



# My Journey From Yesterday

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 407

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

July 2014

Volume 37 Issue 7

Jane Aronhalt, President

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society meets  
the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at:

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

## 2014 MCGS GENERAL MEETINGS CALENDAR

**August 7, 2014**

**Ice Cream Social  
Election & Installation of  
Officers**

**September 4, 2014**

**Dreanna Belden:**  
The Portal to Texas History

**October 2, 2014**

**Meg Hacker:**  
19<sup>th</sup> Century Fort Smith  
Criminal Cases

**November 6, 2014**

**Judy Knight:**  
Topic To Be Announced



***JULY SPEAKER:***

**Terri O'Neill**

***TOPIC:***

**Tracking Ancestral  
Portraits:  
A Case Study**

Terri Bradshaw O'Neill discovered the joys of genealogy in 1982 when she joined Mid-Cities Genealogical Society. An active researcher since that time, she has made good and constant use of the excellent research repositories in the D/FW area as well as those in New York, North Carolina, Virginia and Pennsylvania. Terri is a member of DAR, Daughters of 1812, National Genealogical Society, New York Historical Society, New York Genealogical & Biographical Society, VA-NC Piedmont Genealogical Society and Dallas Genealogical Society as well as Mid-Cities.

She was for six years editor of a family history periodical, *Moore/Stanford/Webb Chronicles*. Terri has had articles published in the *DGS Newsletter*, the *NYG&B Record*, the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*, the *Alamance County (NC) Genealogist*, *VA-NC Piedmont GS Lineages*, and the North Carolina Genealogical Society's *Journal*. Since April 2009, Terri has been a contributing editor to the *NYG&B Record*.

## OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The following individuals have been nominated to serve as Officers for the upcoming year:

President:	Bonnie Baker
Vice-President:	Marilyn Reid
Secretary:	Patsy Harrison
Treasurer:	H. P. O'Mary

Nominees will be voted on at the August Ice Cream Social.

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[www.facebook.com/TXMCGS](http://www.facebook.com/TXMCGS)

## MID-CITIES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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your name or contact information.

## FORENSIC GENEALOGY EXPLAINED

From *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* – June 15, 2014

The word “forensic” means “relating to the use of science or technology in the investigation and establishment of facts or evidence.” In this case, forensic would mean to use science or technology in addition to traditional records. In short, forensic genealogy is the use of something OTHER THAN standard records to add to your family history.

This is not to say that forensic genealogists ignore the records. Quite the contrary. Forensic genealogists always start with the available records. If those records are insufficient to prove a relationship, the forensic genealogist then looks for other clues. In other words, forensic genealogists think differently.

Actually, forensic genealogy is a term that usually means to research ancestry by the means of standard records AND MORE.

The term “forensic genealogy” is often misused as part of heir searches: finding heirs who stand to inherit property or goods left by the deceased individual. Actually, heir searchers often do use forensic genealogy to locate heirs, but the terms are otherwise unrelated. Forensic genealogy can be applied to almost all genealogy studies, whether heirs are involved or not.

The standard reference for forensic genealogy is Colleen Fitzpatrick's book of the same name, *Forensic Genealogy*. You can read more about her book, or order it online, as well as read more about Colleen's work at her web page at <http://www.forensicgenealogy.info>.

Here are several examples of forensic genealogy:

Forensic genealogists will digitally scan old photos and then magnify them greatly or use photo editing software to emphasize certain colors to find details not otherwise visible. Don't know where the photograph was taken of the old automobile? Scan the picture at very high resolution, and then see if you can decode the license plate information. How about a distant sign in the background? What is unique in the photo?

Would you like to determine the date of an old photograph so that you can find approximate dates of birth of the family members in the photo? If the photographer has his studio name on the photo, you might research the years he was in business.

When you cannot determine the ancestry of some individuals, you start researching the relationships of the person's neighbors. Family often lived close to each other. Sooner or later, you will often find a connection.

Tamura Jones wrote an interesting article about the work of Dudok van Heel, a Dutch genealogist and Rembrandt specialist. In an effort to identify the subjects in Rembrandt's “Night Watch” painting completed in 1642, van Heel spent years researching archives and inventories of estates of those suspected of being models in the painting. In several cases, van Heel found that clothing and other items depicted in the painting were later mentioned in inventories of estates. Those inventories clearly identified who was wearing what. He also consulted with experts in firearms to determine the value of the muskets shown in the 1642 painting and then was able to determine the relative wealth of each musket owner. This helped align the musket owners with certain families and paved the way for later identification of the individuals.

# Meaning of a Flag Draped Coffin

Contributed by Barb Lancaster



To understand what the flag-draped coffin really means, here is how to understand the flag that laid upon it and is surrendered to so many widows and widowers.

The Honor Guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the United States of America Flag 13 times. Perhaps you thought it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies. But no.

The **1<sup>st</sup> Fold** of the flag is a symbol of life.

The **2<sup>nd</sup> Fold** of the flag is a symbol of the belief in eternal life.

The **3<sup>rd</sup> Fold** is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country to attain peace throughout the world.

The **4<sup>th</sup> Fold** represents the weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.

The **5<sup>th</sup> Fold** is a tribute to the country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."

The **6<sup>th</sup> Fold** is for where people's hearts lie. It is with their heart that they pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The **7<sup>th</sup> Fold** is a tribute to its Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that they protect their country and their flag against all her enemies, whether they be  
(continued next page)

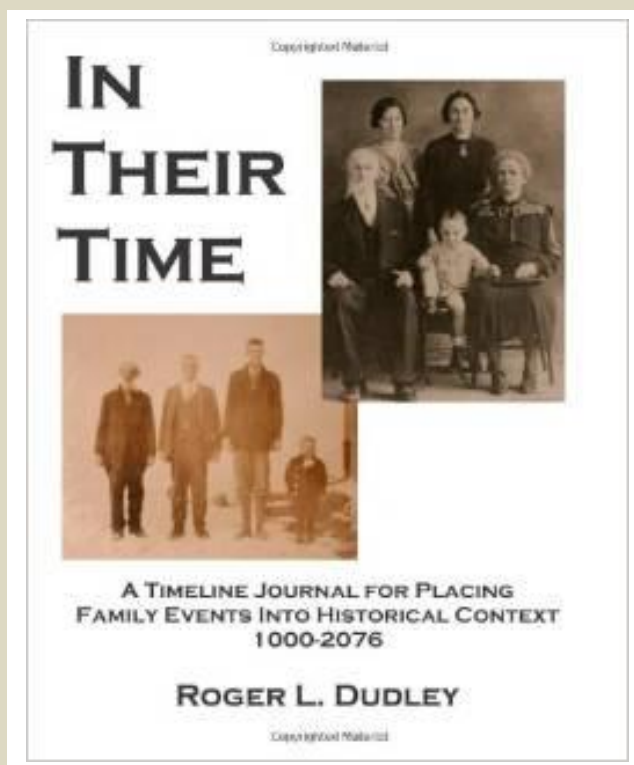
## BOOK REVIEW

By Bobbie King

From *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* – June 16, 2014

### In Their Time: A Timeline Journal for Placing Family Events into Historical Context 1000 – 2076

Author: Roger L. Dudley



This is a very clever idea of a book. It furnishes a handy format for recording timelines of world events in the lifetimes of our ancestors.

Roger Dudley has put together a neat system of journaling the events occurring within a person's lifetime. He begins in the year 1000 and ends in the year 2076, surely enough time for our kids to keep the record going.

The left side page has a list of significant world events, and the right side page is an empty, lined page. You write the names of the people living during those times on the empty page. It's an effortless way to write down the names of our ancestors near the current events of the time.

An introductory page offers instructions on how best to use the book, with a page defining the abbreviations used throughout the text.

After a few years of collecting names of cousins and grandparents, there comes a time when we need to write their stories. Besides documenting the dates and places, we need to write about the times in which they lived. The times when our fathers burned the autumn leaves in the alley, when city side streets were dirt, when trains had cabooses, and when there was no electricity, indoor plumbing, nor computers, and when text messaging was furtively getting a small folded note passed from your classroom desk to your compatriot in the back.

This journaling guide will help get you started.



## Flag Draped Coffin (Continued)

found within or without the boundaries of their republic.

The **8th Fold** is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The **9th Fold** is a tribute to womanhood, and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The **10th Fold** is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of their country since they were first born.

The **11th Fold** represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The **12th Fold** represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christians eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The **13th Fold**, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding them of their Nation's motto, "In God We Trust."

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the rights, privileges and freedoms they enjoy today.

The 21-gun salute at military funerals represents the sum of the numbers in the year 1776.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things that have deep meaning. In the future, you'll see flags folded, and know why.



## SOLVING OLD MYSTERIES: CLUES IN CURLS

From *Family Tree Magazine*/Photo Detective/Maureen E. Taylor – June 22, 2014



Eunice Amelia Paulk (1842-1913)

Jana Last knows a lot about her ancestor Eunice. She was born in Ohio, lived in Washington, Iowa, and eventually moved to California. At 19, she was a teacher in common school, a job she likely held until she married in 1876. You can read more about Eunice on [Jana's Genealogy and Family History Blog](#).

What drew my attention to this photo of Eunice is her curls. There are a lot of photo-identification clues in a simple cluster of curls. The light-eyed Eunice knew the current hair fashions. Using [Pixlr.com](#), I created a collage of the whole photo and then pulled out some details to take a closer look.

**Top right:** Eunice has very fine hair. She's curled it into wisps that frame her face. A narrow ribbon accessorizes her hair.

**Middle:** The long curl is fascinating. Is it a hairpiece or her actual hair? Hair pieces (braids, bangs and long curls) were available to women of all economic situations. They were available in various lengths and colors. If a woman couldn't afford a human hair piece, she could get substitutes such as horse hair and yak hair.

In the late 1860s to the early 1870s, a single long curl draped over the shoulder was very fashionable for young women. Eunice knows the hair fashions of her day.

**Bottom:** While her hair is up-to-date, her clothing is conservative and fitting for a schoolteacher. Narrow, round collars accessorized with a pin first became popular during the Civil War. She posed for this photograph in either the late 1860s or early 1870s. By 1870, a new style of collar was paired with those long curls: It was a stand-up collar with an open neck and a ruffle.

Kracaw's Fine Art Gallery took this portrait. According to Carl Mautz, *Biographies of Western Photographers* (Carl Mautz Publishing, 1997) Kracaw's Fine Art Gallery was in business in Washington, Iowa, from 1868-1875.

## Changes at Mocavo

(Source: Mocavo.com)

Today is an exciting day for genealogists everywhere as we're announcing that Mocavo has been acquired by Findmypast/DC Thomson Family History. This is a groundbreaking development for the industry and a major turning point in Mocavo's quest to bring all the world's historical information online for free. The wonderful folks at DC Thomson Family History share our vision of the future of family history, and we couldn't be more excited to join them.

For the past few years, the Mocavo team has dedicated ourselves to bringing innovation and competition to an industry that is sorely lacking in both. From the very beginning of Mocavo's history, we had this burning desire to figure out how to organize all of the historical information disparately spread across the Web. Not long ago, even with a hard-working and incredibly talented team, our service wasn't resonating with users and our business wasn't working. In October of last year, we decided to do something audacious and bold – something never before tried in the industry. We launched our Free Forever revolution and this became the day when Mocavo's soul was born. Everything turned around once we put a stake in the ground and stood for free genealogy (and now Mocavo is growing rapidly, putting more than 1,000 free databases online every single day and more users discovering us than ever).

One of the immediate benefits of the acquisition is that we're putting the complete US Census index online for free (forever!), making us the first commercial provider in history to ever do this.

The next few months are going to be incredibly exciting as we bring together two companies with enormous resources, content and technology to bring you more of what you love. I'll also note that nothing on either side will be going away – just getting better (and quickly!).

**Is Mocavo's Free Forever movement going away?** Not remotely. It's only getting better. As part of our commitment, we're now putting the US Census index online for free.

**What will change about Mocavo?** Mocavo and FindmyPast will only get better as we merge an enormous amount of technology with vast amounts of content.

## EVENT REMINDERS



**John Philip Colletta to Speak  
at DGS Summer Symposium**

**July 11-12, 2014 at the Dallas  
Public Library**

Visit [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org) for additional information about John, topic descriptions, and registration information.

### FAMILY TREEMAKER WORKSHOP

Saturday, August 16, 2014

Noon to 4:00 PM

**Presenter: Marilyn Hay**

#### Learn how to:

- Navigate Family Treemaker
- Add Photographs
- Add Ancestors to your Tree
- Customize and Print Reports

Please email Marilyn Hay, [mhay@nabem.net](mailto:mhay@nabem.net), if you wish to attend.

## AND ALSO . . . . .

As reported in a previous Newsletter, Ancestry.com continues to offer a substantial membership discount to AARP members.

**Check it out!**

# MCGS MEMBERSHIP FORM

## 2013 – 2014

(Membership from September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2014)

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Individual Membership: \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Couple: \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Surnames you are searching for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Bedford, TX 76095-0407**



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