



# Irving Genealogical Society

**Dec 2011**

**Irving, Texas**

**Volume 19, Number 12**

**Corrected**

### **Officers:**

President:	<b>Joyce Bentley</b>
Program Director:	<b>Melba Johnson</b>
Secretary:	<b>Eve Kellogg</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Dorsey Denton</b>
Newsletter Editor:	<b>Bill Matthews</b>
Publicity:	<b>Barb Tsirigotis</b>

**IGS Homepage - <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txigs/>**

### **DUES!**

Have you paid your dues yet? Our yearly dues, which are \$20.00 for individuals and \$25.00 for families, can be mailed to: IGS, P. O. Box 170881, Irving, TX 75017-0881. Dues are our primary source of income and needed to pay for the operating expenses of the society.

### **Next Month**

**Jan 9th** Board of Directors meeting – 7pm. Genealogy Section at the Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. All members are welcome.

**Jan 16th** General Meeting – 7pm 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Central Irving Library – Speaker:

### **Honor Your Ancestors**

...with a donation for much needed genealogical research materials. The Irving Genealogical Society and the Irving Public Library will purchase research materials for the Genealogy and Local History Section of the library.

Each item purchased will be identified with a beautiful bookplate acknowledging your ancestor and your gift.

Send your donation to:

Irving Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 170881  
Irving, TX 75017-0881

Be sure to include your name, your ancestor's name and dates of birth and death if known.

### **Memoriam – Avery Wadsworth Bowen**

We wish to express our sincere condolences to the family of long-time IGS member Ruth Bowen, whose husband passed away recently.

Avery Wadsworth Bowen, a resident of Irving for the past 44 years, passed away November 14, 2011. He was born on August 23, 1929 in Roanoke, Alabama to Avery Welch Bowen and Julia (Wadsworth) Bowen. He was a graduate of The University of Texas with a degree in architecture in 1958 and served in the US Air Force in the Korean Conflict. He was associated with HKCP, WZMH, and RTKL for many years as a commercial architect. He worked on the architecture of the building for Dallas City Hall and many other buildings throughout the City of Dallas and all over the nation. He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife Ruth Bowen of Irving; son Clate Bowen and wife Amanda Dalton Bowen of Dallas; and a sister, Jo Ann Bowen of California. Graveside services were held at 1:15 p.m. on Monday, November 21, 2011, at DFW National Cemetery in Dallas.

### **It Has Only Been A Short Time Since**



**THE YEAR IS 1911**

The year is 1911 --- One hundred years ago. What a difference a century makes! Here are some statistics for the Year 1911:

The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.

Fuel for this car was sold in drug stores only. You could also buy a drivers license there.

Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower!

The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.

The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births took place at home.

Ninety percent of all Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION! Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and the government as "substandard".

Sugar cost four cents a pound.

Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.

Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.

The Five leading causes of death were:

1. Pneumonia and influenza
2. Tuberculosis
3. Diarrhea
4. Heart disease
5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars.

The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was only 30.

Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.

There was neither a Mother's Day nor a Father's Day.

Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write and only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at the local corner drugstores. Back then pharmacists said, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health!" (Shocking?)

Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.

There were about 230 reported murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A. !

Try to imagine what it may be like in another 100 years.

## Christmas Remembered



You may remember when the tree was decorated with fruit, popcorn strings and candles ...



Or when you looked forward to a visit from the jolly St Nick ...



Your ancestors may have also remembered their Christmas days in the “old country” ...

When snow would cover the homes in the valley with a smooth white blanket ...



But, here in Texas, a 1800s Christmas scene might look more like the above.

Correction: This is from a watercolor originally owned by my wife’s parents.