

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

MARCH MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2010

Program: "Finding Your Revolutionary War Ancestor"

Speaker: Don Raney

Donald Raney is a sixth generation Texan who has been an active genealogist for over 30 years. He has been a frequent speaker at many genealogical society meetings in East Texas, Houston and the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. On the national level, Mr. Raney has presented sessions at GENTECH, Federation of Genealogical Societies,

Angelina College Genealogy Conference and The Genealogical Institute of Texas. He is a life member of the San Jacinto Descendants and past director of GENTECH and the Dallas Genealogical Society's Computer Interest Group. A registered professional engineer, Mr. Raney graduated from SMU with a BS in Civil Engineering and completed a long professional career with Lone Star Gas Company before retiring in 1997 as Chief Engineer. He is currently teaching Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced Genealogy courses in at Richland College.



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

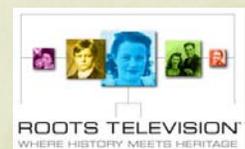
TWO MORE GENEALOGY RESOURCES CEASE PUBLICATION

Ancestry Magazine and Roots Television will both cease in March 2010. Ancestry Magazine has been a valuable, timely resource for family history for 25 years. Their reason for ceasing is that the content published at Ancestry.com can reach a larger and broader audience.

Roots TV, produced by Megan Smolenyak, was developed in 2006 to fill a void in servicing the millions of people interested in genealogy and family history. She stated recently that this gap is now being filled with the mainstream programs, such as PBS's

Faces of America, BYU's *The Generations Project*, and NBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?*

We understand that each of these resources are expensive to produce and distribute, but we will miss the unique content in each of them.



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WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

"Who Do You Think You Are?" is an adaptation of the award-winning hit British television documentary series. The seven-episode program will lead celebrities on a journey of self-discovery as they unearth their family trees that reveal surprising, inspiring and even tragic stories that are often linked to crucial events in American history.

From the California Gold Rush to the Salem witch trials, from European aristocracy to the beaches of Africa, and from the Civil War to the Holocaust, "Who Do You Think You Are?" will reveal the fabric of humanity through everyone's place in history. Each week, a different celebrity takes a journey into their

family's past, traveling all over the world. Viewers are given an in-depth look into their favorite stars' family trees, and each episode will expose surprising facts and emotional encounters that will unlock people's emotions -- showing just how connected everyone is not only to the past, but to one another.

Starring in the new alternative series are Matthew Broderick, Lisa Kudrow, Spike Lee, Sarah Jessica Parker, Susan Sarandon, Brooke Shields and Emmitt Smith. Ancestry.com is NBC's official partner on the series.

The program airs on NBC on Friday's at 7:00 PM Central Time.

WHO
DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

matthew broderick emmitt smith lisa kudrow sarah jessica parker brooke shields susan sarandon spike lee

Ancestry.com and NBC bring you seven exciting stories that will inspire the world to discover theirs.

Share a heart warming journey through family history with Sarah Jessica Parker, Emmitt Smith, Lisa Kudrow, Matthew Broderick, Brooke Shields, Susan Sarandon and Spike Lee as they discover the stories of their ancestors.

Who Do You Think You Are? will help people everywhere better understand how they too can discover their family stories. We hope you'll spread the word.

Tune in to NBC Fridays at 8/7c — starting March 5, 2010.
Learn more at www.ancestry.com/spreadtheword

ancestry.com **more colorful.**

Getting Started in Family History Tips

This article appeared with the promotional materials for the program, "Who Do You Think You Are." I thought it might be a good refresher for our own research. The materials were from Ancestry.com, so that resource is mentioned as the source to use for research. These tips can apply to any genealogy resource, including books, periodicals, and other databases. Visit the Denton Public Library Special Collections to find more information.

Oftentimes beginners can feel overwhelmed by the research process involved in family history and knowing exactly where to begin. The following simple "getting started in family history" tips may be useful to provide direction to a newbie or someone unfamiliar with family history.

Starting Your Family History: It's as easy as 1-2-3! So how do you get started in family history? It's easy. Follow these simple steps to begin:

1. Start with what you know.

The best place to start your family history journey is with information you already have. Create an online family tree and enter names, places and dates of birth for yourself, parents and grandparents. Don't worry if you don't have all the facts. This is just the beginning.



2. Search historical records.

There has never been a better time to search for your ancestors than right now. With the advancement of technology, a simple online search on Ancestry.com can help you find family members in historical censuses, military and immigration records, newspaper articles and more. Use these records to continue tracing your family history back through time.

3. Ask your family for more.

Family history can be a wonderful excuse to pick up the phone or pay a visit to parents, grandparents or other loved ones. Ask your relatives for stories, photos and other knowledge about your heritage.

4. Add context to your family story.

Attach favorite photos, stories and other important documents to people in your online family tree. Create timelines for their lives. Record interviews with relatives by phone and save them to your family tree using tools like the Ancestry Storytelling Service available on Ancestry.com.

5. Share your family history.

Share the rich heritage you've discovered with your family by creating a family history book, calendar, poster or other items as a way to document your family history journey.



THE EMILY FOWLER LIBRARY DURING THE FEBRUARY 2010 SNOW



ANCESTRY FAMILY HISTORY TIPS

Paying it Forward

Sometimes when I find an old newspaper with an obituary or human interest story about our family in scrapbooks or an old trunk -- I notice there is an interesting article about someone else on the back of it or in surrounding areas of the page. I check on Ancestry.com to see if someone with that name has a tree in progress and send them a note offering to scan the article for their use. It's just a nice thing to do.
Judy Michalak

Clues in Correspondence

When someone dear to you dies and you have to go through some of their belongings, do check out the cards (birthday, Christmas, etc.). I checked them out after Mom died, and found one which said, "I remember the day you and George [her husband of 71 yrs] came by my place of work and asked me to go with you to be witness at your wedding." There were more details, but I'd never known where they were married. I had always "assumed" they married in the town where they lived, but the card revealed they had married in the town where she grew up. I'd never even asked! Madora

Homestead Records

Be sure to check for homestead records at the [Bureau of Land Management \(BLM\) website](#), and then send for a copy of the package if you find a probable match. These records can be a treasure trove. For example, I found my grandfather's Declaration of Intention and Citizenship papers in his homestead record. You can use the information from the BLM site to order the full homestead package from the National Archives [here](#).

You have the option to either order online or download NATF Form 84 to order by mail. Once they locate the file and determine how many pages there are they will send you an invoice, which you can pay by check or credit card, etc. The records I ordered were usually around \$15 or \$20 to copy. With the homestead description from the BLM site (Township, Range, and Section portion) you can also look for old maps and map the property. Or you can map it on a topographic map. Robin

Family History in Old Calendars

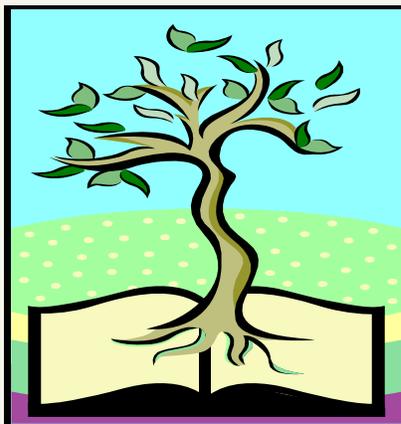
I have found family history in old calendars. My grandmother and my aunt jotted down little notes on them, and I'm fortunate to have several of them. There are notes like "cards sent to Mother from..." and "first snow of the year" and "Robert Paul came home from hospital after seven days."

My grandmother and my mother also used the backs of the calendars to write recipes. They were convenient and easy to find. These calendars are priceless to me because they are full of information. Peggy Key



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**NEXT MEETING OF THE
DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY WILL BE ON
APRIL 8, 2010
Emily Fowler Central
Library
502 Oakland St.
Denton**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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