



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

October, 2003

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

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

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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.

November 15, 2003 - John Daroulette will teach us how to use Microsoft Access to build databases to assist us in our Genealogy research.

December 20, 2003 - Show and Tell, re-live your grade school days, bring some of your most memorable genealogy finds and "brag" about them to the group.

January 17, 2004 - To Be Announced.

Second Annual Research Retreat

Join members of Genealogy Friends February 1-8, 2004 on our second annual Research Retreat to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, UT. The Retreat includes:

- Library Orientation by FHL Staff
- Seminar on FHL Research by a Professional Genealogist
- Individual and Group Consultations with Experienced Genealogists

Registration Deadline: December 12, 2003

For more information contact Genealogy Friends at genfriends@comcast.net.

To register complete the form on our website www.rootsweb.com/~txgfpl.

Library Lock Ins

Mark your calendars the next 2003 Library Lock In will be October 24th a Halloween Treat. Come dressed as your favorite ancestor. For a \$10.00 donation, you can spend 5 hours researching with the exclusive use of the genealogy reference section of the Gladys Harrington Library. Volunteers and library staff will be available to answer questions and help with the genealogy section resources. Pizza and a soft drink are also available for an additional \$4.00.

Classes available include:

- Cemetery Research on the Internet
- Social History Research on the Internet
- One on one sessions with experienced researchers
- Internet Search Engines
- Reference Books Tour
- Using a GPS

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 the Reference Desk.

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.

Publications For Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

Plano Star Courier Index 1904-1910	\$20
Plano Star Courier Index 1911-1917	\$20
Revised Genealogy Section Catalog for GHL	\$30
Cemeteries of Collin County, TX	\$20
Place Names of Collin County, TX	\$10
Railroads in Collin County, TX	\$10
Disaster in McKinney	\$10
Military Investigations: Red, White & Blue	\$10
Colonial Ills, Brews & Concoctions	\$10
Library 101: Using Dewey Decimal Systems	\$10

Donations

Fishbowl

Please consider placing a donation in our fishbowl. The money is used to buy CD's for the Genealogy Section of the library

Web Sites

Maps are essential in genealogical research. This web site allows you to download blank maps of all 50 states or countries that you can use to illustrate the migration paths, homes, etc. of your ancestors. Click on Blank/Outline Maps. <http://geography.about.com>

The Virtual American Biographies web site contains over 30,000 personalities. I found a collateral ancestor listed. Check it out. <http://www.famousamericans.net>

Ohio Migration Trails are depicted on this web site created by Maggie Stewart-Zimmerman. There are also links to other items of interest for researching in Ohio. <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/%7Emaggieoh/Gwen/migration.htm>

Beau Sharbrough speaks and writes on Genealogy and technology. He has a web site where you can read his articles. <http://www.rootsworks.com/genarticles.htm>

Probate records can help break down genealogy brick walls. Whether your ancestor left a will (testate) or died with out a will (intestate), if they owned property the probate packet could contain information about the heirs, the property they owned, and their life. Cyndi's List contains numerous links to web sites with articles about using probate records and to sources on the internet for probate records. <http://www.cyndislist.com/wills.htm#General>

James Newsham & James Newsham

John Newsham and Alice Walker Newsham brought their family from Lancashire, England through New Orleans to Monroe County, Illinois in April, 1930. Their family included six children, James, John, Ellen, Joseph, William, and Mary Ann Newsham, my 2nd great grandmother. Like all good genealogists, I researched all of the children. Some of the records that I had found for James Newsham did not fit together.

During a trip to Salt Lake City, I found my first clue about why the records weren't making sense. I pulled the microfilm of estate packets for Monroe County and started copying all of the Newsham records (always look at records for everyone of the surname you are searching). There were two estate packets for James Newsham, ah hah, it appears there were two men by the same name. Next I searched the probate court records for all Newsham entries. Again, records mentioned two death dates. To make matters even more complicated when James Newsham (1) died James Newsham (2) was appointed guardian for his children. Now I needed to determine which records belonged to which James.

To begin this task I printed out the Family Group Sheet from my genealogy program. Since I didn't realize that there was more than one person, I had been entering everything I found together. Next, I gathered all the records out of the file and arranged them chronologically. Each was entered into an excel spreadsheet. The spreadsheet contains columns for Date, Event, Place, Source, Notes, James Jr. and James Sr. Laying out the records made it possible to find those that fit together. As I identified a record belonging to one James or the other I placed an x in the appropriate column.

To assist with determining which land belonged to which James, I plotted out each deed record for the entire family in Monroe County on a Section Graphing Guide purchased from Heritage Consulting. I used a different color for each ancestor. I also created an excel spreadsheet for each piece of property showing who purchased it and when, and who sold it an when.

I believe that James Sr. is a brother or cousin of John Newsham and James Jr. is the son of John Newsham.

John Sr. was born 30 March 1801 probably in Preston, Lancashire, England. He married Nancy Ann Parkinson on 28 September 1826 probably in Preston. They had 8 children, Agnes, Ann, Thomas, Edward, James, Robert, Joseph, and Eliza C. The family came to the US between 25 June 1840 when Robert was born probably in Preston and 14

Tracing Our Roots Column

The "Tracing Our Roots" column 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>.



December 1843 when Eliza was born in Monroe County.

Nancy died 20 November 1845. James died sometime before 1 June 1846 when James Jr was appointed Administrator for his estate. He died in testate according to his estate file. Since he had minor children there were numerous probate records. James Jr. was appointed guardian to Edward, Joseph, and James 19 October 1847. Ann was appointed guardian for Thomas, Edward, Joseph, James and Eliza. Shortly after this Ann married Charles Speck and her siblings are with the family on numerous records in St. Louis. On 9 Jul 1849 Thomas Coop was appointed guardian to Agnes, a minor heir of James Newsham. There is a petition of partition of land in Monroe County in 1850, Agnes Newsham vs. Ann, Thomas, Edward, James, Joseph, Robert, and Eliza Newsham (all previously identified as children of James Sr.). The land was originally owned by Edward Newsham, John's older brother.

James Jr. was born in Cottam, Lancashire, England 7 May 1818. He and his family arrived in New Orleans on the Tallahassee on 12 April 1830 and were in Monroe County in time to be enumerated on the 1830 Census. James died 23 June 1849 and was buried in St. Augustine Cemetery in Monroe County. I have not found a marriage record for James Jr., however, in his estate packet, there is a receipt of payment to Mary Newsham for boarding and keeping his infant child twelve months old. Mary could be James's sister Mary Ann, his Aunt, Edward's wife, Mary or possibly his wife.

What's next? Create a research plan to identify what sources need to be checked to fill in the holes. A few are:

- Locate the deed records to fill in the holes on the bought and sold matrix.
- Look for a marriage record for James Jr. and a baptism record for their child.
- Look for the immigration record for James Sr. and his family.

With careful analysis it is possible to identify which records belong to two individuals of the same name in the same place at the same time.

Education Opportunities

2003

October 25 The Dallas Genealogical Society will sponsor a Genealogical Seminar "Texas: the Lone Star State" featuring Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck. For registration information contact the society's Web site <http://www.dallasgenealogy.org>.

October 25 The San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society presents its annual seminar. For more information: <http://saghs.home.texas.net/>

October 27 - 31 The Regional In-depth Genealogical Studies Alliance in cooperation with the National Archives Southwest Region (Ft Worth) announces a workshop . For more details, visit the Web site at <http://www.RIGSAlliance.org>.

2004

January 12-16, The Utah Genealogical Association announces its 9th Annual Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. This week long institute will offer 10 tracks of learning. For details for this institute, please see www.infouga.org.

January 22-24, Gentech 2004, Preserving the Past—Exploring the Future, will be held in St. Louis, Missouri. Information is available at <http://stlgs.org/gentech2004/>

February 7, The Dallas Genealogical Society will feature Hank Z Jones. For more information visit their web site — <http://www.dallasgenealogy.org/>

May 19-22, The National Genealogical Society annual conference will be held in Sacramento, California.

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

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 genfriends@comcast.net.

Dues Are Due

It is time for us to pay our dues. Single: \$30. Family: \$50. Friend: \$100; Gold: \$500; Platinum: \$1000. 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.

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 genfriends@comcast.net.