

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

SEPTEMBER MEETING THURSDAY SEPT 10, 2015



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: “HistoryGeo.com: Unlocking the Past with Original and Early Landowner Maps”
Speaker: Greg Boyd

Genealogists learn that many families cannot be found in census records and that many women get referred to only by their married name. They know that solving mysteries means gathering clues and analyzing those clues until patterns appear and often, miraculously, discoveries are made.

A favorite technique used by many is to analyze the friends, neighbors, and associates of your research subject. HistoryGeo.com makes this an easy task. It lays out, in a single-map, 12.5 million original U.S. landowners among 30 states. Frontier neighborhoods are mapped out for your immediate inspection and if your people are found in the areas HistoryGeo has mapped, you are off to the races.

In this session, Greg Boyd will show both how to use the tools that HistoryGeo offers and specifically how he has made multiple discoveries in his own research that would not have been feasibly possible any other way.

Gregory A. (Greg) Boyd is an attorney, software engineer, and genealogist. He is author of the Family Maps series of Federal Land Patent books and the Texas Land Survey Maps series.

Mr. Boyd is also the creator of the brand new HistoryGeo web site at <http://www.historygeo.com> and co-founder of the Norman, Oklahoma-based Arphax Publishing Company, with his wife, Vicki. They work with genealogists, historians, and archaeologists who are daily turning to Boyd’s patent-maps and survey-maps to locate ancestral land and to analyze frontier neighborhoods. The Arphax team is committed to continually improving your research efforts by developing better and more affordable map-related tools.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Program: “HistoryGeo.com: Unlocking the Past with Original and Early Landowner Maps” Speaker: Greg Boyd 2015-2016 Programs	1
President’s Message DNA Said to Prove President Warren Harding Had a Love Child	2
More Than 1,000 Biographies Posted on GenealogyMagazine.com Use GenDisasters.com to Find Out What May Have Happened to Your Family	3
May Minutes Treasurer’s Report	4
News from the Library DCGS Officers’ Meeting Minutes	5

2015-2016 Programs

- Sept 10**—”HistoryGeo.com: Unlocking the Past with Original and Early Landowner Maps” - Greg Boyd
- Feb 11**—”Basic DNA and Family History” - Perry Abernethy
- Oct 8**—”DNA: Are you Sure You Want to Go There?” - Terry Brantley
- Mar 10**—”Land and Property Records” - Lynell Moss
- Nov 12**—”Census Research” - Chuck Voellinger
- Apr 14**— “History of the DCGS; The Peters Colony and Emigration to Texas” - Diana White
- Jan 14**—”Historical Epidemics & Migration” - Kimberly Wells
- May 12**— “Round Robin: Personal Experiences

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you enjoyed our many great programs these last several months as much as I did. I've received MANY favorable comments from our members about the presentations.

My wife and I purchased the DNA packages from Ancestry and submitted them six or seven weeks ago. We have received our results back, and the results were to say, at the least, very interesting. Personally, I'd like to become much more knowledgeable about DNA in order to better understand how to use the results.

My guess is that the DNA testing that genealogists are having done is going to play a significantly bigger part in our future explorations into our ancestors year by year.

One of our newer members, Perry Abernathy, has volunteered to step in as our Vice President / Program Chair. Perry is working feverishly to get all our programs set up for the coming year.

If you are especially knowledgeable in an area of genealogical research, please contact Perry about the possibility of being scheduled to give a presentation and help our other members in their

efforts.

Be sure and read the rest of this newsletter for the latest information on upcoming genealogical events and check the Denton Public Library web site. Also, be sure and pick up the latest Classes & Events pamphlet published by the Denton Public Library. These are available in the genealogy area of the library.

As usual, in the course of each days travels, I visit with people who are interested in researching their ancestry. I tell them about our group, the genealogy area in the Denton Public Library, the great help from the people in the genealogy area, and of course I, invite them to our meetings. Please invite any relatives, friends, or acquaintances that express an interest in their family genealogy to join us at our meeting!

I hope to see you again at our first meeting for the 2015-2016 year on Thursday, September 10th.

Regards,

Terry Brantley

President, Denton County Genealogical Society

DNA SAID TO PROVE PRESIDENT WARREN HARDING HAD A LOVE CHILD

Thanks to DNA, it is time to correct the history books. Genetic tests have solved one of the enduring mysteries of presidential history and offer insights into the secret life of America's 29th president.

I won't go into all the details as you can read the full story at <http://goo.gl/OoDqQ7>. However, the story does raise two questions for genealogists:

1. Will future technology prove something that we would like to keep hidden today?

2. How many of the genealogy records we have collected today erroneously list the wrong biological parent?



(Source: *Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter*)

MORE THAN 1,000 BIOGRAPHIES POSTED ON GENEALOGYMAGAZINE.COM



More than 1,300 biographical sketches are now freely accessible at www.genealogymagazine.com/biographies.html. Each biography identifies the original source, long out-of-print books such as Paddock's *History and Biographical Record of North and West Texas*, published in 1906 by Lewis Publishing Company in Chicago.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, Lewis and other publishing companies sent representatives across America to compile local histories and interview area residents. To finance the printing, representatives sold pre-publication copies. These volumes are sometimes known as "mug books." Those wanting to see their biography in print had to purchase the book in advance.

USE GenDisasters.com TO FIND OUT WHAT MAY HAVE HAPPENED TO YOUR FAMILY

GenDisasters.com is a genealogy site that contains information on the historic disasters, events, and tragic accidents our ancestors endured, as well as, information about their life and death. Database and records searchable by surname as well as by the name of a disaster or by Year or by U.S. State. A separate section of the site contains information about disasters in Canada.

I don't think the site has every disaster but it certainly describes many. If you are wondering why a family member abruptly disappeared, you might want to check this site. Also, some families had to relocate after a disaster, such as floods or late spring blizzards that destroyed newly-planted crops.

GenDisasters may be found at <http://www3.gendisasters.com>.



The biographies in GenealogyMagazine.com's collection are also gleaned from rare sources such as Margaret Turner Stewart's *Two Hundred Clubwomen: Second District Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs, 1953*. An avid genealogist, Margaret Stewart sent questionnaires to 200 clubwomen in The Yellowhammer State, asking them to write a brief biographical sketch and include the names of their parents and grandparents.

(Source: *Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter*)

Memphis, TN Area SULTANA Disaster, Apr 1865

Submitted by gendisasters
 ▼ Tennessee | Ship Disasters | 1865 | Feature



The steamboat Sultana was a Mississippi River paddlewheeler destroyed in an explosion on 27 April 1865. This resulted in the greatest maritime disaster in United States history. An estimated 1,800 of the 2,400 passengers were killed when one of the ship's four boilers exploded and the Sultana sank not far from Memphis, Tennessee. This disaster received somewhat diminished attention as it took place soon after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln and during the closing weeks of the Civil War.

Under the command of Captain J.C. Mason of St. Louis, the Sultana left New Orleans on April 21, 1865, with 75 to 100 cabin passengers, deck passengers, and numerous heads of livestock bound for market in St. Louis. At Vicksburg, Mississippi, the steamship stopped for a series of hasty repairs to the boilers and to take on more passengers. Rather than have a bad boiler replaced, a small patch repair was made to reinforce a leaking area. A section of bulged boiler plate was removed, and a patch of less thickness than the parent plate was riveted in its place. This repair only took about a day, whereas to replace the boiler

(Source: *Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter*)

MAY 2015 MINUTES

President Terry Brantley called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Terry welcomed 6 visitors. Tonight’s attendance was 51. New member count from the April meeting was changed to 8. Visitors were – Barbara Bixley, Lenora Reaves. New members are – Joan Vanesa, Nancy McLaughlin, Susan Spencer, Val Tomason and Martha Pannell.

Terry thanked Joyce Poole for volunteering to help in Kathy’s absence and to Bobbie Briley for helping with the Family History Fair along with ?.

The April Minutes were motioned for approval with no additions or changes. A motion was made for the Minutes and Treasurer’s report be approved as published and was seconded. Both motions were passed unanimously. Tonight’s attendance was 51.

Announcements were made by Terry that the \$15.00 yearly membership fees are due for the 2015 -2016 year. Terry also announced the Wise County Genealogy meeting would be the following Wednesday, May 20, 2015. Also, a new handbook is in the works for being prepared at this time.

Terry Brantley introduced our speaker for the

evening, Mr. Dan Spigel, a Director and Producer of the independent film “House of the Generals.” His program was titled “Genealogical Experiences and Why Genealogy is Important”. Mr. Spigel is an experienced speaker who has appeared on TV. He spoke of the importance of family history and using his film showed the importance of photos and the different cultures we face. His movie made his experience in researching more vivid and produced the need to keep reaching for the past. His family’s history began with the Communist Revolution through WWII. He speaks to many civic groups, national conventions, genealogy and writers’ groups, war veterans, and churches and temples. The group had a wonderful discussion amongst the group with Mr. Spigel and his wife of things they had discovered and learned along their journey into the past. Autographed copies of his movie were available.

Terry Brantley adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Briley
Secretary



TREASURER’S REPORT

Balance April 30, 2015 **\$2,399.58**

Deposits:

Dues (2015-2016) \$140.00
 Donation 5.00

Total **\$145.00**

Disbursements:

Memorial books \$91.88
 for Mary L. Sherrill &
 M. F. Pierce
 May program 75.00

Total **\$166.88**

Balance August 31, 2015 **\$2,377.70**

2015-2016 Paid Members – 27

Library Donations
 April 1995 – May 2006 \$2,876.52
 June 2006 – June 2012 \$3,310.00
 July 2012 – to date \$512.45

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Touraine, Treasurer



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Fall 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. (940) 349-8752 to register.
Sat 9/26 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

Genealogy After-Hours

Connect with libraries across Texas for informative programs

and genealogical resources. Call 349-8752 to register. Webinars throughout the afternoon.

Friday 10/16 Emily Fowler Library 6:00 pm-11:00 pm

Uncommon Genealogy Sources

Have you ever thought to look for family members in passport applications or prison records? Learn how to find these sources, and how to search them. (940) 349-8752 to register.
Sat 11/14 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

DCGS OFFICERS' MEETING MINUTES—4 JUNE 2015

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

Terry announced his "Thank You's" for the officers and their commitment to the DCGS, making every meeting successful. Terry received a letter from Terry Gibbs – Directory of Libraries. Terry contacted the families to advise there had been a book donation(s) in their loved ones name. Sent a thank you letter for "The Newton Record 1929- 1938 – V.I" by George R. Searcy, in memory of Mattie Frank Pierce. Also, "Married Well and Often – Marriages of the Northern Neck of VA 1649-1800" by Robert K. Headley, Jr. In memory of Mary La Jean Davis Sherrill. Others donated are – "Patronymica Britannica" by Mark Antony Lower"; Abstracts of Berks County, Pennsylvania Wills Vol. 1 (1752 – 1785)" by Jacob Martin; "Abstracts of Berks County, Pennsylvania Wills Vol. 2 (1785-1800)" by Jacob Martin; "Elizabeth City County, Virginia Wills, 1733-1799" by Joan Charles; "Elizabeth City County, Virginia, Wills, 1800-1859 by Joan Charles; "Ohio County (West Virginia) Index Vol. 5" by Kenneth Fischer Craft; Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Land Records, 1729 – 1750, and Land Warrants, 1710-1742" by Marsha Martin, and Early Pennsylvania Land Records" by William Henry Egle to be used by our library system.

Terry discussed using "Open Office" vs. "Microsoft" for our records and forms. The purchase of Office 365 was discussed

as well.

Kathy Coatney advised she cannot do the hospitality any longer. We discussed members bringing items for the table in the future. There is an average of 40-60 people per meeting. The library has the paper goods, but the snack can be expensive for that many people. Kathy Strauss advised she would do an article for the newsletter about refreshments. Other options were tossed about but no definite change.

Dayonne is stepping down as Coordinator for the Program Chair.

Linda Touraine discussed the treasury amount and what is needed each month to supply speakers, library needs and the Genealogy dept. Treasury amount at this time is \$2,362.70.

The purchase of "Avery Design ProDeluxe" was discussed as well as using the templates at Avery.com. Further research is ongoing.

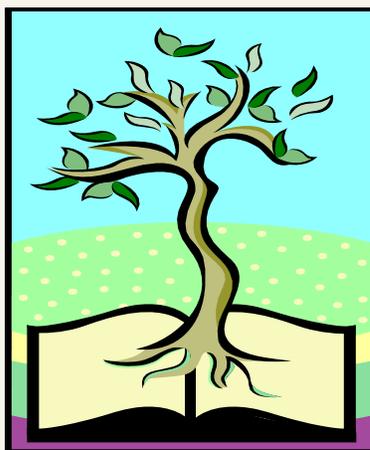
The group discussed having a "Rolling" membership for dues or prorate August – January (Free), February – May (half of fee). Further discussion at a later date.

Terry Brantley adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Briley
Secretary

2014-2016 OFFICERS

President—Terry Brantley
Vice-President—Perry Abernethy
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 8, 2015
Emily Fowler Central
Library
502 Oakland St.
Denton**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201