

DCGS NEWS

D E N T O N C O U N T Y G E N E A L O G I C A L S O C I E T Y

SEPTEMBER MEETING THURSDAY SEPT 12, 2019



1896- Denton County Courthouse-

The Denton County Genealogical Society meets on the second Thursday during the months on September-November and January-May. 6:30 P.M. Denton Public Library, Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland St., Denton, TX 76201 www.genealogydentontexas.org

PROGRAM: “Local Resources for Long Distance Research”

SPEAKERS: Laura Douglas & Eric Kaszynski

Join us Thursday, September 12 at the Emily Fowler Central Library for the monthly meeting of the DCGS. This month’s program will focus on the genealogical resources and services provided by the Denton Public Library and the Denton Family History Center. It doesn’t matter if your ancestors lived just around the block or half a world away you can find a plethora of information without leaving town. Both the Special Collections Research Area at the Denton Public Library and the Family History Center can provide free access to popular online genealogy services and other internet websites, physical records and staff that can help you in your research. This presentation will provide an overview of the facilities and the services they provide.

Laura Douglas, is the librarian in charge of the Special Collections with the Denton Public Library. Laura has a Bachelor of Science degree in History from Texas Woman’s University and

received her Master of Library Science degree from the University of North Texas in 2003. She has worked at Denton Public in various positions for 28 years including children’s services, adult services, genealogy and local history. In addition to getting to help other people with their ancestry hunt Laura teaches genealogical research classes at the public library.

Eric B Kaszynski Jr. is the current director of the Family History Center of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 3000 Old North Rd. in Denton. Born in Dallas TX in 1950, he grew up in Dallas and Lewisville. Work took him away from the metroplex for a number of years to Oklahoma, South Texas, Mexico and Kansas. Eric returned to Denton in 1998, infected with the Genealogy bug. Working initially in Personal Ancestral File and then with new.familysearch and for the past several years with FamilySearch Family Tree. He served an 18-month mission for the Church doing telephone support for FamilySearch products in 2014-2015 and has worked as a local volunteer since then. For Eric, Family Tree’s collaborative approach makes Family History a family affair.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer break is over, and it is time to start another DCGS year. I expect that there will be more good programs this year arranged by our outstanding program committee. I also expect the membership will continue the social interaction and idea sharing before each meeting. That is a big part of what makes our meetings so enjoyable.

I hope you had many genealogical discoveries this summer with new stories to share. Be sure to reserve October 18 for the 18th Annual Genealogy Lock-In at the Emily Fowler Library. There is something for everyone. https://library.cityofdenton.com/screens/sc_lockin.html

Thank you to Walta Evans for coordinating refreshments for many years. Due to health concerns, she has asked that someone assume those duties. Think about how you can help. I will be asking for a volunteer to schedule refreshment providers for each meeting (starting in

October) and transport the refreshment supplies to and from each meeting.

The Executive Board worked this summer to draft several amendments to our Bylaws. Those will be emailed to you in time to discuss and vote on the amendments in January.

Remember to arrive at our meetings at 6:30 p.m. so you don't miss a minute of welcoming guests and talking to fellow members. Always wear your lanyards and name tags so we know who you are.

See you soon,
Joe Spears
Email: argyleiris@verizon.net



INTRODUCTION TO HISPANIC HERITAGE GENEALOGY

Saturday, September 21, 2019
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

MLK Jr. Rec Center
Multi-Purpose Room B
1300 Wilson Street
Denton, Texas 76201



Free Genealogy Beginners Workshop

- Learn the basics of genealogy research
- What records to look for to get started on your tree
- How to use FamilySearch and Ancestry.com
- Software programs available to record and organize your tree

Presenters will walk you through the basics of genealogy to begin your journey in discovering your Hispanic roots.

Space is limited, so reserve your seat today!

Email officeofhistoryandculture@dentoncounty.com
or call 940-349-2850



MAY 2019 MINUTES

President Joe Spears called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced himself and welcomed everyone. Walta Evans thanked all who brought refreshments. There were 21 members in attendance. No visitors attended.

The Minutes of the April meeting were approved as published in the newsletter. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Walta Evans, seconded by Kathy Butler. President Spears read the Treasurer's Report. It was filed for audit as published in the newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS

Librarian Laura Douglas reported that FamilySearch is not yet ready to index Denton County records. We were waiting to contribute funds from DCGS to the library until a partnership agreement has been signed between the Library and DCGS. The Library will work to start that process this summer. Laura suggested that we can go ahead with the donation of books to the library instead of giving the funds directly. Linda Touraine suggested a fixed amount of \$1500.00. Kathy Butler suggested a percentage of the total funds. Members should email suggestion or specific books and/or computers services directly to the Librarian.

Vice President Eric Kaszynski reported the Society is now paying speakers (average \$85.00/meeting) and suggested keeping that in the budget to enable top-quality programs.

The Board will discuss the issues over the summer and present options to members in September.

NEW BUSINESS

In his "State of the Society" remarks, President Spears noted that membership had grown from 35 to almost 50 in the past year. He congratulated each officer and Board member for a job well done. Board members Chris and Kathy Strauss, who manage the Society newsletter and website, are looking for help. Those interested should contact Chris or Kathy directly.

Members of the new GenPen group reported success, especially at motivating its participants to write, not just research. Members have discovered differing goals and strategies for completing their family histories, but have identified their common pitfalls of fear, trepidation, and perfection.

Laura Douglas announced that the Archives Bazaar, which is being held in Denton in October (it is actually November 2019), is looking for sponsors. The level they are requesting is \$500. It would provide us with a table at the event. The group decided that \$500 was too much. Laura will check to see if there are other levels of sponsorship available.

Eric Kaszynski suggested DCGS host a table at the Bayless-Shelby house during the Denton Community Market. We could staff the booth with volunteers to help attendees with family history searches and promote DCGS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Spears announced annual dues are payable now (\$20 single, \$30 couple). Members Nellyne Heath and Minna

Marinko won the customary drawing of free dues for one year. Upcoming Meetings: GenPen Sunday, May 19, Genealogy Meetup Saturday, May 25, next DCGS Meeting is September 12 (no meetings Jun/Jul/Aug).

PROGRAM

Tonight's meeting was the customary Round Robin discussion, an opportunity for members to share their stories and successes:

Mary Tate presented her hand-lettered family-tree poster, color-coded by country of origin, along with her documentation binder. In addition to confirming British/Scottish royalty in her line, she's discovered former First Lady Barbara Bush and pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger are cousins.

Sandra Robertson reported on her visit to the Texas Heritage Museum at Hill College in Hillsboro, Texas. She found new information on her Civil War ancestor, a GGF from Pennsylvania, in the Museum's extensive collection of Union and Confederate collections.

Kathy Butler passed around a Shutterfly memory book she produced after collecting photos and information from family members at a 2015 reunion.

Bob and Linda Lane discussed issues with DNA and two accounts on Ancestry. Apparently, Ancestry will not activate 2 DNA tests on one account. Linda also reported working on confirming a family link to the former Shah of Iran. Bob reported using his mother's Army commissary card and Google Earth to locate a house he lived in as a child in Germany during WWII—the house is still standing.

Nancy Casey reported on her genealogy road trip to Scranton, Pennsylvania. She has applied for membership to the First Families of Pennsylvania, based on the results of her research.

Walta Evans has discussed a 2nd GGF, a Tory who fled to Canada then later returned to the US. She also announced that a Van Zandt county history is currently on loan from the Family History Library at the Van Zandt library (Walta's mother worked on the project).

Eric Kaszynski reported finding a grandfather's death certificate and his WWI discharge papers among a seemingly unimportant stack of his parents' everyday papers. Eric also reported finding a new half-sister through DNA testing.

Donna Spears reported success on a trip to the Tennessee State Library, where she located a 1795 deed for her Smith family. The land, located 3-1/2 miles south of downtown Nashville, was surveyed by a man named Hickman—someone who eventually married into the Smith family. The next planned trip is to Virginia to find another ancestor's record of Revolutionary War service.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m., motion by Kathy Butler, seconded by Beth Leggieri.

Respectfully submitted,
Minna Marinko Secretary
Revised 21 May 2019



Come celebrate Family History Month with us! The Denton Public Library is partnering with other libraries and genealogy societies across Texas to host the 19th Annual Genealogy Lock-In. You can “come and go” for select workshops or stay for the full day of informative & interactive live webinars. One-on-one research help will also be available for beginners and more experienced genealogy enthusiasts who have hit a brick wall in their research. Dinner will be available to those attending after 5:15 p.m.

Friday, October 18, 2019
10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Emily Fowler Central Library 502 Oakland Street

Full Schedule of workshops on the reverse side of this flyer.

This event is free but registration is required. Register online at: <http://bit.ly/2019lockin> or return this form to the Special Collections Research Area.

Schedule of Workshops

Sponsored by the Genealogy Center of the Waco-McLennan County Library and the Central Texas Genealogical Society

10:00 - 10:50 am – Technology Enabled Collaborations for Genealogists

Webinar presented by Tony Hanson, Family Historian

This presentation will examine three relatively new capabilities that are enabling collaborative family research: The Family Search Family Tree, Ancestry.com's ThruLines DNA tool, and self-publishing family history using a blog or a website. Attendees will learn the benefits provided by each and will learn how to effectively incorporate them into their own personal research methodology.

11:00 - 11:50 am – Finding Elusive Records on FamilySearch.org

Webinar presented by John Huff, FamilySearch Experience Manager

Learn the search skills and features of FamilySearch.org to take you to a new level of access of this 2 billion image database. This tutorial will take you step-by-step through the process of how to utilize the FamilySearch catalog, unindexed image collections and more.

Noon - 1:30 pm – Genealogy Basics: Getting Started on Your Family Tree

Webinar presented by Carl Smith, Genealogy Librarian, Montgomery County Memorial Library System

Budding researchers will learn the basics they need to get started researching their family tree. We'll cover the first steps to take to begin your research, starting with home sources. We'll also cover the types of records that are useful for genealogical research and where they can be found. We'll also cover ways to stay organized by utilizing paper charts and forms or computer software.

1:40 - 2:40 pm – Probate: More Than a Will

Webinar presented by Kelvin Meyers, Ancestry ProGenealogists, Researcher

Most persons in America, who lived to adulthood, left some type of an estate to be administered. Some left wills, some did not; either way if there was land or large amounts of personal property, their estate had to be disposed of. The records of probate can be some of the most fruitful for the genealogist.

2:50 - 3:50 pm – Roll Call: New Sites and Sources for Military Records and Research

Webinar presented by Curt B. Witcher, MLS, FUGA, IGSF Manager, The Genealogy Center Senior Manager, Special Collections, Allen County Public Library

This presentation explores the growing number of consequential websites for the researcher interested in military history and military ancestors. From bibliographic databases to sites that provide copies of first-hand accounts and images of actual records, this talk provides one with key sites and strategies for locating increasing amounts of meaningful military data on the Internet.

4:00 - 5:15 pm – Introduction to GEDmatch

Webinar presented by Sara Allen, Librarian, Genealogy Center, Allen County Public Library

Once you have taken a DNA test, you may be urged to upload your results to GEDmatch. What is GEDmatch and why should you use it? GEDmatch is a free third party website that you can use to compare your DNA results with people who have taken the autosomal DNA test from all the major testing companies. You can also use a variety of tools and utilities (some free, and some subscription only) that help analyze your DNA results. Learn more about GEDmatch at this session.

5:15-6:15 pm Dinner Break

6:15 - 7:15 pm – Finding Your Ancestors in Mexico

Webinar presented by Nick Cimino, Professional Genealogist, AncestorPuzzles.com

Nick Cimino will provide case studies demonstrating the types of records used to trace ancestors from the United States into Mexico. There is a breadth of information available for researchers including census, border crossing records, immigration, civil records, and church records.

7:25 - 8:30 pm – Dating Family Photos by Photo Process, Apparel, Hair Styles and More

Webinar presented by David Coleman, Director, the Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

Do you possess photos that you wish you could at least date? Learn what to evaluate and the resources available to help you. Follow David's process as he takes us through samples and learn how to apply his technique to your own photos.

8:30 – 10:00 p.m. – Individual Research Time

NEWS AND PROGRAMS FROM THE LIBRARY

Denton County Genealogical Society

Meet fellow genealogists, share tips, & learn new information.

09/12 – Local Resources for Long Distance Research presented by Laura Douglas & Eric Kaszynski

10/10 – Exploring the Portal to Texas History presented by Jake Magnum

11/14 – Census Sense: Clues & Conundrums for Intermediate Researchers presented by Patty Gillespie
Thu. Emily Fowler 6:30 p.m.

Genealogy Meet-up

Do you love talking about your genealogy research or family history? This meetup is the place to share and learn from others. Ask questions, share your knowledge, get help with your brick walls, and have access to the library and internet genealogical resources. Bring your laptops and light refreshments will be provided. Beginners to experts, all are welcome.

Fri. 09/27, 10/25, 11/22, 12/27

Emily Fowler Central Library 9:30 a.m.

GenPen

A writers group for those interested in turning their genealogical research into narratives of their family history. Topics have included distribution methodology, writing process tools, and sharing of narrative drafts for members' input.

Sun. 09/22, 10/20, 11/17

Sun Emily Fowler 2-4 p.m.

Irish Genealogical Research

Many Americans have Irish ancestors. In this class, we will discuss the unique sources for finding your ancestors both here and in Ireland.

Sat 09/07 Emily Fowler 10-11:30 am

New Books in Genealogy

"Great lovers of drink" : white New Jersey runaways, 1720-1766 / compiled by Joseph Lee Boyle.

The family lines of Agnes Norris Holford Russell / by Elaine Russell Coffman.

Mission Espada after secularization / by Art Martínez De Vara ; foreword by Rudy De La Cruz, Jr.

Blue book of the Texas Panhandle : a biographical dictionary / David Harris, editor.

A century of Wayne County, Kentucky, 1800-1900 / by Augusta Phillips Johnson.

The Family Tree historical atlas of Germany / James M. Beidler.

Early families of York County, Pennsylvania / Keith A. Dull.

York County, Pennsylvania church records of the 18th century / compiled and edited by Marlene Strawser Bates and F. Edward Wright.

Weddings and obituaries, Lubbock County, 1896-1920 / abstracted by Yvonne Spence Perkins and Judy Womack.

Abstracts of land records, Anne Arundel County, Maryland / edited by Rosemary B. Dodd, Patricia M. Bausell.

Anne Arundel County Church Records of the 17th and 18th centuries / F. Edward Wright.

Anne Arundel Co., Maryland, wills index, 1777-1918 / John W. Powell, editor.

Revolutionary census of New Jersey : an index, based on rateables, of the inhabitants of New Jersey during the period of the American Revolution / Kenn Stryker-Rodda.

2018-2020 OFFICERS

President—Joe Spears

Vice-President—Erik Kaszynski

Secretary—Minna Marinko

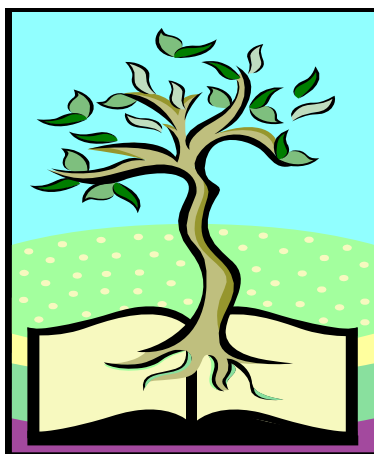
Treasurer—Linda Touraine

Librarian—Laura Douglas

Webmaster—Chris Strauss

Membership— Deb Reed

Newsletter Editor—Kathy Strauss



**NEXT MEETING OF THE
DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY WILL BE ON
Oct. 10, 2019
Emily Fowler Central
Library
502 Oakland St.
Denton**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201