



Arlington Genealogical Society News

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

APRIL 2017

<http://arlingtongenealogytx.org/>

TUESDAY, April 11, 2017

6:30 P.M.

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

PROGRAM: "Five Steps to Identify a Family Photo" Maureen Taylor will share five important steps that will help you take a photo from unknown to part of your family history. This will be a video presentation from RootsTech 2016.

The following people have volunteered to furnish refreshments for the meeting:
Colleen Lawson, Mary Ann Conrad,
Jan Penland and Steven Brown.

Arlington Genealogical Society meets on the second Tuesday monthly from September through June.

The Arlington Genealogical Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit (EIN: 90-0890150), incorporated in the State of Texas.

Annual Dues, which are due in September, are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family.

AGS OFFICERS

President: Pete Jacobs
1st VP Programs: Steven Brown
2nd VP Refreshments: Jeanne Rives
Secretary: Sylvia Hoad
Treasurer: Jeannie Schemensky

AGS COMMITTEES

Parliamentarian: Dorothy Rencurrel
Publicity Chair: Ruth Goodman
Membership Chair: Jan Penland
Collection Development Chair:
Mary Ann Conrad

Web Admin. Volunteer:

John D. Anderson

Finance Chair: Jeanne Rives

Photographer: Wally Goodman

UPCOMING AGS MEETINGS:

May 9: Roger Cobb will speak on DNA and genealogy.

June 13: Breaking Through Brick Walls with Steve Brown

FAPL SPRING BOOK SALE



Weds., April 5: 2-7 p.m. FFAPL Members Only. Memberships available at the door.

Thurs., April 6: 2-7 p.m.

Friday, April 7: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sat., April 8: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. featuring Blue Book Specials!

Sunday, April 9: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

HALF PRICE DAY!

Sunday 5:15 - 6 p.m. Teachers/Non-Profit Special

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR SOCIETY PRESIDENT

A few words from your Society president, During your pursuit and collection of genealogy records and / or family history facts an occasional review of research

techniques is always a good idea. The Arlington Public Library (APL) genealogy reference collection of 6000 plus titles on library shelves at NE Branch do not circulate, however the APL has a good cross section of genealogy “how-to-books” to choose from that do check out. Two books often recommended are: Emily Ann Croom’s [Unpuzzling Your Past](#), fourth edition republished in 2010, and George G. Morgan’s [How To Do Everything: Genealogy](#), fourth edition updated and republished 2015. For a better understanding, try to check out both books at the same time. Then browse the contents and index pages to find the topics you’d like to focus on during your review. For example, Morgan’s book has a short but very informative chapter about DNA and its place in genealogy research.

Our publicity committee chair, Ruth Goodman, gave us notice at the 18 March Board meeting that she will be editing her last AGS Newsletter with the June issue. Ruth took up the editor job from Tom Cogdell in 2013. On behalf of the Society and its members, Thank you Ruth, for your dedication and hard work over the past four years. Our Society is now in need of a volunteer to publish the AGS Newsletter. Ruth will work with the new editor over the summer season to ensure a smooth transition. Please contact Ruth directly, or any board member, if you are interested in volunteering.

The special bylaws committee chaired by Dorothy Rencurrel, was activated at the 7 January Board meeting. A bylaw change to our current membership renewal dates is in the works. In essence the membership renewal date will change to match our financial year which is the calendar year. If approved by two thirds vote at the May or June meeting your membership will be extended through December 2017 with renewal due in January 2018.

As per the bylaws, officer elections are scheduled for the June Members meeting. The special nominating committee was

activated at the 18 March Board meeting with Sylvia Hoad as Chair and Jeanne Rives as the second board member. The bylaw calls for a third committee member from the membership. If you are interested in volunteering for the nominating committee, please contact Sylvia, or Jeanne, or any officer on the board. Any member in good standing is eligible to be nominated for an office. If you decide to nominate a member for office, please get the consent of the nominee in advance. The committee will announce a slate of nominees at the May members meeting.

Two projects, both currently under the purview of the board, an AGS Informational Video and AGS on Facebook.com, are in need of a volunteers. Please contact any board member if you are interested in helping your society enhance its presence in social media.

The next AGS Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday morning, April 29th, in the Lake Arlington Branch Library community room. Society members are always invited to participate by attendance or by sharing your ideas with a board member. Following the March meeting our membership count was in the mid-sixties. See you next Tuesday evening at the April 11th member meeting.

Peter G. Jacobs, President of the AGS

FORMER LIBRARY DIRECTOR



Dr. Betsy Lee Burson of Arlington, Texas, died Sunday, March 26, 2017, at the age of 74, in Glendale, Ariz. At Betsy's request, no services will be held. She will be laid to rest

at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 8, 2017, in the Greenlawn Cemetery in Pratt, Kan.

Dr. Burson finished her career as the Director of Libraries for the City of Arlington in 1990 and served until 2001. The American Library Association, named her Texas Librarian of the Year, 1995. Prior to retiring from the City of Arlington, her many years of civil duty, expanding and modernizing the city library system, was recognized by naming a street in her honor, "Betsy Burson Drive." Betsy supported many charitable organizations and always made sure to give back to her community. She has been a lifetime member of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE AREA

April 6: Grand Prairie GS: The program will feature Kelvin Myers. His topic is "I Can't Find the Marriage, What Do I Do Now?"

April 6: Mid Cities GS: "Breaking Through Your Genealogy Brick Walls: A Case Study Pre-recorded Webinar of **Crista Cowen**, The Barefoot Genealogist.

April 7: Archives and Lunchtime Learning: Introduction to Military Records National Archives at Fort Worth
Email: ftworth.education@nara.gov

NOTE: The next NARA Workshop will be October 6, on Naturalization Online. Come to learn how to locate many of these records at your fingertips.

April 8: Center for Texas Studies, in Tandy Auditorium, Fort Worth Central 10:30 - 12:00 Noon
"From Tea Cakes to Tamales: Third-Generation Texas Recipes" with **Nola McKey**, editor and author. "We know we need to preserve our Family History, but do we work to preserve our Family Recipes and Cooking Traditions?"

Sunday Nights: "Who Do You Think You Are" TLC U-verse channel 1250 at 9 p.m.

April 11: Cedar Hill GS: David Appleton on "In Their Footsteps: The Genealogical Tourist." He will share some practical tips for planning and performing a trip to walk in your ancestors' footsteps.

April 22: Billy W. Sills Lecture Series: "The Familiar & Not-So Familiar: Properties Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Fort Worth" by Susan Kline, historian and author.

April 22: Fort Worth GS's Beginning Genealogy Workshop Series, the instructor being Terri Meeks. "Information from Archives and Libraries"
terri.meeks@sbcglobal.net

May 22-25: Texas Institute of Genealogical Research of Texas State Genealogical Society in Austin, Texas. Featured speakers are Teri E. Flack, Kelvin L. Meyers, Anne Gillespie Mitchell, John A. Sellers and Cari A. Taplin.
<http://www.txsgs.org/texas-research-institute>

August 4 and 5, DGS 2017 Summer Seminar featuring **Lisa Louise Cooke Sunny Morton, and Diahn Southard** *Sources, Storytelling, & DNA*
Instructions and lunch details will be available soon.

Sept. 9: Fort Worth GS End of Summer Seminar with Lisa Louise Cooke, at Trimble Tech HS, Fort Worth

October 20-22: TxSGS Family History Conference in Houston, Texas.
<http://www.txsgs.org>

LINEAGE SOCIETIES:
When Judy Ramos spoke at the Fort Worth GS meeting in February, she shared a list of lineage societies.
<http://lineagesocietyofamerica.com/list-of-lineage-societies.html>

PIONEER FAMILIES OF TARRANT COUNTY

Did you know that Fort Worth GS sponsors a Heritage Group within the Society dedicated to preserving the lineages of Tarrant Counties Pioneer Families? To qualify, an applicant must submit documentation of your direct lineage back to the ancestor who resided in Tarrant County in or before 1870. Application blanks can be downloaded from the FWGS web site along with more on research and rules. http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/html/pioneer_families.html



ARCHIVES WITH ELEPHIND.COM

Elephind can be a great **FREE** resource for anyone who wishes to search old newspapers. The purpose of elephind.com is to make it possible to search all of the world's digital newspapers from one place and at one time. Elephind.com allows you to simultaneously search across thousands of articles using key words and phrases.

Elephind presently contains 174,143,178 items from 3,306 newspaper titles. You can find a list of libraries that have contribute their archives on the site by clicking on "List of Titles." It is a very long list! Clicking on any library's name displays the newspapers in that collection.

Elephind.com is much like Google, Bing, or other search engines but focused only on historical, digitized newspapers. By clicking on the Elephind.com search result that interests you, you'll go directly to the newspaper collection which hosts that story.

Of course, newspapers can be a great resource of genealogy information. Birth announcements, marriage announcements, court news, and more can be searched within seconds. If your ancestor was a merchant,

you probably can also find his or her advertisements placed in the newspaper.

You can try Elephind at <http://www.elephind.com>. Make sure you read the "Search Tips" at <http://www.elephind.com/?a=p&p=help&e=-----en-10--1--txt-txINTxCO-----> Yes, that is a strange-looking URL but it really is a link to the "Search Tips." *Via Dick Eastman · March 22, 2017*

MARCH MEETING



Ron Carter, John Anderson,
Cherry Williams, Dorothy Rencurrel
and Jeanne Rives

TIMELY GENEALOGY ORGANIZATION TIPS

3/30/2017 By Vanessa Wieland

Try this: take a 10-minute break after every 30 minutes. Figure out what you want to accomplish in that 30 minutes, and that way, once you've completed it, you'll enjoy a sense of accomplishment. Even if you don't, you can walk away after 30 minutes without guilt, because you're making progress.

1. Make an inventory.

Create a list or set of stacks of your paperwork. What do you have? Where does it currently live? **Bonus:** you may find while you're doing this that you start to see patterns, holes in your research, and inspiration for new research crop up during this process.

2. Determine the organization system that best works for you.

Try to keep it as simple as possible.

Determining your organization system might take a bit of self-reflection. Are you consistently organized or is your office a bit messy? How often do you work on your research? And what are your needs? You'll also want to factor in space, access, preservation and funds.

3. Sort your work into your organization system.

This is where that timer will really come in handy. You can tackle this a variety of ways, but here are some possible solutions to accomplishing items in your time frame:

- by branch/family (maternal and paternal)
- by surname
- by person
- by record
- by research question or log
-

4. Keep narrowing down your goal.

Narrow your goal until you have a target you can easily achieve.

5. Keep a research log or to-do list.

Track your research as you go to write down steps and things you may want to investigate. Don't let yourself get sidetracked. Write it down, then you can revisit it later. Facebook reader Jennifer Till advises, "Resist the urge to write on random scraps of paper--get a notebook with some kind of binding and carry it with you for all those random research thoughts."

The Difference Between Wills and Probate Documents

When you are doing genealogy, you will most likely eventually go into court records and look for the wills of your ancestors. Wills can have a huge amount of previously unknown genealogical information in them. You can confirm relationships with them, learn new relationships, and get an idea of the lifestyle of your ancestor by looking at the money they're giving away and the belongings they are assigning to various relatives. People have been making wills for centuries, so it's not a new thing. You will even find wills dating from the early middle

ages, and sometimes even earlier. The will of Cecily Neville in 1495 in England, for example, includes one of the earliest mentions of her then four-year-old great-grandson, the future **King Henry VIII**.

Since wills have been around for so long, the chances of you finding one for your ancestor is good. Not everyone made a will, though. If someone died without a will, they were considered to be "intestate." If they had heirs and anything of value, an inventory of their estate may have been taken instead of a will, and an executor of their estate appointed by the court. The inventory, declaration of executor, and all financial information concerned with the solvency or lack thereof of the estate are together known as the probate documents.

While there is not always a will in the probate documents, this does not mean there isn't a lot of good information on your ancestors in those documents. As an example, one ancestor of mine did not have a will, but the probate documents of his estate named a court-appointed executor. The name of the executor proved an important family relationship, as this ancestor had four confirmed sons, but there was a fifth male in the family who was always listed as the son of this ancestor's brother in **census records**, but as the ancestor's son in personal family records. The mystery fifth son's appointment as executor of the estate in probate documents proved the personal family records were right and the census records were not.

If you have always wondered if there are any family photos for a branch of your family, you may discover this in probate records, if photographs are included in the estate's inventory list. Then, you will have an avenue to explore for finding them by researching the line of the various children of the family who may have gotten them after the court was done probating the estate. You can tell if your ancestor was well-off or not from the monetary pages of probate

documents. You will also see a list of people to whom they owe money and who owe money to them. These people can offer clues as to other potential family relationships.

Without a will, the court has to decide on the disposition of someone's estate, under the guidance of the executor. It can take months, or sometimes years, to probate an estate, depending on how extensive it was. The longer it took for the estate to go through probate, the more papers will be in the file, and the more information you will find on the life of your ancestor and how he or she lived it.

- [North Carolina Wills, 1665-1900](#)
- [Mayflower Vital Records, Deeds and Wills, 1600s-1900s](#)
- [Maryland Probate Records, 1674-1774](#)
- [Virginia Land, Marriage, and Probate Records, 1700s-1900s](#)
- [Massachusetts Probate, Town, and Vital Records, 1600s-1900s](#)
- [Wills Galore! Using the New U.S. Wills Collection on Ancestry.com](#)

Via Ancestry Findings
<http://www.ancestralfindings.com/>

THE ARLINGTON JOURNAL (cont.)
by Will Keller

Friday February 21, 1930

Funeral services for **R. W. Cowden**, 58, were held Tuesday afternoon from the Shannon Funeral Home. Burial was in Mount Olivet Cemetery. Survivors are three sons, ? L. Cowden, Bryan; F. M. Cowden, Wichita Falls; R. E. Cowden, Dallas; one daughter, Mrs. W. L. Kluse, Statsenburg, Phillipine Islands; three brothers, W. R. Cowden, Midland and Linnen Cowden, Alamagorda, N. M., and a sister Mrs. A. F. Crowley, Kansas City, Mo. (*very difficult to read*)

Friday February 21, 1930

Sad news was received Thursday from San Angelo announcing the death of one of our own citizens, **S. R. Roy**, who was reared here, and only three years ago moved

to San Angelo to take a position with the City as Civil Engineer. Funeral services were held at the Robert Massie Chapel, with Rev. Elmer Ridgeway of the First Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in Belvedere Memorial Park. He is survived by the widow, three sisters; Mesdames J. D. McKnight, E. E. Rankin and A. C. Barnes, Arlington; and three brothers, Polk, Burns and Will Roy. Cliff Barnes and Edwin Rankin attended the funeral.

Friday February 21, 1930

In the last week our State lost two of its most prominent Masons, and in their passing away, not only the state but the fraternal orders mourn their loss, but our own "Home for Aged Masons" will feel it more keenly than ever, since they were members of the Board of Grand Trustees and had been in the Home so many times. Their association with these good men meant so much to Supt. W. J. Brown and family, also the officers and members of the Home. Bro. **D. S. McMillen** of Whitewright P.G.H.P. and Bro. **B. K. Hawkins** P.G.H.P. of Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, passed away and was laid to rest in their home towns by the Grand Chapter of Texas. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Brown attended both funerals. Dr. D. N. Cushing of San Antonio, P.G.H.P. will succeed Bro. B. K. Hawkins. Bro. McMillian's place is still vacant.

Friday February 21, 1930

Death again came into the Home for Aged Masons the past week and took away **Mrs. W. A. Nelson**, age 82, **M. V. Posey**, age 81, and **Mrs. James Harding** was found dead in bed Wednesday morning, having passed away with heart failure.

Friday February 21

Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Gandy of Malvern, Arkansas, attended the funeral of their uncle, **T. J. Eaverson**, Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Gandy are old time friends of the writer, and we are glad to hear that they are doing well in their new line of business.

Mr. Gandy and his brother –in-law, Ralph Abbot have Men’s Clothing and say they are doing a good business. We are always glad to hear of the success of our friends.

Remains were taken to Huntsville for burial, and the two above named were laid to rest in the Keystone Cemetery, Rev. R. T. Rouse of Arlington Baptist church, officiating.

Friday February 21, 1930

Arlington Kid Flyers

(picture of two boys in flying gear)

The above picture is one of our own boys, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wright and his chum, Frank Malone, of Dallas. We feel that Colonel Charles Lindbergh has two imitators who are believed to be two of the youngest air students in the country, and we congratulate James Harold Wright and Frank Malone on the wonderful achievements they are making.

They both registered at the new Curtiss-Wright school between Dallas and Fort Worth last week. Each has received several hours of instruction. They are shown in the photo above, rigged up in the standard flying garments, ready for a holiday flight. On the left is James Harold Wright of Arlington, 12 years old. At his side is Frank Malone of 4645 Travis street, 13 years old. Their instructors describe them as being extremely apt students.

Friday February 21, 1930

CURTISS – WRIGHT FLYING SERVICE

Our Manager, W. A. (Tex) Bohannon is in St. Louis for about two weeks attending the National Aeronautic Show, where Curtiss – Wright is also holding a Manger’s Conference with 42 base managers represented. He is expected back sometime next week and will probably fly back in a new plane for this base.

We have just moved seven planes over to the new field here from Love Field where they had been in storage, and all flying and operations will be done hereafter off this field. Another plane, a Challenger Robin, was ferried down here from

Syracuse, N. Y. and landed late Saturday last, making a total of eight planes at this base now.

The No. 1 Ground School Class having been completely filled, we started a new Ground School Class No. 2, which is held on Monday and Thursday evenings at 8:00 o’clock. K. W. Bourie, J. W. Cantrell and G. E. Sossamon, all of Arlington, Texas, have enrolled in this No. 2 class.

We are moving our temporary offices in the old Rainbo Garden Building into the new hangar next week. The offices are now being laid with heavy battleship grey linoleum, will be ready for occupancy Monday. Plans are now in progress for the Airport opening which will probably be some time in March. Curtiss – Wright Exhibition Corporation is going to put on an aerial show and exhibition for the opening. The planes they use for exhibition date back to the early Wright pushers used in 1909 and up to the present high powered commercial and military planes. The Curtiss Tanager, which won the \$100,000.00 Daniel Guggenheim Safety Contest, will be flown on exhibition.

Friday February 21, 1930

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Gowan have received the sad message of the death of **Mrs. Gowan** who passed away in Fort Worth Monday at noon, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. H. Carter. Mr. and Mrs. Gowan lived in Arlington many years and since Mr. Gowan was made almost an invalid three years ago on account of a stroke of paralysis, the children thought best to have their parents where they could have every attention, so moved them away, but their friends here in Arlington still thought of them and kept in close touch, not realizing that Mrs. Gowan would go first. She had a stroke of paralysis and passed away. Her body will be laid to rest in the Bellevue Cemetery her old home town among many friends. Her husband and daughters, Mrs. E. H. Carter, Fort Worth, Mrs. I. G. Thompson, Dallas, Mrs. Cecil of Tampa, Texas, and sons, R. T. and Garrett Gowan survive her.

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Friday February 21, 1930

JACK EAVENSON KILLED WHEN TRUCK TURNED OVER

Arlington Resident For Twenty-Two years. Buried Wednesday.

A gloom of sadness passed over the city and community Monday afternoon when the sad news came that **T. Jack Eaverson**, age 57, had been killed instantly on the Fort Worth – Dallas Pike near Fort Worth at Anna Avenue at 2 o'clock p. m. Mr. Eaverson had started to Fort Worth on business and was about to cross the street car track when he swerved his truck to keep from striking the street car, his truck overturned into the curb and embankment into a ditch. The machine was upright when it halted but the cab crushed his head, fracturing his skull.

Mr. Eaverson has lived in Arlington for twenty-two years, and he was a man everyone loved and admired for his true christian life and his influence meant much to those who had the privilege of associating with him. He was a member of the Board of Stewards of the First Methodist Church and was ever ready to do his part in promoting the cause he represented, not only in the church, but in the entire community which will miss him and the good work he has always done for the betterment of the town.

T. Jack Eaverson and Miss May Abbott were married in Como, Miss., about twenty three years ago and soon after, they moved to Arlington and have lived here since. To them were born three children, Mrs. Virgil Smith, Jack Jr., and Elizabeth. He leaves his widow, three children, his father who is past eighty years of age and lives at Como, Miss., four sisters, Mrs. Cecil

Abbott, Malvern, Ark., Mrs. Sallie Arnold, Mrs. Mattie Thompson, Mrs. Dixie Turnipseed and brother, E. A. Eavenson of Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. Eavenson has travelled for the Lyons Company for many years, and on February 1, he became District Manager for the Cities Service Gas Company, and was on a trip for the company when he was killed. Funeral services were held at the Methodist Church, Wednesday afternoon at 2:30, Rev. J. H. Stewart officiating, assisted by Rev. C. A. Statham. His body was laid to rest in Park Dale Cemetery by the Hugh Moore Funeral Home. The Journal joins the city and community in extending sincere sympathy to the bereaved.

Active pall bearers were: Thos. Spruance, Chester Gates, J. W. Pulley, Mike Ditto, and Gordon Nichols.

Honorary pall bearers: Stewards of the First Methodist Church – C. L. Killian, C. B. Berry, Wm Knapp, W. F. Altman, J. E. Arnold, J. M. Biggers, M. C. Christopher, Clyde Everette, e. B. Foster, B. F. Geeslin, Clinton Griffin, Boyd Lawson, W. J. MacFarland, D. D. Parks, Jack Patterson, W. J. Pulley, Homer Slaughter, S. T. Smith, W. B. Taylor, Linus Thomas, W. C. Vaughn, O. M. Bondurant, F. E. Shanks. Mesdames J. D. Cooper, M. ?. Brogdon, C. D. Mitchell, P. H. Wilkerson, Ellie Rogers, and J. P. Fielder, Frank McKnight, J. H. Pilant, Arlington and Messrs. Moon and Pipkins of Fort Worth.

