



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

August 2015

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## August General Meeting

We will meet on **Tuesday night, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30** to hear our speaker, **Dr. Bernard Meisner**. You may remember him from earlier this year and remember that not only is he an excellent speaker, but he “knows his stuff.” When FWGS heard that Ancestry is making some big changes to their web site and their interface for subscribers, we turned to Bernard and he has put together some helpful things to help us with the changes. You won’t want to miss this session on **“The NEW Ancestry.com.”**

### DR. BERNARD MEISNER

is from the Mid-Cities Genealogical Society. He has served as a past president, social media chair, and parliamentarian. He began researching his family over 25 years ago and enjoys sharing lessons learned from those experiences, including the mistakes.



Bernard’s background in science (retired from National Weather Service) and education (teaching at college levels) have helped him greatly with his new genealogical career as a locally sought-after speaker.

**Bring a friend.  
Refreshments at 6 pm.**



## FW Library News

### Welcome Bryan McKinney!

FWGS extends a hearty welcome to the new Manager of the Genealogy, Local History, & Archives unit. Bryan has only been on the job a week or so, but already has great plans in the works for our unit.



Bryan joins FWL after a 10 year career in various history & archives related positions with the Dallas P.L. He holds a bachelor’s degree in history from UTA and a master’s degree in library science from UNT.

Bryan joins full-timers Suzanne, Rene, Jabari, Linda, & Jody, with Joe and Kim, part-timers.

## July Meeting

**Mary Louise Garcia**, our Tarrant County Clerk spoke in July. She convinced us her office is the busiest in the county. Her office serves 1.9 million citizens and works with 41 cities (the only county in the state to work with that many city entities.) Her office oversees 6 divisions ranging from courts, county commissioners, taxes, land, to our favorites, vital records (birth, death, probate, & marriage.) Many of these are searchable on-line now. She told us about **MegaSearch** where deed records can be found (1958-2015). Searches are free, but if you need a copy, you can pay online *for the same price* you would have paid downtown. And you can skip the parking charges and all the walking! Her watch words are service for the public, technology and preservation of our precious records. And still comes in under budget! Try it on the secure site: <https://tcrecordsonline.com/>

## August FWGS Meetings:

**Board of Directors:** Aug 15<sup>th</sup>

3:30-6:00 Southwest Regional

**Beginners:** Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>

10:30-12:30 Auditorium—Central

**Computer Users:** Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>

2:00-4:00 Intel Lab—Central

**General Meeting:** Aug 25<sup>th</sup>

6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central

Refreshments at 6:00

**Refreshments: Sheryl Rascher**

**From the President.....**

**Whew...It Finally Hit 100!**

I hope you are keeping cool. Stay inside and do some GENEALOGY. Do it in the Library, on a vacation to a county courthouse, or at home on your computer!



And speaking of computers and county courthouses, I do hope you came in July to hear our County Clerk, Mary Louise Garcia speak about what is available from Tarrant County records online now! If you did not make it--look for her talk captured on video to appear **soon**. Check out our NEW FWGS **You Tube Channel** at:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCksO7krvywdpstu8IGQc\\_JQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCksO7krvywdpstu8IGQc_JQ)

Other NEWS! There is a new museum in Texas: **The BRYAN MUSEUM** of Galveston! The museum, founded by Mary Jon and J.P. Bryan, is the result of their lifetime commitment to historic preservation and education.

The Bryan Museum houses the largest collection of its type in the world: 70,000 items, spanning 2,500 years, including treasures from ancient Native American cultural artifacts to 21st century pieces, rare German, French, Spanish and English documents, exquisite saddles, spurs, antique firearms, exceptionally rare maps and books, fine art, religious and folk art, portraits, and documents.

It is located in Galveston in an historic building at 1315 21st St. (10 blocks from the historic Strand and 5 blocks from the beach.) **Doesn't it sound like a trip to the BRYAN with a side trip to the Beach would be perfect for AUGUST?**

*Debbie Pearson*

**FWGS Membership Report:**

**Rob Yoder**, Membership Director reports **140 members**.

**Did you forget to RENEW? Dues are due in January.** It is never too late to Join or Renew for 2015!

**Welcome to New Members in July:**

Burgher Haggard  
Sharon Moore



**From the FWGS Mail Bag .....**



**Friday Freebies at NARA in  
Montgomery Plaza**

Friday, **September 4<sup>th</sup>**, 2015 at 12 noon to 1 p.m.

**"Tiptoeing Through Federal Court Records"**

by Ketina Taylor, *Archivist*

Reserve your spot today by emailing us at

[ftworth.education@nara.gov](mailto:ftworth.education@nara.gov) or calling **817-831-5620!**

Upcoming Friday Freebie in the Fall: **October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Genealogical Significance WWI Draft Registration Card**

by **Zina Rhone**, *Archives Technician*



**Center For Texas Studies - TCU & FW Lib**

(As we go to print there is no word on a September meeting on the First Saturday, (9/5), 10:30 am to 12 noon. Meets in Tandy Auditorium, Central Branch.

Check the Library web site in September.)

**Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD presents**

(NO Word yet on a September Topic)

**Check 817-814-2040 Tu-Fr, 9-3**

**Usually 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 10 am- 12 noon**

2720 Cullen, 2nd Floor  
Fort Worth, TX 76107

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**TSGS Announces 2015 Conference—Austin, Texas**

The **TSGS** 2015 Family History Conference will be Oct 30—Nov 1, 2015 in Austin, Texas, and anyone may attend (member or not.) This **three day** event will include wonderful research opportunities, insightful family history sessions for all skill levels, and a full exhibit hall. Location is **Crowne Plaza** located at 6121 North IH-35 @ 290 in Austin. Rate: \$115.00 plus tax. Visit the **TSGS [website](#)** for more.

*SwedGen is a group of Swedish genealogists who tour the United States for the sole purpose of helping Swedish Americans learn more about their heritage. The group has successfully helped individuals get started with their research and helped break down many brick walls.*

**Saturday, September 19, 2015**

FWGS

End of Summer Seminar

**Lisa Louise Cooke**



**Technology:**

**Genealogical Skills For The Future**

1. Google Tools & Procedures for Solving Family History Mysteries
2. Get the Scoop on Your Ancestors with Newspapers
3. Google Earth for Genealogy
4. How to Reopen and Work a Genealogical Cold Case

**Trinity River Campus (of Tarrant County College)**

300 Trinity Campus Cir.

Fort Worth, TX 76102

**8:30-4:30**

Lunch, Handouts, Door Prizes

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/html/2015-summer-seminar.html>

Need Help? Roy Combrink: [croycom39@yahoo.com](mailto:croycom39@yahoo.com) or (817) 292-5419



The venerable and well respected **Texas State Historical Association (TSHA)** has moved again! After their founding on March 2, 1897 they have mostly been headquartered and associated with UT in Austin. In 2008 they broke with tradition and moved to Denton and the University of North Texas (UNT). This year it was announced that the non-profit educational group will move back to Austin. Many genealogists and historians make use of their extensive **Handbook of Texas** available online. New info is...

3001 Lake Austin Blvd., Suite 3.116

Austin, Texas 78703-4206

Telephone: (512) 471-2600

Fax: (512) 473-8691

Their website remains [www.TSHAonline.org](http://www.TSHAonline.org)



**Fort Worth Genealogical Society**

**AMERICANANCESTORS.ORG**

America's oldest and most respected genealogical society is the **New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)**. Founded in 1845, NEHGS has led the way in American standards of genealogical practice and research. NEHGS publications are highly respected and inspire imitation. It continues to be the largest genealogical society in America today, and as such, is a resource for family history research. Even though the name states "New England" the appeal is national and covers the interests of genealogists everywhere. And now NEHGS has a brand name service available online with their **AMERICANANCESTORS.ORG**

AmericanAncestors.org covers nearly all aspects of family history, from seventeenth-century colonial New England, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, through twenty-first century immigration research. It also appeals to all levels of research. NEHGS staff and contributors are some of the worlds finest with expertise in early American, Irish, English, Scottish, Italian, Atlantic and French Canadian, African American, Native American, Chinese, and Jewish research. Expert assistance is available to members and nonmembers in a variety of ways. The NEHGS library and archive, located at 99–101 Newbury Street in downtown Boston, is home to more than 28 million items, including artifacts, documents, records, journals, letters, books, manuscripts, and other items dating back hundreds of years.

Online subscriptions start at Basic for \$89.95 and Life Memberships @ 62 start at \$3,000. 400+ million records!  
<http://www.americanancestors.org/join> check out benefits

**FWGS Beginners Class/CUG**

**Only 1 class left in this year!**

FWGS conducts Beginners Classes and a Computer Users Group (CUG) at the FW Central Branch Library, 300 W.5<sup>th</sup> St. **Next class is August 22<sup>nd</sup> on:**

**"Leaving a Legacy" & Season Wrap-Up**

**Beginners Class with Terri Meeks** meets at **10:30 a.m.** **Computer Users Group** meets at **2:00 p.m.** Ed McCoy leads this group. Both classes last 2 hours. **Beginners** meet in Chappell Rm. **CUG** is in the Intel Lab & includes hands-on computer time. For more:

[http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/html/beginners\\_workshops.html](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/html/beginners_workshops.html)



**Fort Worth Genealogical Society**

Box 471789, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-1408

Founded A.D. 1957

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Register Early for End of Summer Seminar!**

**Fort Worth Genealogical Society**

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

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fort-Worth-Genealogical-Society/319546544054?ref=bookmarks>