



Keys To The Present

Newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Kendall County, Inc.

First Fall Meeting Sept 19th

Volume 3, Issue 7

GSKC is deviating from its usual meeting pattern for the remainder of the year in both meeting dates and places.

The September meeting was changed to avoid having the usual 1st Saturday meeting fall on the Labor Day weekend. The venue has also been changed to Luther Hall which is located across the side street from St John's Lutheran Church. on Rosewood.

The October 3rd meeting will be the normal 1st Saturday, but since it will be the 10th Anniversary of the First Families of Kendall County, this special celebration will need the larger quarters at St. John's Lutheran Church.



The November meeting will be back at the Boerne Public Library, but held on the third Saturday, Nov 21, to allow members to attend the Genealogical Seminar which is a part of the Texas State Conference in San Antonio scheduled for the first Saturday. The December Social and Awards meeting has been

moved to Dec 19 with the place to be announced.

September Speaker

Judy McVay, pictured at the left, will be the speaker at the September meeting, giving members hints as to how to make a family reunion more than just a social event during her talk "Family History at the Reunion".

Welcome New Members

This meeting will also be an opportunity to welcome the 44 new members that have joined GSKC since the last meeting in May. That is over a 30% gain in membership and brings our total as of this printing to 181 members.

Sept, 2009
Boerne, Texas

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Sept 19

GSKC Meeting

10.a.m.

Luther Hall

Computer Genies

Thursday, Sept 17

1:30 p.m. BPL

Saturday, Oct 3

First Family Celebration
St. John's Lutheran Church

Genies to Hear Easy Way to Write Family History

Writing a family history and getting it published appears to be a daunting task to many family historians. Three GSKC members will team up at the Thursday, Sept 17 Computer Genie meeting to explain how each part of your ancestor stories can be easily written. Suggestions for finding a publisher that will be eager to print your story will also be discussed, announced Irene Page, Computer Genie

Chairman. team

The meeting to be held in the meeting room at the Boerne Public Library starts at 1:30 p.m. If you wish to bring your computer to follow the steps proposed by the presenters, please contact Irene at 830-755-9031 or itpage@gvvc.com to reserve table space for your computer and arrive by 1 p.m. to set up your equipment.

Computer Genies group was formed four years ago to give members the opportunity to explore ways to use the computer to further their genealogical research. An ongoing program of solving brick walls using online research techniques will resume at the next meeting. Everyone is invited to bring information about or show helpful websites they are using..

Inside this issue:

<i>2010 Seminar News</i>	2
<i>May 2 Minutes</i>	2
<i>May 19 Minutes</i>	3
<i>Kids Workshop</i>	3
<i>TSGS Seminar</i>	4

Nancy James Appointed 2010 Seminar Chairman

Former GSKC President Nancy James has been appointed as the Chairman of the 2010 Sixth Annual Hill Country Family Seminar upon resignation of the previous chairman Christy Kestler. Assisting Nancy are Gwen and Earl Adrian, Teal Anderson, Harry Dell, Mary Alice Dell, Sybil Jones, Nancy McLarry, Irene Page, Paulette Thompson, Sharon Wolff, and Vicky Zapf.

The Seminar, featuring Curt Wicher, Manger of the Genealogical Department at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN, will be held Jan 30th. Subjects chosen by the com-



Nancy James committee will be Military Records and Research, Using Periodical Literature, Church Records, and Internet Research. Plans are underway for the pre-registration dinner on Friday at which Wicher will also speak. The dinner is open to a seminar registrant and one guest; and is not included in the price of the Seminar. A registration flyer will be sent to each member.

Minutes of Two Meetings

GSKC normally holds only one meeting a month and the minutes of that meeting appears in the next regular edition of the Newsletter.

However, in May, in addition to the regular meeting on May 2, a special meeting was called for May 19 to address some issues that could not be resolved in the earlier meeting .

We are printing both sets in this edition. Please call any corrections or additions to the attention of the Secretary at the September 19 meeting.

Minutes of the May 2, 2009 Regular Meeting of Genealogical Society of Kendall County

Meeting was called to order by Vice President, Christy Kestler. President Evans was out of town. Members and guests joined in the Pledges of Allegiance to both the United States and Texas Flags.

Guests introduced by Christy were David Jarrell, Chairman of the BPL Advisory Board and Jeanne Clark, BPL Advisory Board member.. Ms. Clark spoke of present processes regarding the ongoing plans of the new Boerne Library. The Library Advisory Board now has a sub committee and will be meeting with our President and Vice President when Don is back in town. Final proposal will be presented to our entire membership at a Town Hall Meeting, date to be e-mailed to membership.

Minutes of the April meeting as printed in the Keys to the Present were approved without change. Harry Dell, Treasurer, presented the updated figures of the present financial balances. Members approved his report as read.

Historian Quinn Farrell requested pictures and other items to help her in compiling her albums. Librarian, Lucy Croft, circulated her list of recent additions to the GSKC collection.

Jack Charles, head of GSKC Library Volunteers, is having new badges made for volunteers. They will be available at the Town Hall Meeting.

Alexis Markert distributed directory updates and stated we have two more members since last meeting, total now is 138 members.

Mary Alice Dell reminded that our new journals are ready to be picked up before we leave today.

Kate Skinner Klee is working on a Query Research Report to be presented in the future.

Christy Kestler, 2010 Seminar Chairman, requested volunteers for the Seminar committee. Nancy James will be in charge of Registration, Food Chairman Judy McVay for the pre-seminar dinner, Seminar Food Chairman position is still open and must be filled before October. Others who have volunteered are Sharon Wolff, Mary Alice Dell, and Teal Anderson.

Unfinished business addressed the proposal that will be presented by President Evans at Town Hall is in the planning stage-watch our e-mails for date.

Christy briefly gave feedback from the April 7 meeting with Kelly Skovbjerg, Natalie Morgan, Christy Kestler, Jack Charles and Lucy Croft for better understanding of Library needs.

(Minutes continued on Page 3)

Summer Workshop for Kids Fun for All



Left Photo: Kim Chong and son, Lincoln Abbott listen as GSKC member Carl Taylor explains item on Internet. In background, Student Kelsey Passafuma is helped by member Martha Boye. Right Photo: Member Stephen Bishop assists Katie Robbins as her mother, Irene Page Robbins looks on. Kelsey and Katie are grand-daughters of GKSC members Gladys Kuebel and Tom and Irene Page.

(May 2 Minutes continued from Page 2)

Erle Adrian reported he still needs volunteers for two more sections of tombstones to be photographed to complete the digital record.

Presentation of the 2009 Budget drew no discussion. Motion to approve was made by Dick Magers, seconded by Irene Page, passed with no opposition.

Report on the Dietert Trust quotes: "The trust document states the funding, given to the Boerne Public Library Foundation, will be used for the enhancement and maintenance of the Historical Archives Section" The Historical Archives Section was started in 1970 by the BAHPS with the support of Clarence and Doris Dietert. The Foundation is to use the funds in the new library for this purpose.

Motion for disposition of collected Library donations to be turned over to the Library within two weeks was made by Kate Skinner Klee, seconded by Lucy Croft but not passed. Sharon Wolff moved to postpone transfer until results are heard from Town Hall Meeting, this seconded by Gladys Kuebel. Action was postponed by vote. Christy thanked our loyal refreshment committee, Paulette Thompson, Irene Page, and Lucy Croft.

Announcement was made reminding members of the May 16 Living History Project—needs input and participation representing GSKC at the Herff Farm at 33 Herff Road. Saturday, May 16, 2009, from 10 AM to 8 PM is the date to remember for storytellers, music, history and more!

Sharon Wolff presented a program on overcoming brick walls. Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes of the May 19, 2009 Special Meeting of Genealogical Society of Kendall County

A special meeting of the membership was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on May 19, 2009 at St. Johns Anglican Church. There were 36 members and 4 guests present, three of which were from the Library Advisory Board.

Jeanne Clark, a member of the Library Advisory Board, presented the proposal that the Library Advisory Board had approved and that will be presented to the City Council on Tuesday, May 26, 2009. Jeanne stated that the proposals may be changed by the City Council before they are approved by the City Council. Mrs. Clark stated that the Library Advisory Board had 5 recommendations:

1. The Board strongly supports keeping GSKC in the library.
2. The Library Director manages the library. She has been hired by the City and has complete control over the Library, including the genealogy section and the volunteers who work at the Library.
3. Mrs. Clark explained the functional design the Library Advisory Board recommended for the 2nd floor. It included space in the Work Room for the GSKC, extra computers, and study rooms. The board recommends that the GSKC be able to book a specific study room near the genealogy collection without restriction.
4. The Library Advisory Board is working to improve the relationship between the GSKC and the library, and to repair the stress that the recent months have placed on that relationship. The GSKC Volunteers are to continue in their role, and encourages GSKC to make their library volunteer training available to the library staff and other volunteers. The



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

Don Evans, President
(830-537-5004 - vmtmmm@gvtc.com)
Gwen Adrian, Vice President
Gladys Kuebel, Recording Secretary
Alexis Markert, Corresponding Secretary
Harry Dell, Treasurer
Bruce Mergele, Librarian

P.O. Box 623
Boerne, TX 78006

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

Texas State Genealogical Society Conference and Seminar

Registration is open for the TSGS Conference and Seminar to be held Nov 6-7 at the Omni Hotel in San Antonio. This is the first time in over 40 years that the State Conference has been held this close to Boerne. Saturday will be an all day Seminar given by Craig Robert Stevens speaking on Researching Colonial Wars, Colonial Land Records, Researching Your Mexican War Ancestor, and Treasury Records. Seminar and lunch are \$50.00. Look for the goldenrod registration flyer at the meeting on the 19th.

(May 19 Minutes continued from Page 3)

Library Advisory board has added a permanent item to the monthly agenda for addressing the genealogy collection.

5. The Library Advisory Board recommends that GSKC donate their collection of materials to the library
- They recommend that the GSKC be allowed to name the collection
 - If a collection of materials is housed at the library, it needs to belong to the City and be within the chain of command of the Library Director to the City.
 - The GSKC Librarian should be actively engaged with the library staff, and they encourage the GSKC to have a strong, educated, and committed individual to work with the Library staff in a collaborative effort on acquisitions, organization, and culling of the collection.
 - Items leaving the collection are to go back to the GSKC through a collaborative process that chooses items to be culled.
 - The items are to be non-circulating
 - The items will be insured, cataloged, and tagged and maintained by standard library practices.
 - The Library Advisory Board recommends that there be a legal, binding contract delineating transition, the role of the Library and the Society, and under annual review. The purpose of the annual review is to keep the agreement current.

After the formal presentation, Mrs Clark answered questions from the members:

Q - Were the same conditions being applied to the BAHPS and the Cemetery Foundation?

A - Those groups have already donated their materials to the library. Both groups also have space designated in the Work Room.

Q - Does the GSKC need to give its feedback on the proposal before the City Council meeting?

A - No. The city will discuss everything and at some point make decisions about the floor plan. If the GSKC is not part of the usage, then the space allocations will change.

Q - How long does the Society have to respond to this proposal?

A - The decision is in the future, and the society has time to explore other solutions.

Q - Why was the decision made not to have an enclosed genealogical collection?

A - Flexibility. Research was done into other libraries. When asked what libraries, Jeanne said that she did not have that material with her.

Information about other libraries was given by Kate Skinner-Klee, Jack Charles, Teal Anderson, and Irene Page.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved that a committee be appointed to investigate other options and report back at the September meeting. Harry Dell was appointed as head of a committee to investigate options other than going with the library and to report about the costs of such options. Harry will select the members of his committee.

A motion was made, seconded, amended, seconded, and approved that the funds collected for the library building fund be donated to the library within 2 weeks or the funds returned to the members who had donated them. Motions passed.

Meeting was adjourned. -- Christy Kestler, Acting Secretary