

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, NOVEMBER 11, 2010



1896- Denton County Courthouse-

PROGRAM: “Searching for Military Records from Colonial to Modern Times: an Overview”

Speaker: Diana White

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

Diana White holds both the B.A. and M.A. in history and taught at Strickland Junior High School, Denton High School, and Ryan High School, retiring in 1998. Her love of history and teaching is obvious in her continuing to study and prepare presentations for historical and genealogical groups in the area. She is active in Peters Colony Chapter of The Daughters of The

Republic of Texas and Benjamin Lyon Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution and works with prospective members helping them prepare the applications and gather the required documents for membership in both. She also is a member of both the Fort Worth Area Regents Club and the Red River Regents Council.

Mrs. White served as the first elected president of the Denton County Genealogical Society and held offices in it many times. She also served as president of Peters Colony and as regent of Benjamin Lyon, as well as holding other offices and committee positions. She is pleased with the growth in membership in all of the historical and genealogical organizations in the area.

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THANKSGIVING AND FAMILY TRADITIONS

The Thanksgiving holiday is the perfect time to share information with and about your family. Here are some suggestions for adding to you knowledge of your family history.

- While preparing the turkey and your favorite dishes, share recipes and the stories behind them with those helping out in the kitchen.
- As you linger over the pumpkin pie, ask each family member what they remember from Thanksgiving celebrations when they were young.
- If you are not a football fan, pull out old family pictures and have family members identify the people in them and make sure you write those names on the back of the picture.
- While watching the Cowboys game, you can share your favorite stories about football wins and losses.
- Take lots of pictures of family members sleeping off the turkey day feast.
- Show off your family heirlooms and tell everyone about the why they are so important to your family.
- Scan important pictures and documents that family members have brought to share.
- Enjoy the day and write down what happened so you can share those memories next year.

OCTOBER 2010 MINUTES

Refreshments were provided by Vickie Davis and Martha Len Nelson.

The meeting was called to Order by Richard Thomas. Virginia and Thomas White were introduced as guests. Minutes from the last meeting were accepted after a motion was made by Marilyn Simms and seconded by Wanda Samek. The treasurer's report was approved with a motion from Diana White and second by June Knox.

Multiple copies of a new Denton Genealogical Society brochure were viewed and voted on by the membership. The lists for refreshments and greeters were passed around. The March and January programs will be switched on our schedule. We have seven new members. They are

Chuck Beazley, Ann Smith, J.B. Smith, Kim Whitford, Davena LaCour, Carolyn Lauderdale, and Hilda Carrigan.

Dayone Work introduced our speaker, Kelvin Myers. He told of an interesting story he found while doing forensic genealogy work for a bank seeking heirs to a substantial amount of money. The story involved a group of women in Belton, Texas who, without financial support from men, and through hard work of their own achieved financial success in Bell county. It is a little known story because of the family destruction it generated. Richard adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by Cindy Gage

VETERANS DAY

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11:00 a.m.

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had

required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Sep 30, 2010 **\$ 1,998.52**

Deposits

Dues	\$ 90.00
Food Fund	60.00
Will Book**	25.00
Birth Book	35.00
Death Book	<u>25.00</u>
Total	\$ 23500

Disbursements

Domain Fee	\$ 19.88
Speaker Fee	<u>75.00</u>
Total	\$ 94.88

Balance Oct 31, 2010 **\$2,138.64**

2010-2011 Paid Members—46

Library Donations	
April 1995 - May 06	\$2,876.52
June 2006 – April 2010	1,810.00

**Last Will Book	\$ 25.00
Birth Books Sold (63)	\$2,055.00
Printing Cost (200)	-2,049.13
Postage	-118.69
Sales Tax Paid	-110.95
Advertising (1)	<u>-30.00</u>
Profit	\$ -253.77
Death Books Sold (145)	\$3,404.72
Printing Cost (300)	-1,593.15
Consignment Fees	-425.00
Postage	-156.99
Sales Tax Paid	-79.25
Advertising	<u>-237.45</u>
Profit	\$ 912.88

Respectfully Submitted,
Holly Hervey, Treasurer

DID YOU KNOW?

The most commonly used county names are:

Washington County—31 states

Jefferson County—26 states

Franklin County—25 states

Jackson County—24 states

Lincoln County—24 states

States with the most counties:

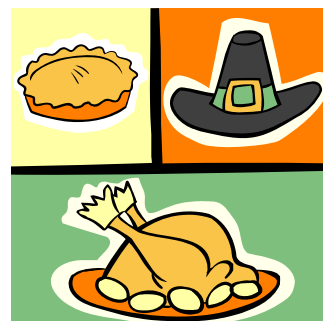
Texas—254 counties

Georgia—159 counties

Kentucky—120 counties

North Carolina—100 counties

Virginia—95 counties



MAYFLOWER COMPACT DAY

November 21st is the anniversary of the signing of the Mayflower Compact. The Compact was signed in the cabin of the Mayflower, November 11th, Old Style, November 21st, New Style, 1620. Richard More and Henry Samson were young boys and did not sign the Compact. Both have descendants.

After a difficult voyage in November 1620, the Mayflower anchored at Cape Cod, north of the limits of the Virginia Colony, and beyond any organized law. Some form of government was necessary. Those who intended to settle here at Cape Cod comprised two separate groups: the religious dissenters from England and Holland, and those who hoped to better themselves in this new Colony. Differences of opinion had arisen between these groups on the voyage. These differences had to be reconciled if the colony was to survive. Therefore, on November 21, 1620, in the "Great Cabin" aboard the Mayflower, forty-one male passengers composed a written document, which was a vow, a pledge a word of honor that all who signed it, as well as their families promised to abide by its proclamation. The settlers lived up to the Compact they signed. It brought the divergent groups into one unified group, and the Compact remained as the Constitution of the Colony until Plymouth was merged into the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1692 by order of King William and Queen Mary.

The Mayflower Compact

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, etc. Having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith and honor of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents, solemnly and mutually in the presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the Colony: unto which we promise all due submission and obedience.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape Cod. the 11th of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign lord King James; of England, France and Ireland the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth. An. Dom. 1620.

John Carver	Edward Tilly	* Degory Priest
* William Bradford	* John Tilly	Thomas Williams
* Edward Winslow	* Frances Cooke	Gilbert Winslow
* William Brewster	* Thomas Rogers	Edward Margeson
* Isaac Allerton	Thomas Tinker	* Peter Brown
* Myles Standish	John Ridgdale	Richard Britteridge
* John Alden	* Edward Fuller	* George Soule
* Samuel Fuller	John Turner	Richard Clark
Christopher Martin	* Francis Eaton	Richard Gardiner
* William Mullins	* James Chilton	John Allerton
* William White	John Crackston	Thomas English
* Richard Warren	* John Billington	* Edward Doty
* John Howland	* Moses Fletcher	Edward Leister
* Stephen Hopkins	John Goodman	
* Has descendants		

Here are some websites to learn more about the Mayflower, the Pilgrims, the Wampanoag tribe in Massachusetts, and immigrant ships.

The Mayflower Society

<http://www.themayflowersociety.com>

This society is attempting to link together the Mayflower descendants and to help memorialize some of the first settlers to America, recognizing their important place in U.S. history. There are state sub-societies that may also have their own web site, such as the one for Texas, <http://texasmayflower.com>.

Wampanoag History

<http://www.tolatsga.org/wampa.html>

Caleb Johnson's MayflowerHistory.com

<http://www.mayflowerhistory.com/index.php>

Visit this comprehensive site for many links regarding this historic ship and its famous passengers. If you click on the passenger list, up comes a grid with all the people aboard listed, and you can click on their name to know more about that particular passenger.

Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild

<http://www.immigrantships.net/newcompass/ships/ship-files/mayflower.html>

More links to information about Mayflower families, settlement of the colony and its early years, with a section of links regarding Thanksgiving.

Perhaps your ancestors in America did not happen to arrive on the Mayflower but arrived on other ships. Below are two links that detail information about those ships, even including sketches or photos of some of them.

The Ships List

<http://www.theshipslist.com/Research/Resource.htm>

Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild

<http://www.immigrantships.net/>

ANCESTRY FAMILY HISTORY TIPS

Obtain Original Death Certificates

Whenever possible, try to get a copy of the original death certificate, particularly for a family member long gone. When I obtained the 1897 New York City death record for my great-grandfather whose surname was believed to be Cohen, I discovered that recorded on the certificate was the original family name of Aronowsky. Recently, when checking the 1874 census records from Kovno (Kaunas) Lithuania, I discovered the entire family, their approximate years of birth, along with two siblings of my grandmother who were previously unknown to us.

Neilan Stern

Contacting Funeral Homes and Local Societies

I have only been working on my genealogy for two years with the help of my best friend. I have found the cemeteries to be a great place to start, but have gotten even more information by contacting the funeral home. They will send the information they have on file and the records I've received revealed more than you might think. Also, contacting historical and genealogical societies in the towns where my ancestors lived has been a great help. I found 16 generations that way.

Good luck,

Sandy

Timeline Helps Identify People in Photos

I am an "unofficial Family Historian" who happened to inherit old photos, negatives, cards and letters when my mother died. Family resemblances often made it difficult to identify which sibling I was looking at in the older pictures. I found some photos with dates on them, so I would have to look up when my uncle died and then calculate how old he would be in this picture to identify him. I started a family timeline with birthdates and date of deaths, eventually adding graduation dates, wedding dates, etc. It sure made it easier to just look at that

timeline and see that, "No, this can't be Wallace because he died prior to this date, and it can't be Buddy because he would have been a baby. So the older one is Elmer and the younger one is Johnny."

Elaine McCloud

Family History Baby Gift

I scanned and printed the births page from my great-grandparents' family Bible, then wrote my daughter's name on the bottom line. I bought a 100% cotton "onesie" newborn outfit, took it to the copy shop and had them make a T-shirt transfer of the Bible page onto the front of the "onesie" with the following text added: "I'm the newest addition to the Walsh Family Bible." It was the perfect outfit for the baby's first family reunion.

Angela Boynton Cassidy, Crawfordville, Florida

"Creative" Census Entries

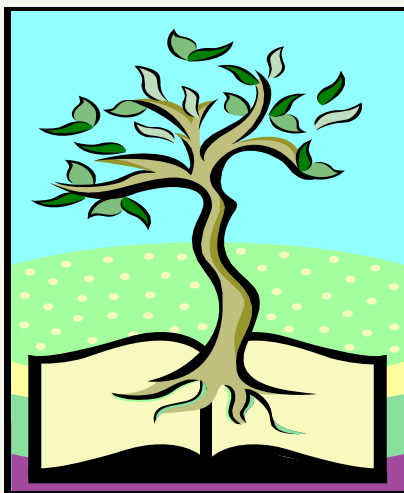
I enjoyed the story of grandfather giving the census taker the middle names of all his children. It pays to know nicknames as well and think how names sound. In my family there are three generations of women with the same name, Eleanora. My great-grandmother was called El, which showed up on the census as the letter "L".

I needed help from another researcher when John became James, Sarah was a male, Ellick was Alex and other odd bits of guesswork by the census taker. Since the other researcher was good at looking at everyone on the page we pieced together three households of those relatives, spanning three generations.

Olive McMillin

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**NEXT MEETING OF THE
 DENTON COUNTY
 GENEALOGICAL
 SOCIETY WILL BE ON
 JANUARY 13, 2011
 Emily Fowler Central
 Library
 502 Oakland St.
 Denton**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201