



# DGS NEWSLETTER

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Dallas, Texas

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## Celebrating 40 Years of Family History with Sharon DeBartolo Carmack 1995 DGS Spring Seminar

Our Society has been around for forty years, and, to celebrate this milestone event, DGS is proud to present Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, America's foremost social historian and genealogist as its guest speaker for our annual Spring Seminar. Join us at the Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom C on Saturday, 8 April 1995. And, don't forget, we'll announce the winners of the Society's Annual Writing Awards at the same event!

Sharon Carmack, C.G.R.S., comes to us from Simla, Colorado. She differs from "mainstream" genealogical speakers in that she specializes in social history and writing family narratives that make our ancestors come to life. Sharon emphasizes how to turn our ancestors from mere names on dry census forms and musty vital records into living breathing souls. After you hear Sharon speak, you will feel you really *know* your ancestors. Just ask any DGS member who heard her talk at the NGS Conference in the States in Houston last summer.

Sharon is a college instructor in genealogical and social history research methods and sources, and in her teaching, she emphasizes writing narrative family history in a broader historical context. In addition to her growing popularity as a speaker at national conferences, Sharon currently serves as the editor of the *Association for Professional Genealogists Quarterly (APGQ)* and has written numerous books and articles. She was the 1990 recipient of the APG's Grahame Thomas Smallwood Award of Merit and the 1992 Award of Merit by the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS).

The lectures that Sharon has selected for our Spring Seminar will be extremely interesting! Listen to this: *Flesh on the Bones: Placing Your Ancestors into Historical Perspective*; *Building Character: Writing Your Ancestor's Story*; *Interpreting American Tombstone Art and Symbols*; and finally, *Ancestors Not News Material? How Newspapers Can Still Help Your Research*. What a spectacular line-up!

For a registration form, please turn to page 37 and remember to bring a friend or two. As always, our vendor tables will be laden with books, maps, software and CD's to entice your pocketbook or wallet, and plenty of time has been allowed for your "shopopportunities". Lunch and beverage service will be offered by the Convention Center or you may brown-bag it. If you wish to go out, Dallas offers lots of restaurants and fast-food facilities nearby.

Parking is available in the underground and street-level lots.

So, plan to attend on Saturday, 8 April 1995 and join the Dallas Genealogical Society in welcoming this entertaining and enlightening speaker to Dallas. It will be a great way to help us celebrate our 40th anniversary year. **See you there!**

# DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 12648 DALLAS, TEXAS 75225-0648

Founded in 1955, the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) is the oldest organization of its kind in Texas. It is a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation. DGS is a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS).

## Executive Board

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Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck . . . . . Library Liaison  
Sammie Townsend Lee . . . . . Parliamentarian  
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Dorothy Odom Bruce . . . . . Arrangements  
Patti Perkins Darnell . . . . . Arrangements  
Sammie Townsend Lee . . . . . FGS Delegate

## Newsletter Staff

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Terri Mulliken Allen . . . . . Queries  
Leslie Smith Collier . . . . . Bulletin Board  
Linda Shaddock Rogers . . . . . Contributing Editor  
John V. Wylie . . . . . Special Interest Groups

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### The object and goals of this Society are to:

- Create, foster and maintain interest in genealogy and family history;
- Raise standards of genealogical research through educational programs, workshops and the publication of data;
- Promote the collection and preservation of material relating to the early history of Dallas County and those pioneers who settled the area;
- Copy, index and publish records, documents, inscriptions and other genealogical source materials;
- Support the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library; and
- Stimulate the exchange of information between Society members and genealogical researchers across the nation.

### Membership:

Individuals, libraries or societies may apply for membership. **Dues are \$20 for twelve consecutive months with membership beginning the month of payment.** New member dues and renewals should be mailed to the Society at Post Office Box 25556, Dallas, Texas 75225-1556, and marked to the attention of the Vice-President for Membership. All current members receive *The Dallas Quarterly* and the *DGS Newsletter*.

### Newsletter:

The *DGS Newsletter* is published bi-monthly. Copy deadline for the May-June 1995 *DGS Newsletter* is 1 April 1995. All articles and correspondence for the *DGS Newsletter* should be mailed to the Society at Post Office Box 12648, Dallas, Texas 75225-0648 and marked to the attention of the Newsletter Editor.

Articles appearing in the *DGS Newsletter* may be reprinted *only* upon receipt of written permission from the author. Credit should be given to the author and acknowledgement given the *DGS Newsletter* as the source. Letters requesting reprint permission should be directed to the attention of the Newsletter Editor.

## Notice of Upcoming DGS Meetings

### Problem-Solving Sessions

Just a reminder to all members that we are conducting our "problem-solving techniques" sessions beginning one-half hour before each meeting in the East-West Room of the Dallas Public Library. An exchange of ideas or a discussion of your genealogical problem may be just what you need to set off on a new research course, so please join us at these get-togethers!

### Regular Meetings

#### Digging Deeper Into Land Records

**Date:** Monday, 27 March 1995  
**Time:** 7:00 P.M.  
**Speaker:** Leslie Smith Collier  
**Topic:** *The Lay of the Land*

Leslie urges us to locate the old homestead. When your family was in residence, where were the roads? Betcha they still run in the same roadbed. Which way to the closest church and cemetery? Who *were* those neighbors whose daughters married the sons of your family? Who sold portions of the family property...did he have a lot of nerve, or the right to do so? Maps and land descriptions might reveal previously unknown clues about your ancestors.

#### Those Three Dreaded Words

**Date:** Monday, 24 April 1995  
**Time:** 11:00 A.M.  
**Speaker:** Sammie Townsend Lee  
**Topic:** *The Courthouse Burned!!*

Sammie supplies the answers to these questions: "Where Do I Go? What Do I Do? The Courthouse Burned!" She will focus on less commonly used sources that may contain answers to unanswered genealogical questions when court house records are lost through neglect, fire and other disasters.

### Speaking from the Grave

**Date:** Monday, 22 May 1995  
**Time:** 7:00 P.M.  
**Speaker:** Richard Miller  
**Topic:** *Quotations from the Dead*

Join DGS in welcoming Richard Miller, Director of the Longview Public Library and "epitaph collector." Mr. Miller is author of the book, *Gone but Not Forgotten*, a collection of epitaphs and is so well-known for his "gravestone" expertise that he has been asked to write epitaphs for others. Also, remember this is also our Annual Meeting with the Installation of the new Board and Officers for the 1995-1996 year.

### Meeting information:

**Regular Meetings:** Unless otherwise indicated, DGS Regular Meetings are held on the fourth Monday, January-May and September-November, in the Auditorium of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library (Dallas Public Library), 1515 Young Street in downtown Dallas. Regular meetings are free; visitors and guests are welcome.

**Computer Interest Group Meetings:** Unless otherwise indicated, the DGS Computer Interest Group (DGS/CIG) meetings are held on the second Thursday, January-November, in the Auditorium of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library.

Additionally, the DGS/CIG holds a question and answer meeting in the library's East/West Rooms (across the hall from the Auditorium) on the fourth Monday, one hour prior to the Regular Meeting. DGS/CIG Meetings are free; visitors and guests are welcome.

The DGS Spring Seminar and DGS Annual Genealogy Symposium are held in the Dallas Convention Center. The Summer Lecture Series seminars are held in the Auditorium of the Dallas Public Library.

## 1995 DGS Calendar of Events

EVENT	DAY/DATE/ LOCATION	TIME	SPEAKER(S)	PROGRAM OR INFORMATION
DGS/CIG Meeting	Thursday, 9 March 1995 DPL Auditorium	6:30 P.M.	Speaker & Program TBA	
DGS/PIG Meeting	Thursday, 23 March 1995 DPL Auditorium	7:00 P.M.	Patricia Law Hatcher	<i>Time Management for Professional Genealogists</i>
Problem Solving Group	Monday, 27 March 1995 DPL Auditorium	6:30 P.M.	Bring your unanswered questions to our problem-solving sessions	
Regular Meeting	Monday, 27 March 1995 DPL Auditorium	7:00 P.M.	Leslie Smith Collier	<i>The Lay of the Land</i>
1995 Spring Seminar	Saturday, 8 April 1995 Convention Center	9:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M.	Sharon DeBartolo Carmack	See article and registration form in this newsletter!
DGS/CIG Meeting	Thursday, 13 April 1995 DPL Auditorium	6:30 P.M.	Speaker & Program TBA	
Problem Solving Group	Monday, 24 April 1995 DPL Auditorium	10:30 A.M.	Who knows? The person sitting next to you may have that all-important answer!	
Regular Meeting	Monday, 24 April 1995 DPL Auditorium	11:00 A.M.	Sammie Townsend Lee	<i>The Court House Burned! What Do I Do?</i>
Problem Solving Group	Monday, 22 May 1995 DPL Auditorium	6:30 P.M.	Two or three or four heads working on a solution are sometimes better than one!	
Annual Meeting	Monday, 22 May 1995 DPL Auditorium	7:00 P.M.	Richard Miller	<i>Quotations from the Dead</i> Installation of Officers



## The President's Message

by Art Rubeck

Did you think that a research trip to Salt Lake City is only for advanced genealogists? Do you think that you shouldn't consider going on one until you have acquired certain minimum skills or have used most of the resources of local libraries and repositories? I used to, but I was wrong. It's for everyone.

The group of thirty-nine people who just returned from a week in the Family History Library began with widely varied backgrounds but came back with a common experience: they now know what library research is all about, and they have shared many success stories. Most found many ancestors, facts about ancestors and substantiating information to confirm family traditions. Some brought back file folders of copies, others had so much that they had to ship boxes weighing many pounds. It was a highly successful trip.

The DGS tours to Salt Lake City are unique because of the experience, planning and preparation by two special people: Dorothy Bruce, our Tour Coordinator and Sammie Lee, our Genealogist. Between the two of them, participants were told in Dallas how to prepare and what to expect, were provided with many kinds of research materials and were given a supportive environment during their stay. They not only scheduled a series of meetings, but also prepared several bound documents that provided a wide variety of helpful guides and instructions. The time and effort they put in on this trip was truly appreciated by all who went. A big thank-you to Dorothy and Sammie.

The planning meeting at the Library in January served as an introductory session for meeting each other as well as a time to learn how to plan for the trip. Once at the hotel, a welcoming session continued that with that approach. More specific material was provided, as well as a lecture from a local professional who explained the many finding aids available at the Library. Another advantage of a group tour: when you need help, there are many levels available, such as tour guides, library volunteers and professional researchers. The DGS tour guides are also to be thanked: Leslie Collier,

Patti Darnell, Linda Rogers and, of course, Sammie.

The intangible benefits of a group research trip may not be obvious if you haven't been on one: getting to know others who share your same interests; finding someone who is searching in your same county or even for the same surname; sharing skills, tips and hints; and sharing your discoveries with those who can appreciate what it means to find that elusive ancestor.

More DGS research trips are being discussed. There will probably be at least one trip a year to Salt Lake City to spend a week in the Family History Library. Additionally, some have indicated a desire visit Washington, DC and, even, Nashville, Tennessee (sight of the 1996 NGS Conference). Talk it up. Let us hear what you would like. But most of all, join a tour, whether you are a beginner or skilled in some areas. You will treasure the experience.

## Treasurer's Report

By Randall K. Wilhoit

Account Balances  
As of 22 February 1995

### Assets:

Cash and Bank Accounts:	
Checking-NationsBank	24,129.17
Money Market-Bank One	<u>5,161.11</u>
Total Cash/Accounts:	29,290.28
Bulk Mail Deposit	500.00
Life Member Investments:	
Money Market - Kemper	4,782.60
U.S. Treasury Note - Kemper <sup>1</sup>	<u>5,031.25</u>
Total Investments:	<u>9,813.85</u>
<b>Total Assets:</b>	<b>\$39,604.13</b>

### Funds:

Operating Fund	22,880.13
Life Member Fund	9,550.00
Pre-Paid Expense Fund	500.00
Publications Fund	4,674.00
Endowment Fund	<u>2,000.00</u>
<b>Total Funds:</b>	<b>\$39,604.13</b>

<sup>1</sup> At current market value

## Bulletin Board

*Do you have information you would like to share with other genealogists? Do you know about upcoming seminars, classes, etc. which your friends and fellow researchers might want to attend? If so, please submit original information only and include the source. Send to: Bulletin Board Editor; DGS; P.O. Box 12648; Dallas, TX 75225-0648.*

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### Genealogical Institute of Texas

"Family detectives" from throughout the United States will convene next summer for the third annual Genealogical Institute of Texas, slated for 24-28 July 1995. The Institute once again will feature hands-on, intensive instruction by nationally respected lecturers.

The eight tracks offered at 1995's GIT will present something for every serious genealogist in a one-week format. 1995 courses will include: **Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, The American Melting Pot, Genealogical Writing, Advanced Problem Solving, Hispanic Family Research and Exploring Research Facilities.**

The Institute will take place at the Richardson Civic Center, and optional educational and social activities will be available. As in previous years, exhibitors will display and sell the latest in genealogical research materials. It's not too late to register, so for an information brochure write to: Genealogical Institute of Texas, P.O. Box 832856, Richardson, TX 75083-2856 or call (214) 341-0212.

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### Source for Canadian Researchers

The Global Genealogical Supply Company offers books of hard-to-find genealogical and historical books and an extensive listing of Canadian titles. If you are researching Canada, you may obtain a copy of their catalogue by calling 1-800-361-5168 or by writing Global Genealogical Supply, 158 Laurier Avenue, Milton, Ontario, Canada L9T 4S2.

## Census Help Available

A branch of the Census Bureau will assist researchers in obtaining census records from the 1930-1990 Federal returns for any person for whom you can supply proof of death. "Age Search" will, for \$25, search any two census records. The search is limited to the person for whom you are requesting information, but you may ask for other family members to be included for a \$2 per person fee. The full line of information from the census return will be provided with payment of a \$6 fee. The basic fee includes an official document stating the person's name, age, place of birth, citizenship and relationship to head of household. Form BC-600, which is required, may be obtained from any local Social Security office or by writing to: Bureau of the Census, "Age Search," P. O. Box 1545, Jeffersonville, IN 47131. Researchers should state their purpose in requesting the information as "genealogical research."

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### Spring Workshop — The Civil War

We all know it's not too early to mark our calendars for upcoming educational events open to genealogists in the area. On 29 April 1995, Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck will be the featured speaker at a seminar jointly sponsored by the Garland and Collin County Genealogical Societies. Lloyd has planned three lectures on **The Civil War**. The workshop will be held at the Nicholson Memorial Library, North Room, 625 Austin Street, Garland, Texas from 10:30 A.M. to 4:15 P.M. Pre-register by contacting Pat Mitchell (214-248-1182) or Louise Thompson (214-278-5693). Vendors will also be present.

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### National Archives on the Move

Many of our readers may not know that the National Archives has opened a six-story, 1.7 million square foot facility in College Park, Maryland. The new building has been especially designed to ensure that the nation's cherished documentary heritage will be maintained for future generations. But with progress always comes change. The Archives reports that during the next two years, various record groups

will be closed to researchers as records are transferred from Washington, D.C. and Suitland, Maryland to College Park. Although some requests for information and reproduction may be affected, **search and copying services on census, military and pension records will not be interrupted.** However, the Archives urges all researchers planning a trip to Washington within the next 2 years to verify the availability of other records by calling (202) 501-5400 or by writing to the specific units within the National Archives for detailed information. Researchers may also receive the Archives II Researcher Bulletin by writing to the Textual Reference Division (NNR), National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408. *[Many thanks to Madilyn Crane for this useful information.]*

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### Keeping Up with the Joneses!

Is one of your ancestors John Jones, born 1750 in Virginia and settled in Giles County, Tennessee? Many of his descendants settled in Texas, and you might be interested in attending the Jones Family Reunion on 10-11 June 1995 at the Minor Hill Community Building, 15 miles south of Pulaski, Tennessee. The actual reunion starts on 11 June, but the Joneses will be rallying together the evening before. For more information, or to see if you may be connected to this prolific family, contact Diann Applin, 512 Oakwood Drive, Argyle, Texas 76226.

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### Genealogical Help Wanted

No, this isn't a typical request for research services. Lynne Farmer of "The Skeleton Closet" has advised us that she is seeking a field representative and assistant to cover the Texas area. Many of you may have shopped with Lynne as she attends many local workshops and seminars. If you are interested in combining your love of genealogy with the opportunity to earn extra income, contact Lynne at (502) 239-0480 from Monday-Wednesday or drop her a line at The Skeleton Closet, P. O. Box 91392, Louisville, Kentucky 40291.

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### Calling Louisiana Researchers...

The Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society announces its Annual Seminar to be held on 22 April 1995 at the Ramada Hotel, 1480 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge beginning at 9:30 A.M. Topics include **Natchitoches: Challenges and Opportunities, The Ouachita Valley of North Louisiana and The Florida Parishes, Exploring French Louisiana's Military Service Records** and two **Computer Information Sessions**. For a registration form and additional information, write to the Society at P. O. Box 82060, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2060. A special room rate is available by mentioning the workshop when you call the Ramada for reservations at 1-800-228-2828.

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### Colorado Research Guide Available

An extremely informative research guide to the Colorado State Archives has recently been published by the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies. This booklet describes the holdings of the State Archives and supplies such useful data as operating hours, fees, records restrictions, etc. Copies of the guide may be obtained by writing to the Colorado State Archives, Centennial Building, Room 1B-20, 1313 Sherman Street, Denver, Colorado 80203. The telephone number is (303) 866-2358.

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### South Carolina Comes to Fort Worth

The Fort Worth Genealogical Society's guest speaker for their 1995 Spring Workshop will be Brent Howard Holcomb, well-known lecturer and author, whose area of expertise is South Carolina. Brent has chosen "South Carolina Land Records," "South Carolina Probate Records" and "South Carolina's Vital Records and Substitutes for Them" as his topics for the seminar set for Saturday, 22 April 1995 from 8:15 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The Fort Worth Botanic Garden, which should be in full bloom, has been chosen as the site for the workshop. Registration is \$20 for members and \$23 for non-members before 8 April. Forms may be obtained from FWGS at P. O. Box 9767, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-2767.

# FGS Forum Discount Subscriptions Available

## to DGS Membership

by Sammie Townsend Lee, FGS Delegate

For the past six years, the Dallas Genealogical Society has been a member society of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. The benefit of supporting a national society that embraces all genealogical societies and works for the good of genealogy was obvious to the DGS boards of directors who have continued to endorse FGS membership each year.

But what about the benefit to individual DGS members. Is the benefit just as obvious? Yes! That benefit is the *FGS Forum*, which all DGS members may subscribe to for as little as \$9 a year.

### What is the *FGS Forum*?

It is a quarterly publication filled with information designed to expand your knowledge of genealogical research and keep you informed of events of importance to genealogists. Examples? News regarding records access; indexing and publication projects in progress or recently

completed; news from genealogical and historical societies worldwide that could affect your own research; news from family associations, ethnic organizations and international groups; book reviews; articles and tips for more effective society management; and notices of important events in the genealogical community. All this *and* feature articles on a variety of subjects of interest to all genealogists.

DGS wants you to be aware that you have this opportunity to subscribe to this quarterly at a reduced rate because we are a part of FGS. In the next three years that partnership will continue to grow as we bring one of the largest national conferences in genealogy to Dallas, the 1997 FGS Conference. Stay tuned to our newsletter and the *FGS Forum* for more information on this much anticipated event. But for now, don't miss out on a good deal. Subscribe today!

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## Subscription Form

- Enclosed is \$9 for an annual subscription. I am a member of the following FGS-member society:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Enclosed is \$15.00. I wish to receive Forum at the non-member rate.
- SPECIAL: Two-year subscription -- \$17 to member subscribers; \$29 to non-members.
- SPECIAL: Three-year subscription -- \$25 to member subscribers; \$42 to non-members.
- Please send information on how my organization can join FGS and provide its members with this discount.

Subscribers residing outside the U.S. should add \$8.00 postage.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

**FGS Forum Subscription**  
**P.O. Box 3385**  
**Salt Lake City, UT 84110-3385**

**Phone (801)254-2785**

## DGS P.I.G. is Alive & Kicking!

An organizational meeting attended by twenty members on 21 January 1995 marked the beginning of the Professional Interest Group of the Dallas Genealogical Society. Sammie Townsend Lee, appointed as group leader, declared the first order of business was to decide upon a name for the group. Unofficially, it had been called the P.I.G., with much joking about the name. The attendees decided to continue using the acronym to identify the group. Sammie Lee declared this was fine, as long as she, as group leader, was not referred to as the "Head Hog" or the "Big Pig."

The next order of business was to adopt the following Statement of Purpose for the group:

### Object of the DGS/P.I.G.:

- *To serve and support the interests and needs of those engaged in genealogy in a professional capacity: genealogical researching, lecturing, teaching, writing, and publishing;*
- *To educate and inform the professional genealogist through workshops, programs, and open forums aimed at developing skills, expanding knowledge, increasing expertise, and encouraging professional attitudes;*
- *And, to advocate professional standards in all aspects of genealogy.*

The group also addressed and defined the P.I.G. focus and topics of interest:

- **Client research:** finding clients; fees and expenses; advertising, business cards, and brochures; researching for the client; contracts; preparing reports; billing; misconceptions and problematic clients; hiring other professional researchers.
- **Lecturing & teaching genealogy:** choosing the right topic; lecture preparation and presentation; effective handouts; effective visuals; using A/V equipment; the business end; dealing with the adult learner; room set-ups; how to identify opportunities.
- **Writing & publishing:** what to write; how to write where it will be read; who to write for; how to find the right market; how to submit material; indexing; layout preparation and production; copyrights; self-publishing or how to select a publisher; editing.
- **Genealogical professionalism:** networking, working for friends and nonpaying clients; ethics; genealogical education for the professional; increasing expertise; certification; national and

professional organizations and journals; growth through evaluations; the home office, record keeping, tax records; time management.

The organizational meeting concluded with an informative talk by Brenda Burns Kellow, C.G. Intern, on the classes of certification by the Board for Certification of Genealogists.

### Meetings

Monthly meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday from January–May & September–November at 7:00 P.M. at the Library. Meeting dates are:

- 23 February:** OPEN FORUM on Genealogical Professionalism: "Working for Friends and Other Nonpaying Clients, Genealogical Ethics and Networking"
- 23 March:** LECTURE on Genealogical Professionalism: "Time Management"
- 27 April:** OPEN FORUM on Genealogical Professionalism: "The Home Office, Record Keeping, Tax Records, etc."
- 25 May:** LECTURE on Client Research: Preparing Research Reports for the Paying and Nonpaying Client"

### Pat Hatcher to lecture at March P.I.G. meeting.

Genealogists are good at biting off more than they can chew. Often the only word that is *not* in their vocabulary is "No." We often find ourselves with more projects than time to do them.

Several years ago DGS past president Patricia Law Hatcher sought information on how to manage her time more effectively to balance two careers, home and family and a social life. That's how the world's most overcommitted, behind schedule, frazzled genealogist, was asked to *write* the chapter on time management for the upcoming national handbook for professional genealogists. Pat developed her article into a lecture entitled "Time Management," which she delivered at the 1994 FGS Conference in St Louis, Missouri.

On 23 March, Pat will present this lecture and share what she learned about time management; its problems and solutions.

*[Visitors and guests with an interest in genealogical professionalism are always welcome.]*

## Beginners Corner: Interpreting Old Documents

Leslie Smith Collier

Often, finding a document that may unlock your research is the easy part, but actually reading it seems impossible. Perhaps the ink has faded away; perhaps the pages have been handled so often that two inches on the edge have darkened beyond readability; perhaps the style of handwriting is so old-fashioned that you are unable to decode it. Sometimes, you are reading a document on microfilm, but it was filmed by an out-of-focus camera. How can you improve the legibility of your materials? By the time a mistake is multiplied through poor spelling, fading and mis-reading old handwriting, it's amazing that genealogists can ever find their ancestors.

*Never fiddle with your original, or master copy. Always keep a clean, unblemished original for your files.*

### Use A Magnifying Glass

#### Use A Good Copy Machine

1. Enlarge the document. Keep enlarging it until the handwriting is at its most legible.
2. Lighten and darken the document, maybe through a number of shades. It might be that the left side of the document is most easily read at a dark setting, but the right side responds better at the very lightest setting.
3. For microfilm copying machines, adjust the focus and keep trying.

#### Use A Highlighter Or Plastic Overlay

Cover over dim sections of your document with a highlighting marker or cover with a sheet of clear yellow plastic. Scientists tell us that our eyes most easily perceive the difference between black and yellow, not black and white, so try it. Pink also seems to work well.

#### Focus On Other Samples

Are other pages of the book in better shape? Try reading backwards and forwards from the section of the record that troubles you to see if similar letter formations, similar phrases, similar language or similar names can provide clues. When you have mastered the clerk's handwriting on relatively clear samples, try yours again.

#### Hypothesize What's There

Do everything you can to guess what is meant: trace over the portions of the letter you can see to find out how they flow into the illegible portion; approximate the number of letters and/or words that you're missing (and leave spaces for them on your transcription); put down what you *think* your document says. Allow for spelling variations. Go back and read it again to see if it makes sense.

### In Case Of Illegible Names

Use another contemporary source to see who lived in the area whose name might be similar to the one you're trying to decode: census, tax lists, indexes to deeds and court records, jury lists, etc.

### Get Another Opinion

Have other researchers examine your document.

### Get Another Copy

Sometimes, the best way to deal with an extremely difficult document is to contact the repository that holds the original and purchase another, hopefully better, copy. If the repository no longer allows photocopying of a delicate original, you may be able to request that they (or a private researcher) furnish a transcription—for a fee, of course.

### Old Handwriting Styles

Ouch, this one is tough. Whatever your handwriting question, remember that handwriting styles come and go on waves of fashion just like clothes or the color of automobiles. A common example for genealogists is the elongated *s* - it looks like a *p* to us, so many genealogists have studied the colonial Ropp family of America, only to discover that the name was really *Ross*. Oops.

Use the same techniques you might employ with illegible writing: study other sections and ask for help. There are several excellent books devoted entirely to handwriting samples, notably E. Kay Kirkham's *The Handwriting of American Records for a Period of 300 Years*. See also Harriet Stryker-Rodda's *Understanding Colonial Handwriting*.

### Spelling

Spelling was not a strong suit of our ancestors. As a matter of fact, they seemed delighted to be able to spell words as many ways as they could imagine - even their own names. Do not hold this against them and

*[continued on page 36]*

# The Great Salt Lake Research Trip

## Shirley Sloat

Thirty-nine people participated in the most recent DGS Salt Lake research trip on 5-12 February 1995. Some were "old-hands," having been to this genealogists' Mecca previously, but many were there for the first time. Prior to the trip, the group had been briefed about the vast resources of the Family History Library, it was impossible not to be awestruck when actually surrounded by the millions of microfilm reels, hundreds of microfilm readers and rooms full of family history and locality-specific records in book form.

Although billed as a "no frills" tour, there were many opportunities to interact with others — a Sunday night buffet and orientation to library resources, a Monday night dinner out (because the library closes early!) and a Thursday evening wine and cheese "tell about your successes" gathering. Prizes were awarded for the most improved researcher, the most interesting (or amusing) discoveries and the most pounds of copies made with consolation prizes going to those who had found the least. Even the winners of the consolation prizes were enthusiastic about the fun they were having.

Our DGS research guides (Sammie Lee, Leslie Collier, Patti Darnell and Linda Rogers) provided excellent counseling and guidance throughout the week, and Dorothy Bruce did her usual top-notch "behind the scenes" organizing to ensure that hotel accommodations and any other needs were well satisfied.

As a whole, the group unearthed more than one hundred new direct-line ancestors, and many solved long-standing research problems. The value of the huge book collection could not be overlooked: one researcher found a book which gave a single generation link to his German ancestors and then another book (only recently translated into English) hooked that generation back to his 18th great-grandfather (that's 20 generations!) in Germany. Another found a new book on a surname which provided the long-sought identification of the wife and parents of a great-great-grandfather in New York. This took both lines back an additional seven generations to early Massachusetts. Three DGS researchers discovered they had a common line and then found themselves sharing a table with two total strangers researching the same line! Still another tour member

discovered a four-page typed manuscript of an original diary written by an ancestor describing his "volage" from Scotland to Philadelphia.

The wide selection of family history books in this library results partly because most everyone who publishes even a small number of copies of a book donates one of these copies to the FHL. Remember this when you publish yours!

Land records provided surprises for another researcher, who was able to identify the "wheeler-dealers" in her family, while another participant managed to look at every book and most of the microfilm on three counties within three days. Several were able to establish valid "preponderance of evidence" conclusions on their research.

Several participants took advantage of the international facilities at the FHL to research German, French and British ancestors resulting in new generations being added to their pedigrees.

Comments from participants emphasized how much fun they had and how much they enjoyed the camaraderie of the group. They also praised the benefits of the pre-trip orientation and even remarked on the value of "negative research" which proves something *isn't* true. Everyone applauded the help from the DGS guides and the FHL experts.

The concensus was that we had worked really hard, and though it might be weeks before our microfilm-cranking arms returned to normal, it was a truly wonderful experience! Let's do it again!!

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## Price Changes on DGS Publications

Joan Thompson, Director of Books & Forms, has announced price changes on our publications:

- DPL Microfiche Catalogue - single copy is now \$10; yearly copy is \$35
- Soft-cover *Cemeteries of Dallas County*, volumes I & II and *Marriages of Dallas County*, volumes I & II reduced from \$18 to \$15

## DGS Forms Records Preservation Committee

John V. Wylie

At the November 1994 DGS Board Meeting, President Art Rubeck, at the urging of Board member Shirley Sloat, appointed a Records Preservation Committee. I have the honor of being on that committee, along with Shirley Sloat and Mary Johnson. Creating this committee proved to be a propitious decision.

In January 1995 a caller to the Family History Radio Show (on 1080 AM, KRLD, 12 midnight, Sundays) mentioned that she had heard that Dallas County had destroyed a significant number of records. Based on this call, the show's host, Michael Matthews, began to investigate which records had been destroyed. He obtained copies of Chapter 200 of Texas Local Government Code and the Records Retention Schedule published by the Texas State Librarian and Archivist. Matthews then arranged meetings with key elected officials of Dallas County. In a meeting with the Clerk of the Dallas District Court, Michael and I were told that in July 1994 about 8,500 boxes of civil court records had been destroyed. These 8,500 boxes would fill about three semi trailers and were the civil court case files from 1906 through 1969. The destruction was legal and in accordance with the law. Civil Court Minute books and dockets for these files were not destroyed.

We were told that, in the nine years that the District Court Clerk had held elected office, he had not been approached by any group expressing concern about the destruction of court records. I admit I was a bit astonished at his observations, because, like most genealogists, I had assumed that *someone else* was looking out for public records. Our brief and initial investigation has shown that such is not the case. The only people we genealogists can rely on to protect public records is *ourselves*. The Clerk stated that he would be receptive to the Dallas Genealogical Society formally letting him know of our concerns.

The creation of the Records Preservation Committee by the DGS is a start, but only a start. What can you do? The Committee urgently needs volunteers to help gather facts and to influence elected officials. If you have *substantiated* facts about the actual or impending destruction of Dallas

County (or any Texas county) records, please put those facts in writing with as much detail as you can provide. Include names, dates, precise descriptions of records and how you learned of this actual or pending destruction. Mail the information to the Records Preservation Committee, DGS, P.O. Box 12648, Dallas, Texas 75225-0648. If you feel you have some skill or special knowledge that could help the Committee, please let us know.

We simply must have our facts straight and present them at the right time to the right people in the right manner. We've been in touch with Texas State Genealogical Society officials and others and have learned that threatening or accusing officials of misconduct simply does not work. We must build partnerships with these officials and help them to appreciate the records in their care. We have to study Texas law and take action to change it where it is lacking. We must convince our elected officials that we speak for the genealogy community as a whole. We'll keep you informed of our progress in the *DGS Newsletter*.

As I became involved in this project, I realized that preserving records for ourselves and our descendants should be a part of every genealogist's efforts. Don't feel badly if you haven't done anything until now. I've been researching my family for over eight years, and this is the first time I've become involved. Now, it's your turn.

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## DGS Initiates Voice Mail

The Dallas Genealogical Society now has voice mail! Call the Society at (214) 495-1569 to hear about the latest DGS events, changes in schedules and more. This is one more example of how technology can serve genealogy. Give it a try.

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## Beginners Corner

[continued from page 34]

remember that Noah Webster's *An American Dictionary of the English Language* was not published until 1828. Add to that the fact that education took a back seat to plowing, for the family needed enough to eat in order to survive the winter.

## Tape Library Underway

At the DGS Board Meeting held 13 February 1995, the board voted and approved the guidelines for our newly-established tape lending library. The rules are as follows:

- Only DGS members in good standing may check out tapes.
- The check-out cost is \$1.00 per tape with a two-tape limit.
- Check-out time will extend from meeting to meeting (i.e., approximately one month).
- If tapes are returned late, the member will be charged another \$1.00 for each late meeting.
- If lost or damaged, members must pay for the cost of replacement.

## First Families of Texas Certificates Offered

To honor the upcoming sesquicentennial celebration of Texas statehood on 19 February 1996, the Texas State Genealogical Society is offering a commemorative First Families of Texas Certificate to eligible persons. Anyone directly or collaterally descended from a Texas resident as of 19 February 1846 or before may apply for this permanent remembrance of his or her family history. Applications may be obtained from TSGS, c/o Wanda L. Donaldson, 3219 Meadow Oaks Drive, Temple, Texas 76502-1752.

## Washington D.C. Trip

DGS members have been offered the opportunity to "add on" to a **Washington D.C. Research Trip** sponsored by the Friends of Clayton Library in Houston, Texas.

**Dates: 5-12 April 1995**—Cherry Blossom time!

**Cost: \$949 double; \$1185 single**

This price is based on 30 participants and subject to change. Space is limited on a first come, first served basis.

**Full Payment Deadline: 5 March 1995**

- Package includes round trip airfare from Houston. If response from Dallas is adequate, a flight from Dallas may be arranged
- Round trip transfers from airport & hotel
- 7 nights at Comfort Inn, Alexandria, Virginia
- Bus transportation daily to scheduled research buildings: DAR Library, Library of Congress, National Archives and NGS Library
- Full day sight-seeing, with admission to Mount Vernon on Sunday, 9 April
- 7 buffet breakfasts
- 1 dinner on waterfront
- Insurance
- Tour operator in Washington D.C. to answer questions and help with hotel

*For more information, please call:  
Dorothy Odom Bruce, (214) 239-4901*

### REGISTRATION

#### **1995 DGS SPRING SEMINAR** featuring **SHARON DEBARTOLO CARMACK**

Saturday, 8 April 1995

Dallas Convention Center

Please use one form for each person. Copies permitted.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 DGS member (postmarked before 21 March)  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ \$28 nonmember (postmarked before 21 March)  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 DGS member (late registration)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes! I want to become a DGS member. Dues \_\_\_\_\_ \$33 nonmember (late registration)  
 are \$15 if paid before 1 March; \$20 afterwards. \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check #

Make check payable to: **Dallas Genealogical Society** (Please check in during Registration; no confirmation will be mailed.)  
 Mail to: **DGS Spring Seminar; P.O. Box 25556; Dallas, TX 75225-0648**

## Urban Research

### Outwitting the Unindexed 1910 Enumeration of a Metropolitan Area

Mary A. Johnson

America today is largely an urban society — many of us live in or near large cities. The trend from an agrarian to an urban society began when the Industrial Revolution took hold in the United States.

Many immigrants arrived in this country and remained in large urban centers where jobs were more readily available. As genealogists, many of us sooner or later will have to delve in the multi-layered myriad of urban records to identify our ancestors.

While there are many aspects of urban research, this article will concentrate on a little-known and under-utilized resource which may ease one's search in a metropolitan area. The examples I have chosen are from Brooklyn, New York, but the same methodology would apply to any of those cities not indexed on the 1910 census.

Only 21 states were indexed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) before the Soundex project was discontinued. Several large cities like New York City and Boston are located in states which were *not* indexed. Many genealogists hit a brick wall when they begin work on the 1910 Federal census because they have no way of locating their ancestor. If your ancestor lived in a small town or an outlying area, it is not too time consuming to read through the enumerations for a town or even an entire county. However, that task becomes impossible if your ancestor lived in Boston or New York. For example, New York County, which encompassed Manhattan and the Bronx, comprised 53 reels of film for 1910; Kings County (the Borough of Brooklyn) took up another 31 reels!

However, with diligence on your part, you *can* find that elusive ancestor. Your research tools will be city directories and the key which will open the door to the 1910 census — a series of microfiche entitled "Cross Index to Selected City Streets and Enumeration Districts, 1910 Census". This is National Archives microfiche publication M1283, which consists of an alphabetical listing of streets for 39 selected cities along with every enumeration district through which each street passes. The selection of the 39 cities was based upon the frequency of information requests received by the Census Bureau. These cities are listed in Figure 1.

This publication is available at the Dallas Public Library Genealogy Section in the fiche drawers and at the National Archives Southwest Branch in Fort Worth. In Fort Worth, you must request it at the counter (be persistent!) as the fiche are kept in a notebook and not on the fiche rack.

#### 39 SELECTED CITIES

Akron, OH	New York-Brooklyn
Atlanta, GA	New York-Manhattan & the Bronx
Baltimore, MD	New York-Richmond
Canton, OH	Oklahoma City, OK
Charlotte, NC	Paterson, NJ
Chicago, IL	Peoria, IL
Cleveland, OH	Philadelphia, PA
Dayton, OH	Phoenix, AZ
Denver, CO	Reading, PA
Detroit, MI	Richmond, VA
District of Columbia	San Antonio, TX
Elizabeth, NJ	San Diego, CA
Erie, PA	San Francisco, CA
Ft. Wayne, IN	Seattle, WA
Gary, IN	South Bend, IN
Grand Rapids, MI	Tampa, FL
Indianapolis, IN	Tulsa, OK
Kansas City, KS	Wichita, KS
Long Beach, CA	Youngstown, OH
Los Angeles, CA	
Newark, NJ	

Figure 1 — Microfiche Publication M1283

However, this resource is not much help if you do not know where your ancestor lived. For an exact street address, you must locate a city directory for the time period. The largest collection of city directories for the U.S. is found at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. but you must pay a personal visit. Or you might try writing to the central library in the city you are researching to see if they will respond to a mail inquiry regarding a directory search. The most readily available source for city directories is the Family History Library as the LDS has filmed many directories, and these films are available through your local Family History Centers.

The city directories in the LDS locality catalogue are listed as follows: NEW YORK, KINGS, BROOKLYN-DIRECTORIES, for example.

Once you locate the directories, be sure to search for a period of years on either side of the 1910 census year. Also keep in mind that several companies compiled directories for the same year in the same city and, if available, you should search all directories for a given year as the information provided may differ. I located the Brooklyn city directories on film through the LDS for the years 1900-1913. So, for the 1910 census, I searched the listings in the 1909-1911 directories for my great-grandfather, William Henry Orr Greene. He was listed as a "letter carrier" living at 286 Hemlock Street in all three directories.

Armed with this information, I turned to the cross index fiche and found the information in Figure 2:

Street	House Nos.	E.D.
Hemlock	(0-172)	967
	(173-242)	970
	(243-318)	971
	(457-758)	980; 975
	(759-end)	982

Figure 2 — M1283 (City of Brooklyn)

Since my ancestor lived at No. 286 Hemlock Street, he would be located within enumeration district 971. I then went to the 1910 census schedules (T624) and learned that, for Kings County, New York, enumeration district 971 was located on Reel 979. I loaded the film and easily found my family on sheet 1B in enumeration district 971.

Thus, you can see that this cross index can help you narrow your search considerably. And, if you already know your ancestor's exact street address, you may by-pass the city directories and proceed directly to the cross index to find the enumeration district. Even if you only know the street name, it will be much faster to read through 4-5 enumeration districts or even a dozen enumeration districts rather than an entire city ward.

The major drawback to success is that your ancestor may not be listed in the city directory or that he may have moved. Families were quite mobile even in large cities; I have found that one of my ancestors had a different address in 22 consecutive New York City directories! However, these moves occurred

within several blocks of each other, so if this is your case, you may find it beneficial to search through one or two neighboring enumeration districts. You may be lucky enough to locate your ancestor.

Also bear in mind that most immigrant families in large cities lived in an area where others from a similar ethnic background resided. For instance, in New York City, many Italian families lived in the area known as "Little Italy" in lower Manhattan. Likewise, many Jewish families in Brooklyn lived in or near the Williamsburgh area. Get a detailed city map to locate these ethnic neighborhoods, and then use National Archives microfilm T1224, reels 28-40 ("Census Enumeration District Descriptions, 1910 Census") to outline the enumeration districts within that area. This microfilm describes the streets bordering each enumeration district so you can easily determine which districts fall within a given neighborhood.

If you wish to pinpoint where your ancestor lived, find a street directory which describes the exact layout of each street in a given city. I found the "*Upington's Street Directory for Brooklyn*" and looked up Hemlock Street. The listing is shown in part in Figure 3.

The columns in the street directory correspond to the left and right sides of the street. The chart is read as follows: No. 244 Hemlock Street begins at the corner of Fulton Street and continues to No. 318 where Hemlock crosses Atlantic Avenue. Therefore, my family lived between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue on the right side of Hemlock Street.

Hemlock, from 376 Jamaica, S. to Atlantic, from 1074 Liberty, S. to Jamaica Bay.		
1	2	Jamaica Av.
113	114	Etna
129	130	Danforth
173	174	Ridgewood Av.
243	244	Fulton
317	318	Atlantic Av.

Figure 3 — Upington's Street Directory

I cannot state that this is always a "no-fail" system but I have found a great number of my ancestral families in the New York metropolitan area on the unindexed 1910 Federal census by searching city directories and matching up the street addresses to this wonderful cross index resource tool.

## Guide to Resources in the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library

### Texas Confederate Pension Applications Sammie Townsend Lee

**Overview** Veterans of the Civil War who fought for the Confederate cause did not receive pensions from the United States government. Instead qualifying veterans usually received a pension from the state in which they lived, provided that state had passed a pension law and based upon what the law allowed. In 1889, the State of Texas passed a pension law providing for cash awards to disabled Confederate veterans who had come to Texas prior to 1880. Any veteran who was disabled because of wounds received while in the Confederate forces for a period of at least three months, who had not deserted, and who was indigent was eligible. It did not matter where the veteran had enlisted or served during the Civil War. Certain disabled persons and those who were under age sixty were not eligible. Widows who had married a qualifying veteran prior to 1 March 1866, who had been a Texas resident prior to 1 May 1880, and was indigent were also eligible. Indigency was defined in the law as being "in actual want and destitute of property and means of subsistence."

In 1917 the act was amended to provide payment for burial expenses provided the heirs filed within forty days of the pensioner's death. Payments were made by way of a Confederate Mortuary Warrant. Also, in 1925 an amendment allowed those who had come to Texas before 1910 to apply; and widows born before 1861 could apply.

**Content** The veteran's application asked questions concerning personal identification, occupation, military history, and county of residence. Often affidavits are contained in the file from other veterans with whom the soldier served testifying to his service. These affidavits can provide clues to former residences and to family connections. A widow's application also showed the husband's place and date of death, her own birthplace and age, and date and proof of her marriage. Confederate Mortuary Warrants provide facts concerning the pensioner's death, whose home he resided in at time of death, and relationship to that person. It may also tell date and place of burial.

**Location** The Confederate Pension Applications are on 699 reels of film located in the Texas microfilm drawers in the Genealogy Section. The largest number of reels are for approved applications, followed by rejected applications, then Confederate Retirement Home records. Approved applications are accessed by the pension number of the veteran or widow. Rejected pensions are accessed by surname of the veteran or widow.

**Aids** To determine if a veteran applied for a pension and, if approved, what his pension number would be, check Virgil D. White, *Index to Texas CSA Pension Files* (Waynesboro, TN: the National Historical Publishing Company, 1989). The call number is R929.3764 W588I, and the book is located on aisle 27 in the Section. Mr. White's index lists the veterans or widows by surname, then the forename of the veteran or his widow (who may be listed as Mrs.). Following the name is the pension number, or information indicating the pension was rejected, or that the veteran was in the Confederate Retirement Home.

**Note** For information on pension laws of other states that raised Confederate forces, consult James C. Neagles, *Confederate Research Sources: A Guide to Archive Collections* (Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry, 1986), R016.9737 N338C. Also, the Genealogy Section owns indexes to Confederate pensions for various other states, as well as the index to Union pensions.

## Queries

### Terri Mulliken Allen

*Queries do not require a Texas connection and are free to members of the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS). Nonmembers should include \$3 for each query. DGS reserves the right to abbreviate and condense queries and assumes no responsibility for their accuracy. Send as many queries as you wish, and they will be printed as space permits. Mail all queries to: Queries Editor; DGS Newsletter; P.O. Box 870045; Mesquite, TX 75187-0045.*

**LACKS** Would like to contact any descendants of **John R. LACKS** and **Sarah Arminda (Minda)**  
**JONES** **JONES**. John was born in Tennessee in 1871, Minda was born in Mississippi in 1871 and  
**CRANE** they married 14 January 1893 in Ellis County, Texas. Their children were: **Sula Ann LACKS**, born 13 November 1893; **Waties A. (Arminda?) LACKS**, born October 1895; and **James Henry LACKS**, born July 1897. Sula Ann is thought to have been living in Pampa, Texas in 1956 where she obtained a delayed birth certificate. Nothing is known about Waties; James Henry may have been living in Dallas in the 1920's as a **J.H. LACKS** is shown to have married **Bertha CRANE** 7 August 1920 in Dallas.  
**Marvin C. Jones. Route 4, Box 45158, Winnsboro, Texas 75494.**

**GRIFFITH** I have exhausted my resources on **Lacy GRIFFITH**, born circa 1812 in South Carolina and married **Mary E. \_\_\_\_\_**, born circa 1816 in South Carolina. They were living in Cobb County, Georgia in 1850 and Campbell County, Georgia in 1860-1870.  
**Olivia Harrington. 622 E. Cherry, Duncanville, Texas 75116.**

**HASTINGS** Am trying to find emigration records and birthplace in Ireland for **Peter HASTINGS**, born circa 1825 in Ireland who married **Mary \_\_\_\_\_**, born circa 1828 in Ireland. Their first son **John HASTINGS** was born 31 May 1847 in Ireland, and the family emigrated to the United States and were located in Utica, New York in 1850.  
**Olivia Harrington. 622 E. Cherry, Duncanville, Texas 75116.**

**BURTON** Am searching for parents and wife of **Robert BURTON** who died 4 August 1807 in Madison  
**ALLEN** County, Kentucky. Indications are that he was son of **Hutchins BURTON** and **Susanna (ALLEN) BURTON** on Henrico County, Virginia. Who was **Robert BURTON's** wife?  
**Olivia Harrington. 622 E. Cherry, Duncanville, Texas 75116.**

**KNOX** **William KNOX**, born 8 June 1807 and married **Margaret E. WILSON** who was born 11  
**WILSON** September 1805 in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. They later moved to Texas. Who are their parents?  
**Olivia Harrington. 622 E. Cherry, Duncanville, Texas 75116.**

**GARNER** Am seeking any information on **Andrew Jackson GARNER**, who was born 1810 in Dickson  
**CARR** County, Tennessee and married **Eliza Jane CARR** in 1882 in Greenfield, Dade County, Missouri. Nothing further is known about this couple.  
**Olivia Harrington. 622 E. Cherry, Duncanville, Texas 75116.**

**WRIGHT** I am seeking information on **William B. WRIGHT** born circa 1830 in Georgia and died  
**THOMPSON** 1880-1900 in Dallas, Texas. Parents and first spouse's names are unknown. Two children from first marriage were **Lettie (WRIGHT) THOMPSON** and **Gilbert G. WRIGHT**. Second wife was **Pink \_\_\_\_\_**, born August 1849 in South Carolina and died after 1900.

Marriage took place in Red River County, Texas and they had at least five children including **Claud WRIGHT, William B. WRIGHT, Doline WRIGHT, Rosabelle WRIGHT** and **Pink WRIGHT**. On **Lettie (WRIGHT) THOMPSON's** death certificate, her father is referred to as a "Colonel," and he practiced law in Dallas with son **Gilbert WRIGHT**. **William B. WRIGHT** may have served in Civil War.

**Connie Wallace Perdue. 9400 Ashton Ridge, Austin, Texas 78750-3457.**

**WRIGHT  
BLAINE  
STOVALL  
PICKETT  
BLACK  
FRANK**

Am seeking any information on **James Frances WRIGHT**, birth date, death date and parents unknown. He married **Salina PICKETT** who died in childbirth in 1874. Their oldest daughter, **Malissa WRIGHT**, was born 4 April 1855 in Nashville, Tennessee and daughter **Fannie Tillie (WRIGHT) STOVALL** was born 19 January 1870 in Jackson, Tennessee. **James WRIGHT** moved to Denton County, Texas probably after 1874 and then possibly to Terrell, Kaufman County. Other children were: "**Buddy**" **WRIGHT, Lafatte WRIGHT, Lyda (WRIGHT) BLACK, Polly (WRIGHT) FRANK, Eliza WRIGHT** and **Silas WRIGHT**.

**Connie Wallace Perdue. 9400 Ashton Ridge, Austin, Texas 78750-3457.**

**THOMPSON  
WRIGHT  
STUART  
DECKER**

I am seeking the parents of **Walter S. THOMPSON**, born 1846 in Missouri and died 1880-1905, location unknown. He married **Lettie WRIGHT** on 21 September 1871 in Red River County, Texas. They had one child: **William W. THOMPSON**, died 22 June 1912 in Dallas, Texas and married **Mary Alice STUART**. I would also like to ascertain how **Mary Alice** and **William W. THOMPSON** are related to past Sheriff **Bill DECKER**.

**Connie Wallace Perdue. 9400 Ashton Ridge, Austin, Texas 78750-3457.**

**BENNETT  
GOODE  
GURLEY  
WOMBLE**

I am seeking information on **Gertie Mae WOMBLE**, born circa 1892 in Texas who was the daughter of **William L. WOMBLE** and **Louise J. GURLEY**, both born in Tennessee. **Gertie WOMBLE** was married on 8 November 1908 in McCulloch County, Texas to **George Gordon BENNETT**, born 1889 in Texas. He was the son of **John Weeks BENNETT**, born 1854 in Mississippi, and **Eliza GOODE**, born 1862 in Louisiana.

**Keith E. James. 1009 Heritage Trail, Granbury, Texas 76048-5851.**

**ALBERTSON  
FARRAND  
PLOTTS  
SMITH**

Would like any information available on **Annetta Jane SMITH** (daughter of **Sanford Vandiver SMITH** and **Rachel ALBERTSON**) who married **Dr. Peter Breese PLOTTS**, son of **Benjamin PLOTTS** and **Rebecca FARRAND**. **Dr. PLOTTS** practiced medicine in the late 1800's and is buried in Grimes County, Texas.

**Keith E. James. 1009 Heritage Trail, Granbury, Texas 76048-5851.**

**SANDERS**

I am tracing the parents and ancestry of **Tommie SANDERS**, born circa 1888 in Texas (according to the 1910 Callahan County, Texas census) who married **Elmer B. STREET**, born 1880 in Texas.

**Keith E. James. 1009 Heritage Trail, Granbury, Texas 76048-5851.**

**LAUDERDALE**

I am in the process of writing a book about the **LAUDERDALE** family and would welcome copies of any family group sheets on southern **LAUDERDALE** families.

**Ramona Honan. 3133 Healey Drive, Dallas, Texas 75228.**

**ELAM  
ROBINSON**

I am seeking any information on the family of **William Barrett ELAM** who lived in the Dallas area. **William ELAM** was born 1813-1815 and his wife **Mary M. (ROBINSON) ELAM** was born 1822-1824. My earliest record of the family is the 1850 census enumeration.

**Ruth McLachlin. P. O. Box 2361, Grass Valley, California 95945.**

**MINSCH  
W MULLINS  
SIMPSON**

I am curious to know if **J.W. MINSCH** and his wife **Mary Jane (MULLINS) MINSCH** were living in the Dallas area between 1887-1892. They were named in an Adams County, Mississippi lawsuit as living in Dallas. In 1892 **Mary MINSCH** married **William SIMPSON** in Galveston, Texas so either **J.W. MINSCH** died or they were divorced.

**Mrs. Louise C. Jones. 410 North West Street, Tipton, Indiana 46072.**

**MOORE**

I am seeking any information on the family of **Albert MOORE** and his wife **Lucinda MOORE** (maiden name unknown). He was born around 1817-1820 and his wife was born 1822-1824. Their daughter, **Emily MOORE**, was born 10 November 1850 and died in Dallas in 1943.

**Ruth McLachlin. P. O. Box 2361, Grass Valley, California 95945.**

**PIRTLE  
PIRKLE  
MILLER  
GILMER**

I would like to correspond with the descendants of **J.M GILMER** and his wife, **Maude Ellen (PIRTLE) GILMER** who were married in 1894. Maude was born about 1873 in Lamar County, Texas and was the daughter of **Isaac Newton PIRTLE** and **Mary Adeline (MILLER) PIRTLE** who lived near Paris, Texas in the 1870's and 1880's. Their other children were: **Lucy PIRTLE, Maggie PIRTLE, Nicie PIRTLE** and **Frances PIRTLE**. Is **Isaac PIRTLE** a descendant of **John PIRKLE**, born circa 1725 in North Carolina? Some of his descendants supposedly changed their name and moved to Texas.

**Carol A. Miles. 3316 South Park Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64804.**

**HULL**

I am looking for information on **Jacob HULL** and his wife **Harriet HULL**. They are listed on the 1850 Texas census, but **Harriet HULL** died before 1860. **Jacob HULL** may have married **Nancy \_\_\_\_\_** and may have been killed or died in service during the Civil War. His will was probated in 1867 showing he died in 1863. Are they buried in the Pioneer Cemetery in Dallas?

**Cynthia B. Tankersley. 1226 Randall Court, Traverse City, Michigan 49684.**

**GRAVES/  
GROVES  
LUDTKE  
DUDENSING**

I would appreciate any help in locating **Anna Augusta Cecelia (LUDTKE) GRAVES/GROVES** who was born 19 September 1875 in LaVaca County, Texas. She was the daughter of **Joachim LUDTKE** and **Wiliminna (DUDENSING) LUDTKE**, and her last known location was in or near Dallas in 1928.

**Brenda Lincke-Fisseler. P. O. Box 18, Hallettsville, Texas 77964.**

**MCCUTCHEON  
MILLER**

I am seeking information about **George Turner MCCUTCHEON** and his sister, **Permelia Anne MCCUTCHEON**. I am also looking for information on the **Jesse Perkins MILLER** family.

**Tessy B. McMillan. 1006 S. E. 4th Street, Bentonville, Arkansas 72712.**

**HEILMAN**

I need help in finding my brother-in-law, **Kenneth HEILMAN**, age 60, who was last known to be living in Dallas. I have urgent family matters to discuss with him.

**Mrs. Louise C. Jones. 410 North West Street, Tipton, Indiana 46072.**

**TOLBERT  
WILLIS  
JACKSON**

I would like to correspond with **Shirley TOLBERT**, who wrote the "**John S. WILLIS**" family history article for the publication, *Coryell County, Texas Families, 1854-1985*, published by the Coryell County Genealogical Society (1986). Does anyone have her address? I would like to exchange **WILLIS** and **JACKSON** information with her.

**Nova A. Lemons. 12206 Brisbane Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75234-6528.**

## PROFESSIONAL RESEARCHERS



The Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) does not have the resources do to research for individuals. The following members of DGS have indicated they will conduct genealogical research for a fee. Each person has completed a questionnaire listing their experience, areas of research and expertise, and repositories in which they will conduct client research.

The following alphabetical list is compiled from the questionnaires. DGS does not endorse or recommend any researcher and is not responsible for their claims, work, or services. This list is provided as a service to our members and to those requesting the names of members who will conduct research for a fee. All arrangements and contracts must be made between the researcher and the client.

When contacting a researcher concerning a possible commission, it is customary to state in your letter what type of service you are seeking. Include pertinent ancestor charts, family group sheets, and any other information that will help the researcher make a determination concerning ability to perform the service, estimated length of time for the research, and estimated fee involved. Most researchers require a set number of prepaid hours.

Always include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request for information. If you would like to be added to the list of professional researchers, please contact the Newsletter Editor, DGS, P. O. Box 12648, Dallas, TX 75225 for a questionnaire.

### RESEARCHERS

**Burns, Sharon King; P. O. Box 47; Edmond, OK 73083-0047; 405/348-3124**

Genealogical researcher for 18 years; professional researcher for 1 year. Member: Association for Professional Genealogists. Localities: Oklahoma; Arkansas; Kentucky; Tennessee; Missouri; Texas. Types of research: all types including American Indian. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Family History Library in Salt Lake City; LDS Family History Centers; cemeteries. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

**Darnell, Patti Perkins; 6712 Lakeview; Flower Mound, TX 75028; 817/430-8489**

Genealogical researcher for 17 years; professional researcher for 8 years. Member: Association for Professional Genealogists. Localities: Texas; Kentucky; North Carolina; Oklahoma; Illinois. Types of research: record searches; courthouse research; 20th-century research; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generation lineages; lineage papers. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Fort Worth Regional Branch National Archives; Texas State Library and Archives in Austin; Family History Library in Salt Lake City; LDS Family History Centers; Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex University libraries; Barker Texas History Library/UT system Libraries in Austin; cemeteries; courthouses in Dallas, Grayson, Collin, and Denton counties, TX. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

**Hageness, Marilee Beatty; 3916 Bramble Road; Anniston, AL 36207; write for info sheet**

Genealogical researcher for 26 years; professional researcher for 6 years. Types of research: records searches; courthouse research; 20th-century research; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generation lineages; lineage papers. Repositories: all sources in Alabama, Georgia & Maryland. Compiles written reports. Charges hourly fee.

**Harrington, Olivia Burton; 622 East Cherry; Duncanville, TX 75116; 214/298-1341**

Genealogical researcher for 15 years; professional researcher for 1 year. Localities: Texas. Types of research: all types; record searches; multi-generation lineages; lineage papers. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; LDS Family History Centers; Dallas County Courthouse; cemeteries. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

## Professional Researchers *[continued]*

### **Hatcher, Patricia Law; 8040 Claremont Drive; Dallas, TX 75228; 214/327-8449**

Genealogical researcher for 12 years; professional researcher for 4 years. Member: Association for Professional Genealogists. Localities: Virginia; Kentucky; Pennsylvania; Delaware; New England; Midwest states. Types of research: record searches; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generation lineages; compiles genealogies for publication. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Family History Library in Salt Lake City; LDS Family History Centers; Southern Methodist University libraries; cemeteries. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

### **Hooverson, Richard L. 701 Lake Road; Belton, TX 76153; 817/939-7794**

Genealogical researcher for 17 years; professional researcher for 8 years. Member: Association for Professional Genealogists. Localities: Texas, Southwestern United States. Types of Research: record searches; courthouse research; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generation lineages; compile family histories/genealogies for publication; specializes in Scandinavian research. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Ft. Worth Regional Branch of National Archives; Texas State Library & Archives in Austin; LDS Family History Centers; University of Texas Archives. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

### **Hudson, Weldon; 2807 Cedar Park Boulevard; Fort Worth, TX 76118; 817/284-9687**

Genealogical researcher for 30 years; professional researcher for 15 years. Member: Board for Certification of Genealogists; Association for Professional Genealogists. Localities: North Texas. Types of Research: record searches; courthouse research; 20th-century research; newspapers/obituaries. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Fort Worth Public Library; Fort Worth Regional Branch of National Archives; Texas State Library and Archives; LDS Family History Centers; courthouses in Dallas, Tarrant, and other North Texas counties; cemeteries. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

### **Johnson, Mary A.; 7605 Tanglecrest Drive; Dallas, TX 75240-8020; 214/233-8006**

Genealogical researcher for 15 years; professional researcher for 4 years. Member: Association for Professional Genealogists. Localities: New York City/Long Island; Florida; lower Southern States; England. Types of research: record searches; 20th-century research; courthouse research; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generational lineages. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Fort Worth Regional Branch of the National Archives; Family History Library in Salt Lake City; LDS Family History Centers. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

### **Lee, Sammie Townsend; 10655 Longmeadow Drive; Dallas, TX 75238-2828; 214/349-1435**

Genealogical researcher for 16 years; professional researcher for 5 years. Member: Association for Professional Genealogists. Localities: Texas; the Southwest; lower Southern States; Mid-Atlantic states; Midwest states. Types of research: record searches; courthouse research; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generation lineages; lineage papers; compiles genealogies for publication. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Fort Worth Branch National Archives; Texas State Library and Archives in Austin; Family History Library in Salt Lake City; LDS Family History Centers; Dallas County Courthouse; Barker Texas History Collection in Austin; General Land Office of Texas; cemeteries. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

### **Lemons, Nova A.; 12206 Brisbane Avenue; Dallas, TX 75234-6528; 214/241-2739**

Genealogical researcher for 18 years; professional researcher for 4 years. Localities: North Texas; North-central Texas; Northeast Texas; Types of research: record searches; courthouse research; newspapers/obituaries; compiles family histories/genealogies for publication. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; LDS Family History Centers; Dallas County Courthouse; university libraries (SMU & Univ. of North Texas); cemeteries. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

### **Mullins, Mack W.; 2717 N. 42nd; Waco, TX 76710; 817/752-3294**

Genealogical researcher for 3 years; professional researcher for 12 years. Member: Association for Professional Genealogists. Types of research: record searches; courthouse research; 20th-century research; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generation lineages; lineage papers; compile family histories/genealogies for publication; ethnic research. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Waco Public Library; Texas Collection (Baylor University); Texas Ranger Library in Waco. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

## Professional Researchers *[continued]*

### Neilson, Clifford C.; P. O. Box 2109; Fairfax, VA 22031-2109; 703/978-0997

Genealogical researcher for 7 years; professional researcher for 4 years. Member: Association for Professional Genealogists. Localities: Northern Virginia; Maryland; Pennsylvania; Tennessee; Ohio; Kentucky; Texas. Types of research: record searches; courthouse research; multi-generation lineages; compile family histories/genealogies for publication; specialist in pre-Revolution Scots-Irish. Repositories: National Archives; DAR Library; Library of Congress; LDS Family History Centers; Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland state archives; Fairfax, Alexandria, Arlington, Prince William, and Loudoun county courthouses, libraries and genealogical society holdings. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

### Wylie, Barbara Brixey; 2818 Landershire Lane; Garland, TX 75044; 214/495-4410

Genealogical researcher for 7 years; professional researcher for 2 years. Member: American Society of Indexers. Localities: Missouri; Ozarks, both Missouri and Arkansas. Types of Research: record searches; courthouse research; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generation lineages; compiles family histories/genealogies for publication. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Fort Worth Regional Branch National Archives; LDS Family History Centers; Dallas County Courthouse; university libraries; repositories in Missouri and Arkansas. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

### Wylie, John V.; 2818 Landershire Lane; Garland, TX 75044; 214/495-4410

Genealogical researcher for 7 years; professional researcher for 2 years; Member: American Society of Indexers. Localities: Connecticut; New York; Michigan; Ohio. Types of research: record searches; courthouse research; newspapers/obituaries; multi-generation lineages; compiles family histories/genealogies for publication; on-line computer searches. Repositories: Dallas Public Library; Fort Worth Regional Branch National Archives; LDS Family History Centers; Dallas County Courthouse; University libraries in Dallas. Compiles written reports. Charges an hourly fee.

[Revised 4 February 1995]

## New Genealogical Society Formed

DGS member Jimmy Stribling reports that genealogical research in the Calhoun County, Mississippi area is very active, and a new genealogical society has been formed. Dues are ten dollars per year and include a newsletter. For an application form, please write to: Calhoun County Historical & Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 114, Pittsboro, Mississippi 38915. The Society's first publication will be the minutes, history and complete cemetery listing for the Mount Heimon Primitive Baptist Church. Their second publication will be the corrected 1860 Federal census of Calhoun County and will also include land tax records.

## DGS Membership Report By Ramona Honan

Look at these figures! We're over the 1,000 member mark! Remember to renew your membership when it's due (look on your mailing label).

Total Paid Members:	957
Libraries:	20
Life Members:	58
 Total Membership:	 1035

# Educational Opportunity for Genealogists

“An Intermediate Course in American Genealogy” is the title of a new course being offered by the Richland College Continuing Education Department. Taught by Sammie Townsend Lee, the 5-week, 15-hour course is 29 March—26 April. All classes meet at Lake Highlands High School, 9449 Church Road (between Skillman and Audelia) from 6:30 to 9:30 P.M. The focus of this course is on pre-1850 records, how to locate them and the methodology of using them; research repositories; and how to put your family records and notes into the finished product for publication. A prerequisite for this class is a beginning genealogy course or equivalent research experience and skills.

Please contact the Continuing Education Department of Richland College at (214) 238-6144 for more information.

## DGS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Annual membership in DGS is for a 12-month period, beginning at any time of year.)

CHECK ONE:       Renewal       New Member

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

- Annual, per household . . . . . \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- Sustaining Member (\$30 is tax deductible) . . . . . \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- Patron member (\$80 is tax deductible) . . . . . \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- Life Membership, per Individual, under 65 years old . . . . . \$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- Life Membership, per Individual, over 65 years old . . . . . \$300.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1994 Roster (if available) . . . . . \$ 4.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- Contribution to Capital Expansion Project . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to DGS and mail to Membership, Dallas Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 25556, Dallas, TX 75225-1556

*SURNAME EXCHANGE: Each member may submit up to 8 Surname and/or County/State combinations being research. Example: Johnson, Orange County, VA. Would you agree to submit this information along with your name, address and phone number for a Surname Database for use by DGS members?*     Yes     No

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

It takes work of many individuals to run DGS. Would you be willing to share your skills, talents and interest with the Society? Please check all areas of interest:

- Computer Skills     Board/Committees     Education/Present Lectures     Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Membership     Newsletter     Seminars/Regional Conf. \_\_\_\_\_
- Publicity     Communication     Volunteer Work \_\_\_\_\_

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### DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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