

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

SEPT MEETING THURSDAY SEPT 11, 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: “Using Newspapers for Genealogy Research”
Speaker: Kathy Strauss

Using newspapers in your genealogy research will open new possibilities to learning about your ancestors’ daily lives. Explore the valuable information available in newspapers and learn how to search the content Kathy Strauss, DCGS member, has been dedicated to assisting researchers in genealogy. She has

worked at the Denton Public Library since 1995, and became the Senior Librarian for Genealogy and Special Collections in 2004. She received her MLIS degree from the University of Hawaii. Kathy was instrumental in establishing the Genealogy Round Table of the Texas Library Association, she has served on many genealogy committees in the American Library Association, the Texas State Genealogical Society, and the Denton County Genealogical Society. Kathy’s roots include German, Scots-Irish, and English ancestry.

PROGRAMS FOR 2014-2015

Sept 11—”Using Newspapers for Genealogy Research” - Kathy Strauss

Oct 9—”Managing Files” - John Wylie

Nov 13—”Internet Resources” - Walta Evans

Jan 8—”Pennsylvania Research” - Marla Fullerton

Feb 12—”Ohio Research” - Dorothy Boulware

Mar 12—”Wars of the US and Research Capabilities”

Apr 9—To Be Announced

May 14—Member Round Robin

We look forward to a very successful year for the Denton County Genealogical Society

Remember to pay your dues!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The old phrase 'A hard act to follow' holds true this year with the introduction of our new officers for the 2014-2015 term. Those of us stepping into our new positions do indeed (to use another well worn phrase) have big shoes to fill.

Fortunately, all of the outgoing officers, library employees, and several other members have been unbelievably helpful with their support and guidance since the new officers have taken over the helm of the DCGS ship.

We also need to give a big thanks to those that have done (and still do) so much behind the scenes. Kathy Strauss (a library employee and Manager of the Genealogy Department) does our newsletter every month, and her husband, Dr. Chris Strauss maintains the DCGS website. Laura Douglas (also a library employee) maintains the Facebook page and submits DCGS programs information to the Denton Record Chronicle. Also, she handles other publicity as needed for our group.

I would especially like to say thank you to all my fellow officers, to Linda Johnson (Membership), and to Kathi Coatney (Hospitality) for meeting with me to get the ship ready to leave port and start our voyage across the Sea of Ancestry.

All things said, we are coming out of a great year and the new officers plan to steam full speed ahead into another great year!

Thanks to our interim Program Chair, Dayonne Work, and the committee members who helped her, we now have presentations lined up for every meeting this next year! They will be listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

This last year we've been fortunate to almost double the attendance at our meetings, as was noted by outgoing President Wanda Samek in the May newsletter. We're having to scramble for chairs to be able to seat everybody, but we won't complain about that quite yet.

Thanks to the City of Denton Public Library, we are very privileged to have a superb location to hold our meetings. Our meeting room is fully equipped with a microphone-equipped lectern, an overhead projector that you can connect your computer to in order to show PowerPoint presentations or other slideshows. In addition to that, the projection screen is a very advanced technology screen that allows you to control your presentation by touching the screen as if it were the computer screen.

At the end of May, we had a table at the Family History Fair hosted by the Denton stake. Bobbie Briley jumped in and took the lead in setting up the table and we thank her for that. Our

table was next to the City of Denton Public Library table managed by Kathy and Chris Strauss. We had several visitors that came to our table and asked questions. I sent emails, with extensive information about our group, and our meeting time and place, to each of those visitors and I am looking forward to seeing them at our meetings in the future.

For our new members, and those that have visited us this last year, we hope you are getting new information to help you in your ancestral search. We are very happy to have you with us, and we certainly hope that we can be of help to you, and also that you will be contributing to our efforts in tracing our ancestors.

In addition to our excellent program lineup for this next year, there are several other events that you might be interested in attending.

The City of Denton Public Library offers numerous presentations on various aspects of genealogical research throughout the year. They are mentioned on the City's website at:

<http://www.cityofdenton.com/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/15629/33?selcat=6&seldept=22>

It's too late to get the discounted rate, but Lloyd Bockstruck will be presenting his "Migrations" seminar on Tuesday, September 9th.

The Denton Public Library will have a lock-in session for genealogists on October 17 in the Emily Fowler library at 502 Oakland St. in Denton. The lock-in will run from 6 PM until 11 PM. There will be webinars in Special Collections beginning at 12 noon.

The new "Great Hanging" memorial will be dedicated in Gainesville on October 18th.

Just as a reminder, we still have a few of the DCGS tote bags available. They are a beautiful royal blue with our special logo and byline on them. They will be available at the front of the meeting room and the price is \$15.

Terry Brantley
President, Denton County Genealogical Society

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES CONFERENCE

The Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference was held in San Antonio, August 26-31, 2014.

Several DCGS members attended the conference, including Chris and Kathy Strauss, Wanda Samek, Linda Johnson, Mark and Mary Brownmiller, and Donna Cunningham. We were all treated to a week full of genealogy classes, society business sessions, and a wonderful day just for librarians.

Chris and Kathy arrived in San Antonio to attend Librarian's Day. Speakers included David Rencher, Craig Scott, Frank Faulkner, and James Harkins. The day was sponsored by Pro Quest who treated us to lunch. Bill Forsyth from Pro Quest shared news from upcoming Pro Quest products. Following the day's classes, Bill Buckner (Waco-McLennan County Genealogy Center) organized a dinner so we could continue to network.

Wednesday was Societies Day. The day was filled with sessions on how to run a genealogy society, including business practices, encouraging new members, and bring your society into the 21st Century. The special event that night was a visit to the Institute of Texan Cultures and a barbecue dinner.

The full conference began on Thursday with an opening session featuring the "Riders on the Orphan Train." This was a multimedia program with Phillip Lancaster and Alison Moore telling the story of the migration of children from the county's largest cities into America's heartland between 1854-1929. Many of these children rode the train all the way to Texas. Each child's story is celebrated in this presentation.

The exhibit hall opened following this session, and everyone spent countless hours roaming the hall and visiting with vendors and societies.

Attendees could choose genealogy classes from several different tracks: records/resources, methodology, technology, female ancestors, Southern and Texas strategies, African American, and ethnic origins, military, migration/immigration, and writing/publishing. With that many choices, everyone was able to find classes that suited them and fill their days and their brains with new knowledge.

Several members attended luncheons sponsored by various genealogy societies and lineage societies, and each had an interesting speaker.

The Friday night event was a visit to La Villita for a Night in Old San Antonio.

Our conference hotel was the Marriott Riverwalk situated on the Riverwalk and across the street from the convention center. Following a long day of classes, many of the attendees took advantage of a leisurely stroll along the river to shop and eat dinner. One evening we were all treated to a bagpipe concert provided by Mark Brownmiller.

Everyone had a wonderful time at this conference. We were all glad to take advantage of the short distance from home to attend a national genealogy conference. Next year's FGS Conference will be paired with the RootsTech Conference in Salt Lake City. If you have a chance to attend, you will be able to research your ancestors at the Family History Library and hear many wonderful speakers.

"Finding Your Roots" to Air on PBS Beginning September 23

The latest genealogy-related television series will be broadcast on most PBS stations. "Finding Your Roots" is a series that focuses on race, identity and heritage, hosted by Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr.

In the first episode we meet horror novelist Stephen King, actor Courtney B. Vance and Canadian actress-singer Gloria Reuben.

King's father walked out on his family when Stephen was two and never returned. Courtney Vance's father committed suicide and Courtney was brought up in a foster home. Gloria Reuben's father was 78 years old when she was born. When he died he took the secret of his ancestry with him, but not for good. Using genealogy and in some cases DNA, Gates helps each of them to discover family history they never knew. The program airs on PBS at 8 PM Eastern time. Check your local listings for the time and channel near you.

MAY 2014 MINUTES

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

Mark Brownmiller welcomed 2 visitors including Barbara Moncrief and Nancy McLaughlin. In addition was one new member – Walta Evans. All total there were 37 attendees.

The minutes were motioned with no additions or corrections and approved. The Treasurer’s report, available in the newsletter, was filed for record.

The Nominating committee announced the new officers for 2014-2016 term. They are:

President: Terry Brantley; VP: Jimmy Waggoner; Secretary: Bobbie Briley; Treasurer: Linda Touraine; Librarian: Kathy Strauss.

President Wanda Samek brought up business and announced the Family History Fair date of May 31, 2014 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the LDS Church on Old North in the Cultural Hall. Registration forms to attend classes would be on the table in the back. Costs are \$2.00 each for the Syllabus and \$7.00 for the lunch which is being provided by CHIC-FIL-A restaurant. Membership Co-chair, Mary Brownmiller, offered totes emblazoned with the DCGS logo for sale. All T-shirts have been sold.

Wanda Samek announced the contribution to the Denton Library from Mr. John Stedman’s estate.

Diana White moved to donate the Denton Family papers to the Denton Library, motion was seconded and approved.

Wanda announced the evening program would be individual members sharing about their personal family research.

Those sharing were Carolyn Brantley on the story of the red headed lady from Texas; Marilyn Simms shared "old stuff" passed to her from a great-grandmother, including a pillow using straight pins to spell out a verse on the pillow front; Fran Shirley related a story about finding a calendar with a picture of someone in her family and was able to locate the

owner of the pictures and received a CD full of photos of her family; Donna Spears shared her ties to Dallas and Parker County, including the Dallas VA hospital was once part of her family's property, among other exciting places and things her family had once owned and been a part of; Veneta Lewis shared her exciting news from a DNA test that she may be on the track to finding out about her Father's family; Eric Kazinsky shared the importance of using all the now easily found and usable tools and resources for research. Eric named "Find My Past" and "My Heritage" as a few that were well worth using; Chris Strauss spoke on the Roots Tech Conference coming up in Salt Lake City, encouraging members to participate as it's very informative and has lots to offer for research, plus you are right there where the library is located; Kathy Strauss spoke about "Brick Walls" on her Great-Grandfather on her Mother's side. She was able to locate information she had been looking for a long time - just takes time and persistence - never give up; Diana White spoke on the importance of exposing our children to their family history, they need to know where they came from, their family names, their struggles in settling in their home towns and the importance of surviving those struggles. She also reminded everyone about the new rules for becoming a member of the DAR, rules have changed making it harder to receive membership; Eric Kazinsky reminded everyone there would be 8 presentations from Roots Tech at the Family History Center Fair. DCGS will have an exhibit table at the fair on May 31, 2014.

Wanda Samek adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Briley
Secretary



TREASURER’S REPORT

Balance May 1, 2014	\$1,904.11	Balance August 31, 2014	\$1,982.61
Deposits:			
Donations	\$ 20.00	2014-2015 Paid Members – 43	
Sale of Books	15.00		
Dues	460.00		
Vendor Fee	<u>10.00</u>		
Total	\$ 505.00	Library Donations	
		April 1995 – May 2006	\$2,876.52
Postage	\$49.00	June 2006 – June 2012	\$3,310.00
Memorial, Brewer	25.00	July 2012 – to date	\$512.45
State Filing Fees	11.00		
Heritage Bks – Books for EF Library	<u>341.50</u>		
Total Disburse.	\$426.50		

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Touraine, Treasurer



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Fall Programs

Uncommon Genealogy Sources

Have you ever thought to look for family members in passport applications or prison records? Learn how to find and search these sources. Registration required.
Sat 9/6 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

Navigating Ancestry Library Edition

Learn how to navigate this essential genealogy database for your research. Ancestry Library Edition is provided free for any patron at all three library branches. Registration required.
Sat 10/4 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

Obituaries: A Goldmine of Genealogical Treasure

Learn how to study obituaries to find valuable clues to your ancestor's lives. Find out what is included in an obituary, and practice writing one on the library's new online obituary and memorial service. Registration required.
Sat. 11/22 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

The Emily Fowler Central Library has become an official affiliate library with Family Search. Patrons can order films online for a small fee from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and have them delivered to the Emily Fowler Central Library. Patrons can view their films at the library during open hours. Anyone can use this service. Log on to www.familysearch.org to get started.

The Denton Public Library received a bequest from the estate of Jon Stedman and Ardath Stedman. Special Collections has added new periodical shelving and a new microfilm from this bequest. We will be sponsoring an all-day workshop next year with Lisa Louise Cook as featured speaker. We also plan to purchase more books for the library.

Stop by and see all the new books that have been added to the genealogy collection, including many books donated by the Denton County Genealogical Society.

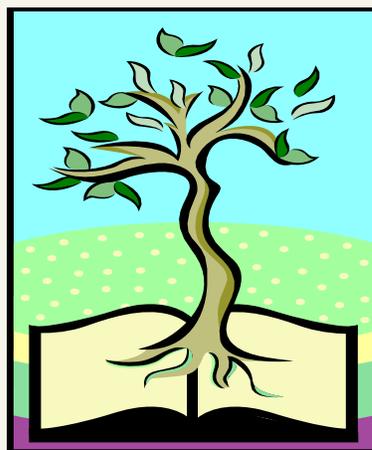
SAVE THE DATE

GENEALOGY-AFTER-HOURS

OCTOBER 17, 2014

2012-2014 OFFICERS

President—Terry Brantley
Vice-President—Vacant
Secretary—Bobbie Briley
Treasurer—Linda Touraine
Librarian—Kathy Strauss
Webmaster—Chris Strauss
Membership—Linda Johnson



**NEXT MEETING OF THE
DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY WILL BE ON
OCT 9, 2014
Emily Fowler Central
Library
502 Oakland St.
Denton**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201