

DCGS News

LOCALITY GUIDES FOCUS OF JAN. 12TH DCGS MEETING WITH CARI A. TAPLIN

You never know where your genealogical research will take you.

“Unfamiliar Territory: Creating a Locality Guide for New Research Areas,” will address this conundrum with a practical solution: Create a locality guide. **Cari A. Taplin, CG**, will present the topic at the Denton County Genealogical Society’s meeting, Thursday, January 12, 2023. Attendees will meet in the Emily Fowler Central Library’s meeting room. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., with the program beginning at 7 p.m.

Creating a locality guide for each new area before you begin your research will save time in the long run by focusing your research and educating you about the new location. Cari’s presentation will demonstrate one method for researching a new geographical area through a real-life example.

Cari is related to Roy Rogers. Or at least that’s what her family told her.



As a result, finding her true heritage has been her focus since the year 2000. She is a native of Wood County, Ohio (and a former Pflugerville, Texas resident), but now lives in Longmont, Colorado. Cari holds the Certified Genealogist® credential and has served in a wide variety of volunteer and leadership positions for state, local, and national societies. As the owner of GenealogyPANTS, she provides speaking services. She also lends help and shares her expertise as an administrator on the highly-popular Facebook Group “The Genealogy Squad.” Cari currently works for Ancestry ProGenealogists. Cari’s personal research focuses on midwestern and Great

Lakes states. When she’s not working on her genealogy, she is a wife, and a mother of two young adults.



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Photo: Jones Photographic Studios of America, Studio No. 1, Denton, Texas. Fireworks at the Denton County Courthouse Celebrating the End of World War I, photograph, 1918-; (<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaauth12494/in/1/24-denton%20courthouse>; accessed June 1, 2022), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, <https://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting Denton Public Library.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Some ideas for your genealogy work for 2023:

- ◆ **Take a DNA test.**
- ◆ **Interview** relatives. Carefully plan your questions in advance. Seek unusual and interesting events.
- ◆ **Make a family cookbook.** Include country origins if known.
- ◆ **Scan** family photographs. Organize them by family groups.
- ◆ **Volunteer** to assist records-indexing projects.
- ◆ **Talk** about genealogy with young relatives or friends.
- ◆ **Write** a fictional story based upon a relative. Include information about the conditions of family and work life for the time period. Review local newspapers for

interesting historical events of the time and personal interest stories.

- ◆ **Get** in touch with a distant relative.
- ◆ **Expand** your information about a relative. Include a timeline with emigration information, locations lived (both U.S. and country of origin), historical events of note (wars, plagues, family events, etc.) Review FamilySearch's Research Wiki for interesting ideas. Write your research results as a story to add interest for the reader.
- ◆ A very important reminder which is sometimes overlooked: **Discuss** your research with a librarian for additional ideas and hints.
- ◆ **Expect** to spend a lot of time writing—as all successful genealogists do. Embrace it.

—Robert L. Lane, President,
presidentdcgs@gmail.com

TIPS & RESOURCES

In addition to the new subscription to *Internet Genealogy* (see p. 7), Denton's Emily Fowler Central Library Special Collections also offers these terrific journals and magazines to the genealogically-minded reader:



American Ancestors, a unique, full-color magazine published quarterly, offers compelling information for family historians of all levels. Articles cover useful genealogical sources, helpful research strategies, compelling historical accounts, and interesting case studies.

The Fall 2022 issue focuses on common pitfalls in genealogical research, articles on Pilgrims, a whaling ship, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, Queen Elizabeth II, and more. Click [HERE](#) for a sample issue.

American Spirit Magazine, issued bi-monthly, is published by the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution. The November/December 2022 issue includes articles on famous Americans such



as John Philip Sousa and Irving Berlin, America's Treasures and Historic Homes, DAR Learning Opportunities, and more. Click [HERE](#) to peek inside this issue.

The **National Genealogical Society Quarterly**—considered essential to the study of genealogy because of its highly-regarded “case study” format—helps readers advance their analytical thinking and writing skills with articles by a highly-skilled authors in the field of family history and genealogy. Click [HERE](#) to sample free NGSQ articles from the past several years.

National Genealogical Society
Quarterly



ConferenceKeeper.org is a one-stop shop for finding hundreds of genealogy meetings, seminars, educational opportunities, etc., from across the country. As more societies hold virtual meetings and open their programs to the public, genealogists who want to “up their game” with more education can find a wealth of opportunities. View a 2-minute video to see all that *Conference Keeper* has to offer at <https://conferencekeeper.org/> (video mid-page).

NOVEMBER 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Denton County Genealogical Society, Inc.,

November 10, 2022, Meeting Minutes



President Bob Lane called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. He welcomed everyone and called on Monica Wenthold, Membership Chair, to introduce our visitor, Brody Gough, who paid his dues. There were 20 members present at the Emily Fowler Public Library, and 6 attending on Zoom.

President Lane read the Minutes of the October 13 meeting. Three corrections were offered. The motion to approve the October 13, 2022 Minutes as read and corrected was made by Joe Spears and seconded by John Windsor. Motion carried. There were no questions about the Treasurer's Report as published in the Newsletter, and it was filed for audit.

Reports by Board Members

Social/Hospitality—Eileen O'Neill thanked Steve Booher for bringing cookies and asked for volunteers to bring snacks in 2023.

Librarian—Laura Douglas thanked members who attended and assisted with the Library Lock-In last month. She also requested members to submit book purchase ideas to her to enhance the library's Special Collections.

Vice President/Programs—Beth Leggieri announced that the May 2023 Round Robin program would have a military theme. She encouraged everyone to highlight the military members in their ancestor stories. She also mentioned she would soon send out program survey requests.

Old Business—There was no Old Business.

New Business—After discussion, Linda Touraine moved and Chris Strauss seconded the motion that DCGS purchase an *Internet Genealogist* magazine subscription for three years costing US \$72.93 for the Emily Fowler Library. Motion carried unanimously. Treasurer Marian Carroll will work with Laura Douglas to accomplish this.

Announcements

- Our next meeting will be January 12, 2023.
- Member Kathi Coatney read a treasured letter written on November 11, 1918 in France by a relative serving in the U.S. Army, Artillery unit, while on the battlefield awaiting word of the end of the war.

Program

Beth Leggieri introduced Robin Cole-Jett who presented "Riding the Butterfield." Her presentation was filled with fascinating old maps.

At 8:32 p.m. Marian Carroll made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Linda Lane. President Lane closed the meeting with his last word from George Bernard Shaw.

—Recorded by Donna Spears, and respectfully submitted by

Sandra Robertson, Secretary

COMING EVENTS

1/14—*The Trails Through Penns Woods-Records of Colonial PA*, Tenn. Gen. Soc., 10 a.m. CST (V) [Reg. Req'd.](#)

1/17, *Computer Tips & Tricks*, BYU Family History Ctr., 4 p.m. CST, Info and Link to join Zoom call [HERE](#).

2/7—*Unusual Places to Find Birth & Naturalizations*, Debra Dudek, 7 p.m. CST (V), [Reg. Req'd](#)

2022-23

DCGS OFFICERS

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Robert L. Lane

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Sandra Robertson

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John Windsor

Newsletter Editor

Nancy Gilbride Casey

NGS Delegate

Robert L. Lane

TXSGS Representative

Emily Coffman Richardson

A DAY AT TXSGS CONFERENCE “UNLOCK YOUR PAST”

Ever wonder what it's like to attend a virtual conference? TxSGS's recent “Unlock Your Past” conference, held November 4-5, was their second all-online event, hosted on the *Whova* platform. The event was accessible both on desktop (below), and on the *Whova* phone app. I was literally able to check in, watch live presentations, ask or answer questions on the conference boards, participate in contests, and more, from the comfort of my office chair, or on my phone throughout the day.

And, the best part is, it's not over! I am still enjoying session recordings, available through February 5, 2023!

Come along with me on the first day of “Unlock Your Past.”

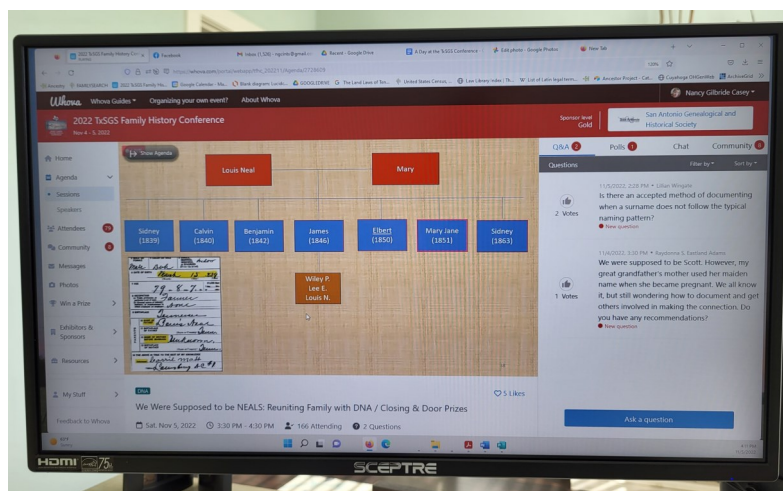


Photo by N. Casey

Friday, 4 November 2022

9:47 a.m. Settled into my office with my headphones on, a glass of water and snack nearby, and getting ready to attend TxSGS's “Unlock Your Past” virtual conference. All set up on the *Whova* app on both my office desktop and on my phone, in case I need to wander. The syllabus booklet was sent out a few days ago. What a great bunch of sessions are being offered.

First up, “Movers and Shakers: Tracing Bartending, Saloon Keeping, and Tavern Keeping Ancestors,” with Debra Dudek. During the presentation, I remembered that my grandfather had a tavern near Uniontown, Fayette, Pennsylvania. Dudek noted that we can look up tavern licenses in court dockets, and also find proprietors in city directories. Will have to see when Grandpa was in that business.

Break. Grabbed more water and snack, let the dog out. Posted a note to the “Family History Writing and Resources” Community board about Cari Taplin's Writer's Workshop class.

11:16 a.m. How can I do better searches online? Watching Jean Wilcox Hibben's presentation “Genealogy Door Locked? The Key May Be in Searching/Browsing Techniques.” One takeaway: That my results when searching via Google might be very different if I used Yahoo, Bing, or other search engines. Make mental note to branch out from Google when I'm having trouble finding records. Nice to know that even if I have to step away from my computer, I can rewatch this session later, a great benefit of a virtual conference.

Lunch break. Checked the Community boards before making a sandwich. Some new topics have been added: “What Facebook groups have been helpful to you?” is one. Also checking “Research Logs,” “Female Ancestors,” “Favorite Websites,” and about a dozen other boards, where I'm getting great tips and resources from other participants.

1 p.m. Tuning in to Kevin Klaus's “Pre-emption Grants: A Bonanza for Early Texas Settlers and Genealo-

gists,” since our family’s Stephen line came before statehood. Wondering if there are more records available for them than I’ve found so far on the [Texas General Land Office](#) website. Reminded that I need to go look for other ancestral lines on the site.

2:15 p.m. Most excited for Lori Thornton’s session, “Writing your Wrongs Through Writing.” Wow! Lori presented a great methodology for reviewing your previous work to make sure you’ve gotten everything documented. This is something I need to do—maybe a project for the new year? Great resources in her handout.

Break Checked the Community boards again (sample right), and saw that two other attendees have snagged the last two seats in Taplin’s Writer’s Workshop next year. Score for conference networking!

3:30 p.m. Last up for the day is Diane Richard’s “Death Records by a Different Name.” I have had luck finding death certificates, funeral home records, and obituaries, but I wonder where else I can find record to document deaths. I wrote down about a dozen ideas for places I can look for alternatives such as fraternal order records, coffin or casket makers, burial or transit permits, or plot records, etc.

End of Day—Need to check all the Community boards one last time before I sign off. Great first day of the conference. Looking forward to tomorrow.

—Nancy Gilbride Casey

TREASURER’S REPORT

Balance October 29, 2022		\$3,319.23
Deposits		
Dues 11/7/22	\$40.00	
Dues 11/14/22	\$20.00	
Ck 2034	\$100.00	
Total Deposits		\$160.00
Disbursements		
Red River Historian Fee 11/10/22	\$100.00	
Eileen O’Neill/Hospitality	\$65.79	
Marian Carroll/Gift to Library	\$72.95	
Total Disbursements		-\$238.74
Balance December 7, 2022		\$3,240.49
—Respectfully Submitted, Marian Carroll, Treasurer		

Community

All
Following
From organizers
New

Sort by: Newest Reply
Suggestions

Last Reply 1 hour ago

Upcoming Webinars & Workshops
The San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Soc...
19 Replies (7 New) · 15 Following
Follow

Last Reply 1 hour ago

African American Research
Thanks for all the research links ... I'm bookmar...
14 Replies (14 New) · 8 Following
Follow

Last Reply 1 hour ago

Ancestors Who Were Trail Blazers
I have some family that were inventors in iron a...
4 Replies (4 New) · 3 Following
Follow

Last Reply 1 hour ago

Unusual Stories of Immigration
My husband's greatgrandfather, Jacob Folger, le...
9 Replies (9 New) · 5 Following
Follow

Screenshot by N. Casey

Ancestor Q of the Month

“What are your top three research localities?” is the February Q of the Month. Answers will be featured in the next *DCGS News*. Let’s collaborate. Put your heads together with other members with tips and resources to share. **Answer the Ancestor Q of Month [HERE](#).**

“RIDING THE BUTTERFIELD,” AN INFORMATIVE EVENT

Robin Cole-Jett educated and entertained DCGS on November 10, 2022 with her presentation on the Butterfield Stage, which came through North Texas just before secession and the Civil War ended the Texas route. Numerous maps aided Cole-Jett’s presentation, bringing the route into focus.

The Mexican-American War resulted in the sale of land west of Texas, purchased for a song from defeated Mexico. The westward expansion resulted in proposals for a transcontinental railroad. Planners considered a southern route, but the slavery issue was already roiling in the 1850s. The United States bought the Gadsden Purchase from Mexico for that proposed southern railroad route in 1853. When Congress did not approve the project—opting instead for a northern transcontinental route in 1855—it created a need for transportation along the southern route.

Mail delivery was one of those needs, and in 1857, the federal government awarded a mail contract to John Warren Butterfield, which subsidized transportation costs.

The Butterfield Stage went from fort to fort, including those in St. Louis, Missouri; Sherman, Texas; Fort Belknap; Fort Chadbourn; El Paso, Texas; through New Mexico; and to San Diego, California.

Other sites along the route in Oklahoma included Boggy Depot (where tracks are still visible at

a state park in Atoka), Nails Bridge near Durant, Fort Washita, and Colbert’s Ferry—considered the safest place to cross the Red River into Texas.

Locally, the Butterfield also had stops in Sherman, Pilot Point, Denton, Bridgeport, Gainesville, Preston (now under Lake Texoma), and Alton Point.

The Butterfield Stagecoach maintained a strict schedule. The coaches ran day and night, with drivers changing out horses and mules regularly along the route.

For passengers, it was a rough ride, with no springs. Alcohol was prohibited. The entire trip took three weeks, though few passengers traveled the whole route. Indian attacks were often a possibility, while unrest before the Civil War also created issues.

With the passage of the Pacific Railway Act of 1862, the building of the railroad ended the need for a stagecoach line. As one railroad led to another, soon there were the Missouri Kansas Texas and the Southern Pacific lines to take the Butterfield’s place. Though the Butterfield Stage did not last many years, it definitely provided a much-needed transportation link at a difficult time in history.

—Linda L. Lane

For more info on the Butterfield Stage, click [HERE](#) to visit the Red River Historian’s website.



TIGR RETURNS, JUNE 12-16, 2023

Save the dates for the TxSGS’s ***Texas Institute of Genealogical Research (TIGR)***, June 12-16, 2023. TIGR is a unique five-day virtual learning event addressing the complex challenges genealogists encounter when researching ancestors from Texas, the Southwest, and beyond.

Featured courses and instructors include:

A Walk Through a Texas Courthouse—Coordinator, **Kelvin L. Meyers**

Moving Up to Glory Land: The Southern States After Reconstruction Towards the New Century—Coordinator, **Mark Lowe**, FUGA

Legally Texas: Advanced Legal Research in the Lone Star State—Coordinator: **Judy G. Russell**, CG®

Fundamentals of Forensic Genealogy—Coordinator, **Catherine Desmaris**, CG®

Researching Families of Mexican Descent on Both Sides of the Border—Coordinator, **Colleen Robledo Greene**, MLS

African Americans in the South—Coordinator, **Ari Wilkins**

DNA—Coordinator, **Paul Woodbury**

For more information, click [HERE](#).

LIBRARY CORNER: NEWS FROM THE EMILY FOWLER CENTRAL LIBRARY



Many thanks go out to the DCGS for providing a gift subscription to the magazine *Internet Genealogy*. The first edition has arrived and is available for your use in the Special Collections research area.

Internet Genealogy describes itself as a “magazine that focuses on keeping today’s family historian up to date with the vast and ever-growing collection of genealogy-related resources, software, tools, products, technologies, and more. With each new issue you will find website reviews, social networking strategies, as well as tips, and stories from a wide variety of seasoned professional authors who share the benefit of their many years’ experience of doing traditional and online genealogy research.”

If you haven’t seen the magazine before, please stop by and take a look at this new resource.



UPCOMING GENEALOGY EVENTS AT THE EMILY FOWLER LIBRARY

HistoryGeo

Saturday, January 23, 10 – 11:00 a.m.

Greg Boyd of *HistoryGeo.com* will demonstrate the First Landowners project, the Placefinder tool, as well as two new projects scheduled for release in the near future: a metes and bounds mapper, and a cemetery-mapping system. In this session, Greg will show you how to use *HistoryGeo*’s unique maps and locational tools to help solve your toughest genealogical puzzles.

Quakertown House Restoration

Tuesday, February 7, 10 a.m.

Celebrate **Black History Month** with Kim Cupit, curator of the Courthouse Museum, as she discusses the history and renovation of the second Quakertown House, located in the Historical Park by the Bayless Selby House.

Researching Texas Pioneers

Saturday, March 25, 10 a.m.

Do you have Texas roots and want to learn more about them? Celebrate **Texas Independence Month** with this class that will help you find your pioneer Texans and navigate the Spanish and Mexican records pre-dating the Republic.

—Laura Douglas, DCGS Librarian & Special Collections, Emily Fowler Central Library

ABOUT DCGS...

The Denton County Genealogical Society meets at the Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton, on the second Thursday of the month (September-November, January-May). Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., program at 7 p.m. Programs may be in-person, virtual or hybrid (both in-person & via Zoom).

DCGS is a proud member of the National Genealogical Society and the Texas State Genealogical Society, and actively supports the Denton Public Library—a Family Search Affiliate Library.



MEMBERCONNECT

Congratulations to **Emily Coffman Richardson** on receiving a 2022 TxSGS Presidential Citation from President Susan Ball for the creation of the **Lone Star Family Trails** podcast. The podcast features interviews with staff of various Texas libraries and repositories of interest to genealogists. Congrats Emily! Check out the first six episodes [HERE](#) (TxSGS membership not required to listen).



Share your MemberConnect kudos, resources, tips & tricks, etc., for the next DCGS News [HERE](#).

**Denton County
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