



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
July 2011

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

[http:// www.genealogyfriends.org](http://www.genealogyfriends.org)

<http://genfriends.blogspot.com/>

Email Address: genfriends@genealogyfriends.org Newsletter: Barbara Coakley newsletter@genealogyfriends.org

Saturday Seminars

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2011. Meetings are held in the Program Room at the Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd., Plano, TX from 10:15 to 12:30:

Today's Topic:

July 16, 2011—Our speaker is Tara Carlisle from the University of North Texas. She'll be talking to us about the UNT Digital Libraries and The Portal to Texas History. We have a great resource right here in our own backyard.

Future Topics:

August 20, 2011—Need some magic to help with your genealogy research? Ada Nelson's "Research Magic—Showcasing Tools for Genealogists" will be right up your alley. Come learn how Office One Note, Roots Magic, Magic Wand Scanners, iPad, and Skype/Magic Jack can help you conjure up your ancestors.

August 27, 2011—Learn N—Get organized and Get ready for your next research trip. Our speakers will be Carol Hofer and Barbara Coakley.

September 17, 2011—Stacy Kemp, the Collin County Clerk will speak to us about records at the County Courthouse.

October 15, 2011—"Y DNA Testing" by Don Raney

October 20, 2011—Dining Out at Outback Steakhouse

November 19-2011—All Day Seminar—Kelvin Meyers will be our speaker. See the back page for more details

December 17, 2011—Show and Tell—bring your genealogy treasures and share with the group.

If you have suggestions for programs please submit them to Barbara Coakley at bjc1620@sbcglobal.net.

Index

Announcements	2	Collin County Stories	6
Websites	3	August 27 LearnN.....	7
All Day Seminar	8		

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

GenFriends Blog

A blog is a combination of the terms web and log. They are meant to be interactive. GenFriends has a blog, <http://genfriends.blogspot.com/>. Check it out, post comments and follow it to keep up with what's going on in the society.

Genfriends Membership Special

Hunting for a bargain? Normally individual memberships are \$30 a year (October 1—September 30), we're running a special—join now for \$45 and you get a two year membership that expires September 30, 2012. The money we raise is used to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library. Family memberships are also available. Download the membership form on our website <http://www.collin.edu/ce/> send it in with payment to

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc

PO Box 860477

Plano, TX 75086-0477

Genealogy Friends Logo Shirts

You can be one of the best dressed genealogists in town!

We have logo t-shirts, sweatshirts, Henley's and polo style shirts available.

The shirts have a 3" dark green logo printed on the left chest. All shirts are available in toddler through XXXL.

T-shirts \$15

Long Sleeved T Shirts \$18

Sweatshirts \$20 (white, neutral, ash, light blue, pink, yellow and sand)

Henley's \$20 (white, ash or natural)

Polo Shirts \$20 (white, ask or light blue)

Genealogy Class

Genealogy III—Breaking Down Brick Walls will be offered at Collin College (CCCC) on Tuesday nights (July 26 to August 30) at Courtyard Campus from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. In this class, Barbara Coakley, the instructor, focuses on advanced problems like sorting out people with the same name, finding women ancestors, getting around burned courthouses, using the census before 1850, and analyzing problems. To register visit <http://www.collin.edu/ce/>

Newsletter Articles

We need your stories to put in our newsletter. Write a story about one of your ancestors, a research problem you solved or need help solving. Your experiences can help out another researcher or someone researching the same family might see your article—our newsletter is posted on our website and sent to the Allen County Public Library so it is indexed in PERSI.

Submit your article in a word document to Barbara Coakley at newsletter@genealogyfriends.org

Websites

Randymajors.com

This website has two interesting tools—AncestorSearch helps you build a better search for finding webpages mentioning your ancestors. It returns a more focused set of search results by using advanced Google search techniques. Historical Boundary Maps allows you to view historical county boundaries for any present day location in the United States.

<http://randymajors.com/>

Billion Graves

This is a website of grave transcriptions. This website aims to be the largest repository of headstone records, images and locations in the world. They have an iPhone or Android phone app to capture photos. Once the photos are uploaded with GPS info from the apps anyone can transcribe the information. You can search for records that have already been added. To learn more visit their blog <http://billiongraves.blogspot.com/>

<http://billiongraves.com/index.php>

Find A Grave

While we are on the subject of cemetery websites, Find A Grave has over 64 million grave records that have been contributed by volunteers.

Interment.net

A free online library of cemetery records from thousands of cemeteries across the world, for historical and genealogical research

<http://www.interment.net/>

Gravestoned

This is a blog by a Find a Grave volunteer that focuses on cemeteries.

<http://gravestoned.blogspot.com/2011/06/tidy-gravestone.html>

Library of Congress—Personal Archiving: Preserving Your Digital Memories

The Library of Congress website includes a section on how to preserve your digital materials—photographs, emails, audio, video, and websites.

<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/you/>

NARA

The National Archives and Records Administration has added a feature to their website called Online Public Access (OPA). It is a portal to their records and information about their records. You can search the Archival Research Catalog and Archival Databases System using OPA. There are pdf documents on the site that provide information on how to search, what's included, etc. The newest feature lets you add tags to records.

<http://www.archives.gov/research/search/index.html>

(Continued on page 4)

Websites

(Continued from page 3)

[http://blogs.archives.gov/online-public-access/?p=5379&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+Narations+\(NARAtions\)](http://blogs.archives.gov/online-public-access/?p=5379&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+Narations+(NARAtions))

FEEFHS

If you have ancestors in Eastern Europe you might want to check out The Federation of East European Family History Societies. They have an annual conference, map library, links to websites, and a resource directory.

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

Railroad Retirement Board Records

The records from the Railroad Retirement Board are now available at the Southeast Regional Archives Atlanta in Morrow, Georgia. The board was founded in 1936 and its records include applications from retirees all over the US. The records date from the 1930s to the 1960s.

<http://www.archives.gov/southeast/public/railroad-retirement-board-records.html>

Image Partners

This site is a Name Thesaurus that uses NameX technology to identify name variants. Enter the name (surname or first name) and click search. The results are a list of possible spellings you can use when searching for your ancestors.

<http://www.namethesaurus.com/Thesaurus/search.aspx>

Cyndi's List

This staple of genealogy research has had a face lift. She's added a What's New link on the home page so you can see what new links have been added.

<http://www.cyndislist.com/>

Augustana College Thomas Tredway Library

This website includes an upper Mississippi Valley Digital Image Archive—historic images showcasing the Mississippi River region along the Iowa/Illinois border—Civil War Diaries kept by two soldiers from Illinois who served in the Union Army in the siege of Vicksburg—Farm Life—images of local farming, farm implements, animals, barns and homesteads, and much more.

<http://www.augustana.edu/library/SpecialCollections/home.html>

History Pin

We Are What We Do, a not for profit organization has partnered with Google to create a digital time machine. People upload pictures of a place and time in history, the photos are then mapped. You might be able to find pictures from a time period and place where you ancestor lived, or if you are really lucky, a picture of a family member.

(Continued on page 5)

Websites

(Continued from page 4)

<http://www.historypin.com/>

Cincinnati Birth and Death Records, 1855-1912

This collection is under development.

http://digitalprojects.libraries.uc.edu/Births_and_Deaths/index.asp

Greater Philadelphia Geo History Network

This website has historic map overlays for Philadelphia and the surrounding region. There are maps dating back to the 1600s.

<http://www.philageohistory.org/geohistory/>

National Atlas

This site is from the US Geological Survey. They have maps that can be printed, wall maps, etc.

<http://www.nationalatlas.gov/index.html>

Historical Maps of Nova Scotia

Digitized historical maps of Nova Scotia

<http://gov.ns.ca/nsarm/virtual/maps/>

North Carolina Maps

Maps that can be viewed as Historic Overlay Maps, layered on top of current road maps. This site also has the Sanborn maps for North Carolina available.

<http://www.lib.unc.edu/dc/ncmaps/interactive/overlay.html>

David Rumsey Map Collection

Over 120 historical maps from 1630 to 1930.

<http://www.davidrumsey.com/view/google-maps>

Henry Hudson 400

Maps from 1609 to 2009

<http://www.henryhudson400.com/home.php>

National Society of Scotland—Ordnance Survey maps 1847-1895

<http://geo.nls.uk/maps/>

Central National Road OfThe Republic ofTexas

By Joy Gough

CR 596 and CR 641

33°03.848' N

96°20.667' W

During its brief existence, the Congress of the Republic of Texas made significant efforts to plan for the inevitable increase in settlement. One of those efforts was the establishment of the Central National Road, designed to connect the Red River to existing military roads along the Trinity River and points farther west, thus opening much of Northeast Texas to both settlement and commerce. On February 5, 1844, the Congress created a five-man commission to supervise the surveying and construction of road. Commission members, which included John Yeary, received land for their work. Yeary selected property in present Collin County and founded a settlement that grew to become Farmersville.

The commissioners chose George Stell of Paris, Texas, as surveyor for the project. He began his work in April 1844 from a point now within the city of Dallas. He and his assistant traveled northeast, measuring and marking the exact route, which passed through present counties of Dallas, Rockwall, Collin, Hunt, Fannin, Lamar and Red River; only three of them had been formally organized at that time. The new route utilized existing prairies and natural stream crossings, and avoided obstacles like densely wooded areas. It ended at the Kiomatia Crossing of the Red River near present Jonesborough, Red River County.

While records are unclear as to whether construction was ever completed, history shows the Central National Road was short-lived, soon replaced by the Preston Road and other early routes, and eventually by rail lines. It did, however, help open Northeast Texas to increased growth and development. Through Yeary's association with the road and his settlement in Collin County, it also directly impacted the early growth in population of this area.

Collin County Historical Maps

Collin County is the only county in Texas to put its historic sites on an interactive county map. Go to <http://maps.collincountytx.gov/historical.html>.

Use your mouse wheel to zoom in on areas of the county. Blue or yellow dots will appear on the map. Move your mouse over a dot and a popup window appears giving information about that site. Click on "See Attachments" or "Get Google Directions." Not all sites have attachments. To clear your selection, hit the blue "X" in the tool bar on the top left. A search for a specific site can be made using in the drop down box on the right hand side of the map.

The interactive map is an ongoing project of the GIS department of the county and the Collin County Historical Commission to record the locations and information on all of the historical sites in the county.

Tracing Our Roots Column

Brenda Kellow writes a weekly genealogy column, you can read it online at

<http://tracingourroots.weebly.com/>

Salt Lake City Institute of Genealogy

The Utah Genealogical Association holds an annual Institute in Salt Lake City. The next one is Jan 23-27, 2012. <http://ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=41>

Civil War Cherished Letters

Thomas Wayman Hendricks was born 25 June 1835 and married Eliza Jane Deaver 18 December 1856. They had five children—Benjamin Franklin, Mary, Martha, Eliza, and Thomas. Thomas volunteered to fight in the Civil War and while he was away he wrote letters home. The letters survived and have been transcribed and posted on the internet. They provide a unique insight to life during the Civil War. Here is a link to the letters.

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mysouthernfamily/Cher_Lets.htm

Gen Friends Learn-N:

"Organizing Your Genealogy" by Carol Hofer

And

"Preparing for a Research Trip" by Barbara Coakley



Saturday, August 27, 2011

from 10:15am to 12:30pm

W O Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd, Plano

Searching for records about our ancestors is only part of growing your family trees. Learn the importance of record keeping and hear some suggestions for organizing your records and personal reference materials.

The key to a successful research trip is the planning you do before you go. Learn how to be more efficient and effective when you arrive by creating a research plan.

A \$10.00 donation would be appreciated.

Donations are used to purchase materials for the Genealogy section of the Haggard Library.



Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries Presents:

“Sources & Techniques to Jump Start Your Research”

Speaker: Kelvin L. Meyers

When: Saturday, November 19, 2011

Where: Plano Bible Chapel
1900 Shiloh, Plano, TX

Topics: Tax Records or Why Did Scarlett Make a Dress of Her
Mother’s Drapes?

Who Cares Who Their Neighbors Were? You Do!
That’s Who!

Where Do I Go After 1930 Census?

Researching the Territorial Papers of the United
States

Details: 9:30 to 4:00

Before 11/1/11 \$35 Members \$38 Non Members

After 11/1/11 \$40 Members \$45 Non Members

Bring a Brown Bag Lunch