



My Journey From Yesterday

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society

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Visit our Website at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txmcgs>

April 2015

Volume 38 Issue 3

Bonnie Baker, President

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society meets the 1st Thursday of each month at:

Mary Lib Saleh Library
Meeting Room, 201 N. Ector
Eules, Texas
6:30 p.m. – Social
7:00 p.m. – General Meeting
Visitors are welcome.

2015 MCGS GENERAL MEETINGS CALENDAR

Speaker

APRIL 2, 2015

Lisa Louise Cooke

Topic: “How to Reopen and Work a Genealogy Cold Case

May 7, 2015

Mary Moore, Jane Aronhalt, and Sandra Crowley

Topic: “Growing Your Tree through Family Events: Why, How and the Tools”

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Lisa Louise Cooke Biography

Lisa Louise Cooke is the owner of *Genealogy Gems*, a genealogy and family history multi-media company. She is producer and host of the *Genealogy Gems Podcast* (with over 1.5 million downloads) the popular online genealogy audio show, as well as the *Family History: Genealogy Made Easy* podcast, both available at www.GenealogyGems.com, in iTunes. Her podcasts bring genealogy news, research

strategies, expert and celebrity interviews (Henry Louis Gates Jr., Lisa Kudrow, etc.) and inspiration to genealogists around the world.

Lisa is the author of four books including *How to Find Your Family History in Newspapers*, *The Genealogist's Google Toolbox (Second Edition)*, and her newest book *Turn Your iPad into a Genealogy Powerhouse*. She's also the producer of the DVD series *Google Earth for Genealogy* and over 70 videos at the *Genealogy Gems* YouTube Channel.

In addition to *Genealogy Gems*, Lisa produces and hosts *The Family Tree Magazine Podcast*, regularly writes for the magazine, and is an instructor and curriculum developer for Family Tree University.

Lisa is a sought after international genealogy and technology speaker, regularly featured at *Who Do You Think You Are? Live* in London, as well as an innovative webinar presenter.

Whether in person or online, Lisa strives to dig through the myriad of genealogy news, questions and resources and deliver the gems that can unlock your family history treasure trove!

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Announcements

**I. Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter— Dick Eastman,
March 10, 2015:**

**National Genealogical Society Announces “Live Streaming Broadcast”—
2015 Family History Conference**

Live Streaming Lectures From The NGS Conference. The National Genealogical Society (NGS) has announced the live streaming of ten lectures from its 2015 Family History Conference, which will be held 13–16 May 2015, in St. Charles, Missouri. Those who are unable to attend the conference in person are invited to sign up for these live streaming lectures. Details can be found on the NGS Conference Web site at: <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/attend/live-streaming/>. [Click on “Live Streaming at #NGS2015GEN” on the right hand side of the page.]

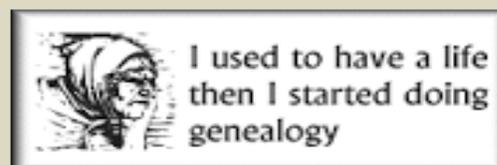
The NGS has selected some of the most popular topics and nationally known speakers for two featured tracks. Registrants for live streaming can sign up for either track (\$65-NGS members; \$80-others) or the bundled package that includes both tracks (\$115-NGS members; \$145-others).

- **Track One:** Viewers will have access to five lectures on “The Immigration & Naturalization Process” from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 14 May 2015. The lectures will cover immigration and naturalization records, uncovering the immigrants’ story, and useful hints on how to discover their home town.
- **Track Two:** Five “Methodology Techniques” lectures will be live streaming from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 15 May 2015. They will address methodology techniques for use with historical context, forensic genealogy, and DNA, as well as problem solving using a combination of resources.
- **Registration for live streaming** will close at midnight 29 April 2015. All registrants will receive an electronic version of the NGS 2015 Family History Conference syllabus.

II. National Archives Montgomery Plaza Facility News.

Saturday hours at the Montgomery Plaza facility of the National Archives at Fort Worth (2600 West 7th Street, Fort Worth, TX, 76107) ended in February. This is in part due to low attendance, and in part to allow staff to focus on closing this office in February 2016 and consolidating operations at 1400 John Burgess, Fort Worth, TX, 76140. The Montgomery Plaza will continue to be open during regular hours of operation: Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please call 817-831-5620.

III. Speaker: Our March speaker Lynelle Bennett Moss has been rescheduled for September. Topic: Family Search



NEW FEATURE--PLEASE HELP

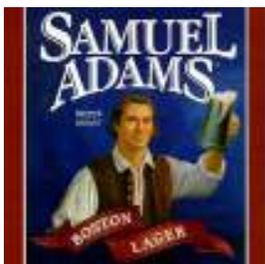
Hopefully MCGS members will help each month with this section called "Did You Know?"

The idea is that while you are doing research and you come across a story, a fact, an event, or whatever which is new to you, please share it with us. You can email the info and I'll be glad to include it in the Newsletter. (Peggy Poole glynnp413@aol.com)

Below is a story I came upon while putting together this edition of the Newsletter. I just never thought about how one safely stored fresh water on a sailing ship and kept it safe for drinking.

Did You Know?**The Drinking Habits of our Early New England Ancestors**

The image has been often been painted of early New England Puritans and other religious citizens of the day as being strict and never having any fun. I was brought up in New England and always believed that my many Puritan ancestors would never touch liquor. A new exhibit at the US National Archives claims that I was mistaken.



Here are some of the facts cited: Early Americans even took a healthful dram for breakfast, whiskey was a typical lunchtime tippie, ale accompanied supper and the day ended with a nightcap.

Continuous imbibing clearly built up a tolerance as most Americans in 1790 consumed an average 5.8 gallons of pure alcohol a year, 7.1 gallons in 1830, but only 2.3 gallons of pure alcohol a year today.

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Greetings!

[The Texas General Land Office is proud to bring you the second annual Genealogypalooza!](#)

Hosted at the Texas General Land Office Headquarters in Austin on **Saturday, May 30, 2015**, this unique genealogy workshop brings together experts from across Texas to discuss

various topics important to genealogy researchers today, and the tools that are available to make for the most successful genealogical research experience.

This year, speakers include John Sellers, Charlie Gardes, Tonia Wood, Kevin Klaus, Dr. José Barragán, and James Harkins.

Registration is only \$65, and seats will fill up fast! This event will sell out quickly. Register today for one of the best genealogical experiences in Texas!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR GENEALOGYPALOOZA!](#)

Sincerely,

Texas General Land Office Archives and Records

A Fact You've Never Thought Of, In A Document You've Never Heard Of by Bernard Meisner

When I served in the student senate in college we were approached by a placement company whose motto was: "A job you've never thought of, in a company you've never heard of!" The genealogical equivalent might be: "A fact about an ancestor you've never thought of, in a document you've never heard of!" Recently I've been researching the birth records of my grandfather Meisner's family. Although he and his four older sisters were born in Pittsburgh, Pa., their youngest sister was born down the Ohio River in Steubenville, Ohio.

I had constructed a detailed timeline for my great grandparents Joseph and Rose using census returns and city directories, and it indicated they had moved from Pittsburgh to Steubenville about 1886. Their last record in Steubenville was from 1895, and the 1900 census indicated they had moved part way back up the Ohio River to Rochester, Pa.

The obituary for my gg-grandmother Barbara in the 1893 Steubenville Weekly Gazette indicated that she and her youngest son Andrew (Joseph's brother) had also moved to Steubenville in 1886. A later edition of the newspaper reported Andrew married Margaret Smith in Steubenville in 1894. Margaret's mother died in 1895 and her death notice in the Steubenville newspaper indicated Margaret and Andrew were then also living in Rochester, Pa.

Why did Joseph and Andrew move from Pittsburgh to Steubenville and why, about ten years later, did they both move to Rochester, while their siblings Barbara and Bernard remained in the Pittsburgh area?

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Samuel Adams was a partner in his father's malt house and Thomas Jefferson was famed for importing European wines.

"One of the things we understand now is that the initial ship that came over from England to Massachusetts Bay actually carried more beer than water," says Bruce Bustard, senior curator of *Spirited Republic: Alcohol in American History*.

NOTE: The above refers to the Massachusetts Bay Colony, not to Plimoth Colony and their famous first ship Mayflower. However, history has recorded that the water on board the Mayflower became brackish in mid-voyage so the passengers and crew had to resort to drinking beer. Obviously, the ship must have been well stocked with a large amount of beer on board before it left England. Governor William Bradford later complained that, upon landing at Plimoth Rock, he and his companions "were hastened ashore and made to drink water, that the seamen might have the more beer."

You can read much more in the BBC News magazine at

<http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-31741615>



While researching those birth records I was also working on a presentation I would be giving to the Fort Worth Genealogical Society with the title "Techniques and Strategies for More Effective Online Searching." One aspect of that talk is Internet search engines specifically tailored for genealogical searches. When I entered " 'Andrew Meisner' Steubenville" in one of those engines it returned a link to page 4 of the Steubenville Daily Herald dated Friday, January 11, 1889. An article on that page reported The Sumner Glass Co. had held its annual election that week, and Andrew Meisner was elected company president. Certainly it was a fact I had never thought of, in a document I had never heard of!

Subsequent searches for the Sumner Glass Company revealed it was formed in Pittsburgh in January 1885 by 16 glassblowers--of which Andrew Meisner was one -- after a strike that resulted from pay reductions during 1884 and 1885. The group initially leased a glassworks near the Sumner station of the Western Pennsylvania Railroad, up the Allegheny River from Pittsburgh. When that lease expired at the end of the year, the consortium purchased the Steubenville Bottle Company's glassworks for \$1,000.

In July, 1886, the entire company, *with all their employees*, moved to Steubenville. (Source: *Annual Reports for 1886 Made to the 67th General Assembly of the State of Ohio.*)

The book *Glasshouses & Glass Manufacturers of the Pittsburgh Region 1795 – 1910* by Jay W. Hawkins (published in 2009) mentions an 1888 letterhead that advertised the Sumner Glass Co. as manufacturers of flint glassware and listed prescription vials, catsups, mustards, flasks, brandies, and "all kinds of bottles." According to *20th Century History of Steubenville and Jefferson County, Ohio and Representative Citizens* by Joseph Beatty Doyle (published in 1910), they erected an additional twelve-pot furnace and continued to manufacture flint glass bottles for a number of years after which the works lay idle for a while. In 1903 the Jefferson Glass Company was incorporated and purchased the former Sumner Glass Company establishment. Meanwhile, the trade journal *The Commoner and Glassworker*, dated June 6, 1903, indicated Andrew Meisner would represent Branch 82, Beaver Falls, Pa. at the upcoming convention of glass bottle blowers in Cincinnati.

I have concluded my great grandfather Joseph moved his family from Pittsburgh to Steubenville in 1886 at the same time his brother Andrew's company moved there. Ten years later, after the Sumner Glass Company closed, both brothers moved upriver to the Rochester/Beaver Falls area, home of several other glass companies. The 1910 census shows my great grandfather Joseph Meisner subsequently working in a glass works in Homestead, Pa., shortly up the Monongahela River from Pittsburgh, while brother Andrew was the supervisor of a bottle works in Charleroi, Pa., 25 miles south of Pittsburgh.

Although one might typically look in census returns, city directories, newspapers and local histories for information about your family, books about glasshouses and annual reports to state legislatures might not appear at the top of most genealogists' search lists. As you research your family be open to: "A fact about an ancestor you've never thought of, in a document you've never heard of!"

Tarrant & Texas

Time Frames

Buckley B. Paddock (1844-1922) enlisted in Company K, Wirt Adams' 1st Mississippi Cavalry, Army of Tennessee, in 1861, and became commander of a select espionage unit.

In July 1862, Paddock was promoted to captain, becoming one of the youngest commissioned officers in the Confederate Army. The B.B. Paddock Papers held by Special Collections include a number of Civil War letters written by Paddock to his sweetheart, Emmie Harper (1848-1926), pictured here.

In a letter to Harper drafted March 16, 1865, Paddock wrote that he had secured the portrait she had long asked for, "a full length ambrotype of your devoted lover." He discussed the dissatisfaction existing in the



B.B. Paddock Papers

command and said many of the men had approached him "... to go with them to Kentucky as a guerrilla. Were it not for the disgrace that could be attached to my name for deserting my Rgt. I would go. Do not say a word to anyone ... and ensure secrecy for one here, for I may go. I can wipe out the disgrace in a few months by a few daring exploits into the enemies lines. ... Were it not for you, I would not hesitate."

Paddock married Harper on Dec. 10, 1867. They lived in Fayette, Miss., where he studied law and passed the bar. In 1872, they moved to Fort Worth, where Paddock enjoyed a long and distinguished career in city politics, civic affairs, newspaper publishing, banking, railroads, real estate and investment securities.

His significant achievements include: editor of the *Fort Worth Democrat* (1873-81), president of the Fort Worth and Rio Grande Railway Co. (1885-89), president of the Texas Spring Palace Association (1889-1890), founder of the Fort Worth Board of Trade, and four-term mayor (1892-1900).

The University of Texas at Arlington Library offers a rich and diverse collection of materials on the history of Texas and the Southwest. Each week, readers get a glimpse of the past with an image from Special Collections. 817-272-3393; library.uta.edu/special-collections.

History remembers only the celebrated, genealogy remembers them all.
Laurence Overmire

The Faces of Margraten



The Netherlands to Give a Face to 10,000 Killed U.S. WWII Soldiers

The American War Cemetery in the town of Margraten, Netherlands, contains the remains of more than 10,000 U.S. servicemen who gave their lives to keep the Netherlands and the rest of the world free from tyranny. There is a project called *The Faces of Margraten project*, which will pay special tribute to these soldiers by decorating their graves and names on the *Walls of the Missing* with personal photos of the soldiers. Sebastiaan Vonk, chairman of the *Foundation United Adopters American War Graves* is hoping to locate more soldiers' photos and is asking for soldiers' families to look through old albums to see if they can add to the pictures the Foundation already has. If a photo is found, please contribute it (no matter what condition it is in) to *The Faces of Margraten*. Each photo matters.

You can read more about this project in an article at <http://goo.gl/qmo9Yt> as well as in the project's web site at <http://www.thefacesofmargraten.com/indexphp/en-US>

Online Genealogy Newsletter
Dick Eastman 03/14/2015

"When an old person dies, a library has burned down."

There Are 7 Types of English Surnames — Which One Is Yours?

Many of us have surnames passed down to us from ancestors in **England**. Last names weren't widely used until after the Norman Conquest in 1066, but as the country's population grew, people found it necessary to be more specific when they were talking about somebody else. Thus arose descriptions like Thomas the Baker, Norman son of Richard, Henry the Whitehead, Elizabeth of the Field, and Joan of York that, ultimately, led to many of our current surnames.

There are perhaps 45,000 different **English surnames**, but most had their origins as one of these seven types.

Occupational

Occupational names identified people based on their job or position in society. Calling a man "Thomas Carpenter" indicated that he worked with wood for a living, while someone named Knight bore a sword. Other occupational names include Archer, Baker, Brewer, Butcher, Carter, Clark, Cooper, Cook, Dyer, Farmer, Faulkner, Fisher, Fuller, Gardener, Glover, Head, Hunt or Hunter, Judge, Mason, Page, Parker, Potter, Sawyer, Slater, Smith, Taylor, Thatcher, Turner, Weaver, Woodman, and Wright (or variations such as Cartwright and Wainwright) — and there are many more.

This kind of name also gave a clue about whom a servant worked for. Someone named Vickers might have been a servant to Mr. Vickers, and someone named Williams might either have served a William or been adopted by him.

From the obscure fact department: In medieval England, before the time of professional theater, craft guilds put on

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Who Owns Your Genealogy Data?

Dick Eastman · March 20, 2015

Overheard at a genealogy conference recently (repeated from memory so the wording might not be exact):

Person #1: "I won't put my genealogy information online because I am afraid someone might steal it."

Person #2: "Where did you obtain all that information?"

Person #1: "From freely available public records, including census records, birth and death records, newspapers, and such."

OK, now let me add my own comments and questions: All of those records are always available to everyone else. What is person #1 trying to hide?

You may refer to the information you collect as "my ancestry" or "my records," but that doesn't mean that you own the information. In fact, most genealogy information in the U.S. and Canada is freely available to everyone in the public domain. Nobody can claim that data as their own.

Yes, there are exceptions for new interpretations or for any analysis that you create, but the names, places, and dates are always public domain and typically are already available elsewhere to anyone who cares to take the time to look.

Since it is already freely available elsewhere, I see no reason to try to hide the information. You certainly Since it is already freely available elsewhere, I see no reason to try to hide the information. You certainly cannot claim ownership of names, dates, and places. It isn't "your" information!

I won't publish names or other information about living individuals for several reasons, but I have freely published information online about my deceased ancestors. Anyone who wants the information is free to copy it. The concept of "protecting my genealogy information" strikes me as laughable, as long as we are not talking about living persons. If anyone wants to learn about my ancestry, or yours, they can do so in the same manner that I did: one record at a time. In fact, I hope they do so and, if they find anything I overlooked, I hope they tell me!

Information about one's ancestry is freely available everywhere in books, microfilms, old records in various archives, and sometimes online. "Protecting" it from others strikes me as a waste of time.

You know you are addicted to genealogy when...

you ask all the people you meet, what their grandparents surnames are.



Twisted Twigs
on gnarled branches

“mystery plays” (“mystery” meaning “miracle”), which told Bible stories and had a call-and-response style of singing. A



[Photo credit: Shutterstock]

participant’s surname such as — King, Lord, Virgin, or Death — may have reflected his or her role, which some people played for life and passed down to their eldest son.

Describing a personal characteristic

Some names, often adjectives, were based on nicknames that described a person. They may have described a person’s size (Short, Long, Little), coloring (Black, White, Green, or Red, which could have evolved into “Reed”), or another character trait (Stern, Strong, Swift). Someone named Peacock might have been considered vain.

From an English place name

A last name may have pointed to where a person was born, lived, worked, or owned land. It might be from the name of a house, farm, hamlet, town, or county. Some examples: Bedford, Burton, Hamilton, Hampshire, Sutton. Writer Jack London’s stepfather may have hailed from London.

From the name of an estate

Those descended from landowners may have taken as their surname the name of their holdings, castle, manor, or estate, such as Ernle or Staunton. Windsor is a famous example — it was the surname George V adopted for the British royal family

From a geographical feature of the landscape

Some examples are Bridge, Brooks, Bush, Camp, Fields, Forest, Greenwood, Grove, Hill, Knolles, Lake, Moore, Perry, Stone, Wold, Wood, and Woodruff. Author Margaret Atwood is probably descended from someone who lived “at the wood.”

Patronymic, matronymic, or ancestral

Patronymic surnames (those that come from a male given name) include Benson (“the son of Ben”),

Continued in right column

(continued from left column)

Davis, Dawson, Evans, Harris, Harrison, Jackson, Jones (Welsh for John), Nicholson, Richardson, Robinson, Rogers, Simpson, Stephenson, Thompson, Watson, and Wilson. Matronymic ones, surnames derived from a female given name, include Molson (from Moll, for Mary), Madison (from Maud), Emmott (from Emma), and Marriott (from Mary). Scottish clan names make up one set of ancestral surnames. These include Armstrong, Cameron, Campbell, Crawford, Douglas, Forbes, Grant, Henderson, Hunter, MacDonald, and Stewart.

Signifying patronage

Some surnames honored a patron. Hickman was Hick’s man (Hick being a nickname for Richard). Kilpatrick was a follower of Patrick.

Wondering whether your family name is English? Try plugging your surname into the [Ancestry Last Names Meanings and Origins](#) widget. Type in the surname “Duffield,” and you’ll see it’s English, a “habitational name from places in Derbyshire and East Yorkshire, so named from Old English Dufe ‘dove’ + feld ‘open country.’”



A Blast from the past.

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