



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

October 2004

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

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl>

<http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl>

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txcolli3>

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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.

November 20, 2004 - Learn to publish your genealogy finds on the Internet using Front Page - John Darrouzet

December 18, 2004 - Annual Show and Tell—Show off your findings

January 15, 2005 - Planning a Research Trip by Barbara Coakley, Lynne Darrouzet, and Brenda Kellow.

February 19, 2005 - Brenda Kellow will discuss Lineage Societies and National Conferences (NGS & FGS)

March 19, 2005 - State Libraries and State Archives by Lynne Darrouzet

April 16, 2005 - All day seminar. Gerry Haggard will do a presentation on writing.

May 21, 2005 - Researching at the Library of Congress & Using NUCMC by Barbara Coakley

June 18, 2005 - Weldon Fincher will discuss PERSI and Stella Fincher will discuss Changing Borders and Boundary Lines

July 16, 2005 - Learn about using Inter Library Loan and WebCat with librarian Cheryl Smith

August 20, 2005 - Marta Demaree will talk to us about Reference Materials Available in the Library

September 17, 2005 - All day seminar. Topic to be announced

October 15, 2005 - Clare Molina will discuss Computer Mail Lists and Brenda Kellow will discuss Non Population Census Schedules.

November 19, 2005 - Family Reunions and Newsletters will be the topic of the presentation by Brenda Kellow and Barbara Coakley.

December 17, 2005 - Join us for our annual Show and Tell.

Annual Meeting

The Gen Friends Annual Meeting, including election of officers, will be held Monday night, October 18th at Texas Land and Cattle Company located at 3945 Central Expressway (southbound service road juts south of Legacy), Plano, TX 75023. Phone Number 972-578-8707. We will meet at 6:30 for drinks and we will order dinner off the regular menu at 7 p.m.

If you are planning on attending, please email Brenda at genfriends@comcast.net

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 Pat Mitchell.

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. Current Opportunities Include:

- Help is needed to continue to index the 1930 Census for Collin County. The indexes are posted on our web site to enable researchers to more easily find their families. We will provide a CD containing the Census and the format for the Excel or Open Office Spreadsheet where the data is entered.
- Volunteers are needed for all facets of the Lock Ins including refreshments, manning stations, sharing information or experiences, and registration. If you can help contact Joyce Kaplan.

Newsletter Articles

Help keep our newsletter interesting:

- Have you found an unusual record during your search?
- How did you solve that last really tough problem?
- Have you discovered a fantastic web site?

Submit the idea or write an article and submit it to be published in the newsletter.

Email submissions and ideas for articles to Barbara Coakley at bjc1620@hotmail.com.

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	\$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	\$10

Tracing Our Roots Column

The "Tracing Our Roots" column by Brenda Kellow 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>.

Dues Are Due

Our fiscal began October 1st which means it is time to pay your dues for 2005.

Regular dues are Single: \$30. Family: \$50. Friend: \$100; Gold: \$500; Platinum: \$1000. We currently have over 70 members.

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.

Web Sites

The University of Connecticut Libraries has a digital map collection available on their web site.

http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/cgi-bin/MAGIC_HistList.pl

The Veterans Administration has a web site

http://www.index.va.gov/search/va/va_search.jsp

If you need help citing a source check out Landmark's Citation Machine. There is a template you fill out that creates the citation for you.

http://www.landmark-project.com/citation_machine/index.php

Long Island University also has a section on their web page with information on citations.

<http://www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citation.htm>

The Kingwood College Library web site contains pages for each decade in the 19th and 20th centuries. The sub headings are Art & Architecture, Business and the Economy, Books, Migration & Immigration, Education, News, Music and Theatre, Past Times, Social History, and Science and Technology. It is a great place to find out what life was like when your ancestors' lived.

<http://kclibrary.nhmccd.edu/19thcentury1840.htm>

Southeastern Genealogy is an Online source for free genealogical information on records and links for the Southeastern U.S. Including information on courthouse records, churches, cemeteries, societies, military records and units, vital records information and much more. States including Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia

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

LINKPENDIUM. Explore this genealogical information directory by surname and U.S. localities. Add your own or favorite website to its growing collection, which currently features more than 1,045,631 links.

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

ENGLAND. Further update of the index to local 18th- and 19th-century newspapers; now contains almost 29,000 names with the addition of another 27 issues of the Salisbury and Winchester Journal (mainly from 1818), which cover Wiltshire, Hampshire, Dorset, Somerset, plus 10 others -- mainly some Northampton Mercury's (covering Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire). This update

includes the usual suspects plus a blend of local adverts (from tradesmen, parish officials, etc), and the usual local news (inquests, lists of marriages and deaths, court cases, individuals to be transported, etc.). Also updated is the "favourite" section, which contains a small selection of some stories taken from the papers. Click on the link to: Local Newspapers Index (excluding Windsor and Eton Express) at:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~dutilleul/index.html>

BRITISH MARITIME HISTORY. Genealogical guides for researching mariners in both the British merchant service and the Royal Navy (the former from 1835 and the latter from 1793) are available at:

<http://www.barnettresearch.freerve.co.uk/>

Thanks to Jean Funk and Bill Walton for submitting web site information.

Texas State Archives & Library Hours

Most Austin offices and collections of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission are open Monday through Friday 8-5. The Genealogy Collection is open Tuesday through Saturday 8-5 (closed on Mondays).

Thanks to Weldon Fincher for this information.



Heaven on Earth—Attending National Genealogy Conferences

Austin, Texas was the site of the national conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) from Wednesday, September 8th through the Saturday, September 11th. Gen Friends was well represented at the Conference. National Conferences are wonderful places to learn, network, and shop for Genealogical materials.

Learn—On Wednesday, you have a choice of attending tracks on Society Support, Beginning Research, or Family History Centers. There are 5 sessions in each track, during each session you can attend any one of 6 lectures. There are also luncheon sessions that can be attended for an additional fee.

The Association of Professional Genealogists also holds their annual Management Conference on Wednesday. The lectures included focus on topics of interest to genealogists who take clients, lecture, teach or are thinking about any of the aforementioned. There is an added fee for the Management Conference.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday follow much the same format as Wednesday. After an opening session on Thursday and a break to shop, we'll talk about that later, you have a choice of 7 different lectures every 1 1/2 hours. Subjects are varied and there are sessions at all different levels. You can learn about new kinds of records or more about a record group you have already worked with. What better way to generate ideas to break down brick walls? I keep a page in my notebook of research ideas and things to add to my research to do list when I get home.

In case there are two lectures at the same time and you have to choose one, you can order a cassette tape of many of the lectures from Repeat Performance. Those that won't be taped are flagged in the program to help you decide which sessions to attend.

Presenters are a combination of nationally known and local lecturers. The syllabus includes biographies of the speakers and handouts for the lectures to help you decide which sessions to attend.

After most lectures, the presenter is more than happy to answer questions. If you have a question specific to your research or want more information on the subject you can talk to the presenter after the lecture. They are often in the room before the lecture starts and you can talk to them then also.

Network—Each day there are also lunches featuring speakers sponsored by various organizations. There is an additional fee. They are a great place to meet other genealogists.

There are also 1/2 hour breaks between sessions. You can use this time to talk to the people around you. They have come to the same lecture so they probably have an interest in the subject you thought sounded interesting.

If you don't want to attend the lunches, you might want to eat at a nearby restaurant. I have often shared tables with others attending the conference and gotten to know them just because we were standing in line waiting for a table.

Once you meet other genealogists, national conferences are a great place to get reacquainted. Email friends and arrange a place and time to meet or exchange cell phone numbers, it may be difficult to just bump into them when there are hundreds of people attending the conference.

Shopping— Now we get to my favorite part, the vendors. There are companies selling everything you can think of related to genealogy. My favorites are the book vendors. They are all there, big and small. Often we have to order books over the internet or from a catalog with only a few sentence description to make the buy or not to buy decision. Not here, you can look through books before you buy. Often new books are released shortly before the conference so it is a good place to find new items. Ancestry was selling the new edition of the Red Book in Austin.

There are also representatives from many genealogical societies at the conference. You can ask questions about the benefit of membership in their societies, what tools they can provide, if they offer research services, etc. There are also specialized societies like the society for genealogy writers or professional genealogists.

Software vendors were also well represented, you could learn about many genealogy programs. It is a great place to get a look at software programs or make suggestions to those that maintain the software you use.

There were also vendors selling items to display your research. One was selling a kit to transfer your favorite pictures on to a wall hanging. Another sold beautiful five generation and fan charts.

If you arrive at the conference via airplane, it might be difficult to get your purchases home. Often there is a representative from a shipping company or a mail box store, to pack and ship your purchases home. Another way to handle transporting purchases is to pack an empty bag in your luggage which can be filled up for the return trip. In Austin, one

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Gen Friends 3rd Annual Research Retreat

Mark your calendars. The 3rd Annual Research Retreat to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah will be January 30 to February 6, 2005.

Join us for a fabulous week of research and companionship with fellow genealogy enthusiasts.

- Research in the largest genealogy library in the United States with your colleagues.
- Family History Collection has been moved to the FHL Library building.
- Library Orientation by FHL Staff on Monday morning.
- Retreat includes a lecture on US Immigration Records by a professional genealogist.
- Individual and group assistance will be available from veteran researchers.

We have had a great time the last two years. Everyone returned with new information about ancestors. Plan on joining us.

Fees: Members \$80.00 per person or pay \$100 for both 2005 membership and the Retreat.

Collin County Historic Photographs Web Site

Members of GenFriends are contributing photographs of Collin County to the newest Gen Friends web site *Collin County, Texas Past Finders Photo Collection*. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txcolli3>. The web site now contains over 2,700 photographs. Categories include Cemeteries,

Churches, Schools, People, Places, and Tombstones. If you would like to contribute photos of Collin County subjects, contact Joy at jfarrgo@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 Joy Gough at jfarrgo@comcast.net.

Professional Genealogists Top Web Sites

A vote was taken among Professional Genealogists and the following web sites were the winners:

1. www.ancestry.com
2. www.familysearch.org
3. www.rootsweb.com
4. www.cyndislist.com
5. www.usgenweb.org
6. www.heritagequestonline.com
7. www.genealogy.com
8. www.google.com
9. www.glorerecords.blm.gov
10. www.ellislandrecords.com
11. www.archives.gov
12. www.stevemorse.org
13. www.itd.nps.gov/cwss
14. www.worldgenweb.org

Upcoming Gen Friends Events

Mark your calendars for these exciting upcoming events.

Library Lock Ins	October 29, 2004
	February 11, 2005
	May 13, 2005
	July 8, 2005
	October 28, 2005
Board Meetings	January 18, 2005
	March 15, 2005
	July 19, 2005

History & Genealogy Web Site

Members of Genealogy Friends are contributing to a new web site—History and Genealogy for the Active Researcher located at <http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl>.

The goal is to expand the knowledge of those researching in Collin County and North Texas.

Check out the timeline—a daily calendar of events in Collin County through the years.

Education Opportunities

2004

October 21 to December 16, Genealogy II taught by Lynne Darrouzet at Collin County Community College Courtyard Center Campus. Register on the CCCC web site—[http://website www.ccccd.edu/ce](http://website.www.ccccd.edu/ce)

October 30, Oklahoma, Tahlequah, The Cherokee National Historical Society, Inc. announces a fall workshop "Preserving Your Family Photographs." For more information, see the society's Web site <http://www.cherokeeheritage.org> or e-mail genealogy@cherokeeheritage.org.

2005

January 20-22, National Genealogy Society presents "Warm Up Your Research" in Phoenix, Arizona. Speakers include Elizabeth Shown Mills, Tom Jones, and J. Mark Lowe. An online registration form will be available soon on the NGS web site <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/edutripsphoenix.htm>

February 5, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Claire Mire Bettag.

March 5, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Emily Croom.

April 2, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Dr. Thomas W Jones.

June 1-4, National Genealogy Society Conference in the States and Gentech will be held in Nashville, Tennessee.

June 9-11, Palatines to America National Conference Fort Wayne, Indiana will be held at the Hilton Hotel and Grand Wayne Convention Center. The program will include German, American and Internet research subjects.

September 7-10, Federation of Genealogy Societies National Conference will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah

Genealogy II Class at CCCD

Would you like to learn more about genealogical research methods?

Would you like to learn more about how to use land, tax, probate, court, military, immigration and naturalization, church and cemetery records?

Would you like to learn how to get past those brick walls in your research?

Then sign up for Genealogy II at Collin County Community College. The next class starts October 21 at 6:30 pm at the Preston Ridge Campus in Frisco, Texas. Taught by Lynne Darrouzet, JD, CGRS, the class is designed for advanced beginner to intermediate level researchers, even those who haven't taken the first class.

For more information go to http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl/cc_genealogy_classes/cccd_genealogy_courses.htm or email the instructor at ldarrouzet@unlockthepast.com. Note: If you tried to register for this class between August 23 and September 23, a glitch in the CCCCD system showed this class was cancelled, but it is open.

Legislature to Limit Access to Birth Records

From Ancestry's online newsletter:

Immediate Action Requested

FGS Recommends Writing to Your Congressional Representatives

The U.S. House of Representatives is considering a bill, House Resolution 10 (H.R. 10), which seeks to restrict access to birth certificates. This bill, which purpose is to respond to the threat of terrorism, is on a fast track to passage and has been voted on by several committees already. Your help is needed now.

David Rencher, Chairman of the Record Access and Preservation Committee, a joint committee of the National Genealogical Society and Federation of Genealogical Societies, has sent a letter to the bill's sponsor, Congressman Dennis Hastert, recommending an amendment to the bill as follows:

"However, nothing in this Chapter 2 shall be construed to require a State to change its law with respect to public access to (A) non-certified copies of birth certificates, or to (B) birth certificates or birth records once a period of 100 years has elapsed from the date of creation of the certificate or record."

A copy of the letter is available on the FGS site at www.fgs.org/rpa/formalactions.htm.

To view this bill, go to <http://thomas.loc.gov>.
Enter HR 10 in the search box for "Bill Number."

Action Is Needed Now

Because this bill is moving toward passage so quickly, it is urged that the genealogical community take action immediately and let their representatives know that they are in support of David Rencher's amendment and the FGS position in this important matter. To find your state representative's contact information, go to www.house.gov/writerep/.

How Should I Word My Letter?

While you should word the letter in any way that is comfortable for you, it is recommended that you include the following as a portion of the letter:

"While I support the intention to increase security to protect the U.S. from terrorists and those who wish to improperly take U.S. identities, I am concerned that those researching their family's history continue to have access to non-certified birth records.

Therefore, in order to support HR-10 I ask that you amend HR-10 Section 3063(d)(2) by adding the following wording to the existing paragraph:

'However, nothing in this Chapter 2 shall be construed to require a State to change its law with respect to public access to (A) non-certified copies of birth certificates or to (B) birth certificates or birth records once a period of 100 years has elapsed from the date of creation of the certificate or record.'

I believe that this additional language is imperative so that the states do not react by restricting all certificates to comply with the law, rather than dealing with certified as opposed to non-certified birth certificates. This proposed amendatory language would remind them that they can and should be treated differently."

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smart vendor was selling expandable, rolling bags which some of my colleagues purchased.

National conferences are the best place I have found to continue my education, meet others with the same interest and expand my collection of genealogical materials. It is emersion in genealogy for four full days, now that's heaven on earth for me. I return home enthusiastic about research and full of new ideas and research possibilities.