



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

February 2017

## 2017 Board of Directors

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## FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Our February meeting will be **Tuesday, February 28, 2017** in the **Tandy Auditorium** of the Central Branch Library. **Judy Ramos**, FWGS Program Director, will present: **To Join or Not to Join—A Lineage Society**. 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.



You've heard of the Sons/Daughters of the American Revolution? But, did you

know you can also join lineage societies for early sheriffs, teachers, or those accused of witchcraft? There is a lineage society for almost everyone. Judy will introduce you to some well-known and lesser known lineage groups & explain what every genealogist should consider.

**JUDY RAMOS** is a member of 11 lineage organizations. In 2016, she received the M.W. Cox Historical Research Award from the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT) and in 2013, received the national Spirit of 1812 award from the NSUSD 1812. Judy is a Corpus Christi, Texas native, but traces her roots around the globe. She has written for Everett Generations and Alabama Pioneers websites. She also writes for "Crossroads," the magazine of the Utah Genealogical Society. Judy is a former newspaper, television, and radio reporter and currently works in public relations when she is not working on genealogy.



## FW LIBRARY NEWS

February is Black History Month at FWL

Check out so many FWL activities here: <http://fortworthtexas.gov/library/programs/black-history-month.html>

A Look Ahead.....

### 2017 Schedule of FWGS

#### General Meetings

January 31	July 25
February 28	August 29
March 28	Sept 26
April 25	Oct. 31
May 30	Nov. 28
June 27	None in Dec

Go Ahead and Mark That Calendar NOW!

### JANUARY MEETING

**Terri Meeks** brought a most informative & interesting program on the effects weather played in the lives of our ancestors. She covered droughts, tornados, floods, ice & record snowfalls as far back as the 1700's. She gave an example of several people who all had the same death date & place but lived so far from the state mentioned. Turns out, they all died in a flood while traveling on the Mississippi! Newspapers uncovered the pin point of how these disparate lives came together for one point in history! Terri cautioned us to **dig deeper** to flesh out the "bones" with more stories & history in our research.

### PARKING IS EASY!

Meters are FREE at 6 PM. Park FREE in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Garage (1block E. from the library door) for 2 ½ hours with your ticket validated in the library.

## February FWGS Meetings:

**Board of Directors:** Sat. Feb 18, 2017  
10:15 Southwest Regional  
**Beginners:** Sat. Feb 25, 2017  
10:30-12:30 Chappell Rm.—Central  
**Computer Users:** Sat. Feb 25, 2017  
2:00-4:00 Intel Lab—Central  
**General Meeting:** Tues, Feb 28, 2017  
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central  
Refreshments at 6:00  
**Refreshments: Opening in June**  
Can you Volunteer? [debeejay@aol.com](mailto:debeejay@aol.com)



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

Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 10:30-12:00 noon

**“A Horse Of Her Own:**

**Cowgirls From the Frontier to the Footlights”**

by **Joyce G. Roach**, educator, author, historian, folklorist, & rancher

in **Tandy Auditorium, Central Branch, FWL**

**NOTE: This date is not the first Saturday; it is a companion lecture for Women’s History Month**

**NEXT: Sat, April 8** “From Tea Cakes to Tamales: Third Generation Recipes”

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

**Saturday, February 18, 2017 10 am-12 noon**

Presenter:

**Ruth Karbach**, historian & author

Topic:

**“Caruso in Cowtown”**

2720 Cullen, 2nd Floor

Fort Worth, TX 76107

(817) 814-2040

**NEXT: Sat, Mar 25—“Fort Worth’s Quality Hill”**  
by Brenda McClurkin, archivist, historian, & author

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

1400 John Burgess Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76140

Training Room

Register at [ftworth.education@nara.gov](mailto:ftworth.education@nara.gov) for a FREE space.

Date: **Friday, February 17, 2017 This is a DATE CHG!**

Topic: **Highlighting African American History @ NARA**

by Jenny Sweeney, Education Specialist

**Next: Fri, Mar 3, 2017---Census Records**

The Census Records are possibly the most popular group of records used in genealogical research. Learn some new ways to use & decipher information within these documents.

**FWGS MAILING ADDRESS**

**Fort Worth Genealogical Society**

**ATTN: Membership Director**

**PO BOX 471789**

**FORT WORTH TX 76147-1408**

In the **Attention** line:

mark **ATTN: Membership** if paying dues.

mark **ATTN: President** (for other comments)

mark **ATTN: Programs** (for program ideas/suggestions)


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



**President’s Welcome**

Welcome to a New Year in Genealogy! We hope you have started off this new year by joining us again at FWGS. Unfortunately, some of you have not. Right now, **Rob Yoder**, *Footprints* editor, informs me, that while the February issue of *Footprints* is ready to print and mail, he cannot mail it! We have not received enough renewals to meet the US Postal Service minimum for our Bulk Mail permit. The Board and officers try to be good stewards of your funds and of this society, so we try to find discounts and save money where we can. We certainly do not want to lose our Bulk Mail permit.

If you have delayed your renewal or forgotten, would you please send it in now. If you have chosen not to renew, would you drop us a line or email and let us know. If there is something we can do better, let us know that too.

**Judy Ramos**, Program Director, did a fabulous job last year planning interesting and informative programs. She is hard at work right now on 2017. [The January meeting was well attended, **THANK YOU to Terri Meeks** and her weather talk.] In fact, Judy almost has the entire year planned. Look on our web site soon; the entire year will be there. Free meetings are another of your perks for being a member. Please come and avail yourself of this education. We would love to meet you! 

**DON CREWS**, President FWGS 2017

**Membership Report:**

**Rob Yoder, Membership Director** reports that many have still not renewed their dues. Thank You to all you early birds who paid before the new year.

**Thanks & WELCOME to these NEW MEMBERS:**

Carol A. Sewell	Madison Moore
Jean Lane	Kenneth Parrish
Nancy Trofholz	Michael Chapline
And thanks for Returning Member:	Peggy Quinn



### BEGINNERS CLASSES

**Saturday, February 25, 2017**

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

**with Terri Meeks, VP**

*If you missed last month-No Worries!* This is only the 2nd class. FWGS offers 8 classes (January through August) at the Central Branch Library, in the Chappell Room at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday mornings. Bring notebook, pen, and print out the handout before you come.

**THIS CLASS: CENSUS RECORDS**

**Both classes are FREE and available to non-members too. Invite someone to come. Parking at the street meters & the 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Garage is free all day on Saturdays.**

### COMPUTER USERS GROUP (CUG)



**Saturday, February 25, 2017**

**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**with Debbie Pearson, Facilitator**

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. Class time will be split between instruction and time to use what you learn. Please print the hand out before you come.

**THIS CLASS: CENSUS RECORDS ON-LINE**

### DON'T FORGET:



#### TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Presents the **FIRST EVER**

Texas Institute of Genealogical Research

May 22-25, 2017

Thompson Conference Center

at the University of Texas

Austin, Texas

**TIGR** is the first genealogical conference sponsored by TSGS devoted entirely to TX genealogical research.

**Early bird discount registration is open until March 1.**

**TxSGS members receive a discount.**

For More on this conference:

<http://www.txsgs.org/conference/>

Don't Forget:

**History of the Lake Como Community**

by **Gayle Hanson**

**Tandy Auditorium, Central Branch, FWL**

**10:30- Noon on Sat, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>**

**NARA Changes Date on Lunchtime Lecture**

*Note the date has been changed from Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>.*



### FREEDMAN'S BANK? FREEDMAN'S BUREAU?

Did you know these were actually two different sets of records? The names are confusing, but they are separate databases. For African Americans, these are two of the most useful records to research ancestors after the Civil War.

**FREEDMAN'S BANK** is actually the **Freedman's Savings and Trust Company**. This institution was set up after the Civil War to help African American soldiers and freed slaves bank their finances. It only lasted a decade with its failure in 1874. Records exist on Family Search, Heritage Quest, & Ancestry from 1864-1871.

In NYC a few European immigrants deposited too. Records can establish full names, maiden names, residency, & some familial relationships.

**FREEDMAN'S BUREAU** was actually **The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, & Abandoned Lands** established on 3 March 1865 by Congressional Act and administered by the War Department for benefit of freed slaves, refugees, and also tracks abandoned or seized lands during the War. These were not financial records *per se*, but dealt with health/hospital matters, clothing, relief, even court records, letters, and census type information. These can be a wealth of information for displaced families after freedom. Ancestry has many of the state bureaus ranging 1863-1878. NARA has them on microfilm too.

#### U.S. Colored Troops Military Service Records, 1863-1865

These are compiled service records for Union volunteers. Lincoln did not approve use of Black troops until 1863 and by the close of the war there were about 175 regiments composed of 178,000 African-American troops. Ancestry & NARA have these records. Fold3 has some too.

#### US Slave Narratives, 1936-1938

This was a US WPA project. It consists of 2,300 first-person accounts of slavery and 500 black and white photographs! Available on Ancestry, Library of Congress & various other web sites. (Do a Google Search) Many recordings exist as well as printed copies.

Family Search.org has a very informative WIKI on African American Research :

[https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/African\\_American\\_Genealogy](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/African_American_Genealogy)

Ancestry.com has learning opportunities too. Here is a link to their Guide to African American Research:

[https://c.mfcreative.com/mars/landing/africanamerican/africanamerican\\_guide\\_2015.pdf](https://c.mfcreative.com/mars/landing/africanamerican/africanamerican_guide_2015.pdf)



### NARA LUNCHTIME LECTURE FEB 17:

**Highlighting African American**

**History at NARA**

Slave manifests, census records, court documents, and other National Archive resources highlight the rich history of the African American experience. Come to learn more about these records. **See page 2 for more on this class.**

Register at [ftworth.education@nara.gov](mailto:ftworth.education@nara.gov) for a FREE space.



**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