



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News  
June 2013

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](mailto:genfriends@genealogyfriends.org) Newsletter: [Barbara Coakley newsletter@genealogyfriends.org](mailto:Barbara Coakley newsletter@genealogyfriends.org)

Phone 972-836-9436

## Saturday Seminars

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2013. 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:

**June 15, 2013**—Daniel Scurlock “Everything you wanted to know about your computer but were afraid to ask”.

### Future Topics

**July 20, 2013**—JT McKinney will speak to us about Funeral Home Records.

**August 17, 2013**—”Ten Tips to Break Down Brick Walls” by Barbara Coakley.

**September 21, 2013**—Will be announced at a later date.

**October 19, 2013**—Save the date for our All Day Workshop

**November 16, 2013**—Will be announced at a later date.

**December 21, 2013**—Show and Tell—share your family history finds with the group.

If you have an idea about a program or a speaker for 2013, email Barbara Coakley at [bjc1620@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bjc1620@sbcglobal.net).

## Index

Announcements	2
Recently Installed Texas Historical Markers in Collin County	3
Genealogy News	5

## 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
Colonial Ills, Brews & Concoctions	\$10
Library 101: Using Dewey Decimal Sys	\$10

## Genfriends Membership

Our membership year runs from October 1 to September 30. Individual memberships are \$30 a year and family memberships are \$50.

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

## Education Opportunities

Genealogy II at Collin College (formerly Collin County Community College) starts June 25th. This is an eight week class that meets on Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 9:00 at the Courtyard Campus, 4800 Preston Park Blvd, Plano. The class explores different types of records to help you build out your family history. You'll learn where to find the records, what they might tell you, and how to analyze the records to get the most information out of them. Instructor is Barbara Coakley. Check out the website for more information <http://www.collin.edu/ce/>.

The Dallas Genealogical Society is offering their Summer Institute—"Bits of Yesterday: Using Maps & Records to Complete Your Family Story" by Pamela Boyer Sayre and Richard L Sayre on August 2-3 at the Dallas Public Library: J. Erick Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Street, Dallas. More information is available on their website [http://www.dallasgenealogy.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=525:august-2-3-fridaysaturday-](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=525:august-2-3-fridaysaturday-)

## Genealogy Friends Logo Shirts & Tote Bags

We have logo t-shirts, sweatshirts, 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 \$15

Long Sleeved T Shirts \$18

Sweatshirts \$20 (white, neutral, ash, light blue, pink, yellow and sand)

Henley's \$20 (white, ash or natural)

Polo Shirts \$20 (white, ask or light blue)

Tote Bags \$17



## Recently Installed Texas Historical Markers in Collin County

By Joy Gough

Five Texas State Historical Markers were installed in Collin County this past month. The historical markers help preserve the history of the county. All parts of the county received markers, which cover a wide variety of topics and events. Visiting the markers makes a nice Sunday drive.

The first recently installed state marker was at the Wylie Cemetery. The cemetery is located at Fifth Street and Master. The marker is located inside the cemetery across from the flagpole.

“In 1889, the Wylie Cemetery Company purchased several town lots, totaling about five acres, from the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railroad and established the Wylie Cemetery. According to local history, the daughter of an indigent family was the first burial before the cemetery was completed. The earliest marked grave is that of Wylie Cemetery Company president, William M. Housewright, who died in 1889 from pneumonia. Other Wylie Cemetery Company founders are buried here including Dr. John F. Butler, Frank L. McCarty and William Thomas Brown, as well as veterans from the Civil War to the Vietnam War. The Wylie Cemetery Association maintains this historic cemetery.”

The First Presbyterian Church of Prosper also got a historical marker. The marker was installed in front of the church at 400 South Coleman Street in Prosper.

“The McAdew congregation of Cumberland Presbyterian Church was organized on July 7, 1878 by a group of 26 members led by Reverend R. H. Hacker. The congregation first assembled in the Pleasant Valley School house. The school served as the meeting place for the next 14 years. In 1892, the James Barnes Bell family donated land where a one-room white frame church building was constructed in the Rock Hill community. The church building was moved in 1896 and the name was changed to Rock Hill Cumberland Presbyterian church. The church moved to Prosper in 1902 on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Baker. The next year, as requested, the name of the church changed to Prosper Presbyterian Church. Several additions have been made over the years, including the south and north wings and a pastor’s study. Other minor repairs have also been completed.

In addition to spiritual guidance in the community, the First Presbyterian Church of Prosper has also fulfilled a charitable role with the Prosper Presbyterian Women’s Association, weekly revivals, funerals, senior citizens game day and transportation assistance. The church and congregation also reached out to disaster victims in other states and furnished supplies to the Salvation Army. Stained Glass “Peace Panels” have been sent as messages of hope to locations around the world including Sarajevo, South Africa and Jerusalem. For well over a century, the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Prosper has served the community, state and country through outreach and service.”

The city of Josephine had its marker dedication on May 25. Congressman Ralph Hall attended the dedication. The marker is in the city park located slightly north of the intersection of FM 6 and FM 547.

“The city of Josephine began as a gift when the St. Louis Southwestern Railway began construction in the area in 1887. Jesse Hubbard donated four acres of land for the construction of a new town to be named after his daughter. The prior settlement of Reed’s Chapel existed nearby around the Methodist Episcopal Church, established in 1881, and the Baptist Church, established in 1888. Reed’s Chapel Church served as a school and held services for both Methodists and Baptists. The churches moved to Josephine in 1888. In 1889, a train carried passengers from Josephine to the inaugural Texas State Fair in Dallas.

Josephine grew into a center of commerce in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, boasting a drug store, ice cream and soda



## Historical Markers in Collin County

fountain, silent movie theater, ice house and furniture, lumber, tool and dry goods stores, and a bank. The city experienced a setback in 1910 when a fire destroyed sixteen stores. The Baptist Church erected a brick building in 1911, the Methodist Church completed its brick building in 1915, and the school was replaced in 1916. A second fire in 1935 destroyed many buildings. A new school opened in 1940 with assistance of New Deal programs. In 1949, Josephine School became part of the Community School District. The campuses divided in 1956 and Josephine became the Community Junior High School. The town incorporated in 1955 and the Collin County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1 was created in 1957. In 1974, Josephine Community School closed and was relocated to a new site to the west. A city park now marks the former school site. The city received the governor's Community Achievement Award in 1985, and today celebrates a proud heritage and a promising future."

For Bonnie and Clyde buffs, a state historical marker was awarded for the shootout that occurred north of McKinney between members of the Barrow gang and local law enforcement officers. It is entitled AMBUSH AT MCKINNEY. It is located on the west side of SH 5 north of McKinney at LaCore Lane, between the bridges for the East Fork of the Trinity River and Honey Creek. This event is famous because the gangsters escaped the ambush and the Collin County law enforcement officers were embarrassed and considered incompetent.

"In the early 1930s, the Barrow Gang committed robberies and other crimes across the country. Although the Gang was infamous for its leaders, Bonnie and Clyde, two other members, Raymond Hamilton and Ralph Fults, were equally dangerous. In 1935, after Bonnie and Clyde had been killed, Hamilton and Fults robbed the Beaumont Armory and hid their loot with a bootlegger near McKinney. On Feb. 24, 1935, the two men drove through Collin County to pick up the stolen goods. As they crossed a culvert off of the highway north of McKinney, they were ambushed by Collin County officers. Although Hamilton was shot, they both managed to escape, abandoning their stolen Ford coupe in Weston."

The last marker to be installed in this group is for Westminster College, which was located in the community of Westminster. The marker was installed at the Westminster Baptist church. Remnants of the original Methodist college community were in existence until a few years ago. The Bulgar and Sons architects constructed several Baptist churches in the area.

"In 1887, Rev. J.M. Harder founded Seven Points College, now called Westminster College, as an institute of higher learning for Collin County. Between 1892 and 1918, the college was known by various names and owned, at different times, by I.P. Rosser, the Methodist Protestant Church, and the Westminster Baptist Church. Primarily, it served as a preparatory school and college, offering degrees and a theological



Westminster College



## Historical Markers in Collin County

seminary for students. In 1907, C.W. Bulgar and Sons of Dallas were hired to construct a 3-story, concrete, 40-room building to replace the previous wood-clad school building. Financial problems forced the school to close in 1918 and the building was demolished in 1972.”

Collin County has over 100 historical markers, scattered throughout the county. They are good way to learn the rich history of this county. Contact the author for additional information on the historical markers in the county. [jfarrgo@verizon.net](mailto:jfarrgo@verizon.net)

## Genealogy News

Genealogy Karma on Mocavo provides researchers the opportunity to help each other. You can post research requests or volunteer to help others by completing a research request.

[http://www.mocavo.com/karma?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20130601+newsletter&utm\\_content=karma](http://www.mocavo.com/karma?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20130601+newsletter&utm_content=karma)

Billion Graves hits 4 million mark. This website contains pictures of graves taken by volunteers with their smart phones. You can search the graves that have been added, upload your own or help by transcribing information from photos uploaded by other researchers.

<http://billiongraves.com/>

Weebly has updated their site creator to make it even easier to create your own website. What a great way to share your family history research with others.

<http://www.weebly.com>

### War of 1812 Pension Files

Pension files can be an invaluable research and these early files can fill in family relationships that might not be described in many other records. The Federation of Genealogical Societies has partnered with the National Archives, Fold3 and Ancestry.com to digitize 7.2 million pages of War of 1812 Pension Records. They have over 586,000 images that have been digitized and are available on Fold3 to date. Ancestry has agreed to fund have the cost, the rest is being covered by private donations. The images are available for free to everyone at <http://www.fold3.com/>

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

FamilySearch.org has a new look. They have added Family Tree a way to share and preserve your research and connect with others researching the same families. Live help is available through online chat or over the telephone, there is a new cleaner look and the navigation has been updated. You can store photos and stories about your ancestors. There are lots of articles to get you started or provide help with your research on the Research Wiki. They add free records every week to further your research. Check it out.