

Irving Genealogical Society

June 2008

Irving, Texas

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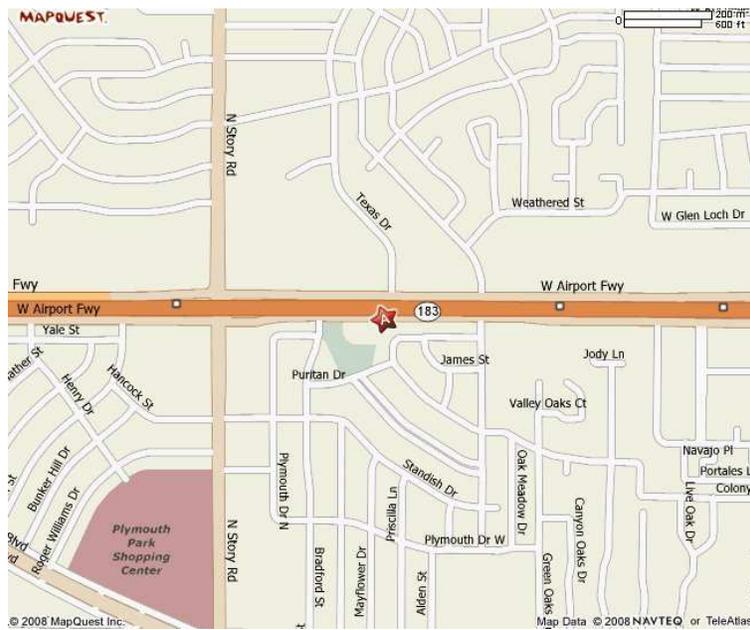
Newsletter Editor: Mary K. Weber

Coming Events

Annual June Pot-Luck Supper

Monday, June 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Irving Arts Center, 2000 W. Airport Fwy



Joe and Jeanine are bringing their excellent turkey. Please let Mary K. to let her know if you are coming and how many people will be with you, as well as what dish you plan to bring. This makes it so much easier for us to set up the tables and chairs in advance and how much plastic products to bring. Either call 972-251-1264 (after 9 a.m.) or e-mail me at marykweber@aol.com. We hope to see everyone there!

Angelina College Genealogical Conference

Keys to Discovery - Thursday – Saturday, July 17 – 19, 2008 in Lufkin, TX.

John Sellers, Don Raney, Emily Croom and Alvie L. Davidson are among the speakers for Friday and Saturday presentations. There are many more speakers and a host of interesting subjects being presented at the conference. The web site for more information is:

<http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy.htm>. On the web site is a list of the speakers along with their pictures, bios and presentations along with a schedule of all the events. In addition, a registration form, list of available accommodations in the area and other places of interest are provided. Even if you don't plan on going, you might want to read about some of the speakers you have heard about.

A Message from Joe

I mentioned last meeting that my wife and I were attending sort of a county reunion in Tennessee over Memorial Day weekend. This was in Cannon County, right in the middle, population about 13,000, and about 45 miles south of Nashville. Cannon County is in a 50-year time warp... cell phones don't work. Few people are online. Stores on the courthouse square have SCREEN DOORS. If you'd like to see photos of what happened, try:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/27107117@N03/?saved=1>

The featured cemetery dates back to the mid-1850s. They have had a "Decoration Day" there for many years, but never a military memorial service. There are many vets buried the cemetery ranging from both sides in the Civil War to a cousin of mine KIA (Killed in Action) in Korea. Last year I decided we needed a memorial service, and this year we had one. Despite the band canceling 2 days before the event and their congressman's aide who was supposed to bring a flag that had flown over the Capitol not showing up, it was an overwhelming success.

There are folks among us who care very much for our traditional values.

New titles in Local History and Genealogy for June 2008:

Ayto, John. *Encyclopedia of Surnames*. A&C Black. 2007

Crowe, Elizabeth Powell. *Genealogy Online*. McGraw-Hill. 2008

Klauprecht, Emil. *German Chronicle in the History of the Ohio Valley and Its Capital City: Cincinnati in Particular*. Heritage Books. 2007

Powell, Shana. *Gainesville and Cooke County. Arcadia. 2000*

Roberts, Gary Boyd. *Royal Descents of 600 Immigrants to the American Colonies or the United States.* Genealogical Publishing. 2004.

Savage, James. *Female Index to Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England.* Genealogical Publishing. 2008.

Tidbits from Barb Tsigoritis

STUART or STEWART

What's the difference between the surnames Stuart and Stewart? Not much, really. The STEWART spelling is the older of the two and is found throughout Scotland's colorful history. The STUART spelling surfaced after the reign of Mary, Queen of Scots. The surname is of French derivation and in the French language there is no "w".

The Scottish Banner – August 2007

Buffalo Bill Goes to Scotland

Remember Buffalo Bill Cody and his Wild West Show? William Frederick Cody was a buffalo hunter, Indian fighter and scout for the U. S. A - which is where he earned the name Buffalo Bill. But it was his Wild West Show that brought him international fame. The Wild West Show was born in 1883 and continued until Cody's death in 1917.

In 1891, Cody took his show on a European tour with one particular stop in Glasgow Scotland complete with sharpshooter Annie Oakley and a cast of cowboys and Indians. While the citizens of Glasgow considered the show a roaring success, the weather proved to be a critter Bill couldn't tame. Rough and tough Buffalo Bill couldn't tolerate the damp climate of Scotland; so, he rolled up his tent and left a month early. In a letter to his sister he wrote – "I am anxious to get to a country where I can see the sun again!"

The short visit had a lasting effect on the area. For quite some time afterwards clotheslines all over town went missing while little boys turned them into lassoes. Local farmers are said to have hired some of Cody's crack horsemen to "break" their wild horses.

The Scottish Banner – January 2007

Online Death Certificates - Updated

Here is a list of some currently available or forthcoming collections of online digitized death certificates or death ledgers (some are free, some fee-based). The records on Ancestry require a subscription; however, the Irving Public Library Genealogy Section has a subscription and you can access Ancestry there. Some of the FamilySearch (LDS) records listed here as well as the ones

listed in the May newsletter are a work in process and may not be complete. If there seem to be records missing that you feel should be there, keep checking back for the updates.

Arizona – <http://genealogy.az.gov/>

Arizona Death Certificates 1844-1957 (**free**) also includes birth certificates 1855-1932

Georgia – <http://content.sos.state.ga.us/cdm4/gadeaths.php>

Georgia Death Certificates 1919-1927 (**free**)

Illinois: Chicago and Cook County (forthcoming) - <http://www.deathindexes.com/>

The Cook County Clerk's office has been digitizing their birth, marriage and death certificates with plans to put these online, possibly in July, 2008. The plan is to include birth certificates more than 75 years old, marriage certificates more than 50 years old, and death certificates more than 20 years old. The records will go back as far as 1871 -- earlier records were lost in the Chicago Fire. For now you can see some indexes that are available.

Kentucky - <http://www.deathindexes.com/kentucky/>

As part of their subscription-based collection of genealogy records, Ancestry has digitized Kentucky death certificates from 1911-1953. See: Online Kentucky Death Records Indexes and Obituaries. However, I had no trouble accessing the database without going through Ancestry with the link above.

Michigan (beta testing) - <http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#p=0>

Currently being tested in the FamilySearch Labs are scanned Michigan death ledgers from 1867-1897. FamilySearch Labs is a pilot program so there may occasional errors or downtime. Note these are not death certificates, but death registers or ledgers. (**free**)

Missouri - <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/deathcertificates/>

Missouri Death Certificates 1910-1957 (**free**) from the Missouri State Archives

North Carolina - <http://www.deathindexes.com/northcarolina/>

As part of their subscription-based collection of genealogy records, Ancestry has scanned North Carolina death certificates from 1909-1975 available for downloading.

Ohio (beta testing) - <http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#p=0>

Currently being tested in the FamilySearch Labs are scanned Ohio death certificates from 1908-1953. FamilySearch Labs is a pilot program so there may occasional errors or downtime. (**free**)

Pennsylvania: Philadelphia (beta testing)

<http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#p=0>

Currently being tested in the FamilySearch Labs are scanned Philadelphia City death certificates from 1803-1915. FamilySearch Labs is a pilot program so there may occasional errors or downtime. (**free**)

Texas (beta testing) - <http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#p=0>

Currently being tested in the FamilySearch Labs are scanned Texas death certificates from 1890-

1976. FamilySearch Labs is a pilot program so there may occasional errors or downtime. Very few certificates are available prior to 1903. (**free**)

Utah - <http://historyresearch.utah.gov/indexes/>
Utah Death Certificates 1905-1956 (**free**)

West Virginia - http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_select.aspx
West Virginia Death Certificates 1917-1957 (**free**) has earlier records for some counties - also has birth and marriage records for some counties

Other States - Death Indexes - <http://www.deathindexes.com/>
A directory of online death indexes, including some cemetery records, obituaries, and probate records.

Don't Forget our Pot-Luck Supper!