

# 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

## NOVEMBER MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2008



1896- Denton County Courthouse-

**Program: "Tips From Working Fifteen Years on Other Peoples' Lines: Part 2"**

**Speaker John Wiley**

John Vincent Wylie serves the Association of Professional Genealogists as Secretary, the National Genealogical Society (NGS) as a member of the NGS-GENTECH Advisory Committee and the National Standards Committee; the Dallas Genealogical Society as Acting Special Interest Groups Leader and his church as Chair of the

Information Technology Committee, and as a member of its History Committee. From 2000 through 2004, he served on the Board of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He is the 2004 recipient of the Dallas Genealogical Society's Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck Distinguished Service Award.

He and his wife, Barbara, were coordinators of the 2006 Dallas Genealogical Society Research Trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

One of GENTECH's founders, John was an active participant

in the Genealogical Data Model Working Group, and served on the NGS Computer Interest Group Committee in 1999 and 2000. John and Barbara have taught genealogical courses at Mountain View College and to church and Boy Scout groups.

He specializes in teaching genealogists how to use computer technology and computer users how to do sound genealogical research.

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](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txdcgs)

### ELECTRONIC RESOURCES AT THE DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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The Denton Public Library offers more than just books and microfilm for genealogical research. There are several resources that the library subscribes to help genealogists trace their family history.

Heritage Quest and the Texas Sanborn Maps are available through TEX-SHARE, provided by the Texas State Library. Researchers can gain access at the library, or remotely by using a Denton Public Library card and PIN number.

The library subscribes directly to America's Genealogy Bank (also available remotely), Ancestry Library Edition,

All of these resources contain great numbers of databases from all over the US and the world. Make connections with your ancestors, and follow their paper trails to their final destinations.

Stop by the Special Collections and the Emily Fowler and give our electronic resources a try.

## GETTING AWAY FROM IT ALL...

By Kathy Strauss

Are you thinking about a winter vacation to get away from the cold, but you still want to work on your family history, or just learn new ways of doing research? You might want to consider a genealogy cruise. Genealogy cruises offer classes and lectures with world-class speakers in the relaxed atmosphere of a luxury liner sailing to exotic locations.

The lectures are scheduled while the ship is at sea, and are similar to those given at a land-based genealogy conference. Prices for the cruise are based upon the type of cabin booked. All meals and seminar fees are included in the price. Just by Googling "Genealogy Cruise," I was able to find cruises

that would appeal to anyone, seeking to visit anywhere in the world, and wishing to learn just about anything about genealogy research. Cyndislist.com also has an extensive list of links to genealogy cruises.

Genealogy cruises are organized by genealogy software companies, genealogical societies, ethnic groups, or genealogy seminar companies. Companies that are offering cruises in 2008 are: Rootsmagic, Legacy, Wholly Genes, and Genealogy Seminar at Sea.

Genealogy cruises are family friendly. While attendees are in classes, their family members can

enjoy all the ship has to offer, from gourmet food, spas, clubs, shows, and, of course, the pool and deck. There will still be plenty of time for the seminar attendees to enjoy their vacation while in port, taking advantage of excursions, shopping, swimming, or just relaxing on-board.

I've never been on a genealogy cruise, but the more I read about them, the more I want to sign up for one in the near future. Happy Cruising!

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Balance November 30, 2007 \$2,122.96

Funds Deposited

Birth Book \$ 35.00

Total Deposits \$ 35.00

### Funds Disbursed

Portals of TX History \$ 129.00

Total Disbursed \$ 129.00

### Balance December 31, 2007 \$2,028.96

### 2007-2008 Paid Members—38

Library Donations

April 1995 - May 02 \$1,994.22

June 2002 - May 03 799.15

June 2003 - May 06 83.15

Birth Books Sold (58)	\$1,880.00
Printing Cost (200)	-2,049.13
Postage	-118.69
Sales Tax Paid	-104.78
Advertising (1)	<u>-30.00</u>
Profit	\$ -422.60

Death Books Sold (141)	\$3,229.72
Printing Cost (300)	-1,593.15
Consignment Fees	-400.00
Postage	-156.99
Sales Tax Paid	-77.19
Advertising	<u>-237.45</u>
Profit	\$ 764.94

Respectfully Submitted,  
Holly Hervey, Treasurer

## MINUTES – NOVEMBER 2007

The Denton County Genealogical Society met in the meeting room of the Emily Fowler Central Library on November 8, 2007. Delicious refreshments were provided for the members and guests by Anita Cowan. Anita used old recipes for her gingerbread and made a wonderful lemon sauce as one topping along with whipped cream as a second choice. Marilyn Simms provided the drink.

President Linda Touraine called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and presided over the business meeting. The minutes and treasurer's report from the October meeting were approved as published in the newsletter. Linda led a discussion about fees to charge for requested research done by our organization. We decided to keep the charges at \$15.00 per hour with a two hour minimum and keep the charge at \$7.50 per record plus copy cost. We also agreed to donate \$129 to Portal to Texas History to digitize *History and Reminiscences of*

*Denton County*, compiled and edited by Ed Bates in 1917. The new business also reminded us that we would not have a December meeting and Librarian Kathy Strauss announced the library is adding new books on a regular basis for the genealogy section. Kathy reminded us that articles from the members would be greatly appreciated for the January newsletter. We still need people to sign up for refreshments for future meeting. Before closing the business meeting, Linda acknowledged our guests and new member Charles Beasley and thanked Anita and Marilyn for the refreshments.

At 7:15 Mel introduced our special guest speaker, Richard B. McCaslin, Ph.D. a professor of History at the University of North Texas and a published author. Dr. McCaslin presented a fascinating program about, "*Civil War Records*" and their valuable use with genealogical searches. He used examples

from one of the books he had written to show us how to go from a picture of an ancestor and on to a step by step procedure to learn his name and finally what happened to that person. The presentation included sites where specific information could be found for our perusal as well as how to prepare for a visit to many different locations. His presentation was warm and friendly and with his easy listening and speaking style, questions were graciously received and the answers given were easily understood.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm and we were out of the library by nine.

Respectfully submitted  
Marilyn Simms, substituting  
for Secretary Vickie Davis



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 7-11, 2008**—Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy

**January 20, 2008**—Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries Saturday Seminar. Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Road, Plano, Texas. 10:00 AM-12:30 PM. "First Person Accounts in Genealogy." Speaker: John Pritchett. No registration required.

**January 26, 2008**—Fort Worth Genealogical Society. Beginners Workshop. 10:30 AM-12:20 PM, Fort Worth Public Library.

**February 29, 2008**—"Genealogy After Hours." 6:00 PM-11:00 PM. Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland St., Denton. \$10.00 registration required.

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

### Beginning Genealogy Class

#### Interested in researching your family history?

Let us show you how to:

- gathering information
- use genealogical forms
- research basic sources
- stay organized,
- use the resources available at the library

January 26, 2008

9:30 am

Emily Fowler  
Central Library  
502 Oakland

This program is free,  
but seating  
is limited.

Call 940.349.8749  
to register.



### What's Your Story?



Denton Public Library

[www.dentonlibrary.com](http://www.dentonlibrary.com)

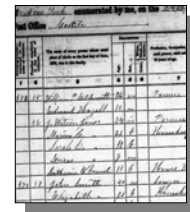
Published  
12/2007

[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)  
ADA/EOE/ADEA  
TDD: (800) 735-2989



### The Past Meets the Present

#### Learn to Use the Online Census



The US census contains  
a wealth of information  
that can aid family  
history researchers.

Learn search strategies for  
locating census information in:

*Ancestry Library Edition*  
*HeritageQuest Online*  
And other web resources

January 26, 2008

11:00 am

Emily Fowler Central Library  
502 Oakland

### What's Your Story?



Denton Public Library

[www.dentonlibrary.com](http://www.dentonlibrary.com)

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12/2007

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## ANCESTRY QUICK TIPS

### Researching the Landscape

I live in a rural county and do a lot of research for people who cannot come to our area. They frequently want to know what the area is like. We describe the (lack of) roads, the flat land, etc.

I recently decided to try the same thing for my children and grandchildren. Our roots are heavy in Pennsylvania. When one drives through there it is lovely to see the tiny communities tucked in between the mountains. I am going to start taking photos of the areas our roots grew in. Since we were there pre-Revolutionary War, I have started reading articles describing the hardships at that time.

My grandmother was born in Nebraska in 1903. Most of the housing there was sod houses. She and her two oldest brothers were born there. I have done some Web searching and located photos of several types of sod houses and have printed them off.

Families are so much more than names and dates. This is making ours come alive.

Sincerely, Gloria Hall

### Save Old Address Books

Don't overlook old address books for some surprise connections. My grandfather died at ninety-two, and he kept the same address book for years. In this address book, addresses were updated by simply marking through and adding the new above or below. Some of the names had kinship shown, as in "Oliver's granddaughter." There was also a separate Christmas card list.

I was actually able to take some of these names and locations and connect to a lost branch of my family. Some of the older address books are almost a family history in themselves. Be sure to keep them when old papers and items are sorted through after a death.

Cheryl Parsons

### Widowed May Not Mean Widowed

Don't assume that "wd" means widowed in the census. There were many more divorces in the nineteenth and early twentieth century than

one would guess. However, many women listed themselves as "widowed" rather than divorced; and men would list themselves as "single." The women would typically have children with them, so could not easily state that they were "single." Many times the men did not have the children, so they could more easily call themselves "single" without much question. Do not count the former spouse dead until you find a death record. I have found this situation several times in my family lines.

Tom Humphrey  
Jacksonville, Alabama

### Pet Cemetery Stone

In his article, [After the Brick Wall Falls](#), George Morgan mentions, "Brisco never had a grave marker. I ordered a gravestone for him, and some of my first cousins have contributed to its cost."

We faced a similar problem for one of my ancestors. My great-grandfather died young, leaving a large--and young--family with no money. He never had a gravestone. My mom and I wished to do something, but the cost of gravestones was far more than we wanted to spend. We ordered a gravestone for him from a pet supply catalog. It is a beautiful granite headstone with his name and life dates engraved quite professionally. At a cost of less than \$100, the marker is about one-third of the size of a traditional gravestone (much like the smaller tombstones you might see for children or infants). Except for the size, it is as beautiful and as professionally done as a more traditional and more costly grave marker.

He was buried in an old cemetery now closed to new burials so there were no cemetery rules that we had to deal with. That might be a concern for some cemeteries. Nonetheless, we thought this was an excellent way to remember and honor one of our family without breaking the family budget.

Debbie

### 2006-2008 OFFICERS

President—Linda Touraine

Vice-President—Mel Brewer

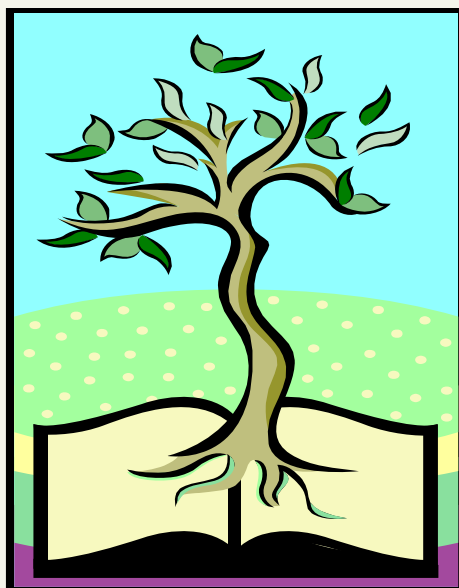
Secretary—Vickie Davis

Treasurer—Holly Hervey

Librarian—Kathy Strauss

Webmaster—Chris Strauss

Parliamentarian—Diane Abner



**NEXT MEETING OF  
THE DENTON  
COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY WILL BE ON  
FEBRUARY 14, 2008**

**Program: Using  
“Newspapers in  
Genealogical Research”  
Speaker: Kelvin Meyers**

DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 424707  
Denton, TX 76204