



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

web site: [www.TXFWGS.org](http://www.TXFWGS.org)

January 2017

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## JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

Our first meeting of the New Year will be **Tuesday, January 31, 2017** in the **Tandy Auditorium** of the Central Branch Library. **Terri Meeks**, FWGS VP, will present: **We Are Not in Kansas Anymore!** Time will be **6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.**

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

We complain about the weather and our ancestors did too. Our farming ancestors had to watch the weather closely; it directly affected their economic well-being. Have you lost track of your ancestor's family? Looking for that burial record or occupation? Want to put additional flesh on the bones? Perhaps weather might hold the answer.



**Terri Meeks** retired from BAE Systems in 2007 as a test

engineer for F-16 support equipment. When Terri began her genealogy in 2000, she discovered her grandparents were immigrants & traditional U.S. census searches would not work. She had to learn new techniques in tracing her maternal line to Quebec.

Terri currently serves as Vice President of FWGS and teaches their Beginners' Genealogy Class. She also volunteers at a Family History Center and has recently taught a series of genealogy classes for the TCU Silver Frogs. She also translates Catholic Church records from French, Latin and Italian into English for the American Canadian Genealogical Society.



## FW LIBRARY NEWS

### JANUARY CLOSURES M L King, JR DAY

All libraries will be CLOSED on MONDAY, JAN. 16, 2017. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017.



All book drops close at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017. (Central's book drop will close at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017.) All book drops will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017 when the branch reopens. No items can be returned while book drops are closed.

# 2017

Happy New Year

A Look Ahead.....

### 2017 Schedule of FWGS General Meetings

January 31  
February 28  
March 28  
April 25  
May 30  
June 27

July 25  
August 29  
Sept 26  
Oct. 31  
Nov. 28  
*None in Dec*

**Go Ahead and Mark  
That Calendar NOW!**



### PARKING IS EASY!

Meters are FREE at 6 PM and you can always 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.

## January FWGS Meetings:

**Board of Directors:** Sat. Jan 21, 2017  
10:15 Southwest Regional

**Beginners:** Sat. Jan 28, 2017  
10:30-12:30 Chappell Rm.—Central

**Computer Users:** Sat. Jan 28, 2017  
2:00-4:00 Intel Lab—Central

**General Meeting:** Tues, Jan 31, 2017  
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central  
Refreshments at 6:00

**Refreshments: Openings in Feb**  
**Can you Volunteer?** [debeejay@aol.com](mailto:debeejay@aol.com)

From the Editor .....



Happy New Year! Time to Kick off a new year of Genealogical Searching. Here are some New Year's Resolutions for YOU! .....

- 1. Genealogical Societies. Join a new one and Renew an old one. Resolve to pay those dues in a timely way and keep them informed of your address changes.
2. Brick Walls. Tackle that old problem again. New databases are digitized DAILY. New works are published, so check that library catalog again. New researchers join our ranks all the time. Maybe one of those newbies has your answer. It never hurts to put out a new query.
3. Re-Visit. Look at your old notes and paper documents. Perhaps there were names or places in there that did not mean anything to you then, but now that you have more knowledge & experience, it might. You never know what will "pop out" at you if you give it another look!

May 2017 be THE year to knock down a brick wall!

Debbie Pearson, Newsletter Editor

From the FWGS Mail Bag .....



Center For Texas Studies - TCU & FW Lib

Saturday, Feb 4th 10:30-12:00 noon

"History of the Lake Como Community"

by Gayle W. Hanson, historian, genealogist, lecturer, & researcher in Tandy Auditorium, Central Branch, FWL

More on this program—page 3

NEXT: Sat, March 11—"A Horse of Her Own: Cowgirls from the Frontier to the Footlights" by Joyce Roach

Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD presents

Saturday, January 21, 2017 10 am-12 noon

Presenter:

Richard Gonzalez, author, historian, & freelance journalist

Topic:

"A History of the Mexican-American Community in Fort Worth"

2720 Cullen, 2nd Floor

Fort Worth, TX 76107

(817) 814-2040

NEXT: Sat, Feb 18—Ruth Karbach on "Caruso in Cowtown"

Lunch Time Lectures @ NARA Noon-1 p.m.

1400 John Burgess Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76140

Training Room

Register at ftworth.education@nara.gov for a FREE space.

Date: Friday, January 13, 2017

Topic: Genealogy at Your Fingertips Online

by Meg Hacker, Archives Director

The Center for Texas Studies and TCU Extended Education present a class

How to Write Your Own Obituary

with Sandra Guerra-Cline

Senior Copy Editor, Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Presented in 2 classes

February 21st & February 28th

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Course Fee \$50.00---Must Pay & Reserve Space

https://lifelong.is.tcu.edu/wconnect/CourseStatus.awp?&course=17SCTS34 A well-written obituary can be a lasting

testimony to those we leave behind, a record of personal history, a legacy to those we cherish in our own "voice." Learn the basics of writing a newspaper obituary, read some outstanding examples and write your own, before it's too late. Enroll today!

Membership Report:

Your 2017 dues are now due!

Since January membership is changing rapidly as the mail man delivers your dues, we will have a more current total next month.

Don't let your membership expire. Renew for 2017.

Mail Renewals to: FWGS
ATTN: Membership Director
P.O. Box 471789
Fort Worth, TX 76147-1408

Please add your email and print neatly.



A FOND FAREWELL....to former FW Librarian Donna Kruse. You may remember her from Head of Genealogy Unit and latter a move to Head of SW Regional Library Branch. Donna and husband just moved out-of-state and she says she will so miss her friends in Fort Worth. Donna was always a great friend to FWGS and we wish her all the best in her future career. Keep in Touch!



## NEW YEAR OF BEGINNERS CLASSES

Saturday, January 28, 2017

10:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.

### Central Branch Library--Chappell Room

**1<sup>st</sup> class of the New Year.** FWGS begins the New Year's Series of 8 Beginner's classes (one each month- January through August) instructing Beginners (or anyone) on "How To Get Started in Genealogy & Organizational Hints." This first session includes use of pedigree charts & family group sheets, collecting & documentation, difference in primary resources & secondary resources, importance of collateral lines, available resources, interviews, letter writing courtesy, suggestions of organization, suggested supplies and setting up of files.

**Vice President Terri Meeks** will lead all the classes at the **Central Branch Library, in the Chappell Room at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday mornings.** Parking on the street meters and 3<sup>rd</sup> St Garage are free all day on Saturdays.

Bring a notebook and pen!

Here is a link to Terri's flyer on the FWGS web site:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/documents/Beginners Class Flyer 2017-01.pdf>



## COMPUTER USERS GROUP (CUG)

MEETS TOO

Saturday, January 28, 2017

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### Central Branch Library---INTEL Computer Lab

FWGS also offers 8 meetings for our Computers Users Group. This class includes hands-on computer time in the **Intel Lab** at the Central Branch Library. Some of the time will be spent in instruction and part of the time will be your time to explore the web using what you have learned. **Debbie Pearson** will chair CUG this year.

Participants are encouraged to attend both classes, but it is not necessary or mandatory. The classes are independent of each other, although sometimes will overlap or follow some of the same topics. CUG will always follow the techniques and issues of computers and web use with emphasis on Ancestry and Family Search.

**Space is limited to FWL computers available.**

**Both classes are FREE and available to non-members too. Do you know someone who could benefit from either of these classes? If so, why don't you share this newsletter and invite them along!**

**FWGS has a new web address: [www.TXFWGS.org](http://www.TXFWGS.org)**

**This one is easier to remember. The old address still works, you just have an easier one to remember now. PLEASE USE IT! There are some interesting things on the web site.**



## More...Gayle Hanson & Lake Como History

On **Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**, to commemorate Black History Month, genealogist and local historian Gayle W. Hanson will share the story of the Lake Como community in west Fort Worth. Lake Como has a long Fort Worth history, first as farm lands, then as the Lake Como amusement park and family destination on the last stop of the Arlington Heights street car line. And now it is the home to an African American neighborhood settled by black families in the early 1900s. This community has weathered all the struggles common to our nation in the past century, including the turmoil of the civil rights era. But members of this community retain their ties and remember their shared past. Come hear Gayle extol the history of Lake Como. [see p. 2 above](#)

**Gayle W. Hanson** is a historian, genealogist, lecturer, and researcher for Texas Historical and Ancestry Researchers in Arlington, Texas. Her area of expertise is historical research (Slavery to World War II) and family history. Ms. Hanson is presently working on several historical projects including the WPA Federal Writers Project Ex-Slave Narratives of Tarrant County, the Early Negro Schools of Tarrant County, and the Jeanes Supervisors of Texas.



## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY HOLD WINTER SALE.....

The Friends host a book sale for the general public in the Chapter 2 Annex. **All Adult Fiction (Hardback and Paperback) is \$0.50 per item.**

- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Friday, Jan. 20**
- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Saturday, Jan. 21**

Admission to the sale is \$1. There is no charge for members or children.

All other material at regular sale prices. Most items are priced between \$0.50 and \$1.50. Choose from books, CDs, DVDs, Children's materials and more.

The Chapter 2 Annex is located at **5318 Trail Lake Drive** (three doors north of the Friends Book Store). For more information on any of these events, call **817-346-2255**. In addition to cash, the Friends accept Master Card, Visa, and Discover.



**Fort Worth Genealogical Society**

Box 471789, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-1408

Founded A.D. 1957

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FWGS Web site: [www.TXFWGS.org](http://www.TXFWGS.org)

FWGS Facebook: [www.facebook.com/FortWorthGenealogicalSociety](http://www.facebook.com/FortWorthGenealogicalSociety)

**Membership Application & Renewal Form - ☆ - Fort Worth Genealogical Society**

Individual Membership - \$23  
⇒ \$20 if paid before the new year begins

Family Membership - \$27  
⇒ \$25 if paid before the new year begins

Sustaining Membership - \$50 or more

Contributing Membership - \$250 or more

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Your email address will be added to our mailing list in order for you to receive local announcements.)

This membership application is for:  2017  2018  New  Renewal