



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of Plano
Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
February 2009

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 2008 & 2009. 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:

February 21, 2009—Aaron Holt, Archivist at the Southwest Regional Archives will be back to speak to us about the National Archives and Record Administration resources.

Future Topics:

February 28, 2009—Learn In—In honor of African American History Month we will have two lectures

- Don Hensley will talk about his family that immigrated from Barbados. He'll focus on immigration through Ellis Island and using Census records.
- Ora will discuss one branch of her family.

March 21, 2009—Lynell Moss will speak to us about the Family History Library.

April 18, 2009—All Day Seminar—Naomi Taplin and Alan Lafever from the Texas Baptist Historical Collection will be doing an all day seminar on preserving family artifacts.

May 16, 2009—David and Paula Pitts will speak to us about Planning a Family Reunion.

June 20, 2009—Robert Deen will speak to us about Land Records Research

July 18, 2009—To be determined

August 15, 2009—Leo Baca will speak to use about DNA.

September 19, 2009—Brenda Kellow will speak to us about research before 1850.

October 17, 2009—"City Directories, Newspapers, and Obituaries with the Census as Your Guide," by Barbara Coakley.

November 21, 2009—Tresa Tatyrek will be speaking to us on Using the Internet for researching your Genealogy.

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

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

Meet Your Officers and Board Members

Brenda Kellow	President
Jean Funk	1 st Vice President, Programs
Jennifer Pitts	Secretary, Membership
Mary Onofrio	Treasurer
Barbara Coakley	Newsletter Editor
Linda Cospers	Library Learn-Ns
Joyce Kaplan	Publicity
Roberta Hendricks	Grants
Carol Hofer	Hospitality
Robert Kellow	E-mail Communication to members
James Deen	FGS delegate
Don Stevenson	Exhibits

Preserving Our Precious Heirlooms

On Saturday April 18, 2009 Gen Friends will be hosting an all day workshop.

Naomi Taplin and Alan Lefever from the Texas Baptist Historical Collection will be our speakers. Bring your own family treasures and learn how best to preserve them.

Where: Plano Bible Chapel—1900 Shiloh Rd, Plano

When: 9:30am—3:00 pm

Food: Bring a sack lunch, drinks will be available.

Registration Fee:

- Before April 1: members \$30, nonmembers \$38
- After April 1: members \$40, nonmembers \$45

Visit our website for the registration flyer

http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgfp/flyers/workshop_april09.pdf

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

Dues are Due

Dues are due! Individual memberships are \$30 and family memberships are \$50—funds go to purchase materials for the genealogy section at Haggard Library.

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

Education Opportunities

***Genealogy & Land Records Symposium*,**

Friday, July 10 and Saturday, July 11, 2009, Lincoln, Nebraska. Kenneth Heger, Chief of the Archives 1 Support Branch, NARA will be the keynote speaker. This symposium is a partnership between Homestead National Monument of America and Southeast Community College.

Renowned researchers and authors from throughout the United States will make presentations on how to do proper research in Homestead case files. Genealogists will address the volumes of family information in Homestead records.

SCC Continuing Education Center, 301 S. 68th Street Place, Lincoln, NE. Contact [Mrs.] Kelly Morgan at kmorgan@southeast.edu.

Reconnecting Lost Links

Allen County Public Library is hosting the International Black Genealogy Summit October 29-31, 2009 in Ft. Wayne, IN. This is the first time that all of the black historical and genealogical societies in the US, Canada and the Caribbean will come together to celebrate the joys and challenges of black genealogy

<http://www.blackgenealogysummit.com/welcome.html>

Collin College Classes

Barbara Coakley will be teaching Genealogy I at Collin College. Class will be held January 26, 2009 to March 2, 2009 on Monday nights from 6:30 to 9:00 at the Courtyard Center.

Watch for the new class on Genealogy Research on the Internet coming in July 2009.

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.

Visit the Plano Insider web site is <http://www.planoinsider.net/> and click on either PULSE or ENTERTAINMENT to read the weekly column. Each column is posted for one week only. The column and archives are posted at <http://www.geocities.com/TracingOurRoots>.

Kansas State Census

Ancestry.com has added the Kansas State Census to their collection. The Census records are for 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1865, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925. Information includes names, ages, birthplaces, occupation, military service, and more.

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.

Papers of War Dept

The Center for Media and History at George Mason University has been collecting copies of documents from archives across the country for the last ten years to recreate the files burned in the 1800 fire at the War Department. Currently they have collected 55,000 documents from more than 200 repositories. The papers deal with Indian affairs, veteran affairs, naval affairs up to 1798 and militia and army matters. During the 1790s the War Office spent seven of every ten dollars of the federal budget. Check out the digital collection at <http://wardepartmentpapers.org/>

Keys to Mining the Non-Population Schedules

By Brenda Kellow

The Non-Population Special Census introduces the genealogy researcher to the various means of using different types of census in order to benefit from their assets. The best-known and most used census is the population census—it counts the people. The special census schedules introduce researchers to more than just a census that counts people. Have you ever gone beyond the population census? Did you know there are other census schedules? Do you know what is included in the special censuses? If not, read on to broaden your research knowledge.

The non-population census schedules include the agriculture, manufacturing and business, social, mortality, slave and federal territorial census, but we can't forget the veteran's census, the sheriff's census and state census—although they are population censuses they are most important none the less. Each has an extraordinary amount of information. Finding, using and analyzing these schedules put people in a particular place during a particular time period.

1. The agriculture schedule is available from 1850-1880. It counts acreage, crops, animals such as cattle, swine and fowl, farm implements, farm products, farm income, orchard and timber yields and timber sales. The 1850 census excludes small farms with production less than \$100 and \$500 on the 1870.
2. The manufacturing and industry schedule in conjunction with the business schedules for 1935 identifies larger companies but excludes small businesses.
3. Social statistic schedules collect and report community information but there are no names. From it we can compile the number of churches, schools, libraries, library volumes, independent families and welfare families, convicts and mentally ill.
4. The mortality schedule gives the names of those who died within the year previous to the decennial census. Looking at the 1860 mortality schedule for the period from June 1, 1859 to May 31 1860—the date the census began—we find the name and date of death, cause of death, age of deceased, etc. These are available for 1850-1880.
5. Slave schedules are available from 1850-1860. These may or may not include the slaves' first names and ages but it does have the owner's name. With a little ingenuity slave researchers may be able to follow a particular slave by tracking the owner or by searching slave sales appearing in county deed books.
6. Federal territorial schedules enumerated the people who lived in areas not yet a state. The enumerator took the same information taken for the population censuses beginning in 1850. Before 1850 the information was sparse, but that never deterred a genealogist. Within this grouping I like to include the Arkansas Sheriff's Census of 1823, 1825, 1827, 1829 and 1865, as well as the state censuses usually taken half-way between the federal censuses—the year ending in five.
7. The DDD schedules enumerated the handicapped, defective, dependent and delinquent classes. This schedule provides information on the insane, idiotic, deaf mutes and the blind. It includes homeless children, prison inmates, paupers and indigent persons as well as outlining the history of their care or incarceration.
8. Although the veterans' schedules of 1840, 1890 and 1910 are population censuses they do identify a person's military service, unit, whether there are living relatives and gives any illnesses. The 1840 census

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Keys to Mining the Non-Population Schedules (continued)

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asks for military or Revolutionary War service; whether Union or confederate pensioner in 1890 and again in 1910.

Those wanting to obtain one of the special censuses in the community should check with the local city librarian for availability or to obtain an interlibrary loan. The neighborhood Family History Centers have these censuses on microfilm available for rent. The Plano Genealogy Library has all the United States Population Censuses on microfilm from 1790-1930 with the exception of the New England states, but few of the special schedules at this time—mostly Collin County. The population censuses are currently being loaded into the brand new cabinets, so I suggest that you call ahead before your visit to arrange access to these censuses.

The family historian will benefit from using the assets found in the various population and special censuses. These schedules have an extraordinary amount of information. Find, use and analyze these schedules because they put people in a particular place during a particular time period.

Brenda Kellow has a bachelor's degree in history, teaches, and lectures on genealogy. Before retiring to publish her family's histories in 2007, Brenda held certifications as a Certified Genealogist and as a Certified Genealogical Instructor.

Land Ownership Maps

Land ownership maps show the owners of parcels of land in a county, township, etc. Most of them date from the mid nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and provide details on rural property. The maps also show rivers, towns, roads, and railroads. Some include biographical information about the landowners.

The maps were created by men canvassing towns, walking the roads with a distance wheel measuring device, and interviewing the owners. They also researched property records at the local courthouse to ensure the information was complete and accurate.

Land ownership maps can be used to place your ancestor's property in the county as well as township and county boundaries. Some have been indexed by volunteers or local genealogy societies.

Where can you find Land Ownership Maps?

The Library of Congress has over 1400 land ownership maps. KinQuest has a list of all the maps available in the Library of Congress <http://www.kinquest.com/usgenealogy/lom.php>

Ancestry.com has added a collection of over 1,200 maps from 1507-2000.

Historic Map Works has over 500,000 images <http://www.historicmapworks.com/>

State and local libraries often have local land ownership maps in their collections.

Some local genealogy societies have reprinted the land ownership maps for their area.

The Internet—use a search engine to see if anyone has scanned and posted the land ownership map for the are where your ancestors lived.



Online Photo Sites

By Joy Gough

On-line photo sites are becoming very popular. They are easy to use. In most cases the digital photos can be uploaded straight from the camera. Some sites let you do minor editing, such as red-eye correction. Once the photos have been uploaded, they can be used on an increasing number of products: prints, calendars, mouse pads, cups, albums, greeting cards, etc. Uploading pictures to these sites is free, but the sites exist to make money. They encourage you to purchase something.

Access to your uploaded photos is limited to whomever you list. This is a great way to share your photos with family and friends with minimal effort on your part and, at the same time, limit who can view and use them.

One word of caution: you should always keep personal copies of your photo files. There have been a few instances where an on-line site has closed or lost the photos. The on-line site should be used as a backup instead of as the main storage facility of your photos.

Two of the most popular photo sites are snapfish.com and shutterfly.com. The sites are very similar. One site might have a few more options than the other, but they work the same. With [snapfish](http://snapfish.com), the ordered prints can be picked up at Walgreens or Staples. With [shutterfly](http://shutterfly.com), the prints can be picked up at Target.

The photo albums offered by the sites are gaining popularity. They are relatively cheap, and easy to create. The standard rate for the 5 x 7 (6 x 8) book is \$12.95 for 20 pages (10 sheets of page, double-sided). Additional pages are about \$1 each. The 20 pages can hold as many as 300 photos. The pages are created using templates for the photos and text.

A little planning and thought on your part will make the album process easier. 1. What will be the theme of the album? (vacation, Christmas, 2008, birthday, wedding, kids, grandkids). 2. Are all of the photos for the theme in one folder or several? It is much easier if all of the photos are in one folder. If necessary, create a folder on your home computer to hold the photos you want to use and move the photos to the file. Try to make sure you have all of the photos you will want to use. It can be difficult to add photos to the folder after you have started the album project. Upload that whole folder to the website.

Once the photos are on the website, you have a few design decisions. 1. Paper cover or hard cover? 2. Color of cover. One of the new features is to have a photo on the hard covers. 3. Size. The albums can be anywhere from 4 x 4 (called a flip book) to 12 x 12. Sizes also include 8 x 8 and 5 x 7 plus 8.5 x 11. The price will vary according to the size chosen.

Adding the pictures can be fast. Most sites have an automatic feature. After you designate which file the pictures are in, the Album Creator will add the pictures wherever it sees fit. A new feature in which you have partial control is Storyboard. With this you designate which photos you want on page one and page two, etc. The Album Creator will pick a template based on the your choices and create the pages. You can always change the layout to one you like better. Some layouts are for photos only; some allow captions; a few templates will be for all text. If you don't use all of the spaces in the templates, the background will fill the area. There will not be any blank spaces in the final book. The Storyboard only does the photos. Backgrounds are suggested. You will have to do the captions yourself.

You can design the albums yourself if you do not like the automatic feature. This means picking the template you want for each page and dragging the photos to the boxes in the template. Most of the sites have a feature that marks the photos in the photo list that you have used so that you do not use the same photo twice, unless you want to. This comes in handy when you are using 100 photos. After awhile, you forget what has been used.

You, the designer, have control over the backgrounds. Each page can have a different background. You

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Online Photo Sites (continued)

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have control over the layout. The site will have a list of the layouts and you pick the one you prefer for a certain page. The designer has control over the font for the captions, plus the size and color of the fonts. These can also be different for each page.

After the book is completed, check it over several times. Look for typos, change backgrounds, whatever. Remember, the photo sites do not edit the books. Whatever you tell them to publish is what is published. A typo will remain a typo. Once you decide the book is the way you want it, tell the site to print the book. It will ask for information for payment and shipping. The book will be delivered in about 5 days.

Designing a photo album can take as little time as one hour to as long as you need to complete the project. I recently did one that took two weeks to complete.

I have just completed a genealogy photo book using a different photo site. I wanted more control than shutterfly and snapfish would allow, plus I want bigger captions. The photo site I chose was picaboo.com. I looked at blurb.com, but it was designed for more text and less photos. My genealogy photo book had over 400 photos.

Picaboo has several features that I like. The first one is photo control. One problem I had with the other sites was that however they stuck the pictures in the boxes, that was the way they stayed. I had the tops of heads cut off or a picture off-center and just wrong. With picaboo, any picture can be zoomed larger or smaller; it can be tweaked up or down, left or right. It can also be edited slightly, contrast, brightness, red eye. The picture could be presented the way I wanted it, not the way the website fixed it.

The main reason I picked picaboo was for the text. Instead of 1 or 2 line captions, I could write a paragraph for almost every photo. Since this was a genealogy book, I wanted to give more information than just the name of the person. I wanted at least 3 or 4 lines.

One feature about picaboo that is different from the other sites is that you download it to your computer. The download is free. With this feature, you don't have to create a new file for your photos. You locate a photo on your computer and click on it. Picaboo will add a copy of it to its program folder. This was a good feature for the type of book I was doing. If at some point, I realized that I had forgotten my great-grandmother, it was no problem to find her picture and add it.

With shutterfly and snapfish, I had a lot of difficulty in adding photos to the file after the project was started. Saving the project before trying to upload more photos to the file seemed to help, but it was still difficult.

The finished photo albums are so nice, they are well worth the effort. For \$13 you can have a nice little album of your summer vacation or a record of the previous year. The genealogy book I did was more expensive because it had 100 pages but it was a once-in-a-lifetime book showing seven generations of family photos. My kids did not even know their ancestors' names, let alone what the people looked like. I was able to add dates and places, short bios, cousins, uncles, etc. Just great. I will always be glad that I made the effort to create this unique genealogy book.

I have brought samples of albums from the various sites to this meeting. Stop by and look them over. Ask questions. I will be glad to help you with a project.

The McKinney library is holding a Beginning Genealogy class on Saturday, April 25th from 10:15-11:45 am at the library 101 E Hunt St, McKinney, TX. No preregistration is necessary.

The Genealogy Library Needs Your Help

Cheryl Smith, Senior Public Services Librarian has a few things to say concerning the Genealogy Library and the volunteers. First, they are moving the United States microfilm (1790-1930) currently stored in boxes in the closet to the new cabinets. They are also working on labeling them. The cataloging Cheryl does will take several years she exclaims because she has such limited hours for cataloging each week.

There are other projects on going but that have been pushed back some because of the microfilm. There are so many things to do, but a few projects are:

Biographies of the Mayors

Re-Labeling books where the spine has faded to barely readable

Indexing the Plano Star Courier

Putting Binder covers on the tiny skinny books that can't be bound and get lost on the shelf

Vertical Files

Surname Files

Researching other pioneers of Plano and Collin County

Volunteers In Plano (VIP) has a new way of keeping track of Volunteer hours, personal information, and scheduling. When you work in February Cheryl will try to take some time to teach you about the new software called Volunteer² (Volunteer squared). If she isn't there, a handout will be available on how to use the software giving you all the steps to tracking your hours. You can even do this from home if you prefer rather than keeping it updated while in the library. Volunteers can cancel but they still need to tell one of the librarians you will be absent. You will also be able to update your profile—phone number and email address—if they should change. The big thing you are able to do with the new software is to sign up for your hours rather than have Pat Mitchell, our library volunteer coordinator contact you each month about hours. She will not be losing her job. Pat will still contact you to remind you to sign up and to make sure you signed up for your preferred volunteer hours. She'll be watching your hours also. But, the big plus to this software is that volunteers can work on it from home.

The new software will also remind the librarians when your work birthday or anniversary happens. By the way, Genealogy Friends member Joanne Corney has been with us for one year and member Roberta Hendricks for two years. The birthday only shows up for those who filled in that blank. The Genealogy Library and Genealogy Friends thank the volunteers for your hard work.

New Orleans Notarial Archives Research Center

The New Orleans Notarial Archives Research Center houses records from 1733 to 1970 which include property transfers, slave emancipations, marriage contracts, acknowledgement of children born outside of marriage, powers of attorney, wills, successions, and various other business agreements. The archives is in danger of closing. They are in need of increased funding.

If you want to help, please contact Ms. Atkins at daleatk@orleanscdc.com. Explain what a precious resource the NARC is to scholars, genealogists, and people researching the history of their houses, and offer suggestions for how to procure funding keep it open, including not only outside funding sources but also increased user fees.