



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
May 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:

May 21, 2011—Marilyn Waligore, teaches the History of Photography at UTD. She's going to enlighten us about early photographs. Join us to learn if that image you have of your ancestor is a daguerreotype, an ambrotype, or a tin type.

Future Topics:

June 18, 2011—Barbara Brixy Wiley is our speaker. Her topics will be "Curlicues & Chicken Scratch: Reading Yesterday's Handwriting" and "Was Your Grandmother a Relict? What Do Those Old Words Mean?"

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.

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**—topics and speakers will be announced soon

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.

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.

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

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Research Interests

We are adding a new section to our Website where we will post research interests of our members with their contact information. This is a great way to connect with others who are researching the same families, who knows someone might have the clue you need to break through that brick wall.

If you are interested in having your research interests included send the surname, location where they lived, date range they were there and your contact information to Barbara Coakley at newsletter@genealogyfriends.org.

Information will be compiled and posted every two weeks.

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.

Her columns are also available in the column archives at <http://tracingourroots.weebly.com/>

Newsletter Articles

We need your stories to put in our newsletter.

Have you found an interesting record? Did you solve a problem recently?

Write a story about one of your ancestors. 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

Upcoming Collin County Events

The Cemetery Associations of Murphy is planning its 4th annual Memorial Day Celebration on May 28th at the Maxwell/Murphy Cemetery. It starts at 9:30 am. Local students will give tours of the cemetery. The Sons of Confederate Veterans will be there and give a 21 gun salute and a roll call of fallen soldiers for all veterans buried in the cemetery, not just the Confederates. It is impressive. The Order of the Confederate Rose Ladies will place red roses on each veterans grave. Contact jfarrgo@verizon.net for directions to the cemetery.

The Collin County Farm Museum in McKinney is celebrating the 100th birthday of their 1911 Model T Ford on May 21 from 10-2. Rides will be given in the car. Contact jfarrgo@verizon.net for directions to the Farm Museum.

USCIS Genealogy Program

The US Citizenship and Immigration Service is a fee-for-service program providing family historians with timely access to historical immigration and naturalization records of deceased immigrants. Records available:

- Naturalization Certificate Files from September 27, 1906 to April 1, 1956
- Alien Registration Forms from August 1, 1940 to March 31, 1944.
- Visa files from July 1, 1924 to March 31, 1944
- Registry Files from March 2, 1929 to March 31, 1944

They offer two services:

Index Search—based on biographical information supplied in your request, USCIS searches its historical immigration and naturalization record indices. With this info you can request the records listed above. Fee \$20

Record Copy Request—with valid file numbers you can request copies. Fee \$20/\$35 depends on record
<http://www.uscis.gov/USCIS/Genealogy/genealogy%20brochure%203-09.pdf>

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.

Join Genfriends

Please consider joining Genealogy Friends. The money we raise is used to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library. Individual memberships are \$30 and family memberships are \$50. Dues year runs from October 1 to September 31.

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 Friends Donation

On April 16, 2011 Gen Friends presented a check for \$10,000 to the Genealogy, Local History, Texana and Archives Division of Plano Public Library System to cover the cost of purchasing Collin County Court Records on over 200 rolls of microfilm.

Westminster College

By Joy Gough

In 1887 Rev. J. M. Harder founded a school of higher learning in Northeast Collin County known as Seven Points College. The surrounding community was also called Seven Points. Five years later, in 1892, the school was sold to I. P. Rosser, and then to the Methodist Protestant Church. The Methodists changed the name of the school to Westminster College. The local community also changed its name to Westminster.



In 1902 the Methodists sold the school to Westminster Baptist. After the Westminster Baptist Church sold the school to the Collin County Baptist Association, the name of the school was changed to the North Texas Baptist Academy and later to Westminster Baptist Academy. The Baptist Association hired C. W. Bulger and Sons to design a 3-story concrete building with fifty (50) rooms that housed all of the classrooms, plus dormitory rooms, a cafeteria, an auditorium and other facilities for its students. Room and board was \$10 a month and tuition for seniors was \$4 a month.

Westminster College was a co-ed college preparatory school that was correlated with Baylor University. Its graduates were guaranteed admission as freshmen into Baylor. Courses offered were English, mathematics, geography, science, and history, plus Latin, Greek, German, violin, organ, piano, elocution, and physical education. Charles Thompson was the principal and Rev. Joseph Pearce was the Bible instructor. He was also the pastor of the Westminster Baptist Church.

In 1917 the school closed. The Westminster Baptist Church used the building until 1972, when it built a new sanctuary. The old school building was demolished around 1975 after the church tried unsuccessfully to sell it.

More Civil War Websites

FamilySearch is providing free access to Civil War Era Records <https://www.familysearch.org/civil-war>

Letters written home by Civil War soldiers are a great source of accounts from the era. We may not all be able to find letters written by our ancestors so look for letters written by a man who served in the same unit of fought in the same battle. Manuscript collections are a good place to start. Here's a blog entry about one collection, <http://www.historyhappenshere.org/archives/5616>

Footnote.com offers free access to photographs of the Civil War taken by Matthew Brady. They include photos of the ruins of Richmond, Virginia after the Union soldiers captured and burned the city. Richmond was named the Capital of the Confederacy on May 29, 1861. <http://www.footnote.com>

1940 Federal Census

The 1940 census will be released digitally on April 2, 2012. Population census records are private for 72 years for privacy reasons. The images will be accessible on the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) website; however, there will be no index. Now is the time to start getting ready so you can find your ancestors.

Getting Ready to Search the Census

Here are a few things you can do to get ready for the release:

1. Make a list of your ancestors.
2. Collect their addresses from sources like City Directories or Civil Records (Marriage, Birth, and Death Certificates). The addresses will help you locate the enumeration district where your ancestor lived. This will narrow the pages you need to search since there is no index.
3. Identify the Enumeration District (ED) based on the address.

- What is an enumeration district? The area that was canvassed by a single census taker (enumerator) for that census. They can vary in size from one city block in a densely populated area to an entire county in a sparsely populated rural area.
- Use the tools available on Steve Morse's website—<http://stevemorse.org/census/index.html?year=1940> To find the ED Description Utility for 1940, select the state you are searching from the drop down list and then the county. If you are searching a large city use the Large City finder <http://stevemorse.org/census/index.html?year=1940> On this screen, select the state, city, street where your ancestor lived, then select a cross street. Using a local map will help you determine the cross street, Steve has a link to Google Maps, Yahoo and MapQuest on the site. This site is not complete yet, you can volunteer to help enter data. Click on the link at the top of the pages.

If you can't find an address for your ancestor in 1940 but have located them on the 1930 census and you believe that they didn't move use the convertor on Steve Morse's website—<http://stevemorse.org/census/ed2040.php?year=1940> . Select a state from the drop down list, select the enumeration district where they were on the 1930 census, the ED(s) that contain the same area on the 1940 census will be displayed.

- Use NARA microfilm publication T1224, Descriptions of Census Enumeration Districts, 1830-1950 (155 rolls), which contains text descriptions of the enumeration districts used by the Bureau of the Census in 1940. The 1940 census descriptions are on rolls 91-118. To use this film, find the roll for the state where your ancestor lived, find the county where your ancestor lived, use the descriptions of the district boundaries and a map of the area to determine which district to search to locate your ancestor. Here is a link to more information about this publication <http://www.archives.gov/research/microfilm/t1224.pdf> . The microfilm is available at the National Archives at Ft. Worth, you can order it from the Family History Library and use it at a local Family History Center, you can purchase the roll of film on the NARA website (www.archives.gov).
- Use NARA microfilm publication A3378 Enumeration District Maps for the Twelfth through the Sixteenth Censuses of the United States, 1900-1940 (73 rolls). This film is arranged by state and then by census. Find the state then the 1940 maps. Locate where your ancestor lived by searching the maps. Here is a link to more information about this publication <http://www.archives.gov/research/microfilm/a3378.pdf> . This film is available at the same sources as T1224.

Once you have the enumeration districts located you will be ready to search the images efficiently when they become available. Since there is no index, you'll have to locate the ED number and read the pages one at a time until you locate your ancestor. Or you could be patient and wait for one of the big pay sites to produce an index. We should start a pool

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1940 Federal Census, continued

(Continued from page 5)

on who will finish first and how long it will take.

Questions Asked on the 1940 Census

In addition to the information about the location of the household, the names, ages, sex, etc. individuals over the age of 14 were asked questions about their employment. This was the first census where sampling was used; those names that were listed on lines 14 and 29 were asked fifteen supplementary questions. There is also an indication of who provided the information for the first time and provides residence information for 1935 as well as the information as of April 1, 1940.

You can read the instructions to the census takers <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/inst1940.shtml> and here is a link to a form <http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/genealogy-fair/2011/handouts/1940-census-3of4-form-template.pdf>

Here are the questions the census taker was supposed to obtain answers to:

Location—street, avenue, road and house number (in cities and towns)

Household Data—number of household visited, owned (O) or rented (R), value of home if owned, monthly rent if rented, does this household live on a farm

Name—of each person whose usual place of residence on April 1, 1940 was this household. If someone was temporarily living elsewhere they should have Ab after their name and an X should be placed after the name of the person furnishing the information.

Relation—relationship to the head of household

Personal Description—sex, color or race, age at last birthday, and marital status

Education—attended school or college since March 1, 1940 yes or no and highest grade completed

Place of Birth—if born in the US give state, if foreign born give the country in which the birthplace was located as of January 1, 1937; also citizenship for those foreign born.

Residence on April 1, 1935—should indicate same house if it was the same address, same place if a different house but same city or town, should contain the city or town, county and state if a different place

Employment Status (persons 14 years and older) - Were they seeking work and did they have a job, business, etc. If they answered no to both questions it should indicate if they were engaged in home housework (H), in school (S), unable to work (U) or other (O); number of hours worked during the week of March 24-30, 1930; for those with a job their occupation, industry and class of worker should be included; number of weeks worked in 1939; Income in 1939

Supplementary Questions for persons listed on line 14 and 29 of each page (about 5% of the population)

Name, place of birth of father and mother (location as of January 1, 1937), language spoken in earliest childhood; veterans were asked what war or military service, did they have a social security number, did they have Federal Old-Age Insurance or Railroad Retirement deducted from their paycheck in 1929, the occupation the person considered their usual occupation or at which they worked the longest during the past 10 years, and for women who were or had been married their age at first marriage and number of children born to them (not including stillbirths).

Here is a link to a 1940 Census site <http://www.1940census.net/index.php> and to more information on the NARA site <http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/finding-aids.html>.

If you get started now you'll be ready to search for your family on April 2, 1912 when the images are released.

Visit to UTA

Our program last month was presented by Brenda McClurkin, the archivist of the manuscript collection at the University of Texas at Arlington. Brenda has offered us a tour of the collection. If you are interested email newsletter@genealogyfriends.org.

Here is a link to the guide to their collection
<http://libraries.uta.edu/speccoll/findaids/guideHist1.htm>

World Memory Project

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum has partnered with Ancestry.com to create World Memory Project. The project is designed to build the world's largest online resource for information about victims of the Holocaust. This is a site for volunteers to index records that have been digitized by the US Holocaust Memorial Museum using free software created by Ancestry.com. The documents will be searchable on Ancestry.com for free as collections are completed. If you are interested in indexing, here is their website
<http://www.worldmemoryproject.org/>

Legacy Genealogy Cruise

The 2011 Legacy Genealogy Cruise will feature Thomas MacEntee. The cruise takes place September 29-October 8, 2011 to New England and Eastern Canada.
http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/CruiseInfo_2011.asp

Ordering FHL Microfilm

The Family History Library is rolling out a new feature on FamilySearch.org. In Utah, and soon in the rest of the US, you can order microfilm from the Family History Library from home. The film/fiche will be delivered to a Family History Center near you and you will be notified when it arrives. You go to the Family History Center to use the film/fiche. You'll need to create a free account to be able to use this service once it has been rolled out to us here in Texas. I can't wait. Just one more thing FamilySearch is doing to make researching easier.

Websites

Shtetl Seeker—Town Search is a database containing names of locations in Central and Eastern Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia—both new and old. Use it to locate the towns where your ancestors came from.
<http://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocTown.asp>

Ordering Microfilm from the Family History Library is not available online. Search the library catalog, locate the film you need, place your order and the film will be delivered to the Family History Center of your choice. There is a small charge for postage.

<https://film.familysearch.org/>

Scotland's 1911 Census was released in April. Information about accessing the census are available on ScotlandsPeople website. They also have statutory, old parish and catholic registers, wills and more census records.
<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/Content/Help/index.aspx?r=546&2066>

The General Registrar Office merged with the National Archives of Scotland and are now called the National Records of Scotland. They hold records from the 12th Century to present.
<http://www.nas.gov.uk/>

Virtual Mitchell brings Glasgow's past to life for you with their digital collections.

<http://www.mitchelllibrary.org/virtualmitchell/index.php>

The National Archives in Washington, DC held a Genealogy Fair in April. Handouts from the program are available on their website. You can learn about a variety of resources at NARA.

<http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/genealogy-fair/2011/handouts/>



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