



Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

September 2015

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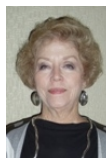
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September General Meeting

FWGS will meet on **Tuesday night, September 29th at 6:30** to hear our next speaker, **Lenna Hughes Recer**. She will tell us all about the little jewel that is the **FWISD Archives**. Lenna knows the collection first-hand and volunteers there. You won't want to miss her tell the history of how Billy Sills saved and preserved this collection and where you can find it today. We will see you at the **Central Branch Library in the Tandy Auditorium** on the 29th. Don't forget: meters on the street are free at 6 p.m. and you can have 2.5 hrs free in the 3rd Street Garage with a validation of your ticket in the library. It really is easy to make the meetings! **COME.**

LENNA HUGHES RECER retired in 2007 and now volunteers twice weekly with the Billy W. Sills Center for Archives. While not a professional archivist, she is a passionate believer in the importance of preserving our history, a passion that was fostered by her association and friendship with Billy Sills.



Lenna, a FWISD grad, earned degrees from NTSU & TCU, went on to teach school and is very active in music & the arts in FW.

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



FW Library News

Welcome Bryan McKinney!



Your editor met Bryan recently and found him to be a knowledgeable young man ready for the challenge of running the unit. He is eager to meet our members and already has great plans to add to the genealogy collection, including some new databases. He has already enacted plans for more outreach to let patrons learn more about the collection. (Look for an article soon in *Footprints*.) And make plans to attend a new class to learn more about the Library's **HistoryGeo.com** on **Oct 24th** in the **Intell Lab** at **10:30**. *see p. 2 for more on this event.....*

August Meeting

Dr. Bernard Meisner, did an excellent presentation on the NEW ANCESTRY at our last meeting. And not a minute too soon! The switch over to the NEW has already begun.

Dr. Meisner was able to capture screen-saves of the old version and then contrast them with the new version to show us the differences. He also covered many of the most vocal complaints from many users and bloggers as they have begun using the new version. He did recommend we switch over and begin trying the new version as ANCESTRY has stated that in the near future, the NEW will be the only version that will be available.

For more on the many changes and new options, go to the web site and read the blogs, community forums, see videos, and more.

<http://www.ancestry.com/cs/HelpAndAdviceUS>

August FWGS Meetings:

Board of Directors: Sept 26th
10:15-12:30 Southwest Regional

Beginners: *Finished for 2015*
10:30-12:30 Auditorium—Central

Computer Users: *Finished for 2015*
2:00-4:00 Intel Lab—Central

General Meeting: Sept 29th
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central
Refreshments at 6:00

Refreshments: **Rita Martin**

From the President.....

I am in MOURNING...



This week I was working on Ancestry in my tree and I switched to visit someone else's tree to see the info they had on some of our mutual ancestors. When I flipped over, their tree was totally in the NEW version. Hmm, I thought—they have made the switch. When I was finished and tried to go back to my site (the OLD version) mine had switched too. HMM, I thought with a bit more apprehension. I finished and thought I will check the *What's New* button. I could not even find it. Oh well, maybe it will all reset when I log back in next time. The next time and all this week, it has stayed permanently in the NEW version, with no button to be found to switch back and forth. It struck me then (with dread and mourning in my heart) that THE day had finally come. No big announcement either. Today after 10 or 15 minutes of searching for the Ancestry phone number and 20 minutes on hold/wait time, I got a phone rep who confirmed: The switch-over started 2 weeks ago (around the beginning of September) and **should be complete by October 1st!**

Be aware there are many changes and much to learn. They still have much to do to make the fixes they admit are not right yet. Hopefully they will continue to take input although so far, many of the most complained about problems are not resolved. Keep you posted.

And I hope you come to our September meeting to hear the Nominations Committee read the nominees for officers. If you want a job-it is not too late. We can put you to work! **Voting will be at the October Meeting.** Come and support FWGS and hear some great programs.

Debbie Pearson

FWGS Membership Report:

Rob Yoder, Membership Director reported last month **140 members**. We've all been busy with the End of Summer Seminar and don't have a members report yet. Next Month!

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 (members or not.) This **three day** event will include wonderful research opportunities, insightful family history sessions for all skill levels, and a full exhibit hall. Visit the [TSGS website](#) for more.

From the FWGS Mail Bag



Center For Texas Studies - TCU & FW Lib

Saturday, October 3rd 10:30-12:00 noon

Texas Film Round-Up: Preserve Your Personal Film History

by **Madeline Moya** w/TAMI (TX Archive of the Moving Image) in Tandy Auditorium, Central Branch, FWL
see separate article in this newsletter

Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD presents

October 10th 10 am- 12 noon

Presenter: **Libby Willis**, historian, political activist, author
Topic: "**Why Oakhurst is Important to Fort Worth's History**"

2720 Cullen, 2nd Floor

Fort Worth, TX 76107

Friday Freebies at NARA in Montgomery Plaza Suspend For Now!

Last year we reported that the NARA Montgomery Street Plaza location would be closing and moving all services back under one roof at the new John Burgess facility in 2016. Now plans have changed and the date is being moved **UP** to this month. The projected date to close is **September 25th** and then re-open in the new (old) place by **October 2nd**. You need to know that all Friday Freebies or any other scheduled classes are now cancelled. Do not plan any research trips down to Montgomery Plaza either. Montgomery Plaza will be closed to the Public. You can still do research at the John Burgess, but call ahead for the latest directions.

New classes are expected to begin in 2016.

NARA, Southwest Branch

1400 John Burgess Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76140

(817) 831-5620

Library Offers FREE HistoryGeo.com Class

@Central Branch Lib Oct 24th at 10:30-12:30

HistoryGeo.com is a database that the library subscribes to that specializes in mapping original land owners. You may be familiar with their books published by Arphax. The database is an ongoing effort to accurately map the original landowners of the 23 public land states & Texas. It enables you to zoom in and see landowner parcels overlaid on top of our modern U.S. map. It is surname searchable. There is an antique map component as well. Come learn to use this database that the Library is providing for free to genealogists!



The Fort Worth Library partnering with the Center for Texas Studies at TCU will host 2 events connected with the Texas Archives for the Moving Image (TAMI) of Austin, TX.

One event is the 1st Saturday Preserving Our Past event in the Tandy Auditorium of FWL on October 3rd with Madeline Moya the Managing Director of TAMI speaking on Film Preservation and her work with the Archives. Her talk will begin at 10:00 and last until noon. After that event, Ms. Moya and her fellow TAMI staff members will be on-hand after the program to talk with potential donors and screen additional historic film.

Here is the other part of the event that TCU and the Library are hosting. It runs Fri-Sat-Sun. See hours below.

The Texas Archive of the Moving Image is bringing their Award-Winning **Texas Film Round-Up** to Ft. Worth on October 2 - 4! The Archive provides FREE digitization of any Texas-related films and videos, including home movies, PSAs, and educational films at the Ft. Worth Public Library - Central Branch. The Round-Up will run from 10 am - 6 pm on Friday and Saturday and 1 pm - 5 pm on Sunday.

Interested in the FREE Digitization of *your* old movies and videos? Here are the guidelines:

1. Films or videos must be Texas-related. (i.e. shot in Texas, shot by a Texan, or be about Texas)
2. The owner must be willing and able to contribute a digital copy of the materials to the archive. (i.e. you are or you represent the copyright holder)
3. No more than 50 films and videos may be contributed per household, only 10 of which may be videotape. Contact us at info@texasarchive.org or (512) 485-3073 for more information.
4. Accepted **Film** Formats: 16mm, 8mm, Super 8.
5. Accepted **Video** Formats: VHS, VHS-C, Betacam SP, 3/4"/U-Matic, 8mm/Hi8/Video8/Digital8.

You may bring your material to consult with TAMI staff during regular library hours on Fri-Sat-Sun, Oct 2-4th. Event ends on October 4th. For More on TAMI see <http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=About>



FamilySearch Announces New President

FamilySearch, the genealogical web site and research branch sponsored by the LDS church, announced this summer that **Steve Rockwood** will replace current president, Dennis C. Brimhall. Rockwood is currently director of the FamilySearch international division. He will assume the presidency on 1 October 2015.

Rockwood brings extensive entrepreneurial experience to the job, having started up two companies of his own and worked with world class companies such as Disney, AT&T, MasterCard, Intl, Office Depot, CitiBank, and many others. And as International Division Director, he helped introduce the popular booklet, *My Family* * to FamilySearch as an aide to share family research especially in families without technology.

Last year, retiring President Brimhall represented the organization when they donated 1.5 million dollars to the **Museum of the American Revolution(MoAR)**. The Museum is set to open in 2017 in the "historic heart" of Philadelphia and with the FamilySearch donation**, they are now closer to realization. The museum is a 150 million dollar project and this brought donations to over 100 million.

FamilySearch.org is now fully competitive with Ancestry.com with the additions of mobile apps, partnerships with other research entities, massive records/data base searchability, and their work on improving their own on-line family tree building capabilities.

*The booklet *My Family* is available for purchase (.50 ea.) or can be printed from the web site here. [Click PDF to print.] http://store.lds.org/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/Product3_71_5839595_10557_21009_-1_3074457345616919725

** The museum will include one of the new FamilySearch "Discovery Centers." They also hope to add a center in the British Museum (London), the New England Historic and Genealogical Society (Boston), and in the main Family History Center in Salt Lake. These are to enhance families connections to their ancestors of the historical time period featured — in other words connect history and genealogy personally.





Fort Worth Genealogical Society

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Founded A.D. 1957

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

End of Summer Seminar was a GREAT Success!

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>

FWGS You Tube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4j0ga3ch_tA