



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

February 2005

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

[http:// www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl](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.

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.

Library Lock Ins

Watch for details on the upcoming Library Lock Ins. 2005 dates are May 13, 2005, July 8, 2005, and October 28, 2005.

Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held at the library. The 2005 meeting dates are March 15, 2005 and July 19, 2005. Members are welcome to attend.

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?
Write an article and submit it to be published in the newsletter. Have you discovered a fantastic web site?

Email it 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

Clusty is a new search engine. The search results are clustered and one of the groups is Genealogy. Try it out.
<http://clusty.com>

This web site offers English translations of old German occupations, professions and illnesses. If you are researching in German records this might help.
<http://www.worldroots.com/~brigitte/occupat.htm>

Hessen Gen Web includes translation services, links, tutorials, etc. for all of Germany.
<http://go.to/hessen>

Refdesk.com includes a page on Newspapers. There is a link to newspapers for each state. Smaller and specialized newspapers are included.
<http://www.refdesk.com/paper.html>

Thousands of world newspapers at your fingertips.
<http://www.onlinenewspapers.com>

Looking for online foreign language news and newspapers, try this site.
<http://libraries.mit.edu/guides/types/flnews>

US Surgeon General's Family History Initiative
 Read about this initiative and download "My Family Health Portrait" which will help you identify common diseases that may run in your family.

Bible Records Online website contains 1,072 bible records for 3,282 surnames.
<http://www.biblerecords.com/>

Google has a map site that is now available, check it out. I searched on some very small towns where my ancestors lived and they all showed up.
<http://maps.google.com>

Genealogy Portal is a web site that contains a search engine to help you locate web sites that mention your ancestors or surnames.
<http://www.genealogyportal.com/>

First Name Basis contains a translator that helps you translate your ancestors name from their native language to English. There are other features like an unusual first name search & registry.
<http://www.genealogytoday.com/names/first/basis.html>

New search engine. Try it out.
<http://a9.com/>

Online legal dictionary— 1856 edition of John Bouvier's 5th Edition
<http://www.constitution.org/bouv/bouvier.htm>

Online Genealogy Dictionary
<http://home.att.net/~dottsr/diction.html>

Lawgiver.org is a dictionary and compendium of American and English Jurisprudence from 1893
<http://ecclesia.org/lawgiver/defs.asp>

Looking for photos of places your ancestors lived? Check out this traveler's web site. There are pictures from all over the world.
<http://www.galenfrysinger.com/index.htm>

The Connecticut State Library web site includes a Genealogical Tool Kit that discusses what to talk when you visit a library, archive or court house. There is also a section for preparing for a visit to a cemetery.
<http://www.cslib.org/toolkit.htm>

If you need to convert dates—Roman, Julian, or Gregorian this web site can be a big help.
<http://www.guernsey.net/~sgibbs/roman.html>

The Library of Congress web site includes a Map Collection 1500-2004.
<http://www.memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>

Newslink contains links to major metropolitan newspapers.
<http://newslink.org/metews.html>

Treasure Maps web site is a good place for tutorials and also has a mail list.
<http://amberskyline.com/treasuremaps/tmapmenu.html>

Gen Wed is a site full of links to marriage records for the United States, Canada and United Kingdom.
<http://www.genwed.com/#Records>

Thanks to Bill Walton, Weldon Fincher, and Jean Funk for submitting information.

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.

Mentors Available

Are you looking for a way to become more involved in Gen Friends?

Facilitating a workshop at an upcoming lock-in or presenting at a Saturday seminar is a great way to sharpen your skills. The preparation for the session offers an opportunity to learn something new or to expand your knowledge on a topic you are already familiar with.

If you would like to work with an experienced presenter or facilitator please contact genfriends@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.

There is also a biography of Gladys Harrington.

Key Word Search Back

The key word search feature has been reinstated on the on line Family History Library Catalog. In addition to searching by place, title, film number, and subject you can now search by key word. This allows you to search by occupation, parish, record type, agency that created the records, repository that holds the records, just to name a few. Use your imagination.

Condolences

Barbara Lowe lost her husband, Ken, on January 23, 2005. Please keep the Lowe family in your thoughts and prayers.



Civil War Records

Last month's newsletter focused on Federal records for union soldiers. This month we'll continue the discussion on Civil War service records.

The Federal Government is not the only one keeping records on service in the Civil War, State's also kept records. One example are the records of the Missouri Provost Marshall. Union records include enlistment and discharge information, descriptions of regiments, morning reports, clothing issues, orders and letters. Confederate records contain information about service, confederate pension applications, requests for admission to the Confederate Home. There are also records of civilians dealings with the military. These can include records relating to the confiscation of slaves, charges against Union soldiers, bushwaching activities, records of prisoner complaints, property taken by Union soldiers, etc. The records were filmed by the National Archives and volunteers are indexing the records, the database is available on the Missouri State Archives web site < <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/provost/default.asp#search>>.

The Illinois Secretary of State's web site contains four databases with information on Civil War soldiers— Civil War Veterans, Civil War Veterans Serving in the US Navy, Illinois Civil War Veterans of Missouri Units, and Residents of Soldiers' and Sailors' Homes. There are also histories of Illinois Regiments and Units provided in .pdf format that can be downloaded. <<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/databases.html>>

The Michigan State Archives web site includes a portrait collection. Some of the images are of Civil War soldiers. <http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17445_19273_19313-82248--,00.html>

The records of the Texas Adjutant General are available at the Texas State Library and Archives. A description of the holdings is available on the Texas Archival Resources Online web site, <<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/tslac/30021/tsl-30021.html>>. The collection includes three series of records—Union, Confederate and Texas State Troops. "These records include correspondence, military orders, monthly returns, records of the sick and wounded, reports of guards, morning reports, pay vouchers, reports and payrolls of hired persons, tax-in-kind records, and quartermaster records (contracts, vouchers, statements, estimates of funds required, receipts of public funds, and various abstracts). They comprise the Civil War-era records of the Texas State Troops (including Frontier Regiment and Mounted Regiment records); certain records of the Confederate States Army; and certain records of Union forces in Texas. Dates covered are 1855, 1860-1866 (bulk 1861-1865)."

The Tennessee Civil War Veterans Questionnaires are indexed in a searchable database on the Tennessee State Archives and Library web site. <<http://www.state.tn.us/sos/statelib/pubsvs/quest.htm#name>>

The Library of Virginia web site contains searchable indexes for Confederate records, including Disability Applications and Receipts, Pension Applications, and Soldiers Home Applications for Admission.

To locate other state records available at State Libraries and State Archives you can check their collections on their web sites. The State Archives Guides and Links on CensusDiggins.com web site <http://www.censuseddiggins.com/state_archives.htm> provides links to the state archives for all fifty states.

Maps can be a invaluable resource when researching military service. When combined with a regimental history you can trace your ancestor's progress through the war. The American Civil War Maps (1861-1865) web site brings together the map collections of the Library of Congress, the Virginia Historical Society and the Library of Virginia. <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/collections/civil_war_maps/>

In the final days of the Civil War some Confederate records were turned over to Union officers. These records are available at the National Archives (NARA) in record group 109. There are also records of Union prisons and parole records. The records were abstracted and cards were filled out for each soldier on each record. The cards were grouped by soldier and unit. There may be more than one card for a soldier if they served in multiple units. These are referred to as Compiled Military Service Records. There is a master index that covers all states (M253) and separate indexes for states—Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. The Compiled Service Records have also been microfilmed. There are also records for Maryland; however, there are no indexes.

Confederate soldiers were not eligible for pensions from the Federal Government. Pensions were granted to Confederate veterans, widows, and orphans by former Confederate states. Applications were filed in the state where the applicant lived which may not have been the state the soldier served from. These records are not available through NARA. The Family History Library has microfilmed many of these records. To locate the records search on the State, the pension applications should be listed under Military Records. The original records are housed in the state archives and libraries of the various states.

After the war both Union and Confederate veterans formed organizations. The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was the organization of the Union veterans. They had local post meetings, state and national events. The United

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Civil War Records

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Confederate Veterans (UCV) was the Confederate organization. Records of both organizations can be found in collections of Historical Societies, libraries, or the state adjutant general. Some records have been microfilmed by the Family History Library. The GAR post records for the post in St. Louis that my great uncle belonged to are in the manuscript collection of the Missouri Historical Society. Included in the records were descriptions of his service, a record of his death and a picture of him. This is the only picture I have found of him.

One way to locate manuscript collections is to use the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC) <<http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/nucmc.html>>. In addition to records of veterans organizations you can find diaries, scrapbooks, letters, etc. A search of the subject Civil War in the NUCMC catalog returned over 13,000 results.

The Civil War Rosters web site claims to be the most comprehensive list of links by state <<http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Lair/3680/cw/cw-il.html>>. It also contains a link to the National Park Service Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System.

The Confederate States enacted a draft on 16 April 1862 which authorized a call-up of all white men between the ages of 18 and 35 for a 3-year term, bound men already in the Army to serve for three years and allowed units to reorganize and elect their own officers. Later the maximum age was raised to 45 and then to 50. The records of the draft for the state of Virginia are found at NARA in Record Group 109. Records include Commandants' Exemption Books, Record of Exemptions, an Agricultural Exemption Book, Register of Application for Details, Agricultural Detail Books, Lists of Conscripts from Virginia Recommended for Discharge, and List of Details and Exemptions.

These are just a few examples of the resources available to discover more about your ancestor that served in the Civil War. Some sources will provide valuable genealogical information others will fill in details of your ancestors lives. Either way they are work looking for.

2005 Education Opportunities

March 5, Dallas Genealogy Society presents Emily Croom.

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

April 21—May 26, CCCCD offers Genealogy III taught by Lynne Darrouzet. For more information or to register go to their web site, <http://www.cccd.edu/> You can also find class descriptions on the Gen Friends web site. http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl/cc_genealogy_classes/cccc_genealogy_courses.htm

June 1-4, National Genealogy Society Conference in the States and Gentech will be held in Nashville, Tennessee. Online registration will be available soon on their web site <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/>

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. Their web site is <http://palam.org/welcome.html>

July 10-16, National Institute on Genealogical Research will be held at the National Archives in Washington DC.

July 21-23, The 9th Annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference will be held in Lufkin, Texas. For information and on line registration go to <http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy.htm>.

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

September 2005 Hispanic Organization of Genealogy and Research (HOGAR) The Twenty-sixth Annual Hispanic State Genealogical Conference will be held in Laredo, TX.