

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



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.rootsweb.com/~txdcgs

MAY MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2007

Program:

Round Robin

This is your opportunity to talk about your genealogy research. Bring your successes, brick walls, and exciting new discoveries to share with the members.

There will be no formal speaker at the meeting, and we will all use the time to help each other out, make suggestions, and learn more about each other.

The executive board will provide refreshments. Come early to socialize

and find out what's in store for everyone's summer of researching. We're all especially eager to hear from our new members.

We will also discuss upcoming programs for next year.

AMERICA'S ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

The Premier Signature Event of the settling of Jamestown, Virginia in 1607, will be a three-day spectacular event held at the Jamestown sites on May 11-13, 2007.

Performance highlights of the weekend include the Virginia Symphony orchestra and the Richmond Symphony Orchestra will premier new works written especially for the commemoration, "400 Minutes of Music," featuring contemporary

rock, native American, folk, world, blues and soul, folk roots music, poetic urban folk, and alternative country. Artists performing include Bruce Hornsby & The NoiseMakers, Chaka Khan, Ricky Skaggs, Brule, Michael Seeger, and Jen Chapin.

The weekend will conclude with the performance of a 400-piece orchestra and a 1,607-voice choir created especially for the commemoration. Journey of Destina, a live historical

interpretative production about the early years of Jamestown, will include music, dialogue, color and movement.

A fireworks finale will complete the celebration.

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HAVE A PRODUCTIVE AND HAPPY SUMMER

Summer has traditionally been a time of lazy days and vacations. In recent years, though, the pace of our world and our lives has remained frantic. Try to take time to smell the roses this summer and delve into one or more of those genealogy projects you have been putting off for far too long.

The following is a list of suggestions to help you decide what you might want to tackle during your free time (if you have any) this summer.

1. Organize your genealogy paperwork.
2. Scan your photographs and preserve the originals.
3. Work on one of the genealogy society's projects.
4. Help a cemetery association survey a cemetery.
5. Make a scrapbook to give to relatives.
6. Attend a family reunion and share what you know about family history.
7. Volunteer in the genealogy department at the library.
8. Visit a courthouse to find records about your ancestors.
9. Attend a genealogy workshop or institute.
10. Start writing a family history.
11. Learn more about DNA genealogy.
12. Brush up on your computer skills.
13. Read a history book that includes one of your ancestors.
14. Surf the web to discover some new genealogy websites.
15. Join a family association.
16. Write letters or emails to relatives to share family stories.
17. Post a query on a message board that you always wanted to find out about.
18. Teach your genealogy skills to someone new.
19. Get together with friends and climb those brick walls together.
20. Find out about your hometown.
21. Preserve and protect your genealogy documentation.
22. Investigate the genealogy of your house.
23. Identify books you don't need in your genealogy collection and donate them to the library.
24. Decide what line you will work on next year.
25. HAVE FUN!!!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance March 31, 2007	\$ 1,913.51
Funds Deposited	
Interest	.49
Total Deposits	\$.49
Funds Disbursed	
NGS Dues	\$ 50.00
Speaker Fee	\$ <u>50.00</u>
Total Disbursed	\$ 100.00
Balance April 30, 2007	\$1,814.00

2006-2007 Paid Members—49	
Library Donations	
April 1995 - May 02	\$1,994.22
June 2002 - May 03	799.15
June 2003 - May 06	83.15
Birth Books Sold (56)	\$1,810.00
Printing Cost (200)	-2,049.13
Postage	-118.69
Sales Tax Paid	-104.78
Advertising (1)	<u>-30.00</u>
Profit	\$ -492.60

Death Books Sold (139)	\$3,179.72
Printing Cost (300)	-1,593.15
Consignment Fees	-390.00
Postage	-156.99
Sales Tax Paid	-77.19
Advertising	<u>-237.45</u>
Profit	\$ 724.94

Respectfully Submitted, Holly Hervey, Treasurer



MINUTES – APRIL 2007 MEETING

The Denton County Genealogical Society met in the meeting room of the Emily Fowler Central Library on April 12, 2007. Refreshments were provided by Beth Collins and Shirley Harris for the 6:30 to 7:00 social time.

President Linda Touraine called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. We had one visitor present, our speaker's wife. Linda welcomed our guest speaker and the 23 members, who were present. Linda announced that she has recently welcomed a new "twig" on her family tree, a new grandson.

Linda presided over the business meeting, during which the minutes and treasurer's report from the March meeting were approved as published in the newsletter. Holly Hervey presented the April treasurer's report.

There was no old business. Under new business, Linda asked that we think about what books we would

like for the society to donate to the library. We are to bring our suggestions to the May meeting. The amount of money we can spend on library donations will depend upon the amount that needs to be set aside for the printing of our current obituary and funeral home records project. Holly will discuss our options for printing the book at the May meeting. She will also bring obituaries and records that still need to be typed, in case anyone would like to volunteer to type them.

Also, under new business there has been discussion regarding moving our meeting place back to the North Branch Library. We will discuss this at our May meeting and will vote at that time. The May meeting will be an open exchange of successes, problems, and other genealogical-related topics among our members.

Kathy Strauss was not present to give the librarian's report; however, it is detailed in the newsletter.

Linda asked that anyone who has recently changed their home or email address let her know.

Mel Brewer introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Robert Souda, M.D., whose topic was "Computer Care and Maintenance". Dr. Souda focused on five areas of computer care: hardware cleaning, software "cleaning", the Windows Registry, back up and data protection, and virus protection. By the end of his presentation, we were all much better informed about the care of our computers.

Linda adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm in order for us to clear the room before library closing time.

Respectfully submitted,
Vickie Davis, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

19 May 2007, 2:30-5:00-Emily Fowler Central Library. "Lost Train Blues: Celebrating the History & Rebirth of the Railroad in Denton."

26 May 2007, 2:30-North Branch Library. "Navigating Ancestry Library Edition."

10-15 June 2007. Samford Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama.

30 June 2007-10:00-Emily Fowler Central Library. "Beginning Genealogy."

19-21 July 2007, Angelina College Genealogy Conference, Lufkin, Texas. "In Search of Unknown Generations."

26-29 July 2007– Dallas Public Library. Dallas Genealogical Society Summer Institute, "Call of the Land."

15-18 August 2007-Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

9-10 November 2007-Tyler, Texas. Texas State Genealogical Society Conference.

TIDBITS OF DENTON HISTORY AND LIBRARY NEWS

On April 24, the Emily Fowler Library was at the center of what will be referred to in the history of Denton as The Great Flood of 2007! The library is located on the banks of Pecan Creek that runs through Quakertown Park.

The rain began falling on the afternoon of April 24. It quickly became a deluge, dropping between 7-10 inches of rain on the city in a few short hours. The creek, which runs in a fairly deep channel, started rising in the afternoon, and by 5:00 was over its banks. The overworked storm drains in the streets around the park also began to overflow, turning the streets into fast moving rivers, flowing downhill toward the park and the library.

The library closed at 6:00, but soon reopened as a shelter as people were rescued from their cars. The staff was unable to make it out of the parking lot, so they were stranded in the library as well. Many of the staff who left for dinner before the worst of the flood were unable to return.

The water from the creek rose came within 8 feet of the front and back of the library. Luckily, the rain slacked off, and the water receded. The staff was able to leave the library by 8:00. The library suffered no damage, except for debris left by the storm. No water reached the inside of the library.

We were fortunate that our collections were save and no one was injured, however, two staff members lost their vehicles in the flood while trying to drive home, and some of the staff experienced flooding in their homes.

Buildings near the library did not fare as well. One local business, Sleeping Lizard, experienced a tidal wave each time a car tried to go through the intersection in front of the shop. The owners spent the next day frantically cleaning, and were able to open two days later.

We were all in awe of nature's unpredictability and the speed at which water can rise in a usually gently flowing creek. Spring is not over yet...and we all hope that this does not repeat itself for a long, long time!



Front parking lot of Emily Fowler Library



Staff Entrance looking west



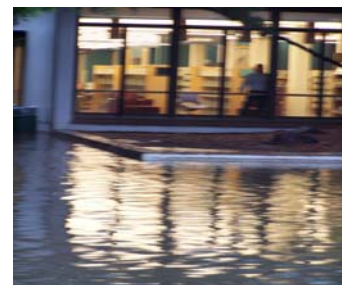
View of Pecan Creek from the lower level



Quakertown Park Bridge as seen from the library



South view of the library



View of southeast side of the library

ANCESTRY QUICK TIPS

Reproduce Old Photographs

I am seventy-two, and have been in possession of a daguerreotype photo of an ancestor for about fifty years. It wasn't in the sharpest condition when I received it. About ten years ago, I tried to get it reproduced and was told it couldn't be done. Last year, I tried again with a different photo lab and he said he'd try but it was in pretty poor condition. The result was astonishing. I have a negative now and a print; it is so sharp, you can see the strands of her hair. Where I used to think she was a very dour old woman, the print shows a gentleness and sadness in her eyes not seen before. This is the only remaining picture of my fourth great-grandmother, Sarah Lyons Goble. My message is: If you have this type of picture, find a lab and have it reproduced NOW; these pictures do continue to deteriorate with time.

Carla E. Connell

Digitized Records at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

Indiana University-Purdue University Library has a vast collection of digitized documents, maps and atlases, city directories, indexes, books, old magazines, and photos available free online. More is being added all the time. The site is searchable and I've been very successful in finding information not readily available elsewhere. Here's the link. Perhaps your loyal readers may also find something useful. Here's the link: www.ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/home.html

Occupation as a Clue

I was searching for the identity of H. St. L. Coppee who had an Army Corps of Engineers towboat named for him in 1904. Someone writing an article on the boat had no idea who he was. In FamilySearch I found he was married in 1884 to Mary Bell

Marshall in Warren County, Mississippi.

I Googled him and found his name on maps of the Mississippi River, Vicksburg District Army Corps of Engineers. I also found a Henry Coppee who was a civil engineer graduate from West Point Military Academy back in 1845. Thinking that the son may have followed in his father's footsteps, I went back to FamilySearch and had two hits-- Henry Coppee's marriage at West Point, ca. 1853, and the birth of Henry St. Leger Coppee, 30 March 1853 at West Point. I already know that Henry was teaching at West Point at the time, so do give occupation credit as a clue.

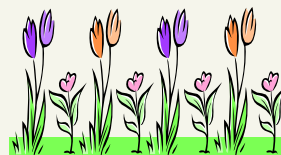
Carl Hugh Jones

River Historian/Genealogist

He Lied To Get In

I want to make one other comment about incorrect ages for the guys signing up for World War I. My father, William J. Cobb, was born on 9 September 1897. In the first registration for World War I, he signed up for the Navy and was aboard the USS Nevada for the duration of the war. He told us he was not old enough at the time of the registration to join the Navy so he said he was twenty-one and gave his birth date as 9 September--nothing else. So if the dates don't add up, it could be because the men who were registering were under age.

Nina Cobb



2006-2008 OFFICERS

President—Linda Touraine

Vice-President—Mel Brewer

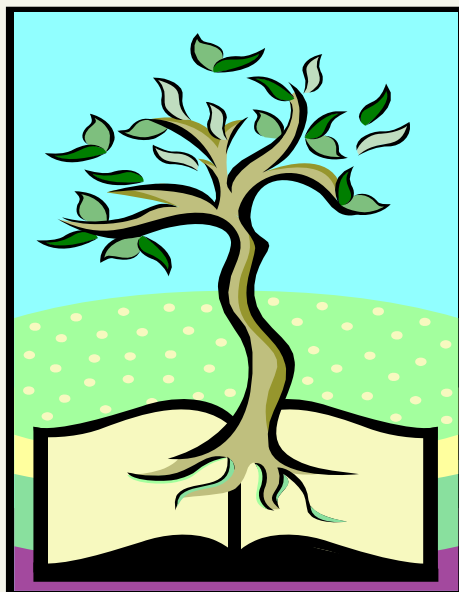
Secretary—Vickie Davis

Treasurer—Holly Hervey

Librarian—Kathy Strauss

Webmaster—Chris Strauss

Parliamentarian—Diane Abner



**NEXT MEETING OF
THE DENTON
COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY WILL BE ON
13 SEPTEMBER 2007**

**DUES ARE :
\$15 FOR INDIVIDUALS
\$25 FOR COUPLES
PAYABLE
IMMEDIATELY**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 424707
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