

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

MARCH MEETING THURSDAY MARCH 12, 2015

Program: "Wars of the U.S. and Research Capabilities"

Speaker: Aaron Holt

Aaron Holt is an archives technician at the National Archives Southwest Region in Fort Worth.



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



The Denton Public Library is pleased to announce the addition of a new electronic resource available to library customers. **HistoryGeo.com** caters to historians, genealogists, and land-researchers. Its First Landowners project displays a map with over nine million original U.S. landowners in a single, searchable presentation. That project focuses on the public land states and Texas.

Another project on **HistoryGeo.com** presents "Antique Maps" displaying land-owners drawn from a variety of sources. They include a hundreds of counties along the eastern seaboard and even contain Cherokee allotment maps in northeastern Oklahoma. Like the First Landowner's project, the Antique Maps project continues to grow in both scope functionality and will do so for many years to come. Two videos available from the

homepage of HistoryGeo.com show at length, how to utilize both the First Landowners and Antique Maps projects. Likewise, two PDF documents at the bottom of the homepage describe in detail the coverage (states and counties) of these two projects.

HistoryGeo is a service of Arphax Publishing Co., the established leader in mapping U.S. land-ownership in the western two-thirds of the country. Tens of thousands of researchers have found their ancestors in **HistoryGeo's** maps. What discoveries await you in this exciting new view of frontier settlement?

HistoryGeo is available for use inside the library at all three branches. The purchase of this valuable resource for the Denton Public Library was made possible through the generous bequest from the Stedman estate.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hopefully, we've survived our last winter blast for the year. I can't begin to imagine what it's like in other parts of the country where you have to guess at which car is yours in the snow bank.

At our February meeting, we had 49 in attendance of which 8 were guests. Once again, as at the January meeting, four new members joined our group. I would like to welcome all our new members to DCGS. We look forward to having you share your expertise, knowledge, genealogy skills and information with our members, and I hope we can be just as helpful to you. Welcome aboard!

Aaron Holt will be our speaker for the March meeting. He is an archives technician at NARA (National Archives Branch) in Ft. Worth. His topic is "Wars of US and Research Capabilities."

About five weeks away, the Denton Texas Stake Family History Research Fair will be held on Saturday, April 11th, at the Denton LDS Stake Center at 3000-3098 Old North Rd, Denton, TX 76209. I am planning on setting up a table for DCGS at the event, as we did last year, so if any of you are interested in helping me that day, let me know.

Coming up.....

I'm repeating myself to some degree, but I wanted to remind you of these events:

The National Genealogical Society is having the NGS 2015 Family History Conference in St. Charles, Missouri on May 13th through May 16th. You still have some time to sign up for this one at: <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org>. If you get your registration in by March 30th -and- you are an NGS member, the conference fee is \$195.00 per person. If you're not an NGS member, the fee is \$230.00 per person.

Also, to remind you once more, there are still seven genealogy cruises that are upcoming in 2015. They are shown (with links to their web sites) on page 2 of the January newsletter. (Thanks, Kathy!)

And as usual, check the "Classes and Events" section of the Denton Public Library web page.

When you are at the library doing research, pick up a copy of the (green) "March-May 2015 Classes & Events" and check the third (physical) page for a list of the Genealogy Classes offered at the library.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meeting next week.

Terry Brantley

President, Denton County Genealogical Society



Are you looking for a genealogy book? More than 40,000 digital genealogy books now fully searchable and downloadable for free at GenGophers.com. The new GenGophers web site searches **genealogy books and only genealogy books**, looking for the information you specify. Best of all, the site is available to all free of charge.

"In addition to focusing our searches only on genealogy books, our search engine also employs a completely different approach than those used by other book-searching websites", said Dallon

Quass, founder of GenGophers.com. "While other websites can only search for specific words contained in books, our engine uses artificial intelligence to first identify and index all people mentioned in a publication and then allows specific searches for names, dates, and places associated with them. This approach significantly increases the chance of discovering extended family connections, stories about the lives of ancestors, and bringing family histories to life."

(Source: Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter)

Attendee Report from RootsTech/FGS 2015

By Chris Strauss

This year's RootsTech was a twofer, combining the fifth consecutive RootsTech conference with a concurrent Federation of Genealogical Societies meeting. That made for a BIG conference, with double the number of available sessions every day, more vendors, and roughly twice the number of attendees compared to RootsTech 2014: over 21,000 registered versus over 9,000 the previous year. Of the four RootsTechs that we have attended, this was by far the best one.

Because this was an FGS, there was a Librarian's Day program on Tuesday, sponsored by ProQuest, including an interesting update on their products by Bill Forsythe. Look for the new developments in Heritage Quest currently online. There were outstanding presentations by Curt Witcher from Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center, Audrey Collins from The National Archives (UK), Becky Hill from the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, and Barbara Becker on Oklahoma's Genealogy Tourism program.

RootsTech began with a bang, with the one-day Innovator Summit. There was an excellent keynote by Nathan Furr, the author of 'The Innovator's Method.' I attended sessions on Ancestry product development, the application programming interface to MyHeritage, the new FamilyMe product, and new ideas for persistent URLs to use in citations. I also attended a panel discussion where notable genealogists including our own John Wylie (TSGS President) laid out in detail the kinds of analytical problems we face that application developers need to create new tools for facilitating solutions.

FGS also began on Wednesday, with Society Day, offering a wide selection of programs for society officers and delegates. That evening, FGS offered a behind the scenes program featuring five of the genealogists from 'Who do you think you are' and 'Genealogy Roadshow' to discuss what really goes on off camera during research and preparations.

Thursday kicked off the combined conference, and the opening of the exhibit hall. The general session featured CEOs or equivalent leaders of major

genealogy service providers, describing the new developments available in their products. There was an emotional presentation by Tan Le, founder of Emotiv, recounting her family's escape from Viet Nam to Australia by boat and the years that followed. Some family histories are more traumatic than others. This was followed by a feeding frenzy in the exhibit hall. The vendors outdid themselves this year, with much larger displays and demonstration areas. These remained filled to capacity with customers for the rest of the week. The regular sessions began before lunch, with an enormous choice of topics. At 11:00 AM we each had to pick one session from over twenty choices! A typical time block offered 3 or 4 Getting Started classes, 10 to 12 RootsTech classes including an Innovator Summit choice, two Labs for hands-on training, and six FGS classes. Truly an embarrassment of riches, in terms of learning opportunities, and there were still classes where it was standing room only. All the while, there were a wide variety of vendor presentations and classes going on all over the exhibit hall, some timed neatly to fit in the gaps between regular conference classes and events.

Friday and Saturday were more of the same in terms of sessions choices, beginning with very interesting keynote presentations in the opening sessions: Laura Bush and daughter Jenna on Friday, and Donny Osmond on Saturday, all focusing on the importance of family and what you can learn from studying family history. Donny frequently broke into song, of course. He is quite a showman. Every evening presented hard choices; attend the entertainment provided by the conference, or sneak out to do more research in the Family History Library until it closed. Dinner was usually late.

All in all, it was an exceptional conference experience, and offered a mind-boggling variety of educational, technical, and research opportunities all rolled into a single week. I highly recommend that any serious genealogy hobbyist attend at least one RootsTech; it will be time and money well spent.

FEBRUARY 2015 MINUTES

President Terry Brantley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Terry welcomed 8 visitors; four of our visitors paid membership dues tonight. New members are Diane Walker, Pat and Ed Hiler, Charles and Sandra Robertson.

The February 2014 Minutes were motioned with no additions or changes and approved and seconded. The Minutes and Treasurer's report, available in the newsletter, were filed for record. Tonight's attendance was 49.

Terry reminded the group of the upcoming Family History Fair to be held at the Church of the Latter Day Saints Church on Old North Road on April 11, 2015. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. and the programs will begin at 8:00 a.m. Lunches will be available for a fee.. RootsTech and other speakers will be presenting as well.

Terry announced our speaker for the evening. Dorothy Bouulware who will be speaking on "Ohio Research." Dorothy shared numerous handouts and a wealth of information on researching the State of Ohio.

Handouts and information were: (1) Stark County District Library and the records available there; (2)Records available for use at Archival Services of the University of Akron, OH, including Birth, Death, Criminal, Inventory Records, Marriage Dockets, etc.; (3)The Draper Manuscript Collection by Betty R. Darnell from the The Bullitt County History Museum; (4) Finding Ohio Ancestors by Sunny McClellan Morton; 5)Land Records from the Ohio federal and state land offices, US Military District and Virginia Military District. Records consist of survey plats and notes, entry, sale and payment records. Also, a Principal Land Subdivision Imposed on the Present Map of Ohio, showing how Congress and the Military divided the state territory; (6) Tips for using the National Archives for Research; (7) Insider's Guide to Ohio Genealogy – Historical Timeline, General Sites and Resources, Migration Patterns, and Research Strategies for Ohio. A wealth of information and where to go to begin or delve deeper into your Ohio ancestry.

Terry Brantley adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Briley
Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Jan. 31, 2015	\$2,356.69	Balance Feb. 28, 2015	\$2,324.58
Deposits:			
Dues	\$55.00	2014-2015 Paid Members – 85	
Donation	25.00		
Total	\$80.00	Library Donations April 1995 – May 2006 \$2,876.52 June 2006 – June 2012 \$3,310.00 July 2012 – to date \$512.45	
Disbursements:			
Stamps, mailing newsletter	\$49.00		
Printing Feb. Prog. handouts	63.11	Respectfully Submitted, Linda Touraine, Treasurer	
Total:	\$112.11		



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Spring Programs

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 Department. Call (940) 349-8752 to register.

Sat 4/4 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

Genealogy Seminar

The Denton Public Library will host a day-long seminar with Lisa Louise Cooke, nationally known genealogy speaker and owner of the GenealogyGems podcast. Lunch provided. Call (940) 349-8752 to register.

Sat 5/2 Emily Fowler 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF TEXAS HISTORY WITH A VIRTUAL RACE ACROSS THE LONE STAR STATE

How well do you know Texas? Starting Monday, March 9th, the Texas State Historical Association (TSHA) will celebrate Texas History Month with its first-of-its-kind online social game that will foster your love of Texas history as you virtually travel across Texas, testing your knowledge of the Lone Star state along the way.

This online social game tests players' knowledge of Texas history as they go on a virtual tour of the state visiting historically significant sites. The Texas State Historical Association will even have some great prizes to giveaway including weekend getaway packages, Texas-sized 60" Vizio TVs, and Traeger smoker grills.

The game is free to play and a great way to challenge your friends to see if they can outwit you in their knowledge of all things Texan. You can also rack up points even faster if you recruit your friends

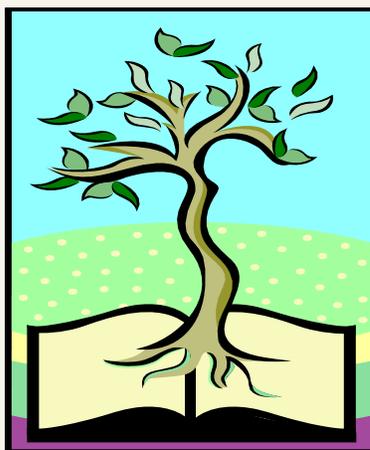
to play.

You can learn more at <https://raceacrosstexas.com>.



2014-2016 OFFICERS

President—Terry Brantley
 Vice-President—Dayonne Work
 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
 APR 9, 2015
 Emily Fowler Central
 Library
 502 Oakland St.
 Denton**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201