



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

May 2015

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## May General Meeting

FWGS member **Judy Ramos** is speaking at the **May General Meeting** in the Tandy Auditorium of the Central Branch FW Library. She will bring us **"Using Social Media in Your Genealogy."** The meeting will be on **Tuesday evening, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** Please plan to attend and find out what we can find in this extensive archive in "our own backyard."



**Judy Everett Ramos** has been an amateur genealogist since she was 11 years old. But since

2008, she has done much of her research online and has met many "new" relatives along the way. Judy is a member of the NSDAR, NSUSD 1812, DRT, and Texas First Families. Judy is a Corpus Christi, Texas native, but she has traced her roots around the globe through several family lines. She has written for Everett Generations and Alabama Pioneers websites and she is a Find A Grave contributor. She is a former newspaper, television, and radio reporter and currently works in public relations when she is not working on genealogy. Follow her on Twitter @ancestrysleuth.

**Bring a friend.  
Refreshments at 6 pm.**



## FW Library News BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Fort Worth Public Library want to clear out the Friends Annex and Chapter 2. Join them for a blowout book sale. Choose from a huge selection of adult and children's books, CDs, audio books, and more. New materials added! Sale will be held in the Friends Annex.

### Free Admission.

The **Friends Annex** is located at:  
5318 & 5334 Trail Lake Dr.  
Fort Worth, TX 76133

**Sat., May 16 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**\$15-a-box**; we provide the boxes.

MasterCard, Visa and Discover cards are accepted. All proceeds benefit the Fort Worth Library. To learn more, call the Friends Book Store, **817-346-2255**.

## April Meeting

**Brenda McClurkin** brought us an interesting presentation on the extensive photographic collections in Special Collections held on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Archives at University of Texas in Arlington (UTA).

They hold many collections of interest to the many counties in the DFW metroplex and North Texas areas. Their collections contain more than 5 million negatives. They are installing a new cold storage system for secure storage & preservation. Call ahead if planning to view any items in storage. There is a wait time to restore items to room temperature. Phone **(817) 272-3393** for more. Hours are 9-5 Mon-Sat. Closed Sunday.

<http://www.uta.edu/library/spco/>

## May FWGS Meetings:

**Board of Directors:** May 20<sup>th</sup>  
3:30-6:00 Southwest Regional  
**Beginners:** May 16<sup>th</sup>  
10:30-12:30 Auditorium—Central  
**Computer Users:** May 16<sup>th</sup>  
2:00-4:00 Intel Lab—Central  
**General Meeting:** May 26<sup>th</sup>  
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central  
Refreshments at 6:00  
**Refreshments: Don Crews**

**From the President.....**



**April showers are turning into May flowers and more showers.**

My thoughts lately have been consumed with our Annual FWGS Summer Seminar. We recently were dealt a blow—Trinity Terrace Towers has declined to have us back, due to a new construction project underway. We have been scrambling for a new location and new speaker. I think it is finally coming together and hope to announce it very soon. The only thing I can say right now, is that our date has changed, most likely to mid September. So plan to indulge in our new **End of Summer Seminar** and bring a friend.

*[Please disregard the "Save the date" notice in last month's newsletter. It is now incorrect.]*

*Debbie Pearson*

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



**From the National Archives:**

**Friday Freebies at NARA in Montgomery Plaza**

Friday, **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015** at 12 noon to 1 p.m.

**"Naturalization Research Made Easier"**

by Meg Hacker, *Archives Director*

Reserve your spot today by emailing us at

[ftworth.education@nara.gov](mailto:ftworth.education@nara.gov) or calling **817-831-5620!**

*Next Friday Freebie is June 5<sup>th</sup>. "Intro to Genealogy"*

**~Center for Texas Studies at TCU & Fort Worth Library**

Presents **Preserving Our Past**

**Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 10:30 am to 12 noon

Tandy Auditorium of the Central Branch Library

**Celebrating National Historic Preservation Month**

**Jerre Tracy**, Historic Fort Worth, Inc.

*Next 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday is Sept 12<sup>th</sup>.*

**Billy Sills Lecture Series with FWISD**

**Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**10:00 am-12 noon**

2720 Cullen Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76107

**"Fort Worth's Vanished Theaters"**

by **Jan Jones**, educator, historian, author

*This is the last session. None in summer months.*

**Membership Report:**

**Rob Yoder**, Membership Director reports **133 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! It is never too late to Join or Renew!

**Recent New Members 2015:**

Kimberly Holland



**Beginners Class/ CUG Changes Date**

**May 16<sup>th</sup> (Change is Just for May)**

FWGS conducts Beginners Classes and a Computer Users Group (CUG) for 8 months every year. Classes are held at the FW Central Branch Library, 300 W.5<sup>th</sup> St.

**Next class is May 16<sup>th</sup> on**

**Church, Cemetery & Vital Records**

**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 5th session will cover Church, Cemetery & Vital Records. 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](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/html/beginners_workshops.html)

**IN MEMORIUM**

**Ruby Marie COOK Ivy**

December 6, 1923—April 18, 2015



Marie was a longtime member of FWGS. She attended meetings for many years and also attended many of the FWGS seminars over the years. Marie loved to learn and stay active until she needed assistance. FWGS conveys our sympathies to her daughter and family.



**GENEALOGY on TV**

Unfortunately, **Genealogy Roadshow** and **Who Do You Think You Are** have both finished their recent seasons. But the good news is you can find them (and **Finding Your Roots**, as well) on **YouTube**. Search for full episodes from past seasons.

## Ancestry News

When the 1940 census was first released and then indexed, genealogists rejoiced. It opened up a new end of genealogy for many. We had been so focused on our distant ancestors and now we could focus on our nearer ancestors. And not only could we trace our direct lines, but could begin to really branch out to the *thousands* of cousins and collaterals. The 1940 census left us wanting more; to keep following those families into the 1950's and beyond. Unfortunately, those censuses will not be released for many years yet. Fortunately, Ancestry has a great resource to fill in the gaps. **City Directories!**

City directories being on ancestry.com is not new. The old ones were first scanned and indexed using OCR technology. It was not perfect, but an advancement at the time. Now, newer methods are available and better available to index. Ancestry is in the process of rolling over all older directories and other records of that type into their new Beta version. It will be changing continually until the project is finished. This is how it appears when you look for it in the Card Catalog under Search. [U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989 \(Beta\)](#)

Amazing things can be found in City Directories (and that found not all are of Cities. Sometimes a directory was done in a rural county which included several tiny communities. ) You can find names and relationships (husband, wife, widow), addresses, occupations, and in more modern ones phone numbers or even birthdates. This can lead to tracking movements, wealth, status or even a death or divorce (when a spouse disappears. Directories in large cities were done yearly, while censuses are every ten years. Directories and advertisements can lead to clues of what happened to families and provides a fascinating view into life in that community in another day and time. Directories can help to fill in the missing gaps with the missing 1890 US Census. And in the modern City Directories, finding a birth date is a treasure when a state does not have open birth data bases for the years you need. Just keep in mind, some of the information in directories is wrong.

Ancestry recommends you check one of the many ways they offer to find out about new databases there. There is the **What's New** tab, many social media blogs or sites (Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, etc) and there are free webinars and web streaming sessions. There is even a video explaining these City Directories. Here is the link:

[http://www.ancestry.com/cs/Satellite?childpagename=USLearningCenter%2Flearning\\_C%2FPageDefault&pagename=LearningWrapper&cid=1265126155452](http://www.ancestry.com/cs/Satellite?childpagename=USLearningCenter%2Flearning_C%2FPageDefault&pagename=LearningWrapper&cid=1265126155452)

## Researching in New York?



The highly anticipated *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* published by the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society is finally here. At over 800 pages and with over 100 experts on New York families and research collaborating together, this work will be THE book to guide your research in the Empire State.

Half of the book covers 17 chapters worth of topics ranging from the Colonial Era to Immigration, Naturalization, Religion, Court records, Cemeteries, New York Repositories, NY Reference Works and so much more. The Second Half focuses on a guide for each county with maps and gazetteers. There is also a large index to help find information quickly.

The book is available now from NYG&B for \$85. Libraries and Societies may purchase it for \$75. And NYG&B members may purchase it for \$65. It might be worth your effort to join the society for a year and see what other benefits the society might offer to you. All orders add \$10 for shipping and handling. To read more about it and to order this work, see below:

<http://newyorkfamilyhistory.org/global/store/new-york-family-history-research-guide-and-gazetteer>

## And closer to home in Texas.....

Johnie Lee is soliciting pre-publication orders for his work in Red River County, Texas. This work is an attempt to help the researcher find families in the 1890 time period because the 1890 US Federal Census no longer exists. His work seems to be exhaustive. It contains 253 pages, with an index containing over 5,900 entries, and approximately 12,000 entries in the census section. Some of these individuals were found in as many as five different sources, all listed for future reference. ***Red River County in 1890 – The Year of the Missing Census*** sounds like a promising work for any interested in Red River county, 1890. Johnie expects the pre-pub price to be between \$ 30.00 and \$40.00. Contact him now at [johnie\\_lee@hotmail.com](mailto:johnie_lee@hotmail.com) [underscore after johnie and before lee]

## May issue Coming!

*Footprints* Editor Rob Yoder is hard at work.



Send a query to: [FWGS@mail.com](mailto:FWGS@mail.com) or visit our [web site](#)



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Founded A.D. 1957

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