



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

July 2016

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## JULY

### GENERAL MEETING

FWGS will meet **Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>** at **6:30 p.m.** in the **Tandy Auditorium** in the FW Central Branch Library (500 W. Third St.) for the next General Meeting. Speaking will be **Merry Shaw** on something dear to her heart: the **“Arlington Family History Center.”**

Merry will discuss the various facilities provided around the world by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), such as the Family History Library, various discovery centers, and more than 4,000 family history centers. She will also talk about the large variety of Internet sites and other programs available to you for free at your local FHC.

**Refreshments begin at 6:00 p.m., with the meeting starting at 6:30.**



**MERRY SHAW** is the Director of the Arlington Stake FHC. She became interested in genealogy at the age of 8. She started back

when research meant writing letters, phone calls, and visits. Her goal was to preserve the history of her late father. The result of that effort is a 500-page history on her Foster family and a two-volume history of her Madsen family. And now that original goal to preserve the family history extends to her 3 children, 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**Don't forget parking is easy downtown with all meters free at 6:00. Or park FREE in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Garage (only a block E. from the library door) for 2 ½ hours with your ticket validated in the library before you leave.**



## FW LIBRARY NEWS

### FW Library Begins Passport Acceptance

The Passport Acceptance Facility, in the Central Branch, recently began taking appointments in May & opened on June 2, 2016. The Library is officially able to accept passports for U.S. citizens on behalf of the U.S. State Dept. This is by appointment only. To make an appointment at the Fort Worth Library, please call via phone at 817-392-7127 or send an email to [Passport@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:Passport@fortworthtexas.gov).

2 p.m. – 7 p.m. Tue & Thurs  
12 p.m. (noon) – 5 p.m. Sat  
For more on passports: [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov)

## JUNE MEETING

**Aaron Holt** from NARA came to speak on Native American Research and how to begin. We heard that Fort Worth is one of the best places to begin. FW has the SW NARA branch which holds the Dawes Rolls and other records for OK tribes and the old Indian Territory (IT). Aaron cautioned us that many families have tales of an Indian “princess” which is a total myth. Look for any proof your family may have of an Indian ancestor: photos, diaries, letters, written records, an Indian designation on an old census, etc. Staff at NARA will help you from there, but be aware, you may find your family tale is just that—A Tale!

## July FWGS Meetings:

**Board of Directors:** July 16<sup>th</sup>  
10:15 Southwest Regional  
**Beginners:** July 23<sup>rd</sup>  
10:30-12:30 Chappell Rm.—Central  
**Computer Users:** July 23<sup>rd</sup>  
2:00-4:00 Intel Lab—Central  
**General Meeting:** July 26<sup>th</sup>  
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central  
Refreshments at 6:00  
**Refreshments:** [Can you Volunteer for July? email Debbie: \[debeejay@aol.com\]\(mailto:debeejay@aol.com\)](#)



## From the Editor

### Celebrate America & Your Freedom

Your President, **Don Crews**, was so interested in our May speaker and his topic that Don requested that I feature that topic in a future newsletter. I began to look into it and agreed it *was* an interesting topic. **Kent Hopkins**, the May speaker, is a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) and spoke on the Mayflower story and doing Mayflower descendant research. At the meeting, Kent spoke about how the Pilgrim story is truly the story of America and the Sprit of America. What better time to re-examine that, than in July, our month of Independence. So take time to read this and remember your Blessings of the American Spirit!

*Debbie Pearson*, Newsletter Editor

*July is also a good time to reserve your spot for the **End of Summer Seminar** coming up in early September. Go to our web site and download your registration blank and mail it in today!*

## FWGS conducts Beginners Classes & Computer Users Group (CUG) for 8 months every year.

Classes meet on **Saturdays** at the FW Central Branch Library, 300 W.5<sup>th</sup> St.

**Next class is July 23<sup>rd</sup>!**

**Beginners Class** with **Terri Meeks** meets at **10:30 a.m.** in the **Chappell Room**.

Topic: **Using Military Records As A Research Tool**

**Computer Users Group** meets at **2:00 p.m.** with **Ed McCoy** in the **Intel Lab**. (Hands-On computer use.)

**Each class meets for 2 hours.**

For more:

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

**NEXT Month: August 27<sup>th</sup>** on Leaving a Legacy

**Only July and August left. Better go now!**



## General Society of Mayflower Descendants

GSMD was begun in 1897 as the Mayflower Society. Their aims are to provide genealogical and lineal research, education about the Separatists & their journey, and to educate Americans to the importance of that journey. They publish books of lineages today, they provide scholarships to young students, and they maintain a house/museum and library in Plymouth, MA. Their ca 1754 headquarters is the former home of Edward Winslow, grandson of the Pilgrim Winslow. The modern Library, located directly behind the house, houses a very extensive collection of genealogies and histories of New England & Mayflower interest. Here are 2 links to some of their holdings: <https://www.themayflowersociety.org/images/PDF/genealogies.pdf> and <https://www.themayflowersociety.org/images/PDF/library-catalog-january-2012.pdf>

Since GSMD is primarily a lineage society, you must prove your descent from one of the original 102 voyagers on the Mayflower. And since so many died of illness and deprivation in the first winter, the list of approved ancestors is much shorter than the original 102. *Here are the approved lines:*

**John Alden, Bartholomew Allerton, Isaac Allerton, Mary (Norris) Allerton, Mary Allerton, Remember Allerton, Elinor Billington, Francis Billington, John Billington, William Bradford, Love Brewster, Mary Brewster, William Brewster, Peter Browne, James**

## FWGS Membership Report:

Rob Yoder, Membership Director reports 140 members to date.



## SUMMER BREAK.....

**The Center For Texas Studies (TCU), Billy W. Sills Center (FWISD) & Lunch Time Lectures @ NARA** are all taking a Summer Break. Check back in the Fall.

**Fort Worth Genealogical Society** is moving their mailing list. The new list is through **Google Groups** and will give FWGS the ability to deliver this newsletter directly to your inbox.

We need everyone to participate and subscribe to this new mailing list, whether a member or a guest. Contact [FWGS@mail.com](mailto:FWGS@mail.com) to give permission to subscribe to the new list.

Chilton, Mrs. James Chilton, Mary Chilton, Francis Cooke, John Cooke, Edward Doty, Francis Eaton, Samuel Eaton, Sarah Eaton, Moses Fletcher, Edward Fuller, Mrs. Edward Fuller, Samuel Fuller, Samuel Fuller (son of Edward), Constance Hopkins, Elizabeth (Fisher) Hopkins, Giles Hopkins, Stephen Hopkins, John Howland, Richard More, Priscilla Mullins, William Mullins, Degory Priest, Joseph Rogers, Thomas Rogers, Henry Samson, George Soule, Myles Standish, Elizabeth Tilley, John Tilley, Joan (Hurst) Tilley, Richard Warren, Peregrine White, Resolved White, Susanna White, William White, and Edward Winslow.

You will find the genealogies of these originals listed down to the 5<sup>th</sup> generation in the GSMD Silver Books (available in most libraries.) Then you have only to prove from that last person listed down to yourself. All the normal methods to “prove” your lineage may need to be used. Methods used for other lineal societies can be used for the Mayflower Society.

The Society has affiliate organizations in all 50 states, D.C., and Canada. Under the State “umbrellas” you will find local organizations called “Colonies.” In our area the local colony is the DFW Colony which is the largest in Texas with about 100 members. And there are Mayflower descendants living all over the world.

To begin your journey to join, you will need to contact the State Society Historian: [historian@txsomb.com](mailto:historian@txsomb.com) They can give you advice and even recommend a Preliminary Review, if you think you are close to finishing your lineage and proofs. There is a \$25.00 cost. For more on how to get started see below: <https://www.themayflowersociety.org/membership-info16/membership-information>

### MAYFLOWER VOYAGE QUADRICENTENNIAL

The 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mayflower’s arrival at Massachusetts will be celebrated in 2020. That is not that far away and there are many celebrations to look forward to honor that little band of travelers who set the tone of the Nation to follow. Don’t forget, they did travel for religious freedom & personal freedoms. They did persevere in the face of many hardships and deprivations. They came together and established a set of rules before they began life in their new colony. That agreement, known as the *Mayflower Compact* is seen today as the forerunner to our Constitution.

The GSMD will not be the only group commemorating this event, but it is of utmost importance to them. Their first initiative is to lobby Congress to have the US Mint issue a special commemorative coin series recognizing key historical elements surrounding the *Mayflower*

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## BIG NEWS: SAVE THE DATE, SEPT 10<sup>th</sup>

FWGS announces the 2016 Speaker for their annual End of Summer Seminar:  
**KELVIN MEYERS** of Dallas, TX.



**New Location:**  
**Trimble Tech High School**  
(Cannon Street @ Henderson)  
Fort Worth, Texas

### TOPICS:

1. Can a Dead Man Sign a Deed?
2. Abstract versus Original, Do I need both?
3. The Hand That Rocked the Cradle Could Rule the World
4. Who Cares Who Their Neighbors Were? You Do!  
That’s Who!

Watch our web site for downloadable registration forms and more news. **\$40.00 Early Registration!**

**All Day Seminar: Early Coffee/Muffins, Lunch Included, Door Prizes, Syllabus**

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/html/2016-summer-seminar.html>

voyage and the establishment of Plymouth colony. The bills are already in both houses. Even if you are not a member of GSMD, you can help by lending your name & support to getting these bills passed. You can contact your US Senator or Representative and ask that they support these bills, [HR. 2980](#) & [S.1715](#) Both bills are known as the *Mayflower Commemorative Coin Act* and call for limited numbers of \$5 Gold coins & \$1 Silver coins to be minted for collectors. Both bills were introduced in their respective houses in July, 2015, both have numerous co-sponsors added (none from TX) & both have been read & referred to their respective committees. And there they sit.... Check progress [here](#). Look for your Congressional contact here: [House Rep](#) & [Senator](#). Urge them to support this commemoration!

July 2016



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Box 471789, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-1408

Founded A.D. 1957

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

FWGS Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Fort-Worth-Genealogical-Society-319546544054/>

Membership Application -★- Fort Worth Genealogical Society			
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership - \$23 ⇒ \$20 if paid before 1 Jan of year checked	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership - \$27 ⇒ \$25 if paid before 1 Jan of year checked		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership - \$50 or more	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Membership - \$250 or more		
Name: _____		Phone: _____	
Address: _____		City: _____	
State: _____	Zip: _____	E-mail Address: _____	
This membership application is for: <input type="checkbox"/> 2016 <input type="checkbox"/> 2017		<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	