



# Arlington Genealogical Society News

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P. O. Box 373, Arlington, TX 76004-0373

JANUARY 2016

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016**

**6:30 - 9:00 p.m.**

**Community Room of  
Arlington West Police Service Station  
2060 W. Green Oaks Blvd.**

**January 12, 2016: Gayle W. Hanson** on  
"Early Education in Texas and the Jeanes  
Supervisors/Teachers."



In 1907 Anna Jeanes, a Quaker, pledged one million dollars to the betterment of basic education for blacks in rural American schools. The Jeanes Fund was unique in several respects: It was created by a woman, had a racially integrated board, became international, and existed until 1968.

The following people have volunteered to furnish refreshments for the January meeting: Mary Ann Conrad, Sue Mathios, and Jeannie Schemensky.

## **AGS OFFICERS 2015-2016**

President: Pete Jacobs  
1st VP Programs: Steven Brown  
2nd VP Refreshments: Jeanne Rives  
Secretary: Sylvia Hoad  
Treasurer: Jeannie Schemensky  
Parliamentarian: Dorothy Rencurrel  
Publicity Chair: Ruth Goodman  
Purchasing Chair: Mary Ann Conrad  
Photographer: Wally Goodman  
Membership Chair: Cherry Williams  
Website: 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.

## **FUTURE AGS PROGRAMS**

**February 9:** To be announced

**March 8: Kelvin L. Meyers** on Fold3

**January 5, 2016: Finding Your Roots on  
PBS to Air, starting tonight.**

Dick Eastman · January 4, 2016 ·

*Finding Your Roots* with Professor Henry L. Gates will start its third season on [PBS](#) this week on Tuesday, January 5. Gates's lineup this season will include the likes of Bill O'Reilly, Shonda Rhimes, Jimmy Kimmel, Dustin Hoffman, Mia Farrow, Julianne Moore, Norman Lear, Senator John McCain, LL Cool J, Puffy Combs, Maya Rudolph, Bill Hader, Keenen Ivory Wayans and Gloria Steinem.

## **A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR SOCIETY PRESIDENT**

The most important document for the members of a genealogical society is the Bylaws. This document tells the members how the society functions day-to-day. Any active society needs to revise its Bylaws periodically. Presently, our AGS has a constitution along with bylaws. Having two governing documents is no longer recommended, so it is time to revise and update. The crafting of concise Bylaws takes time and effort. A special committee was established by the Board to do this work. The Bylaws committee chair is Dorothy Rencurrel, a long time AGS member and

experienced Parliamentarian. The revised Bylaws were reviewed and approved by the Board at the 21 November meeting. Copies of the revised Bylaws were distributed to members in attendance at the December meeting. A second distribution of the revised Bylaws to members was sent by email attached file or by mail on 23 December. We ask our members to carefully read these Bylaws. If you notice any typographical errors or omissions in the revised Bylaws please bring them to our attention. If you have any questions about the Bylaws, please call Dorothy at 817-465-1990, or email, [renrvol@yahoo.com](mailto:renrvol@yahoo.com). You may also call me at 817-543-0831, or email, [peteandlaureen@tx.rr.com](mailto:peteandlaureen@tx.rr.com). The Board will ask for your vote of approval for the revised Bylaws at the 12 January membership meeting.

In the December newsletter I wrote that the AGS website and financial committees are in need of additional talent. One of our members, John Anderson, has expressed an interest in assisting with the AGS website. If you have an interest in or experience with either website upkeep or money management, please contact an AGS board member. During the December meeting Ruth Goodman told me she would like to turn over the newsletter to a new editor after our June 2016 meeting. If you would like to be the next AGS Newsletter editor, please contact an AGS board member or contact Ruth directly.

To accommodate public meeting room rules, AGS held a cookie exchange at the December meeting instead of a Christmas buffet. Response was excellent; members brought favorites to share and exchange including the recipes. Some of the contributions reflected family heritage such as Southern or Italian or German. A few recipes are datable to the 1930s and 1950s. Thank you for your delicious contributions. Our First Vice President, Steven Brown, guided the membership in sharing family stories and family history at the December meeting. We heard how a stranger went out of her way to assist in the search for family

history; we heard how a recipe from generations past can enlighten our understanding of those times; we heard how a public family web site allowed unknown cousins to find family they did not know they had; we heard how different Christmas traditions can be in another country; and we heard a half dozen additional unique and interesting experiences in the pursuit of family history. I look forward to hearing more genealogy stories at the December 2016 meeting.

Peter G. Jacobs, President of the AGS

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE AREA

**January 7: Grand Prairie GS:** Digital Scrapbooking with Sandra Crowley at The Ruthe Jackson Center, 3113 S. Carrier Pkwy., Grand Prairie, at Carrier and Warrior. Note to change of location for the meetings.

**January 7: Mid Cities GS:** Speaker: **Mary Moore, MCGS Member**, on "How to Plan a Family Reunion."

## NARA FORT WORTH

**Jan. 8, 2016:** National Archives and Resolutions: Is it your New Year's resolution to get started in genealogy? Well, our January lunchtime learning program, "An Introduction to Genealogy," should certainly help. Join us on January 8th at high noon at the National Archives at Fort Worth, 1400 John Burgess Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76140. Please RSVP by calling 817-551-2051 or emailing us at [ftworth.education@nara.gov](mailto:ftworth.education@nara.gov)

Check us out on Facebook:  
<http://www.facebook.com/nationalarchivesfortworth>

**January 14: Cedar Hill GS:** "Was Your Grandmother A Relict? What Do Those Old Words Mean?" by Barbara Wylie

**February 4: Mid Cities GS: Speaker: Laura Weekley** on "What Can You Do with the Results of Your DNA Test?"

## **NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR GENEALOGISTS**

The beginning of a new year is a sign that we need to reevaluate our lives, as well as genealogy, for the coming year.

There are the usual things to think about, such as getting organized, documenting what we have and reexamining the records we already have for a "hidden" clue.

We could also consider some more obscure resolutions.

**Do a Random Act of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK)** You can do this on your own, or join a Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness group, such as this one at Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/raogkUSA/>

Do you like to look up genealogical records? —Then answer someone's query or add a memorial to an online site.

Do you like to type? —Then index a record. FamilySearch.org is a good place to start.

Do you like photography? —Then visit a cemetery and post a photo online that shows the text of a fading headstone.

Are you a photo software guru? —Then touch up someone's creased, crinkly or faded ancestral image.

Do you like to listen? —Then interview and video a veteran or a treasured family member!

**Archive and protect family treasures!** Many heirlooms are improperly handled. To help prevent this, proper labeling and storage should be considered.

**Make backups of all electronic genealogical data.**

When disaster strikes, all of your family history data can disappear in an instant—but if you have a digital backup, all is not lost!

**Address your genealogy in your will.** At least make certain that all your children know that all of your research should be given to a responsible party, such as a library, so that it is not placed at the curb as trash.

**Publish your genealogy, lest you perish before anything looks official.**

Use a service within your genealogy software, a commercial printer, or publisher to create your family history book.

**Be kind to others.** If someone took the time to share a genealogical discovery, be grateful, even if they've made a typo or error in fact. Too often in the genealogical community we encounter slammers and complainers, who undoubtedly make many mistakes of their own!

Remember this rule of thumb: even if you are 99% accurate, then you will make a typo or mistake

- every 100 characters typed
- as much as 14.4 minutes of a 24-hour day, or
- as much as 9.6 minutes of 16 "awake" hours each day

**Be a genealogy sharer, not a hoarder.** You never know where your next clue is located or your information could be what another genealogist has been searching.

**Give credit where credit is due—not just to authors, but to anyone who assists you via e-mail, mail or in person.** Remember that another's genealogy might not be 100% correct, but it can be used as another place for you to start looking.

*Via GenealogyBank Blog*

## **AN OVERVIEW OF THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT PROGRAM**

### **Summary**

In the 1930s, amidst concern about the ability of existing pension programs to provide former railroad workers with

adequate assistance in old age, Congress established a national Railroad Retirement system. This system is primarily administered by the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB), which is an independent federal agency charged with providing benefits to eligible employees of the railroad industry and their families. Today, the Railroad Retirement program is closely tied to the far better-known Social Security program, and although the Railroad Retirement program and Social Security share a number of common elements, key differences also exist between the two in areas such as funding and benefit structure. This article aims to increase awareness and understanding of the Railroad Retirement program and its relationship with Social Security by examining the parallel development of these two retirement programs while illuminating areas where the two diverge. The history of the Railroad Retirement program, the benefits provided by the program, and RRB's financial operations are reviewed, using elements of the Social Security system as points of reference.

<https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/ssb/v68n2/v68n2p41.html>

The Midwest Genealogy Center, part of the Mid-Continent Public Library in Missouri, has put online a free index to over 1.5 million pension records from the US Railroad Retirement Board.

<http://quicklook.midwestgenealogycenter.org/>

### **COLORADO DRAFT REGISTRATIONS**

The Foothills Genealogical Society of Colorado is building an index to the State of Colorado's "Old Man Draft Registration" of World War II draft registrations in Colorado. Clear Creek, Gilpin, Jefferson and Park counties have been completed and are available on the society's web site. The remaining counties in Colorado are being indexed now and will be added to the web site as they become available. You can learn more and also access the index on the

Foothills Genealogical Society of Colorado web site at <http://foothillsgenealogy.org>  
*Via Dick Eastman October 30, 2015*

### **TWINS BORN IN DIFFERENT YEARS**

This will cause confusion for future genealogists. Twins were born a few minutes apart on Thursday evening/Friday morning in San Diego, California. The confusing part is that the clock struck midnight during those few minutes. Not only were Jaelyn and Luis Salgado born on different days, they also were born in different years.

They became the last baby of 2015 and the first baby of 2016 at San Diego Kaiser Permanente Zion Medical Center. Pictures and a video are available at <http://goo.gl/UnNCmB>.  
*Via Dick Eastman January 4, 2016*

### **A TECHIE'S OBITUARY**

This has gone viral on Reddit. William Fink was a life-long techie and lover of computers and all sorts of other assorted modern devices. His obituary in the Belleville (Illinois) News-Democrat, written by his bother Matthew. The full obituary may be found at <http://goo.gl/2CUHQw>.  
*Via Dick Eastman December 23, 2015*

### **KENTUCKY COUNTY COURT RECORDS NOW ONLINE**

A "batch" of Kentucky county court records dating from the late 18th and early 19th centuries have been digitized and are now available to all online on the University of Kentucky web site. The newly-digitized documents do not include all court records that were written at the time. Some records have been lost over the years, others were destroyed by fires or perhaps deliberately by clerks who were not aware of the historical significance of these documents.

You can read more at <http://goo.gl/tb0HZE> while images of the documents may be seen at <http://goo.gl/WY1sMi>

*Via Dick Eastman · December 18, 2015*

### **NEW EAST CENTRAL INDIANA GENEALOGY ALLIANCE IS BEING FORMED**

A new genealogy society is being formed in Indiana. The East Central Indiana Genealogy Alliance serves the counties of Delaware, Hancock, Henry, Madison, and Randolph. The not-for-profit group is focused on helping those interested in learning more about their family history and supporting local historical societies and repositories.

The new group will hold its first general membership meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 7-8 p.m. at the Delaware County Historical Society. Karen Good will be presenting Genealogy 101.

You can learn more at the new organization's web site at

<http://www.eciga.info>

*Via Dick Eastman · December 18, 2015*

### **HUGE FREE COLLECTION OF DIGITIZED BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE ON MYHERITAGE**

MyHeritage (the sponsor of Dick Eastman's newsletter) has just released a collection of about 37,000 digital books, roughly 250 million pages, that are useful for genealogy research. [Search Compilation of Published Sources now](#)

*Via Dick Eastman · December 7, 2015*



**THE ARLINGTON JOURNAL** (cont.)  
by Will Keller

**Friday September 20, 1929**

Board! Board! All Board! Cisco, Abilene, Sweetwater, Big Spring, Midland,

and El Paso. Connections with western routes. Ship leaves in two minutes, get your ticket ready, call your port. Board!

Contact! Contact! Off! Contact! Contact! After priming the motor the propeller is given another twist and this time the motors of the huge monoplane start with a boom and gradually tone down to a rhythmical hum.

Your ticket bought your baggage checked and your seat assigned, you are ushered into the plane. The interior of a millionaire's limousine could not be more comfortable or more elegantly appointed. Adjustable windows assure coolness until the plane has reached a high altitude, where the breeze is so cool that the windows are closed.

With all the passengers on board, the plane starts across the field and in a few moments is leaving the ground. As the ship gains altitude, the city below begins to look like a miniature layout in a sand pile. Up, up, over Marine Park with the swimming pool, a tiny mirror lying on the ground reflecting the clouds; North Main Street, alive with crawling ants of automobiles, the cemetery located off North Main Street laid off in precise squares, dotted with white tombstones; all stretching out in tiny replica of the city below. As you go over the business section, familiar buildings take shape and as the West Seventh curve is made; the trip to the west is begun, and last glances of the green Trinity winding in and out of the residence section fade into a stretch of open country toward the west. Town after town goes under and the first stop is Abilene unless some passenger wishes to deplane at Cisco, which is a call station. Sweetwater is also a call station but the others along the route are regular stops.

The fares to the western as well as other airports are much less than they were even a year ago. From Ft. Worth to Abilene, which is about 175 miles, the fare is \$14.40. The trip takes 1 hour and 35 minutes. From Fort Worth to El Paso the T. A. T. line charges \$57.60 and lands you there in 5 hours and 30 minutes after you take off from

Meacham Field. Other fares are in accordance. Passenger planes are now reaching practically every city of any size in the state and airport lines are making connections with all out of the state lines. Many of the companys run regular passenger planes out of the state. The fare to Dallas is \$3, and the time is less than twenty minutes.

Stop-overs are allowed on all tickets provided they are arranged for with the company when the ticket is purchased.

Children under five years of age when accompanied by an adult passenger and not occupying a seat to the exclusion of other passengers, will be carried free. If the child occupies a seat to the exclusion of other passengers, regardless of age, full fare is charged.

You are allowed baggage to the amount of twenty-five pounds on your ticket. Baggage weighing more than the allowance is charged at regular express rates. No piece of baggage is carried that weighs more than fifty pounds.

Special planes are always available at any of the airports. Rates are higher, of course, but even these are not exorbitant. Transportation to and from the airports is furnished.

As you reach your destination, refreshed, cool, and ready for your business appointment or party, you will step from the plane and register at the airport, where you will be extended all the courtesies possible to offer a visitor. The mode of transportation has undergone a change and after you have taken your first trip you will be among the enthusiastic patrons of airplane travel.

### **Friday September 27, 1929**

#### **Arlington Has:**

- Two banks.
- Eight dry Goods stores.
- Two variety stores.
- Fifteen grocery stores.
- Five drug stores.
- Twenty-five auto service stations.
- Three shoe shops.
- Five barber shops.
- Three beauty parlors.

- Five automobile agencies
- One paint manufacturing plant.
- One ornamental iron manufacturing plant.
- One brick factory, 1 mile north.
- Two lumber yard and one under construction.
- Two hardware stores.
- Four furniture stores.
- Two plumbing establishments.
- Seven real estate firms.
- One laundry.
- One ice plant.
- One newspaper.
- One junior college.
- Two ward schools and high school.
- Seven churches.
- Five fraternal orders.
- Two lawyers.
- Three dentists.
- Six doctors.
- Two photographers.
- One theatre.
- Six restaurants.
- A four million dollar race track.
- Four cleaning and pressing shops.
- Modern highways leading in every direction, the Texas and Pacific Ry., interurban line and busses hourly provide transportation.
- Lights and power are furnished by the Northern Texas Traction Company, 60 and 25 cycle currents. The Southwestern Telephone Company owns the telephone system. The water works system is owned by the City of Arlington, also the City Park, golf links and swimming pool. The water supply is from deep wells and provides an abundant supply of artesian water.

