

Research on the Internet

**Saturday,
May 10th**

9:30 - 12:00 noon



SOUTH PLAINS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Free computer classes are offered at the Patterson Branch

Want to learn about computers but don't know where to get started? The Patterson Branch Library offers a series of beginning computer classes. The classes include: Basic PC, Microsoft Word, Excel, Internet/Library Orientation and then an overview. The Patterson Branch is located at 1836 Parkway. For more information contact Kathy Jennings at 767-3300.

Lubbock Public Library's Commemorative Gift Program

Dedicating a book or other materials at the Lubbock Public Library is a unique way to commemorate special events or honor the memory of loved ones. For each gift of \$25 or more, the library will select a book (or other library material) for dedication from one of the subject areas you suggest. You will receive a note from the library acknowledging your book dedication. A note announcing your dedication will also be sent to the person you honored or to the family of the person you remembered. A book plate announcing your gift is inserted in the front of every dedicated book. In order to complete the Commemorative Gift form you will need: the name of the person you wish to honor, as you would like it to appear, the name and address of the person who should receive an announcement of your gift, the subject area(s) from which the staff should select the book and your monetary donation. If you have questions, please contact library director Jane Clausen at (806) 775-2824.

Beginning Genealogy— Researching on the Internet

May 10, 2008 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Community Room -- Mahon Public Library

Continuing our classes on genealogy research, we look at the internet for records to help in our genealogy research.

This program is last program in a series to help you, as beginners and intermediate researchers find your roots. All of us need to review our research or perhaps find new ideas from time to time. Genealogists can and should help other researchers locate data to find our ancestors. Be prepared to ask questions and learn. I promise you that you will "get hooked."

Pre-registration would be appreciated so the presenters will have an estimate for handouts, if you didn't sign up in April. If you might attend, please call Vi at 794-6849 or e-mail her at chasviz58@sbcglobal.net

The classes are free and open to members and non-members. Come and bring a friend who is interested or wants to get started researching their family history. All you need is a pen or pencil and paper to take notes. You may even tape record if you like.

Visit the SPGS website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txspgs/>

SOUTH PLAINS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
HISTORY and PURPOSE
1961 - 2008

Realizing the interest in genealogical research, the Nancy Anderson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented a workshop at the old YMCA building on Broadway in Lubbock on April 8, 1961. Members and other interested people lent their time and books to help others to begin tracing their family trees. That interest grew, and on May 19 of that year the first regular meeting of the South Plains Genealogical Society (SPGS) was held at the Lubbock City/County Library. By November of the same year, there were 126 charter members. With the help of donations and dues, the SPGS was given a bookcase at the old Godeke Library branch located on 19th Street, now the Senior Citizens Building.

In the years that have followed, the collection has grown to include thousands of books and an extensive microfilm and CD-ROM collection. In October, 1990, the SPGS became a nonprofit corporation. Its purpose was and continues to be to provide the public with education and information related to family genealogies and local, regional and state history. Its primary activity is to assist the City of Lubbock in the support and operation of the genealogy section in the Mahon Building of the Lubbock City/County Library. The SPGS provides a knowledgeable group of volunteers who staff the library's genealogy section on an

organized and continuing basis. These volunteers advise the general public on matters related to genealogy and local history. In addition, the SPGS makes numerous gifts of genealogy materials such as books, periodicals, microfilm and CD-ROMs to the Lubbock City/County Library on a continuing basis. All of these gifts and services are made available to the general public without regard to library users' association with the SPGS.

Its members conduct virtually all of the activities of the SPGS, and no member receives any monetary compensation for this work. The SPGS provides monthly programs from September - November and January - May on specific genealogical research issues that includes instruction in computer research and tracing family histories. Special programs may be conducted during the summer months. These programs are free and open to the public. Occasionally, the SPGS hires outside speakers who are not members of the Society.

The SPGS periodically publishes a new Surname booklet of paid members only. The Society is also involved in the publishing of regional articles and books of interest to genealogists. Proceeds from the sale of all published materials benefits the genealogy department at Mahon Library. A newsletter is sent to regular members, prospective members, genealogy societies and libraries in the months of September - November and January - May.

In 1997, the SPGS responded to the increasing interest in computer research by establishing a website on the Internet. The website was updated in 2007.

New Genealogy Magazine

"*Discovering Family History*" is a new genealogy magazine targeted at beginners. It will be published by the same people who publish Family Chronicle and Internet Genealogy. The first issue of DFH is on the newsstands in April. Their website is: www.discoveringfamilyhistory.com.

South Plains Genealogical Society
2008 Membership

Charles Zeeck, SPGS Treasurer

P. O. Box 6607

Lubbock, TX 79493-6607

() Individual \$15.00

() Couple \$20.00

() Sustaining \$30.00 or any larger amount

Annual Dues are from January 1st to December 31st.

Dues are delinquent after March 1st.

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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This is a monthly publication of the South Plains Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6607, Lubbock, TX 79493-6607, which was founded and chartered as a nonprofit organization devoted to assembling and preserving genealogical and historical materials. Membership is open to all persons interested in genealogical and historical research.

Tips for Census Record & Other Research in Ancestry.com

Unlike Heritage Quest which brings up only exact spellings and for most years only has the heads of household indexed, Ancestry can be used in many more ways as well as in combination with Heritage Quest.

At Ancestry try the following:

Search by last name only and search by different variations of the spelling. Although Ancestry will often bring up different variations of the spelling on its own, this does not always happen. So try all the spelling variations you can think of or that the census taker may have possibly used or that a transcriber may have read or misread. A search by first name only also works. Try reversing the first and middle names or using initials. Example: I found William Benjamin Wooton on one census and on the next census he was Benjamin William and on another he was W. B. on another. Try using wildcards: Woot*n and you will get Wooton, Wooten, Wootan. You may also search by either first or last name using the first three letters of a name plus a wildcard: Bal**, or Will**.

Once you bring up a census image, look at all the names on the page and maybe the previous and following pages. Often you will find other relatives living nearby; the married children, grandparents or even great-grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc. Remember: The 1850 census was the first to list all the household members by name. Previously only heads of household were named. Beginning with the 1880 census the state of birth of each person as well as of each of their parents is listed. These will give you clues as to other places to search.

You can even search without a name: Put in a state & county name and a state of birth or year of birth and you may find an illusive family member.

You may search Ancestry by individual census years but another way is to use the global search under the Historical records tab. Put in as much information as you know and it will bring up names of people that match criteria for all the census years plus any birth and death records plus military history records data. Sometimes you have to scroll through a number of persons by the same name to find the right one. Sometimes you get a surprise and find they move off to some far-off state you never thought they lived in. I have found the World War I Draft registration records very helpful. They list the person's exact date of birth; some list their place of birth & you may find the wife's name or the parents' name on some. Also there is the 1942 World War II Draft Registration, (called the old men's draft). I found my friend's illusive grandfather this way. Other WWII draft records have not yet been released but there are some enlistment records, prisoner of war records, and a few death records.

If you don't find your ancestor in Ancestry.com, look on Heritage Quest. I have found things completely missing on one that is on the other. Remember, also you can search page by page on either just as you would do by looking at the microfilm. With a lot of patience and time you just may find them but hopefully you will find them quickly!

LUBBOCK COUNTY MARRIAGES & OBITUARIES, 1896-1920

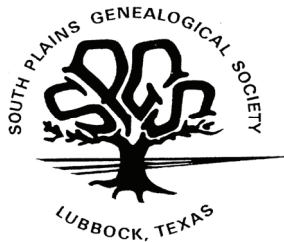
by Judy Womack & Yvonne Spence Perkins

The South Plains Genealogical Society has published a limited edition of 15 copies of *Lubbock County Marriages and Obituaries, 1896-1920*, in conjunction with Lubbock's Centennial Celebration. The book is softbound, 71 pages, and sells for \$40.00 each.

The information was abstracted from early Lubbock newspapers, available on microfilm from the Mahon Public Library. Because of the content, this book is a census of early settlers of Lubbock city and county. The first marriage listed is for Irvin L. Hunt and Etta Mae Green on 3 May 1896. They were married at the Lubbock County Courthouse by Judge J.P. Brown. This article includes the names of the parents of the bride and groom, who were early settlers of Estacado. Also in the article is a list of names of wedding attendees and it mentions that they attended a supper at the Nicolett Hotel. Additional marriage listings in the book include lists of wedding presents and who gave the gifts.

Information in the obituaries section includes names of the deceased, parents and relatives, with some additional information about the deceased.

Genealogists interested in early Lubbock will enjoy these records and history. The book is available through SPGS.



South Plains
Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 6607
Lubbock, TX 79493-6607

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NEWSLETTER ITEMS: Newsletter items may be submitted to Yvonne Perkins, 2107 54th, Lubbock, TX 79412-2610
Telephone: 806-747-1319 e-mail: YvonneGengirl@aol.com
Alternate contact: Vi Zeeck at 806-794-6849 or chasviz58@sbcglobal.net

All Texas Death Certificates 1890—1976

at Lubbock Family History Center

Beginning April 9th, literally all Texas Death certificates from 1890 to 1976 are available on the Lubbock Family History Center computers. These extractions include the deceased's full information as well as parent's names and birthplaces (per the death certificate). Eventually the full image will be viewable; right now it is similar to the 1880 Census extraction at www.familysearch.org. The search for a person will pull up not only death certificates for the person, but also any death certificate where the person is listed as a parent.

If you currently participate in FamilySearch Indexing at www.labs.familysearch.org, you can access the TX Death Certificates at your home computer at www.search.labs.familysearch.org. For more information contact SPGS member Roger at go2ward@juno.com.

If Your Ancestor Owned Land, There is A Deed

Land ownership has always been an important part of American society. Nine out of ten males owned land before 1850. Researchers should make use of more land records in their family research.

Deeds are recorded at the county level; when property is sold, a deed is recorded at the local courthouse for the protection of buyer and seller.

Land records are more complete than other records. IF these records are destroyed by wars or fire, there will be a re-constructed record to prove ownership of the land.

Land records often give the name of a man's wife and his children, parents or siblings. ALWAYS CHECK THE LAND RECORDS IN THE COUNTY YOU ARE RESEARCHING. [YSP]

DNA is being used more and more in genealogy. If you have a male relative that you think might help in locating an ancestor, trim a lock of his hair to keep for DNA use.