

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

FEBRUARY MEETING THURSDAY FEB 9, 2017



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: “How Old is That Quilt, and Why Should I Care?”

Speaker: Kathi Coatney

Since the popularity of colors and designs in fabrics and clothing varies with the times quilts can be dated based partly on the fabrics used in them, as well as the patterns they were made from. The area of the country the quilt was made in can be determined by the batting, block patterns and other clues. Quilts reflect information about the economic ups and downs of a family,

migrations, hobbies, interests, even fears and professions. You’ll be surprised what you can learn from your old, musty, quilts.

Kathi Coatney is a native of Dallas, spent the 1960’s living in Arkansas and has lived (mostly) in Denton County since 1969. She currently resides in Pilot Point. Quilts have always been a part of her life; making quilts became a passion in 1973 when she inherited 2 stacks of quilt blocks from a great-aunt. Today, she is an avid quilter who has a small, home-based quilting business, Blue-Eyed Kat

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OKLAHOMA BIRTH AND DEATH RECORD INDEXES ARE NOW ONLINE

Ok2Explore is a free searchable index of births and deaths that occurred in the state of Oklahoma. Included is limited information on births occurring more than 20 years ago and deaths occurring more than 5 years ago. Visitors to the site may search the index using any combination of the subject’s name, date of event (birth or death), county of event, and sex of the subject. The web site is available to everyone free of charge. However, keep in mind the site contains **INDEXES**, not all the information from these records.

Once you have determined that a record of interest is on file, you are welcome to apply for a certified copy of that file. The certified copies cost money but do include all available information from the original records.

You can access the new *Oklahoma State Vital Records Index* at <https://ok2explore.health.ok.gov>.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow members:

One of the things my wife and I have found in our genealogy research is that it isn't just the building of the family tree. There's much more to it than that. I think all of us find a lot of history, and interesting stories, behind the family tree. Why people moved, why we lost track of people. It brings back that old phrase: the rest of the story. We had a presentation at one of our meetings by Kimberly Wells, the Manager of the Emily Fowler library, about plagues or disasters that caused people to move. She brought out that there were epidemics or plagues where large numbers of people died, were buried in unmarked graves and no records were kept and that's the reason we can't find what happened to them. We had another presentation about how to date photographs by the clothing in pictures. Another example was the presentation about maps where we learned about the effects changes to the boundaries of counties or states. Our meeting this month will bring another interesting facet of the historical side of genealogy.

Kathi Coatney will be giving us some insight into the history of quilts that have been handed down from generation to generation.

Quilts can enhance your understanding of your family's history. They can lead to possibilities you

may not have considered, plus they are artistic and political expressions by women who were not allowed to have them.

Now,

If you would like to serve the group, the Membership Chair is still open. Please contact one of the officers if you are interested in filling this position.

Again,

If you are new to our group, I would urge you to explore the numerous resources available at, or provided by the City of Denton Public Library. As they always have been, the staff is very helpful with any questions you may have.

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

Regards,

Terry Brantley

President, Denton County Genealogical Society

OBITUARY

Veneta Ann Lewis, a member of the Denton County Genealogical Society, passed away peacefully on January 15, 2017. She was born July 24, 1940 in Lubbock, Texas to Jeffries William Ray, Jr. and Annie Bell Snelling. Veneta married the lover of her life, Norris "Sleepy" Lewis in 1961 in Brownfield, Texas.

She became a member of the DAR in 2008 and was an active and faithful member of the Southmont Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Norris, son, Brent

Lewis and his wife Crissy, daughter, Valerie Kendrick and her husband Matt, 7 grandchildren, Megan, Cortney, Steven, Karley, Stormy, Tyson and Morgan and her great-granddaughter, Melody.



JANUARY 2017 MINUTES

Terry Brantley, President called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. 28 members and 3 visitors; Vicky Elieson, Sharon Rowley and Gene Holt (representative from Robson Ranch Genealogy Society) were present.

Motion to approve the November meeting minutes, as presented in the newsletter, was made by Sandra Robertson and seconded by Perry Abernethy. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the Treasurer’s report, as presented in the newsletter, was made by Jane Ingram and seconded by Perry. Motion passed unanimously. Terry thanked Linda Johnson for redoing the name tag board. The Wise County Genealogy Society meeting will be next week. The program “Digital Online Publishers on Demand” will be presented by Clay Patterson.

Laura Douglas announced the Special Collections Dept. is being rearranged. The Library February genealogy programs schedule can be found in the flyer. She also requested the Genealogy Classes Survey be completed and returned.

Newbie Session: 1. Suggestions for finding birth parent of adoptees were made. 2. Is there a plan to update the book of city of Denton obituaries that was compiled several years ago? Some of the information gathered was not included in the publication due to

privacy issues for the more recent deaths. Laura advised some of the compilations were lost due to computer program changes. The hard copies may be stored in the storage area. 3. Perry recommended to not assume researched publications are 100% correct. He has found this to be true.

Program: “Wiki Navigating is as Easy as 1-2-3!” by Dorothy Stabler. The Wiki is location specific and now has a page for every county. Helpful/interesting links as well as the program material will be emailed to each member.

Perry requested ideas for future programs. Many past presenters now charge for their services. Therefore, it is becoming very difficult to find speakers. DCGS is the most active of all North Texas societies. Canned presentations may be necessary in the future. Suggestions to contact County Clerks, Librarians, Government Records Librarians as well as searching YouTube were made.

Next meeting will be February 9, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Ingram, Secretary



TREASURER’S REPORT

Balance Jan. 1, 2016	\$2,331.17	Balance Jan. 31, 2016	\$2,284.52
Deposits:		2016-2017 Paid Members – 61	
None			
Total Income:	\$-0-	Library Donations	
		April 1995 – May 2006	\$2,876.52
		June 2006 – June 2012	\$3,310.00
		July 2012 – Jan. 2017	\$1,961.34
Disbursements:			
Sales Tax for 2016	\$ 1.65		
Dues – FGS, 2017	\$45.00		
Total	\$46.65		

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Touraine, Treasurer



THE MYTH OF WEARING WHITE GLOVES

Archivists and curators have long required the use of white cotton gloves for handling very old paper or old books, when the paper is brittle and threatens to crumble. In fact, on one episode of the popular television series *Who Do You Think You Are?* the guests and even some of the experts shown in the program were criticized for not wearing cotton gloves when handling old documents. However, experts now say that the use of white gloves not only provides a false sense of security but even can induce more damage than handling the same documents with bare hands! On the other, um, hand, simple frequent washing and drying of the hands may be the better solution.

In an article that first appeared in the December 2005 issue of *International Preservation News*, conservation consultant Cathleen A. Baker and librarian Randy Silverman argued that for the handling of most types of materials, white gloves don't help and actually may contribute to the damage. As they pointed out, handling books with gloves is apt to do more harm than good. Gloves are just as likely to be dirty as fingers, especially if they have been used a number of times previously and have already absorbed dirt and chemicals from previously-handled papers. Once absorbed into the cotton, dirt, abrasive grit, and chemicals are easily spread from one old document to another. Washing the gloves frequently is only a partial solution since chemicals from detergents are retained in the cotton fibers and then spread to documents handled later. A second issue is the loss of dexterity when wearing gloves. Without tactile "feel," wearing gloves actually increases the potential for physically damaging fragile material through mishandling. This is especially true for ultra thin or brittle papers that become far more difficult to handle with the sense of touch dulled.

Baker and Silverman wrote, "*Routine hand washing is recommended as a more effective means of preventing the spread of dirt while improving the user's haptic response to and tactile appreciation of the collections.*"

They also stated, "*Institutional insistence that patrons and special collections staff don white*

cotton gloves when handling rare books and documents to prevent dirt and skin oils from damaging paper-based collections is inherently flawed; gloves are as easily soiled as bare hands. Cotton gloves are extremely absorbent, both from within and without; for example, even a scrupulously clean reading room provides numerous opportunities for gloves to pick up and transfer dirt to surfaces such as a text page." Finally, they wrote: "*White cotton gloves provide no guarantee of protecting books and paper from perspiration and dirt, yet they increase the likelihood of people inflicting physical damage to collection material. Implementing a universally observed, hand-cleaning policy is a reasonable and effective alternative to glove-use, and it follows the standard protocol employed by book and paper conservators before handling the very same material."*

The authors did point out that their recommendations are limited to paper. Other materials, such as photographic prints, negatives, and slides, have their own unique set of requirements.

You can read the entire report by Cathleen A. Baker and Randy Silverman at <http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/pac/ipn/ipnn37.pdf>.

Other preservation organizations agree. Rather than wearing gloves, the American Institute for Conservation of Historical and Artistic Works instructs conservators to "*handle books only with freshly washed hands.*" Then they recognize that "*wearing white cotton gloves for handling rare bindings is a good preventive measure, but turning fragile or brittle pages with gloves may cause damage and is not advised.*" Thoroughly washing hands with lotion-free soap will remove most of the dirt, grease, and oils that may be left on pages. Microfilm and digitization crews at The National Archives in London now follow the same rules for handling documents as those in the reading rooms — they have to remove their white gloves!

By Dick Eastman

(Source: *Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter*)



NEWS AND PROGRAMS FROM THE LIBRARY

Denton County Genealogical Society

Meet fellow genealogists, share tips, & learn new information. Visitors are welcome.

02/9—How Old is that Quilt and Why Should I Care? - presented by Kathi Coatney

03/09 – What, How and Why of Indexing – presented by Walta Evens

04/13 – American Military Research presented by Joseph Ryan

05/11 – Members Round Table of Experiences
Emily Fowler 6:30 p.m.

Introducing Fold3 Library Edition

Take a guided tour of the Library's newest resource Fold3 Library Edition by Ancestry. Learn how to search and browse the collections including: US military records with content from the Revolutionary War onward, African American and Native American Archives, FBI Case Files and the Holocaust Archives. Registration requested.

Sat 02/11 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

A Historical Overview of the Chisholm Trail

Several million head of wild Texas cattle were gathered and driven to the railheads of central Kansas beginning in 1867. This is a synopsis of the evolution of the trail that became known as the Chisholm Trail. Presented by Wayne Ludwig, volunteer and resident historian at the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum in Fort Worth

Sat. 03/18 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

Scanners, Converters, and More

Did you know that you can convert a VHS tape to a DVD at the Library? Find out more about this service and other equipment and technology available in the Special Collections Department that can help you in your genealogy and local history research. Registration is requested.

Fri. 03/24 Emily Fowler 2 p.m.

Care and Identification of Your Photographs

Jessica Phillips, head of Preservation at the University of North Texas, will talk about simple ways to identify various

photographic formats as well as guidelines for proper care and handling. Registration is requested

Sat. 04/15 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

2017 Annual Family History Fair

This free event features a mixture of live presentations by area genealogy experts, informational displays, and video presentations from RootsTech 2017, with an emphasis on the expanded and improved FamilySearch website as well as a host of other resources. For more information contact the Denton Family History Center Director, Eric Kaszynski by email at ekaszynski@gmail.com.

Sat. 04/22 Denton Family History Center - 3000 Old North Road 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

I've Got—Or I'm Getting—My DNA Report: Now What Do I Do?

Presented by Patti Gillespie, from a non-geneticist point of view, will explain how to choose a company and a test, what to do while waiting for the report, and how to maximize the report results. Whether deciding who to contact, how to use the research within the DNA report, or just how to link our trees to our DNA results, this session will be helpful. The potential use of raw data will be introduced with visual step-by-step to uploading to other sites known as 3rd party tools. Registration is requested

Sat. 05/20 Emily Fowler 3 p.m.

Tips for Successful Searches using Ancestry

With more than 9,000 databases and 200 billion images, Ancestry is the premier online genealogy resource—and it's available to you for free within any Library location. This class will introduce you to the many features of Ancestry Library Edition and show you how to do efficient and effective searches. Basic computer skills are recommended. Registration is requested

Thur. 05/25 Emily Fowler 6:30 p.m.

2016-2018 OFFICERS

President—Terry Brantley

Vice-President—Perry Abernethy

Secretary—Jane Ingram

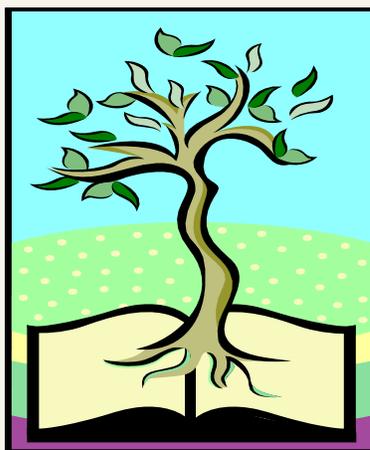
Treasurer—Linda Touraine

Librarian—Laura Douglas

Webmaster—Chris Strauss

Membership— Vacant

Newsletter Editor—Kathy Strauss



**NEXT MEETING OF THE
DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY WILL BE ON
MARCH 9, 2017
Emily Fowler Central
Library
502 Oakland St.
Denton**

**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**

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201