



Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

October 2015

President
Debbie Pearson

Vice President
Terri Meeks

Secretary
Crystal Barth

Treasurer
Roy Combrink

Newsletter Editor
Debbie Pearson

Program Director
Don Crews

Membership Director
Rob Yoder

Footprints Editor
Rob Yoder

Historian/Archivist
Phil Morris

Director at Large
Tom Cogdell

Director at Large
Ed McCoy

Director at Large
Carol Reeves

October General Meeting

Halloween is almost here and we have a spooky night ahead for you and some treats too! FWGS will meet on **Tuesday night, October 27th at 6:30** to hear our President, **Debbie Pearson**, tell us about researching cemeteries on-line without having to go there. She titles it: **"I Ain't 'Fraid of No Ghosts"** and it will include re-sources such as Billion Graves, Find A Grave and more. We will see you at the **Tandy Auditorium** of the **Central Branch Library** on the 27th. 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!



DEBBIE PEARSON retired in 2013 after a 27+ year career in teaching. She now spends as much time

as she can on genealogy, history, and volunteering. She currently serves FWGS as President and editor of Newsletters and is the District II Representative of the DRT where she serves on the state Board of Management. She is involved in several other lineage organizations such as, 1812, UDC, and hopefully soon, DAR.

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



FW Library News

Don't forget the Library is offering a FREE class to learn more about usage of the Library's free data base **HistoryGeo.com** on **Oct 24th** in the **Intel Lab** at **10:30**. It should last about 2 hours. History Geo is used for land mapping and you can find original land owners, maybe your ancestors!

September Meeting

Lenna Hughes Recer spoke to FWGS at the last meeting about the little known, but much appreciated work of the late Billy Sills who lovingly collected artifacts and the history of FWISD while he worked there. After his death, the **Billy M. Sills Archive** center was named for him. It includes many interesting artifacts from long closed schools and even present day schools. Of particular interest are the collections of old yearbooks or annuals full of photographs. And there are many records, papers, and other old photographs of landmark Fort Worth schools or buildings too. Whether you are interested in a former student or just interested in old Fort Worth or her schools, there is something to fascinate you. Tours are available or you may come and do some research. Billy Sills Archives 2720 Cullen, 2nd Floor, FW, 76107. Hrs: T- Fr 9 - 3. Ph: 817-814-2040

Lenna.Hughes@fwisd.org

August FWGS Meetings:

Board of Directors: Oct 17th
3:30-6:00 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: Oct 27th
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central
Refreshments at 6:00

Refreshments: **The McCoys**

From the President.....



ANCESTRY CHANGES

Well the October 1st date has come. Did **your** Ancestry trees switch over? And finally, one of the much ballyhooed changes clamored for by users has come. The photo spot where your picture of your ancestor sits has now changed back to a square or 4-cornered spot. Now photos are fitting better. Hopefully more updates will make it even better.

ELECTIONS

Well, there is a Texas Constitutional Amendment Election on Nov 2 you should check out, but that is not the election I mean. And I certainly don't won't to mention the Presidential Election—enough of that. No, FWGS has an election coming up at our October 27th meeting. The names from the Nominations committee were read by **Ed McCoy** at our September meeting. Most of the board is returning except for **Tom Cogdell**, who is taking a break. We thank him for all his work, especially his help directing traffic into the building at our Seminar in September. We were so fortunate to have Tom on our board the last 2 years. Thanks Tom. We also have 2 new faces willing to join the board: **Judy Ramos & Roy Noack**. **Don Crews** is willing to serve as president for 2016. Please come to the meeting and show your support for these officers and vote them into office.

FWGS Survey

We are working on an interest survey for our membership. There may be two ways to take it: on paper or by email. We want to hear from you about your interests and wishes. Watch for more details soon.

Debbie Pearson

From the FWGS Mail Bag



Center For Texas Studies - TCU & FW Lib
Saturday, November 7th 10:30-12:00 noon
"Writing Your Family History"
by **Ed Wright, Independent Scholar**
in Tandy Auditorium, Central Branch, FWL.

Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD presents
November 14th 10 am- 12 noon

Presenter: **Carmen Goldthwaite**, author and historian
Topic: "**Telling the Stories of Texas Ranch Women & Other Sassy & Savvy Dames**"
2720 Cullen, 2nd Floor
Fort Worth, TX 76107

DON'T Forget: Friday Freebies at NARA in Montgomery Plaza are Now Suspended!

As reported last issue: Montgomery Plaza is closed. And as we go to press, the move is finished. The research room at the John Burgess Dr. is open M-F, 8 am to 4 pm. (Closed on Federal Holidays.) **Do not** plan a research trip to Montgomery Plaza or expect any Friday Freebies.

All classes will be closed until further notice.
(expected to be the rest of 2015)

NARA Location is and will be:
1400 John Burgess Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76140
Phone number is 817-551-2051
Email is ftworth.archives@nara.gov
Call ahead if you have questions.

It is time to register NOW!

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 DNA, Technology and something for everyone as well as a full exhibit hall. If you missed **Lisa Louise Cooke** at our seminar, she is one of the keynotes along with **J. Mark Lowe**. Single days are \$60 or \$90 with the entire conference at \$150. Discounts for members. Visit the **TSGS website** for more. Schedule of speakers here: <http://www.txsgs.org/conference/schedule/>

FWGS Membership Report:

Rob Yoder, Membership Director reported **141 members** for October. Welcome to new Member, **Linda Brown** who joined at the End of Summer Seminar last month. Next Month we will start taking **2016 Early Bird Dues**. Rob reports 13 have already renewed for 2016! THANK YOU to Carolyn Ericson, Melvin & Betty Ford, John A. Skotnik, Marsha Gray, Virginia Thorsen, Patricia Smith, Margie & Tom Phillips, Bonnie Bruington and Mid Continent Public Library.



Museum of American Revolution (MoAR)

The **Museum of the American Revolution** will tell the complete story of the American Revolution using its distinguished collection of objects, artifacts, artwork, and manuscripts. Permanent and special exhibition galleries, theaters, and large-scale tableaux will bring to life the original “greatest generation,” and engage people in the history and continuing relevance of the American Revolution. Construction is now underway for the new Museum that is being built steps away from Independence Hall, Carpenter’s Hall, Franklin Court, and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution. It will serve as a portal to the nation’s many Revolutionary sites, sparking interest, providing context and encouraging explorations that begin at the Museum’s doorstep. The Museum is a private, non-profit organization. For more information, call toll free, 877-740-1776 or visit www.AmRevMuseum.org

When complete, the Museum will be three stories with a full basement and stand at 118,000 total square feet. This includes permanent and temporary exhibit galleries, theaters, education spaces, collection storage, a café, a retail store, offices and a welcoming lobby area. Expectations are to raise 150 million, with 119 million for the museum and 31 million for an endow-ment. To view some fascinating videos on the museum see here: <https://www.amrevmuseum.org/press-room/videos> and visit their [Facebook page](#) to stay current on progress and announcements.



Look for some new videos uploaded to our FWGS You Tube channel.

FWGS Member **Chuck Harper** recently donated his video of the Tribute Program on *Civil War Mothers & Grandmothers* by Michael Patterson that was held in Grapevine, TX last May 2nd at their historic cemetery. It has some very good research--Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8vmtS7PVII>

SAVE YOUR DATA FOREVER

Many of us are disappointed in the limited life spans of today’s media. Paper and film fade with time. Floppy disks, CD-ROM and DVD-ROM disks, flash drives, and other media also all have limited lifespans. Even microfilm is expected to last only about 300 years and that is only when stored in rigidly controlled temperatures and humidity and then ONLY if it is never used! (Microfilm scratches and wears quickly when used.)

Now a new storage media has been created that should last long enough for most of our needs: a million years or more. Even better, data from the disk can be read by the human eye when using a powerful magnifying glass or a microscope. I suspect those items will still be available in a few million years. The information is recorded at 1/30,000th of the original size and is preserved for all time. Water, acid, age, scratches or fire will not deteriorate the information.

The new media is the sapphire hard disk which uses two 20cm (8-inch) sapphire disks, molecularly fused together, with a thin layer of inscribed platinum in between. A single disk can store 40,000 miniaturized pages The disk is expected to have a lifetime of more than one million years, even if used over and over.

The inventors of the sapphire hard disk have launched a KickStarter campaign to go into production. Early contributors to the campaign have been promised sapphire disks containing whatever information each contributor supplies. You can watch a video and find out more at <http://www.fahrenheit2451.com/>

(Story used with permission from Eastman's Online Genealogical Newsletter at <http://eogn.com>)





Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Box 471789, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-1408

Founded A.D. 1957

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please Attend the October Meeting to Vote!

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>