



Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

web site: www.TXFWGS.org

February 2020

2020 Board of Directors

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FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Our next general meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 25, 2020** at **6:30 p.m.** in the **Tandy Auditorium** of the Central Branch Library. The speaker will be **Ari Wilkins** of the Dallas Library Genealogy Department. Her topic is **"Friends of Friends: Quakers & African American Communities."** She promises to show where to find these records. Come whether you have African American or Quaker ancestors.

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

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



ARI WILKINS, a graduate of Louisiana State University, has been actively researching family history since 1998. Ms. Wilkins has spoken nationally at the National Genealogical Society, Federation of Genealogical Societies, Texas State Genealogical Society, Ohio Genealogical Society, Samford Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research, Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, American Library Association, RootsTech, and a multitude of local societies. Ari has been a Library Associate at Dallas Public Library since 2007. She teaches a series of basic research classes using popular genealogical websites. She specializes in African American research.



Fort Worth Library News

TAX TIME

AARP volunteers provide **FREE** income tax preparation assistance at some Fort Worth Library locations.

Requirements: An appointment is required for assistance. Please contact the desired location to schedule. Assistance is available to anyone, but priority is given to middle/low income senior citizens over the age of 60.

For more on locations participating: <http://fortworthtexas.gov/library/programs/income-tax-preparation-assistance/>

January FWGS Meeting

Mark Dellenbaugh spoke to our society on the collections, hours, location, and parking at the NEW Arlington Public Library in downtown Arlington. After a tear down, packing, unpacking, storage and camping out in various locations, the Genealogy collection is now in its new home. Arlington Genealogical Society volunteers helped greatly and man the dept when staff is not available. Mark told of some amazing stories that have stemmed from some of the local history collections. They have a good collection of Arlington HS and UTA yearbooks and city directories; some from wonderful volunteers & donors.

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

February FWGS Meetings:

Board of Directors: Sat. Feb 15, 2020
10:15 Tandy Aud, Central

Beginners: Sat, Feb 22, 2020
10:30 Chappell Room, Central

Computer Users: Sat, Feb 22, 2020
2:00 Intel Lab, Central

General Meeting: Tues, Feb 25, 2020
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central

Refreshments at 6:00

February Refreshments:

Debbie Pearson

From the Editor



FWGS LOVES our Members & Friends

Happy Valentine's Day! We would **LOVE** to have you become a member or STAY a member. February is crunch time for the society. We have our first issue of *Footprints* to publish and deliver to our members. If you are slow to renew your membership, you might miss an issue. Please make our job easier, and renew in January or early February!

FWGS would **LOVE** to have you come serve with us. We still need a **Secretary** to take minutes at our Board Meetings once a month. And we need an **Archivist/Historian** who keeps our records up to date. We also would like to have a member be in charge of refreshments at our monthly general meetings. And we could always use volunteers who like to transcribe records. FWGS needs those who are good at technology: can work on web sites, databases or indexing. Would you **LOVE** to volunteer? Contact our president Carlene Johnson at FWGS-President@mail.com and tell her.

Your Program director would **LOVE** to see you at ALL meetings, especially in February with Ari Wilkins of DPL.

Debbie Pearson, Newsletter Editor

From the FWGS Mail Bag



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

**Saturday, March 7, 2020
10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon**

Topic: **"The Suffrage Movement in Texas"**

By **Dr. Rachel Gunter**

FW Library has a small exhibit on Suffrage in the Main Hall of Central branch!

Next: April 4: Dr. Brennan Gardner Rivas "The History of Gun Control in Texas"

**Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD presents
Saturday, February 22, 2020 9:30 am - 12 noon**

Presenter:

Rose Mary Rumbly, Dallas native, historian, & speaker

Topic:

"A Dallas Native Looks at Fort Worth---Fondly"

2720 Cullen, 2nd Floor
Fort Worth, TX 76107 (817) 814-2040

Next: March TBD

PAST 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>

You are running out of time to RENEW & still receive the February *Footprints*.



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.

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 asks you to attend both and we'll help you or give you advice.

It is still FREE!

Saturday, February 22, 2020

FWGS Beginners Class:

"Using the Censuses"

10:30 am to 12:30 pm

Computer Users Group:

"Searching Through the Census"

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 for both classes and your instructors Carlene Johnson and Debbie Pearson will help you with your searches on the computer.

2020: CENSUS TIME AGAIN

APRIL 1ST IS OFFICIAL CENSUS DAY

Genealogists would be nowhere without their Census (and their senses too!) Maybe that should be put on a t-shirt! But it is true. From the beginning of our fledgling nation in 1790 and now in our new decade 2020, the US government conducts a population census every ten years. We all know the benefits of a census: the counting of our citizens, (especially males of an age to be drafted into militia service.) We know it provides for our governmental representation in Congress. It directs where monies should be spent, where growth is, it provides a snapshot of our citizenry including gender, ethnicity and sometimes citizenship or country of origin. There has sometimes been controversy around census questions and this year the controversy revolves around a citizenship question. I think genealogists prefer to skip the politics and opt for as much information as they can glean from these valuable documents. Perhaps our descendants will thank us.

Will our descendants see future censuses? We do know that census information is kept confidential for at least 72 years. A quick look at the calendar shows that the 1950 census should be available to release in 2022! That's just around the corner in two short years! Nothing much has been said or released on this topic. We know it will be a monumental task. And we know that while technology has advanced greatly, there will still be great problems. The problems are that the technology that was once used to analyze and keep the census, are technologies that are no longer in use today. We may have great trouble just getting to the census. Genealogists will be watching and listening.

RESPOND TO 2020 CENSUS

For now: Watch your mailbox for your official census invitation in mid-March. The days of the census riders on horseback and walking farm to farm are gone. Or maybe not. The census takers in Alaska have already been riding snowmobiles and airplanes as they head to remote islands and areas covered in snow. All **you** have to do is answer the questions and mail it back. **OR** now you can respond online or by phone. This census will be historic for this first-time attempt to have 3 ways to respond (two by technology!) **The questions you**

answer should be true as of April 1st. Good genealogists know you should check out the official date for every census you use. *[Sometimes a person is listed on the census, even though he was already dead. But the census asks, was he living in this house on April 1? (but he could be dead on April 15 and still be listed).]*

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Please visit the US Census Bureau website. It will give you much information on this historic census; how to respond, the questions, the timelines, some history and more. <https://2020census.gov/>

Here is link to a comparison between 1790 and 2020 that genealogists will find interesting:

<https://2020census.gov/en/what-is-2020-census/focus/years-counting.html>

2020 CENSUS TIMELINE

2020

January 21: The U.S. Census Bureau starts counting the population in remote Alaska. The count officially begins in the rural Alaskan village of Toksook Bay.

March 12 - 20: Households will begin receiving official Census Bureau mail with detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail.

March 30 - April 1: The Census Bureau will count people who are experiencing homelessness over these three days. As part of this process, the Census Bureau counts people in shelters, at soup kitchens and mobile food vans, on the streets, and at non-sheltered, outdoor locations such as tent encampments.

April 1: Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should **respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail.** When you respond to the census, you'll tell the Census Bureau **where you live as of April 1, 2020.**

April: Census takers will begin visiting college students who live on campus, people living in senior centers, and others who live among large groups of people. Census takers also begin conducting quality check interviews to help ensure an accurate count.

May - July: Census takers will begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to help make sure everyone is counted.

December: The Census Bureau will deliver apportionment counts to the President and Congress as required by law.

2021

March 31: By this date, the Census Bureau will send redistricting counts to states. This information is used to redraw legislative districts based on population changes.

Here are some of the efforts completed in 2019:

January - September: The Census Bureau opened more than 200 area census offices across the country. These offices support and manage the census takers who work all over the country to conduct the census.

August - October: Census takers visited areas that have experienced a lot of change and growth to ensure that the Census Bureau's address list is up to date. This process is called address canvassing, and it helps to ensure that everyone receives an invitation to participate in the census.

CENSUS SCAMS IN THE NEWS

There was a recent article in the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* about scams that have already begun around the public's duty to answer the upcoming census questions. By now, you may know that your census will arrive in the mail and you are required to answer it and return it back to the government.

Some people have reported receiving a very well printed, official looking document that purported to ask questions that one would expect to find on the census. It involved multiple pages with many questions. But the troubling questions (ten questions in fact) involved asking for an individual's (& spouse's) MEDICARE numbers. **THE CENSUS TAKERS WILL NEVER ASK FOR YOUR MEDICARE NUMBER.** Other government officials might ask about your medical care or your insurance, but even they will not ask for your policy numbers. Census Bureau surveys will **not** ask for a full social security number, credit card numbers, any information on behalf of political parties and especially, will not ever ask you to send money!

If you ever have doubts about questions on the census or the validity of your document, the Bureau wants you to ask them. First check: does your document have a return address from Jeffersonville, Indiana and does it

bear the US Department of Commerce or the US Census Bureau name as the agency.

Besides the census, the Bureau conducts other official surveys every year for just randomly selected people. You can always go to **census.gov** and click on "Help for Survey Participants." If you still have doubts you may call **1-800-523-3205** for the National Processing Center. If you feel you have received a fraudulent document, do email and report it at: ois.fraud.reporting@census.gov

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR FWGS DUES YET?

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

All Fort Worth Libraries will be OPEN in FEBRUARY. They will be open on the Federal Holidays.



<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7105590>

Many of you already have an Amazon Smile designation on your account. You can have more than one designation. You can choose at the time of sale, which group will get the designation. Why not divide your loyalties now? Decide now that the points on all books and video sales will be to FWGS or on all clothing or all household goods. You choose now and use that as your formula when you shop.

FWGS thanks you!



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 _____ is will be added to our mailing list in order for you to receive local announcements.)

This membership application is for: 2020 2021 New Renewal (Newsletter)