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February, 2018

Event Schedules: [General Meetings](#) | [Special Interest Groups](#) | [Seminars](#)

Next General Meeting: Saturday, February 3

Our next General Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 3, in the 1st floor Auditorium at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, located at 1515 Young Street in Dallas. Hospitality begins at 10:30 a.m., followed by our Business Meeting, which begins at 11:00 a.m.

Our Educational Presentation "Black Courage" will be made by Bill Covington, of Waxahachie, Texas. Bill was the TXDAR State Winner of the 2017 Outstanding Teacher of US History Award. He will be exploring the African American contribution to the American Revolution and the reasons and ways that they worked for both sides of the conflict.



As a reminder, you do not need to be a member of the Dallas Genealogical Society to attend the meetings. We welcome everyone who is interested!

January Meeting Recap

Our January meeting was attended by 30 members and 15 visitors who listened to Bill Buckner, of the Waco-McLennan Library, present on the 1890 Census. Bill provided a detailed and very informative history on fate of the 1890 Census documents and offered suggestions for several alternative records available to help fill in the gap between 1880 and 1900.

Upcoming Meeting: Saturday, March 3

Please join us at the March General Meeting, where Jim Thornhill, an active member of the leadership team for both the Dallas Genealogical Society and the Rockwall County Genealogical Society, will be giving his presentation of "Migration Through the

South." This presentation will look at the motivation for migration as well as the means by which our ancestors ended up in the locations they did.

Meeting minutes, video recordings of previous Business Meetings, and videos of our Educational Presentations, when the speaker permits, are all available on our [website](#).

Genealogy Is Contagious!

Bring a non-member friend, neighbor, or a relative to a meeting. Help us spread the word about all the good things DGS has to offer! Our meetings are interesting and informative. Let's all encourage others to attend!

Between now and May, bringing a guest to a meeting will place your name in a drawing to win a registration to the seminar of your choice. You will be entered for each visitor that you bring!



Come one, come all and share the joy of genealogy!

Research Help at DGS Meetings

At DGS Meetings

One of our New Year's resolutions (you made yours, right?) was to begin providing a "Ask the DGS" session before each General meeting. One or two knowledgeable volunteers will be available near the coffee from 10:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. and willing to try to help you with your question or issue. If your question is especially tough (or interesting) we will bring it up at the meeting to see if one of our attendees can help. Bring your question to the next meeting. You can also volunteer to be one of our volunteer experts: Go to our [website](#), click on Get Involved>Volunteer Signup > Genealogy Research Mentors.

Facebook Group

Another resolution we made was to create a Facebook Group focused on North Texas Family History Research. It provides genealogists and family history researchers with a forum to help each other with questions about ancestors from Dallas, Dallas County and North Texas.

It is a closed group, which means that you will have to answer a few questions to join:

- Why do you want to be a member of this group?
- If you are researching families from Texas, who are they?
- If you are researching families from Texas, where did they live and when did they live there?

Join today by [clicking here](#), a hyperlink to the group page. If you are not a member you will be prompted to answer the questions.

Volunteers Needed!

Wonder how to get involved in DGS? Volunteering at our events is a great way to meet new people and help out! Arrive a half hour early, meet with the DGS Board Members and be ready to meet, greet, prepare handouts, and to serve food.

Volunteers are needed for the monthly meetings and seminars! If you have the gift of hospitality, we need you! We are looking for a team of volunteers to head up our hospitality. Hospitality volunteers arrive early, set up tables, and prepare or purchase snacks (e.g., coffee cake, muffins, nuts) Come be a part of the team!

To volunteer at the upcoming monthly meetings on February 3, and March 3, or at the Seminar on March 31, contact Patti Huff Smith, Director of Volunteer Coordination at volunteer@dallasgenealogy.org

Nominations Committee

We are forming the nominating committee to determine the officers for the 2018-19 Dallas Genealogical Society Board. Our bylaws specify that we need a committee of five that consists of two board members and three members-at-large. This committee is structured to insure that the society gets a well-rounded slate of candidates for the election. The committee will consider members in good standing for each officer position and report its nominations at the General Meeting in April. This is a critical committee for the society and we need you to help insure we are successful.

We need to elect the three members-at-large in the February General Meeting. Interested? Questions? Contact Todd DeDecker at president@dallasgenealogy.org

2018 Spring Seminar

Early registration is now open for the [2018 Spring Seminar with Michael L. Strauss, A.G., on Saturday, March 31](#). Mr. Strauss will share with us how to research our ancestors who may have participated in the Revolutionary War, the Mexican War, or the Civil War and the Reconstruction. He will also discuss the wealth of research opportunities in and around our nation's capital. Whether you're interested in joining one of the lineage societies based on your ancestor's service to this nation or you're just interested in American history, you're sure to gain useful information.



Early registration is \$50 for DGS members and \$60 for non-members until March 11. Parking for the day is included, and you may optionally order a box lunch. DGS membership dues are very reasonable at \$35 per annum for an individual membership or \$40 per annum for a household. Please consider [joining](#) to take advantage of the discounted member prices at all seminars. It practically pays for itself and helps support our Society and our library!

Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society Meeting

“Red River Bridge War: A Texas-Oklahoma Border Battle”

Join the Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 8th, at the Mesquite Main Library as author, historian, and journalist, Rusty Williams, explains this little known event in Texas History. In the summer of 1931, Texas and Oklahoma armed up and went to war over an old toll bridge north of Denison that connected the states across the Red River. It was a two-week affair marked by the presence of National Guardsmen with field artillery, Texas Rangers with

itchy trigger fingers, angry mobs, Model T blockade runners, and even a Native American peace delegation. Traffic backed up for miles, cutting off travel between the states. This conflict entertained newspaper readers nationwide during the summer of 1931, but the Red River Bridge War was a deadly serious affair for many rural Americans at a time when free bridges and passable roads could mean the difference between survival and starvation.

Rusty will explain this event and its consequences. Come early for visiting and refreshments. You do not have to be a member to attend.

Grand Prairie Genealogy Society



Thursday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m.

"Portal to Texas History Resources" (Monthly Meeting)

Grand Prairie Memorial Library 901 Conover Drive Grand Prairie

Kathleen Murray holds a PhD in Information Science from the University of North Texas and a Certificate in Genealogical Studies from the University of Strathclyde. During her 15 years as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of North Texas Libraries, she was involved in major research studies concerning the use and impact of The Portal to Texas History. Kathleen has presented research findings and educational programs at several local, regional, national, and international library and genealogy conferences. Kathleen is active in the Dallas Genealogical Society.

February Special Interest Group Meetings

Did you know that the Dallas Genealogical Society has special interest groups that meet at various times during the month? The groups that meet in February are listed below.



- **Technology Special Interest Group** meets February 1, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on the 5th Floor - Hamon Room, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Dallas, TX 75201.
- **MacGen Reunion Interest Group** meets February 10 at 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. on the 3rd Floor - Laurie Evans Studio, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Dallas, TX 75201.
- **DNA Special Interest Group** meets February 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on the 5th Floor - Harmon Room, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Dallas, TX 75201.
- **African American Genealogical Interest Group** meets on February 17, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. on the 1st Floor - West Room, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Dallas, TX 75201.
- **Jewish Special Interest Group** meets on February 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Tycher Library at the Jewish Community Center, 7900 Northaven Rd. Dallas, TX 75230.
- **Brown Bag Special Interest Group** meets February 24, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on the 8th Floor - McDermott Room, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Dallas, TX 75201.

[More Information](#)

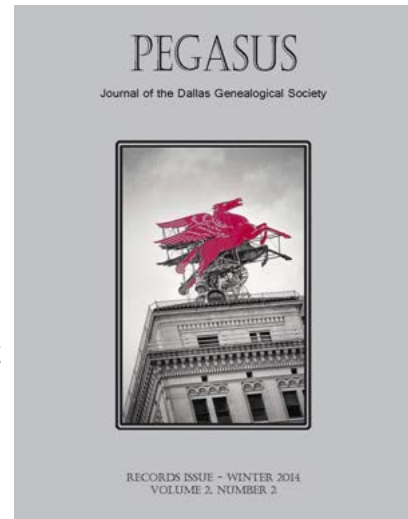
Help Wanted: Pegasus Editor

The Dallas Genealogical Society has published a journal under one name or another every year since its inception in 1955... until now. Without an Editor our tradition of publishing a journal will come to an end.

Our current publication Pegasus, has been published since 2012, and we are seeking a new Editor. The qualifications for this position are as follows:

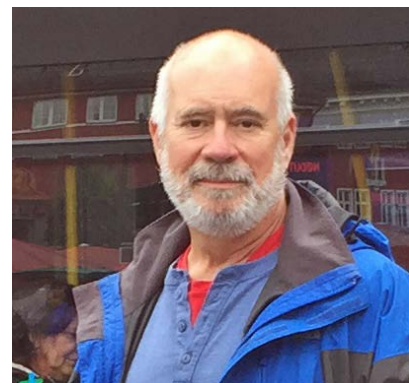
- **Manage the writing contest:** The articles that are published in Pegasus are the winners of a writing contest. This contest is managed by the Editor, who accepts entries, oversees judging the entries, and works with authors to bring a professional quality article to publication. More information on *Pegasus* can be found at this [link](#).
- **Design Coordination:** Once the articles are ready for publication, the Editor works with the design editor to arrive at a finished product.
- **Coordinate Delivery:** The Editor oversees the printing of a specified number of journals and sends the rest through e-mail delivery. An e-mail list is provided.

The editor need not live in the North Texas area and the job can be done 100% remotely. There may be some compensation for the right candidate. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, email us at info@dallasgenealogy.org.



Spotlight on Past President Tony Hanson

I grew up in a suburb of Chicago, attended college on a gymnastics scholarship, and graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering. After a brief stint in the aerospace world in St. Louis, I settled into a career with Southwestern Bell Telephone (which eventually morphed into today's AT&T) before retiring in late 2013. I became intrigued about my family history while visiting my Aunt, and I made copies of some of her research papers. But I filed them away and ignore them for several years. Curiosity about my Norwegian grandmother (the only grandparent I ever knew) finally pushed me to pick up where my Aunt had left off in 2000, and I was hooked!



Both of my father's parents were Norwegian emigrants who arrived in the country in the early 1900's. My grandmother came from a small town near Oslo, and my grandfather was born in a small coastal village near the Arctic Circle. I have been fortunate enough to visit both cities and meet many of my Norwegian cousins.

Mom's background is rooted deeply in Germany. Here grandparents were the emigrants, and they all settled in the small farming community of Lyons, Wisconsin (just to the West of Milwaukee) beginning in 1847. I have traced three of her four branches to small towns West of Frankfurt, Germany.

I became the DGS webmaster in 2010 and have served on the board ever since, as webmaster, VP of Education and President. I also managed the Technology Special Interest Group for several years. I have made numerous presentations to the DGS and other local societies as well as at the Texas State Genealogical Society conference and RootsTech.

I have documented most of my family research on my personal website:

<http://www.rayson.us/ae Hanson>



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Established 1955

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