



Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

web site: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/>

March 2015

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March General Meeting

The March General Meeting will be on **Tuesday** evening, **March 31st at 6:30 p.m.** One of our former FWGS Presidents will tell us about her new book and the research she did on her ancestor, **Permelia Nickell Hawkins**. **Olyve Hallmark Abbott** has titled her book and her presentation "**Come Sundown: The Life and Letters of a Frontier Woman.**"

Olyve was lucky to find 140 letters from her ancestress which documents her life in the 1880's. When put together, the letters read like a novel. You won't want to miss this evening and find out more about putting your own book together.

Olyve Abbott is a fascinating lady with interests in opera, musical comedy, the paranormal, television, stamps, writing, and of course family history and genealogy. She graduated with a degree from SMU and studied at the Julliard in New York as well. She is a successful writer with more than 4 books to her credit. She was even a pageant participant in the Ms. Texas Senior America Pageant, 2013 where she was runner-up and Miss Congeniality. Help us welcome Olyve back to FWGS! **Bring a friend at 6 pm for refreshments.**



FW Library News

March is Women's History Month

Each year, the Fort Worth Library celebrates Women's History Month by partnering with local organizations. Here are the programs: The Effa Manley Story, Dark Girls, Hit Like A Girl, Teen Expression Night, Our Foremothers, Ourselves: Why the History of Feminist Thought Matters Today, & I Am a Lady, Shouldn't I Ride in the Ladies Car? Consult the web site for dates/times/Branches: <http://fortworthtexas.gov/library/info/default.aspx?id=107300>

February Meeting Canceled

Mary Louise Garcia had to cancel her February appearance due to the icy weather. Your President was about to call off the meeting when she received word on Ms. Garcia. The library then cinched the deal by deciding to close early on Tuesday at 5:00 pm. Lastly, FWISD called for schools to be closed on Tuesday. It was the perfect storm of conditions to kick-in and close our FWGS meeting down.

This is a reminder to check your email before you drive downtown to a meeting if you are in doubt. We did notify by email lists from FWGS, from the FW Library, from Terri's Beginner's List, and on our FWGS web site and Facebook. It was also listed on NBC5's web site.

This Just In: **Don Crews** informs that **Mary Louise Garcia** is now rescheduled for **July 28th**. **Mark your calendar NOW!**

March FWGS Meetings:

- Board of Directors:** Mar 21st
10:15 Southwest Regional
- Beginners:** Mar 28th
10:30-12:30 Auditorium—Central
- Computer Users:** Mar 28th
2:00-4:00 Intel Lab—Central
- General Meeting:** Mar 31st
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central
Refreshments at 6:00
- Refreshments:** **Terri Meeks**

From the President.....



Thunder Sleet, Freezing Rain, Wintry Mix!! I don't remember weather used to be so confusing when I was a kid. Maybe instead of a snowflake above I should have used a roller coaster. That is what it has been like lately. We have followed several weeks of 75 degree days followed by plunges to the 30's or 20's and then back up again. And now, at the end of February we get our obligatory "winter event." Well after 37 years in teaching, I got to play "superintendent" and call off a FWGS meeting. And now, it seems I should remind our members in the DFW area who attend our monthly General Meetings, Beginner's Classes or Computer User's Group of the **Meeting Cancellation Policy**. If FWISD cancels schools for weather, we will follow suit. If the Fort Worth Public Libraries close or the Central Branch closes, we will not meet. [It is possible they could close for reasons other than weather.] In any case, if there is a possibility of closure check your email first. Hopefully, we will have had time to let you know. Check the FW Library web site and the FWGS web site as well. And you might also check the NBC, Channel 5, KXAS web site. FWGS is registered with their system. They most likely will not scroll us on the bottom of the screen, but they should put it on their web site. [The scroll is usually for schools and large businesses.] If in doubt, check it out. Most of our members would not care to fight bitter cold or slippery conditions, and we know that. Safety will always come first.

Debbie Pearson

From the FWGS Mail Bag



**From the National Archives:
Friday Freebies at NARA in
Montgomery Plaza
Friday, March 6th, 2015 at 12 noon to 1 p.m.**

**"HERstory:
Women in the Records of the National Archives"**
by Jenny Sweeney, *Education Specialist*

Reserve your spot today by emailing us at
ftworth.education@nara.gov or calling **817-831-5620!**

Next Friday Freebie is April 10th

Center for Texas Studies at TCU & Fort Worth Library

Presents **Preserving Our Past**

Saturday, Mar 7th at 10:30 am to 12 noon

Tandy Auditorium of the Central Branch Library

"Preserving the Bankhead Highway in Texas"

Dan Smith, Independent Scholar

Next 1st Saturday is April 4th.

Billy Sills Lecture Series with FWISD

Saturday, March 21st

10:00 am-12 noon

2720 Cullen Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Presenter: Tom Reynolds, developer and musician

Topic: "Jazz, Blues, & Rock n' Roll: F W Music Giants"

Next Lecture is April 18th

FWGS conducts Beginners Classes and a Computer Users Group (CUG) for 8 months every year. New classes began in **January** on the **4th Saturday** at the FW Central Branch Library, 300 W.5th St.

Next class is March 28th!

Beginners Class with **Terri Meeks** meets at **10:30 a.m.**
Computer Users Group meets at **2:00 p.m.** **Ed McCoy** is **finding leaders for this group.**

Both classes last 2 hours and the third session will cover County Courthouses. Beginners meet in the Auditorium. CUG is in the Intel Lab and includes hands-on computer time. For more:

http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/html/beginners_workshops.html

Membership Report:

Rob Yoder, Membership Director reports **126 members**. **That means we're still missing some members!** **January** starts the new Membership Year, so it's time to send in your 2015 Dues!

New Members 2015:

- Paul Hennessy
- Debbie & Louie Fierros
- Catherine Reese



Interested in tracing your Irish roots? Well soon, it may be as simple as turning on your computer. The National Library of Ireland will soon allow free online access to its archive of Catholic Church records collection online. The target date: summer 2015. This will enable millions of people around the world to trace their roots in Ireland.

The Catholic records pertain to 1,091 parishes throughout Ireland, and consist primarily of baptismal and marriage records. The earliest records start in the 1700's. The records are considered the single most important source of information on Irish family history prior to the 1901 Census.

Currently, the National Library provides free access to its microfiche records at its research rooms in Kildare Street, in Dublin. However access has been hampered in recent years by high demand and increased pressure on resources. The only online access to date has been through a third party paid genealogical service, RootsIreland.ie.

Other Irish Research News: [Findmypast.com](http://findmypast.com)

Findmypast, the home of the largest collection of online Irish family history records in the world, has reached a major milestone with their Irish Newspaper Collection – it now contains 50 fascinating titles for you to explore! The archive of historical local, regional and national newspapers, which covers every province in Ireland, now stands at over 4.2 million articles and continues to grow on a monthly basis.

And in Other World News.....

This time from Ancestry Around the World:

- Last winter, Ancestry expanded the availability of Archives.com* to users in the UK, and just last month in Australia and Canada.
- Later this year, Ancestry will announce resources for users in Germany and Mexico. With more than 58 million Americans claiming sole or partial German heritage and an estimated 34 million residents of Mexican origin, the new sites will give nearly 100 million people in the US alone, the ability to learn more about their family's story.

* Archives.com is a part of Ancestry.com, but separate in their fee schedule. It is a pay data base.



GENEALOGY on TV

As this edition goes to press at the end of February, **Genealogy Roadshow** (PBS) is ending up their current season. You might go to their web site and watch any episodes you missed. PBS has a video compilation of some of the best of the episodes that you can watch on their web site too. There is also a cemetery research mini-video that aired in one episode shot in New Orleans. <http://video.pbs.org/video/2365398338/>

But if you missed **Genealogy Roadshow**, never fear! March brings the newest season of **WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?** brought to you now by The Learning Channel (TLC) on cable. Premiere is set for **March 10th** (moved from original date of February 24) with 8 episodes. The only four celebrities announced so far (with a teaser about their roots) are as follows:

- **Bill Paxton**, who visits a Revolutionary War battle site to walk in his ancestors' steps;
- **Julie Chen** travels to China to learn more about her grandfather;
- **Angie Harmon** turns back the clock to explore an ancestor connected with George Washington;
- **Sean Hayes** jets to Ireland to celebrate his Irish roots.

Who Do You Think You Are? (WDYTYA?) is originally a British TV show and both the Brit and American versions have proven to be quite popular. And now, we can see some of the British celebrities from their episodes being shown on YouTube. I did not recognize many of the celebrities there except for Annie Lennox, Billy Connolly and Twiggy. Here is Twiggy's episode:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7PoWHZFvwo>

Genealogists never stop learning. Keep learning!



The February issue of Footprints is in the Mail

Have you ever considered placing a query in *Footprints*? If you have a **Tarrant County area** question on family, send it to: FWGS@mail.com or visit our [web site](#) or mail to our society PO Box. Mark it **Attn: Footprints Editor**. Include a specific question with supporting information to make it clear and include a time period and location. You must include your name & postal address. If you wish, you may add an email.





Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Box 471789, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-1408

Founded A.D. 1957

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Membership Renewal & Application -★- 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:

This membership application is for:

2015

2016

New

Renewal

Winter Weather

Just a Reminder! Winter has already started to become severe with a couple of ice events and plunging arctic temperatures and wind chills. Please remember that in the event of severe weather on the day of a FWGS scheduled event we follow: 1. FW Library closing schedules and 2. FWISD closing schedules. You can check our FWGS Facebook page or check the NBC channel 5 TV or web site for cancellations of meetings.