



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of Plano
Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
December 2009

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Saturday Seminars

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2009 & 2010. 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:

December 19, 2009—Show and Tell, come and share your Ancestors' stories with the group.

Future Topics:

January 11-17, 2010—Research trip to Salt Lake City. Join us and visit the largest genealogy library in the world. Research help available. It is fun to travel with fellow researchers, we don't mind listening to the stories of your exciting finds.

January 16, 2010—Tom Crowe is our speaker. The topic will be Censuses and Courthouses/ Right Next Door, The American Revolutionary War in Louisiana.

February 20, 2010—Joanne Corney will speak to us on AniMap and Centennia.

February 27, 2010—Learn-n—We'll have two classes one on Using Family Search.org Outlines to Guide Your Research and Beginning Genealogy.

March 20, 2010—Brenda Kellow & Jean Funk will do programs on Genealogy Jeopardy and National Institute Lecture

April 17, 2010—"Fighting Hate Through Film" by Dan Spigel.

If you have suggestions for programs please submit them to Jean Funk at jeano25@aol.com.

GenFriends Research Retreat

Our next Research Retreat to Salt Lake City has been scheduled for January 11-17, 2010. This is a great opportunity to visit the largest genealogy library in the world with fellow researchers.

Rooms are being held at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel adjacent to the library. Room Rate is \$85.00 per night with one night free. Call them at 800-366-3684 and tell them you are part of the Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries group to reserve your room.

There is a seminar on planning a research trip on November 7th, 10:30-12:00 at Haggard to help you get ready to go.

The cost is \$80.00. A professional genealogist will be available to help with your research and we'll have an orientation to the library at 2:30 on Monday to help you find your way around the library.

Check out the flyer on our website for more info.

The dates of the trip coincide with the Utah Genealogical Societies 2010 Salt Lake Genealogy Institute. They have evening classes taught by prominent genealogists for \$10.00 each. If you are interested in attending refer to their website <http://www.infouga.org/index.php?option=2010SLIGevening>

Learn-N

Join us on February 27th from 10:30 to 12:30 for two new classes.

Carol Hofer will present "Using FamilySearch.org Research Outlines to Guide Your Reserach"

&

Barbara Coakley will present "Genealogy—Getting Started"

Space is limited so if you plan on attending please email Linda Cospers at s-lcosper@juno.com.

A \$10 donation is suggested. The money is used to purchase materials for the Genealogy section at the Haggard Library.

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/2009-index.html>

Genealogy Friends Logo Shirts—New Colors & Styles

Be one of the best-dressed genealogists in town.

In addition to the ever popular Gen Friends logo t-shirts and sweatshirts, we now have 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 (white, neutral, ash, light blue, pink, yellow and sand) are \$15.00

Sweatshirts (white, neutral, ash, light blue, pink, yellow and sand) are \$20.00

Henley's (white or ash) are \$20.00

Polo Shirts (light blue, pink, yellow, or sand) are \$20.00

Long Sleved T-shirts are \$20.00



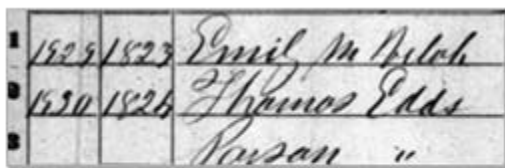
Ancestry Update

Ancestry.com has added the Nebraska State Census, 1860-1885. This was one of the World Archives projects, with indexing done by members of the Nebraska State Genealogical Society.

They have also enhanced their US Census collection. Images have been improved and are clearer for the 1790-1900 census years. The indexes have also been improved for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1900. Here is an example of the difference in the images:



BEFORE IMAGE ENHANCEMENT



AFTER IMAGE ENHANCEMENT

If you have been having trouble finding your ancestors, try again. These improvements might just be what you need.



Legacy Users Group

The Legacy Family Tree users group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Haggard Library in the Program Room from 10:30 to 12:30.

Contact Joanne Corney at ptxlegacyug@verizon.net for more information.

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

Join Genfriends

Time to Renew Memberships! Or if you aren't a member, please consider joining Genfriends. 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.

The Long and Short of Texas Cattle

By Brenda Kellow

When the early settlers moved into Texas they brought cattle with them. When mixed with the already present Spanish cattle they became hardy, strong and fast. There is a misconception these cattle were originally raised in Florida and brought here. Not so. The new breed had long legs and a lanky body built for speed. Their temper was as short as their horns were long, sometimes reaching an excess of seven feet. The coloring varied from roan to many color patterns of be red, white, or mixed red and white in color.



Figure 1 The Flirtation

Trails ran from South Texas [the Republic of Texas] into the United States as far away as Chicago. The brave cowboys trailing these temperamental cattle had to be alert and quick in case one of the bulls became cranky for they could certainly damage a person's body.

Settlers originally came expecting to grow cotton but soon the production rivaled the cattle business. From this came cattle branding and marks, tails of Texas cowboys herding cattle across the state on now familiar cattle trails, large ranches, and the barbed wire that fenced the west which ended grazing cattle on free land.

Without the herds of cattle sent to markets in Kansas and Chicago, Texas' recovery from the Civil War would not have been so rapid for the Texans. The states were hungry for beef. Texas took advantage of the abundance of cattle to line their coffers in those depressed times.

In time, settlers brought Herefords bred in England to Texas to graze on the vast prairieland grasses. This hardy breed became known as shorthorns.

Bob and Brenda Kellow thought they would share with you the two new additions to their farm. They are both Texas Shorthorn cows weighing in excess of 1500 pounds—they are not yet fully grown. Males weigh much more. None of the cows on their farm have horns. They are all gentle and can be hand-fed, a pleasure Brenda enjoys often as does many of their guests.

Some of you may be familiar with Brenda's favorite cow, Bossy, the black cow shown in the middle of the picture at left. Before the addition of the Texas Shorthorns, Bossy, clearly the alpha cow, was the biggest cow in the field. This is not true anymore because the shorthorns dwarf Bossy and the other cows and bulls. In the pictures above you can see the difference in size between the cows and bulls. There is also a glimpse of Snow White, Bossy's newest calf. He follows the birth of her twins last year.

In the picture on the next page, you can see the difference between the shorthorn and the bull flirting her.

The cows on their farm belong to Mark Fagan who leases their pasture, but Brenda claims them. She says Bossy thinks she is her "dog." Out in the pasture Bossy will nuzzle Bob and Brenda's arms until they stop and take time to

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pet her. You are only finished when Bossy is finished. Bossy comes to the fence whenever Brenda is in the yard, always expecting, and usually getting, a range cube.

The account of Texas cattle has a rich and interesting story. A history you will enjoy reading whether or not your ancestors were cattle ranchers. Below is the account of the famous Texas Longhorns and shorthorn cattle taken from *The Handbook of Texas Online*. Follow the hyperlinks for a further history.



Figure 3 Shorthorns on left and right, Bossy, black, in the middle with Snow White, her calf.

From *The Handbook of Texas Online*

“LONGHORN CATTLE. The Texas longhorn is a hybrid breed resulting from a random mixing of Spanish *retinto* (criollo) stock and English cattle that Anglo-American frontiersmen brought to Texas from southern and midwestern states in the 1820s and 1830s. "A few old-timers," [J. Frank Dobie](#) wrote, "contend that both the horns and bodies of the Texas cattle were derived from importations from the States out of Longhorn Herefords of England," but he was convinced that the Texas longhorn was largely Spanish. Spanish cattle had roamed in Texas probably before the eighteenth century. The old-timers were probably right. Some cattlemen observed that not only the horns and bodies, but also the colors of many Texas longhorns resembled the English Bakewell stock brought from the Ohio valley and Kentucky. Criollo cattle are of solid color ranging from Jersey tan to cherry red. Black animals are few and brindles rare. Spanish and Anglo cattle mixed on a small scale in the 1830s and after, but by the [Civil War](#) the half-wild Texas longhorns emerged as a recognizable type. They behaved like Spanish stock but had an appreciable amount of British blood. Old steers (four years old and older) had extremely long horns, and the large number of these animals in postwar trail herds produced the popular misconception that all Texas cattle had unusually long horns. In the 1880s, when younger cattle with improved blood were trailed north, the average horn spread was less than four feet.



Figure 4 Rockette, Dalgood Longhorns

“In the 1850s Texas longhorns were trailed to markets in New Orleans and California. They developed an immunity to [Texas fever](#), which they carried with them and passed on to herds on the way. In 1861 Missouri and the eastern counties of Kansas banned Texas stock, and during the second half of the nineteenth century many states attempted to enact restrictive laws in an effort to fight the fever. After the Civil War, however, millions of Texas longhorns were driven to market. Herds were driven to Indian and military reservations in New Mexico and Arizona, and in 1867 Illinois cattle dealer Joseph G. McCoy arranged to ship cattle from Abilene, Kansas, to the Union Stockyards in Chicago. Over the next twenty years contractors drove five to ten million cattle out of Texas,

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commerce that helped revive the state's economy. Longhorns, with their long legs and hard hoofs, were ideal trail cattle; they even gained weight on the way to market.

“After the [buffalo](#) herds were slaughtered and the Plains Indians confined in the late 1870s, private and syndicate ranches spread northward to the open range and free grass on the Great Plains. Texas longhorns, accompanied by Texas cowboys, stocked most of the new ranches; the trailing era made the cowboy a universal folk hero. The "[Big Die-up](#)" of 1886-87, together with the rapid spread of [barbed wire](#) fences, brought an abrupt end to the open-range cattle boom and with it the dominance of the longhorn. Fencing made possible controlled breeding, and with the end of free grass it was economically advisable to raise cattle that developed faster than longhorns. By this time ranchers had begun crossing longhorns with shorthorn Durhams and later with Herefords^{qv}, thus producing excellent beef animals. Longhorns were bred almost out of existence; by the 1920s only a few small herds remained.

“In 1927 the Texas longhorn was saved from probable extinction by Will C. Barnes and other Forest Service men, when they collected a small herd of breeding stock in South Texas for the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma. A few years later [J. Frank Dobie](#), with the help of former range inspector Graves Peeler and financial support from oilman [Sid W. Richardson](#), gathered small herds for Texas state parks. After the wildlife-refuge herd had increased to several hundred, the Forest Service held annual sales of surplus animals. Cowmen at first purchased them as curiosities, then rediscovered the longhorn's longevity, resistance to disease, fertility, ease of calving, and ability to thrive on marginal pastures. Its growing popularity in beef herds was spurred by a diet-conscious population's desire for lean beef.

“In 1964 Charles Schreiner III of the YO Ranch took the lead in organizing the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America, which maintains a registry in order to perpetuate the breed in a pure state. Since then the number of longhorns and their use in cross-breeding have steadily increased, and their future appears secure. In the 1990s the official state Texas longhorn herd was kept at [Fort Griffin State Historical Park](#) and was owned and managed by the [Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#). Smaller longhorn herds were located at Possum Kingdom State Recreation Area, Palo Duro Canyon State Scenic Park, Abilene State Park, Dinosaur Valley State Park, and Copper Breaks State Park.”^{qqv}

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Donald E. Worcester

The following sourcing, adapted from the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition, is the preferred citation for this article.

Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "," <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/LL/at12.html> (accessed November 16, 2009).

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Rockett, the longhorn photograph above is the online image at: www.dalgoodlonghorns.com/. Photo from 602 x 400 - 61k - jpg - www.dalgoodlonghorns.com/RocketteE.Web.jpg. Image may be subject to copyright.

From *The Handbook of Texas Online*

“SHORTHORN CATTLE. The Shorthorn breed of cattle, developed on the northeastern coast of England before 1750, is the most universally attributed breed in the world. Introduced to America about 1783 but not brought to Texas until the 1850s, Shorthorns were the first purebred animals used by Texas ranchers to improve their Longhorn^{qv} stock. Mortality among the early Texas Shorthorns was high because of [Texas fever](#), but ranchers, impressed with improvement of their herds, continued to import high-grade bulls. The seventy-five purebred Shorthorns purchased by [Charles Goodnight](#) for the [JA Ranch](#) in 1876 were largely responsible for the breeding up of Texas Panhandle stock. Charles Mulhern, who established a ranch near Fort Davis in 1878, was an extensive Shorthorn breeder. In South Texas, Robert J. Kleberg^{qv}, of the [King Ranch](#), was one of the first to introduce purebred Shorthorns into the Texas fever area. His losses were high until the process of immunizing northern cattle was developed. Frank Scofield of Hillsboro developed a Shorthorn herd that supplied many of the state's top registered cattle between 1900 and 1907. Shorthorns mature early and put on weight rapidly. Originally they were good milkers, but in range areas the milk-producing ability has been largely bred out. The animals may be red, white, roan, or mixed red and white in color. Bulls weigh from 1,800 to 2,200 pounds or more. Cows weigh an average of 1,800 pounds. Although the Shorthorn has never attained the Hereford's popularity in Texas, the breed laid the foundation for the state's improved stock. In many cases Texas herds were well graded up with Shorthorn blood before Herefords were introduced. Shorthorns have done very well in crossbreeding programs, most notably in the development of the Santa Gertrudis breed on the King Ranch. In 1946 the breed was estimated to comprise from 5 to 10 percent of Texas beef cattle. The American Shorthorn Association is headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska, and the Texas Shorthorn Association office is at Olton, Texas. In 1986 there were approximately thirty-six Shorthorn breeders in Texas.”

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