



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News  
June 2014

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

## Schedule of Events

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2014. 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:

**June 21, 2014**—Family Search Updates by Lynell Moss.

### Future Topics

**July 19, 2014**—Barbara Rust from the National Archives will speak to us about researching Native American ancestors.

**August 16, 2014**—Cheryl Smith will speak on What the Library Can Do For You.

**September 20, 2014**—To be announced

**October 25, 2014**—All Day Seminar - "Homeland Research". Save the date and stay tuned.

**November 15, 2014**—To be announced

**The Legacy Users Group** meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, downstairs at Haggard Library from 1:30 to 3:30. There is an after meeting session if you need one on one help. Contact [ptxlegacyug@verizon.net](mailto:ptxlegacyug@verizon.net)

## Index

Announcements	2
Lavon State Bank	3
Flashback—Tracing Our Collin County Roots	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
Colonial Ills, Brews & Concoctions	\$10
Library 101: Using Dewey Decimal Sys	\$10
Compiled Newsletters with Index	\$15

### Logo T Shirts & Bags

Genfriends has logo t shirts, sweatshirts, Henley's, polo shirts and tote bags for sale. They have a dark green printed logo. Shirts are available in toddler through XXXL. Ask at the registration table for more information.

### 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

### Genealogy Class

Online Genealogy will be offered at Collin College on Wednesday nights from October 1 to November 5th 6:30 to 9:00 pm. This is a hands on class taught by Barbara Coakley. The class focuses on using online resources in your family history research.

### Leona Richardson

One of our former speakers died this month. Leona Richardson spoke to us about courthouse research. This was a subject which she knew well since she had worked for the County Clerk's office in Collin County for over 20 years.

Those of us who were doing Collin County deed research 20 years ago remember Leona. She was the one who asked everybody, "Can I hep ya?" She worked in the deed department back before computers and before the files and deeds were scanned and digitized. She is the one who taught me how to use the old deed books and indices. She had worked for a Title company before that. She knew all about land records. She retired about 15 years ago.

Leona was born and raised in the northeastern part of the county, east of Blue Ridge. She was a fount of historic information about the area. She lived a couple of miles east of Blue Ridge in the Frognot community. The Frognot School had been located on her property. All that is left of Frognot now is the water department that supplies water for much of the area between Farmersville and Blue Ridge, to the east and north county lines. While traveling north on Hwy 78 near Blue Ridge, you may have seen the water towers with the big green frog painted on them. That's the Frognot Water Department.

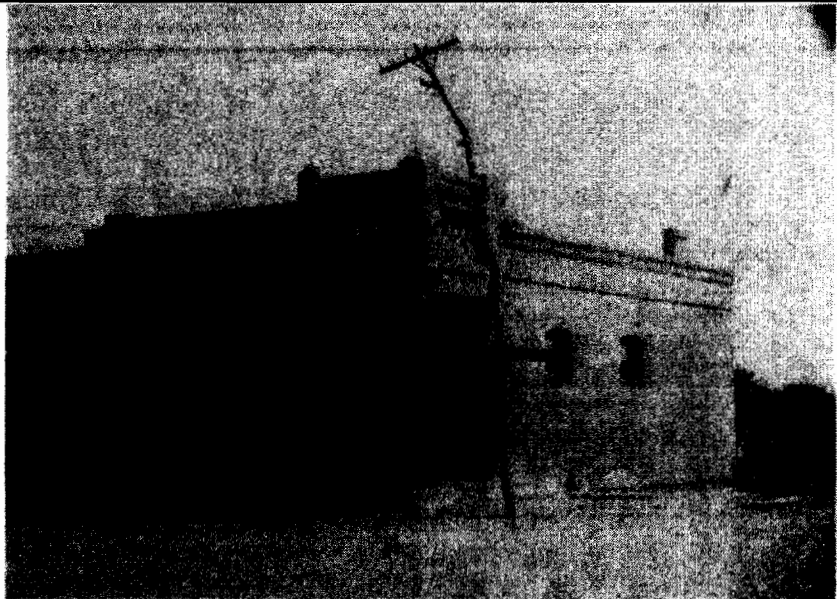
When the Texas State Historical Marker was obtained for Frognot, she supplied much of the historic information. Ironically, the Frognot historical marker will be dedicated on June 28, just weeks after her death. She was buried in the Blue Ridge Cemetery. She will be missed.

## Lavon State Bank

By Joy Gough

### Lavon State Bank

The Collin County Historical marker for the Lavon State Bank was dedicated on May 17. The bank was located on the north side of the town of Lavon next to present-day Hwy 78. Directions to the site are to take Hwy 78 to Lavon. At the north end of the viaduct, immediately turn east. The building will be at the corner of the first cross street.



### Lavon State Bank

The Lavon State Bank was built in 1907. The construction of the bank building required that the home of Civil War veteran James L. Rees and Marandia Rees be moved down the street from the construction site. The home was rolled on logs, with Mrs. Rees continuing to prepare a meal for boarders while it was rolled. A team of mules pulled the house with logs under it; when one log came out at the back, the men would hurriedly place it under the front of the house for it to continue to roll. Lula Forder, who was a young girl, remembered sitting on the stairway watching the Native Americans pass by their home during this time. The house, which was moved for the bank site, still stands today as the oldest home in Lavon.

Once the home was moved, the Lavon State Bank and an adjoining store were built together. Mr. Lee Cade was the owner of the store. The bank had a counter for the teller to make transactions and a safe to secure money. The bank was very prosperous; it was owned by O. C. Bergin at one time. Times became difficult, and the bank closed on December 18, 1920; it merged into the First State Bank of Wylie, Texas. Later, the bank building was used for a saw shop, a café, and an antique store. Miles and Juanita Williams had a café in the bank building in the 1950's and 1960's. In the 1960's, scenes from the movie, *Bonnie and Clyde*, were shot in the bank. In 2002, Robert Shaw restored the building, the only remaining historic building in the original town site of Lavon. In 2013, the historic building is used as an antique store by owners, Robert and Elena Shaw.

## Flashback—Tracing Our Collin County Roots

By Brenda aKellow

The Plano Star-Courier, Plano, Collin County, Texas

April 12, 1956

Vol. 68, No. 49

Compiled by Brenda Kellow, 2013

p. 1 A. R. Schell, representative on the North Texas Municipal Water District, announced the water line from Lake Lavon are about finished and the building of the three water tanks for Plano are about to begin. Citizens are excited about the increased water supply becoming available to the city. Water rates have increased in anticipation of the forthcoming cost. Lake Lavon cost over twelve million dollars to build will keep us supplied with water through the ages. It is thousands of acres of reclaimed land and has 83 miles of shoreline.

Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Thurman, owners of the Farm Kitchen Café and local bus station, included the bus schedule in their ad. It tells the time, morning and evening, northbound and southbound, and whether it is the Grayhound, Continental or Mooney bus.

The Plano Garden Club holds its Flower Show on April 28, 2-9 p.m., at the Community House.

In addition to the Newspaper collection of pencils, J.D. Phipps, highway patrolman, and Leon Dugger of Dugger Motors and local Ford dealer, also collect pencils.

You can't get more for your money than with the \$1.75 poll tax. It is the cheapest investment in Democracy you can get.

Dr. J. T. Carlisle is guest speaker for the Men's Club Organization of the Methodist Church on April 17, at 7 p.m.

Dr. Daniel Lee McDowell, 76 years, nine months and 11 days old, passed away at his Plano home. Services were at the First Baptist Church with Rev. Arthur J. Fineout and Rev. Jink Brundridge officiating. He was born in Bradley County, Tennessee, but lived in Plano since 1940 and was a minister here. He is survived by his wife, 4 children, Mrs. Ray Skaggs of Plano, K. W. McDowell of Dallas, Hoyt McDowell of Houston, Mrs. Raymond L. Robinson of Waco, one sister Mrs. M. G. Green of Dallas, three brothers J. L. McDowell of Aspermont, Texas, S. R. McDowell of Tulia, and J. H. McDowell of Wylie, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He married Connie Lee Knight on December 24, 1903 in Fate, Texas. He died 1:20 a.m. on April 6.

A record 483 people voted in the School Board election. They are Dr. George W. Apple over J. C. Turner. R. E. Carpenter was returned to the Board over Jarrell Davis. The seven candidates were R. E. Carpenter, Frank Price, Johnnie Dickerson, Mrs. Loren D. Gordon, Jarrell Davis, George W. Apple, J. C. Turner. Messers Frank Price and Johnny Dickerson are present board members along with Mr. Carpenter. Election Judge was B. B. Carpenter, Jr. Holding the election were Mr. Carpenter, Mrs. J. C. Pannell, Dewey Wisner and Frank Pannell.

Danny Glenn was born to parents Mr. and Mrs. Albert R. French on March 19 in McKinney.

Mr. Ray Yarbrough is at St. Paul Hospital after suffering a heart attack on Sunday.

McKinney Optometrist Dr. Charles B. McKissick announced Dr. Ralph Butts of Irving will assume his Plano practice due to the inconvenience of maintaining two offices.

Clyde Haggard came home from the McKinney-County Hospital in McKinney.

Durce Guthrie of Plano was killed about 10 o'clock Wednesday morning on his job at Restland Memorial Park when his tractor turned over and crushed him beneath. He is survived by his wife, four children and his parents of Plano.

The FFA holds its Spring Project Show on Friday, April 13.

Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Hendrick have been in their shoe shop in Plano for two years. They thank the citizens of Plano for their patronage.

At the Arapaho Drive-in Theatre in Richardson for the rest of the week are the following movies: Steve Allen and Donna Reed in *The Benny Goodman Story*. The second feature is Disney Productions *Night Fright*. The midnight show is, *Murder is my Beat*. Next movie is Randolph Scott in *Lawless Street*. Second Feature is *Inside Detroit* with Pat O'Brien and Dennis O'Keefe. Later in the week is Van Heflin and Tab Hunter in *Battle Cry*. Sec-

## Flash Back—Tracing Our Collin County Roots

- ond feature is *East of East* starring James Dean and Julie Harris. All are in Technicolor.
- p. 2 Larry Uland spent the weekend with his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Uland in Farmersville.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. (Pat) Clark have returned to Plano after living in McKinney for one year. They are living in the Deason's Apartments.  
Mr. and Mrs. Bud Funderburgh and children visited the Methodist Church Sunday.
- p. 3 Don Cameron was rushed to the hospital on Saturday after he was hit with a shot put at the track meet. He suffered two broken ribs. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Cameron.  
Mrs. Don Stogner entertained the Thursday Study Club with a luncheon on April 5. Her table was covered with an Italian cutwork table cloth with a rare candelabrum with French arrangements of pink flowers on either side. Mrs. Fred Myers was director of the day and presented an entertaining program. Guests were Mrs. Earl Mark of Williams, Iowa, and Mrs. Gust Gray. The next meeting will be at the home of the club president, Mrs. Paul Stone-man at the Lazy S Farm.  
The music group of Mrs. George P. Frysinger meet Wednesday at the home of George H. Jones. Roll call was answered with facts about Mozart's life.  
Mr. and Mrs. Homer Horton, Jr., and daughter Laurie Lynn, of Port Lavaca, after spending the week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Horton, Sr. Mr. Horton, Jr. is hospital administrator of Port Lavaca Hospital.  
First National Bank is offering low money loans.
- p. 4 Funeral services were held for former Collin County Sheriff, William Allen Kirby on Friday at the First Methodist Church with Rev. H. C. Hoy conducting the service. Burial was at Pecan Grove Cemetery. Kirby, 79, was born in the Forest Grove Community. He was a sheriff for over 40 years. He is survived by his wife and son Irving Kirby of Dallas, daughter Mrs. Leon Moses of McKinney, three sisters, two brothers, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.  
Plano hosted the Track and Field meet Saturday at Rice Field. Plano captured first place, Allen second place and Blue Ridge third. From Blue Ridge were Cloyd Braswell and Tommy Tidwell. Plano participants were Perry Bolin, Bill Spearman and Danny Slayden. Perry Bolin ran the 50 yard dash in six seconds flat. Danny Slayden ran 100 yards in 12.8 seconds.  
Community worker Mrs. George Wyatt of Plano was nominated secretary of Children's Work in the Sherman-McKinney District of North Texas. Mrs. Tom George was recently named president of the North Texas Conference.  
Jack Harrington of Harrington Furniture was confined to his bed with the flu over the weekend.  
C. L. Harrington is owner of Harrington Appliances. Call 142 for service.  
Graves Dress Shop has multiple weekend specials.
- p. 5 The Member Cities of the North Texas Municipal Water District invited the Board of Directors of member cities and newspaper men to visit the Water Treatment Plant in Wylie on April 13.  
Otho "Fatty" Nitcholas, McKinney Police Chief, visited in Plano this past week.  
Plano Rotary President Don R. Bagwill named Alex Schell Jr., general chairman of the annual party and entertainment. Meanwhile, Leon Dugger chairman of the committee for entertainment for the workers who secured Central Expressway through Plano.  
Supreme Forest Woodmen Circle members from the Sugart-Hamlin District hold their annual convention April 22 at the Woodmen of the World Hall in McKinney.  
C. L. Bishop of Frisco is improving after suffering cerebral hemorrhaging in his home Thursday night. He is in the City-County Hospital in McKinney. Mr. Bishop is the father of Mrs. Ethel Kennedy and Ernest Bishop of Frisco and Mrs. Charlie Pearson of Plano.  
Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Bishop of Richardson have a new baby daughter, Deborah Jeane, born at 4 a.m. on April 2. Mrs. Bishop is the former Shirley Jean Locke
- p. 6 Mr. and Mrs. George Wyatt spent the weekend in Rosenberg, Texas visiting their son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. Lee Clisbee and their pretty little granddaughter Kathy.  
J. F. Howell, agent for the Cotton Belt in Plano is improving after a stay in the hospital.  
Pat DeVasher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jewell DeVasher, severely cut his arm Sunday afternoon playing in his yard. Pat had five stitches to close the cut.

## Flashback—Tracing Our Collin County Roots

E. O. Harrington has Lane Cedar Chests for the graduate for \$49.95.

Rev. Robert Collinsworth is changing the time of his weekly broadcast on McKinney's KMAE from 9 a.m. on Saturdays to Sundays from 4-4:30 p.m. starting April 22.

Mrs. J. O. Reed returns home after a stay in a Dallas hospital where she will continue to improve.

Members of the Activities Class of the First Methodist Church honored Mr. and Mrs. Roy Murrell with a surprise housewarming party for their new home on Avenue N. Mr. Murrell is teacher of the Activities Class.

Mrs. J. O. Reed thanks everyone for the prayers and flowers during her recent illness.

p. 7 The Dallas Times Herald Newspaper is available at Kimbell's Drive-In.

Notice to bidders. On April 18, Collin County Commissioner's Court will receive bids on the following property: 4 room brick house known as the Lunsford House, 511 15<sup>th</sup> Street; the Ford home at 508 15<sup>th</sup> Street; the Tussy home, 507 15<sup>th</sup> Street. All of this land acquired by the county for Highway 75 and the new Expressway. These homes must be sold for case in sealed bids. The houses must be moved 15 days within purchase. Signed, W. E. Button, County Judge, by order of The Commissioners' Court.

C. L. Harrington Appliances has the new RCA Victor TV with 4-plus picture quality. \$169.95.

Mrs. George P. Frysinger will present Miss Deanna Bourn in a piano recital Sunday, April 15 at 3 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church. She will be assisted by Miss Mary Virginia Wyatt reader, and Stanley Wray White accordionist.

p. 8 Nathan E. White named chairman of Rotary event in Plano on April 26.

The State Fair of Texas will celebrate 15 seasons of the best in Broadway entertainment June 11 through September 2.

Dugger Motors has the new modern Ford station wagons with 225 horsepower, Thunderbird V-8 special power engine.

Mrs. Will Schimelpfneig, 900 17<sup>th</sup> Street, is improving after two weeks with the flu.

Students elect Lester Prince Junior Rotarian. He is an outstanding athlete and co-captain of the football team, center fielder on the baseball team and member of the track team.

Mrs. James Dilts of 900 Haggard Street is improving after an illness.

**PUZZLE:** From the abstracted obituary on page one of the newspaper for Dr. Daniel Lee McDowell, how many clues are evident for a family historian?

**ANSWER:** His birthday, using time and date calculator at [www.timeanddate.com/date/dateadd.html](http://www.timeanddate.com/date/dateadd.html), was Monday, July 1, 1878; Place of birth; exact date of death, time and place; wife's maiden name; date of marriage and place; date moved to Plano; occupation; married names of daughters and places of residence; sons' names and residences; numbers of grandchildren and great-grandchildren; possibly a Baptist by faith.

Is this all you can learn? No. This obituary is abstracted from a newspaper. Don't stop with an abstracted copy. If you read the microfilm copy or a copy online, you will find many more facts. The first glaring difference I noticed was that he was actually born April 27, 1879, therefore there is a discrepancy causing the researcher to check Collin County death records; his parents' names; moved at age 16 from Tennessee to Rockwall, Texas; information about him from age 16 onward; his schooling; churches he ministered; only four of their six children grew to be adults; member of the Woodmen of the World; and more.

Always read the obituary or article yourself to find all the clues.

I hope you are enjoying the articles. Brenda Kellow