

# DGS Newsletter



VOLUME 39, NUMBER 2

APRIL—JUNE 2013

## Dallas 2013 Summer Institute: August 2-3, 2013

### *Bits of Yesterday: Using Maps, Land and Other Records to Complete Your Family Story*

The 2013 Dallas Summer Institute on August 2-3 will focus on using land records, maps, and other government records to help complete your family story. There is more to our ancestors than birth, marriage, and death. Where did they live? What land was “their” land, not just what county or state was their home? The 2013 Dallas Summer Institute will focus on looking at the *Bits of Yesterday* through maps and records and show us how to use that information to tell a complete family story.

We are proud to have gifted genealogy lecturers Pamela Boyer Sayre and Richard Sayre as our keynote speakers for the event.

**Pamela Boyer Sayre, CG<sup>sm</sup>, CGL**, has presented in more than thirty states. She is co-coordinator for two Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy courses (Researching in Washington, D.C., Without Leaving Home and All About Land), coordinator for Samford University’s IGHR Techniques and Technology course, and former instructor in Boston University’s Genealogical Research Program. She co-authored *Online Roots: How to Discover Your Family’s History and Heritage with the Power of the Internet* (Nashville, Tenn.: Rutledge Hill Press, 2003) and *Research in Missouri* (Washington, D.C.: NGS, 1999, 2007), penned the FGS FORUM’s Digitools column for five years, and was editor of the *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*. Sayre was director of education and publications for the National Genealogical Society, and she served on the boards of both NGS and FGS.



**Richard Sayre, CG<sup>sm</sup>**, is a longtime researcher, lecturer, and writer. His areas of interest include urban research methodology, mapping tools for genealogists, military records, immigration, the Ohio River Valley, and Western Pennsylvania, and he has lectured about these topics to genealogical societies across the United States. He is co-coordinator for two Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy courses (Researching in Washington, D.C., Without Leaving Home and All About Land), coordinator for Samford’s IGHR Land Mapping: Using Maps course, and he teaches in IGHR’s Advanced Methodology, Advanced Military, and Techniques and Technology courses.

Rick is a member of the board of the Virginia Genealogical Society and a former vice president of the National Capital Area Chapter of APG.

Information about registration and topics is available on our website at [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org).

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Dallas Genealogical Society  
 P.O. Box 12446  
 Dallas, Texas 75225-0446  
[www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org)

Submit articles to  
[editorial@dallasgenealogy.org](mailto:editorial@dallasgenealogy.org)

## President's Column

David Temple

In late January, the Board met all day in a retreat to brainstorm and discuss the future of DGS and what we could do to better serve our members and the genealogical community as a whole. Everything was fair game. What can we do for our members? What kinds of programming should we have to provide the best educational opportunities? How can we improve what we have done so far? How can we use technology in the best way? How could we make our website better? We talked about projects to involve volunteers. We discussed our relationship with others in the community around us and ways to improve those ties. We may not have come up with all of the answers but I feel that we gave it all of our energy. We shall see how things unfold from here.



Fortunately the so-called end of the Mayan calendar came and went without disrupting our lives. It really just started over again after 5,125 years. The end of my second term as President of your society is drawing near. The 2012-13 Board year has been going quickly, hopefully educating you as well as planning for the future of your society. The Nominating Committee has assembled, setting the stage for a change in leadership. Election of officers in May is not really that far off, so I think it fair to take a moment to thank the members of the Board who have spent the last year, and in some cases the last two years, leading DGS. I certainly could not have done it without them. They provided great counsel, sometimes reminding me what the big picture was, sometimes providing a reality check. They brought to DGS their varied life experiences and skills in a shared focus to energize a process for the betterment of our society.

Looking back over this past year and a half I can honestly say we worked hard to present programming to educate our members and visitors alike. Whether it was the Genealogy Guys, Mark Lowe or Josh Taylor, they all left Dallas having given you things to remember, new ideas to pursue and hopefully the heart of an investigator—one who can identify the problem, look for a solution and then start with the appropriate research. And now with Paula Stuart Warren, Pam and Richard Sayre, and an encore appearance by Josh Taylor, we hope they will provide you tools to sharpen your skills, find new resources to peruse, and spark new ideas for how you can best proceed with your research.

We all know this process of genealogy is a journey from here (today) to who knows where (somewhere in the past). Along the way you will come to multiple forks in the road and try to make the best decision as to how best to proceed next. You will meet characters, veterans, jailbirds, merchants, professionals, immigrants, farmers, cousins, aunts, uncles, widows and orphans. Most share one thing in common—they are *your* family. They don't belong to anyone else and most have not been heard from in a long time. I would encourage you to hone your skills, to research them thoroughly, to flesh out their lives and then to share their stories with others.

### Society Officers—2012-2013

President <a href="mailto:president@dallasgenealogy.org">president@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	David Temple
Vice President <a href="mailto:fundraising@dallasgenealogy.org">fundraising@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Sandra Crowley
Secretary <a href="mailto:secretary@dallasgenealogy.org">secretary@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Jean Larson
Treasurer <a href="mailto:treasurer@dallasgenealogy.org">treasurer@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Nathan White
Immediate Past President	Janet Khashab
Director-Education <a href="mailto:education@dallasgenealogy.org">education@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Marie Navarro
Director-Membership <a href="mailto:membership@dallasgenealogy.org">membership@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Gloria Goodwin
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Director-Printing & Distribution <a href="mailto:publications@dallasgenealogy.org">publications@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Harmon Adair
Director-Publication Content <a href="mailto:editorial@dallasgenealogy.org">editorial@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Marianne Szabo
Director-Volunteer Coordination <a href="mailto:volunteer@dallasgenealogy.org">volunteer@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Patrick McKinney
Webmaster <a href="mailto:webmaster@dallasgenealogy.org">webmaster@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Tony Hanson
IT Administrator <a href="mailto:administrator@dallasgenealogy.org">administrator@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Barbara Ware
Mail Administrator	Elizabeth Thurmond
Sales Manager <a href="mailto:sales@dallasgenealogy.org">sales@dallasgenealogy.org</a>	Jimmy Walters
Parliamentarian	Vacant
<i>The Dallas Journal</i> Editor	Vacant
<i>DGS Newsletter</i> Editor	Vacant
Library Liaison	Bryan McKinney
Hospitality	Robert and Linda Lane

## One Stop to Find State Archives

The Council of State Archives website has a page that offers links to the digital archives for 37 states. If you've been looking for digital documents, photos, and maps for the states where your family lived, this should be one of your stops. Collections vary widely from state to state (some have state census rolls, military records, etc. in addition to photos and documents). The page hasn't been updated since 2010; if you find a dead link, try Googling the collection you want and it may bring up a current web address.

[www.statearchivists.org/arc/education/online\\_coll.htm](http://www.statearchivists.org/arc/education/online_coll.htm)

Note: if you go to the CoSA Home page and click on Resource Center, you will see an announcement about their new Resource Center at <http://rc.statearchivists.org>. This link will not take you to the information described above.

## Special Interest Groups\*

### **Brown Bag—4th Saturday of each month, 10:30 a.m.**

The Brown Bag SIG would like to announce their schedule for the first half of 2013. We will be using the book, *Becoming an Excellent Genealogist: Essays on Professional Research Skills* by Kory L. Meyerink, MLS, AG, FUGA; Tristan L. Tolman, AG; and Linda K. Gulbrandsen, AG. The book is available at the store on the ICAPgen.org website.

All meetings will be at 10:30 a.m. in the McDermott room on the eighth floor of the Dallas Public Library.

**April 27**—Chapter Three: “Genealogical Analysis,” by Marilyn Markham, MLS, AG, CG

**May 25**—Chapter Four: “Avoiding the Assumption Trap,” by Apryl Cox, AG

**June 22**—Chapter Five: “Demography as a Tool for Genealogists,” by Kathryn Daynes, Ph.D., AG

**July 27**—Chapter Six: “Migration Methodology,” by Karen Clifford, AG, FUGS

### **Jewish—3rd Wednesday of each month, except December; 10:00 a.m.**

The Jewish SIG will be studying two books. The first is *Getting Started in Jewish Genealogy*, by Gary Mokotoff, any version. The link to review or purchase is:

<http://www.avotaynu.com/books/GettingStarted.htm>

The second is *Becoming an Excellent Genealogist*, by Kory Meyerink, Tristan Tolman and Linda Gulbrandsen. Based upon advanced traditional genealogical techniques, the Jewish SIG will study it with a “Jewish” bent. The link to purchase this book is:

<https://www.icapgen.org/icapgen/catalog/products>

The Jewish SIG will continue to work on brick walls using the needed research skills—urban, traditional, religious, etc. Questions can be sent to [jewishgen@dallasgenealogy.org](mailto:jewishgen@dallasgenealogy.org).

### **MacGen—2nd Saturday of even numbered months, except December**

Bring your questions, dilemmas, and suggestions to MacGen as they discuss getting the most out of your genealogical research and “all things Mac.”

Saturday, April 13, 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 8, 1:00 p.m.

### **Technology—1st Thursday; 6:00 p.m. (except Jun-Aug)**

**April 4**—DGS member Carolyn Davis will discuss Mocavo ([www.mocavo.com](http://www.mocavo.com)), the genealogy search site.

**May 2**—Topic TBD. If you have suggestions for future topics or speakers, please send them to Tony Hanson at [webmaster@dallasgenealogy.org](mailto:webmaster@dallasgenealogy.org).

The Tech SIG hopes to be able to allow remote web-based participation in its meetings for up to 25 participants who are not able to come to the library for each meeting. More information will be provided about this possibility before each meeting.

*The group will again break over the summer so there will be no meetings in June, July or August. Meetings will resume in the fall on Thursday, September 5.*

### **AAGIG—3rd Saturday of each month, 2:00 p.m.**

African-American Genealogical Interest Group meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library.

*\* Dates and times subject to change. Visit [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org) to learn more about Special Interest Groups.*

## Education

Dallas Genealogical Society General Meetings are held the first Saturday of each month (except June, July, August). Hospitality and registration begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Dallas Rooms; meeting begins at 11:00 a.m. in the first floor auditorium. Upcoming meetings will feature the following topics:

Apr 6 **Organization of Digital Records**, Tony Hanson

May 4 **Organizing for Research Success**, Janet Branstetter

Meeting topics and speakers are subject to change so be sure to sign up to receive eBlasts via email or visit our website at [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org).

## Salt Lake City Research Trip

The DGS annual members-only research trip to Salt Lake City will be October 27–November 2, 2013. It is a great opportunity to research in the library, spend time with other genealogists, learn tips, and exchange information. We will be staying at the Plaza Hotel at Temple Square, next to the library. Watch for the brochure in the mail and the eBlast in our email for information on how to register or visit our website at [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org).



Dallas Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 12446  
DALLAS, TX 75225-0446

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**DGS Special Events 2013**—Visit our web site for details: [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org)

**DGS General Meetings are the first Saturday of each month (except June, July and August) in the First Floor Auditorium at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, Dallas, TX— “Meet & Greet” at 10:30 a.m.; Meeting begins at 11:00 a.m.**

**DGS SUMMER INSTITUTE**—Pamela Boyer Sayre, CG<sup>sm</sup>, CGL and Richard Sayre, CG<sup>sm</sup>  
Friday and Saturday, August 2-3, 2013

**FALL LECTURE**—D. Joshua Taylor  
Saturday, October 12, 2013

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](mailto:info@dallasgenealogy.org) or you may leave a voice mail at 1-866-YOU2DGS (1-866-968-2347)