



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

June 2004

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

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

<http://www.geocities.com/genfriendsghl>

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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.

July 17, 2004 - Barbara Coakley will talk to us about Immigration and Naturalization Records

August 21, 2004 - "Social History" by Lynne Darrouzet and "Creating An Ancestor" by Clare Molina

October 16, 2004 - Leo Baca will be returning to discuss DNA Research

November 20, 2004 - Learn to publish your genealogy finds on the Internet using Front Page - John Darrouzet

December 18, 2004 - Annual Show and Tell—Show off your findings

Gen Friends Presents John Humphrey

On Saturday, September 18, 2004, Genealogy Friends presents award-winning author, John T. Humphrey. John is the current president of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society and vice president of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. Mr. Humphrey's principal genealogical publication is the fourteen-volume set of Pennsylvania Births that list more than 170,000 birth in eleven eastern Pennsylvania counties prior to 1800. He has written other books and numerous articles, lectures widely on German and colonial research, and has appeared on national television and public radio. He was the former director of the National Genealogical Society Learning Center. Currently Mr. Humphrey is working on genealogical records created during World War II of interest to researchers in Germany and the United States. Topics will be:

Reconstructing Families on the Colonial Frontier - Records kept during the colonial period can be difficult to find or when they do exist, they are often incomplete causing serious obstacles to research. This lecture explores strategies to get around these obstacles by creatively using data found in the records that do exist.

Researching Pennsylvania Ancestors - If your ancestors are from the keystone state you need to know about Pennsylvania's deeds, warrants, patents, probate and vital records.

Researching German Ancestors: "The Agony and the Ecstasy" - This two hour introduction to German research explores obstacles like language and custom, and it looks at a variety of records kept by Germans both in the U.S. and Germany that will open the way to a rich source of research material.

Cost: Non-members before Sept 1, \$32, after Sept 1st, \$37 and Members \$25 Box Lunches from Jason's Deli will be available for purchase. They include a sandwich (turkey, ham, or roast beef), chips, a cookie, and a pickle. For more information contact Genealogy Friends at genfriends@comcast.net. Watch our web site for more information.

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.
- If you would like to serve on a committee to improve our events, please contact Weldon Fincher.

Lock Ins & Board Meetings

Library Lock In - October 29th.
Board Meeting will be July 20th.
The Annual Meeting will be October 4th.

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	

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

Get a deal on your dues, pay now for the rest of 2004 and 2005 for \$45. 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

Cornish Online Census Update—The 1891 Census returns for Cornwell have been transcribed and can be accessed at: <http://freecen.rootsweb.com/> or <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~kayhin/ukocp.html>

Plymouth County. Electronic edition of Williams Latham's "Epitaphs in Old Bridgewater" (1882) -- cemetery transcriptions for twelve major and several minor cemeteries in Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, and West Bridgewater. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mabridge/latham/contents.html>

You can research clothing styles to date photographs to within a twenty year period. <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/photos/photohelp.htm>

The Monroe County Illinois web page has a new coordinator. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilmcghs>

National World War II Memorial web site includes an online registry for veterans. <http://www.wwiimemorial.com/>

Website for Louisiana and Missouri records <http://www.vienici.com>

The Progenealogists web site has dozens of site links. <http://www.progenealogists.com/genealogysleuthb.htm>

Ancestral Villages UK provides the ability to register where your ancestors are from and search others researchers' submissions. <http://www.ancestral-villages.co.uk/>

Try this search engine <http://www.mamma.com>

Would you like to compare the purchasing power of today to that of your ancestors? <http://eh.net/hmit/ppowerusd/>

The Show Me Missouri Site contains historic maps <http://www.showmemissouri.com/maps/grandframe-historic-maps.htm>

Ohio Death Certificates Online <http://www.ohiohistory.org/dindex>

The Alexandria Virginia Library has several local history web sites, including a database of photos from the 18th to 20th century, and 40 year old property tax records <http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us>

Wisconsin's Mcmillan memorial Library site includes links to digitized collections http://www.mcmillanlibrary.org/local/local_history.html

The Lane Memorial Library in Hampton, NH has a digitized collection of history and photos. <http://www.hampton.lib.nh.us/hampton/history.htm>

There are a number of online pictorial exhibits on the West Virginia State Archives web site. <http://wvculture.org/history/exhibits.html>

Arizona birth and death certificates are available online as .pdf files <http://genealogy.az.gov>

The Library of Congress National Registry is a web site for veterans to submit their personal accounts of their service. <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/vets-registry.html>

Naturalization Papers from East St. Louis, Illinois are indexed and available online at the Illinois State Archives web site under the Illinois Regional Archives Databases. <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/databases.html>

Migrations is a web site where you can enter your ancestors and search submissions by others <http://migrations.org/>

The ABC genealogy web site contains links to reference information on numerous subjects including adoption, reference, religious groups, guides, ethnic, free stuff, etc. <http://www.abcgenealogy.com>

Thanks to Bill Walton for submitting web site information

PERSI

PERSI—the Periodical Souce Index was created by the Allen County Public Library in Indiana. It is a subject index of articles in genealogy and history periodicals that contains over 1.7 million entries. The names contained in an article are not included in the index, therefore, search for types of records in locations where you ancestors resided. Copies of the articles can be obtained from the Allen County Public Library. PERSI is now available on Heritage Quest. Contact the Reference Staff at the library to learn how to access Heritage Quest from your home.

Locating Land Records

Land records can help solve research problems, however they are not as easy to use as some other record groups.

- At a minimum finding a land record will place your ancestor at a point in time in a specific place.
- Since property sales include a dower release, if your ancestor is married and his wife is living, the wife's name should be included.
- Property sales between relatives often mention the relationship of the parties, the deed may be the only source that links a father and son.
- By plotting the location of the land on a map, you will be able to see the relationship of property owned by people of the same surname, close proximity may be an indication of a relationship.
- If you can locate the land on a USGS Map, you can also determine which schools and churches were near by, which might lead you to other record sources.
- Most deeds include the residence of the buyer and seller, which may provide the location your ancestor came from or moved to, thus proving that the person by that name in the next county really is your ancestor.

Not all deeds contain all these things but they are possibilities.

The first transaction relating to a piece of property normally occurs between a government and an individual. These records will most likely be located at an archives, federal, state or in another country. Original title passed to an individual in a number of ways—grants, homesteading, purchase, military bounty land, etc.

Thirty of the fifty United States contain public lands. The federal government had an abundance of land and it was disposed of to encourage military service, encourage settlement in specific areas, and to raise money. The records of homestead, cash and credit sales are indexed on the Bureau of Land Management web site, <<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov>>. The final step in the process of obtaining land from the Federal Government is issuing the patent. You can search the land patent records by state on the web site. You can also search by state, county, and land description to find out who acquired land near your ancestor. Using the land office, legal description, and file number you can order the cash entry, homestead or bounty land file from the National Archives. Refer to their web site for instructions, <http://www.archives.gov/research_room/obtain_copies/reproductions_overview.html>.

When land passes from one individual to another, the transaction is normally recorded in the county where the land is located. However, it might be recorded in the county where

one of the parties, buyer or seller, resided. In some In Connecticut, Rhode Island and Vermont, the deeds are recorded at the town instead of the county. Alaska has no counties, therefore, land transactions are recorded in one of four judicial districts. If a city is independent (St. Louis, Baltimore, etc.) and are not part of the county, the deeds will be recorded in the city. Remember that boundaries change over time, a piece of land now located in Monroe County, Illinois might have been part of St. Clair county at an earlier time period, therefore, the deed would be in the St. Clair county courthouse. Refer to the Red Book or the Handy Book for information on changes in county boundaries.

To locate a deed, you need to know the name of the buyer and/or seller. Most locations have indexes by both buyer and seller. Buyer indexes can be called grantee indexes or indirect indexes. Seller indexes can be called grantor or direct indexes. Most locations index by the first letter of the last name for a period of time. Pay attention to entries that include et al after the name of the buyer or seller. This indicates there are multiple parties involved. This often appears when heirs are selling land they inherited. Since indexes differ, it is a good idea to consult a clerk to determine how they are organized. The index should include the book and page number where the deed is located. A large number of land records have been microfilmed and are available through the Family History Library. To determine if the location you need is available, search the FHL catalog by the name of the location where the records should be and look for Land and Property records.

It is important to read the entire deed. Most deeds contain boilerplate language that is the same in all transactions. This language can provide clues to the type of deed – warranty, quit claim, etc. In addition to the names of both the buyer and seller, the legal description of the property, and the consideration (amount paid for the purchase), deeds can contain the residence of the buyer and seller, relationships of the parties, names of witnesses, names of neighbors, and will indicate if your ancestor could sign his/her name. If the signature is an X, they probably could not sign their name. If the consideration is \$1.00 this usually means there is a mortgage or that the buyer and seller are related. If the seller is married there should be a dower release included in the deed book. This normally contains the name of the wife.

Another good practice is to look at the deeds surrounding those of your ancestors. Some things may be recorded in the deed books, but may not be included in the index. By doing this, I found the deed for the purchase of a canal boat on the

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Land Records Web Sites

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) web site contains a searchable database of public lands—cash sales, homesteads, and bounty lands.

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov>

The International Internet Genealogical Society University has a self-paced, online course in US Land and Property Research.

<http://users.arn.net/~billco/uslpr.htm>

Direct Line Software the makers of DeedMapper sponsor a web site with links to informational sites about land research <http://users.rcn.com/deeds/landref.htm>

The BLM's Land Survey Information System overlays the Public Land Survey System on a variety of maps <http://www.geocommunicator.gov/lis/>

Land Ownership maps in the Library of Congress <http://www.kinquest.com/genealogy/resources/lom.html>

Federal Township Plats for the State of Illinois http://landplats.ilsos.net/Flash/FTP_Illinois.html

The Texas General Land Office web site contains a land grant database <http://www.glo.state.tx.us>

The Indiana State Archives web site has information about land records in Indiana and a searchable database for entries from the Fort Wayne land office <http://www.in.gov/icpr/archives/databases/land/landindx.html>

The Connecticut State Library published a Research Guide to Connecticut Land Records on their web site. <http://www.cslib.org/landrec.htm>

The State Archives of Georgia web site contains information about land records, land grants, head rights, bounty land, and land lotteries in Georgia. <http://www.sos.state.ga.us/archives/rs/land.htm>

The North Carolina State Archives web page provides information on their collection, including land records. <http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/archives/arch/default.htm>

This website is an animated map displaying land transactions in Illinois by year <http://www.museum.state.il.us/exhibits/il-gis/puranim.html>

Land Sales In Illinois contains a searchable index of Illinois Public Land Sales.

<http://www.outfitters.com/illinois/history/family/land.html>

The Library of Virginia web site offers searchable databases on their archives and manuscript catalog and land office patents and grants as well as collection guides.

<http://www.museum.state.il.us/exhibits/il-gis/puranim.html>

The Oregon/Washington Bureau of Land Management Land Records web site provides online access to title plats, historical indexes and survey plats.

<http://landprx.pdxproxy.blm.gov>

The Oregon State Archives web site contains information regarding land records available.

<http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/land.html>

The Maryland State Archives web site contains finding aids and an explanation of the patent process.

<http://www.mdarchives.state.md.us/msa/refserv/genealogy/html/land.html>

Oklahoma Department of Libraries web site includes information about land records, stories of early landowners and links to other web sites.

<http://www.odl.state.ok.us/oar/land-records>

The Kansas State Historical Society web site contains information on land records.

<http://www.kshs.org/genealogists/land>

Visit this web site for information on obtaining land records from New Zealand

<http://www.linz.govt.nz/rcs/linz/pub/web/root/core/TitlesAndRecords/landrecords/index.jsp>

The Archives of Ontario web site includes an online land record index

<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/english/virtualrr/info12.htm>

The Archives of Manitoba contains information on Crown Land Records and Hudson Bay Red River Land Records

http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/genealogy/gen_text/land_rec.html



Education Opportunities

2004

July 12-Aug 30, Genealogy I, Lynne M. Darrouzet, JD, CGRS will be teaching at Collin County Community College on Monday nights from 6:30 - 9 pm.

July 11-16 The Genealogical Institute of Mid-America will hold its tenth annual study program in Springfield, Illinois. Details are available from the Institute Director, Ms. Susan Kaufman at kaufmansusan@juno.com

July 11-17 The National Institute on Genealogical Research will be held at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Visit their website for more information - <http://www.rootsweb.com/~natgenin>

September 8-11 "Legends Live Forever - Researching the Past for Future Generations" FGS 2004 Conference will be held in Austin, Texas. Topics include oral history, writing your family story, using social history in genealogy, foreign research, immigration and naturalization, Texas and the southwest. The conference hotel will be the Hilton Conference Center. To sign up for the conference e-zine send a message to ezine@fgs.org. More information is available at the FGS web site <http://www.fgs.org>.

Newsletter Articles

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.

Collin County Historic Photographs Web Site

Members of GenFriends are contributing photographs of Collin County to the newest Gen Friends web site. www.rootsweb.com/~txcolli3

Gen Friends 3rd Annual Research Retreat

Mark your calendars. The 3rd Annual Research Retreat to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah will be January 30 to February 6, 2005.

Research in the largest genealogy library in the United States with your colleagues. Assistance will be available from veteran researchers. We have had a great time the last two years. Everyone returned with new information about ancestors. Plan on joining us.

Watch our web site for more details http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl/retreat_slc.htm

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/genfriendsghle>.

The goal is to expand the knowledge of those researching in Collin County and North Texas.

The site is under construction with new items being added frequently, check it out often. Submissions are welcome.

Genealogy Codicil for Your Will

To protect your research and papers add a codicil to your will:

Genealogical Codicil to My Last Will and Testament

To my spouse, children, guardian, administrator and/or executor:

Upon my demise it is requested that you DO NOT dispose of any or all of my genealogical records, both those prepared personally by me and those records prepared by others which may be in my possession, including but not limited to books, files, notebooks or computer programs for a period of two years. During this time period, please attempt to identify one or more persons who would be willing to take custody of the said materials and the responsibility of maintaining and continuing the family histories. [If you know whom within your family or friends are likely candidates to accept these materials, please add the following at this point: "I suggest that the persons contacted regarding the assumption of the custody of these items include but not be limited to" and then list the names of those individuals at this point, with their addresses and telephone numbers if known]

In the event you do not find anyone to accept these materials, please contact the various genealogical organizations that I have been a member of and determine if they will accept some parts or all of my genealogical materials. [List of organizations, addresses and phone numbers at bottom; include local chapters, with their addresses, phone numbers and contact persons if available as well as state/national contact information and addresses]

Please remember that my genealogical endeavors consumed a great deal of time, travel, and money. Therefore it is my desire that the products of these endeavors be allowed to continue in a manner that will make them available to others in the future.

Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

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.

NARA Needs Volunteers

The National Archives and Records Administration, Southwest Region in Fort Worth is seeking volunteers to assist the public with research. If you have an interest in genealogy, history, or simply enjoy helping others, Monday through Friday from 6:30 am to 4:30 pm and Saturdays 8 am to 4 pm, give us a call at 817-334-5525.

The Year 1904

The year is 1904, one hundred years ago... what a difference a century makes.

- The average life expectancy in the US was 47.
- Only 14% of the homes in the US had a bathtub.
- Only 8% of the homes had a telephone.
- There were only 8,000 CARS in the US and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average US worker made between \$200-\$400/year.
- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000/year, a dentist \$2,500/year, a veterinarian between \$1,500-\$4,000/year, and a mechanical engineer \$5,000/year.
- More than 95% of all births in the US took place at home.
- 90% of all US physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as "substandard."

New In The Library

The following books, CD's, maps, etc. have been added to the Genealogy section of the Gladys Harrington Library:

- Cite Your Sources: A Manual for Documenting Family Histories and Genealogical Records GEN 929.1 LAC
- The Organized Family Historian GEN 929.1072 FLE
- Easton Album (Maryland) GEN 975.232 HAR
- Planting Your Family Tree Online GEN 929.10285 HOW
- The Family Tree Guide Book to Europe: Your Passport to Tracing Your Genealogy Across Europe GEN 929.1072 FAM
- Todd County, Kentucky 1850 Federal Census GEN 929.376977 JON
- Abstracts of Wills and Records Recorded in Books A & B, Montgomery County, Tennessee, 1796-1818 GEN 929.376845 DAR
- Kentucky Confederate Veteran and Widows Pension Index GEN 929.3769 SIM
- Graves County, KY: Census of 1860 GEN 929.376993 REC
- Abstracts of Will Books 1797-1900, Christian County, Kentucky GEN 929.376978 GAR
- Cemetery Records of Montgomery County, Tennessee, Volume II GEN 929.376845 DAR
- Christian County, Kentucky 1850 Federal Census GEN 929.376978 SON
- Marriage records of Graves County, KY for the Period 1852 thru 1859 GEN 929.376993 SIM
- Graves County, KY Marriage Records, Vol. Two GEN 929.376993 SIM
- Calloway County, Kentucky 1850 Federal Census: Key to Column Headings GEN 929.376992 SON
- Caswell County, North Carolina: Land Grants, Tax Lists, State Census, Apprentice Bonds, Estate Bonds GEN 929.3756575 KEN
- 1850 Federal Census of Montgomery County, Tennessee GEN 929.376845 ALL
- Cemetery Records of Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Part I: Cemeteries on Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Part II: Cemeteries Removed from Fort Campbell, Kentucky GEN 929.3769 DAR
- Dobberstein Registry: the Genealogy and History of 19th Century Dobberstein Immigrants from Prussia and Their Offspring in America GEN 929.308931073
- An atlas of trails west of the Mississippi River GEN 911.78 ELD
- An atlas of Appalachian trails to the Ohio River GEN 911.74 ELD
- Texas forgotten ports: mid-Gulf Coast ports from Corpus Christi to Matagorda Bay GEN 976.41 GUT
- A History of Winkler County, 1887-1984 GEN 976.4913 HIS

Locating Land Records (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

C&O Canal in Cumberland, MD. My ancestor sold his house and purchased the boat on the same day. The sale of the house was in the grantor index however, the purchase of the boat was not in the grantee index. If your ancestor lived a great distance from the county seat, they may have collected a number of transactions and gone to town and had them all recorded on one day. Also, relatives may have taken their deeds in to be recorded together, therefore, they would be grouped together in the deed book. Recording deeds in a timely manner was not always a high priority with our ancestors. Also, if land passed from one family member to another they may not have recorded the transaction, due to the fee, until the land passed out of the family.

Plotting the land on a map can provide a visual depiction of the land owned by your ancestors. This is especially helpful if you have multiple ancestors in one location. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 Minute maps include the boundaries of sections, townships and ranges. One inch represents 2,000 feet and they contain churches, cemeteries, roads, and waterways. You can order the maps on the USGS web site <http://mapping.usgs.gov/esic/prices/maps.html>. There is also a growing collection of 7.5 Minute maps available online—<http://www.lsi.blm.gov/lis2/map.htm>. Land records can provide valuable information about our ancestors and are definitely worth the effort to locate, read and analyze carefully.