



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>

May 2014

Volume 37 Issue 5

Jane Aronhalt, President

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society meets the 1st 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

June 5, 2014

Earl Armstrong:

Writing Your Family History

July 10, 2014

Terry O'Neal:

Finding the Portraits of Your Ancestors

August 7, 2014

Ice Cream Social

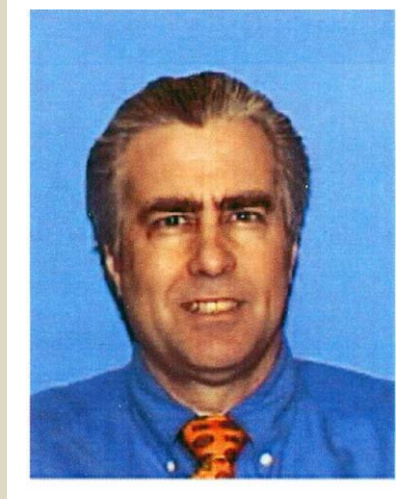
September 4, 2014

Dreanna Belden:

The Portal to Texas History

NOTICE:

The May meeting will convene in the Genealogy Room at the library.



MAY SPEAKER:

Carl Oehmann

TOPIC:

WWII Records

An Air Force veteran and retired engineer of 29 years with Raytheon, Carl Oehmann holds a BS in Electrical Engineering and is a professional genealogist and sole proprietor of Apex Genealogical Services in Prosper, Texas.

He is Treasurer of the Lone Star Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, membership Chairman of Wake County (NC) Genealogy Society and Treasurer of the McKinney Chapter of SAR.

Mr. Oehmann will talk about World War II records and how to reconstruct a service record when personnel records are lost.

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AARP members can now discover their family story with an exclusive 30% membership discount for an entire year. Ancestry.com® is the world's largest online family history service dedicated to helping everyone discover, preserve and share their family history. People join Ancestry.com® for many reasons - to explore roots, discover their ethnicity, and seek community with distant, perhaps unknown, relatives. For new members: Visit www.aarpdiscounts.com/ancestry7. For existing members, call Member Services at 1-800-514-4645. Requires AARP membership, \$16 per year.

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FROM GENEALOGY'S STAR

A Blog by James Tanner

April 16, 2014

Post Conference Review – RootsTech 2014

ME: You see, there was this big conference in Salt Lake City, Utah for genealogists sponsored by FamilySearch.”

LOCAL GENEALOGIST: “Oh, did they hold it in the Conference Center?”

ME: “No, it wasn't. It was at the Salt Palace, a big convention center. They had all these vendors there showing their programs and such.”

LOCAL GENEALOGIST: “When did it happen?”

ME: “It was from February 6th to 8th this year.”

LOCAL GENEALOGIST: “Oh, I wonder why I never heard anything about it? We are having our own genealogy fair this month.”

ME: “Oh, do you know if they are going to incorporate broadcasts from RootsTech 2014?”

LOCAL GENEALOGIST: “Oh, that conference. Is that what you are talking about? They said they would have some videos from FamilySearch, but I didn't know that was what it was. Did you go to the conference?”

ME: “Yes, and I also gave one of the presentations that was recorded.”

LOCAL GENEALOGIST: “I haven't heard about the program for our genealogy fair. What did you talk about?”

ME: “I gave a presentation on blogging.”

LOCAL GENEALOGIST: “I don't read any of the blogs, I don't have time for that kind of thing. I haven't decided if I should go to the genealogy fair, I need to get my hair cut that day.”

ME: “Well, RootsTech 2014 had a whole lot of presentations and they recorded 44 of them and translated them into 10 different languages and there are over 622 local genealogy fairs scheduled around the world.”

LOCAL GENEALOGIST: “I don't really keep up with all that stuff. By the way, I have a question about my Personal Ancestral File Program, do you know anyone who can help me with the program?”

I was reflecting on our modern society where you can be the most famous person in a special area of interest and outside of your specialty, no one has ever heard of you. This came about as a result of listening to an audio recording of a book called *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics*, by Daniel Brown. Here were these nine men who won gold medals and I, for one, had never even heard about the event, much less could have named even one of the participants.

Ok, so we had this conference in Salt Lake in February. Outside of the few people I happen to know locally who either went to the conference or listened to parts of it online, I haven't found anyone, even regular genealogical patrons at the Mesa FamilySearch Library, that seem to know anything about the conference or even care to find out about it when I bring up the subject. Even at the Salt Palace, they were getting ready for another scheduled conference as we were leaving RootsTech.

Today, I noticed online that the announcements for RootsTech 2015 have started to pop up.

Sometimes, even when I am in a crowd at a conference, I suddenly realize that as soon as I leave that crowd of people, I will once again be out in the cold, harsh wind of reality where genealogists are few and far between, and no one wants to talk to you about what is going on in genealogy or your research or anything. This last Sunday, I was visiting out of state (yet again) and tried to get a conversation going at Church with no luck at all. It is a good thing that any motivation I have for doing genealogy is not based on support from my extended family and friends. But it is nice to have a wife who is actively involved in genealogical research in her own family and at least knows what I am talking about. Maybe it is not too early for FamilySearch to start promoting RootsTech 2015.

ANCESTRY BINDERS BRING JOY TO THOSE WITH MEMORY LOSS

FamilyHistoryDaily.com

Susan Wallin Mosey

February 8, 2013

I had an epiphany this week with the help of my co-worker, Robin. Here it is: Ancestry binders can be wonderful gifts for those who have the memory loss that old-age dementia brings.

It makes sense, really . . . it's common knowledge that, as a person loses his/her memory, it's the short-term memory that goes first. I saw this with my mother – first the 1990s faded out to black, then the 1980s, then the 1970s, then the 1960s, then the 1950s . . . and so it goes. But her memories of her childhood remained much more intact.

I discussed this with Alzheimer's expert Jo Huey via email this week. She said this about memory loss: "It is as if one takes an eraser in 2010 and erases the information stored in the brain backwards toward 2000, then maybe even as far as 1980 or 1960 (or before). Because of this process people often know a great deal about their past but know little about what happened today. With that in mind, in order to have more enjoyable visits and to build rapport, one can almost always discuss the past with them."

My friend, Robin, said that the ancestry binder I did last year for her mother-in-law has become one of that lady's greatest joys. When she looks at the history of her parents and her grandparents from so long ago, she remembers those people! And when reading the research I did on her ancestors, she has a framework for that new knowledge! And when her siblings come to visit her, they look at the binder, and they share those common memories. It gives Robin's mother-in-law something to talk about with visitors – particularly older visitors such as her siblings – where she is on a level playing field with them. Her memories of those early years, and the things she heard from her parents and grandparents so long ago, are still there, waiting to be reawakened – even though current events might confuse and frustrate her.

Wow! What do you buy your aging parent or grandparent who sometimes doesn't even remember who you are? If their vision is good – you can give them the gift of ancestry!

LA CORRIVEAU

FamilyHistoryDaily.com

Susan Wallin Mosey

April 2, 2014



Her real name was Marie-Josephte Corriveau, and she was one of the most infamous murderers in Canadian history. She was born in 1733 near Quebec, and she is my husband's 2nd cousin, 6 times removed. This is a bronze sculpture of her from the National Museum of Fine Arts of Quebec.

According to the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online*, she was born in 1733 in Quebec and married in 1749 to Charles Bouchard, by whom she had three children. After he died in 1760, she married again, in 1761, to Louis Didier. Not long afterwards, in 1763, her husband Louis' body was found in the stable with several fatal blows to the head. Neighbors and family found it hard to believe that the horse was the culprit, and the suspicion soon fell on Marie-Josephte.

There were two sensational trials. The first ended with a death sentence by hanging – for Marie's father! – who had confessed to the crime to save his daughter. (Marie was sentenced to be flogged and branded for her part in it.) But before these sentences could be carried out, her father made his last confession to a priest and revealed his daughter as the sole murderer. (He was later pardoned by England's King George III.)

At the second trial, Marie confessed she had struck her husband twice with the axe while he was sleeping and dragged his body to the stable. She was sentenced to death by hanging – with the stipulation that after being executed, her body would be put in an iron cage made in the shape of a human body, and displayed publically as an example. The creaking of the cage inspired ghost stories to spring up around her, and as time went by, the legend grew (One author, T. W. Denomme in *Our French Canadian Ancestry in Huron County*, said she may have murdered her first husband also, by pouring hot molten lead in his ear while he was asleep!) After more than a month of this gruesome public display, her body (and the cage) were buried in the grounds outside the Catholic cemetery in Lauzon – since no one such as her could be buried within the holy grounds of the cemetery.

The cage and few bones were rediscovered by a gravedigger in 1850, by which time the cemetery had been enlarged, and the myths surrounding her took on a new life. Denomme's book says that the cage went on display at the Barnum Museum in New York City and was later lost in a fire there. Marie-Josephte has been an object of interest ever since, with art, film, music, and entire chapters of books being devoted to her, and she is still known as "La Corriveau."

SOMETHING NEW TO TRY WHEN USING ANCESTRY.COM WHILE IN THE LIBRARY

Posted by Anne Gillespie Mitchell on March 20, 2014
in Ask Ancestry Anne, Reference Desk

Did you know that Ancestry.com is available for free in thousands of libraries in the U.S? You can't create a tree, or post messages on message boards. You can't sit in your jammies and work on your family (please don't sit in your jammies in the library!). You can't work until 3am in the morning. But you can view much of our great content.

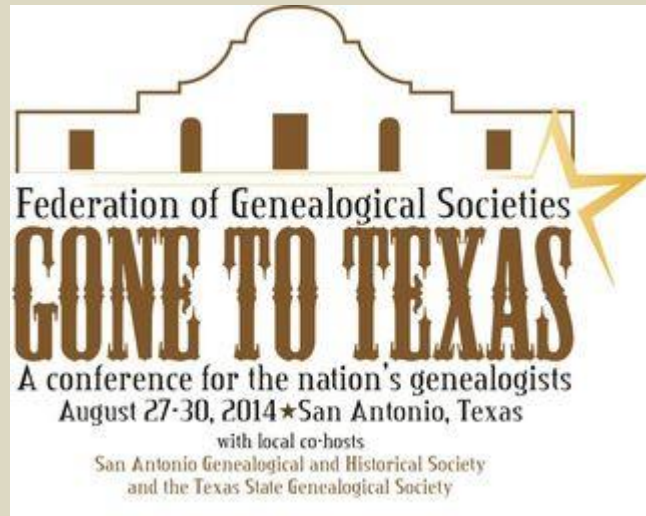
But how do you get the content home? You've found that census record that shows your great great grandma's maiden name was Smith (it's always something challenging like that, isn't it?).

You could print it. But that usually costs you money. Not much, granted, but it adds up. And printers don't always work. You could save it to a flash drive, but not all libraries allow that. What is an excited genealogist to do? Trust your memory? Ha!

Well, how about if you send it home and download or print it there? When you are on the record page, look in the left hand corner and you will see a "Send Document" button.

Click that, enter your email address and we will send you an email with a link to a Family Discoveries Page.

From there you can download the image and print the transcribed information.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DETAILS TO COME

IN THE MOOD FOR ADVENTURE?

CHECK THIS OUT!

2014 GENEALOGY CRUISE



Seven Day Genealogy Cruise aboard the Celebrity Silhouette in the Eastern Caribbean starts on December 7, 2014. Leaving from Fort Lauderdale, the ports of call include San Juan, Puerto Rico; Basseterre, St. Kitts; St. Maarten; plus three days at sea (with genealogy presentations, including Dick Eastman, all three days), returning to Ft. Lauderdale on December 14.

Details: <http://cecruisegroups.com/genealogy-cruise-2014.html> or call
CruiseEverything at 800-959-7447.

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2013 – 2014

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