



Newsletter

Collin County Genealogical Society

Serving Collin County, TX and the genealogical community for 43 years!

CCGS welcomes Mic Barnette as president for the 2013-2014 term.

Mic Barnette - Mic is the owner of Barnette's Family Tree Book Company, a web based genealogy bookstore. He has conducted genealogical research in all Southern states and specialized in Louisiana and Georgia research on a professional basis while living in New Orleans, Louisiana and Atlanta, Georgia, respectfully. For ten years, 1994-2004, Mic wrote a popular weekly genealogical column that was published in the Houston Chronicle in Houston, Texas. Mic has written numerous articles in national, state and privately published genealogical and local history periodicals. He has conducted genealogical classes at DeKalb College and Kennesaw College in Atlanta, Georgia and at Houston Community College, and Leisure Learning in Houston, Texas. He has spoken to many groups all over the South and has delivered papers at three National Genealogical Society Conferences in the States, those of Portland, Oregon, Houston, Texas and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mic is a member of the National Genealogical Society, the Sons of the Republic of Texas, the Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of the Confederacy. He is a past president of the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors (formerly known as the Council of Genealogy Columnists). Currently, Mic teaches genealogy at Brookhaven College, is a Library Associate at the Dallas Public Library, and is administrator of the Barnett Surname DNA Project. He is, also, an Admiral in the Texas Navy. Mic will be one of three speakers at the CCGS Seminar on DNA in November. See Calendar of Events for more details.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Howdy CCGS Members!

Hope everyone had a great summer chasing ancestors and hope you are ready to learn more about how to find the ones you have not yet discovered!

Gwen Neumann, our program chairperson, has done a great job rounding up speakers for each of our monthly programs. A list of the speakers will be found elsewhere in this newsletter and on our website.

To start off the year former CCGS President Michael Bassett presented an educational program to the membership about genetic DNA. In his talk he urged those who have not already done so to order a DNA kit through the CCGS website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txcolcgs/projects.htm#ftdna> from Family Tree DNA. There is a link on our page for ordering the kit but here is a link anyway: http://www.familytreedna.com/cj.aspx?ftdna_ref=473

On Saturday, November 16, Michael Bassett, Paula Perkins and myself, Mic Barnette, will offer a half-day seminar educating attendees on what they are looking at and how to interpret their results when they view their FTDNA personal page. The seminar will be held in the Program Room of the Schimelpfenig Library, 5024 Custer Road, Plano TX. Due to fire marshal regulations, the room only holds 70 persons and the library will not allow over-flow crowds. If you are interested in attending this

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We are now accepting dues for the Society year, July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014. Annual dues are \$20.00 for an individual and \$22.00 for a family membership. Membership includes a subscription to the Collin Chronicles, the Newsletter, admittance to all regularly scheduled program meetings and admittance to the Society's site at MyFamily.com.

informative seminar, I urge you to sign up as quickly as possible. DNA is a popular topic and it is anticipated the room capacity will max out fairly fast.

In conjunction with the DNA lecturing theme, please visit the Genealogical Department of the Haggard Library and look at the DNA display single-handedly designed and produced by Jan Carr.

I wish to thank those serving as officers during the past year, namely: Michael Bassett (President), Carol Harper (1st Vice President), Delpha Meadows (2nd Vice President), Jeanne Spain (Recording Secretary), Gwen Neumann (Corresponding Secretary and Book Committee Chairperson), Frances Ffait (Treasurer and Website Webmaster), Aurora Chancy (Collin County Chronicles, editor), Mary Ann Thompson (CCGS Newsletter, Editor), Janice Smith (Historian and Photographer), Patti Heining (Lecture Librarian), Cindy Stamps (Publicity Chairperson) Paula Perkins (Collin County Pioneer Project Chairperson) and Janice Quick, a member of the Collin County Historical Commission who helped our Lecture Librarian and passed along timely genealogical news at our meetings and via the CCGS mail list. These officers left a wonderful legacy for those of us new to the Board of Directors to follow.

It is, also, with great pleasure I welcome our new Board whose names are listed on page 2 in this newsletter.

One last thought, please be sure your dues have been renewed for the ensuing year. Our membership year is based on a fiscal year, July to June. Your dues help keep the Society on an even operating keel and keep you without interruption with your newsletters, Chronicles and other Society benefits.

Please be sure to read every page of this newsletter. Your editors have included a lot of great information about our Society and tidbits of genealogical interest.

Genealogically Yours,
Mic Barnette
President, CCGS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

CCGS PROGRAMS (Program Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday, September through June, 7 to 9 pm W.O. Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd, Plano TX)

9 OCT 2013 - Wanda Smith presents "League, Labor & Vara: Understanding Old Texas Deeds"

Have you been puzzled about how to find your ancestor's Texas homestead? Many genealogists understand how to locate their ancestor's homestead or land grant using the Jeffersonian system in other states, but are stumped when it comes to deciphering leagues, labors and varas. We will cover the history and development of different types



of land grants in Texas to gain an understanding of legal descriptions based on the old Spanish system and how to use those descriptions to find the property on a modern map. We will also learn how to search for other historical documents that may have been archived along with land grants that can provide rich genealogical information for researchers.

Wanda Smith, JD, practices oil and gas law in Texas where she is VP of Land at an oil and gas company. She is licensed to practice law in Texas and Arkansas and has been researching lost and missing heirs for the oil and gas industry for over five years. She is a graduate of Boston University's Genealogical Research Certificate Program and has completed advanced training from the Council for the Advancement of Forensic Genealogy (CAFG), as well as workshops at the National Genealogical Society (NGS), Board for the Certification of Genealogists (BCG), and at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. She is a member of the CAFG at the Advanced Professional level, the Association of Professional Genealogists, NGS, and the Genealogical Speakers Guild.

13 NOV 2013 - Ted Wright presents "Doodling For Catfish or Dousing For Graves. Only In Texas. Now They Are Both Legal!" A short, introductory class and demonstration on how to locate graves that are unmarked, by the Doctor of Dousing, Ted Wright.

Ted Wright: builder, land developer, Collin County rancher and currently President of the Collin County Historical Society, has spent over 40 years exploring North Texas history and researching graveyards. He has specifically focused the last 15 years dousing for unmarked burials in Collin County. Did you know there are over 225 deeded and private locations in Collin County where early settlers and residents are interred, not including Columbaria? When narrow roads are widened or land developments are started, Doctors Wright and Bundy are frequently contacted by the County, Cities or Historic Groups to confirm or locate unmarked burials. Come and learn how to locate those unmarked graves in or near existing cemeteries and unrecorded, private cemeteries that you never knew were there. Some of your discoveries may be your ancestors.

Ted is a descendent of the Crain and Burdette families that fought in Captain William Kimbro's Company of "Redlander's" at San Jacinto in April 1836 and the Stapp families of which Andrew Stapp stood on a stump at Buckner in Collin County on July 4th of 1846 and raised a volunteer Texas Ranger Company to patrol from the Red River to Marribone Springs (Arlington, Texas today) and protect Collin County and north Texas from Indian attacks during the Mexican-American War.

16 NOV 2013 - CCGS Half-Day Seminar: "Are you interested in DNA testing? Have you taken a DNA test? What now?"

CCGS members and Family Tree DNA Project Administrators, Michael Bassett, Paula Perkins and Mic Barnette, present an informative program on DNA.

Saturday, November 16, 2013

Time: 12:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Schimelpfenig Library Program Room

5024 Custer Road

Plano, TX 75023

Seating limited. Pre-registration required. \$10 per person. Deadline for registration October 26, 2013.

Registration form online at:

http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txcolcgs/media/dna_seminar.pdf

For more information: Call 972.423.2164 or email ccgs.members@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CCGS Logo'd Tote Bags for Sale!!

While supplies last.

Send \$22.00 per bag to
Collin County Genealogical Society
ATTN: Tote Bags
P.O. Box 865052
Plano TX 75086-5052

Please contact Michael Bassett at
michaelvbassett@usa.net
to arrange for pickup

or add \$5.00 shipping to purchase price and include shipping address with order.

Proceeds benefit the CCGS Book Fund



VINTAGE HOBNAIL GLASSWARE FUNDRAISER

Paula Perkins reports that select pieces of Hobnail glassware can now be viewed and purchased at Plano Antique Mall (same building as Garden Ridge), Booth A15, Dealer P2013, 1717 E. Spring Creek, Plano, TX.

Proceeds from the sale of items from this privately owned collection will be donated to the CCGS Book Fund for acquisition of research materials for the City of Plano's Genealogy, Local History, Texana and Archives (GLHTA) collection housed at Haggard Library.

The complete inventory can be viewed on-line at:
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txcolcgs/HobnailGlassware.htm>

For information on acquiring any of this glassware, please call 214.704.0951 or email:

paula-ccgs@ix.netcom.com



Current projects generating revenue for the CCGS Book Fund or the Digitization Project are:

- CCGS DNA Seminar
- FamilyTree DNA
- CCGS Tote Bags
- Vintage Hobnail Glassware sales
- Tom Thumb Good Neighbor Program
- Book Sales
- Pioneer Families Project
- Book Project

Additional information on CCGS fundraisers can be found on our web page at:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txcolcgs/projects.htm>

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/collincountygen>

RESEARCH AIDS:

THE CALENDAR OVER THE YEARS

All calendars began with people recording time by using natural cycles: days, lunar cycles (months), and solar cycles (years). The year is 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes 46 seconds long or 365.242199 days. The time between full moons is 29.53 days.

The Egyptian Calendar:

The Ancient Egyptians are credited with the first calendar of 12 months, each consisting of 30 days, comprising a year. They added 5 days at the end of the year to synchronize somewhat with the solar year. By making all their months an even 30 days, they abandoned trying to sync with lunar cycles and concentrated instead on aligning with the solar year.

The Egyptians recognized that this calendar didn't quite align with an actual year. They called the 1461 Egyptian years it took to re-align with the 1460 solar years a Sothis Period. Eventually, the Greek rulers of Egypt under Ptolemy added the concept of a leap year, adding a day every 4 years. The Romans reinforced this concept when they later ruled Egypt.

The Roman Calendar:

We owe the modern calendar's differing number of days each month to the Romans. The early Roman calendar consisted of 12 months beginning in March (later January became the start of the year).

The early Romans attempted to synchronize the months with the first crescent moon following a new moon resulting in some months of 29 days and some of more. Every other year, February was shortened and a leap month (Intercalaris) was added in an attempt to realign lunar cycles with the solar calendar. The lengths of the years in a four-year cycle of this lunisolar calendar were 355, 377, 355, and 378 days. This added up to 4 days too many to stay in sync with the solar year.

The Julian Calendar:

Eventually Julius Caesar asked an astronomer, Sosigenes of Alexandria, Egypt, to devise a better calendar. What resulted is called the Julian Calendar. He abandoned aligning the months with lunar cycles, and adopted months of 30 or 31 days length, keeping February at 28 days. He introduced an extra day in February in leap years. Sound familiar?

Julius Caesar re-named the 5th month after himself. His successor, Augustus Caesar, re-named the 6th month after himself.

September 2, 1752 - The British ended their use of the Julian calendar, switching instead to the Gregorian calendar, resulting in a major adjustment as Wednesday, September 2, was followed by Thursday, September 14. The correction resulted in rioting by people who felt cheated and demanded the missing eleven days back.

Many other interesting historical facts occurring in September (Middle English: Septembre from Latin September, seventh month in the early Roman calendar):

September 2, 1864 - During the American Civil War, Atlanta was captured by Sherman's Army. "Atlanta is ours, and fairly won," General William T. Sherman telegraphed President Lincoln.

September 3, 1783 - The Treaty of Paris was signed by John Adams, Ben Franklin, and John Jay, formally ending the American Revolutionary War between Britain and the United States.

September 3, 1838 - Anti-slavery leader Frederick Douglass began his escape from slavery by boarding a train in Baltimore dressed as a sailor. He rode to Wilmington, Delaware, where he caught a steamboat to the free city of Philadelphia, then took a train to New York City where he came under the protection of the Underground Railway network.

September 11, 2001 - The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history occurred as four large passenger jets were hijacked then crashed, killing nearly 3,000 persons. Four separate teams of Mideast terrorists, operating from inside the U.S., boarded the morning flights posing as passengers then forcibly commandeered the aircraft. Two fully fueled jumbo jets, American Airlines Flight 11 carrying 92 people and United Airlines Flight 175 carrying 65 people, had departed Boston for Los Angeles. Both jets were diverted by the hijackers to New York City where they were piloted into the twin towers of the World Trade Center. The impact and subsequent fire caused both 110-story towers to collapse, killing 2,752 persons including hundreds of rescue workers and people employed in the towers. In addition, United Airlines Flight 93, which had departed Newark for San Francisco, and American Airlines Flight 77, which had departed Dulles (Virginia) for Los Angeles, were hijacked. Flight 77 with 64 people on board was diverted to Washington, D.C., then piloted into the Pentagon building, killing everyone on board and 125 military personnel inside the building. Flight 93 with 44 people on board was also diverted toward Washington but crashed into a field in Pennsylvania after passengers attempted to overpower the terrorists on board.

September 12, 1953 - John F. Kennedy, 36, married Jacqueline Bouvier, 24, in a ceremony before 750 invited guests at St. Mary's Church in Newport, Rhode

Island, conducted by Archbishop Richard Cushing of Boston.

September 16, 1620 - The *Mayflower* ship departed from England, bound for America with 102 passengers and a small crew. The ship weathered dangerous Atlantic storms and reached Provincetown, Massachusetts on November 21st. The Pilgrims disembarked at Plymouth on December 26th.

September 25, 1513 - Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa first sighted the Pacific Ocean after crossing the Isthmus of Panama.

September 25, 1690 - The first American newspaper was published. A single edition of *Publick Occurrences Both Foreign and Domestick* appeared in Boston, Massachusetts. However, British authorities considered the newspaper offensive and ordered its immediate suppression.

September 26, 1789 - The U.S. Postal Service was founded.

September 28, 1542 - California was discovered by Portuguese navigator Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo upon his arrival at San Diego Bay.

NEWS FROM THE STATES

Educable Children Records (Mississippi), 1850-1894; 1906-1965

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/>

Genealogy researchers have another tool to locate ancestors in two recently digitized government records collections, Series 105, Educable Children Lists and Series 21, Enumeration of Educable Children. Educable children records have proven invaluable to researchers trying to locate elusive Mississippians, as some families missed by the state or federal census may be found in these records. They also include records from the 1950's, which is useful to researchers because the most recent census available is the 1940 census.

The materials presented include lists of educable (school age) children submitted by Mississippi counties to the state's Secretary of State and Department of Education. The lists vary in content by year and may include such information as name, age, gender, race, election district or ward, name of parent or guardian, address, and reason for withdrawal from school. The records, which are not indexed, are grouped by county.

The earliest records, dating 1850-1894, are lists prepared by counties and filed with the Secretary of State. Records dating 1906-1965 include lists prepared by the Superintendent of Education in each county and filed with the Department of Education.

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California Digital Newspaper Collection

<http://cdnc.ucr.edu/>

A freely accessible repository of digitized California newspapers from 1846 to the present; this collection contains 61,412 issues comprising 545,955 pages and 6,364,529 articles.

The California Digital Newspaper Collection is a project of the Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research (CBSR) at the University of California, Riverside.

The CDNC is supported in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

The CBSR has received three grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize California newspapers for the National Digital Newspaper Program. Titles digitized as part of the NDNP are available both here and at the Library of Congress Chronicling America website.

Georgia's Virtual Vault

<http://cdm.georgiaarchives.org:2011/cdm/>

If you've got Georgia on your mind, there are several very useful collections of online archives covering the state's history and records.

The Virtual Vault is a very varied collection of digital materials, as should be evident from a quick scan of the titles (partial list):

- Chatham County Deed Books
- Colonial Will Books
- Colonial Wills
- Confederate Enlistment Oaths and Discharges
- Confederate Pension Application Supplements
- County Maps
- County Records Microfilm Index
- County Tax Digests
- District Plats of Survey
- District Survey Field Notebooks
- Georgia Death Certificates
- Georgia Non-Indexed Death Certificates
- Georgia Colonial and Headright Plat Index
- Governors' Letterbooks
- Headright and Bounty Plats
- Historic Maps
- Historic Postcard Collection
- Lamar Q. Ball Collection
- Leo Frank Clemency Application, 1915
- Marriage Records from Microfilm
- Militia Enrollment Lists, 1864
- Confederate Pension Applications
- Small Print Collection
- Spanish-American War Service Summary Cards
- Vanishing Georgia
- Virtual Georgia