

Fort Worth Genealogical Society (Est 1957)

# Newsletter



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April 2008

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txfwgs/>

## Coming Genealogy Events

### 2008 FWGS Officers

**President** - Rob Yoder

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President & Newsletter Editor** – Jim Norris

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President & Program Chairman** - Debbie Pearson

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President & Membership Chairman** Terri Meeks

**Treasurer** - Ann Lefevre

**Recording Secretary** Jan Cowley

**Corresponding Secretary** Cyndy Miller

**Historian** - Open

**Archivist** - Wayne Butler

### Directors

Rita Bryan  
Crystal Barth  
Don Crews  
Clois Richardson  
Bettye Richhart

**Footprints Editor** - Open

**Librarian** - Rita Martin

**Parliamentarian** – Ellie Hutcheson

### April General Meeting

Monday, April 28, 2008 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM  
Fort Worth Public Library – Tandy Lecture Hall  
500 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street

Subject: Genealogy on the Cheap  
Speaker: John V Wylie

Noted speaker and genealogist, John Wylie, shares some tips and techniques for doing genealogy with an eye towards saving money. He'll also bring news from Texas State Genealogical Society.

For additional information, contact Debbie Pearson – [debeejay@aol.com](mailto:debeejay@aol.com)

### Computer Group Meeting

Monday, April 14, 2008 7:00 PM – 8:45 PM  
Fort Worth Public Library, Downtown  
500 W 3<sup>rd</sup> St in the Intel Computer Labl  
Subject: Court, Land, Wills, Probate Records

Contact Clois Richardson for more information – [cloisrich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cloisrich@sbcglobal.net)

### Daytime Meeting

Thursday, April 10, 2008 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM  
Fort Worth Public Library, Southwest Branch  
4100 Library Lane at Hulen in the auditorium  
Subject: Tennessee

Contact Ellie Hutchison for more information – [misselly@sbcglobal.net](mailto:misselly@sbcglobal.net)

### Board of Director's Meeting

Saturday, April 19, 2008 10:00 AM – Noon  
Fort Worth Public Library, Southwest Branch  
4100 Library Lane at Hulen in the auditorium  
All members welcome

### Beginners Workshop Series

Saturday, April 26, 2008 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM  
Fort Worth Public Library, Downtown  
500 W 3<sup>rd</sup> St in the Chappell Meeting Room (next to auditorium)  
Session IV – Information from Archives and Libraries.

The full curriculum is located on our website. For additional information contact Bettye Richhart – [bettye.a@richhart.net](mailto:bettye.a@richhart.net)

# Genealogy Announcements

March General Meeting  
March 31, 2008

The General Meeting for March 2008 featured a presentation by Dr. Gene Smith on the Davis Texas Map Collection. This collection is the personal property of Mr. Marty Davis, and it contains maps from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the present time. It is most interesting to compare the maps made by early cartographers to those made in recent times.

The collection is presently on a tour of Texas. The tour ends in the spring of 2010 with a display at the Cowgirl Hall of Fame in Fort Worth.

## New and Returning Members

The Society welcomes the following new and returning members:

New: Berah S. DuVall      Mike Hunter      Richard M. Locke  
Returning: B. B. Shuffler

## Tarrant County Archives.

The Tarrant County Archives have now moved to:  
Tarrant County Plaza  
200 Taylor Street  
Suite 500 (5th floor)

This is the former Tandy Technology Building that is just across 2nd Street from the Central Library.

## 2008 Community History Workshop Series

Sponsored by the Center for Texas Studies at TCU and the Fort Worth Public Library

May 3, 2008

"The Women of Grace and Gumption: Fort Worth Women Shaping the City"

Katie Sherrod, Phyllis Allen, Sandra Guerra-Cline, Judy Alter, Brenda Matthews, Susan Petty, Hollace Weiner, Cindy Smolovik, and Joyce Williams

Tandy Lecture Hall  
Fort Worth Central Library  
500 W. 3rd St.  
Fort Worth, Texas  
10:30am-12:00pm

To make arrangements for sign-language interpretation, call 817-871-READ or TDD 817-871-8926 at least 48 hours in advance.

[www.texasstudies.org](http://www.texasstudies.org)

[www.fortworthlibrary.org](http://www.fortworthlibrary.org)

Shirley Apley, Senior Librarian  
Genealogy, History, Archives  
Fort Worth Public Library  
500 West 3rd Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-871-7740

## Isbell and Tannahill Cemeteries

A number of interested White Settlement Historical Society, Museum Board and local community members are organizing to help document and restore the remote Isbell and Tannahill Cemeteries located west of White Settlement and the 820 Loop off of Western Oaks Rd. If any FWGS members are related to people buried there and would be interested in helping out, we would like to get in contact with them and discuss future plans.

Sincerely, Carol L. Davis,  
Museum Manager, White Settlement Historical Museum, and WS Historical Society Member.

Office: 817-246-9719  
Email: hanontx@lycos.com

## Land Measurements in Spanish and Mexican Land Grants

These land grants employ measurements that are quite strange to the current residents. These definitions apply to land grants made in Texas. They also apply to the land grant to the Capital Syndicate for the purpose of funding construction of the State Capital. I obtained this information from <http://www.flbatexas.com/landmea.htm>.

Vara – 33 1/3 inches

League – A tract of land which is 5000 by 5000 varas. (4428.4 acres)

Labor – A tract of land which is 1000 by 1000 varas. (177.136 acres)

Acre – 5645.4 square varas

Older documents may also use these English surveying measures:

One link – 7.92 inches

One rod or pole – 25 links – 5.94 varas – 5 ½ yards – 16 ½ feet

One chain – 4 rods

One caballerias – 108 acres

In very olden times, a chain meant the length of the chain which the surveyor owned. And, a link was just the size of a link in that particular chain, such imprecision makes life interesting for surveyors.

### FWGS Monthly Events Jan. thru Nov.

1 <sup>st</sup> Day	Newsletter Deadline	Contact Newsletter Editor*
2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday	Computer Users Group	Fort Worth Public Library -- Central
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	Monthly Day Meeting	Fort Worth Public Library -- Southwest Regional
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	Board Meeting	Fort Worth Public Library -- Southwest Regional
Last Monday	Regular Monthly Meeting	Fort Worth Public Library -- Central
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Beginner's Workshop	Fort Worth Public Library --Central

**\*Newsletter Contact Information:**

Jim Norris: [jim-norris@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jim-norris@sbcglobal.net) or 817-244-3361

For information to be included in the newsletter, please contact the editor by the first day of the month.