

# 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 OCT 10, 2013



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.genealogydentontexas.org](http://www.genealogydentontexas.org)

### PROGRAM: "How Great They Are! Church Records" SPEAKER: Kelvin Meyer

Underused and underutilized this vast group of records can be a challenge to the "unchurched." Determining the denomination, in which your ancestor was a part can be the biggest challenge. The second, being, finding those records. With these two things accomplished, many genealogical questions can be answered.

A fifth generation Texan and professional genealogist for the last twenty-five years and an avid researcher-historian for thirty-three years, he is a frequent speaker to many genealogical societies and family associations in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. He was

employed for ten years in the Genealogy Dept. of the Dallas Public Library. Now, he contracts with attorneys, banks, the US Immigration Service and energy companies, as a forensic genealogist, searching for missing or unknown heirs to estates and oil and gas leases. Kelvin is a 1989 and 1990 alumni of the Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University. He has recently lectured in Course III Research in the South and Course VIII Researching African American Ancestors. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogist, a past President of the Lone Star Chapter of APG and serves on the board of the Council for the Advancement of Forensic Genealogist. Kelvin is a member of First United Methodist Church in Dallas, where he is the chairman of the History and Archives committee.

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### Ancestry.com acquires FindAGrave.com

Ancestry.com LLC announced that it has acquired Find A Grave, Inc., the leading online cemetery database. With over 100 million memorials and 75 million photos, Find A Grave has amassed an unparalleled collection of burial information. Over the past 18 years, it has grown to become an invaluable resource for genealogists, history buffs and cemetery preservationists. Find A Grave will become a wholly owned subsidiary of Ancestry.com, and will continue to be managed by its founder, Jim Tipton. Ancestry.com will maintain Find A Grave as

a free website, will retain its existing policies and mode of operation, and look forward to working with Jim Tipton and the entire Find A Grave team to accelerate the development of tools designed to make it even easier for the Find A Grave community to fulfill its original mission to capture every tombstone on Earth." Ancestry.com plans to bolster the resources dedicated to Find A Grave to launch a new mobile app, improve customer support, introduce an enhanced edit system for submitting updates to memorials, foreign-language support, and other site improvements.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear DCGS Friend,

Wow! Wasn't our September meeting great? We were lucky enough to have John Wylie, First Vice-President of the Texas State Genealogical Society, as our speaker. He always delivers a good program. We had 56 people in attendance, so it appears we can look forward to another good year of growth, networking, and learning. I had missed our meetings over the summer, and it was good to get back into the swing of things.

Mary Brownmiller reports that our tote bags are in and will be available at the October meeting. The bags bear the logo of the Denton County Genealogical Society and, besides promoting our Society, will be very helpful on the research trips to the library that we all enjoy. They are being sold at a nominal fee of \$15.00 each. You will probably also want a T-shirt with the DCGS logo on them. They are also being sold for only \$15.00. Our goal is to promote the Society, develop a degree of loyalty, and make just a bit of money.

If you haven't paid your dues yet, please be prepared to do so at the October meeting. Treasurer Linda Touraine will be glad to accept your money. Our year runs from June 1 through May 31, so we effectively began our new year with last month's meeting.

Our Vice-President, Dayonne Work, and her committee have worked diligently to provide us with another line-up of great programs for 2013-14. Our speaker for this month, Kelvin Meyers, is well-known to DCGS members. He always provides lots of information on a topic of considerable interest to genealogical researchers. The October presentation will be particularly beneficial since Kelvin will be speaking on church records. We all know how helpful church records can be, but we don't always know how to find them or how to fully utilize them.

Don't forget the Lock-In at the library on Friday, October 18, 2013. This will be a laid-back, relaxed period during which you will be able to use the library's resources and consult with the research librarians when it is closed to the public. Bring your tough questions and a list of sources you have been intending to consult. The library is providing a light dinner or, if you prefer, you may leave, have dinner, and return – or you may bring a sack supper. (No eating is permitted in the library proper, of course, but we can retreat to our regular meeting room and enjoy a visit while we eat.)

Article V, Section 3, of our Bylaws provide that our business meeting be held annually in January and that no program be scheduled. It has been suggested that we amend that article to simply delete the sentence, "No program will be scheduled for this meeting." That would provide us with the option of having a program or not. We have very little business to conduct and have traditionally used the time for sharing personal experiences. Since the bylaws also provide that members must be notified of proposed changes at least 15 days prior to the meeting, a decision will have to wait until the November meeting.

Lots of things are happening in DCGS, so come along, enjoy, learn, and grow with us!



Wanda Samek, President



## MAY 2013 MINUTES

The September 2013 meeting was called to order by President Wanda Samek.

Mark Brownmiller recognized the following new members: Ken Walker, Tom McCorkill, and Jean Chaka, and Donna Cunningham. He also introduced the following visitors: Kathy Butler, Cynthia Hall, Jack Hall, Cathy Keyson, Nancy Kudich, Bobbie Briley, Darryl Maass, Richard S. Fulton, Diane Peterson, and Ruby Davis.

There being no corrections, the minutes of the May 2013 meeting were approved as presented in the Chapter's online newsletter. The Treasurer's report, also in the newsletter, was filed for record.

Kathi Coatney, Hospitality Committee chair, would like help with donations of either money or food.

Chris Strauss, Webmaster, has put the speaker's schedule on the web site and also has listed information about other conferences and events.

Mark and Mary Brownmiller, co-chairs of the Membership Committee, announced there are t-shirts and tote bags for sale for \$15.00 each.

Kathy Strauss, Librarian, needs volunteers for special projects. There is a volunteer form to be

filled out which can be downloaded from the Denton Library site. There will be a statewide genealogical lock-in on October 18 featuring webinars from various libraries around the state. A dinner will be available at no cost, but donations will be solicited as a fundraiser for DCGS.

Dayonne Work, Program Chair, has worked her usual magic and lined up some exciting speakers for the coming year. The new list is on the bookmarks available at each meeting and published online at the Society's website. In addition to the regular meetings, the Society will be hosting a half-day seminar on 22 March 2014 about DNA.

John Wylie, President Elect of the Texas State Genealogical Society, was the guest speaker. He delved into why, when, how, and where people migrated.

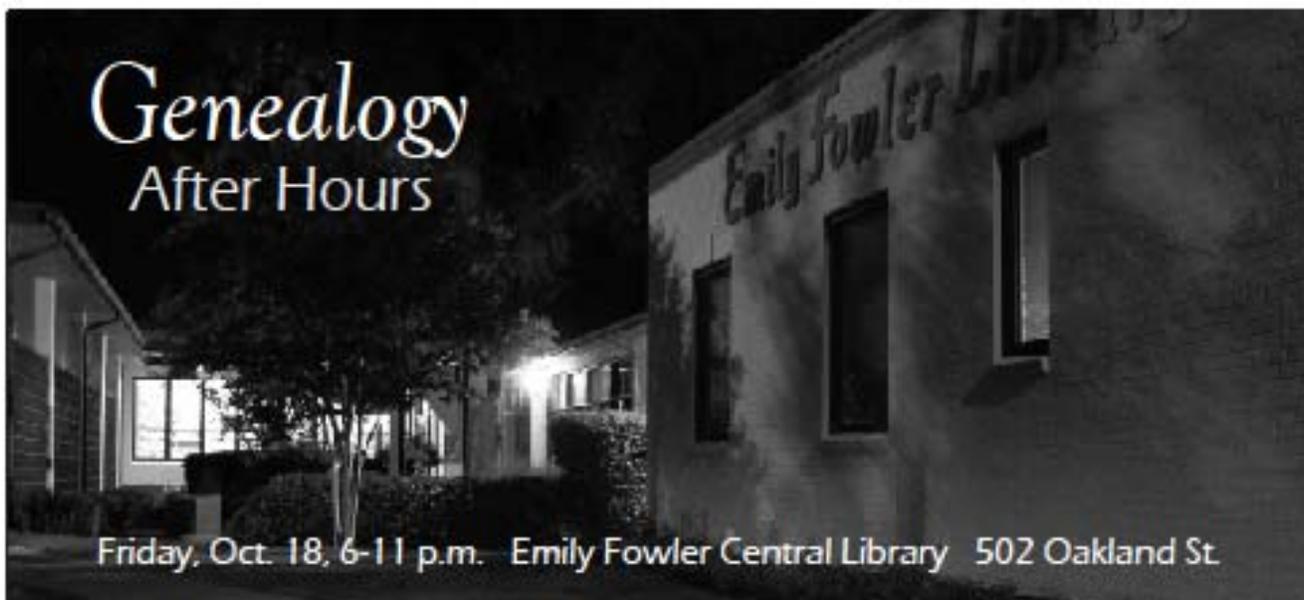
The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 by President Wanda Samek.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>Balance Aug. 26, 2013</b>	<b>\$1,682.53</b>	<b>Balance Sept. 30, 2013</b>	<b>\$1,840.53</b>
<b>Deposits</b>		2013-2014 Paid Members – 60	
Dues 2013-2014	\$355.00	2014-2015 Paid Members – 1	
DCGS Totes	60.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$415.00</b>	Library Donations	
		April 1995 – May 2006	\$2,876.52
		June 2006 – June 2012	\$3,310.00
		July 2012 – to date	-0-
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Speaker, Sept.		Respectfully Submitted,	
Program	\$75.00	Linda Touraine, Treasurer	
Brochure printing	136.00		
Postage	46.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$257.00</b>		





Friday, Oct. 18, 6-11 p.m. Emily Fowler Central Library 502 Oakland St.

Libraries across Texas will be sharing programming and genealogical resources during a "lock-in" on Oct. 18 at the Emily Fowler Central Library. This event is co-sponsored by the Denton Public Library and the Denton County Genealogical Society.

Food and drink will be provided.

You can also come early for webinars in the Special Collections Department, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Please bring headphones or earbuds. The Special Collections Department will be open for research throughout the event.

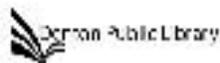
#### Early webinars in Special Collections

- 12:30-1:50 p.m. *Who Am I? Basic Steps in Beginning to Find Out* - Sue Kaufman  
 2-2:50 p.m. *Find Success with FamilySearch!* - Karen J. Matheson  
 3-3:50 p.m. *eDocs, eServices and eGovernment: County Records Online* - Kristi DeChuit  
 4-5:15 p.m. *Solving FamilyHistory Mysteries With Original Landowner Maps From Arphax Publishing and HistoryGeo.com* - Greg Boyd  
 5:30-6:30 p.m. *Ancestry Library Edition: What's New* - Edward Loera

#### Lock-in programs

- 7-7:50 p.m. *Accessing Texas County Records through the Regional Historical Resources Depositories Program* - Laura Saegert  
 8-9:15 p.m. *Unusual Genealogy Resources* - Susan Kaufman  
 9:30-10:30 p.m. *Genealogical resources of the Texas General Land Office* - Kevin Klaus

Call (940) 349-8752 to register for this free event!



## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

### Special Collections Fall Classes

#### 10/18—Genealogy After-Hours

Connect with libraries across Texas for informative programs and genealogical resources Webinars begin in Special Collections at 12:30 pm. Lock-in begins at 6:00 pm. More details will follow.

Emily Fowler Library

#### 11/16—What Did Grandpa Do? Historical Occupations

Was your grandfather a guildler or a huckster? Find out more about historical names for occupation and how to locate information about your ancestor's livelihood. Emily Fowler Library 3:00 pm

### New Equipment at the Library

The library has acquired some new equipment for the Special Collections Department. A book scanner, the KIC CLICK, allows researchers to scan books face up and save the results to a flash drive or print. We also have a machine that will allow the user to convert your old home videos (VHS tapes) to a DVD. Come and take a look. We'll show you how to use them.

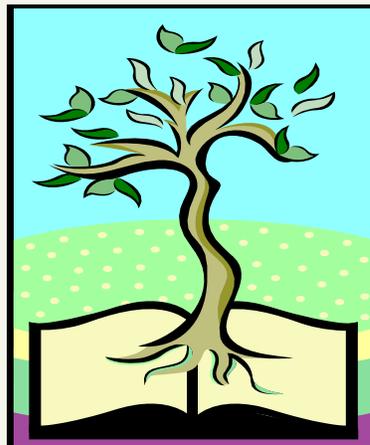
### October is Family History Month

Come research your family history at the library!



#### 2012-2014 OFFICERS

- President—Wanda Samek
- Vice-President—Dayonne Work
- Secretary—Susan McIntosh
- Treasurer—Linda Touraine
- Librarian—Kathy Strauss
- Webmaster—Chris Strauss
- Historical Research—Danny Puckett



**NEXT MEETING OF THE  
DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY WILL BE ON  
NOV 14, 2013  
Emily Fowler Central  
Library  
502 Oakland St.  
Denton**

### Special Collections Banner

Check out the striking banner on the outside wall of Emily Fowler Library spotlighting Special Collections and its services.

## Genealogy:

Discovering your great-great-grandparents had a sense of humor.

Williams family picnic, 1897

We can help you touch your family's past.

- Photographs
- Databases
- Texana
- Local history
- Digital newspaper archives
- Classes
- Maps
- Scrapbooks

### Special Collections

at the  
— Denton Public Library —

North Branch Library  
3020 N. Locust St.

Emily Fowler Central Library  
502 Oakland St.  
(main collection)

South Branch Library  
3228 Teasley Ln.

www.dentonlibrary.com  
(940) 349-8752

www.dentoncounty.com  
DENTON, TEXAS  
TOD 800.735.7881  
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DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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