock-in	150.00	Printing Cost (200)	-2,049.13
Donations	10.00	Postage	-118.69
Interest	<u>.36</u>	Sales Tax Paid	-104.78
Total Deposits	\$ 310.36	Advertising (1)	<u>-30.00</u>
		Profit	\$ -387.60
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>		Death Books Sold (141)	\$3,254.72
Speaker Fee	\$ 75.00	Printing Cost (300)	-1,593.15
Lock In Supplies	41.99	Consignment Fees	-400.00
Postage	<u>42.00</u>	Postage	-156.99
Total Disbursed	\$ 158.99	Sales Tax Paid	-77.19
		Advertising	<u>-237.45</u>
<b>Balance Oct. 31, 2008</b>	<b>\$2,204.12</b>	Profit	\$ 789.94
<b>2008-2009 Paid Members—48</b>			

Respectfully Submitted,  
Holly Hervey, Treasurer

## MINUTES—OCTOBER 2008

The Denton County Genealogical Society met in the Emily Fowler Library meeting room for our scheduled October meeting. Refreshments were provided by Beth Collins and Peggy Hale.

President Linda Touraine began the meeting at 7:00. The meeting was called to order and all members were welcomed. The minutes and treasurers report were approved as published.

In old business, we need someone to provide refreshments. Several months are still open. Marilyn

Simms also needs help on genealogy computer program reviews. The computer interest group has been cancelled because we don't have a qualified teacher. If you need help with a computer program, come to the genealogy department in the library, the librarians will be happy to help. You can also call for an appointment. The direct number for Kathy Strauss in 940 349-8257.

No new business.

Lori Nalley recommends the

Dallas County Genealogy Society Summer Institute.

There were 25 members plus our speaker in attendance.

Marilyn Simms introduced our guest speaker, Tresa Talyrek, who gave great information on courthouse research.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted;  
Shirley Harris

## BEGINNING GENEALOGY

Beginning genealogy research can be a daunting and intimidating pursuit. There are many ways to learn about tracing your family roots can be easier than you might imagine. Public libraries, genealogy societies, and individuals offer free classes as parts of their normal programming. These classes help to demystify genealogy, giving tips on interviewing family members, learning how to use electronic resources to find original records, learning to read records and finding ancestors.

There are a myriad of online tutorials for genealogists. Cyndislist.com contains a long list of genealogy tutorial websites. By entering "Genealogy Tutorials" into the Google search box, I also found many websites with tutorials. Below is a listing of sites where you can find classes to learn about genealogy research. They are useful for all genealogists, whether you are a beginner or you need a refresher.

[Ancestry.com](#)—Learning Center

[FamilySearch.org](#)—How to Start Your Family History

[Genealogy.com](#)—Genealogy "How-To Guide"

[www.graonline.com](#)—Free On-Line Lessons

[www.learnwebskills.com/family/intro.html](#)

[www.oclc.org/worldcat/genealogy/tutorial.htm](#)

[www.proquest.com/en-US/catalogs/records/gen101/step1.shtml](#)

[Www.rootsweb.com](#)—Rootsweb's Guide to Tracing your Family Tree

[www.genealogy.about.com](#)

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

### Upcoming Programs

#### Scrapbooking Your Family History

Looking for unique ways to display your family history? Need to know about the proper equipment and supplies for putting together a scrapbook? Or are you looking for a unique Christmas gift for someone special? Kim Alambar, owner of "Scrap and Crop" will provide an overview of the basics of scrapbooking for family history preservation. This program is free, but seating is limited. Please call 940.349.8749 to register for the class.

**12/06/08 Emily Fowler Central Library 3:00 pm**

#### Beginning Genealogy

Interested in researching your family history, but not sure how to start? Let us show you how. Librarian Laura Douglas, will provide instruction on the basics of genealogical research, including gathering information, using genealogical forms, basic sources, and staying organized, as well as the resources available at the library. (2 hours) This program is free, but seating is limited. Please call 940.349.8749 to register for the class.

**01/31/09 Emily Fowler Central Library 10:00 am**

#### Finding your Family Online

There are a number of online genealogical resources to aid in locating people missing from your family tree. Librarian Laura Douglas will provide an overview of the online resources available through the library's website to help with your search. We will focus on Ancestry Library Edition and Heritage Quest and introduce two new resources, Footnote.com and NewspaperArchives. (2 hours) This program is free, but seating is limited. Please call 940.349.8749 to register for the class.

**02/07/09 Emily Fowler Central Library 10:00 am**

#### Genealogy After-Hours

Genealogist, here's your chance to do hours of uninterrupted research in the library. In addition to a guest speaker, we will have one-on-one research help and a light dinner. There is a \$10.00 registration fee for the evening. Checks should be made payable to the Denton County Genealogical Society. This event is co-sponsored by the Denton Public Library and the Denton County Genealogical Society. To register or for more information contact Laura Douglas at 940.349.8749 or [laura.douglas@cityofdenton.com](mailto:laura.douglas@cityofdenton.com).

**02/27/09 Emily Fowler Central Library 7:00 – 11:00 pm**

## Genealogy Holiday Gift Suggestions

With the holidays just around the corner, there are several genealogy related suggestions for family gifts that can be made at little or no cost.

**Census gifts.** Make photocopies of the census pages with family members. Include these images with family photos of those listed in the census and frame them.

**Immigration gifts.** If an ancestor arrived at Ellis Island, download the ship manifest listing your ancestor along with a photograph of the ship that carried them to America. Place these in a folder to be given to family members.

**Military Histories.** Create a military history of your family. Include records of enlistments, draft registrations, and discharge papers. Place these in an album to be given to veterans in your family.

**Photographs.** Reprint or restore priceless family photos, including weddings, reunions, school photos to place in a collection. Create a timeline to place the photos in. Don't forget to name each person in the photographs.

**Letters.** For those of you who are lucky enough to have a collection of family letters, reproduce them for all of your family members and tie them up with a bow.

**Birthday Calendars.** Create a year-long calendar documenting current and past family members birthdays.

**Recipes.** Collect old family members' favorite recipes and create your own cookbook.

**Tombstone Photos.** Gather your photos of family tombstones into a photograph album to give. For tombstone photos you do not have, try looking for photos on [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com).

Best of all, ENJOY THE TIME YOU SPEND WITH YOUR FAMILY!

## ANCESTRY QUICK TIPS

### Combine First and Last Names

It always boggles my mind when I can't locate a family in one of the census years, but find them easily in some of the others. It usually comes down to the spelling of the name. Well, if you have run out of options, maybe this might work. Try combining both the first name and last name as the last name. I was searching for the name Michael Leone and could not find him or his family members in the 1910 census. I decided to leave out the name and just search by the county and state. It worked! I found the family under the last name Micaklone (aka Michael Leone). I believe the census taker misinterpreted the name as one.

Diane Tortorella  
Levittown NY

### Photograph Source

I used to annoy myself by getting home from a round of cemetery or courthouse visits with a chip full of digital photos, only to realize I wasn't sure which photos were from where. Now I take "title" photos that identify the source. Before photographing a headstone, I shoot the cemetery entrance gate. At each courthouse, I take a photo of the exterior (most have some visible identification). The cover of a deed book, the box label of a microfilm, even the door of the registry of deeds office --all these help show where a document or headstone photo came from. I can then attach this information as comments to the photos when I get around to transferring and editing them.  
Janet Wright

### An I for a 1

Remember when typewriters (!) did not have a "1" (one) key? We didn't need a "1" key; we just used the "I" (capital i) key instead. Instead of dates like 1836, we typed I836. Today's genealogists and historians should be aware of this, because while people see 1836 and I836 as the same, computers do not. Search in Google for this string of characters: *1836 "fall of the alamo"* The results are about 10,900 hits. Now change the "one" to an "I": *i836 "fall of the alamo"* The results are exactly 3 hits.

One of those hits is this page: [The Portal to Texas History -- Hits in Document](#) Over and over again, the "dates" are i821 and i833.

Rebecca Ann Jordan

### Historical Maps on Wikimedia Commons

[Wikimedia Commons](#) hosts images of maps of many, many places in the world--all over 70 years old, and out of copyright. What a find!

Dee Whiting

### Cemetery Photos

When I take photographs of cemetery stones, I also take one long shot of the general area to help others find this plot.

Shirley White, New Hampshire

### Google an Address

Try entering the address of a known family household into Google...I did so using the address of a great-grand uncle and found it listed in a real estate ad! The listing also included photos of the front, rear, and side views of the house.

Virginia Dunham

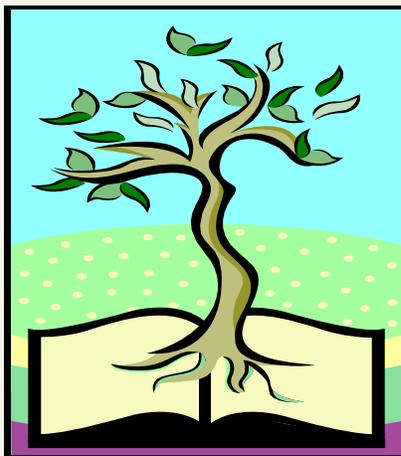
### Micro Recorders

I always travel with a micro recorder. One can never take enough notes or remember exactly how the story went that Aunt Annie was telling. Each time I listen to the tapes I hear something I missed, an important date, name, place, etc. It's also a great tool when interviewing a relative. Once I was on a German tour to the homeland with my father and twelve other relatives. On our last night at the castle we were attended a medieval banquet. I turned on my recorder and taped the "ompa" music and the old German songs that were being sung. I wouldn't want to be without my recorder.

Gail B. Ehlenberger

### 2008-2009 OFFICERS

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Vice-President—Marilyn Simms  
Secretary—Shirley Harris  
Treasurer—Holly Hervey  
Librarian—Kathy Strauss  
Webmaster—Chris Strauss  
Parliamentarian—Diane Abner



**NEXT MEETING OF  
THE DENTON  
COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY WILL BE ON  
January 8, 2009  
Emily Fowler Central  
Library  
502 Oakland St.  
Denton**

DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 424707  
Denton, TX 76204