



## Dallas Genealogical Society Writing Contest Rules and Guidelines

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The Dallas Genealogical Society is sponsoring its 2015 Writing Contest for original material submitted by members and non-members, hobbyists and professionals. Length of articles may be from 1500 to 5000 words. Only original material not previously published elsewhere in any format is eligible. Winners are eligible for publication in *Pegasus: Journal of the Dallas Genealogical Society*.

### Subject Matter

While DGS has a goal of preserving Dallas history, topics may range beyond the Dallas city and county geographic area only as specified below:

- advanced methodologies and case studies emphasizing an approach to a problem are not limited by geography
- family histories and genealogies must be linked to North Texas (as defined below), including those families who came from or left to settle elsewhere than North Texas
- historically interesting events in North Texas must include a connection with a local family
- histories of ethnic or military groups, or of neighborhoods and houses, must be specific to North Texas

*North Texas: defined as the area that includes northern counties along the Red River from Fannin to Hardeman counties, eastern counties from Fannin to Limestone counties, southern counties from Limestone to Runnels counties, western counties from Runnels to Hardeman counties, with all interior counties within these boundaries; also counties which were included in the pre-Republic political boundaries of Nacogdoches.*

The historical time period covers from pre-Republic days to the 1940 census.

Source citations are required and must conform to the guidelines in *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace*, Elizabeth Shown Mills, editor (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2009). Style should conform to the latest edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Use endnotes, not footnotes.

### Judging Criteria

- Accuracy: 1–15 points (no genealogical or historical errors, sources cited correctly)
- Clarity and writing: 1–20 points (clarity and flow of writing, organization, spelling and grammar)
- Overall impact and interest: 1–15 points (the article's depth, insight, and creativity)

Total possible points awarded per judge: 50. Articles must score at least 25 points to be eligible for a prize. All prizes may not be awarded. Judges' comments will be provided upon request.

Multiple entries are allowed, but only one award per person will be given. In case of a tie for a prize, the amount will be split between the winners of that prize.

## **Awards**

First Prize: \$500

Second Prize: \$300

Third Prize: \$150

## **Period for Submissions**

Entries will be accepted until April 30, 2015. Winners will be announced in July, 2015.

## **Method of Entry**

Complete an entry form [www.dallasgenealogy.org/Info/Entry.pdf](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org/Info/Entry.pdf) and send as a separate attachment. DGS separates the Entry Form from the entry itself before forwarding to the judges in order to insure anonymity. Only the Entry Form should contain the author's name.

Submit articles in either Microsoft Word (doc, docx) or Rich Text Format. Use endnotes, not footnotes.

Do not include your name in either headers or footers, and if a subject in the entry has the same surname as the author, replace that surname with *Lastname*.

Send images or charts as separate attachments (not embedded in the article) in JPEG, TIFF, or PDF format. Photos should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi, with a minimum size of 3"X5".

Identify images and charts on a separate page at the end of the article, together with suggested captions. Authors must obtain all permissions necessary to use images and supply copies of those permissions before publication.

By submitting articles, authors are giving DGS permission to publish.

Send entries via email only, with "DGS Writing Contest" in the subject line to: [editorial@dallasgenealogy.org](mailto:editorial@dallasgenealogy.org).