



Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

web site: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/>

April 2014

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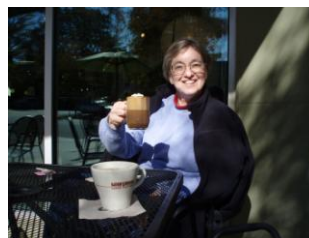
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April General Meeting

Don Crews, Programs Director, reports that the next General Meeting, **Tuesday** night, **April 29th** will be **“Who’s Your Mama? Tracing Your Female Ancestors.”** Presenting that evening will be our own **Terri Meeks**. Terri is FWGS Vice President and conducts all our Beginners Workshops. She is a talented genealogist with research in Canada and translations of French documents. And she, along with the rest of us, has had trouble uncovering a female ancestor’s maiden name. You won’t want to miss this talk

We’ll meet at **6:00 p.m.** for coffee in the **Tandy Auditorium** of the **Central Branch Library**. Meeting starts at **6:30**.

Bring a friend or a genealogy buddy with you!



FW Library News BRANCH ANCESTRY

Next 2 Meetings:

- **Wed, April 9,** 2 p.m.
Seminary South Branch
- **Wed, May 14,** 2 p.m.
Ridglea Branch

From Rita Martin:

Have you noticed you no longer have to sign in at the entrance of the genealogy unit? The library is keeping stats in other ways now. But be sure you list any books you have on your “wish list.” Maybe the library can purchase it when they have extra funds. Have you met **Joe** and **Carol**, new to the genealogy unit? Introduce yourself next time as a FWGS member.

March General Meeting with Gail Blankenau

FWGS was proud to introduce Gail Blankenau to the Metroplex. Gail has a son in Dallas and sometimes does research in the Metroplex for clients. She graced us with her presentation on tricks and tips to try to separate (out of a location) many different people with the same name. She gave us very practical methods including researching every man and looking for ways that they are different from each other. Is one a carpenter and one a blacksmith? Can one write and sign documents, but one can only make an “X”. Her methods use rigorous digging and research, getting to know as much about a location as possible and branching out to collateral relatives, but have brought great results and success! We were lucky to have Gail present her Smiths and Joneses.

March FWGS Meetings:

Board of Directors: April 19th

10:15 Southwest Regional

Beginners: April 26th

10:30-12:30 Chappell Rm.—Central

Computer Users: April 26th

2:00-4:00 Intel Lab—Central

General Meeting: April 29th

6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central

Coffee at 6:00

Refreshments: Terri Meeks

From the President.....



I would like to run some ideas past you, the membership. **1.** We would like to increase membership and increase participation in our society. We all know that many hands lighten the load, but also more involvement means more things can get done and more can share in the fun too! **2.** We are considering a research trip by TRE to Dallas to the Dallas Library this Summer or Fall. (Seniors can ride all day on the TRE for a nominal fee.) **I need your input.** If you have ideas to help in increasing membership or participation let me know. Also, if you have an interest in going on a research trip, let me know that too. Our society has a long history of day trips to Austin and we would like to gauge interest in reviving this practice of travel & research. My email is debeejay@aol.com, so let me hear from you. And if you have an hour or so, **Rob Yoder** could use some extra eyes to help with our **Footprints** Index project. All FWGS Board members' emails are listed on our web site. We welcome your input. **Happy Spring, Happy Easter!**

Debbie Pearson

Dues Reminder

2014 dues are still \$23 for an Individual membership and \$27 for a Family membership. The Society address is: Fort Worth Genealogical Society
ATTN: Membership Director
PO BOX 471789
FORT WORTH TX 76147-1408

Membership Report:

Rob Yoder, Membership Director reports over 140 members for 2014. 2013 members still have time to renew.

FWGS needs YOU!

New Members in 2014:	Returning members:
Robert & Traci CRUIT	Kathleen STUCKER
Lawanda FRICKS	

Thanks for joining FWGS. We hope you find a way to participate!

Cemeteries

We all know about Find A Grave and maybe you have begun to use the newer Billion Graves. Here is a smaller in scope site, but useful in Tarrant County area:

<http://www.teafor2.com/>

This Just In.....



The NARA storefront facility in

Montgomery Plaza will close by 2016 and relocate back to the Records & Archives at the Burgess location.

See March 11th Press Release below.

Washington, DC...As part of ongoing budget adjustments, Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero announced the permanent closure of three National Archives facilities. Anchorage, AK, will close this year (2014) and two facilities in the Philadelphia, PA, area will be consolidated to a single site. By 2016, two Archives' facilities in Fort Worth, TX, also will be consolidated to a single site. These closures and consolidations will result in estimated **annual cost savings of approximately \$1.3 million.** Ferriero continues, "I recognize these cuts will be painful; however, we are committed to continuing to provide the best service to our customers and best working conditions for our staff nationwide."

Fort Worth, TX, facility consolidation

The National Archives currently maintains two facilities in Fort Worth: a combined records center and archives at John Burgess Drive, and a smaller "storefront" facility at Montgomery Plaza. The National Archives will permanently close the Montgomery Plaza facility in 2016. All employees at the Montgomery Plaza location will move to John Burgess or telework locations. No original records are stored at Montgomery Plaza, and researchers will have continued access to archival records through the research room at John Burgess Drive.

And other NARA News ...NARA @ Montgomery Plaza has begun offering some Thursday night talks for fun and to bring awareness of what is available in the Records and Archives. Enjoy while you can!

Thursday, April 10th at 6:30-7:30 p.m.

"Play Ball: The National Archives and America's Favorite Pastime" presented by **Jenny Sweeny**, Education Specialist. Space is limited so you must email to the same email as the Friday Freebies (page 3)

SSDI Access to Change...New Law Passed

Dec 26, 2013 The Budget Bill included 2 new parts that affect our access to the Social Security Death Index (SSDI). It will exempt SSDI from the Freedom of Information Act & it will limit our access to 3 years from the date of death. Do not send money with an SS-5 request if the death is within 3 years. It will be denied. It is estimated this measure will prevent ID theft and save up to 60 billion in revenue that is lost to fraudulent tax returns. It could also raise 500 million in revenue by requiring certification fees to those who must gain access to these records.

Ed: I guess we can sacrifice access for 3 years to gain the benefit of better ID protection and less loss through fraud.

Metroplex Genealogical Happenings.....

NARA FRIDAY FREEBIES: FREE genealogical workshops on the first Friday of the month from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Montgomery Plaza location: 2600 West 7th Street, Suite 162, Fort Worth, Texas 76107. If you have any questions please call (817) 831-5620.

Space is limited, so please R.S.V.P. to ftworth.education@nara.gov to attend.

April 4th *Texas in the Records at the National Archives*
by Barbara Rust, Senior Archivist
May 2nd *Deciphering Dawes Cards*
by Meg Hacker, Archives Director



FW Library and TCU

Center for Texas Studies Series

Held at Central Library 1st Sat of every month at 10:30-12 Noon.....

Sat, Apr 5: "Fair Park Deco: Art & Architecture of the Texas Centennial Exposition" by David Bush and Jim Parsons

Sat, May 3: Dr. Gene R. Tucker of Temple College speaks on "Beer & Bootlegging in North Texas area."

May 3rd will be the last scheduled event. The Center will take a Summer Break for June-August.

HOGAR de Dallas Meets April 4th 6:30-7:30 p.m.
(Hispanic Organization of Genealogy and Research)

HOGAR will host "**Hispanic Legacy: Embracing Our Native American Heritage**" presented by **Chief Rufus Davis**. Chief Rufus Davis has served as the Tribal Chief of the Adai Caddo Nation in Robeline, Louisiana for over 20 years. The meeting will be held in Dallas at the Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak, 75204. Ph (214) 671-0045.

Didja Know?That the National Genealogical Society has a Consumer Protection Committee that monitors genealogical scams? Check it out:
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~molewis/sca.ms.htm>



Billy W. Sills Center for Archives of FWISD

Sat, April 12th: 10-12 Noon

Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD
2720 Cullen Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76107
817-814-2040

Speaker: **Juliet George**, librarian, historian & author
Topic: "**Time Travel Along Camp Bowie Blvd**"

Free refreshments at 9:30 before the meeting begins

Free Series every month. Need More?

Contact: Lenna.hughes@fwisd.org



The May issue of *Footprints* is "in the works"!

Have you ever considered placing a query in *Footprints*? If you have a **Tarrant County area** question on family, send it to: FWGS@mail.com or visit our [web site](#) or mail to our society PO Box. Mark it Attn: Footprints Editor. Include a specific question with supporting information to make it clear and include a time period and location. You must include your name & postal address. If you wish, you may add an email.

SAVE THE DATE



Saturday, August 9th, 2014

**Summer Seminar with Lloyd Bockstruck
on Western Migration**

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/html/2014-summer-seminar.html>

Congrats to Johnson Co Gen Society....Who received a grant to pay for half the cost to digitize their *Finders Keepers* journal & add it to the [Portal to Texas History](#). Their entire collection will soon be up & searchable. Their first journal of 2014 includes Part 1 of a 30 yr Topical Index for *Finders Keepers*. This society and journal is just one of the almost 90 societies that FWGS exchanges our *Footprints* with for the benefit of FWL and all researchers. You can find these in the Genealogy Unit downtown and peruse for FREE. And you can explore many publications and so much more for FREE online on the Portal to Texas History. Try it and see!



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Box 471789, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-1408

Founded A.D. 1957

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED