

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

JANUARY MEETING THURSDAY JAN 9, 2014



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

PROGRAM: "A Century of Texas Immigration, 1820-1920"

SPEAKER: Richard Monroe

People immigrated to Texas from many different countries. They came to settle a sparsely populated land, often enduring hardships and loneliness. Richard Monroe will speak about what motivated the settlers to come to Texas, the problems they had, why they moved on (if they did), and what they brought to Texas in the way of

culture, innovation, skills, and politics. He will show many maps show the expansion of the immigrants and settling patterns across Texas.

Richard Monrow was born in San Francisco where his mother thought she could be close to her husband who was serving in Korea. Both of Richard's parents were born in Dallas. He is a fifth generation Texican. He is a trustee of Webb Chapel Cemetery and has served for many years as an officer of the Peters Colony Historical Society of Dallas County.

What's Clutter and What's Keepsake?

While the time between Christmas and New Year's Day is often spent with family and friends, it is also a good occasion to sort through family memorabilia. Those cards the kids made for your birthday, the ticket stubs from a rock concert, and great-aunt Betsy's wedding certificate — what is worth keeping, and what should be thrown away? What is clutter, and what is keepsake?

The answer is probably as individual as every person. If something evokes memories, or captures important events, chances are the item holds meaning and importance for you. If it's potentially useful but has no other meaning, or evokes bad memories, there may a strong case to

discard it.

There is also the family history to be considered. While a document or photograph may not be important to you, it may be an item of historical interest to others in the family or community, or for those yet unborn generations. It could be the last remaining record of traditions, stories, hardships, successes, and precious moments.

Too often later generations lament the lost documents and photographs that their parents and grandparents failed to preserve.

Source: Dick Eastman Online Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

How is it possible that we are beginning a new year already? It seems that the past year has flown by, yet when I recall all that has occurred in the past twelve months, I am surprised and reassured that life does, indeed, have a way of happening whether we are aware of it or not—and it takes us right along with it. That being so, we should make up our minds to enjoy the ride and to plan the route!

The Year in Review. Let's consider what the Denton County Genealogical Society has done in the past year. First, we had our regular meetings with some absolutely outstanding speakers who presented interesting and timely topics such as Barbara Wylie, "Rats in the Family;" Jesse Silva and Morgan Gieringer, "Genealogical Resources at the University of North Texas;" Tresa Tatyrek, "Using Family Search;" John Wylie, "Migration in Contest: Understanding Push and Pull;" Kelvin Meyers, "Church Records: Underused and Underutilized;" Jeanette Hurst, PhD, "British Research;" and the popular Roundtable Discussion of Members' Experiences. Thanks to Dayonne Work and her Program Committee for planning sessions that were meaningful and helpful as well as entertaining.

In addition to the regular sessions, we participated in "Genealogy After Hours" at the Emily Fowler Library. The activity was statewide and included participation from several libraries. A number of informative live presentations were available such as those offered by Susan Kaufman, President of the Texas State Genealogical Society, "Who Am I? Basic Steps in Beginning to Find Out;" "Writing Family Stores Bibliography;" "Unusual Genealogical Resources;" "Who Am I—Beginning Steps to Family History Research;" and "50 Questions for Family History Interviews—About Genealogy." Kristi DeCluitt presented "e-Docs, e-Services and e-Government: County Records Online; Greg Boyd offered "Solving Family History Mysteries with Original Landowner Maps;" "HistoryGeo.com Main Tools;" and "HistoryGeo.com First Landowners Project." Laura

Saegert spoke on "Accessing Texas County Records through the Regional Historical Resources Depositories Program." We heard Kevin Klaus speak on "Genealogical Resources of the Texas General Land Office;" "Spanish and Mexican Records in the Texas General Land Office; and "Categories of Land Grants in Texas." Kathy Strauss was coordinator and did her usual excellent job (going so far as to arrange for a baked potato bar for attendees).

We enjoyed having a number of visitors during the year and we were very pleased to have several new members join us—Betty Belcher, Ken Walker, Tom McCorkill, Jean Chaka, Donna Cunningham, and Adele Stewart. Mark and Mary Brownmiller, co-chairs of the Membership Committee are to be commended for their dedication and energy.

The Brownmillers also produced the Member Handbook, arranged for the orders of beautiful DCGS logo tote bags in royal blue, and were especially diligent in communicating with members regarding upcoming programs. They conducted a survey of members to determine what we wanted most in the way of programs, what we considered most helpful, and how we reacted to various topics—an extremely helpful tool for those who do the planning.

Members of the Membership Committee were unfailingly early at meetings to set up the member table providing name badges and literature. Aiding the Membership Committee, the Hospitality Committee headed by Kathi Coatney is a favorite of all and contributed to sociable networking.

The Publicity Committee turned in a stellar performance with the development of a new brochure and posters while also keeping the facebook.com page up to date and submitting announcements to the local newspaper. We are becoming more widely known and recognized because of the efforts of chair Laura Douglas.

We have produced a monthly newsletter which is chock-full of information. It is always done on a timely basis, is very helpful, and readily available. A big thank you goes to Kathy Strauss for

Continued on next page...

editing the bulletin and bulldogging those of us who need to provide articles.

Our webmaster, Chris Strauss, did a yeoman's job in settling up a new website for the Society. It wasn't easy and it wasn't quick, but it was well done and the results are spectacular. The website serves as an information center for members, includes the history of DCGS, and the newsletters are timely posted.

Research assistance was made available to members and non-members at a very reasonable price. The program was devised by Danny Puckett, research chair.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the ongoing tasks performed by our Secretary, Susan McIntosh, and our Treasurer, Linda Touraine. These activities are not always recognized, but are always important to the smooth functioning of the Society.

We were very ably represented at the annual conference of the Texas State Genealogical Society by four of our members and retained our membership and involvement in both TSGS and the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

Yes, all in all, a great deal happened . . . and DCGS turned in a stellar year by anyone's standards.

What's in Store for 2014. While it's extremely gratifying to look back on past successes and pat ourselves on the backs for a job well done, it is more productive to look forward and plan toward making the coming year even better than the last one.

As for monthly programs, the offerings couldn't be better for our membership. Among programs planned are "Migration into Texas" by Richard Monroe this month, "German Research" to be presented by Davideen Demske in February, and "Five Tribes Research" to be given by Marjorie Lowe in March.

A highlight of the year will take place in March when Jane Buck presents a DNA Seminar. That's a program that no one will want to miss. Autosomal DNA is a fairly new field in the use and study of DNA and Ms. Buck plans to devote some time to this area. She is quite cooperative about answering questions and providing guidance to those who are interested in using DNA in their research.

We will, of course, continue to support the

"Genealogy After Hours" programs and look for other ways in which to provide assistance in a wide-range of topics.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies will hold its annual conference August 27-30, 2014, in San Antonio at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center. The suggested hotel is the Marriott Riverwalk (phone 214-224-4555 for reservations and mention FGS to receive the conference rate). The conference will be hosted by the Texas State Genealogical Society. Go to www.fgsconference.org for more information. The FGS conferences are excellent. If you haven't attended one, this is a great opportunity.

Our Bylaws state that one of the Society's objectives is "To support the Denton Public Library with emphasis on its genealogical collection." With that objective in mind, the executive board will recommend at the January meeting that a donation be made to the genealogy department at the Emily Fowler Library.

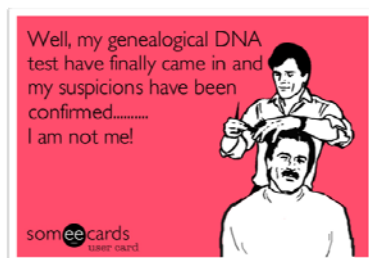
New officers will be elected in May. The nominating committee will be appointed in February. If you would like to volunteer for this important committee, please let me know at the meeting this month.

Our goal for 2014 is for DCGS to be even better than we were in 2013, to meet your expectations, and to help you be a better researcher. To do that, we need your input, so your suggestions are solicited.

Let's start the year as we mean to continue. Join us on January 9 at 7:00 p.m. Come early for socializing at 6:30 p.m.



Wanda Samek, President



Source: SomeeCards.com (<http://www.someecards.com/usercards/viewcard/>)

NOVEMBER 2013 MINUTES

President Wanda Samek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mark Brownmiller welcomed two visitors, Kathy Butler and Jeanette Knox, and one new member, Bobbi Briley. There were 34 members in attendance.

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

Kathy Strauss reported about 30 people attended the Lock-In over the course of the day. A welcome new feature was a potato bar for all attendees.

Membership Co-chair, Mary Brownmiller, offered totes and t-shirts emblazoned with the DCGS logo for sale. She also invited members to gather at Zera's Coffee Co. on McKinney after the meeting for continued socializing.

Pending Business: Chris Strauss moved that

Article 5, Section 3, of the Bylaws be amended by deleting the sentence, "No program will be scheduled for this meeting." The move was seconded and carried.

The Texas State Genealogical Conference and the annual Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) Conference will be combined next year and held in San Antonio, Texas, August 27-30.

Dayonne Work introduced the evening's speaker, Jeanette Hurst, who gave a lively and informative talk about England's genealogical resources.

Kathy Strauss announced there would be a program on Occupations held at the library the next Saturday.

The next meeting will be on January 9, 2014.

Wanda Samek adjourned the meeting at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan McIntosh
Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Nov. 1, 2013 **\$1,792.03**

Deposits

Dues 2013-2014 \$35.00
DCGS Totes 15.00

Total **\$50.00**

No Disbursements

Balance Dec. 31, 2013 **\$1,842.03**

2013-2014 Paid Members – 78
2014-2015 Paid Members – 1

Library Donations
April 1995 – May 2006 \$2,876.52
June 2006 – June 2012 \$3,310.00
July 2012 – to date -0-

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Touraine, Treasurer



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Special Collections Fall Classes

1/25—Civil War Genealogy Research

Nancy Calhoun, a 40-year veteran of genealogy research, will dress in period costume as she gives a class about locating Civil War ancestors. Call 349-8752 to register.

Emily Fowler Library 3 p.m.

2/15—Beginning Genealogy

Learn the basics of genealogy research in this introductory class. Topics include: gathering family information, using genealogical forms, accessing vital records, locating census records, and using the resources available in the Emily Fowler Special Collections. Call 349-8752 to register.

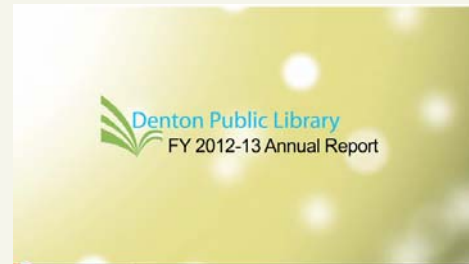
Emily Fowler Library 3 pm

Denton Public Library Annual Report

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8Pzqr7eD4c>

While the Denton Public Library has three modern branches circulating more than 250 thousand items, this year's Annual Report is less about statistics, and more about the people who work at the library, day in and day out -- sharing their important gifts.

(Kathy Strauss talks about assisting genealogy patrons)



Online, Animated Version of the Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States

Charles O. Paullin published his monumental *Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States* in 1932. It contains nearly 700 maps covering seemingly every facet of the country's social, economic and political life, including maps, then novel, showing county-by-county results for presidential elections going back to the beginning of the Republic.

Now, modern bells and whistles have also come to Paullin's atlas. A souped-up online version has just been released by the University of Richmond's Digital Scholarship Lab, bringing what some historians still consider a work of unsurpassed scope into the age of the iPad.

"Paullin's maps show ordinary people making a living, moving across the landscape, worshipping at churches, voting in

elections," said Robert K. Nelson, the director of the Digital Scholarship Lab. "They covered so many topics that there's really something for everyone."

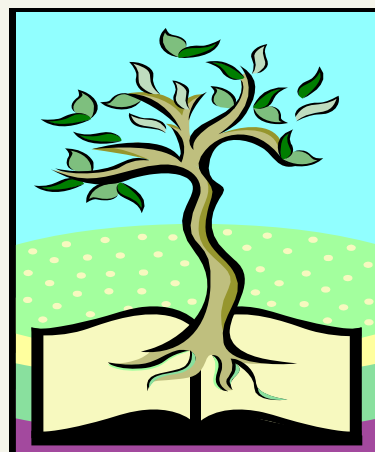
The online, animated version of the *Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States* is available at <http://dsl.richmond.edu/historicalatlas>.



Source: Dick Eastman Online Newsletter

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
 FEB 13, 2014
 Emily Fowler Central
 Library
 502 Oakland St.
 Denton**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201