



# Arlington Genealogical Society News

101 E. Abram Street, Arlington, TX 76010

MARCH 2014

**TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014**  
**Arlington Central Library**  
**Community Room 6:30 p.m.**



**PROGRAM: Mary Louise Garcia,**  
Tarrant County Clerk. Ms. Garcia will  
discuss the responsibilities of her office and  
the impact it has on the lives of Tarrant  
County residents and the economy.

The following people have volunteered to  
furnish refreshments for the March meeting:  
Sylvia Hoad, Chris Roser, Ruth Goodman  
and Barbara Richardson.

Officers for 2013-14 are:

President: Sylvia Hoad  
1st VP: Refreshments: Linda Tong  
Asst.: Cecilia Messick  
2nd VP: Program Committee:  
Pete Jacobs, assisted by  
Dorothy Rencurrel  
Secretary: Alice Noe  
Treasurer: Virginia Orchard  
Asst. for Membership: Don Lewis  
Parliamentarian: Cherry Williams  
Newsletter: Ruth Goodman  
Library Liaison: Mary Ann Conrad  
Publicity: Wally and Ruth Goodman

Web Master: Sheri Tiner

Web Address:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txags>

Arlington Genealogical Society meets on the  
second Tuesday monthly from September  
through June. Annual Dues, which are due  
in September, are \$15 for an individual and  
\$20 for a family.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FUTURE AGS PROGRAMS

**April 8: Carl Oehmann,** Apex  
Genealogical Services  
**May 13: Judy Everett Ramos,**  
Fort Worth Examiner  
**June 10: Wayne Halliburton,** President of  
Friends of the Arlington Library  
**July and August** AGS does not meet.  
Hope to see you in September.

### COMING EVENTS FOR THE AREA

**March 5: Genealogy Assn. of Colleyville:**  
Organizing and Displaying Family  
Heirlooms (Scrapbooking)  
**March 6: Grand Prairie GS:** Sandra  
Crowley on "Using Timelines to  
Solve Problems"  
**March 6: Mid-Cities GS** will feature  
Kathleen Kent on her latest book  
"The Outcasts," which is based in the  
bayou country southeast of Houston.

**March 7: The National Archives Fort Worth** – Montgomery Plaza Location will hold a Friday Freebie program on March 7, 2014 at 12:00 noon. The topic will be “Introduction to Genealogy from a Volunteer’s Perspective” given by David McClellan, NARA Volunteer. Learn the basics of researching for genealogical information. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today by e-mailing: [ftworth.education@nara.gov](mailto:ftworth.education@nara.gov)

**March 8: Billy W. Sills Lecture Series** will feature Max Courtney, Forensic Scientist and historian on "James Courtney, Farmer, Soldier, Enigma." All presentations are scheduled for Saturday mornings from 10-12 at the Billy W. Sills Center for Archives, 2720 Cullen Street, Fort Worth, TX. 817-814-2040.

**March 13: Cedar Hill GS** features Bernard Meisner on "Applying Family Naming Conventions to your Genealogical Research. "

**March 21: Grand Prairie GS** will have a "Lock-in Research Night" from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. You can research and network with experienced genealogists. For more information: <http://gpgstx.org/>

**March 22: Fort Worth GS** Beginners Workshop started in January, 2014. The program for March, Terri Meeks will be "Researching at the County Courthouse." These programs are free and meet at the Chappell Meeting Room at the Fort Worth Central Library from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. You can contact Ms. Meeks at [terri.meeks@sgbcglobal.net](mailto:terri.meeks@sgbcglobal.net) You can also visit the FWGS website at [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/)



Mark your calendar for March 19-23 for the Friends of the Arlington Public Library Spring Book Sale at Meadowbrook Park.

March 19 (Weds.) 3-7 p.m.

MEMBERS ONLY

March 20 3-7 p.m.

March 21 and 22 9-5

March 23 11a.m.-4 p.m.

Half Price Day

**March 22: Dallas GS Spring Seminar** will feature Laura Prescott from 9:30-4:30.

More information can be found at <http://www.dallasgenealogy.org>

**March 25: FWGS** presents Gail Blackenau on "Keeping Up With the Smiths and Joneses."

**July 17, 18, 19, 2014: Angelina College** Genealogy Conference in Lufkin, TX <http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy/genealogy.html>

## FEBRUARY AGS PROGRAM

Due to inclement weather, the February AGS meeting was cancelled. Wayne Halliburton, President of the Friends of the Arlington Library, has agreed to speak to us in June, 2014.

## 2014 DGS WRITING CONTEST

The Dallas GS is sponsoring its 2014 Writing Contest. For more information: <http://www.dallasgenealogy.org/Info/Guidelines.pdf>

## FamilySearch Wants to Digitize Your Obituary Collection

FamilySearch has declared 2014 the “Year of the Obituary” and is working with partners and the larger genealogy community to collect and digitize millions of obituaries from the United States, with other countries soon to follow. Now the project is asking for volunteers to submit significant collections of obituaries. FamilySearch does not have enough manpower to accept collections from individuals. Instead, the plan is to have Family History Centers collect obituaries and submit them to FamilySearch in large quantities. FamilySearch will scan and digitize the collections. The obituaries will then be indexed and placed online. In order to allow large quantities of obituaries to be digitized, the items to be submitted must be camera-ready, meaning the obituaries should be attached to the same-sized cards (3×5, 4×6) or to 8 1/2 by 11 inch paper.

You can read more in an article by Nathan W. Murphy in the FamilySearch Blog at <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/familysearch-hs-obituary-digitization-project/>.

Dick Eastman on February 25, 2014

A couple of pointers from the Family History Fair at the Arlington Texas Stake on March 1, 2014: Take another look at what is available on <https://familysearch.org> There are many videos and downloadable papers to help you in your research. When looking for a specific area, click on the Site Map. Click on Blog for the latest news and also Wiki for further assistance. Also, when researching books, which are online, it is best to use Internet Explorer rather than Firefox--the images are clearer. When you

go to FamilySearch, be sure to sign in or set up an account as this will enable you to see more information when you research.

Some of the videos from Rootstech.org 2014 can be viewed online. You will have to click on one to see if it is available. One that was presented at the History Fair was by Tammy Hepps on "Top 10 Things I Learned from My Couch."

<https://rootstech.org/about/videos/?id=3198375907001>

When you go to the above address, you can also download some of the syllabus. NOTE: I have had some problems with the videos and syllabus. The address given above is the best one I have found so far. I suggest you have patience.

### WEBSITES

Pennsylvania State Archives: Land Records--free

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/land\\_records/3184](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/land_records/3184)

Geni is a social networking website. Their goal is to create one interlinked family tree. <http://www.geni.com/>

Dictionary of Period Russian Names--free <http://heraldry.sca.org/names/paul/>

These images were introduced in 1839 and continued until the eve of the Civil War. <http://daguerre.org/>

Germans from Russia Heritage Collection <http://library.ndsu.edu/grhc/>





## THE ARLINGTON JOURNAL (cont.)

by Will Keller

### Friday March 29, 1929

The following account of James Allen Choat, who is known in Arlington and had many friends here, appeared in the "Dublin Progress" of March 22:

"With the passing of **James Allen Choat**, who died very suddenly of a heart attack at the home of his sister-in-law, Mrs. P. H. Harrison at Arlington, Texas, at 12:40 Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, Erath County has lost another of its "Grand Old Men" and another of those who **wore the gray and fought under Lee for the Sunny South** during those bitter years of strife way back in the sixties, has answered the last roll call and "taps" have been sounded.

"Mr. and Mrs. Choat had been in Arlington a little more than a week. They resided in the Harbin community near their daughter's (Mrs. Luther Cline) home.

"This grand old soldier was born in Tanie County, Missouri, March 13, 1844, and had celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday just a few days prior to his death.

"He grew to young manhood in Missouri and when only sixteen years of age he joined the Missouri State Guard, was with this organization for the first six months of the Civil War, later he was a member of Marmon Duke's Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Co. H.

"After the close of the war this gallant soldier joined a group of immigrants en route to Texas, arriving in Tarrant County in 1866, settling near Mansfield. It was there he met and married Miss Julia Dalton. To this union eight children were born, five of whom with the wife survive. They are: S. R. Choat, Clovis, New Mexico; A. M. Choat, Comanche; Mrs. E. E. Jones, Stephenville; Mrs. L. C. Cline, Dublin. Besides these he leaves to mourn his loss, 21 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

"In 1875, Mr. Choat with his family came to Erath County, settling near Lingleville, later moving nearer Dublin. In 1879 he united with the Christian church and was an active member of the First Christian church here for many years. He was industrious, energetic and ambitious and a leader in his community, always in the front ranks working for the betterment of his community. As a worthy citizen he was without a peer and he stood for all those things that make this great country of ours what it is today. He was a Christian father who taught the great truths of the Master to his children, a devoted husband and a true friend to mankind.

"The remains were brought to the home of his daughter, Mrs. Luther Cline at Harbin, Sunday noon, and funeral services were conducted in the home at four o'clock p. m. by Rev. W. F. Reynolds of the First Christian church of Dublin. After the services interment took place at the Cottonwood cemetery; the granddaughters of the deceased placing the beautiful flowers on the grave."

### Friday April 5, 1929 By Ruth E. Miller

Word has also been received that **Little Billie Murr**, the six-year-old son of Mrs. J. D. Robinson and the grandson and the grandson of Mrs. A. Rowden, who lived in our community until about the first of December, was buried in Azle last Tuesday afternoon. Besides his mother and grandmother, Little Billy is survived by his father, C. L. Murr, and one brother C. L. Jr. of Amarillo, and one sister, Rhea, of Ft. Worth.

### Friday April 5, 1929 EULESS NEWS By Sally Ferris

Funeral service was held here on Wednesday for **Miss Lillian Stapleton** of Fort Worth. She was in an automobile wreck on Monday afternoon of last week, and lived until Tuesday night. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edd Stapleton of Fort Worth. We were very sorry indeed to learn of her death. We sympathize with her loved ones in their great sorrow.