



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

April 2007

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## Saturday Seminars & Lock Ins

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2006 & 2007:

**May 19, 2007—Ed Sandbach will discuss Preserving and Organizing Photos and Vicki Bell will discuss Digital Photography**

June 16, 2007—Happi McGirk will speak to us about Writing Your Family History and Creating Digital Heritage Albums

July 13, 2007—Lock In—Regional Research. Sessions will cover research in various parts of the US.

July 21, 2007—Martina Wildechaparro will speak on the Victorian Mourning Culture. Second Speaker TBD

August 18, 2007—Preparing for a Research Trip by Barbara Coakley

September 15, 2007—Lynne Darrouzet is our speaker, topic Government Documents.

October 20, 2007—Glen Kinkade, topic to be announced.

October 26, 2007—Lock In—Computers and Genealogy

November 17, 2007—Richard Preston will speak to us about Migration Patterns.

December 15, 2007—Annual Show n Tell. Bring your genealogy finds to share with your friends.

If you have suggestions for programs for 2008 please submit them to Barbara Coakley at [bjc1620@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bjc1620@sbcglobal.net)

## 2007 Research Retreat to Salt Lake City

Genealogy Friends will be sponsoring a trip to Salt Lake City this fall. This is a great opportunity to visit the largest genealogy library in the world for the first time with others who have already been there. If you have already been there, it is an opportunity to research in the company of friends. Stay tuned for more information.

## NGS Scholarship

The National Genealogy Society is offering a scholarship for their home study course—American Genealogy: A Home Study Course. The scholarship is worth \$475, it includes the cost of three CDs and grading assignments. Entry deadline is May 1. Visit <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/eduscholarship.cfm> for more information.

## Progress on New NARA Facility in Ft. Worth

The new building to house the Southwest Regional Archives in Ft. Worth is scheduled to be completed by October 1, 2007. Beginning this fall records will be moved and the old facility phased out. If you are planning a trip, call first to find out if what you need is available. <http://www.archives.gov/southwest/>

## Write A Book Challenge! Earn a \$5 Donation to Gen Friends

That's right. This offer is for members of Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc. only.

**What do you have to do?** Write a biography of one of your family members, a history of a family line, or family newsletter, etc., per the few requirements below, and present it to Brenda Kellow to read, or you may bring it to the 2007 December Show and Tell program and win a \$5 donation to Genealogy Friends. Talk to Brenda if you have problems meeting any of the requirements below. E-mail her at [GenFriends@tx.rr.com](mailto:GenFriends@tx.rr.com).

### Requirements:

\* Book or booklet written on some phase of family history and published professionally, or you may "publish" off your own computer before December 2007's Show and Tell program. A hard cover is not required.

\* Requirements: At least ten (10) pages which contain:

Five (5) pages of text of your own composition and not composed by a genealogy program such as *Family Tree Maker*, *Legacy Family Tree*, etc. There is no limit on written text. If you have more than ten (10) pages, great! The text should contain the subject's vital information such as birth, death, marriage, and places where the event took place if you have that information. Text should contain some history such as the life and times of that period; how the time period affected the family; note if the female gave birth before the migration from one place to another, or did she travel while pregnant; the difficulty of traveling in wagons across the country and over the mountains; or crossing rivers, etc. In other words, make it interesting to read.

Remaining pages may be of graphics such as photocopies of an original document such as a will, marriage certificate, obituary, funeral card, or pictures you have collected on the subject.

Have at least four (4) properly cited footnotes, endnotes (See *Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian*, by Elizabeth Mills. A copy is in the library.) You may also embed the source inside parentheses within the body of the text. The purpose of the citation is to document some of your findings and familiarize yourself with citing a source.

Title page should contain the family name. If you are covering more than one family surname, then follow the title with the other family surnames:

*The Jones Journal*

*With Related Lines of Kelly, Smith, and Valentine*

Donate one copy to the Gladys Harrington Library Genealogy Section and display book or booklet at the December 2007 Show and Tell Program.

The purpose of this challenge is to get you writing your family stories! You have until December 15, 2007 to complete the project. By beginning your writing with this challenge, you can earn a donation of \$5 per book or booklet to Genealogy Friends. It does not have to look like a high-end professional book. It is your book, your family. That is why the requirements are so generous and "writer friendly."

## Genealogy Friends Logo Shirts

Be one of the best-dressed genealogists in town. Order your Gen Friends logo t-shirt or sweatshirt now. The shirts have a 3" logo printed on the left chest. Shirts are available in white, natural, or ash gray with a dark green logo.

T-shirts are \$12.00 for toddler through XL and \$14.00 for XXL and XXXL

Sweatshirts are \$17.00 for toddler through XL and \$19.00 for XXL and XXXL

## State Census Records

State Census records can be a great way to fill in gaps left by missing Federal Census records or locate an ancestor in years between Federal Census years. The amount of information varies by state, some are nothing more than a list of names and some include extensive information on the farms of our ancestors.

Ann Lainhart's book *State Census Records* is a great source. It lists by each state, what records are extant. State Census Records can be found in a number of places:

- Ancestry.com now has State Census records from Kansas and Wisconsin.
- The Family History Library also has some records. Check the Library Catalog by doing a place search to determine if they have the records you need.
- State Archives and Libraries are a good place to look for State Census Records.

## Publications For Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

Public Land Survey Systems	\$5
Plano Star Courier Index 1904-1910	\$20
Plano Star Courier Index 1911-1917	\$20
Cemeteries of Collin County, TX	\$40
Collin County, TX Voter Registration Index 1867	\$20
Place Names of Collin County, TX	\$10
Railroads in Collin County, TX	\$10
Military Investigations: Red, White & Blue	\$10
Colonial Ills, Brews & Concoctions	\$10
Library 101: Using Dewey Decimal Sys	\$10
Compiled Newsletters with Index	\$15

## Microfiche Reader for Sale

DuKane Explorer 14 microfilm reader, in good condition, with high, medium, low viewing

Used for indexing projects. \$100. Phone Brenda Kellow, 972-941-9280, or email [TraceRoots@comcast.net](mailto:TraceRoots@comcast.net)

## Tracing Our Roots Column

The "Tracing Our Roots" column written by Brenda Kellow appears each Sunday in the 'PULSE' or 'ENTERTAINMENT' section of the Plano Insider newspaper, and in Star Community newspapers throughout North Texas. Visit the Plano Insider web site is <http://www.planoinsider.net/> and click on either PULSE or ENTERTAINMENT to read the weekly column. Each column is posted for one week only.

The column and archives are posted at <http://www.geocities.com/TracingOurRoots>.

## Websites

MyFamily.com has a new feature called SnapGenie. You can share your family photos in a narrated slide show. I haven't tried it yet but the instructions are pretty simple. You upload up to 50 photos, call in and narrate your slide show and then publish it.

LibraryThing is a website where you can catalog your book collection. You enter a few words about your book—title, author, or ISBN number and LibraryThing searches numerous sources including Amazon.com and the Library of Congress to come up with the full citation. You can catalog up to 200 books for free, after that there is a nominal fee per year. Information on your library collection would then be available from any computer.

Here is a good site for how to locate and use St. Louis Catholic Church records. <http://home.earthlink.net/~lilirish/churchrecords.htm>. This site has a searchable map showing the location of the parishes in St. Louis—[http://www.davernon.name/maps\\_page.htm](http://www.davernon.name/maps_page.htm)

GenBookSource is a source for books relating to Genealogy. I have not purchased anything from them but they have an interesting collection of books available for sale. <http://www.genbooksource.com/aboutus.html>

DearMyrtle is a genealogy blog. Check it out for interesting information on what is happening in the genealogy community. <http://blog.dearmyrtle.com/>

Catholic Online Saints website could be a source to figure out archaic and unfamiliar first names since children were often named for saints. <http://saints.catholic.org/stsindex.html>

Roots Television Where History Meets Heritage, watch programs of interest to genealogists. Check it out—<http://www.rootstelevision.com/>

Looking for the latest in technology for genealogy, check out Digital Genealogist. The first issue is free to view on their website.— <http://www.digitalgenealogist.com/index.html>

PedigreeSoft.com provides a new twist on genealogy software. The software and your data is stored on a server so it can be accessed from a computer anywhere with internet access. Cost depends on number of ancestors and size of data stored. You can attach pictures and notes files. One drawback, source citations are currently limited. <http://www.pedigreesoft.com/>

Genealogy Librarian News is a blog the “Keeps you current on the latest news, resources and events of interest to genealogy librarians.” One thing I found useful was online indexes to genealogy journals. <http://genlibrarian.blogspot.com/index.html>

These sites will give you the distribution of surnames in Germany—<http://nachname.gofeminin.de/w/nachnamen/deutschland.html> and <http://christoph.stoepel.net/geogen/en/Default.aspx>

## Education Opportunities

NGS Conference in the States and Family History Fair will be held in Richmond, Virginia from 16-19 May 2007 at the Richmond Convention Center. For more information visit [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org).

The St. Louis Genealogical Society 37th Annual Fair "A Field Guide to Successful Genealogy" will be held May 5, 2007. Details can be found on the societies web page [www.stlgs.org](http://www.stlgs.org).

The 38th Annual Southern California Genealogy Jamboree will be held June 8-10, 2007 in Burbank, California. Web site [www.scsgenealogy.com](http://www.scsgenealogy.com).

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society will present "Suche und Spa (Research and Fun): German Research at the NYG&B Society" June 21-24 in New York City. The society's web site is [www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org](http://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org).

The 27th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah July 15-20, 2007. More information is available at their web site—<http://www.slc2007.org/>.

The Federation of Genealogy Societies 2007 Conference, a Meeting at the Crossroads of America, will be held in Ft. Wayne, Indiana August 15-18, 2007. This would be a great chance to visit the newly remodeled Allen County Public Library. The conference flyer is available at <http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/FGS07AnnouncementFlyer%20FinalWeb.pdf>

The International Society for British Genealogy & Family History announces the seventh annual British Institute to be held in Salt Lake City, October 8-12, 2007. Registration and course description details are available at [www.isbgfh.org](http://www.isbgfh.org).

Pharos Teaching and Tutoring Limited offers online courses in British Genealogy <http://www.pharostutors.com/index.php>

## NARA Fee Increase Proposal—You Can Help

The National Archives is considering raising fees for copies of records. If you would like to register your concern about the fee increase go to <http://www.regulations.gov/> and search for documents open for public comments:

Agency: National Archives and Records Administration

Document Type : All Documents

Keyword : NARA-07-0001-0001

Click on Exact Phrase and then submit. Enter your comments which are due by April 27, 2007.

## Digital Records on the Web

Recently on the APG mail list a thread started about digital collections available on the internet, here are some of the collections discussed:

American Geographical Society Library Digital Map Collection contains over 200 of the most frequently requested maps from the holdings of the library. <http://www.uwm.edu/Libraries/digilib/maps/index.html>

The Boston Public library website gives us access to the Norman B Leventhal Map Center collection of 200,000 historic maps and 5,000 atlases documenting the evolution of the printed map from the woodcuts, copperplate engravings and lithographs, of centuries past to the latest compute technologies of Geographic Information Systems. <http://maps.bpl.org/>

Maps of German States <http://www.meinestadt.de/>

Online Searchable Death Indexes and Records—this site is a directory of online death indexes listed by state and county. Included are death records, death certificate indexes, death notices & registers, obituaries, probate indexed, and cemetery & burial records. <http://www.deathindexes.com/>

The British National Archives has indexes on line and you can download images for a fee—  
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/>

The Library of Virginia has digitized part of their collection including their Bible collection, Northern Neck patents and Land Office Patents—<http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/index.htm>

The North Carolina State Archives online projects include Colonial Estate and Guardian Papers, Wills, Colonial Governors papers, and more—<http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/archives/records.htm>

West Virginia is uploading copies of vital records—[http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va\\_select.aspx](http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_select.aspx)

HistoryKat is a commercial site with digital images. <http://historykat.com/index.html>

Colonial Records of Connecticut 1636-1776 are online at <http://www.colonialct.uconn.edu/default.cfm>

Digital Past is the local history digitization initiative featuring collections from Illinois cultural institutions. <http://www.digitalpast.org/nsls.php>

Territorial Kansas Online 1854-1861 is a virtual repository for Territorial Kansas History  
<http://www.territorialkansasonline.org/cgiwrap/imlskto/index.php>

The French Departmental Archives are putting images online <http://www.archimaine.fr/06.html?>

## Digital Records (continued)

The Monroe County Library System has made Rochester City Directories available online  
<http://www2.libraryweb.org/orgMain.asp?storyid=935&orgid=467>

Florida Confederate Pension files are available at <http://www.floridamemory.com/Collections/PensionFiles/>

The New York Public Library has a large digital collection [http://www.nypl.org/digital/digitalcoll\\_allcollections.htm](http://www.nypl.org/digital/digitalcoll_allcollections.htm)

Arizona birth and death certificates are online at <http://genealogy.az.gov/>

The Texas State Library and Archives has images of Republic Claims for payment, reimbursement or restitution submitted by citizens to the Republic of Texas government from 1835 to 1846—  
<http://www2.tsl.state.tx.us/trail/RepublicSearch.jsp>

The Genealogy Trails Group website has a growing collection of images. <http://genealogytrails.com/>

The Cuyahoga County Ohio Recorders Office has made deeds available—  
<http://recorder.cuyahogacounty.us/general.cfm>

World Vital Records is a commercial web site which has some free records and some require a subscription.  
<http://www.worldvitalrecords.com/>

Vigo County, Indiana has marriage records online. <http://marriage.vigo.lib.in.us/marriage/>

The Salem Witch Trials Documentary Archive and Transcription Project may be of interest if you had early colonial ancestors. <http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/salem/archive2.html>

Footnote.com is a collection of millions of images of original source documents including some from the National Archives and Record Administration. Some are free and some require a subscription. <http://www.footnote.com/>

Bexar County, Texas has digitized their deed records. <http://www.countyclerk.bexar.landata.com/>

The Danish State Archives records are online at <http://www.arkivalieronline.dk/English/default.aspx>

Swedish Records are available with subscriptions at <http://www.genline.com/> and <http://www.svar.ra.se/>

Wikipedia includes a list of digital library projects [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_digital\\_library\\_projects](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_digital_library_projects).

## Happy Birthday Genealogy Friends

By Joy Gough

Genealogy Friends will be 10 years old in May. The nine (9) founders met for the first time in May of 1997 to form a new genealogy organization. A name had to be chosen, bylaws written, incorporation paperwork filed with the state, and non-profit papers filed with the federal government. It was a bigger process than most of us had imagined. It took four (4) organizational meetings to get it all done. I doubt that any of us imagined at the time that Genealogy Friends would be so successful and would turn into the fine organization that it is today.

The nine (9) founders wanted to create a friendly organization that would teach genealogy to enthusiasts, and would build the genealogy section of the Harrington Library into a good genealogy research facility. They wanted to have annual all-day workshops with nationally renowned speakers and quarterly lock-ins. We thought big because we had big plans for the genealogy section.

Our first Saturday seminar under the name of Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc. was in February 1998. It was a free all-day seminar entitled the Three Cs of Genealogy - Censuses, Courthouse Records and Computers. Jean Funk spoke about censuses; Barkley Miller covered courthouse records; and Myrna Wells talked about computers. Ten years ago genealogy research on the computer was very different. The censuses were not online. [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) did not exist. The information on the computer was considerably less than it is today. Over 50 people attended this first seminar and we have not stopped having informative seminars since.

Our early all-day seminars with nationally renowned speakers were held at Plano City Hall in the Council Chambers. At that time the city let us use the facility free because all of the proceeds were going to the Plano Library. From 1998 to 2002 the seminars were held at City Hall. Since 2003 they have been held at the library.

Our first all-day workshop speakers were Frances Robb with her husband David. Frances is an expert on dating old photographs based on the photo itself, the clothes the people wore, the hairstyles, the paper used, etc. David works in the Birmingham, Alabama, museum and spoke about archiving and preserving old photos. We had a large turnout for this event.

Since then our speakers have included Helen Leary, Christine Rose, Pat Hatcher, George Ott, David Rencher, John Humphrey, and Lloyd Bockstruck, speaking on a wide variety of subjects. Attendance has always been good.

Another speaker was in the area for another group. She volunteered to speak to our group for nothing in exchange for a tour of the area. She spoke on Irish and Canadian research and we took her to Chestnut Square in McKinney and South Fork. She had never hear of the TV series Dallas, but she enjoyed the gift shop with all of its crazy Texas souvenirs.

Our lock-ins have always been a popular part of our offerings. Four times a year our group is locked in the library on a Friday evening to take short classes, do research, and get advice on how to find an ancestor. It is a very special time to learn new things without distractions and meet new friends, who all have an interest in genealogy.

For the last five (5) years Genealogy Friends has sponsored trips to Salt Lake City for research at the LDS library.

Through it all, Genealogy Friends has continued to make big contributions to the library. We have purchased the U. S. Census for all states through 1850 and for the state of Texas, through 1930. We have purchased all of the Collin County court records on microfilm - marriages, probate, deeds, deaths, probated births. We have purchased numerous books on states in the migration trails. The genealogy section has grown tremendously in these ten (10) years from one (1) row of books covering a few states to its current size, with information on most states and many other genealogy books covering a variety of topics and locations. In fact, the genealogy section has grown so large that the genealogy section will be moved to a different library in the near future where it will have even more room to grow.

Genealogy Friends continues to meet its original goals of being a friendly society that teaches genealogy to its enthusiasts and makes contributions to the genealogy section of the Plano library.