



Keys To The Present

Newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Kendall County, Inc.

Early Registration Open for Seminar

Give yourself a Christmas gift and register now for the 8th Annual Hill Country Seminar to be held Feb 4. Early registration will save you \$15.00.

Colleen Fitzpatrick will be the speaker. Her lectures on using forensic techniques in finding clues in photographs and other data will help you solve those brick wall problems. She promises to show you how to be a *Database Detective*, and *How to Find Anyone*.

The member price of \$45 includes lunch and snacks. Non-members pay \$50.00. A pre-seminar dinner will be held the night before at Ye Kendall Inn. Dr. Fitzpatrick will also speak there. Anyone who registers for the seminar may attend and invite one guest. Cost for the dinner is \$35.00 each. Res-

ervations for the dinner must be made by January 26, which is the pre-registration deadline. The cost of the Seminar after that date is \$60.00.

Genies Night Out

The second Genies Night Out will be held at The Cypress Grill Tuesday, Dec. 13, starting at 6:30 p.m. The event is held each month at a different restaurant to give members the change to socialize; and to welcome new members.

They are also supporting the Society as a percentage of the cost of each dinner is returned to GSKC by the restaurant. Reservations must be made by 4 p.m. Monday. Call The Family History Place 830-331-8730.

2012 Officers Elected



Nancy Polk McLarry was elected the leader of GHSKC for 2012 at the November meeting of the members.

Assisting the President will be the following officers: 1st Vice-President, Linda Stephens; 2nd Vice-President, Mary Alice Dell; Secretary, Lisa Buchanan; and Treasurer Lloyd Shenberger.

A recent change in the By-laws added two additional Directors to the Board bringing the total to four Directors. Nancy James, Bruce Mergele, John Oldham, and Jim Westermeier were elected as Directors for 2012.

All serve in other capacities: Jim is chairman of the Financial Development Committee, Bruce is the Library Consultant, and John, Nancy, and Jim serve as Library Volunteers.

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The Family History Place
725 N. Main St. Ste. 3
Boerne, TX 78006

Upcoming Events

Genie Night Out
Cypress Grill
Tues. Dec 13 - 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Party
Sat. Dec 17 - 10 a.m.
Boerne Community Center

Family History Place Closed
Dec 23, 2011 - Jan 2, 2012

Computer Genies
Monday, Jan 9 - 10 a.m.
The Family History Place

8th Hill Country Seminar
Colleen Fitzpatrick
Feb 4, 2012

Service Awards at Christmas Party

In addition to sharing the Christmas spirit, members will have opportunity to see two, or perhaps three, members honored with awards for their service to GHSKC and to participate in a Silent Auction. The Rachel Morgan Betz award for long-time service to the Society and the Volunteer of the Year award are given each year. The Board of Directors may decide to also give the Genie Award if they feel a new member has made an outstanding service contribution during the first year of membership. The Party will be held upstairs at the Boerne Community Center at 10 a.m. Members are invited to bring a finger food to share with others and to contact Nancy McLarry about auction items.

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Gwen's Gems

By President Gwen Adrian

Dec 2011

Christmas Greetings, GSKC Members. If you want some Christmas cheer, all you have to do is drive down Boerne Main Street at night and a big smile will cross your face. Please notice that our little town's delightful decorations and twinkling lights include our own Family History Place - inside and out. This festive touch that brightens our lives is due to the talents, artistic ability, and generosity of

our soon-to-be President Nancy McLarry and her husband Perry. Many, many thanks, Nancy and Perry.

When 2011 draws to a close, there will be a change of leadership in our Society and an Executive Board that consists of nine members instead of seven. The 2012 Board members include Nancy McLarry, Linda Stephens, Mary Alice Dell, Lisa Buchanan, Lloyd Shenberger, Nancy James, Bruce Mergele, John Oldham, and Jim Westermeier. I think this new board is a strong, enthusiastic, and capable group. I am confident that our Society will continue to thrive and will grow in membership, financial strength, and other ways under their leadership. Many thanks, New Board, for the generous contributions of your time and abilities to GHSKC.

Four Board members are "retiring" at the end of 2011. These members are retiring from the Board, not from GHSKC. We need them and all members to be as active as they can be in GHSKC. Members going off of the Board are Ed Mergele, Gladys Kuebel, Harry Dell, and myself. Harry, Gladys, and Ed have all been excellent and conscientious Board members. Harry has served for over three years as Treasurer, and spent many hours keeping meticulous and accurate records of the Society's finances. As you know, he has also contributed in many other ways, including being a Library Volunteer and teaching genealogy courses. Gladys has served as Secretary, and also as Greeter, Library Volunteer, a member of Kendall County First Families, and in many other ways. Ed has been a Director on the Board and contributed his wisdom and wealth of experience to the benefit of the Society. He and his family have contributed greatly to the Society throughout the establishment of the Family History Place and before. Ed and his wife Mary Lou are both historians. They have served as Library Volunteers, and Ed presented a program on his ancestors' challenging trip from Alsace to Texas. We are indeed indebted to Harry, Gladys, and Ed. Many thanks for your major contributions.

Finally, I want to thank all GHSKC members for allowing me to serve as your President for the last two years and as a very involved Vice President during the tumultuous fall of 2009. **Only because of the strong support of the membership** were we able to navigate the transition from the Boerne Public Library, our home for 28 years, to find, rent, furnish, and staff our beautiful Family History Place -- the home away from home for all GHSKC members; and an outstanding resource for anyone interested in family history. Now is a time to celebrate! Please come to the GHSKC Christmas Party on Saturday, December 17th, at the Boerne Convention & Community Center. We will have plenty of time to visit with friends, old and new and, also, to celebrate our Society's achievements; to present the annual Society awards; and to think about the future. No business meeting. Bring a dish of food to share for an early lunch. Most importantly bring yourself. May your future and GHSKC's future be merry and bright.

Warm regards, Gwen Adrian



2012 Directory Available Now!

You can pick up your copy of the 2012 Membership Directory at the December meeting on Dec17, or at the Family History Place after that, according to Christiana Picioccio, Membership Chairman and Compiler of the Directory. In January, directories will be mailed to those living out of the area. Those 2011 members who have not renewed their membership will not be eligible for a Directory and will no longer receive the monthly Newsletter, *Keys to The Present*, after this issue. They will no longer be eligible for member discounts.

Computer Genies Group is Back!!

The first meeting of the newly organized Computer Genie group will be Monday, Jan 9, from 10 a.m. to noon at The Family History Place. The program, presented by Harry Dell, will be on *Google as a Research Tool*. "Most folks don't even begin to use Google to its full capacity for genealogical research", said Dell, the newly appointed chairman of the Computer Genie Committee.

The purpose of the group is to promote the various ways computers can be used by genealogists. The meeting is open to members only. Bring your laptops.



Junior member Audrey Jellett shows how much space is available for toys for the Sheriff's annual Christmas drive. Drop your toys off at The Place this week!

Minutes of the Genealogical Society of Kendall County

Nov 19, 2011 Patrick Heath Public Library, Boerne, TX

The November meeting of the Genealogical and Historical Society of Kendall County was opened at 10 a.m.. President, Gwen Adrian opened the meeting by welcoming members and visitors. She then introduced Retired Texas Ranger Joe Davis who presented a colorful and informative history of the Texas Rangers from its inception until today. He described the Texas Ranger Museum now being constructed in Fredericksburg.

After a short break, the business meeting was opened by President Gwen Adrian asking if there were any corrections or additions to the Minutes of the September Meeting as printed in the October newsletter. There were none, so stood approved as printed. (There was no business meet-

ing in October.) Harry Dell presented the Treasurer's report (copy as of November 5, 2011 attached to minutes). The \$2300 annual subscription for the Library version of Ancestry is due by December 31. He encouraged members to donate to the Ancestry fund as having it available for members and the public at the Family History Place is an asset.

Christina Picioccio, the new Membership Chairman, is processing renewals and new applications, and will edit the 2012 Directory. She reminded all that renewals are due and new members must pay prior to December 10 to be included in the Society directory. Mary Alice Dell announced copies of The Fall/Winter "Keys To the Present" journal was ready for members to pick up today, or at The Family History Place later, if they ordered a printed copy. Others will receive their copy by email. She thanked Lisa Buchanan for her work in processing the Journal.

Nancy McLarry announced The first Genie Night Out at the Tin Roof Steakhouse was enjoyed by 21 members. A portion of the cost of the dinner at the Genie Night Out dinners is donated to the Society, so the event serves as a social as well as a fund raiser event. The next Genie Night Out will be December 13 at the Cypress Grill. Members should RSVP at the FHP by Monday before the date to insure adequate staffing on what is often a slow night for restaurants.

Several of our members attended the Texas State Genealogical Society meeting in Houston. Mary Alice Dell received the Volunteer of The Year Award; first place for a manuscript on George W. Kendall; and first place award for her column *The Family Historian* which appears in The Boerne Star. Allison Wolff, a junior member of GSKC and granddaughter of member Nina Willis, won first place for her entry in the Intermediate School Genealogy Project.

President Adrian invited members to suggest the names of members they felt should be considered for the Annual Services awards. The Board of Directors will make those selections at their December meeting. The annual awards will be presented at the Christmas party on December 17 at the Community Center. Members are asked to bring a covered dish for refreshments.

Gwen Adrian reminded all attendees of the research trip to Salt Lake City on May 20; and that hotel reservations should be made now. Cathy Schwarz, who is the webmaster of both the Society website and the Kendall County GenWeb, invited members to visit both sites and try the new links on them.

Bylaws changes as previously presented to members were reviewed. Stu Adams-Lundy moved to accept the changes as presented, Ron Reisinger seconded, the motion to approved the changes carried.

Nominating Committee Chairman Janice Brazil reported the following nominees for 2012 officers: Nancy McLarry, President; Linda Stephens, 1st Vice President; Mary Alice Dell, 2nd Vice President; Lisa Buchanan, Secretary; Lloyd Shenberger, Treasurer; Jim Westermeier, Director; Bruce Mergele, Director; Nancy James, Director; and John Oldham, Director. President Adrian asked for further nominees. There were none. Ron Reisinger moved to accept the nominees as the 2012 officers by acclamation. Gladys Kuebel seconded. The motion carried. Gladys Kuebel, Secretary



***The Genealogical Society of Kendall County
Newsletter***

Gwen Adrian, President 830-249-2085
gwensadrian@aol.com)
Nancy McLarry, 1st Vice President
Mary Alice Dell, 2nd Vice President
Gladys Kuebel, Secretary
Harry Dell, Treasurer
Bruce Mergele, Director
Ed Mergele, Director

Mary Alice Dell, Editor (madel35@gvtc.com)
P.O. Box 623, Boerne, TX 78006
Family History Place, 725 N. Main St. Ste 3
Boerne, TX 78006 830-331-8730

Recent Additions to the Family History Place Library

Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research: Falley, Margaret Dickson,
Biographical & Historical Memoirs of Natchitoches Parish, LA
Maryland Colonization Society Manumission Book, 1832-1860:
Hynson, Jerry M.
Goodspeed's History of Maury, Williamson, Rutherford, Wilson, Bedford,
and Marshall Counties Tennessee.
McLennan County Texas - before 1980: Poage, W. R.
Pittsylvania County, Virginia, Abstracts of Wills, 1768-1800: Hughes,
Thomas Proctor,
The 1840 Census of the Republic of Texas: White, Gifford E.
Natchitoches, 1729-1803: Mills, Elizabeth Shown. LA Natchitoches
Early Landowners of Maryland: Hall, Robert W.
Kerrville Mountain Sun and Kerrville Advance Obituary & Death Notice
Index, 1898-1965: Dozier, Gloria C.
Genealogies of Virginia Families, Vol. 3
Genealogies of Virginia Families, Vol. 4

Territory Town, The Ardmore Story: Gray, Sally M. OKLAHOMA Carter
Members of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons: Mayfield, Janna TEXAS
The History and Heritage of Goliad County. Pruet, Jackie L and Cole, Everett B. TEXAS
Indian Wars and Pioneers of Texas: Brown, John Henry
Recollections of Boerne and Kendall County Family Histories: Gray TEXAS Kendall
Famous Trees of Texas. Haislett, John A. TEXAS
Virginia/West Virginia Genealogical Data from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Records: Ward
Magoffin County, Kentucky marriages 1910-1950; Wiseman and Gard
The Highland Scots of North Carolina, 1732-1776: Meyer, Duane Gilbert
The Jameses: Lewis, R. W. B. JAMES FAMILY
Research Georgia: Davis, Robert Scott,
Marriage Records of Pulaski County, Kentucky: Burns, Annie Walker
Newport and Vermillion Township, Vermillion County, Indiana: O'Donnell, Harold L.
Old Northwest Texas: Samuels, Nancy Timmons. TEXAS Navarro
Navarro County history: TEXAS Navarro
Die Bremervorwandschaft Deutschland und Texas: Robson, Robert R. BREMER FAMILY
Petitions of the Early Habitants of Kentucky to the General Assembly of Virginia, 1769 to 1792 KENTUCKY
Kentucky Obituaries, 1787-1854: Clift, G. Glenn
American Ancestry Vols. I - III: AMER USA 973.2
The Road Atlas of United States, Canada & Mexico: ATLAS
Index to St. Louis, Missouri Marriages, Vol. 1. Bk. 2 & Vol. 2. Bk. 1 & 2
The Ancient Historical Records of Norwalk, Ct: Hall, Edward
Excerpts from the San Antonio Daily Light of 1890: David L. Forbes, abstracter.
Marriage Records of Early Texas, 1824-1846: Gram
The 1940-41 Greyhound: TEXAS Kendall
Old Indianola: Gray, Lois Lucille TEXAS CALHOUN
Families of Early Kingsland, Texas and Nearby Communities Llano and Burnet Counties: Jackson, Muriel B. TEXAS
The Confederate Veteran Magazine, 1893-1932. 973.7 Conf USA
Directory of Former Students, 1876-1997, Texas A&M University
Conference Minutes of Bethesda Baptist Church Union Point: Cates, Vivian Toole GEORGIA Greene
The Lineage Book of the Families of the Twin Territories OKLAHOMA
Kirchen-Buch, Church Record book of the Veres-Kirche, 1849-1870: TEXAS Gillespie
Rural Cemeteries of Gillespie County, TEXAS
Pennsylvania German Marriages: Irish, Donna R.
Churches and Cemeteries of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania: Rineer, A. Hunter
Brazos County 1900-1910 Czech Census Extractions: Texas Czech Genealogical Society, TEXAS Brazos
Rains County: Bay, Elaine Nall TEXAS Rains
County Atlas of Warren, New Jersey: Beers, F. W. ATLAS