

Fort Worth Genealogical Society (Est 1957)

Newsletter

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txfwgs/>

May 2009



2008 FWGS Officers

President – Debbie Pearson

1st Vice President & Newsletter Editor – Jim Norris

2nd Vice President & Program Chairman – Janie Pace

3rd Vice President & Membership Chairman
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Corresponding Secretary
Rita Martin

Historian – Don Crews

Archivist - Open

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Rita Bryan

Deborah McVean

Clois Richardson

Rob Yoder

Footprints Editor - Open

Librarian - Open

Parliamentarian – Ellie Hutchison

Coming Genealogy Events

General Meeting

Tuesday, May 26, 2009 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Fort Worth Library – Tandy Lecture Hall
500 W. 3rd Street

Subject: Weapons of the War Between the States

Speaker: Russell Birkner

First Sergeant of the 36th Texas Cavalry,
a local Civil War Re-enacting group.

Russell is a Civil War re-enactor who knows personally what it is like to carry those weapons. He'll show us period piece weapons and other gear and explain how each was used.

Contact Janie Pace for more information - (817) 428-5918 or jhpacerd@charter.net

Daytime Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2009 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Fort Worth Library, Southwest Branch
4100 Library Lane at Hulen

Auditorium

Subject: Mysterious

Contact Ellie Hutchison for more information -
misselly@sbcglobal.net

Computer Group Meeting

Tuesday, May 12, 2009 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Fort Worth Library, Downtown
500 W 3rd St

Intel Computer Lab

Speaker: Clois Richardson

Subject: Using FamilySearch.Org

Contact Clois Richardson for more information –
cloisrich@sbcglobal.net

Genealogy Announcements continued

Board of Director's Meeting

Saturday, May 16, 2009 10:15 AM – Noon
Fort Worth Library, Southwest Branch
4100 Library Lane at Hulen
Auditorium
All members welcome

Beginners Workshop Series

Saturday, May 23, 2009 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Fort Worth Public Library, Downtown
500 W 3rd St
Chappell Meeting Room (next to auditorium)
Speaker: Terri Meeks
Subject: Church, Cemetery and Vital Records

The full curriculum is located on our website. For additional information contact Terri Meeks – terri.meeks@sbcglobal.net

Past FWGS Events

April Monthly Meeting

Subject: Researching the History of the Fort Worth Police

Speaker: Tom Wiederhold of the Fort Worth Police and President of the North Fort Worth Historical Society.

It seems that personnel records during the nineteenth century of all of the law enforcement agencies were very poorly kept. In the case of the Fort Worth Police, the only way to determine for certain that a particular individual was a member is to find a City Council order to pay his salary. In the case of the first African-American officer, even this technique fails because the council paid the individual through his supervisor.

Tom also discussed the changes in uniforms over the years and the changes in the badges. Early uniforms were wool, and they were worn all year.

He also discussed various interesting members of the Police Department. He began with Officer Courtright's encounter with Luke Short which became one of the last gunfights in the nation. After Luke Short won the battle, he disappeared and was never seen again.

Tom's presentation was very interesting and covered quite a bit of ground. The rather early closing time of the library and the interesting subject matter resulted in a meeting which ended "so soon?" rather than "at last".

Summer Seminar News

Speaker
Trevia Wooster Beverly

Date
August 1, 2009

Place
Travis Avenue Baptist Church (Fort Worth)

Topics

1. **The Orphan Trains and Other Lost Babes** - We'll look for the child apprentices, and orphans, as well as those 'branded' in records such as fornication abstracts, bastard files, etc., and discuss adoption records.
2. **Meet Mr. Draper & the Rev. Shane** - Explore the Draper and Shane Manuscripts, premier frontier collections.
3. **Women and their Records** - Kings Daughters & Casket Girls, Maides to Make Wives, America's Witches, Soiled Doves, and Those Harvey Girls
4. **The Natchez Trace Papers** - Housed at the University of Texas. Records collected from Southern states, especially Mississippi

Watch this space for further announcements.

FWGS Monthly Events January Through November

First Day	Newsletter Deadline	Contact Newsletter Editor
Second Tuesday	Computer Users Group	Fort Worth Library – Central
Second Thursday	Monthly Day Meeting	Fort Worth Library – Southwest Regional
Third Saturday	Board Meeting	Fort Worth Library – Southwest Regional
Last Tuesday	Regular Monthly Meeting	Fort Worth Library – Central
Fourth Saturday	Beginner's Workshop	Fort Worth Library – Central

Newsletter Contact Information: Jim Norris email: jim-norris@sbcglobal.net or call (817)244-3361

Renew Your FWGS Membership

\$23 Individual \$27 Family
 \$50 or More Sustaining \$250 Contributing 2009 2010

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Image on First Page

This is a photograph of the "Memorial Oak" which grows along the Trinity River close to the Lake Benbrook Dam.

It is believed that Native Americans held meetings at this tree before the European settlers came to Tarrant County. Thus the tree is more than 150 years old.

Photographs such as this can only be made in March or April as the tree is bare before March and the adjacent trees restrict the lighting after April.