



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

December 2005

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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## Saturday Seminars, Field Trips & Lock Ins

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2006:

**January 21, 2006**—Dreanna Belden from University of North Texas will speak to us about “The Portal to Texas History Project” which offers a digital gateway to the rich collections held in Texas libraries, museums, archives, historical societies and private collections. We’ll learn about the origin, future goals and direction for the project as well as the technology and process involved in a digital collection.

**January 29-February 5, 2006**—Fourth Annual Research Retreat to Salt Lake City. See article on page 2.

**February 10, 2006**—Lock In—Breaking Down Brick Walls. See the article on page 2.

**February 18, 2006**—Jim Nyfeler, a member of the Advisory Council to the New England Historical and Genealogical Society will speak to us about resources available at NEHGS. The FGS Conference is in Boston in September, it would be a great time to visit the NEHGS Library in Boston and the conference in one trip.

**March 18, 2006**—Nygil Parker, an Archivist from the Southwest Regional Branch of the National Archives, will speak to us about the resources available at their facility in Ft. Worth. Come to the lecture to prepare for our field trip.

**April 3, 2006**—Field Trip to the Southwest Regional Branch of the National Archives. Details to be announced.

**April 15, 2006**—Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick, author of *Forensic Genealogy* will discuss what can be achieved by applying the investigative techniques of forensic science to genealogy. Her book will also be for sale at the seminar.

**May 20, 2006**—To be announced.

**June 17, 2006**—Jennifer Pitts will share her knowledge of Adobe Photoshop Elements - learn to perfect, transform, organize and share your photos like a pro.

**July 7, 2006**—Lock In—Little Used Sources. See the article on page 2.

**July 15, 2006**—Learn about 19th Century Funeral Customs from Carol Taylor, the head of a genealogy library who has been researching her family history for over thirty years.

**August 19, 2006**—To be announced

**September 16, 2006**—All Day Seminar—Lloyd Bockstruck will be speaking on Colonial Topics.

**October 21, 2006**—Thinking about joining a lineage society? Representatives from the Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Colonial Dames of the 17th Century, and more will tell us about their societies and answer our questions.

**October 27, 2006**—Lock In—Using Computers in Genealogy. See article on page 2.

**November 18, 2006**—Richard Preston will talk to us about Migration Patterns.

**December 16, 2006**—Annual Show and Tell.

**Research Retreats****2006—Salt Lake City**

The Fourth Annual Research Retreat to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City will be January 29th through February 5th. The fee is \$80 for members and \$100 for non-members (includes membership). Registration deadline is January 15th. The fee includes an Orientation to the Family History Library by library staff, a lecture on U.S. Court Records by a professional genealogist, individual and group consultations with experienced genealogists, and an opportunity to use the resources of the largest genealogy library in the world.

Further information and registration forms are available on our website at [www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl/).

**2007-Washington DC**

Genealogy Friends will be sponsoring a trip to Washington DC in October 2007. You will have an opportunity to research at the National Archives, Library of Congress and the Daughters of the American Revolution Library. Orientation sessions will be held at each institution. If you are interested please contact Barbara Coakley at [bjc1620@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bjc1620@sbcglobal.net). More information will be available at a later date.

**2006 Lock Ins**

Lock Ins are held at the Gladys Harrington Library. Registration begins at 5:30, the library closes to the public at 6:00. Suggested donation is \$10.00. Pizza, drinks and cookies are served at 7:00 for an additional \$4.00. Lock Ins are a great place to learn in small groups. Participate in classes, get help with a research consultation, or use the resources available to do your own research. A Plano Library Card and Internet Registration are required prior to 5:30 pm to use library computers.

**July 7th—Little Used Sources**

Classes include Institution and Coroners Records; Using Newspapers for More than Obituaries; Genealogy Journals—They can be useful even if your ancestor isn't mentioned; and Hiring a Professional Researcher.

**October 27th—Using Computers in Genealogy**

Classes to be determined.



## Library Lock In—February 10, 2006

### Breaking Down Brick Walls

Friday, February 10, 2006 from 6:00 to 11:00 P.M.

Gladys Harrington Library, 1501 E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Plano

#### **Topics offered for all levels of experience:**

- Analyzing Your Research, Part 1 and Part 2 – Learn how to review what you have found with a critical eye to determine what your next steps should be.
- Using Indirect Evidence to Prove Who Your Ancestor Was – Can't find a document that proves the relationship you are researching? Learn how to compile information from multiple sources to prove your theory.
- Getting More Out of Census Records – Census Records are a valuable record resource to document your families. Learn how to compare and analyze the information to make sound genealogical conclusions.
- Finding Ancestors Before 1850– Pre-1850 many of the records we use in later time periods to prove who our ancestors were are not available. Don't despair there are ways to find your ancestors before 1850. Join us to discover for some research tips and tricks.
- Private Consultations by appointment between 10:00 and 11:00 p.m.
- Internet Computers – Library Card and authorization required\*
- Open Research – Use the vast resources available at the Harrington Library to research your family.

#### **Details:**

Check-in at 5:30 P.M. The library closes to the public at 6:00.

Registration is a \$10.00 donation. Option: Pizza, cookie & beverage available for \$4.00. Additional beverages are \$.50 each.

Make checks payable to GenFriends. Pay at the door. Sorry, no credit or debit cards.

Forms are available at the library and/or print from the Gen/Friends website, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl/lockins.htm>. For further information contact: GenFriends at [genfriends@comcast.net](mailto:genfriends@comcast.net)

*NOTE: To use the Internet computers, you must have a library card and be authorized by the library prior to 5:30 P.M. on the evening of the lock-in.*

## 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

## 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 3,400 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](mailto:jfarrgo@comcast.net).

## 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.

## Microfiche Readers for Sale

ELECTRIC READERS FOR SALE: C.O.M. 1200 Micro Design Microfiche Reader, good condition: dual lens, with high, magnify, low viewing. DuKane Explorer 14 microfilm reader, in good condition, with high, medium, low viewing Both were used for indexing projects. \$200 each. Phone Brenda Kellow, 972-941-9280, or email [TraceRoots@comcast.net](mailto:TraceRoots@comcast.net)

## Publications For Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

<b>NEW</b> 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

## 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>.

## 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](mailto:jfarrgo@comcast.net).

**Collin County Bits— Collin County Place Names****By Joy Gough**

Have you ever wondered where some places get their names?

Some names are fairly obvious and some defy explanation. Some of the early communities in Collin County were named for where the first residents came from. These include Celina, Buckner, Culleoka, Mississippi, Illinois, Pike, Lebanon, and Nevada. Celina was named for Celina, Tennessee; Buckner for Buckner, Arkansas, hometown of John McGarragh; Culleoka, meaning sweet water, for Culleoka, Tennessee; the communities of Mississippi and Illinois were named for the states their early residents came from; Pike was named for Pike, Kentucky; Lebanon was named for Lebanon, Tennessee; Nevada got its name from Nevada, Missouri, pronounced Ne-vay-da.

Some names were physical descriptions. White Rock Creek (Collin County has 2, one of each side), Lone Elm, Walnut Grove, Brushy, Ticky, Muddy Creek, Blue Ridge, Rock Hill, Rat Road, Weed Patch, Pecan Grove, Snow Hill, Viney Grove, and Mustang Flats fit into this category. There was a Mesquite in Collin County near Copeville. The county had a Pleasant Grove, a Pleasant Hill, a Pleasant Ridge, and a Pleasant Valley. There was a Highland and a High Point.

Throckmorton Creek, Wilson Creek, Copeville, McKinney, Collin County, Murphy, Rowlett, Preston Road, Clements Creek, Rhea's Mill, and Chambersville were all named after early settlers. Two of Collin County's first residents were William E. Throckmorton and his son, James. When they came to Texas, their guide was Pleasant Wilson. James Cope and family settled Copeville. Murphy was named for William Murphy. Daniel Rowlett had one of the first headrights in the county. Rowlett Creek, which flows through his headright, empties into the East Fork of the Trinity River in the town of Rowlett. Preston Road was named for Capt. William G. Preston, who was in charge of Fort Preston which was in Grayson County on the Red River. Clements Creek was named for another early settler, Leroy Clements. In Rhea's Mill, known today as Rhea Mills, the Rhea family had a mill. Chambersville was named for Elisha Chambers. Collin County is the only county in Texas bearing a person's given name with the county seat, McKinney, using a surname – Collin McKinney. Brakebill Hill was actually named for the Brakebill family, just as Bridgefarmer was named for that family.

It was common for the railroads to name communities after their executives or benefactors. Anna and Melissa were named for the daughters of a train executive. Allen was named for Ebenezer Allen, who promoted the Houston and Texas Central Railroad, the first railroad in Collin County. Wylie was named for W. D. Wylie, an engineer for the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad. Renner was named for John A. Renner, who was in charge of building townsites for the Cottonbelt Railroad. Of course, Frisco was named for the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad. Josephine got its name from a daughter of J. C. Hubbard of the St. Louis and Southwestern Railroad (the Cottonbelt). Van Alstyne was a surveyor for the H& TC Railroad.

Several communities were named for churches: Wilson Chapel, Stiff Chapel, Fanny Harrington Chapel, North Church, Westminster, McMinn Chapel, Aston Chapel, Blythe Chapel, Coales Chapel, South Church, and Bomar Chapel are just some on them.

Certain events created the names for a few others. A bear was sighted to name Bear Creek. (Actually Collin County has two Bear Creeks.) Likewise for Panther Creek, Wolf Run Creek, and Alligator Hole. The Indians camped along Indian Creek. Pot Rack Creek was where pots were hung for the travelers to use. Desert was named when an early settler "deserted" his campsite because he thought he heard Indians. Lick Skillet was a stagecoach stop where the food was so good, the riders licked the skillet clean. There is a community named Crossroads on each side of the county. A couple of communities were named Possum Trot. Collin County had its share of communities describing what settlers hoped to find here: New Hope, Freegrass, Independence, Liberty, New Life, Friendship, Hopewell, New Prospect, and Harmony.

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## Web Sites

“Do It Yourself” Color-Coded State Maps let’s you select a state and label and color code groups of counties. US Maps can also be created by selecting states. These could be used for indicating where different individuals or families lived in a state.

<http://monarch.tamu.edu/~maps2/>

One Step Web Pages—Steven Morse has created alternative search engines for numerous on-line genealogy resources. Just a few include Ellis Island, Castle Garden, ship arrivals, census, etc.

<http://www.stevenmorse.org/>

Information Wanted is Boston College’s web site that allows you to search the “Missing Friends” column that appeared in the Boston Pilot newspaper from 1831 to 1921 searching for missing Irish friends and relatives that had emigrated to the US.

<http://infowanted.bc.edu/>



## Collin County Bits—Cont'd

*(Continued from page 5)*

Some names were unusual but can be explained: Dump, Rawhide, Cowskin, Graybill, Hide Out, Swayback, Ketch Any, Squeezepenny, Nickelville, Lick Springs, Hominyville, Rough and Ready, Who’d a Thought It, Monkey Run, Roland, and Sugar Hill. The mail was dumped at Dump. At Rawhide, the school had a rawhide door. Cowskins were hung outside in hopes that the wind in the skins would scare the panthers away. Dr. Holmes of Westminster had a gray horse named Bill. Early outlaws would “hide out” in the dense growth around Lebanon.

Swayback got its name because the church/school building was not built right and roof sagged in the middle. A farmer had two different kinds of chickens. When his son asked which chicken to catch for supper, he answered “Ketch Any.” Bill Harris was so tight with his money that he was said to squeeze pennies.

When the people in one area applied for a post office, they said no one in the area was worth a plug nickel. Animals would lick the salt deposit in the creek bank at Lick Springs. Hominyville was named because the mill did not grind the corn very fine.

When a large crowd gathered when the new school building was built and a fight broke out, the school was named Rough and Ready. Who’d a Thought that some people would hold a dance to raise money to build a church.

There were two Monkey Runs in the county. The kids would throw stones at passing travelers and then the monkeys would run away. Roland was actually named for the historical character who served under Charlemagne.

Sugar Hill’s name came from the general store having only sugar to sell at one time. Can you imagine telling people you graduated from the Rough and Ready School?

A few names defy description: Climax, Out of Sight, White Elephant, Altoga, Ardath, Long Neck, Lazy Neck, Backbone, Erudia, Frotnot, Lieu, Lint, Longstreet, Sister Grove, Pud Joplin Hole, Valdasta. Fortunately many of these names have faded into obscurity. I would not want to tell people I came from Hog Waller or Skunk Holler.

## New Additions to the Genealogy Collection, Gladys Harrington Library

The following books, CD's and microfilm are now available in the library:

- Climax, Texas – Of All Places GEN 976.4556 WAT
- The Bobo Coat of Arms GEN 929.2 BOB
- Cemeteries of Johnson County (Missouri) GEN 929.509778455 RAI
- Daily Journal of Samuel Agnew GEN 285.13 AGN
- The African American Family's Guide to Tracing Our Roots GEN 929.108996 BAR
- Abstracts of Chester County, Pennsylvania Land Records, Vol. 3, 1745-1753 GEN 929.374813 BRY
- The Famine Immigrants: Lists of Irish Immigrants Arriving at the Port of New York, 1846-1851, V. 3-6  
GEN 929.30899162
- Maury County, Tennessee Cemeteries, V. 1,2 GEN 929.50976859
- A History of Ambulance Company 359 GEN 940.412764 UNI
- Special Memories GEN 976.4 HUG
- Our Italian Surnames GEN 929.42 FUC
- Families of Ancient New Haven, Vols. I-III; IV-VI; VII-VIII & Cross-index GEN 974.68 JAC
- Old churches Ministers and Families of Virginia, V. I & II GEN 975.5 MEA
- Collin County, Texas Farm & Ranch Guide GEN 929.3764556 COL 1974
- Collin County, Texas Farm & Ranch Guide GEN 929.3764556 COL 1982
- Collin County, Texas Farm & Ranch Guide GEN 929.3764556 COL 1983
- Collin County, Texas Farm & Ranch Guide GEN 929.3764556 COL 1984
- Obituary Index for McKinney Courier-Gazette, McKinney, Texas, 1970-1979 GEN 929.3764556 NEW
- Between the Creeks (History of Allen, TX) GEN 976.4556 PET
- 1850 U.S. Census Tishomingo County, Mississippi GEN 929.37622995 EIG
- A Digest of the Early Connecticut Probate Records, V. 1-3, 1635-1750 GEN 929.3746 MAN
- Tennessee Records of Lincoln County Marriages, 1838-1860 GEN 929.3768624 LIN
- Daughters of the American Revolution, Jane Douglas Chapter (Dallas, TX) GEN 369.135 DAV 2004-2006
- Land Deed Genealogy of Lincoln County, Tennessee, Vol. 1, 1809-1818 GEN 929.3768624 MAR
- Anson County Heritage, North Carolina, 1995 GEN 975.6753 ANS
- The Heritage of Butler County, Alabama GEN 976.137 HER
- Cole Foot Prints GEN 929.2 COL
- The Balloting Book, and Other Documents Relating to Military Bounty Lands in the State of New York  
GEN 929.3747 BAL
- Michigan Genealogy Sources & Resources, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. GEN RREF 929.10729774 MCG
- William Hutchins of Carolina GEN 929.2 HUT
- Early Unpublished Court Records of Lincoln County, Tennessee GEN 929.3768624 MAR

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## New Additions to the Genealogy Collection, Gladys Harrington Library

(Continued from page 7)

- 150 years of Cemetery Records in Milam County GEN 929.509764288 HOL
- History of the Town of Hampton From Its First Settlement in 1638, to the Autumn of 1892 (NH, 1638-1988), Vols. 1 & 2 GEN 974.26 DOW
- Hampton Vital Records and Genealogy, 1889-1986 GEN 929.37426
- Bee County Centennial, 1858-1958 GEN 976.4117 BEE
- Butler County, Alabama Obituaries GEN 929.376137 BAR
- Southold Connections Historical & Biographical Sketches of Northeastern Long Island GEN 974.721 JAC
- New York in the Revolution as Colony and State, V. I & II GEN 973.3447 NEW
- Records of the Revolutionary War GEN 973.34 SAF
- Milam County, Texas in the Civil War GEN 929.3764288 WIL
- Anson County, North Carolina Abstracts of Early Records GEN 929.3756753 MCB
- Anson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts, 1749-1766; Abstracts of Wills & Estates, 1749-1795 GEN 929.3756753 HOL

Thanks to Lynn Day for providing the information on new genealogy materials.

### Genealogy Classes at CCCC

Instructor: Lynne M. Darrouzet, JD, CG

#### Genealogy I

February 6– April 3, 2006

#### Genealogy II

April 10-May 15, 2006

All on Monday evenings 6:30 to 9:00 at Colin County Community College District's Preston Ridge Campus, Frisco, Texas

For more details see:

[http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl/cc\\_genealogy\\_classes/cccc\\_genealogy\\_courses\\_htm](http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl/cc_genealogy_classes/cccc_genealogy_courses_htm)

Register online at <http://www.ccccd.edu> or call 972-985-3758

