



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

December, 2003

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[http:// www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl)

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## 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 17, 2004** - Preparing for a Research Trip to Salt Lake City.

**February 21, 2004** - Cheryl Smith will talk to us about the holdings in the genealogy section of the Gladys Harrington Library.

**March 20, 2004**—To be announced.

**April 17, 2004**—All Day Seminar.

### Second Annual Research Retreat

Join members of Genealogy Friends February 1-8, 2004 on our second annual Research Retreat to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, UT. The Retreat includes:

- Library Orientation by FHL Staff
- Seminar on FHL Research by a Professional Genealogist
- Individual and Group Consultations with Experienced Genealogists

Registration Deadline: December 12, 2003

For more information contact Genealogy Friends at [genfriends@comcast.net](mailto:genfriends@comcast.net).

To register complete the form on our website [www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl).

### 2004 Genealogy Friends Events

Mark your calendars, the Library Lock Ins in 2004 are February 27, May 7, and October 29th.

We will have two all day Saturday Seminars - April 17th and September 18th.

Board Meetings will be January 20, March 16, and July 20th.

The Annual Meeting will be October 4th.

## Dues Are Due

It is time for us to pay our dues. Single: \$30. Family: \$50. Friend: \$100; Gold: \$500; Platinum: \$1000. 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.

## 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 the Reference Desk.

### 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).

## Donations

### Fishbowl

Please consider placing a donation in our fishbowl. The money is used to buy CD's for the Genealogy Section of the library

## 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	\$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 Systems	\$10

## Web Sites

### Gravestones & Cemeteries

AAS's Farber Gravestone Collection is the work of the late Daniel Farber of Worcester, Massachusetts, and his wife, Jessie Lie Farber, who photographed historic gravestones for more than twenty years. The more than 13,500 photographs in the online <http://www.davidrumsey.com>

Some of the other resources on the Internet are:

Association for Gravestone Studies  
<http://www.gravestonestudies.org>

A Very Grave Matter  
<http://www.gravematter.com>

Ancestral Findings Cemetery Database  
<http://www.ancestralfindings.com/cemetery.htm>

Interment.net  
[www.interment.net](http://www.interment.net)

If you are searching for cemetery databases for a specific state, use your favorite search engine and enter the name of the state (two-word state names should be enclosed in quotes) and the word cemetery, as in the following two examples:

"north carolina" cemetery  
illinois cemetery

### Proceeding of the Old Bailey

Record from 1674 to 1834 are now on the internet at <http://www.oldbaileyonline.org>. This web site provides "a fully searchable online edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published, containing accounts of over 10,000 criminal trials held at London's central criminal court."

## Writing Research Reports

Gathering records about your family is a wonderful experience, however, it is only the first step in compiling a family history. It is important to analyze what you have found. One of the best ways to analyze what you have and haven't found is to write a research report. You can also use research reports to share your research with other researchers and family members. When someone provides information it is important to provide them results of your research.

I like writing because it forces me to organize the records I have found and identifies what pieces are still missing in the puzzle that was the life of my ancestors. It is important not to wait until your research is "finished" to write up your results. If I waited to write until I had all the information I want, I would never get anything on paper.

Recently I sent a request for research assistance to a genealogy society in Macon County, Illinois. A brother and sister of my Great-great Grandmother moved there from Monroe County, Illinois about 1850. I was able to find numerous records at the Family History Library on the Gen Friends trip last year, however, there are records I needed that had not been filmed by the LDS Church. I joined the local genealogy society in that county and sent a request for research. I received a phone call from a "cousin" who lives in Macon County. The researcher from the Genealogy Society came into his store asking questions about the family to fulfill my request.

I agreed to share what I had found on the family with him and he did the same. However, when I started to compile the report on the Newsham family for him, I realized that my records were not as organized as they should be and it forced me to re-group to be able to write the report. Now, I have a few excuses, I moved a year ago and until recently was still struggling with unpacking and organizing my office. I have been traveling on business which doesn't leave much time for genealogy. In the mean time, I did not stop researching, so there were more records that had accumulated from various trips to St. Louis and Washington DC in the last year. I had made the commitment and now had to produce a report.

After I sorted all the records by generation and family member and filed them it was time to start the report. It is important to think about your audience and the purpose of the report before you begin writing. When you write for another researcher it is important to site all your sources, they may want to retrace your steps.

There is no "right" way to write your report. The Newsham

## Tracing Our Roots Column

The "Tracing Our Roots" column 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>.

report is organized by generation. I began with the basics - birth, marriage, and death information on each person. Then I put the "meat on the bones" by adding details from other records about the life of each ancestor in the family—land they owned, taxes they paid, their occupation, military service, naturalization and citizenship information, schools attended, religious events, probate information, cemetery locations, details from newspaper stories, etc.

As I write, questions come to mind. Each piece of information lead can lead to other things that I want to know. For example, I have a marriage license for a couple, but don't have the church record. Catholic church marriage records sometime provide much more information than the civil record. I will update my "To-Do" list to find the church record. A checklist of sources like the one in Karen Clifford's book, *Genealogy, the Internet, and Your Genealogy Computer Program* will help identify what sources might have been missed.

I also include conclusions I have drawn and the reasoning behind them. If there are conflicting facts be sure to include them also. Sometimes just putting them on paper makes me rethink them, points out flaws in my reasoning, or confirms theories for me.

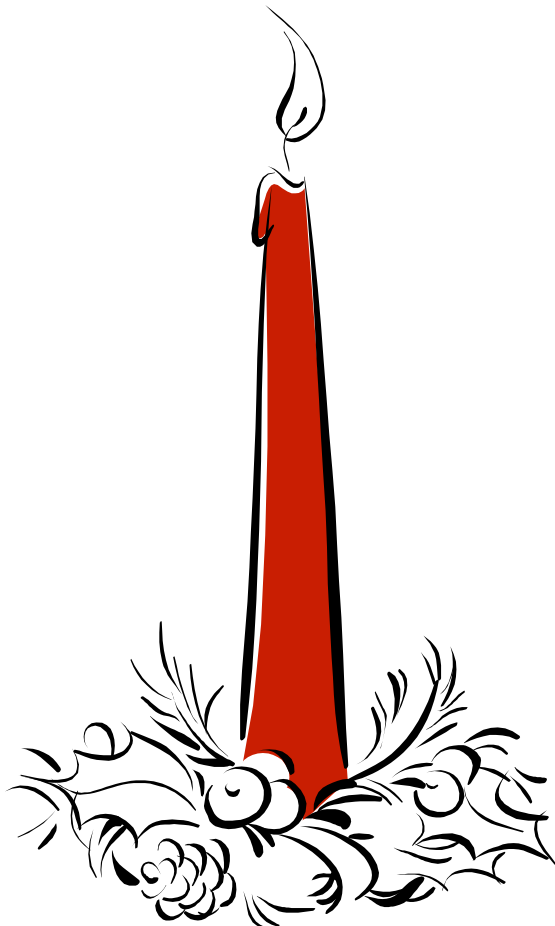
Adding information about historical events or the local area can also be interesting for your readers. If your ancestor served in the military, including information about the movement of the unit, battles they fought in, casualty information, etc. can help your reader share the experiences of your ancestor. John Newsham, my Great-Great grandmother's older brother, died in the Illinois Hospital for the Insane in the 1870's. There are no extant records, however, I was able to find a history on mental health institutions that discussed the facility when John would have been living there. Including this information gives my reader more insight into what his life was like.

When I write to share information with family members, they are interested in what I find but have no intention to do research themselves. Sources are not something they are looking for. Therefore, I mention where I found information

## Writing A Research Report, cont'd

but don't include full source citations. They are also not as familiar with the family as another researcher might be so it is important to include information on how the reader is related to the subject of the report. Depending on your audience you might want to include information on the process you used to find the sources as well as the information uncovered.

Taking the time to write research reports helps to organize your research and analyze what you have found and what is missing. Writing also allows you to share your accomplishments, theories and questions with others. It is important to consider your audience when you are writing and tailor your report to their interests so you can hold their attention. In addition to all the other benefits writing can provide a real sense of accomplishment to you. Writing doesn't come easy to everyone, however, we can all improve with practice. Give it a try and share your research.



Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc. is a nonprofit organization certified under Section 501 c [3] of the Internal Revenue Code

## Boundaries Change

State and County boundaries changed over time. Your ancestor may have lived in the same location, however, the records may be located at different repositories. For example, they purchased land in a county in 1785, in 1805 a county was formed from the original county. The land transaction probably stayed in the original county. However, when they died 10 years later, their probate record would be located in the new county.

A timeline for a geographical area can be accessed on <http://usgenmap.Rootsweb.com>. This web site includes maps and narratives pertaining to US borders, land transfers and acquisitions from 1783 to the present. Also, you can plug in the name of a town and learn the name of the county where the town is located. The same geographical information can be found in William Thorndale and William Dollarhide's book *Map Guide to Federal Census, 1790-1920*.

## Bibles Reunited

Tracy St. Clare of Sleepy Hollow, Illinois purchases Bibles wherever she can find them and tries to match them with a descendant of the bible's original owner. Her web site <http://www.biblerecords.com>, is where she posts information that allows a bible to be reunited with the family.

## Canadian Genealogy Centre

The Canadian Genealogy Centre (CGC) launched their website earlier this year—<http://www.genealogy.gc.ca>. This is a single window access to genealogical resources in Canada.

There are links, research tools, and advice. The CGC is also planning on coordinate projects to post genealogical information on the website. This is a joint effort of the Library and Archives of Canada.

## Newspaper Abstracts Website

The Newspaper Abstract Website contains abstracts and extracts from United States newspapers published prior to 1923. There are also extracts from other countries before 1900. Items are submitted by individuals. Select the location you wish to search and then select the date on the calendar and start reading— <http://www.newspaperabstracts.com/index.html>.

## Education Opportunities

### 2004

**January 12-16**, The Utah Genealogical Association announces its 9th Annual Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. This week long institute will offer 10 tracks of learning. For details for this institute, please see <http://www.infouga.org>.

**January 22-24**, Gentech 2004, Preserving the Past—Exploring the Future, will be held in St. Louis, Missouri. Information is available at <http://stlgs.org/gentech2004/>

**February 7**, The Dallas Genealogical Society will feature Hank Z Jones. For more information visit their website — <http://www.dallasgenealogy.org/>

**March 20**, The Midland Genealogical Society holds its Spring Seminar at the First Presbyterian Church Activities Building, 800 West Texas Avenue, Midland, Texas. Featured lecturer: Richard L. Hooverson. For more information e-mail: [mrlynmrlynrs@netscape.net](mailto:mrlynmrlynrs@netscape.net)

**April 3**, St. Louis Genealogical Society Annual Fair, “Sail Into the Past” featuring John P. Colletta, PhD. For more information visit their website <http://www.stlgs.org>

**April 22-24**, Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference. Visit their website <http://www.ogs.org>.

**April 22-25**, The Society for German-American Studies Annual Symposium will be held in New Ulm, Minnesota. Email [jeckstein@newulmtel.net](mailto:jeckstein@newulmtel.net) for more information.

**May 19-22**, The National Genealogical Society annual conference will be held in Sacramento, California, the website is coming soon at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/confnatl.htm>

**June 13-18**, Institute on Genealogical and Historical Research, Birmingham, Alabama. More information available on courses, fees, housing, etc. <http://www.sanford.edu/schools/ighr/ighr.html>.

**June 23-24**, Palatines to America National Conference, Albany, New York. Conference theme is Palatine Footprints.

**July 11-16** The Genealogical Institute of Mid-America will hold its tenth annual study program in Springfield, Illinois. Details are available from the Institute Director, Ms. Susan Kaufman at [kaufmansusan@juno.com](mailto:kaufmansusan@juno.com)

**July 11-17** The National Institute on Genealogical Research will be held at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Visit their website for more information - <http://www.rootsweb.com/~natgenin>

**September 8-11** FGS 2004 Conference will be held in Austin, Texas.

## Newsletter Articles

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

## New In The Library

The following have been added to the Genealogy Collection at the Gladys Harrington Library:

- The Forgotten Settlers of Kansas, Vol. 19 GEN 929.3781, V.19
- American State Papers: Public Lands, Vols. 1-9 GEN 333.10973 UNI
- Grassroots of America: A Computerized Index to the American State Papers GEN 333.10973 MCM
- Deaths in Central Texas, 1925-1934, Vols. 1-3 GEN 929.37645 DEA
- The Dutch and Quaker Colonies in America, Vols. 1-2 GEN 973.2 FIS
- Our prairie heritage, Cambria, 1902-1977 (Saskatchewan, Canada) GEN 971.244 OUR
- Sugar Dynasty: M.A. Patout & Son, Ltd., 1791-1993 GEN 633.61 WAD
- The Book of Irish Families Great & Small, Vol. 1, third edition GEN 929.4 OLA
- Pilgrim Colony: A History of New Plymouth, 1620-1691 GEN 974.4 LAN
- Texas data, Vol. II GEN 929.3764 TEX
- Richardson: A Partial History of Our Branch of the Richardson Family GEN 929.2 RIC
- Historical Highlights of Wilshire: 1951-1984 GEN 286.17642 HIS
- The Dallas Pioneer Park Cemetery GEN 929.57642811 CAR
- Colonial Massachusetts: A History GEN 974.402 LAB
- Wilson County, Tennessee: Trust Deed Book KK & Grand Jury Evidence, 1846-1888  
GEN 929.376854 PAR
- Wilson County, Tennessee: Chancery Court records, 1842-1892 GEN 929.376854 PAR
- A Joseph Hunter Genealogy and His Jager Connection, 1650-2000 GEN 929.2 HUN
- A Guide to South Carolina Genealogical Research and Records RREF GEN 929.10720757 HOL
- City of Many Facets (Sulphur, OK) GEN 976.657 BRO
- Heritage 150, First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC, 1824-1974 GEN 285.175662 HER
- The Provincials: a personal history of Jews in the South GEN 975.004924 EVA
- Family Connections: A History of Italian and Jewish Immigrant Lives in Providence, Rhode Island, 1900-1940  
GEN 974.5 SMI
- The General Court of Massachusetts, 1630-1930, Tercentenary Exercises GEN 328.74409 GEN
- 1810-1840 Loudoun County, Virginia: Federal Population Census Index GEN 929.375528 DUN
- Fac-similes of the Memorial Stones of the Last English Ancestors of George Washington  
GEN 929.50947 FAC
- A Colonial Officer and His Times, 1754-1773: A Biographical Sketch of Gen. Hugh Waddell of North Carolina  
GEN 973.2 WAD
- Index to the Files of the Oregon Journal Covering the Years 1902 to April, 1908, Inclusive and Including Only Items  
Relating to State and Local Affairs GEN 929.379549 IND
- Names That Begin With 'Mac', 'Mc' and 'O': Spellings and Locations in Ireland, Scotland and America with 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>  
Century Records GEN 929.42 OLA
- The Scottish Macs: Family Names of Scotland and the Scots-Irish GEN 929.42 JOH
- History of Booneville and Prentiss County GEN 976.2985 CAR
- Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, Texas GEN 287.764 MUR
- Muskogee: From Statehood to Pearl Harbour GEN 976.682 WES
- A History of the Second World War, Vol. 2 GEN 940.546 HIS
- Loveland-Big Thompson Valley: Centennial, 1877-1977 GEN 976.6 BAL
- In Search of the "Forlorn Hope": A Comprehensive Guide to Locating British Regiments and Their Records (1640-  
WWI), Volumes I & II GEN 355.330941 KIT, V.01 &.02
- Finding Italian Roots, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition GEN 929.1 COL