

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

MAY MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2011



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

PROGRAM:

“Round Table of Member Experiences”

There are so many times that everything comes together and we stumble onto what we've been looking for for so long; or people show up with that piece of info or relationship that we've been needing; or from that hard-core research we've finally found that needle in the haystack. It is so encouraging to hear others' struggles and successes

and gives us a chance to pat ourselves on the back for our own little triumphs. What drama as we listen and walk with them through cemeteries, courthouses and history to find those pieces of their ancestors' lives. What learning as we discover ways and strategies that might work for us.

Please limit your stories to about 5 minutes, especially if many of you want to talk or show. Maybe we could call it "show and tell."

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CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL

April 13 marked the 150th year since the beginning of the Civil War, with the capture of Fort Sumpter by Confederate troops. As we think back to the darkest days in our country's history, it is time to remember our ancestors who fought in that war, Whether they wore blue or gray, we need to honor them and their service.

If you have not yet identified a Civil War soldier in your ancestral lines, spend this year looking for them. Historical records are readily available for every state . There are many

websites available for this commemoration that will lead you to records. This website is a good place to start. <http://www.civilwar.org/150th-anniversary/> It has many links to state sites that include records and pictures.



APRIL 2011 MINUTES

Richard Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Visitors in attendance were Megan Horlander, Tammy Carroll, Kathy Butler, Bob Nelson, Eileen O’Neill, and John Windsor. The March minutes were approved after a motion from Sandra Marsh , seconded by Wanda Samek. The motion to approve the treasurer’s report was made by Terrell Brantley and seconded by Martha Len Nelson.

attendance. A report was made on the Texas State Genealogical Society meeting held in Denton. Dayone Work introduced our speaker and his wife. Barbara Wylie spoke to us about membership in the state organization. Our guest speaker, John Wylie, expanded our awareness of “Courthouse Research With a Technology Twist”.

Richard adjourned the meeting.

A new DCGS poster designed by Mel Brewer and his granddaughter was introduced. Posters will be displayed around the county to promote

Respectfully submitted by,
Cindy Gage



TREASURER’S REPORT

Balance Mar. 31, 2011 **\$ 2,126.53**

Deposits:

Dues 2011-12	\$ 80.00
Donation for refreshments	\$ 15.00
Total	<u>\$ 95.00</u>

Disbursements:

Speaker	\$ 75.00
Domain Name Renewal	\$ 20.36
Total	<u>\$ 95.36</u>

Balance April 30, 2011 **\$2,126.17**

2010-2011 Paid Members–50

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

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	<u>\$ -253.77</u>

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	<u>\$ 912.88</u>

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Touraine for
Holly Hervey, Treasurer



DILLY HOPE DENNY

By Dayonne Work

The name Dilly Hope Denny kept turning up in my Hope family but I didn't know where she fit in. The information I received from various family members said that my 2gg grandfather, Thomas Hope had a 2nd marriage, but when discovered she had not been divorced from her first husband, she had to leave. Some thought it was Dultz or something, another thought it was Pettijohn. Thomas Hope's first wife had died after childbirth on the family's way to Kansas in 1858. Reading the microfilm of marriages of Linn County, Kansas, I came to Thomas Hope marrying Mrs. Rohanna Hurst in 1862. Knowing that Rohanna was a common name in my Pettijohn ancestry, I looked up Rohanna Pettijohn in the 1860 census and found her with her mother, siblings and

a 1 year old baby, Henry Hurst in Illinois. In microfilm of marriages of that county in Illinois, there was Rohanna marrying Samuel Hurst in 1856. The Pettijohns and Hopes knew each other. The 1870 census showed Rohanna back with Samuel Hurst and several more children, including 7yr-old Abigail (b. 1863, Dilly?) in Illinois. The 1880 census shows Thomas Hope with a 17 yr-old daughter, Dilly whose mother was born in Illinois. The other children's mother was born in England. Dilly Denny attended the funeral in 1928 of my great grandfather, Edwin Hope and was listed as a sister in his obituary. My supposition is that Dilly is the child of Thomas Hope and Rohanna Pettijohn Hurst conceived during the short time the two thought they were married. My mystery solved.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Summer Classes

5/26/2011—"What Did Grandpa Do? - Historical Occupations." 7:00 PM—Emily Fowler Library.

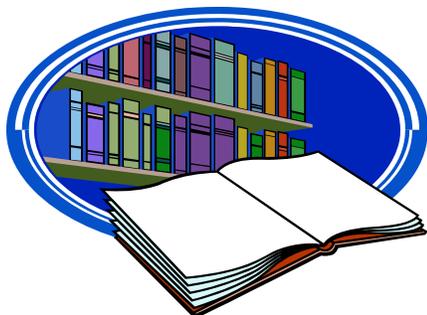
6/7/2011—Beginning Genealogy. 6:30 PM—Emily Fowler Library.

7/9/2011—Digging Up Denton, presented by Nita Thurman. 3:00 PM—Emily Fowler Library.

7/14/2011—Online Resources. 6:30 PM—Emily Fowler Library.

Individual Assistance

The Denton Public Library Special Collections offers individual assistance in helping you climb over your genealogical "brick walls." Make an appointment to spend some quality time with a librarian who can give you suggestions, guide your steps, and help you solve family mysteries. If we don't know the answers, we can suggest possible avenues to follow. We can also refer you to locations that may further your research. Call us at 940-349-8752.



THE 1940 CENSUS IS COMING!

Many of us use the summer months to dust off our genealogy research, to have another go at solving the “brick walls” we have, and to learn new things.

Diana White sent out information in an email about the coming release of the 1940 Census. I followed her link to www.archives.gov. There I clicked on the 1940 Census link and found a countdown clock to the release, April 2, 2012.

What makes this release different from previous ones is that this time there will be no microfilm...it's all digital. However, much like previous census records, there will be no immediate index. We'll have to wait for the big companies like Ancestry or Heritage Quest to get the index up online.

On the National Archives website, you can get a copy of the blank census form to see what questions were asked. I also found the following information useful.

Here is a checklist of things you can do to start your 1940 census research:

1. **Make a list of all the people you want to look for in the 1940 census.** Think broadly--ancestors, their siblings, cousins, etc.--anybody to whom you are related.
2. **Collect addresses for these people from city directories if they lived in a city.** NARA has original Circa 1940 City Directories for Washington, DC. The [Library of Congress](#) holds a large nationwide collection of city directories and many libraries hold local directories.
3. **Identify the enumeration district (ED) in which each address was located.** There are currently several ways to do this:

- Use NARA microfilm publication [T1224](#), *Descriptions of Census Enumeration Districts, 1830-1950 (155 rolls)*, which contains text descriptions of the enumeration districts used by the Bureau of the Census in 1940.
- Use NARA microfilm publication [A3378](#), *Enumeration District (ED) Maps for the Twelfth through Sixteenth Censuses of the United States, 1900-1940 (73 rolls)*, which show the boundaries for each of the enumeration districts.
- Use the **1930/1940 ED Converter utility found on www.stevemorse.org**. This can be useful if you found your ancestors in the 1930 census and believe they were living in the same location for the 1940 census.

Find your Native American ancestor in NARA microfilm publication [M595](#), *Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940 (692 rolls)*, if enrolled in a tribe and living on an Indian Reservation.

I'm planning to follow the advice in this checklist and find out exactly where my immediate family lived in 1940. My parents married in December 1940, so they will not be on the census together as a couple. I know the address of my grandmother and aunts in 1940, but I do not know if my mother lived with them, or whether she had her own apartment. I will have to look in the city directories to find out. This should be an interesting problem to solve.

Look at www.archives.gov for additional information and helpful links. They even have videos of the training given to the census takers in 1940! Happy Hunting!



ANCESTRY FAMILY HISTORY TIPS

Birth date or Saint's Day

My husband's grandfather always celebrated his birthday on April 25th. (He was born in Tyrol, Austria in 1878.) It wasn't until his son did some family history research that we found that his birthday was really on January 31. When asked why he used the other date, he said his mother decided to use his saint's day because the weather was always so bad on his real birthday. He lived to be 94 years old. Pauline Battiste

Birth Certificate Error

After my grandmother's death, I got a copy of her birth certificate and was surprised to see that it gave her birthday as August 21, when she had always celebrated on August 28. Then in her memoir I discovered a comment that she didn't have a birth certificate until she was fifty, when her brother filed for a delayed certificate for her at the county courthouse. When the registrar asked for the date, he got the month and year right but guessed at the day. Without that comment I would have assumed she was mistaken about her own birthday. So take a delayed birth certificate with the appropriate grain of salt. Janet Wright

Shtetl Seeker

I spent years trying to locate the village where my Bohemian great-grandmother was born in 1872, before discovering [ShtetlSeeker](#), an incredible, free database containing the names--new and old--of locations in Central and Eastern Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia. After

entering the village name into the search engine, I discovered within seconds that it now has a new name and is located in Romania, not Bohemia! I then clicked on the map link and saw exactly where it's located. After all the research I'd done without success, it was miraculous to me to find Nemet Pereg so easily. Lee Ann Bourcier

Drop the Surname Prefix

When I was registrar of our DAR chapter I was helping an applicant search for her O'Hara family at the LDS library. We were sure the missing link would be found in the 1880 census. No matter what we tried we found nothing. One of the library volunteers suggested we look under H. And there it was. The last name was listed as Hara and every member of that large Irish family had the middle initial O. Yes, her application was accepted.

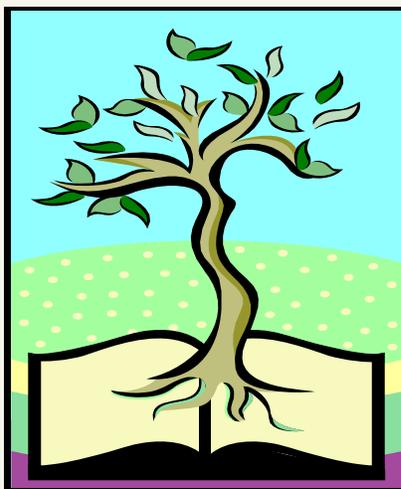
Susan Kreckler

German Pronunciation

I was tracing my father's family using names from a book that was written by his uncle about the family back in the early 50s. But I couldn't find one great-grandmother. Her name began with a V in every record I could find. It dawned on me that being German her name was pronounced as a V but might have been spelled with a W. When I searched for her name beginning with a W, I found her entire family Cynthia Newton

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**NEXT MEETING OF THE
 DENTON COUNTY
 GENEALOGICAL
 SOCIETY WILL BE ON
 SEPTEMBER 8, 2011
 Emily Fowler Central
 Library
 502 Oakland St.
 Denton**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201