

DGS Newsletter



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Election of Officers at May Gen Mtg Slate:

President: David Temple
Fundraising: Sandra Crowley
Treasurer: Nathan White
Secretary: Carolyn Davis
Membership: Gloria Goodwin
Education: Jean Larson
Publicity: Pat Stone
Publications: Harmon Adair
Sales: Jim Stone
Newsletter: Vacant
Journal: Vacant
Mailings: Vacant

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President's Column

Janet Khashab, AG

APRIL is the cruelest month, breeding
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing
Memory and desire, stirring
Dull roots with spring rain.

T.S. Eliot (1888–1965). The Waste Land: I. The Burial of the Dead 1922

April only stirs up in me the desire to arrange and organize everything in an orgy of spring cleaning. Visions of neat order out of chaos disturb my sleep so I arise from my bed earlier and earlier ready to face- our dining room table. Those of you who are obsessed with genealogy understand my meaning. Most of the time our formal dining room table is covered with piles of my papers and files waiting to be sorted, recorded into my software program, and filed away in the appropriate loose-leaf notebook or hanging file. My husband and daughter are always prodding me to get on with this never ending task. The most dreaded words I can hear in my household are, "We're having company for dinner!"

The urge to spring clean also affected our DGS Board (okay, with a lot of prodding). Under the able leadership of Carl Oehmann, our Newsletter editor, we have inventoried and closed our DGS storage shed. We are now well on our way to clearing out the DGS collection of old, out-of-date equipment and the many boxes dealing with various offices including 16 boxes of old financial statements and 8 boxes of past DGS presidents' documents.

The Board is also in the midst of remodeling our By-laws, Standing Rules, and Procedure Manual in order to make our organization more efficient and up-to-date. The By-laws committee has already been formed, consisting of Jean Larson, Sandra Crowley, and Nathan White, and it is meeting to draft new by-laws for presentation to the general membership this coming fall. The Standing Rules and Procedure Manual affect the internal running of the Board and these two documents will be reviewed and voted on by the Board during its remaining term of office.

For a personal genealogy spring cleaning, see the video of my presentation at the April General Meeting, which is now available on the DGS website. It does not include a photo of my dining room table.

Finding Minta's Father

Minta Fowler Russell's parents have been a mystery to our Russell family researchers. Her census records (1850, 1870) and those of her children (1880) state that she was born in Kentucky. Searching sources in Kentucky turned up a will for a Joseph Fowler of Estill County in 1824 that identifies a "Minty" as a daughter. When he died, his will gave a dollar to the children of his first wife, naming those children (John Fowler, Jemima, Drucilla Fowler, Patience, and Minty). He left his estate for the children of his "last wife," but only named Jeremiah, oldest son of that wife, in whose care he left the estate until the youngest children were of age.

There is no marriage record in Estill or Madison County for a Minta, Minty or Arminta Fowler. The marriage record of Jemima Fowler to James Chilcoat is recorded in Madison County, Kentucky. Other Fowler records are found in both Estill and Madison counties. Other researchers have said that Patience Fowler, also mentioned in the will, married Thomas Chilcoat. But no marriage was found for this couple either. Drucilla Fowler remained unmarried.

Minta Fowler, who married William Russell, recorded their marriage date and her maiden name in her War of 1812 Bounty Land Warrant application as 13 April 1815, Franklin County, Tennessee. This is the only place where their marriage is recorded and where her maiden name is given. Marriages were not required to be recorded in county courthouses in Tennessee until 1838. An onsite search of the extant records in the Franklin County courthouse verified that the marriage was not recorded there.

Is Minta Fowler who married William Russell the daughter of Joseph Fowler of Estill and Madison County, Kentucky? How would a young woman living in the middle of the eastern half of Kentucky come to marry a man living in southern Tennessee on the Alabama border without traveling with her parents to Tennessee more than 250 miles away by today's roads? Did she travel with other family members?

Believing in the advice to "follow the family and neighbors," we began a search for the records of the sisters and their husbands. Rather than looking for Chilcoats all over the United States, we focused on finding Chilcoat records where we knew that William Russell lived to try to link the sisters by connecting their husbands.

Tax records. The 1812 Tax List for Franklin County, Tennessee, includes three William Russells, John Chilcoat, and two James Chilcoats. Through other research it is known that the three William Russells were father, son, and nephew. The oldest William Russell was a major during the War of 1812 and military records of these three are intertwined. It was the youngest, the nephew, that married Minta Fowler. There are no Fowlers on the 1812 Tax List for Franklin County.

Military Records. John Chilcoat (said to be father of Thomas and James) served in the Winchester (Franklin County, Tennessee) Home Guards. William Russell, James Chilcoat,

and Thomas Chilcoat volunteered for military duty during the War of 1812 from Franklin County, Tennessee, serving under the same officers, George Caperton, James Cowan, and William Pillow. James Chilcoat served as a private with Colonel William Pillow and Captain George Caperton. Thomas Chilcoat served as a private with Captain James Cowan's Tennessee Infantry. William Russell volunteered three times and served in Captain Cowan's Company in the regiment commanded by Colonel William Pillow.

Census Records. The 1820 census records for Franklin County, Tennessee, do not include a William Russell or any Chilcoats. However, the 1820 state census for Franklin County, Alabama, does include three William Russells, and Thomas, James, and William Chilcoat. The William Russell who appears on the same page as the Chilcoat men has a household configuration that matches William and Minty (Fowler) Russell's family at that time, i.e. 2 adults and 2 daughters under 21. From other research on the Major William Russell family, we know that he and many of his children moved from Franklin County, Tennessee, to Franklin County, Alabama, after the War of 1812. Nephew William Russell also moved there. While his two oldest daughters were born in Tennessee, his next two children, sons, were born in Alabama after 1820.

Land Records. James Chilcoat died around 1824 and his wife Jemima Fowler Russell began to appear on records in Alabama including her Bounty Land Warrant (BLW) application based on her husband's service. Thomas and Patience Fowler Chilcoat continued to live in Alabama where the land he purchased is recorded in the Bureau of Land Management. Drucilla Fowler, also named in her father's will, appears on the 1850 Lawrence county Alabama census with Thomas and Patience Chilcoat. William Russell and family returned to Franklin County, Tennessee, before 1830 and died there in 1841.

Jemima Chilcoat received Bounty Land Warrant #19938 for 160 acres in Lawrence County, Alabama, as widow of James Chilcoat, private in Captain Caperton's Company, Tennessee Militia, War of 1812. Thomas Chilcoat received 400 acres in three cash land sales in Alabama. One describes his Warrant No 57547 for 80 acres issued in favor of Thomas Chilcoat, Private in Captain Cowan's Company Tennessee Militia, War of 1812, which he assigned to Thomas Hubbard. Minty Fowler Russell moved with her children and grandchildren to Arkansas where in 1853 she completed Bounty Land Warrant application #25998 based on William's 1812 service.

Other Records. Thomas Chilcoat and Patience Fowler Chilcoat were accepted into the Boiling Fork Baptist Church in Franklin County, Tennessee, in 1812. Although there is no record, Thomas and Patience most likely married that year. No such records were reported for Minta Fowler or for William Russell. Minta Russell named one of her children Patience.

It would have been wonderful if Joseph Fowler had called his daughter "Minty Russell" in his will since she had married before his death. It may be significant or just a coincidence that he gave no last names for the daughters who were married (Jemima, Patience, and Minty), but called his unmarried daughter by her full name, Drucilla Fowler.

The combination of tax, military, census, and land records, connect Thomas and Patience (Fowler) Chilcoat, James and Jemima (Fowler) Chilcoat, Drusilla Fowler and William, and Minta (Fowler) Russell across three states: Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama. With no evidence to the contrary, these records provide a preponderance of evidence that Minty Fowler, daughter of Joseph, most likely is the Minty Fowler who married William Russell.

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Barbara Ware

Dallas Medical History Photographs Available Online

An online collection of 500+ historic photos documenting the development of medical care and medical education in Dallas is now available from the Library at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas. Each photo is dated and accompanied by searchable descriptive information.

"Dallas Medical History, 1890-1975: A Digital Collection"

debuted March 30 at www.utsouthwestern.edu/dallasmedicalhistory. The Digital Collection consists of two complementary parts:

"Dallas Medical Images, 1890-1975": A repository of 500+ images from the Library's collection which portray institutions, people, and events that have played a role in Dallas medicine. The repository can be searched by keyword to find topics of interest. About 200 images portray the history of UT Southwestern's predecessor institutions (e.g., Southwestern Medical College). Another 200 illustrate the history of St. Paul Hospital from 1896-1975 and the St. Paul School of Nursing from 1900-1971. The remaining 100 or so images document other institutions, people and events in Dallas medicine, including about 40 images of Parkland Memorial Hospital.

"Medical Care Milestones in Dallas, 1890-1975": An exhibit of 60 high-interest images, arranged in chronological order, that show highlights in the development of medical care in Dallas. Expanded descriptions explain the significance and context of the subject matter. Most of these images are also in the repository, but—to enrich the exhibit—thirteen have been added from the Dallas Public Library and other sources.

This project has been funded in whole or in part with Federal funds from the National Library of Medicine, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Health and Human Services, under Contract No. N01-LM-6-3505 with the Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library.

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Submitted by Suzan Younger with author's permission



In Memoriam

J. Bruce Moseley was born March 13, 1924 and passed away March 1, 2011 in Dallas, Texas. He served the DGS as Director of Volunteers – 1988-1991, VP Fundraising - 1992—1993 and President - 1993—1994. Under his leadership DGS received the 1993 National Genealogical Society Award for achievement by an organization in recognition of its exceptional contribution to the field of genealogy.

William A. (Bill) Schneeberg was born February 8, 1926, and passed away April 14, 2011. Bill was an early contributor to the Computer SIG.

Sheila Lynn Stough was born on December 27, and passed away on March 5, 2011. Sheila previously served on the DGS Board.

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DGS Calendar of Events 2011

**Saturday, May 7, 2011 – General Meeting: Social hour begins 10:30 a.m.; General Meeting begins 11:00 a.m.
Election of Officers and Meg Hacker (Director Regional NARA Ft Worth) – (Topic: “New Digs for Digging”)
First Floor Auditorium**

**Saturday, May 14, 2011, 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 PM
Texas Seminar – see web site for more details
First Floor Auditorium**

Tuesday, May 17, 2011, 10:00 a.m. – Jewish Genealogy SIG

Saturday, May 21, 2011, Tour Pelhem, TX – AAGIG

**July 21-23, 2011 – Summer Institute – Save the date! - Details later
First Floor Auditorium**

**All group meetings will be at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library
1515 Young Street, Dallas, TX 75202**

**If you need to contact DGS, you can email the particular board member with whom you wish to communicate or
you may send an email to info@dallasgenealogy.org or you may leave a voice mail at 1-866-YOU2DGS
(1-866-968-2347)**