



# Keys To The Present

Newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Kendall County, Inc.

## Kestler to Introduce GSKC MyFamily

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Boerne, Texas

The pullouts along the Information Highway have become cluttered with blogs, wikis, Twitter, and sites like Youtube and Facebook. Among all those public ways of social networking is another more private kind of web site that is being used by families to share their family history.

Christy Kestler will demonstrate MyFamily and how it is used for collaboration on family research and by GSKC members, at the meeting Saturday April 4 at the Boerne Public Library. The meeting starts at 10 a.m.

The Dells established a MyFamily site for the use of their six-Week Genealogy Course students in 2008

named *GSKC Researchers*. Homework was posted there as well as interesting genealogy tidbits, upcoming events, personal happenings, recipes, pictures, and even polls.

Starting April 5, the site will be available to any GSKC member who is interested. It is a discussion forum where members can introduce topics and others can voice their opinion.. It is a place you can share an interesting website, genealogical research technique, a personal family history success, or pictures. It will be a place to read the latest GSKC news between newsletters and comment.

All you need to do is to send an email to Mary Alice at [rvgenie@gmail.com](mailto:rvgenie@gmail.com). She will send you a password and other instructions after the April 4 meeting.

### Beginning Workshops

Exactly 100 people attended the Beginning Genealogy Workshops in March at Boerne and Comfort. Of that number, 84 had never taken a GSKC genealogy course previously. Most of the attendees came from Kendall County, with a few from nearby Kerr and Bexar County . Fran King and Stu Adamslundy hosted the workshops.

### Upcoming Events

**Saturday, April 4**

**GSKC Meeting**

10 a.m.

Boerne Public Library

Tuesday, April 7

LV Training

10 a.m.

Masonic Lodge

**Computer Genies**

Thursday, April 16

1:30 p.m. BPL

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Blue shirts were the dress of the day at the March meeting. (L to R) Don Evans, Irene Page, Nancy Miller, Paulette Thompson, Alexis Markert, Ruth Taylor, Lucy Croft, Louis Taylor, Gladys Kuebel, Mary Oster, Quinn Farrell, and Mary Alice Dell. Seated in front is Bertie Reynolds.

## From the President

I know that many of you are aware of the Memo (below) that was presented to the Executive Committee by Kelly Skovbjerg, BPL Director. It stated that they will integrate Family History Resources into the adult collections area, which includes reference, non-fiction, fiction, and Texana. The stated goals of the changes are to provide consistent service to researchers. It also recommends that GSKC consider donating our collection to the library. We have several concerns about this memo. We could lose control of our genealogy library collection;

we would no longer have a separate History/Genealogy room in the new library. This would constitute a major change for GSKC and our library volunteers. This has resulted in a flood of e-mail messages and several meetings. We are investigating any viable options that might be available to us. I met with Kelly last week to discuss the situation and Christy and



Lucy met with Kelly this week to help her better understand the job of a GSKC library volunteer. They have another meeting scheduled to continue the discussion. I am going to invite Jack Charles to join the next meeting. I know that we were all looking forward to the new library with more space and room to archive the Kendall County records we have acquired. I will prepare a position paper stating those issues that GSKC will not compromise. My foremost interest is what is best for GSKC and for the community. Don

### Memo from Director of Boerne Public Library

To: Genealogical Society of Kendall County Executive Board From: Kelly Skovbjerg, Library Director

Date: February 19, 2009

**Subject: Planning for New Library, Family and Local History Resources**

Family and local history resources are important assets to the greater Boerne community and beyond. The City of Boerne views these resources as an integral part of the Boerne Public Library.

As we plan the new library space, we are faced with accommodating the needs of all users, making each area as flexible as possible to accommodate future changes, expansion, and to a certain extent, uncertain economic conditions affecting our fundraising capabilities. To this end we are integrating family history resources into the adult collections area, which includes reference, nonfiction, fiction and Texana. Local history will be moved to the adult collections staff area to allow for a closed stacks approach, ensuring enhanced security of local historical resources.

This change is a positive step designed to offer better and more consistent service to anyone in the library accessing family and local history resources. Integration of these resources is a growing trend in public libraries today.

**The goals we will accomplish with these changes are as follows:**

- > Provide better access to all resources and consistent service in an open environment: library is fully staffed by librarians and library staff with assistance from volunteers, all under the administration of the library director whose directives come from the City of Boerne and the Library Advisory Board. Use of the collection is encouraged and allows researchers to access the full extent of the library's resources. When only a core group uses and knows the collection, service is less consistent and timely.
- > Provide better security for resources. The area will be constantly staffed and a collections security system in place. The GSKC should consider donating its items to the library to derive the full benefit of the security system.
- > Encourage collaboration amongst the three groups and library staff.

**If the three groups whose resources currently reside in the library choose to work under this arrangement, the following actions are required now to ensure a smooth transition to the new space:**

- 1) The City of Boerne requires an inventory list from all three groups of items not owned by the City of Boerne so that we understand what is excluded from City insurance coverage.
- 2) A Memorandum of Understanding for each group will be generated by the library, approved by the Advisory Board and signed by each group, which lays out responsibilities of each group and the City of Boerne. This can only occur once we have an inventory listing from each group.

## Officer Profile - Recording Secretary Gladys Kuebel



Gladys Schuchardt Kuebel, was born and raised in Boerne and Kendall County. Having Great-Great Grandparents from Europe that were farmers, foresters, and craftsmen, and who immigrated from Europe seeking the freedom of a new life here in the Hill Country of Texas has

been a great sense of family pride to her. She has enjoyed finding stories and details of her family roots and learning that several became sheriffs, a circuit judge, businessmen, and craftsmen.

Gladys attended public schools in Boerne with the exception of 3 years when the family lived between Rocksprings and Sonora. After graduating with honors from Boerne High School, she worked at Southwestern Bell Tele-

phone. Later, came marriage into Navy and Coast Guard life. That resulted in travel and social ties that have been long lasting. Gladys has two daughters, two grandsons, two granddaughters, and three great-granddaughters. She has managed floral shops and held several clerical, auditing, switchboard, and administrative positions. She is presently a receptionist at Kendall County Equine Clinic and squeezes in research of her family history whenever possible.

## Minutes of the January 3, 2009

Meeting was called to order by President Don Evans. Minutes of the January 3, 2009 meeting as published in the *Keys to the Present* were approved without correction. Don then welcomed visitors and introduced our new members present, Kathy Woodward, Carol Smith and Joyce Mullins. Guests present included the speaker Paul Burrier and Donna Scofield.

Christy Kestler, Vice President and Seminar Chairman, presented the summary of our 2009 fifth annual seminar. Total attendees numbered 132 from over 20 counties in Texas. Four other registered, but did not attend. 52 attended the dinner. Speaker, Dr. George K. Schweitzer, gave a greatly informative presentation, which was overwhelmingly received by everyone present.

Don Evans announced the date for the 2010 seminar as Jan 30, 2010 at the Community Center. Curt Witcher, director of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN will be the speaker. The ACPL is the repository of copies of nearly every genealogical or historical society journal ever published, and is recognized as one of the top libraries in the US.

Harry Dell, Treasurer, reported the financial status of the Society. He also stated that the Society logo shirts were well received, but he still has a few size medium and 2X shirts available. He also stated we received \$900.00 grant from the Hotel Occupancy Tax to underwrite the seminar.

Membership Chairman Alexis Markert encouraged members to take a copy of the 2009 Directory, and the reported 131 members, a record for the Society. Lucy Croft, Librarian, reported several new books have been purchased from monies received as memorials honoring Edna Felps.

Mary Alice and Harry Dell's Beginning Genealogy Workshop was well attended. The Boerne location had attendance of 59, and the session in Comfort had 41, inspiring at least seven new membership applications.

A change in By-Laws, approved at its first reading in January, was presented for the required second reading. Lucy Croft moved approval of a change to Article V, Section 3, "In the event of a vacancy in any office or **office-elect** except the Presidency, the sitting Executive Committee shall fill the office and the officer so appointed shall fulfill the duties of the office **until the completion of his/her term.**" The motion was seconded and the change approved by members.

GSKC's financial participation in the "Portals of Texas History" program at University of North Texas had been approved at the Sept 2008 meeting. Librarian Lucy Croft later discovered that it was primarily for scanning history books. Lucy moved that the approval to donate \$100 to this project be rescinded. Harry Dell seconded the motion and the members voted approval to rescind the previous motion.

President Evans announced that the Executive Committee had met with Library Director Kelly Skovbjerg and Natalie Morgan, Assistant Director, regarding the recently received Memorandum which was generated by the Director announcing that there would not be a History/Genealogy Room in the new library. Under the new plan, our Genealogical Collection would be a part of the Adult collections area in an Open Space plan which would include stacks of reference, fiction, nonfiction and genealogy books. GSKC Library Volunteers and BPL Library volunteers would work from a main Staff desk in an open area. The Memorandum also proposed GSKC consider donating our genealogy library to the Boerne Library so it could be better served by the Library Staff. Discussion by several members followed the President's announcement. The Executive Committee is considering various options.

There will be a Living History Festival May 16 at the Herff Ranch property. It's goal is to educate citizens about their legacy through re-enactments, demonstrations, story-telling, etc. GSKC has been invited to participate and we have accepted.

Our new Historian, Quinn Farrell, was introduced and members were encouraged to donate pictures and other materials for our Society's scrap book.

President Evans introduced guest speaker, Paul Burrier, who has done extensive research on the Union/Confederate participation here in the Hill Country during the Civil War and the various versions of the "Battle of the Nueces". After his presentation the meeting was adjourned. *By Gladys Kuebel, Recording Secretary*



### The Genealogical Society of Kendall County Newsletter

Don Evans, President (vmtmmm@gvtc.com)  
Christy Kestler, Vice President  
Gladys Kuebel, Recording Secretary  
Alexis Markert, Corresponding Secretary  
Harry Dell, Treasurer  
Lucy Croft, Librarian

P.O. Box 623  
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Don Evans 830-537-5004

Mary Alice Dell, Editor (made135@gvtc.com)  
GSKC web site [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc)

### Membership Directory Update

#### Additions

**Liberato, Joyce (Wells)**  
PO Box 689  
Comfort, TX 78013-0639  
830.995.4557  
[jLarue@hctc.net](mailto:jlLarue@hctc.net)

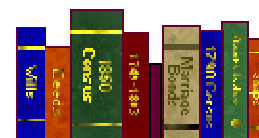
**Mullins, Joyce (Brown)**  
10263 Hwy 46  
Pipe Creek, TX 78063  
830.510.4069  
Cell: 210.260.8856  
[joycemullins@earthlink.net](mailto:joycemullins@earthlink.net)

**Scofield, Donna T. (Tweedy)**  
123 Toulon Dr.  
Kerrville TX 78029-1788  
830-257-3530  
[dscofield@ktc.com](mailto:dscofield@ktc.com)

**Linda Grimm**  
Correct email address to  
[lmgrimm@peoplepc.com](mailto:lmgrimm@peoplepc.com)

**Kuebel, Gladys S.**  
Delete 830 phone number

## New Books On Our Shelves



- Maryland Marriages 1778-1800** by Robert Barnes [Memorial to Edna Felps]
- Mississippi Newspaper Obituaries 1862-1875** by Betty C. Wiltshire [Memorial to Edna Felps]
- Genealogies of Virginia Families: From the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography** [Memorial to Edna Felps]
- Genealogies of Virginia Families from Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine, Volumes I-IV** [Loan by Sharon Pratt]
- King George County, Virginia Orders 1728-1731** by Mary Marshall Brewer [Memorial to Edna Felps]
- King George County, Virginia Orders 1731-1734** by Mary Marshall Brewer [Memorial to Edna Felps]
- Marriages and Deaths from the Maryland Gazette, 1727-1839** compiled by Robert Barnes [Donated by Sharon Pratt]
- Maryland Records: Colonial, Revolutionary, County and Church, Volumes I & II** Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh [Loan by Sharon Pratt]
- Mississippi Newspaper Obituaries 1862-1875** by Betty C. Wiltshire [Memorial to Edna Felps]
- Selected Final Pension Payment Vouchers 1818-1864, Virginia: Richmond & Wheeling Vol. 1 & 2** Alycon Trubey Pierce [Memorial to Edna Felps]
- Virginia Revolutionary War Land Grant Claims 1783-1850 (Rejected)** by William Lindsay [Memorial to Edna Felps]
- Complete Cemetery Census of Jack County Texas 1855-1994** [Loan by Sharon Pratt]
- Early Eighteenth Century Palatine Emigration** [Loan by Sharon Pratt]
- Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the Revolution, April 1775 to December 1783** [Donated by the George A. Kendall Chapter NSDAR]
- The History of Jack County Texas** by the Jack County Genealogical Society [Loan by Sharon Pratt]
- The Lands of Texas 1718-1860, Vol. 1** by Delray E. Fischer [Donated by Delray E. Fischer]
- The Military Order of the World Wars, National Directory** [Donated by Dick Magers]
- National Sojourners, Inc.: Proudly Serving the Cause of Patriotism** [Donated by Dick Magers]
- The Parish Register of Saint Peter's New Kent County, Virginia 1680-1787 Pennsylvania German Church Records of Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, Etc., Vols. I, II, III** by Don Yoder [Loan by Sharon Pratt]
- Pennsylvania German Pioneers: A Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727-1808, Vols. I & II** by Ralph B. Strassburger [Loan by Sharon Pratt]
- Record of Pennsylvania Marriages Prior to 1810, Vols. I & II** [Loan by Sharon Pratt]

[More to come. Additions to the Library are printed as they are shelved and space in the Newsletter permits]