Genealogy Friends News

Schedule of Events

We are currently planning on holding our meetings in the Library beginning in June 2022

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events held at W.O. Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd, Plano, TX from 10:15 to Noon.

This Month:

June 18, 2022 - Meeting at Library - "What's New at FamilySearch.org and Exploring the Research Wiki" by Lynell Moss

Future Events:

July 7, 2021—Zoom Meeting—Genealogy Round Table— We are a group of genealogy enthusiasts who get together to share information and help each other on the first Thursday of each month. Zoom invite will be sent out the week before the meeting.

July 16, 2022 - Meeting at Library - "The Value of Collateral Line Research" by Bernard Meisner

August 20, 2022 - Meeting at Library - "Sharing Your Genealogy Research Using Blogger" by Barbara Coakley

September 17, 2022 - All Day Seminar - Google for Genealogy featuring Lisa Louise Cooke. See Page 5 for details

October 15, 2002 - Meeting at Library - To Be Announced

November 19, 2022 - Meeting at Library In Genealogy Section - "Finding Your New England Ancestors" by David Appleton

December 17, 2022 - Meeting at Library - Show and Tell

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Genealogy Friends

Purpose: To educate members and library patrons in doing genealogical research and to support the Genealogy Center of W.O. Haggard, Jr. Library through donations.

Goal: To expand the library collection to meet the needs of this genealogically diverse community.

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. All donations are tax deductible.

Join us on Facebook - Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries

The annual membership meeting is held each October.

Genfriends Membership

Our membership year runs from October 1 to September 30. Individual memberships are $30 a year and family memberships are $50.

The money we raise is used to pay for programs and to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library.

Download the membership form on our website http://genealogyfriends.org/news/ send it in with payment to

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc

PO Box 860477

Plano, TX 75086-0477

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

Volunteer Opportunities

Our Webmaster and Secretary is retiring. We need two volunteers to fill these positions.

Webmaster - we use Weebly for our website. If you have experience or are willing to learn to post newsletters, notices on upcoming events, donations to the library each month, we need you.

Secretary - duties include keeping minutes for board meetings and our annual general meeting and maintaining the Membership Handbook.

We have one annual meeting each year in October and quarterly board meetings.

Genealogy Education & News

The Genealogy Show Summer Event registration is open. **48 Hours of Genealogy!** July 1-3, 2022 Right now use code EARLYSUMMER15 for 25% Off, that's only £15 (about $18.50) for 30 days access to recorded sessions. Barbara Coakley is doing a presentation - Using Microsoft OneNote to Organize Research Plans and Results. https://www.thegenealogyshowlive.com/?mc_cid=f6999df6cd&mc_eid=a5111aef0e

The Texas State Genealogical Society launched the **"Lone Star Family Trails" podcast** to introduce listeners to resources, records and the historical context of the Lone Star State. The first episode interviews Amie Oliver, the interim director of the Texas Collection and Archives at Baylor University. Access the podcast on Apple, Spotify, and Google Play or their website https://www.txsgs.org/lone-star-family-trails-podcast-library/.

The Dallas Genealogical Society 2022 Summer Seminar **"Gone to Texas - Finding Your Ancestors in Land and Probate"** will be July 16, 2022. https://dallasgenealogy.org/dgs/meetings-events/seminars/2022-summer-seminar/

Allen County Public Library YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8AE558B5D8661B31

Jean Ellen (Kocurek) Funk
1950-2022

The President of Genealogy Friends, Jean Funk, died on May 27th after a short illness.

Jean Ellen Kocurek was born on September 30, 1950 in Oak Park, Illinois. She was a daughter of Charles Kocurek, Jr. and Helen Schlosser. She graduated in 1968 from Downers Grove North High School and attended her 50th class reunion a few years ago. She married Carl Funk, Jr. in January 1982. This year was their 40th wedding anniversary. The family moved to Plano in 1995 from California.

Jean was a founding member of Genealogy Friends. She had been on the Board for 25 years and held numerous positions. At the time of her death, she had been the president for about 5 years.

Jean had a passion for genealogy research. She had numerous ancestors in Texas. Her grandmother's family was from the Bonham area. Her Czech ancestors settled around the Hill Country. She traced her father's World War II service. She took a genealogy trip to Germany to study both her and Carl's families.

Jean is survived by her brother, Larry Kocurek, and her sister, Pattie Zunica. She was the step mother of Jennier Sloan, Pamela Funk, and Daniel Funk, the grandmother of six, and the aunt of three nieces.

She was a member of First Baptist Church of Allen.

Scanning & Organizing Family Photos
By Barbara Coakley

One of my retirement projects is to replace the thirty-some three ring binders I have by storing my documents, photos, notes, research reports, etc. digitally. I'm ashamed to say that not everything was stored in the binders. I have a lateral file cabinet full of stuff that hadn't been analyzed and filed yet. One part of this project is the family photos. Most of them were sorted by surname but hadn't been scanned. As I work through the documents for a generation I also pull out all the photos I have. The photos for the earlier generations are a combination of cartes des visites, Cabinet cards, and tintypes. There are also photos from visits to cemeteries, churches, and historic homes.

Maureen Taylor, The Photo Detective, has a bundle of classes on sale that walks through scanning, organizing and identifying photos. https://maureentaylor.com/product/tackle-your-family-photos-bundle/ Her website also has blog and podcast episodes about photos.

Scanning

My flatbed scanner is set to 600dpi and the pictures are saved as .tiff files. These are really big files so I have them stored on an external hard drive which is backed up daily using a cloud back up service. If they are older photos with photographer information on the back, I scan both the front and back of the photo. Here is an article about .tiff vs .jpeg format. https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/file-types/image/comparison/jpeg-vs-tiff.html#:~:text=about%20JPEG%20files-,What%20is%20a%20TIFF%20file%3F,and%20more%20difficult%20to%20store.

As the photos are scanned I put them in a new scan folder. The scanning software uses generic file names. The files are renamed and moved to the folder of pictures for the family or individual.

Naming Files

I use a standard naming convention for all my digital files - here is an example

Scanning & Organizing Family Photos
By Barbara Coakley

Coakley_JohnL_1930_CASiskiyou_Homestead_TakingGraintoTown

The elements are divided by _

- Last Name
- First Name - if this is a group picture I put family of or omit this if the group isn't all one surname. The individual names are put in the metadata. See next section.
- Year Photo Taken
- Location - State, County, Town
- Description or Event

Metadata

Metadata is like writing on the back of a digital photo. I store all the information I know about the photo - who is in it, where was it taken, when was it taken, etc. If someone else has the original I also include who has it. Here is a website with instructions for updating metadata. https://www.picturesandstories.com/news/2017/2/13/metadata-writing-on-the-back-of-a-digital-photo#:~:text=Windows%2010%20users%3A&text=Click%20on%20the%20View%20tab,%2C%20and%20you're%20done!

Folder Structure

Each Surname has a folder on my external hard drive. The oldest known ancestor's folder is in the surname folder.

In the ancestor's folder there are folders for different events and one for photos. There is also a folder for Children. In this folder there is a folder for each of the ancestor's children that contains the same type of folder structure.

Here is an example

Coakley Family
    Michael Coakley
        Census Records
        Children
            1. Josephine Coakley
            2. John Theodore Coakley
                Census Records
                Children
                    1. Anna Coakley
                    2. John Leonard Coakley
        Death
        Land
        Marriage
        Occupation
        Photos

Originals

Once the photos are scanned, the originals are placed in archival quality polypropylene photo album pages. University Products and Hollinger Metal Edge are two suppliers I use. https://www.universityproducts.com/photo-products/photo-albums-and-pages and https://www.hollingermetaledge.com/

Once I'm finished with the family I'm working on the plan is to copy photos onto usb drives to share with family and create .jpg files to upload to *FamilySearch*.

The most important part of organization is finding a system that works for you and applying it consistently. This enables you to locate what you are looking for quickly. My rule of thumb is I should be able to find anything in a couple of minutes. There are lots of ideas available on the internet. Do a google search.

Barbette
Submitted by Barbara Brogdon

In the 1920s and '30s, one of the most popular acts in Paris was an acclaimed drag aerialist performer from Round Rock, Texas. Vander Clyde Broadway (born in 1899) known as the stage persona "Barbette" shocked and thrilled audiences across Europe.

A trip with his mother to Austin to see the traveling circus changed the course of his life. Vander was enthralled by the performers and the experience immediately sparked what would become a glittering career. After that, young Vander practiced tightrope walking on a clothesline in his backyard. Determined to join the circus. Vander rigorously studied to graduate quickly and worked in nearby cotton fields to save money. At 14 he graduated as the Valedictorian of Round Rock High School, and he became an acrobat with a circus in San Antonio.

Later, Vander joined the Alfaretta Sisters aerialist group. The role required him to dress in women's clothing during his daring stunts; from this experience, he created "Barbette"—choosing a pseudonym that could function as a woman's first name or a man's last name. This ambiguity and gender fluidity were a theme of each show.

Barbette went on to tour as a headliner across Europe, performing in Berlin, Hamburg, Barcelona, and Paris. The act was said to be spectacular, with tightrope and trapeze acrobatics executed in beautiful, lavish outfits and full makeup.

In Paris, the aerialist found solidarity in a group of writers and artists, including Jean Cocteau, Man Ray, and Pablo Picasso. Cocteau's 1924 essay, "Le Numéro Barbette," helped bolster Barbette's fame and allowed the performer access to the inner circle of the Parisian elite.

After catching pneumonia in 1938, Barbette retired from performing but continued working as a trainer and choreographer for circuses and films.

The performer died in 1973 and is buried in Round Rock Cemetery. A Texas historical marker chronicling the aerialist star was approved in 2015.

Photo is Barbette performing on the trapeze at the Winter Garden in Berlin in 1931 courtesy of Texas Monthly.

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries Presents:

"Google For Genealogy"

Speaker: Lisa Louise Cooke

When: Saturday, September 17, 2022

Where: Plano Bible Chapel
            1900 Shiloh, Plano, TX

Topics:

Seeing Family History Through Google Lens- This exciting hour will open your eyes to the multitude of uses of Google Lens in family history! You'll learn what it is, where to find it, and how to use it. You'll be amazed at what Google Lens can do for you both in your genealogy life and your every day personal life.

How to Make New Photo Discoveries with Google Images– You'll learn new strategies for finding photographs and images that apply to your family history and how to use Google Images to identify some of the images and photos you have in your own family scrapbooks!

Google Books: the tool you should use every day!–Learn the secrets of getting ore than you ever imagined from the largest online collection of digitized books. With 25 million books, many of which are digitized and fully searchable, Google Books should be the first place you turn as you climb your family tree. Learn how to make the most of this goldmine chock full of historical data.

Google Search Strategies for Common Names–Discover tips and tricks to find your ancestors with common surnames and surnames that double as common words with Google. Learn how to weed out irrelevant search results to save time and get to what you want faster. Then save and automate your searches to run for you!

Details: 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

Members Before 09/01/22 $45

Non Members & Members After 9/01/22 $50

Bring a Brown Bag Lunch