



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

NOVEMBER 2017

## 2017 Board of Directors

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## NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The next general meeting will be Tuesday, **November 28, 2017** in the **Tandy Auditorium** of the Central Branch Library. The program will be **"Writing a Family History"** by **Clay Patterson**. This topic is a much requested one by researchers. Clay says the hardest part is just getting started.

**6:30 - 7:45 p.m.**

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



**CLAY PATTERSON** has been a genealogist for over 35 years. He was a BCG Certified

Genealogist (2007-2012) and has been designated a Fellow in the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (FSA Scott) since 2006.

Clay also holds memberships in the Association of Professional Genealogists, NGS & International Society of Family History Writers.

Clay is a writer, editor, and publisher himself. He combines all his interests into his writing and publishing projects. ( Armorial, Scots heritage, and family history.)

Check out his web site:

<http://www.rosecrag.com/about.html>

**Have you joined us on Facebook yet? Go to our site and hit LIKE!**



## FW LIBRARY NEWS

### Holiday Closures

Thanksgiving approaches and of course the Libraries will close on Thursday, but did you know they also will close on Friday after Thanksgiving? Plan accordingly!  
Wed, Nov 22 **OPEN** 10 am to 6 pm  
Thurs-Fri, Nov 23-24 **CLOSED**  
Sat, Nov 25 All branches, Regular hrs

### October FWGS Meeting

**Diane Dyess** brought an interesting program with some amazing photos of graves in Victorian styles. She showed examples of flowers or hands or wreaths and then explained their meanings. She gave definitions of some common terms needed for searches in cemeteries. For example a *cenotaph* is erected without the burial of the body. A *consort* just means spouse or a marriage. Consort was usually used for a wife who predeceased her husband. *Relict* usually means a widow or widower. One spouse died first and the widow/er did NOT remarry. Again, this term was used mostly for women who lived longer than their husbands and remained a widow until their deaths. Great Program!

**It's Easy to attend our General Meetings downtown! You can Park Free on the Streets after 6 P.M. OR you have 2.5 hrs FREE in 3<sup>rd</sup> St Garage. Just validate your ticket at the Library desk.**

### November FWGS Meetings:

**Board of Directors:** Sat. Nov 18, 2017  
10:15 Southwest Regional

**Beginners:** CONCLUDED for 2017

**Computer Users:** CONCLUDED for 2017

**General Meeting:** Tues, Nov 28, 2017  
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central

**Refreshments at 6:00**

**Nov. Refreshments:** Joan Crittenden

**Can You Help with one month?**

email [debeejay@aol.com](mailto:debeejay@aol.com)



**From the FWGS Mail Bag .....**

**Free NARA Lunchtime Lectures**

Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> –12 noon to 1:00 p.m.

**“The Texas City Disaster”**

by **Joe Ryan**, Archives Technician

On Wednesday a.m. April 16, 1947, the Port of Texas City, Texas, was engulfed in the flames and smoke of an explosion that could be felt miles away. Come learn more about this major industrial disaster.

**Register:** [ftworth.education@nara.gov](mailto:ftworth.education@nara.gov) or call **817-551-2051**

Training Room,

1400 John Burgess Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76140

**Next:** TBA



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

Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:30-12:00 noon

**“The Murder of William Clark”**

by **Rene Gomez**, Senior Librarian

Tandy Auditorium, Central Branch, FWL

In an opulent Park Hill neighborhood mansion in the spring of 1953, police discovered wealthy oilman William Clark's body sprawled across a bedroom floor. Was it Suicide? Or Murder? Find out!

**Next:** TBA

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

Saturday, Dec 16, 2017 10 am-12 noon

Presenter: **Joe Strain**, educator & museum docent

Topic: **“Charles Russell: Sorry I Ain’t**

**Come to Texas til Now”**

2720 Cullen St, 2nd Floor Fort Worth, TX 76107

(817) 814-2040

**Next:** Jan 13 The Great Conflagration of 1909, by Carol Roark

**NEED A LITTLE HELP???**

**FWGS Member Brenda Carlson** will be in the Genealogy Unit of FWL at **5 p.m.** for one hour before the November General Meeting on the 28th. She is volunteering to help you with one of your research problems. Come early to the meeting and give it a try.



The **Nov Meeting** is a good time to pay your 2018 dues and save a stamp! **Early Bird prices** are in effect *only* until Dec 31<sup>st</sup>.

**2018 Individual: \$ 20**

**2018 Household: \$ 25**



**From the Editor.....**

**Happy Harvest and a good Thanksgiving to you all!**

In October, FWGS members elected the 2018 slate of officers. see p.3. Members also passed a bylaws amendment clearing up an oversight, so that now all members of the Board of Directors have a vote.

**President Don Crews** invites all members to the last meeting of the year. We will hear **Clay Patterson** and also install the new officers. Don still wants to hear if you would be interested in serving as an officer or on a committee in 2018. There are notable openings for a Program Director and 2 Director At Large positions. Don also needs teachers to help with Beginner’s Class in 2018. FWGS also needs stories written up about North Texas **WW I veterans** in your families. Please consider writing about a family member for this WW I Centennial project. Contact to volunteer: [FWGS-president@mail.com](mailto:FWGS-president@mail.com)

*Debbie Pearson*, Newsletter Editor



**FWGS Extends Deepest Sympathies**

The Library and Genealogical communities were shocked to learn of the death of a past head of the genealogy unit, **Mr. Ken Hopkins**. He died Nov 10, 2017. Ken had moved from the genealogy unit upstairs into library administration. From there he became the Director of the East Regional Library.

Ken was also a former member of FWGS and had served on the Board. He served as 1<sup>st</sup> VP & Librarian as early as 1995 and as late as 2004. He was always helpful & supportive of FWGS and the genealogical patrons.

His obituary ran in the FW Star Telegram and indicates a Memorial Service will be held at a later date. We hope to learn more and share. Our sympathies to his family.

**FWGS Membership Report:**

**Rob Yoder**, Membership Director reports **148** Members.

**Welcome Members!**

**New**

**Returning**

**Gayle Bradburn**

It is easy to find our FWGS web site. Try:

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



## LOTS OF REMODELING GOING ON

Last month this column announced that **Find A Grave** is undergoing a complete update and redesign of their website. Now we find that **Genealogy Bank** is doing the same thing. As this column is written, both sites will still let you switch back and forth between old and new (beta). But you have to know that will end at some point. **F-A-G** wants your feedback. **GB** claims they have listened to users and are bringing about these changes. If you are a subscriber, I suggest you start experimenting and see if you find things easier and that the functions you knew and liked are still there. Even if you are not a subscriber, you may take advantage of using GB as a patron of the Fort Worth Library system. Many genealogists use GB in the library. Or with their FW library card number, they access the web site from home. **All** users may have an opinion on this new site.

Here is the phone number for feedback: **1-866-641-3297**. From the website there are also feedback buttons. Here is the information page given at the time of the August 2017 announcement of changes coming.

<https://www.genealogybank.com/static/lp/coming-soon/>

**OPINION:** I have been a successful and enthusiastic user of GB for over 5 years. I sometimes find the search engine lacking, but all in all, it is *very* good. They add thousands of newspapers continually and usually about a million records monthly. In the past they added a feature to store images you have saved in a “My Folder” system, which has been quite helpful. They have very decent abilities to enhance the image size, crop, pdf, print, save citations, etc. I have been very happy. But with the beta, I have not yet been able to find all these capabilities again. And the bad thing is there are no directions or help buttons. The beta site is not as intuitive as it is now, in the “old” version.

One positive change is the ability to save as a jpeg right away, which will be helpful to upload to Ancestry. And the redesign is supposed to make GB work better on all platforms: phone, tablet, etc.

This needs more experimentation on my part and I definitely will add in my two cents! I hope you do too.



## MORE on GENEALOGY BANK

Did you know that **FamilySearch.org** and **Genealogy Bank** have a collaboration effort? Family Search (FS) has a database on their free site called: **United States, GenealogyBank Obituaries, 1980-2014**. FS volunteers have indexed over 23 million records from GB. This index will name the deceased, the spouse, children, other names, places, etc. found in obituaries on GB. You need to access this database through your FS account (always free). Then if you are a subscriber to GB you will see the all the indexed names and the typescript of the actual obituary. If you are not a subscriber, you will just see the indexed names.

### 2018 FWGS Officers Elected in October Meeting

President:	<b>Don Crews</b>
Vice President:	<b>Roy Combrink</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Phil Morris</b>
Secretary:	<b>Crystal Barth</b>
Newsletter Ed:	<b>Debbie Pearson</b>
Programs Director:	<b>Open</b>
Membership Director:	<b>Rob Yoder</b>
Historian Archivist:	<b>Open</b>
FP Editor:	<b>Rob Yoder</b>
Director:	<b>Sharon Ward</b>
Director:	<b>Open</b>
Director:	<b>Open</b>

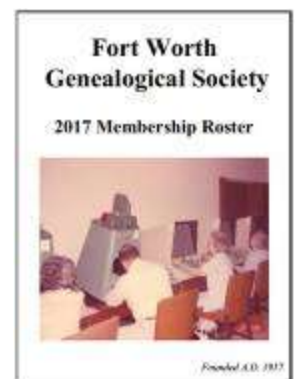
**Email Don Crews is interested in one of the open positions.**

### It's Back! The 2017 FWGS Membership Roster

**Rob Yoder**, Membership Director has put together this latest roster of members. The roster is available (only) to all FWGS members on request. You may obtain a digital version through email. Just email Rob with your membership name

and email address to: [FWGS@Mail.com](mailto:FWGS@Mail.com)

Disclaimer: This Membership Roster is property of the Fort Worth Genealogical Society and is distributed to its members for their personal use only. It may not be copied, sold, rented, used for mass mailing or any other purpose, private or commercial, without prior official approval of the Society's Board of Directors and written consent.





# 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)

Please LIKE us on Facebook.

## 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