



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
July 2019

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

[http:// www.genealogyfriends.org](http://www.genealogyfriends.org) <http://genfriends.blogspot.com/>

Email Address: genfriends@genealogyfriends.org Newsletter: Barbara Coakley newsletter@genealogyfriends.org

Phone 972-836-9436

Schedule of Events

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2019. Meetings are held in the Program Room at the Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd., Plano, TX from 10:15 to 12:30 unless otherwise noted:

Today's Topic:

July 20, 2019—"Techniques & Strategies for More Effective Searching Online" by Bernard Meisner

Future Events

July 23, 2019—**Legacy Users Group**—Group meets in the Genealogy Section of the library on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 1:30—3:30 pm.

August 17, 2019—"BYU Family History Technology Lab" by Debra Hadfield

September 28, 2019—All Day Workshop—Speaker is Debbie Parker Wayne

October 12, 2019—**Date Change**—Panel of Experts –Bring your research questions

November 16, 2019—"What's New on FamilySearch.org" by Lynell Moss

December 21, 2019—Show and Tell—Share your research and family stories.

Index

Genealogy Education	2
Tracing Our Roots	2
The Rock "Wall" in Rockwall	3
Websites	4

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

Genfriends Membership

Our membership year runs from October 1 to September 30. Individual memberships are \$30 a year and family memberships are \$50. Don't forget to renew your membership for next year.

The money we raise is used to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library.

Download the membership form on our website <http://genealogyfriends.org/news/> send it in with payment to

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc

PO Box 860477

Plano, TX 75086-0477

Genealogy Education

All Day Workshop —September 28, 2019 GenFriends is presenting an all day workshop that focuses on using DNA in your family history research. Our speaker will be Debbie Parker Wayne, co author of *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*.

Dallas Genealogical Society 2019 Seminar Series "Their Day in Court" featuring Judy G Russell, JD, CG, CGL on August 3, 2019 at the downtown library <https://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/meetings-events/seminars/2019-summer-seminar/>

Fort Worth Genealogical Society Summer Seminar "Early American Research" featuring Debbie Duay on August 17, 2019 <http://www.txfwgs.org/>

FGS National Conference will be held August 21-24, 2019 in Washington, DC. <http://fgs.org/conferences/>

TxSGS 2019 Family History Conference will be held October 11-13, 2019 at the Omni Houston Hotel. <http://www.txsgs.org/2019-conference/>

Dallas Genealogical Society 2019 Seminar Series Featuring Jen Baldwin on October 12, 2019 at the downtown library <https://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/meetings-events/seminars/2019-fall-seminar/>

Lock In The Haggard Library is hosting a Lock In on October 18, 2019.

Great Family Search The Plano Family History Center annual all day workshop will be October 19, 2019

http://www.greatfamilysearch.com/cgi-bin/waalgate.dll?WAA_PACKAGE=BDS&WAA_FORM=BDSOptMenu1&C=0000000014A&

Family History Library Webinars are available online there are both upcoming and recorded past webinars on a variety of subjects

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars#Past_Webinars_.26_Handouts

Tracing Our Roots Column

The Tracing Our Roots column published weekly in the Plano Star Courier and written by Genealogy Friends' member Brenda Kellow. http://starlocalmedia.com/opinion/blogs/blog_7/.

The Rock “Wall” in Rockwall, Texas: Prehistoric Man, Extra— Terrestrial, or Natural Phenomenon

By Barbara Battocchio Brogdon

Founded in the 1850s, Rockwall received its name from a stone wall located below the proposed town site.

If, like us, you simply went about your life referring to Rockwall, Texas, and never really contemplating why it was called that, you’re in luck! We’ve got the answer. The city of Rockwall has, sitting beneath it, a row of hard mineral stones which appear to be stacked, long and narrow, forming what gives the impression of a “rock wall.” Sparking debate for over 160 years, the formation astounds the imagination and has engaged scientific experts on how and by whom this “rock wall” of Rockwall was built.



[FACEBOOK/JOCK WILLIAM DOUBLEDAY](#)



Photo: [Facebook/Rockwall County Historical FoundationP](#)

The question in the back of most peoples’ minds has been whether the wall was built by prehistoric man, or whether it was a naturally occurring phenomenon. The formation has been well documented in at least 11 different locations surrounding and below the city of Rockwall. And beginning in 1852, various excavations have taken place which are mapped and archived by the Rockwall County Historical Foundation. Appearing as random markings on their diagram, these portions of the “wall” began to look like dots or dashes, and markings that may have formed a pattern, or

The Rock “Wall” in Rockwall, Texas, continued

they could simply have been an actual expanse of wall, not meaning anything. But to this day, the entire length of “wall” remains to be excavated.

In large part, the wall has been stumbled upon by accident. When someone was digging a well or plowing a field, a portion would become exposed. Some have actually gone looking for it, having purposely excavated it to study. Dr. Robert T. Hill had concluded as far back as 1901 that the “wall” was, in fact, no more than a naturally formed sandstone dike. Tests that have been run on the rocks since have tried to establish dating and makeup, and have also concluded the very same. Geologists from the University of Texas at Dallas have studied the formation and agree with these findings which, according to the Colorado Geological Survey, confirm that the formations came about from the deposit of sedimentary material which, over millions of years, dried and hardened. This material can often break as it condenses, which forms various patterns. The process has been documented around the world, but what’s unique about this formation in Rockwall is that the sandstone fractured in a way that appears to be in the shape of bricks which were put together symmetrically.

Barbara Battocchio Brogdon

Texas Historical Commission, TEXAS HILL COUNTRY NEWS and Facebook were the sources for this article.

Websites

Massachusetts—Birds Eye View Maps—State Library of Massachusetts map collection is online <https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/801109>

Tennessee—Genealogy Index Search is now available on the Tennessee State Library & Archive <https://tslaindexes.tn.gov/>

Maryland—GU272 Memory Project, In 1828, Jesuit priests sold hundreds of slaves to Southern Plantations to raise money for construction of Georgetown University. American Ancestors.org has added this project to their website. Free access is available, create a guest user account. <https://gu272.americanancestors.org/>

College of Arms in England are the heralds for English, Welsh, Northern Ireland, and Commonwealth families—This website explains Coats of arms. There is no such thing as a coat of arms for a surname, they belong to individuals. <https://www.college-of-arms.gov.uk/resources/faqs>

Essex England—The Essex Record Office has partnered with Ancestry.com and launched a new searchable index of the Essex Parish Registers. <http://www.essexrecordofficeblog.co.uk/time-for-an-index-essex-record-office-in-partnership-with-ancestry-com/>

Revolutionary War—The Tennessee State Library & Archives launched Patriot Path’s Tennessee’s Revolutionary War Veterans <https://tnmap.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=32a9be43e2b44e00a67edfc5ac2b7227>

Brooklyn Newspapers—The Brooklyn Library Digitizes Thousands of Historic Newspaper Articles <https://www.brownstoner.com/brooklyn-life/brooklyn-newspaper-historic-brooklyn-collection-public-library/>