

# 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 8, 2014



1896- Denton County Courthouse-

### PROGRAM: MEMBER ROUND ROBIN AND BUSINESS MEETING

This month's meeting is on Thursday, May 8th, at the Emily Fowler Library, starting at 6:30 with refreshments and networking with our meeting to start at 7:00. We will be having our annual business meeting,

to include a vote on new officers for the upcoming two-year term. For our program, we don't just have ONE speaker, we will be having 12!! Some of our members have already agreed to share their family history successes and stories with us next week. Please come learn from others' mistakes, triumphs, trials and anecdotes!! It will be an interesting and entertaining evening; we hope to see you at our last meeting for the year!

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)

### Ireland's Pre-1901 Census Records Launch Online

Ireland's Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will be launching all of the Archives' pre-1901 census holdings online. The announcement probably has been made by the time you read these words. However, there won't be as many records available as you might first think. As John Grenham explains in an article in the Irish Times web site, Ireland started recording census records of its population in 1821, long before any of

the other British Isles did the same. However, several of the record sets were later destroyed for various reasons. The records launching online now are only those records that have **SURVIVED**. You can read John Grenham article in the Irish Times web site at <http://www.irishtimes.com/culture/heritage/irish-roots-1.1774013>.

(Source: *Eastman Online Genealogical Newsletter*)

### Ancestry.com Releases 11.5 Million New Quaker Records

Ancestry.com has just released 11.5 million new records documenting one of the most prominent groups in American history, the "Religious Society of Friends," more commonly known as Quakers. Spanning over 300 years (late 1600s – late 1900s), the collection includes birth, marriage, death, disownment, and memorial records, sourced from the Quaker's monthly meeting minutes.

(Source: *Eastman Online Genealogical Newsletter*)

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear DCGS Members:

Can it possibly be two years since I was elected to serve the Denton County Genealogical Society as its president? Those two years have passed quickly, but they have had a significant impact on me. I've made many new friends and have sincerely enjoyed serving you in that capacity.

Because you selected an unusually terrific group of individuals to fill the other offices, we have been able to work as a team and to accomplish a great deal of good for the Society. We have almost doubled our attendance at meetings, ventured into a wide variety of topics during our meetings, sponsored a great seminar on DNA for Genealogists, developed an image in our posters and membership flyer, and we exercised good stewardship while doing it.

My thanks and gratitude go to the team that made this all possible: Dayonne Work, Vice President and Programs; Susan McIntosh, Secretary; Linda Touraine, Treasurer; Kathy Strauss, Librarian and Publications; Mark and Mary Brownmiller, Membership; Laura Douglas, Publicity; Chris Strauss, Webmaster; Danny Puckett, Research; and Kathi Coatney, Hospitality – and all the members who worked with them to make our program so successful.

As May arrives and the end of our year approaches, it's time to pay dues - \$15 for an individual membership or \$25 for a family membership. You may give your check to our Treasurer, Linda Touraine, at the next meeting or you can mail it to DCGS in care of the Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton, TX 76201. I can't think of anywhere you can get a better bargain. Our programs and fellowship have been outstanding all year.

The meeting in May will be our annual business meeting. Foremost on the agenda is election of officers for the term of June 1, 2014, through May 31, 2016. The Nominating Committee consists of Mary Brownmiller, Chair, Veneta

Lewis, Dayonne Work, Joyce Poole, and Bobbie Bigbee. They will present the following nominees for office:

Terry Brantley - President  
Jimmy Waggoner - VP  
Bobbie Briley - Secretary  
Linda Touraine - Treasurer  
Kathy Strauss – Librarian

Besides taking care of the Society's business, there will be a program given by our own members who will share some of their experiences during their genealogical research. It proves to be an enlightening and interesting evening. If you have an incident or a special discovery you would like to share, you'll have an opportunity to do so.

Another opportunity will present itself on Saturday, May 31. There will be a Family History Fair in Denton, and you are invited to attend. There will be lots of things to see and do. Our own Dayonne Work will be one of the lecturers, so you'll want to hear her for sure. DCGS will have an exhibit table at the Fair. If you would like to help at the exhibit for an hour or so, please let us know.

The national conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies will take place in San Antonio (at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel) August 27-30, 2014. It's an event that is always enjoyable because of the wide-range and high-quality of speakers and topics, and it's rarely this close to home. Take advantage of it if you can.

Remember that the Society does not meet in the summer. You'll be able to go into the byways and hedges, climb those brick walls, discover those missing links, and seek out those long-lost ancestors. Have a terrific summer and we'll congregate again in September.



Wanda Samek, President

Denton Texas Stake in Cooperation with RootsTech Present the  
**Denton Family History Fair**

Registration forms can be found at: [www.dentontxfhc.com](http://www.dentontxfhc.com).

Pre-registration is not required, but is requested for logistical purposes. Packets will be prepared for pre-registrants only and will be available for pick-up beginning at 8:00 am. Conference begins at 9:00 am. There will be two plenary sessions and three class periods with 20 classes from which to choose. A lunch break is scheduled from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm.

Although there is no charge for the conference, there is a nominal fee for the syllabus on CD, and box-lunch.

Registrations for syllabus on CD and lunch orders must be received by May 27, 2014. Please mail completed form and payment to: Steve Fredrickson, 2416 Acorn Bend, Denton, TX 76210. Checks should be made payable to Denton Texas Stake. (Please, only one check for syllabus and lunch). Have questions? Email [Dentonfhc@gmail.com](mailto:Dentonfhc@gmail.com)

Pre-paid box lunches from Chick-fil-A and bottled water will be available at the kitchen window beginning at 12:30; seating will be available in the gym. Food and drink are allowed only in the gym.

One registration form may be used for husband and wife. Separate forms would be appreciated for friends coming together. Following the fair, please help us improve by completing the Evaluation Form.

Various displays, booths, and materials will also be available in the Gym throughout the day.



## DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

The Dallas Genealogical Society's 2014 Summer Symposium, "For Today's Generation and Tomorrow's: The Many Ways to Preserve Family History," will take place July 11-12, 2014 at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Street, Dallas, TX. John Philip Colletta will be the speaker for the entire event.

Knowledgeable, entertaining and experienced, John Phillip Colletta is a popular Washington, D.C.-based lecturer on topics of family history research and writing. For twenty years, while laying the foundation for his career in genealogy, he worked half-time at the Library of Congress and taught workshops at the National Archives.

Topics for the symposium include: Organizing Your Materials for a Genealogy or Family History; How Do You Know?: Documenting Your Multi-Generational Record; Turning Biographical Facts into Real-Life Events; Evidence from Material Culture, and many more.

The Genealogy Division of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library will offer a "Late Night at the Library" on Friday, July 11 for the Symposium attendees.

Register online at [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org)

### APRIL 2014 MINUTES

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

Secretary – Bobbie Briley  
Treasurer – Linda Touraine  
Librarian – Kathy Strauss

Mary Brownmiller greeted the 49 attendees including visitors Angela Howe, Judy Richardson, Ron Vansura, Linda Vansura, Stephen Briers, Marcia Baker, Linda Casey Minter, Bill Daniels, Diane Daniels, Valeria Thomason, and Darryl Maass. Three new members were also present: Steven Frederickson, Paula Frederickson, and Sandra Hoenig.

DCGS member Melvin (Mel) Elliott Brewer passed away April 6, 2014 at the age of 91. Mel was an active and enthusiastic genealogist involved with the Dallas Genealogical Society as well as DCGS and publishing three books about his and his wife's family histories. A motion was made to send a donation of \$25 to Sky Ranch, a Christian childrens' camp founded by the Brewers, in lieu of flowers. The motion was seconded and carried.

The minutes from March were approved as written and filed for record. The treasurer's report was also filed for record.

Dayonne Work introduced the evening's speaker, Chuck Voellinger, who discussed researching your Irish ancestors.

Annual DCGS membership dues will be collected for the 2014-15 year beginning in May. While Linda Touraine is out of town Kathy Strauss will accept payments.

The next meeting will be on May 8, 2014.

The Nominations Committee presented the slate of officers to be voted on at the May meeting:

Wanda Samek adjourned the meeting at 8:15.

President – Terry Brantley  
Vice President – Jimmy Waggoner

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan McIntosh  
Secretary



### TREASURER'S REPORT

**Balance April 1, 2014** **\$1,927.93**

**Deposits:**

DCGS Bag (1)	\$15.00
T-Shirts (2)	30.00
Dues	70.00
Membership	<u>40.00</u>

**Total** \$155.00

**Disbursements**

Lee Halcom –	\$178.82
Reimburse for DNA	
Seminar refreshments	

**Total Disburse.** \$178.82

**Balance April 30, 2014** **\$1,904.11**

2013-2014 Paid Members – 79  
2014-2015 Paid Members – 10

**Library Donations**

April 1995 – May 2006	\$2,876.52
June 2006 – June 2012	\$3,310.00
July 2012 – to date	170.95

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Touraine, Treasurer



## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

### Summer Classes

**Genealogy Databases**—In this class we will explore the various databases the Denton Public Library subscribes to and learn how to use them efficiently.

**June 28—3-5 pm Emily Fowler Central Library**

**Using Newspapers for Genealogy Research**—learn about the various information newspapers contain that will help your genealogy research.

**July 26—3-5 pm Emily Fowler Central Library**

**Beginning Genealogy**—If you've never done genealogy research and wonder how to get started, this is the class for you. Basic research skills and resources will be discussed.

**August 23—3-5 pm Emily Fowler Central Library**

### Book Suggestions

Please feel free to suggest books you would like to see in our collections. We will try to add titles to help you in your research. We welcome your input.

## OKLAHOMA SB 1448 SIGNED INTO LAW BY GOVERNOR MARY FALLIN

You may remember the controversy surrounding a recently-enacted law in Oklahoma that restricts access to vital records for many years. Amongst other provisions, the law requires copies of death certificates to be issued only to the person who is listed on the certificate. That's right, for the first 75 years following a death, you can't order a death certificate unless you are dead! Now the state legislature had a chance to fix the problem, but failed to do so. The following was received from Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies' Public Records Access Monitoring Committee:

Oklahoma SB 1448 was signed into law by Governor Mary Fallin on April 30, 2014. It becomes effective November 1, 2014. The bill was supposed to correct the legislation enacted several years ago that addressed vital records. Last year when a professional genealogist tried to obtain a copy of a death record it was found out that the law only permitted the named person—the deceased— to request their own death record. The law also made it a felony if a Department of Health Services employee provided the death certificate to anyone other than the named person. Instead of "fixing" the glitch, the state incorporated the Model Vital Records Act provisions which closes records for 125 years for births, death records for 75 years, and marriage and divorce records for 100 years. Unfortunately, the new law retained the same language—permitting only the "named person" to obtain

the record during the embargo period. Therefore, for death records only the deceased may request their own records within the 75 years from date of death. The Oklahoma Genealogy Society decided that this was better than never having any access as was included in the original law from several years ago. To read the enrolled version see: [http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf\\_pdf/2013-14%20ENR/SB/SB1448%20ENR.PDF](http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_pdf/2013-14%20ENR/SB/SB1448%20ENR.PDF).

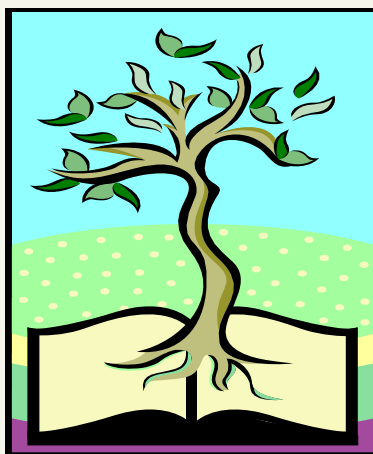
HB 3028 which was reported upon earlier and would merge the Oklahoma Historical Society into the Department of Tourism, History and Cultural Affairs has had no further action—heard in House Government Modernization Committee in early March. However, as the legislature does not adjourn until May 30, it is always possible that it may be appended into another bill. The genealogical community will continue to monitor.



(Source: *Eastman Online Genealogical 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  
 SEPT 11, 2014  
 Emily Fowler Central  
 Library  
 502 Oakland St.  
 Denton**

DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street  
Denton, TX 76201