

# 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, NOV. 12, 2009



1896- Denton County Courthouse-

**Program: “Jumping the Pond in Search of Your Immigrant Ancestor’s Family”**

**Speaker: Tresa Tatyrek**

Tresa is Past President of the Dallas Genealogical Society. She is the list mother for several surname mail lists on rootsweb.

Tresa teaches a Special Interest Group on Family Tree Maker twice a month, one at the Grapevine Library and the other for the Dallas Genealogical Society at the J. Erik Jonsson Library in Dallas.

Tresa was named 2005 Volunteer of the Year for the Dallas Genealogical Society, the 2004 Volunteer of the Year for the Grapevine Library, and holds a Certificate of

Outstanding Service from the DAR for her work on the Information Specialists Committee for Website Construction.

Tresa works on the Shows, Touchstone, and Taunton surnames everywhere and anywhere, not just the directly related lines to her or her husband.

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)

## 2010 NGS FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

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Registration for the 2010 NGS Conference is now open. With the theme “Follow Your Ancestral Trail,” this conference offers the opportunity to attend interesting and educational programs, and experience the Family History Library.

The conference will be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, 28 April-1 May 2010.

Whether your family helped settle the nation, migrated across the country, stayed in the same place, or recently arrived in America, this conference has much to

offer. The family history resources in Salt Lake City, Utah, will provide a depth and breadth to your research. The Family History Library has an extensive collection of international records. A major focus of the conference will be increasing research skills in foreign countries.



## MINUTES—OCTOBER 2009

President Linda Touraine called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guest. There were 21 present including 2 visitors and our speaker and husband. The minutes and treasurer’s report were approved as published.

the Texas State Genealogy Society spoke about the upcoming conference. The conference speaker will be Craig Scott, an expert on military records.

program entitled Ya Gotta Know the Territory, followed by a question and answer time.

Linda requested everyone who has not paid dues, please do so. Meeting was adjourned.

There was no old business discussed and no new business presented. John Wylie, outgoing president of

Marilyn Simms introduced our speaker for the evening, Barbara Wylie. Mrs. Wylie presented an entertaining and informative

Respectfully submitted  
Shirley Harris

## TREASURER’S REPORT

**Balance Sep 30, 2009**                    **\$ 2,585.16**

Funds Deposited	
Dues	\$ 55.00
Death Book Sale	10.00
Interest	<u>1.47</u>
Total Deposits	\$ 66.47

Birth Books Sold (61)	\$1,985.00
Printing Cost (200)	-2,049.13
Postage	-118.69
Sales Tax Paid	-104.78
Advertising (1)	<u>-30.00</u>
Profit	\$ -317.60

Funds Disbursed	
Speaker Fee	\$ 75.00

Death Books Sold (143)	\$3,329.72
Printing Cost (300)	-1,593.15
Consignment Fees	-415.00
Postage	-156.99
Sales Tax Paid	-77.19
Advertising	<u>-237.45</u>
Profit	\$ 849.94

**Balance Oct. 31, 2009**                    **\$2,576.63**

### 2009-2010 Paid Members—33

Library Donations	
April 1995 - May 06	\$2,876.52
June 2006 – March 2009	560.00

Respectfully Submitted,  
Holly Hervey, Treasurer



## FIND A GRAVE: A SHARING EXPERIENCE

By Diana White

Last year I discovered a very valuable FREE genealogical website, Find A Grave, whose web address is <http://www.findagrave.com>. It is a sharing site with many volunteers giving their time to help others find cemetery records and make pictures of grave stones.

According to the information on Find A Grave, this is their mission.

### “What is Find A Grave?”

Find A Grave is a resource for finding the final resting place of family, friends, and 'famous' individuals. With millions of names and photos, it is an invaluable tool for the genealogist and family history buff. Find A Grave memorials can contain rich content including photos, biographies and dates. Visitors can leave 'virtual flowers' on the memorials they visit, completing the online cemetery experience.”

I would suggest that all new users of the site go to their question and answer page, <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=listFaq#10>, and read through the information. You will learn that you can help finance the site by sponsoring a page by making a \$5.00 donation. The donation removed the advertisements on the page, where the ads do not detract from the information on the page.

If you have copies of tombstones, you can upload them to the site and add them to the cemetery where they are located. If the cemetery is not on the site, you can add it. It is a site that is created by persons in sharing information with others.

I have contributed a few pictures to the site, including some White relatives in the Hood Cemetery in Cooke County and some Pearson family members in the Caddo Cemetery in Johnson

County. I have added a couple of pictures and a brief bit of information. Using the search site, see if you can locate them.

I have several dozen pictures I can upload to the Caddo Cemetery, but I have to “adjust” them to fit the criteria set by the site. You register as a member and they will send you an email with some information in it explaining their policies and general information. I also have several I could add to the Callisburg Cemetery site.

If you do not find a cemetery listed, you can add it as a cemetery and then add names to it. If you want pictures of any graves, place a request through Find A Grave. In turn, you should consider signing up to go to cemeteries and make pictures for others who need them. I have done this several times.

A local retired professor of psychology from North Texas, Dr. Bob Leahy, has submitted names for both IOOF and Oakwood to Find A Grave, including pictures for many of the names he provided. He has uploaded nearly 20,000 memorials and nearly 25,000 photos. We should do so much!

I'd be willing to bet that many of you have pictures of tombstones you have made, either by digital or regular film. If you don't have a digital picture but have a photograph, scan it and submit that as a picture. This is a brief account of Find A Grave, please find out for yourself how valuable it is to you and others, but only if you are willing to work with it.



## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The Special Collections has recently added the following microfilm titles:

Texas 1890 Veterans & Widows of Veterans Census Schedules (4 rolls)

Internal Revenue Assessment Lists for Texas, 1865-1866 (2 rolls)

Descriptions of Census Enumeration Districts: 1830-1930 (8 rolls)

Texas Executive Records (26 rolls)

Texas Voter Registration Lists, 1867-1869 (12 rolls)

Pardon Applications Submitted by Persons from the South: Texas (4 rolls)

Selected Records of the War Department Relating to Confederate Prisoners of War, 1861-1865

Compiled Records Showing Service of Military Units in Confederate Organizations (64 rolls)

These microfilm titles were purchased from HeritageQuest Microfilm. HeritageQuest will no longer offer microfilm, microfiche or print volumes after December 15, 2009. Currently

prices are discounted 75% off the list price.

**Program:** "Social Networking for Genealogists" December 5, 2009, 10:00 a.m.—Emily Fowler Meeting Room. Free. Register at the Genealogy desk.

### Texas Land Records

One of the links on the Genealogy Page of the Denton Public Library website will take you to the Texas Land Records. Images of deeds from the past and present are available for several Texas counties, including Denton.

You can search by grantor, grantee, or both, by typing in the surname and first name or a business name. I was able to view an 1876 deed from Otis Welch to B.A. King.

To find this link, log on to [www.dentonlibrary.com](http://www.dentonlibrary.com). Click on the Genealogy button. Click on the Links button. Scroll down the page to Texas Resources, then click on Texas Land Records. Denton County is the first view you will see, but you can change counties by clicking on the Change Location link at the top right of the page. You can also access the site directly at [www.texaslandrecords.com](http://www.texaslandrecords.com). Enjoy exploring this site. This is a great resource for those who have Texas roots.

## ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GENEALOGY

Anyone who is familiar with Wikipedia will be interested to know that there is a wiki just for genealogists. The Encyclopedia of Genealogy, [www.eogen.com](http://www.eogen.com), "serves as a clearinghouse of genealogy techniques: where to find records, how to organize the data found, what the terminology means and how to plan your next research effort."

"The Encyclopedia of Genealogy serves as a compendium of genealogical tools and techniques. It provides reference information about everything in genealogy except people. Look to the Encyclopedia of Genealogy to provide explanations of how to look up

your family tree, explanations of terms found in genealogy research, including obsolete medical and legal terms. It will describe locations where records may be found. It also will describe how to research Italian, German, Polish, French-Canadian, Jewish, Black, Indian and other ancestors. In short, the Encyclopedia of Genealogy will serve as your standard genealogy reference manual."

The Encyclopedia of Genealogy was created by Dick Eastman, who also hosts Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter. Anyone can contribute to the Encyclopedia of Genealogy

## ANCESTRY FAMILY HISTORY TIPS

### Local History can Boost Your Research

Curious about the local history of where my ancestors lived, I went to the local library and checked out some books. One series that was especially helpful was called "Images of America" It contained old photos and a history of each town. I learned a lot and even found a photo of the land and hotel that my ancestors owned in the 1920s. I learned that my great-great-grandmother was a pioneer resident of Palo Alto, California and have since donated a photograph of her house to the local historical society. Fortunately, many of the homes, businesses, schools, and churches tied to my ancestors are now historic landmarks. The history books opened up a rich avenue of research.

Des Allen

### Smartphone Pictures

When I was in Salt Lake City I didn't want to take the time to take the microfilm to the printer to make a copy of just one entry on the page. I used my smartphone to take a picture of the item and e-mailed it to myself with a note of what it was, and all the identification information (e.g., film number, the library in question, etc.). It worked great.

C. Van Allen

### Search the Entire Newspaper

When searching for death notices in newspapers, don't just look at the obituaries or death notices. In some cases, you'll find more extensive articles about the deceased in other parts of the newspaper. I found an incredibly detailed description of the funeral of one of my ancestors on the front page.

Bobbi Smith

### Digital Recorder

As is always the case, when I was on a research trip, just before closing I found a record with some great information. Naturally there was a line of people at the copier making last minute copies. With no time to make copies or transcribe the information, I remembered that I had my digital recorder in my purse. I pulled it out and quietly read the document into my recorder. Then when I got home and had time, I was able to transcribe the document properly. Now I bring it with me on all my research trips.

Wendy Martin

### Finding Historical Maps

Among the most used tools in my genealogy arsenal are my historical maps. Pinpointing the locations where my ancestors lived has led to many breakthroughs in my research. I found a good source for historic maps is online auction sites. Just search for the city, county or state and the word map. I've had great luck finding old maps at reasonable prices this way.

Stephanie Crow

### Ordering Social Security Applications

If you are looking for the names of someone's parents and he or she had a Social Security number, you can purchase a copy of his or her original application for a Social Security card/number from SSA under the Freedom of Information Act. The applications include the applicant's address, date and place of birth, parents' names, and the name and address of his or her employer. Each one has cost me \$27. I have received three copies and they have been accurate, matching up with the info I have from other family members. *[Editor's Note: When you locate a family member in [the Social Security Death Index on Ancestry.com](#), the Page Tools on the left side of the record include the option to automatically generate a letter to request the application.]*

Larry Rower, Dover, Pennsylvania

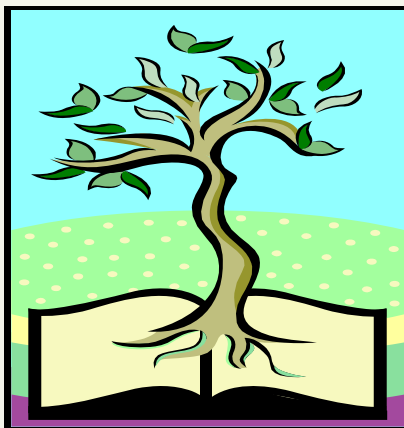
### Unexpected Connections

While traveling to Omaha, Nebraska, we thought we'd take a genealogical 'side trip' up to Homer (in Dakota County) where a great-grandfather, David Charles 'Omaha Charlie' Bristol, resided and is buried. We took a tour of a local historic site led by a couple from the historical society, only to find out that the past president was reported to have a cache of information on our family! The couple contacted him and drove us directly to his home in the next town. He shared two hours showing us his large collection of local historic newspapers and newspaper articles on the family. You never know how you may connect to unexpected, wonderful people with information that can be obtained no other way!

Ro Fleury

### 2009-2010 OFFICERS

President—Linda Touraine  
 Vice-President—Marilyn Simms  
 Secretary—Shirley Harris  
 Treasurer—Holly Hervey  
 Librarian—Kathy Strauss  
 Webmaster—Chris Strauss  
 Parliamentarian—Diane Abner



**NEXT MEETING OF THE  
 DENTON COUNTY  
 GENEALOGICAL  
 SOCIETY WILL BE ON  
 JANUARY 14, 2010  
 Emily Fowler Central  
 Library  
 502 Oakland St.  
 Denton**

**DENTON COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

PO Box 424707  
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