



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

March 2008

P.O. Box 860477, Plano, TX, 75086-0477  
[http:// www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl)  
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## Saturday Seminars

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2008. Meetings are held in the Program Room at the Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd., Plano, TX from 10:15 to 12:30:

### Today's Topics:

**March 15, 2008—Learn about Family Tree Maker and Legacy, two popular genealogy programs—Speakers Joanne Corney and Tresa Tatyrek.**

### Future Topics:

April 19, 2008—Naomi Taplin from the Texas Baptist Historical Collection will speak to use about Preservation Techniques.

May—Lynne Darrouzet will speak to us

June—Richard Preston will speak to us about Migration Patterns. Ever wondered what route your ancestor took or why they moved from one place to another? Come listen to Richard for some potential answers.

July—David Hardin from the Haggard Library will be speaking on the Genealogy Collection and the online resources available at the library. We have access to a wonderful collection right here in Plano, come learn more about it.

August—"Beginning Genealogy" by Barbara Coakley. Whether you are truly a beginner or just want a "back to basics" refresher this class is for you.

September—"Convict Ancestors from England" by Dr. Steven Butler. Dr Butler spoke to us last year about the Mexican War, we are excited to have him back to educate us on a really interesting topic.

October—Dr. Jacob Blosser will speak to us about the History of Religions in America. Dr Blosser is an Assistant Professor of History at Texas Women's University.

November—Bryan Lean, the curator of Collections and Exhibits at the North Texas History Center will be speaking to us.

December—Show and Tell.

If you have suggestions for programs please submit them to Jean Funk at [jeano25@aol.com](mailto:jeano25@aol.com).

## 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

## Websites

The Physicians Pocket Reference to the International List of Causes of Death, Fourth Edition (1918) has been scanned and is available online.

<http://rack1.ul.cs.cmu.edu/is/deathtypes/doc.scn?rp=http%3A%2F%2Frac1.ul.cs.cmu.edu%2Fis%2Fdeathtypes%2F>

If you are looking for a place in the US the USGS website includes a page on Geographic Names, GNIS. The GNIS contains information about physical and cultural geographic features of all types in the US, both current and historical. It does not include roads and highways.

<http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/index.html>

Looking for a ship your ancestor served on in the Navy, the Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships might be helpful.

<http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/index.html>

This website contains 25 beta research tools that might open up some new possibilities for your research

<http://www.collegedegree.com/library/college-life/25-awesome-beta>

## 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

## 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>.

## Genealogy Class Collin College

Intermediate Genealogy will be offered at Collin College (formerly CCCD) on Monday nights from July 7, 2008 to August 25, 2008 at Plano Senior High School. The Instructor will be Barbara Coakley. Register online at <http://www.cccd.edu/cs/areasofstudy/conted/index.html>

## Fulfilling Our Manifest Destiny: Riding the Trails Westward

By Brenda Kellow

*The travels into new territories began with the desire of the early Puritans who arrived in Massachusetts in 1630 to expand their boundaries and exploded in the 1840s when the expansionists wanted to extend their boundaries all the way to the West Coast. Why did our ancestors move from the East Coast into the south and westward?*

### Manifest Destiny

Manifest Destiny, loosely translated declares Americans are a chosen people ordained by God to create a model society in the wilderness. The idea of claiming the land all the way to the Pacific Ocean probably began with the Puritan landings at Massachusetts Bay in 1630.

John L. O'Sullivan in *The United States Magazine and Democratic Review* first coined the two words, manifest destiny, in July 1845 to support the annexation of Texas. Congressmen in their debates on the three territorial issues quickly picked up the phrase during that timeframe when referring to the annexation of Texas, the joint occupation of the Oregon territory with England, and the action of the war with Mexico. Then James K. Polk took up the issue when he became president and quickly approved the annexation of Texas, endorsed the division of Oregon at the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel, and engineered a war with Mexico in order to acquire New Mexico and California.

Manifest Destiny was probably a direct result of modern technology—the invention of the steam engine, the telegraph, and the railroad. These made communication and travel more manageable from coast to coast. Industrialism was on the move and with it was the need for more and more land.

### Migration Studies

More than just an educated guess or luck of the draw.

Successful migration study involves

- Finding the 'sending' place and the 'receiving' place

- Realizing Americans are movers, and understanding they may or may not move far, and they may make many stops along the way for various lengths of time

Recognizing the conditions that precipitated leaving continental Europe to come to America

- Regional, and general wars

- Unrepresented government

- Disappointing revolutions

- Over population

- Religious and political persecution

- Uneven, and unpredictable economic development

- Safer and cheaper overseas passage

- International migratory labor

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## Fulfilling Our Manifest Destiny (continued)

*(Continued from page 3)*

Problems in migration research pertaining to the inexperienced researcher

Familiarity of records, or a lack thereof

Early census data naming only the head of household

Psychological handicaps, laziness. They just do it!

Map expertise. The French Academy of Sciences made the best maps

The frustration of the constantly changing names of migration trails

Migration halted during wars. Example: 1812-1815; 1861-1865 and through the following two years of reconstruction.

Suggested Procedure

Don't get too focused on a particular tactic. Be flexible. Be open-minded.

Understand motivations and localities before researching specific county and state records

Similar religious preferences

Ditto ethnic identity

Ditto economic identity

Study group dynamics

Freedom of movement

Motivation? What compelled him/them to move?

Natural forces. Floods. Land depletion.

Demographics (statistics). Who was moving? When did they move? Why? Percentages?

Assisted migration. Forced (American Indian removal).

Numerous factors involved. Inheritance? No inheritance? Rule of primogenitor.

Motivators

Economic reasons [usually the strongest factor]

Family pressure

Physical reasons (illness)

Flight from family

Old age

Reaching maturity

Moving in with children

Death of a spouse

Natural forces (soil exhaustion, floods, etc.)

General economic reasons

Peer pressure (large group movements)

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## Fulfilling Our Manifest Destiny (continued)

*(Continued from page 4)*

State imposed public order

Specific economic qualifiers (reasons) such as the opening of new land, better still, free land!

Mass psychological pressure

War, and its aftermath

Psychology of Migrants

Who goes and why?

Migration means they have the means and the will

Incentives are present

Awareness of advantages of the new land

Precipitating factors (may be good or bad)

Mobilization

Improved roads and /or new roads opening to the south and westward

Social controls allow for migration

Leading motivators for migration within the state and outside it

Ray Allen Billington gives five variables that most likely affected our wandering ancestors

Economic conditions in the old and new communities

Job opportunities in each

Distance between the new and the old including the kind of geographic barriers the pioneer faced

Population density

Similarity of social climate

People are unlikely to move from one "life zone" or "growth zone" into another.

Examples: Coal miners do not move to the seashore to fish. Cotton and tobacco farmers do not move and become buffalo hunters.

Exceptions: Doctors, attorneys, merchants

Why go from East Coast and the South to Oregon?

Primary reasons

Fine agricultural land

Oregon was healthier

No malaria in Oregon like on the rivers and in the bottom lands of the South and East Coast

High mortality among the Southerners

Health wise, they lived longer and better in Oregon.

Why go to Texas?

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**Fulfilling Our Manifest Destiny (continued)**

(Continued from page 5)

Major cause and effect of immigration was the War of 1812

Poor economy in the colonies

Impresarios began the colonization of Texas

Cheap or free land

\$1.25 and acre in the 1850s

For \$166 they could buy 4,428 acres in Texas

Texas was primarily settled by the South. Many Texans are from Tennessee and Missouri. Migration into Texas brought early settlers into North Texas from the upper south, while those from the Gulf States settled the south-eastern area of Texas and the hill country. But you must remember that there are always exceptions!

Techniques for the 'determined' hunter

If you are not searching one of the exceptions above, then adopt a trial and error method until you uncover your ancestor's trail!

Total familiarity with the person and the community for at least the first five years in an area is a must!

Expect normality in behavior before searching off-the-wall-places!

Focus your attention on the families associated with your people rather than surnames alone! Deductive reasoning is a must for covering this area of research!

This is not a game. The term "Go Fish" is not an option!

Link the young frontiersman with an elder in the new community who probably created and left extant records in the previous community! Include federal, state and county records in the search!

Examine the counties along the migration trails where the family or person might have stopped and left a valuable record! Since the value of the records may be unknown to you, search them all for clues.

A comparison study must be made of every record examined!

Seasonal movement. Watch for migrations during the wintertime! Winter is the prime season when farmers move.

They have harvested their crops and can arrive at the new destination in time to clear the fields and plant a crop at planting time. Traveling coast to coast is seasonal because of the conditions in the mountains.

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## Fulfilling Our Manifest Destiny (continued)

(Continued from page 6)

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### Quantrell & Collin County

By Joy Gough

Many of us have heard of Quantrell and his Raiders during the Civil War. We may not know about his and their connection to Collin County. (Quantrell is also spelled with an "i.") Feelings about him and his band of soldiers vary to this day depending upon which side of the conflict people identify with. The Confederacy promoted him to Captain for his tactics. To many Confederate supporters he was a free-spirited, dashing hero in a war where the Confederates had few heroes. To the Union Army he was an outlaw and a murderer.

Some say Quantrell's Raiders was the most savage fighting unit in the Civil War. Its guerilla warfare tactics terrorized civilians and soldiers from both the North and South. The Raiders harassed Union soldiers, raided pro-Union towns, robbed mail coaches and trains and attacked Unionist civilians. Much of their fighting was done along the Kansas-Missouri border. When the Union Army ordered all captured guerillas to be shot, Quantrell gave the same treatment to his prisoners.



Quantrell's Raiders answered to nobody - not the Confederate Army and not law enforcement. They did what they wanted; attacked whomever they wanted; exacted their own kind of revenge; and enforced their own kind of justice. Quantrell's Raiders grew from about a dozen men to over 400 members. The Raiders included Jesse and Frank James, Cole Younger and his brothers, James Reed, who became the husband of Belle Starr; and "Bloody Bill" Anderson, who wore a necklace of Yankee scalps into battle.

After the retaliatory Lawrence Massacre at Lawrence, Kansas, in August of 1863 where the Raiders killed about 200 men and boys and burned and looted the town, the Raiders left for North Texas for safety and to pass the winter. While en-route to Texas the Raiders encountered the 100-man headquarters escort of Union General James G. Blunt. During the attack they killed more than 80 men in what later became known as the Barter Springs Massacre.

Upon arrival in North Texas, Quantrell reported to Gen. Henry McCulloch at Bonham in Fannin County. The general ordered them to help round up the increasing number of deserters and conscription-dodgers in the North Texas area.

In Collin County a Confederate soldier had returned home after his wife's pleas to help his starving family. Quantrell's men hanged him for desertion. Most of the other deserters they found met the same fate. Gen. McCulloch reassigned the Raiders to hunt down Comanches. They were not successful in that endeavor.

## Quantrell & Collin County (continued)

*(Continued from page 7)*

At that the time the Raiders consisted of about 400 men. During the winter in North Texas, the Raiders divided into smaller groups. The groups continued with their raids and acts of violence against the local populace.

About the latter part of 1863, a group of men went to the home of an old couple named Lackey near the Kaufman (now Rockwall) County line near Millwood and demanded their money. They tortured the old man in front of his wife, trying to get him to tell them where his money was hidden. He never told them the location and was killed. The men ransacked the house looking for the money. The wife kept two twenty-dollar gold pieces in her ball of yarn. The men threw the ball around but never found the money inside it. [Weekly Democrat Gazette, August 15, 1929, "Millwood."]

It was rumored that the men were part of Quantrell's group and were staying in McKinney. In January 1864 Collin County Sheriff James L. Read, along with his cousin and former chief justice of Collin County J. M. McReynolds and Joseph E. Holcomb, rode into McKinney from the southwest with a posse of twenty-six men to find the killers of Lackey. Sixteen men supposedly of Quantrell's army were on the porch of the Tucker Hotel, which was on the northeast corner of the McKinney square.

At that time there was no courthouse on the square. The old wooden courthouse had been moved to a side street around 1862. Great piles of stone had been heaped upon the square for the new courthouse. The war started before the construction began. A gun battle ensued across piles of rock and stone in the square.

The sheriff's posse was armed with shotguns while Quantrell's men had long range rifles. Read's men retreated to an old mill a few blocks down the street and barricaded themselves inside. During the night Sheriff Read, McReynolds, Holcomb, and Davis left for East Texas. They sought protection with the civil authorities in Tyler. They were turned over to Quantrell's men and a mob instead.

After a kangaroo court, Sheriff James Read, J. M. McReynolds and Joseph E. Holcomb were ordered to be hanged for being Confederate deserters or "Union sympathizers." Sheriff Read had served in the Confederacy but he was considered a deserter anyway.

The mob had only one rope with which to hang the three prisoners. Sheriff Read was hanged first, cursing Quantrell to his last breath. McReynolds was second. Holcomb was third. Before Davis could be hanged, some of his relatives intervened on his behalf.

In southeastern McKinney around Finch Park was an overgrown area called as Jernigan's swamp. It was a favorite hideout for deserters and renegades, who stole from the local residents. The residents appealed to Quantrell for help. He flushed forty men out of the swamp and hanged them on the courthouse grounds.

Around Christmas of 1863, a party was being held at Rhea Mills (Rheas Mill) by Union sympathizers. During the war the mill made wool cloth for Union uniforms. Quantrell's men raided the party, stealing all of the food. They brought the food to the courthouse square for the local populace to enjoy. The people were too afraid of the Raiders to partake of the feast.

In March of 1864 Gen. McCulloch had Captain Quantrell arrested for murder. He and his band escaped back to Missouri. Quantrell himself died in 1865 in Kentucky in a prison camp. (There is a theory that he escaped, changed his name, and survived many more years.)

Several members of Quantrell's gang frequented Collin County for many years after the war. They had relatives and friends from Missouri living in the county, who hid them and protected them from law enforcement. Jesse and Frank James took part in the riding and shooting events at the Collin county fairs. After the death of Jesse, Frank James reformed. At one time he worked at Sanger Brothers department store in Dallas.

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## Quantrell & Collin County (continued)

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Belle Starr was born Isabel Shirley and was related to the Shirleys of Anna, Texas. She and her husbands were frequently in the Collin/Dallas area.

The Civil War was a turbulent time in American history. Many acts of violence and lawlessness continued until the 1870s. It took several years before peace and order could be restored to Texas.

### NGS Conference

The National Genealogical Society is holding its annual conference in Kansas City, Missouri May 14-17, 2008. The conference flyer is available on line at the NGS website—<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/AnnualConference.cfm>

Conferences are a great place to learn about genealogy, meet other genealogists, visit vendors and learn about what is new. If you have ancestors in the Kansas City area, why not combine the conference with a research trip. The Early Bird deadline for registering is March 31st.

### Kansas Memory Collection

The Kansas Memory Collection is the largest collection of photographs, maps, books and documents from Kansas. It was created by the Kansas State Historical Society to share its collection. The collection is broken into categories including People, Places, Transportation, Military, Time Period, Home & Family, Government & Politics, Environment, Education, Date, Community Life. Visit their website at <http://www.kansasmemory.org/>

### Research Buzz

This website contains news about search engines, databases, and other information collections. Visit it frequently to keep up to date on the latest developments.

<http://www.researchbuzz.org/wp/>

### Census Collection Donation

Thanks to Aaron Holt, our speaker in February, the Haggard Library Genealogy Section is receiving a nearly complete census collection on microfilm which includes 1790 through 1930 for all states except Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maine and Vermont.

### Collection of Books Donated

John W. Pritchett, our speaker in January, donated a collection of books on Virginia Genealogy worth over \$7,000 to the Haggard Library Genealogy Section. Members of Gen Friends picked up the eleven boxes of books and transported them to the library.

The collection includes books on the following Virginia Counties: Amelia, Amherst, Bedford, Brunswick, Caroline, Cumberland, Elizabeth, Essex, Greensville, Halifax, Hanover, Louisa, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, Nottoway, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Richmond, and Southampton. The collection also includes compiled family histories and journals of Virginia Genealogical Societies.

### Legacy Users Group

Joanne Corney started a Legacy Family Tree users group. The group will meet the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Haggard Library in the Program Room from 10:30 to 12:30. Contact Joanne at [ptxlegacyug@verizon.net](mailto:ptxlegacyug@verizon.net) for more information.