



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
August 2011

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

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

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

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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:

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.

Future Topics:

August 25, 2011—Dining Out—Carrabba's Italian Grill, 3400 North Central Expressway, Plano. Cost is \$25. See Page 5 for details

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 Court-house.

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.

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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 II—Intermediate Genealogy will be offered at Collin College (CCCC) on Tuesday nights (September 20 to November 8) at Courtyard Campus from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. In this class, Barbara Coakley, the instructor, dives into records we use to piece together our family history. Learn how to find and evaluate land records, immigration and naturalization records, court records, probate records, military records, and more. To register visit <http://www.collin.edu/ce/>

Tracing Our Roots Column

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

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



Websites & Genealogy News

If you haven't tried out the search engine Mocavo you need to try it. Mocavo.com is a free genealogy search engine that searches genealogy message boards, society web pages, state historical societies, family societies, Find-a-Grave, the Internet Archive, Ellis Island, Library of Congress, and many, many more sites where we might find our ancestors. You can search on individuals or couples (put both their names in quotes in the search box—"paul brey" "sophia durfee").

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

Complete Planet also has a genealogy specialty search engine

<http://aip.completeplanet.com>

Footnote.com is now fold3. They are focusing on military records so they wanted a name that would reflect military history and honor. Traditionally, the third fold in a flag-folding ceremony honors and remembers veterans for their sacrifice in defending their country and promoting peace in the world. According to their blog, they will be adding records that are not available except at the National Archives in Washington DC including War of 1812 pension files and Mexican War service records. They don't plan on removing the non-military content with the exception of some newspapers so you can still access the city directories, naturalizations, native American records, and vital records.

<http://www.fold3.com/>

In last month's newsletter there were a number of websites listed for information on cemeteries. Here is another one. Resting Spot. It has a free iPhone app that uses GPS technology to record the location of graves and add photos. An android app will be available shortly.

Website <http://www.RestingSpot.com>

Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/pages/RestingSpot/217684168263834>

Have you hit a brick wall in your Swedish Research? A group of four Swedish genealogists will be touring the United States in September, 2011 to help Swedish-Americans locate their ancestors. They are making stops in Chicago, Denver, and Salt Lake City. If you are interested more information is available on their website.

<http://www.lilleskogen.se/>

The Swedish American Genealogist is a quarterly journal devoted to Swedish American biography, genealogy, and personal history. It is now available online as part of the CARLI collections

<http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/index.php> .

US Geological Survey has begun a project to convert historical topographic maps to digital format. They have a map of the US on their website that shows their progress.

<http://nationalmap.gov/historical/>

RosettaStone sells microchips that contain text, maps and photos and can be added to gravestones. The microchips are compatible with smart phones. You could put info about your ancestor on their tombstone for others to read.

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

FamilySearch has a YouTube channel where you can watch videos about genealogy research.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/familysearch>

Collin County Shootout

By Joy Gough

In 1935 Raymond Hamilton was the Southwestern Desperado No. 1 (a term used by local newspapers). Hamilton was an escapee from the Texas Death row and a member of Bonnie and Clyde's gang. Bonnie and Clyde were killed in 1934. Hamilton was following the pattern of the Barrow gang by robbing banks and armories and stealing cars. The preferred cars to steal were V8 Fords. Supposedly Clyde had written a letter to Henry Ford complimenting him on his Ford V8, which could outrun anything that law enforcement sent after him.

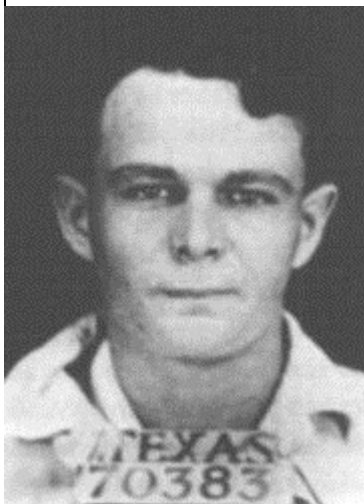
Part One – The Shootout

In February 1935 Hamilton robbed an armory in Beaumont, Texas. The guns were being hidden near McKinney by one of his associates. He made arrangements to get the guns on February 24 near McKinney.

On February 23, Hamilton met Ralph Fults in McKinney and convinced him to go to Tulsa for a day. Fults was a Collin County native and also a member of the Bonnie and Clyde gang. They spent the day in Tulsa, returning to Collin County late in the afternoon on February 24. They were driving a stolen 1935 grey Ford V8 coupe, referred to in the newspapers as "the V8 machine."



Raymond Hamilton



Ralph Fults

Hamilton and Fults traveled through Anna and were heading south on what is today SH 5. At that time it was called 75. The scheduled meeting place was a concrete culvert on the Weston Cutoff near a bridge over the East Fork of the Trinity River. The cutoff was about 1/4 mile long and connected Hwy 5 with the gravel-topped Chambersville/Weston Road. The rendezvous was scheduled for 7 p.m.

Hamilton was driving with Fults in the passenger seat. They had 2 Browning Automatic Rifles with them, although one was jammed. As the pair approached the culvert there were no signs of the people that they were supposed to meet. Fults became suspicious and told Hamilton to step on the gas. As they crossed the concrete culvert, eight law enforcement officers jumped out of the culvert and started shooting at the car with machine guns. Seventy rounds of ammunition were shot into the car.

The car continued about 30 yards to the iron bridge over the East Fork of the Trinity River. At that point it slowed down to almost a stop. Fults grabbed the BAR guns and returned fire at the officers. Then the car sped up and disappeared on down the road.

With 70 rounds of ammunition hitting the car, the engine was still running; Fults was untouched, although he later found 2 bullet holes in the brim of his hat; and a bullet grazed Hamilton on the forehead, momentarily stunning him (hence the car almost stopping).

About the same time that all of this was happening, sleet and rain started to fall. By the time the officers retrieved their cars from the hiding places, visibility was poor. The officers followed the road to Weston, about 10 miles, but never caught sight of Hamilton's vehicle.

Collin County law enforcement was called to task for the failed ambush. The governor wanted to know why the officers had not rounded up more than eight officers to capture this elusive fugitive. (This was the second ambush that Hamilton had survived.) The officers answered that they had called the Dallas Police to block the other end of the Weston Cutoff. The Dallas Police arrived about 10 minutes late and Hamilton had arrived about 10 minutes early.

Hamilton's car ran out of gas (possibly from a leaking fuel line) and was abandoned in Weston. It was later put on display in McKinney.

(Continued on page 5)

Collin County Shootout

By Joy Gough

(Continued from page 4)

Part 2 - The Kidnapping

Hamilton and Fults stopped a passing vehicle in Weston, stealing the car and kidnapping the driver. They stopped a second vehicle, doing the same thing. As they were driving west on the road between Weston and Celina, the sleet storm increased, limiting visibility. They picked a local farm house as a place to spend the night. Once inside the farm house, they tried to reassure the family that they didn't shoot poor people.

The farm family consisted of a father and mother, their son and his wife and a child. The lady of the house fixed dinner for everyone and treated Hamilton's forehead injury. The kidnapped boys were told to watch the windows to see if anyone approached the house.

The next day Hamilton and Fults took the 2 boys they had kidnapped the day before and the son of the farmer and drove west. They went to Fort Worth, driving through Denton first. Along the way they stopped for food and gasoline. They spent several hours in Fort Worth looking for another vehicle to steal. Once they found the Ford V8, they drove south to the vicinity of Mansfield. Hamilton and Fults told the boys they could go home. They asked the boys if they had enough money to return home. Hamilton said he only had \$10 in his wallet. He gave the boys \$2 and told them to keep quiet until they got home.

Hamilton was finally captured in April of 1935. Since he was an escapee from Death Row, he was executed in May. The state of Texas was not taking a chance that he might escape again.

Fults continued his life of crime. In September of 1935 he was captured in Mississippi and given a two 50-year sentences. Fults found religion in prison. After 9 years, a minister convinced the courts that Fults was not a threat to society any more. Fults was released from prison. He married and lived in that state for a number of years. After his father died in McKinney, Fults returned to Collin County. He spent the rest of his life as an inspirational speaker. He firmly believed that the reason he was the only member of Bonnie and Clyde's gang to survive was so he could spread the message to the younger generations that crime does not pay.



Bonnie & Clyde

Dining Out

Genealogy Friends is sponsoring Dining Out at Carrabba's Italian Grill located at 3400 North Central Expressway, Plano, Texas at 7:00 pm on Thursday, August 25, 2011. This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends or make new ones who also enjoy genealogy. \$5 of each meal purchased will be donated to Genealogy Friends. You can help us purchase materials for the Genealogy Local History Texana Archives at Haggard Library.

The cost is \$25 per person. You'll get your choice of entrees (Lasagna, Penne Carrabba, or Chicken Marsala), Caesar salad or soup of the day, fresh bread with herb mix and olive oil, an alcohol-free beverage, and a mini-dessert. Gratuity is included.

To make reservations mail a check made payable to Gen Friends to PO Box 860477, Plano, TX 75086-0477

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

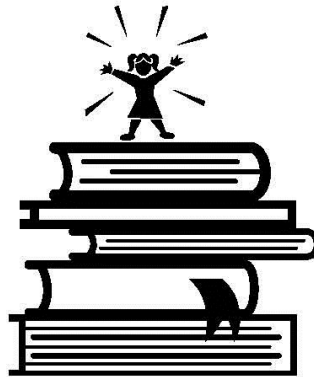
W O Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd, Plano

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

Technology & Genealogy

Technology can enable genealogy research. We still need to use sound research skills, document our sources, evaluate the records we find and analyze the information in the records. Technology can make it easier to determine what records are available, access the records, ask questions of experts, and share our findings with our families. Let's look at how technology can help us in our quest to discover our ancestors.

First you define a research goal—Did Julius Brey serve in the military? The first thing I need to figure out is what conflicts happened during Julius's life. He was born 29 January 1837 which means he would have been 24 when the Civil War started. There were more than 2,000,000 men who served in the Union Army and Navy. At Julius's age chances are good he served.

Footnote.com has the Civil War pension index cards so that is where I'll start. This is a great example of how technology makes it easier to access records. I can search this website from my home instead of going to the Southwest Regional archives in Ft. Worth to look at the microfilm.

results in