



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

December 2004

P.O. Box 860477, Plano, TX, 75086-0477

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl>

<http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl>

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txcolli3>

Email Address: [genfriends@comcast.net](mailto:genfriends@comcast.net)

Newsletter: Barbara Coakley [bjc1620@hotmail.com](mailto:bjc1620@hotmail.com)

## Upcoming Events

### Saturday Seminars

Genealogy Friends sponsors free seminars the third Saturday of every month from 9:30 to Noon at the Gladys Harrington Library.

**January 15, 2005** - Learn to publish your genealogy finds on the Internet using Front Page - John Darrouzet

**February 19, 2005** - Brenda Kellow will discuss Lineage Societies and National Conferences (NGS & FGS)

**March 19, 2005** - State Libraries and State Archives by Lynne Darrouzet

**April 16, 2005** -All day seminar. Gerry Haggard will do a presentation on writing.

**May 21, 2005** - Researching at the Library of Congress & Using NUCMC by Barbara Coakley

**June 18, 2005** - Weldon Fincher will discuss PERSI and Stella Fincher will discuss Changing Borders and Boundary Lines

**July 16, 2005** - Learn about using Inter Library Loan and WebCat with librarian Cheryl Smith

**August 20, 2005** - Marta Demaree will talk to us about Reference Materials Available in the Library

**September 17, 2005** - All day seminar. Topic to be announced

**October 15, 2005** - Clare Molina will discuss Computer Mail Lists and Brenda Kellow will discuss Non Population Census Schedules.

**November 19, 2005** - Family Reunions and Newsletters will be the topic of the presentation by Brenda Kellow and Barbara Coakley.

**December 17, 2005** - Join us for our annual Show and Tell.

### Library Lock Ins

Watch for details on the upcoming Library Lock Ins. 2005 dates are February 11, 2005, May 13, 2005, July 8, 2005, and October 28, 2005.

### Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held at the library. The 2005 meeting dates are January 18, 2005, March 15, 2005, and July 19, 2005. Members are welcome to attend.

## 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

### Volunteer Activities

#### Library Volunteers

Our volunteers are in the library during the day on most days. Check out our web page and the bulletin board for the schedule of volunteers on duty; or call the Reference Desk to inquire 972-461-7175. If you would like to volunteer to work in the library, contact Pat Mitchell.

#### Volunteers Needed

We need several volunteers to help with all facets of Genealogy Friends activities and events. If you have a talent, extra energy, or are willing to help in any way, please contact us at [genfriends@comcast.net](mailto:genfriends@comcast.net). Current Opportunities Include:

- Help is needed to continue to index the 1930 Census for Collin County. The indexes are posted on our web site to enable researchers to more easily find their families. We will provide a CD containing the Census and the format for the Excel or Open Office Spreadsheet where the data is entered.
- Volunteers are needed for all facets of the Lock Ins including refreshments, manning stations, sharing information or experiences, and registration. If you can help contact Joyce Kaplan.

### Newsletter Articles

Help keep our newsletter interesting:

Have you found an unusual record during your search?  
How did you solve that last really tough problem?  
Write an article and submit it to be published in the newsletter. Have you discovered a fantastic web site?

Email it to Barbara Coakley at [bjc1620@hotmail.com](mailto:bjc1620@hotmail.com).

### Publications For Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

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	\$10

### Tracing Our Roots Column

The "Tracing Our Roots" column by Brenda Kellow appears in Plano Star Courier, Star Community Newspapers and DFW Community News weekly. The column and an archives of past columns are also available at <http://www.geocities.com/TracingOurRoots>.

### Dues Are Due

Our fiscal began October 1st which means it is time to pay your dues for 2005.

Regular dues are Single: \$30. Family: \$50. Friend: \$100; Gold: \$500; Platinum: \$1000. We currently have over 70 members.

Please consider **matching funds** if your corporation is a participant. We are a nonprofit organization certified under Section 501 [c] [3] of the Internal Revenue Code.

## Web Sites

You can use the Google Desktop search to search files, emails and recently viewed web pages on your computer.  
<http://www.google.com/options/index.html>

Among your ancestors, are there any that might be considered blacksheep? If so, check out the web site of the new society Black Sheep Ancestors.  
<http://blacksheepancestors.com>

Check out this site that has links to more than 100 Genealogy web sites.  
<http://www.worldwidetopsites.com/sites/genealogy.html>

Past Portal is a web site which contains the digital library project from Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. The web site features every issue of the Virginia Gazette, the official newspaper of Virginia, from 1736 to 1780.  
<http://www.pastportal.com/>

The Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities recently signed a memorandum of understanding to work cooperatively toward the goal of developing a national digital resource of select public domain U.S. newspapers  
<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/ndnp.html>

The British Library:  
 Newspapers Digitisation Project of British Newspapers 1800-1900  
<http://www.bl.uk/collections/britishnewspapers1800to1900.html>

British Library Online Newspaper Archive  
<http://www.uk.olivesoftware.com/>

The Genealogy Register has links to Cemetery Transcriptions from all over the United States  
<http://genealogyregister.com/cemetery.html>

Census Tools contains 41 spreadsheets for tracking and organizing information.  
<http://www.censtools.com/>

Thanks to Lynne Darrouzet, Clare Molina and Bill Walton for submitting information.

## Texas History Book Reprinted

The Collin County Historical Society and the Texas State Historical Association are reprinting Seymour V. Connor's classic Texas history book, *The Peters Colony of Texas: A History and Biographical Sketches of Early Settlers*.

The book includes maps and the name of hundreds of early settlers of 26 present-day counties. The Peters Colony grew from an empresario grant made in 1841 by the Republic of Texas to 20 investors. By 1845, the colony comprised hundreds of families living on more than eleven million acres stretching 100 miles south of the Red River. Rampant land speculation resulted in years of controversy that ended in 1853 when the Texas Legislature granted colonists the right to patent their land.

The 2005 edition may be ordered from The Collin County Historical Society for \$25 plus \$3.50 shipping and .0825% Texas Sales tax (\$30.85 total per book). The pre-publication offer ends February 28, 2005. Books will be shipped in mid-March. An order form is available online at [www.collincountyhistory.org](http://www.collincountyhistory.org).

The Collin County Historical Society exists to further an understanding and appreciation of Texas history and heritage by collecting, preserving, interpreting, and exhibiting cultural resources for the education and enrichment of present and future generations. The Society operates the Collin County History Museum in the historic (1911) former U.S. Post Office one block east of Courthouse Square in McKinney.

## New Law Passed

The 108th Congress returned for a special session on December 6 to smooth opposition to Senate Bill 2845 (S. 2845) <<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d108:s.02845>>, the "National Intelligence Reform Act of 2004." This is the law that could make it difficult to access birth certificates.

On December 7, the House voted 336-75 for the bill, and on December 8, the Senate approved it 89-2. The bill is was supposed to be signed into law by the president on December 17th.

<http://www.indgensoc.org/>

### Gen Friends 3rd Annual Research Retreat

Mark your calendars. The 3rd Annual Research Retreat to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah will be January 30 to February 6, 2005.

Join us for a fabulous week of research and companionship with fellow genealogy enthusiasts.

- Research in the largest genealogy library in the United States with your colleagues.
- Family History Collection has been moved to the FHL Library building.
- Library Orientation by FHL Staff on Monday morning.
- Retreat includes a lecture on US Immigration Records by a professional genealogist.
- Individual and group assistance will be available from veteran researchers.

We have had a great time the last two years. Everyone returned with new information about ancestors. Plan on joining us.

Fees: Members \$80.00 per person or pay \$100 for both 2005 membership and the Retreat.

### Collin County Historic Photographs Web Site

Members of GenFriends are contributing photographs of Collin County to the newest Gen Friends web site *Collin County, Texas Past Finders Photo Collection*. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txcolli3>. The web site now contains over 2,700 photographs. Categories include Cemeteries,

Churches, Schools, People, Places, and Tombstones. If you would like to contribute photos of Collin County subjects, contact Joy at [jfarrgo@comcast.net](mailto:jfarrgo@comcast.net).

### Book Exchange

Genealogy Friends would like to exchange Collin County books with books from other societies.

If you have an area or society you would like us to try and exchange with, please contact Joy Gough at [jfarrgo@comcast.net](mailto:jfarrgo@comcast.net).

### History & Genealogy Web Site

Members of Genealogy Friends are contributing to a new web site—History and Genealogy for the Active Researcher located at <http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl>.

The goal is to expand the knowledge of those researching in Collin County and North Texas.

Check out the timeline—a daily calendar of events in Collin County through the years.

There is also a biography of Gladys Harrington.

### Education Opportunities

#### 2005

**January 20-22**, National Genealogy Society presents “Warm Up Your Research” in Phoenix, Arizona. Speakers include Elizabeth Shown Mills, Tom Jones, and J. Mark Lowe. An online registration form will be available soon on the NGS web site <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/edutripsphoenix.htm>

**February 5**, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Claire Mire Bettag.

**March 5**, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Emily Croom.

**April 2**, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Dr. Thomas W Jones.

**June 1-4**, National Genealogy Society Conference in the States and Gentech will be held in Nashville, Tennessee.

**June 9-11**, Palatines to America National Conference Fort Wayne, Indiana will be held at the Hilton Hotel and Grand Wayne Convention Center. The program will include German, American and Internet research subjects.

**September 7-10**, Federation of Genealogy Societies National Conference will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah