



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

January 2020

## 2020 Board of Directors

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Carlene Johnson

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Director at Large

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## JANUARY

### GENERAL MEETING

The January general meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Tandy Auditorium** of the Central Branch Library. The speaker will be **Mark Dellenbaugh** from the Arlington Library Genealogy Department. He will tell us about their collection and what has changed since their move to a brand-new building.

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

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

**MARK DELLENBAUGH** is a librarian



with Arlington PLS.

Mark currently

oversees the

Genealogy & Local

History Collection. There he works to preserve, curate, and communicate Arlington's unique story through photographic digitization and oral history projects. He also creates programs and coordinates the best group of genealogy volunteers! He's active in Arlington Genealogical Society serving as 1st Vice President there.

Mark holds a Master of Library & Information Science & M.A. in History, both from UT (Austin) and a B.A. in History & Classics from UTA.

Mark has been married for 28 years and they have three kids (two college & one junior high).

**Parking is Free on the Streets after 6 P.M. OR 2.5 hrs FREE in 3<sup>rd</sup> St Garage with Library Validation of Ticket.**

## November FWGS Meeting

The last meeting of the year was jam packed. Several were paying their 2020 early bird dues, we had Installation of officers, a book was donated by FWGS to the library, an award presented, lots of news, and when you can see---jam packed. **John Wylie** came to conduct the Installation, present the award and give us a talk on Texas State Genealogical Society. John is not only a TxSGS member (in fact a past president), but a FWGS member too. He gave us lots of reasons to become members too. Members receive discounts on the annual conference (& sometimes other special offers), TxSGS monitors important issues connected to genealogical records in our state legislature & lobbies if needed, TxSGS has a voice and connection with the national societies and keeps current, and maybe the most important reason to join, members receive a quarterly issue of their journal *STIRPES*. As a bonus, all present at the November meeting took home a free issue of *STIRPES*. FWGS is a partner society with TxSGS and it is a long partnership. FWGS founder & first President **Edna Perry Deckler** went on to found TxSGS too. FWGS was founded in 1957 and TxSGS was founded in 1960. A very long partnership indeed!

Another plus of TxSGS is that they present awards every year at their conference for writing. In 2019, FWGS *Footprints* Editor Rob Yoder took the 2<sup>nd</sup> place award for journals of our size in the whole state. John presented it & a \$50 check to Rob and the society.

## January FWGS Meetings:

**Board of Directors:** Sat. Jan 18, 2020  
10:15 Tandy Aud, Central

**Beginners:** Sat, Jan 25, 2020  
10:30 Chappell Room, Central

**Computer Users:** Sat, Jan 25, 2020  
2:00 Intel Lab, Central

**General Meeting:** Tues, Jan 28, 2020  
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central

**Refreshments at 6:00**

January Refreshments: Charles Garner



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



**Happy New Year** as we start a new decade!

A look back on 2019 saw FWGS have another good year with a very successful Summer Seminar held again after a year's absence. With well over 100 in attendance, FWGS welcomed participants who had never attended our event before and we tried out a new venue--Ridglea Country Club. In another advance, FWGS was proud to begin offering dues payment online and at our meetings and events. Book sales improved with this advent too. FWGS elected a new slate of officers with **President Carlene Johnson** returning after her very first (and very successful year) in that position. Several board members are taking a bow for a needed rest and we thank them for their service, especially long-time BOD member **Roy Combrink**. FWGS welcomes new directors **Joan Crittenden, Charles Garner, & Janet Minke**. And lastly **RIP** to FWGS members who passed last year.

Let's get **2020** off to a great start by attending all the meetings this year. Your program director is already planning for informative, interesting programs ahead. See you there.....

*Debbie Pearson*, Newsletter Editor

**TIME TO RENEW**



**Membership in FWGS runs January 1 to Dec 31.**

Your 2019 Membership has ended. It's time to renew! Individual dues are \$23 and a Household is \$27.

*Make your check payable to **FWGS**.*

**Fort Worth Genealogical Society**

**ATTN: Membership Director**

**P.O. Box 471789**

**Fort Worth, TX 76147-1408**

*Please add your email and print neatly.*

If you want to pay online or print out a membership form and mail a check go here:

<http://www.txfwgs.org/html/membership.html>

All memberships receive 4 quarterly issues of *Footprints* (by mail) & 11 months of the FWGS Newsletter (by email).



**CHANGES of ADDRESSES**

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!

REMEMBER to NOTIFY FWGS immediately upon a move. The post office does not forward *Footprints* without a cost to the society.

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



**Center For Texas Studies TCU @ The FW Library-----Tandy Auditorium**

**Saturday, February 1, 2020**

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

Topic: **"African American Activism in the 1940's"**

By **Dr. Kimberly Hill**

**Next:** March 7: Dr. Rachel Gunter "The Suffrage Movement in Texas"

FWL has a small exhibit on Suffrage in Main Hall of Central!

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

**Saturday, January 11, 2019 9:30 am - 12 noon**

Presenter:

**Daniel Haase**, long time East Fort Worth resident, civic organizer and planner.

Topic:

**"Gateway to the West: A Historical Look at the Development of East Fort Worth & its Neighborhoods"**

2720 Cullen, 2nd Floor

Fort Worth, TX 76107 (817) 814-2040

**Next:** February 22<sup>nd</sup> **"A Dallas Native Looks at Fort Worth--Fondly"** w/ **Rose Mary Rumbley**, speaker.

Rose Mary is one of DFW's favorite speakers!

**FWGS** again offers their renowned **8 Month** series of **Beginners Classes** and the companion series--**Computer Users Group**. If you have gone through the series before, you might want to come again in 2020! Carlene Johnson, Beginners Instructor is doing a large overhaul to the series. New things are being added. She encourages attendees to do both classes once a month!

**It is still FREE!**

**Saturday, January 25, 2019**

**FWGS Beginners Class:**

**"Getting Started"**

**10:30 am to 12:30 pm**

**Computer Users Group:**

**"Beginning Use of Ancestry.com"**

**2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

Both classes are at Central Branch of FW Library. Beginners in **Chappell Room** & CUG in **Intel Lab**. Come get in the first class in the 8-month series!



## DNA Tests in the News Again

Your Editor recently caught a fascinating story on a CBS news show. It involved two families, one Jewish and one Christian. Tom, raised Christian, decided to take a DNA test just for fun. He thought it odd his test came back heavily eastern European Jew and did not match his sister. Susan, from a family with Jewish roots found Tom on Ancestry.com after her DNA results indicated Tom should be a first cousin. She could not believe it as she knew all her first cousins. She contacted Tom and found he was born in Dearborn, MI. She went back through her family ties and realized that one of her first cousins, Herb, (who was now deceased) had been born in Dearborn too at almost the same time as Tom. With further inspection the two boys were born in the same hospital within hours of each other, so both mothers and infants were in the same maternity ward at the same time. The babies were born within hours of each other on December 7, 1941—Pearl Harbor Day. It is now thought that in all the horror and confusion of that day (that day that lives in infamy), the babies were switched. They believe it must have been accidental. The good news is that now Tom has two families, his “life family” and his biological family. Tom now has a brother and sister he did not know. And a new birthday. He was actually born a few hours into December 8<sup>th</sup>. But he’s decided to keep his “old” birthday of December 7, 1941.

DNA once again reveals the truth. And with the rising popularity of these tests, the number of these stories is increasing too. So much so that “Help” groups are forming to deal with the emotions and trauma of finding unexpected lineages. One such group **NPE Friends Fellowship** estimates that currently 5-10 % of all DNA home testing results in unexpected parentage. Not only are support groups forming, but **23 & Me** has begun sensitivity training for their phone employees who must deal with customers who call back for help with distressing news. Most of the DNA companies have added articles or helpful information to their websites to help customers deal with these unexpected results.

Recently, FWGS hosted speaker Sheila Randolph who had encountered an NPE in her family tree and spoke about it to us. **NPE** is often referred to as a **Non-Paternal Event** or **Not Parent Expected**. If the event is

several generations removed like Sheila’s was, it is easier to deal with, maybe even humorous. If it is *your* parents who lied or were lied to, it can be devastating!

When I was a little girl my father used to quote an old saying: “Locks are only for honest people.” I did not understand for a long time what he meant. But I guess he was saying we can never be totally secure. If a thief wants your possessions, he will find a way to steal them—he will break a lock. I think it is that way with our secrets too. Secrets will be found out; the truth is better. DNA is proving that now. I think back for hundreds and hundreds of years—maybe to the beginning of time—of our lineages and records. Is our genealogy foolproof? No! If some parents in 1766 took an orphan child into their home to raise as their own, we probably don’t know it. There are myriad scenarios that have happened over time that have affected us all. If our paperwork does not match up today, DNA just may steer us right.

**Remember, it is called GENEalogy for a good reason!**

For more on this story:

The original AP story April 21, 2019:

<https://apnews.com/fb0f247fcd2441bca414ed121f288397>

CBS story on *Family Matters* Jan 5, 2020:

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/dna-tests-and-family-matters/>

For the support group mentioned in the article:

<https://npefellowship.org/>

For the 23 & Me web page:

<https://you.23andme.com/public/unexpected-relationships> 23 & Me also has a Free 24/7 Crisis Text Line (see web site above for access)

**HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR FWGS DUES YET?**

2020 has begun and you don’t want to miss your first issue of *Footprints* in February.

**DON’T FORGET: All Fort Worth Libraries will be closed on the MLK Holiday, Monday, January 20, 2020.**

# FORT WORTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

In Collaboration with the Fort Worth Library  
Presents

## Mark Dellenbaugh

wOn

## ARLINGTON LIBRARY GENEALOGY—WHAT'S NEW

Mark oversees Genealogy & Local History in Arlington Library. He knows their collections well. Hear him tell the story of their growth, their moves over the last years, their brand-new building and what is unique about Arlington Public Library.

**DAY:** Tuesday, January 28, 2020

**TIME:** 6:30 p.m. Tandy Auditorium

**Central Branch, FW Library, 500 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.**

Parking meters are free at 6 p.m. The Sundance Garage on 3rd St. is free for 2 ½ hours with validation at Library desk. Come at 6:00 for Refreshments.



**MARK DELLENBAUGH** is a former user experience consultant with Dell, IBM, and Lucent. After 10 years in high tech, Mark returned to his first love of public libraries. Now more than 10 years into his second career as a librarian with the Arlington Public Library System focusing on staff training, social media, eBooks, and reference services, he currently oversees the Genealogy & Local History Collection. There he works to preserve, curate, and communicate Arlington's unique story through photographic digitization and oral history projects. He also creates and delivers engaging local & family history programming, assists researchers, and coordinates the best group of genealogy volunteers anywhere! Just for good measure, he is also currently serving as Arlington Genealogical

Society's 1st Vice President.

Mark holds a Master of Library & Information Science and a M.A. in History, both from the University of Texas at Austin and a B.A. in History and Classics from the University of Texas at Arlington.

He met and fell in love with an Arlington girl while at UTA, and they recently celebrated 28 years of marriage! She is a working on a master's degree in Christian Leadership at Dallas Theological Seminary. Together they have three kids: a math major at UTA, an architecture student at Notre Dame, and a recently minted teenage attending Young Junior High School.

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



**Fort Worth Genealogical Society**

Box 471789, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-1408

Founded A.D. 1957

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Join us or extend your membership today. Please mail the completed form with payment to:

**Fort Worth Genealogical Society  
PO BOX 471789  
FORT WORTH TX 76147-1408**

*Please print clearly*

**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:  2020  New  Renewal (Newsletter)