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**March, 2018**

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

### **Next General Meeting: Saturday, March 3**

Our next General Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 3, in the first 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, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Come early - by 10:00 a.m. - and bring your genealogy questions to our helpful knowledgeable DGS volunteers. They will be available from 10:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. and will try to answer your question and help with your genealogy issues.



Our Educational Presentation "Migration Through the South" will be made by Jim Thornhill, an active member of the leadership team for both the Dallas Genealogical Society and the Rockwall County Genealogical Society. Jim will be discussing our ancestors' motivation for migration as well as the means by which they physically ended up in the locations they did.

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!

### **February Meeting Recap**

Our February meeting was attended by 36 members and 10 visitors who listened to Bill Covington's presentation on Black Courage. Bill, TXDAR State Winner of the 2017 Outstanding Teacher of US History Award, discussed the different ways and reasons that African Americans contributed to both sides of the conflict during the American Revolution. This presentation was recorded, and Bill has allowed us to make the [video](#) available on our website indefinitely.

## Upcoming Meeting: Saturday, April 14

Please join us at the April General Meeting, on the second Saturday of the month. Lynell Moss, from the Plano Family History Center, will present "FamilySearch Family Tree: Your Tree, My Tree, OUR tree". She will discuss the recent updates to the FamilySearch Family Tree and do a live demonstration on how to edit individuals and relationships, and how to add documents, photos, and other sources to the tree.

In preparation for this meeting, go to the FamilySearch website and download the appropriate FamilySearch Family Tree app for your device, whether it be your phone or tablet, and plan to have your device available during the presentation.

For ios devices: <https://www.familysearch.org/apps/product/a-family-tree/ios>  
For Android devices: <https://www.familysearch.org/apps/product/familysearch-tree/android>

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

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## Spread the Word about Genealogy!

Remember to bring a non-member friend, neighbor, or a relative to a meeting. Help us spread the word about all 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!

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## Spring Seminar - March 31

Our Spring Seminar is rapidly approaching on March 31. Take advantage of the discounted registration fees if you register by March 11.

As a Coast Guard veteran and military reenactor, Michael L. Strauss, AG, is keenly interested in all matters military and will share his expertise with us. It was difficult to choose only four topics from his extensive portfolio of lectures on different branches of service and various conflicts from the Revolutionary War up to Korea and Vietnam. But choose we must, so Michael will speaking with us on:



- **Revolutionary War Genealogical Research:** For those researching an ancestor from this era, you'll gain valuable insights on available resources. Some of the records that will be covered will include

Compiled Service Records, pensions and bounty lands, as well as local militia lists and rolls, Navy and Marine Corps records, and the papers of the Continental Congress. Michael will also briefly discuss Shay's Rebellion and the Whiskey Rebellion. The lecture will cover accessing these records, both online and at local repositories.

- **Manifest Destiny: Researching Your Mexican War Ancestors:** The Mexican-American War of 1846 marked the first U.S. conflict fought primarily on foreign soil. Just 15 years before the Civil War, the Mexican War served as a training and breeding ground for both officers and men who would later fight each other. Michael will discuss records from the National Archives as well as regional and local records.
- **Refugees, Claims, and Conscription: Researching Your Ancestors during the Reconstruction Era:** Following the Civil War, the Reconstruction Era lasted from 1865 to 1876, ending as the last of the Federal Troops withdrew from the South. Michael share many little known and used military and civilian genealogical resources from this time.
- **More than Just Politics: Genealogical Research in Washington, DC:** Now that we've learned about the records that are available to us for researching our military ancestors, how do we actually get to those records? Planning a research visit to our nation's capital can be overwhelming! Michael will share insights on several research facilities within the District of Columbia, including the National Archives and the Library of Congress.

If you or anyone you know is interested in joining a lineage society where you need to prove your descendancy from an ancestor who served in one of these wars, this seminar may provide you with new avenues of research. Spread the word!

Please join us on March 31!

P.S. If you're interested in other topics or eras, Michael has also presented through [Family Tree Webinars](#) and [Ancestry Academy](#), including researching ancestors in World War I and in the five boroughs of New York City. He's also scheduled to talk about the Spanish American War in December 2018 at Family Tree Webinars. Some of these recorded seminars are free while others have a modest cost (unless you're a subscriber).

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!

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## How You Can Volunteer!

While you are encouraged to attend the March 3 General Meeting as well as the March 31 Seminar, the Dallas Genealogical Society also encourages you to get involved by volunteering to help out with these two events as well as with some tasks with which we need help.

Ways you can serve:

- Arriving early to assist with the prep for coffee and good light snacks.
- Greeting guests as they arrive with a warm, friendly smile.
- Mingling with the DGS before meetings and helping everyone feel welcome.
- If you have some talent in Publicity/Public Relations, we need Editors and Proof Readers.
- We really need someone - or more than one - to take the job of providing the snacks before General Meetings so that other officers are not overworked.

To volunteer, contact us at one of the following:

email: [volunteer@dallasgenealogy.org](mailto:volunteer@dallasgenealogy.org)

Tweet or FaceBook: <http://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/get-involved/help-wanted/>

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## **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 March General Meeting. Interested? Questions? Contact Todd DeDecker at [president@dallasgenealogy.org](mailto:president@dallasgenealogy.org)

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## **Another Way to Connect to Researchers of North Texas Family History**

DGS has created 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.

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

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## **Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society Meeting**

### **"Enhancing Your Research By Using Collateral Lines"**

Join the Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society at the Mesquite Main Library on Thursday, March 8th, at 6:30 p.m. as genealogist David Passman explains the benefit of expanding your research to include your family's collateral lines. Such ancestors would be the uncles, aunts, granduncles, second cousins and in-laws of the family who frequently traveled with and lived near your ancestors. When researching one's direct lineage gets a little slow or you are stumped, start researching those collateral lines to spice things up. And, you will be surprised and excited to find how this information fits in with and expands the research you have already done on your direct line of ancestors.

David has thoroughly researched his Jewish family from Russia to America with detail



and documentation while using "collateral lines" in the process. He captivates his audience with a story that is both fascinating and intriguing, and is sure to impress both the advanced genealogist and the beginner. The public is invited and welcome and you do not have to be a member to attend. Come early for visiting and refreshments.

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## Grand Prairie Genealogy Society



The Grand Prairie Genealogical Society will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at the Grand Prairie Memorial Library, 901 Conover Drive, Grand Prairie, TX. Our speaker will be Ruth Lloyd whose parents were Holocaust survivors. Come early for a meet and greet between 6:30 and 7pm. The program will begin at 7pm and will conclude around 8:30.

Also, please go to our website [www.gpgstx.org](http://www.gpgstx.org) for information on our lock in on Friday, March 9th at the library.

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## Genealogy Seminar featuring Lisa Louise Cooke

**Sponsored by the Heritage Ranch Genealogical Society**

On Wednesday, April 18, 2018, internationally sought-after speaker and podcast host Lisa Louise Cooke will lead a seminar from 9 A.M. - 2:30 P.M. in the Ballroom at Heritage Ranch Golf and Country Club, 456 Scenic Ranch Circle, Fairview, TX 75069.

Author of a variety of materials, Cooke is the owner of Genealogy Gems, a genealogy and family history multi-media company. She is producer and host of the Genealogy Gems Podcast, the popular online genealogy audio show available at <https://www.lisalouisecooke.com>



Price for the Seminar, including a buffet luncheon, is \$40.00 if registered by April 1, 2018 or \$45.00 after April 1, 2018. For this event, there will be no cancellation refunds after April 13, 2018.

**TO REGISTER: Mail a check payable to Heritage Ranch Genealogical Society to**  
Linda Watson, 947 Winged Foot drive, Fairview, TX 75069.

Questions may be directed to Toni Selby at [casrjs@grandccom.net](mailto:casrjs@grandccom.net) or Karen Robertson at [karen441@gmail.com](mailto:karen441@gmail.com).

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## DGS Presents Program for Children

On Saturday, January 27th, the Dallas Genealogical Society hosted a children's genealogy workshop for the North Texas Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. This non-profit women's organization "focuses on the enhancement, development

and nurturing of family, education, community, civic and social values in African-American children.”

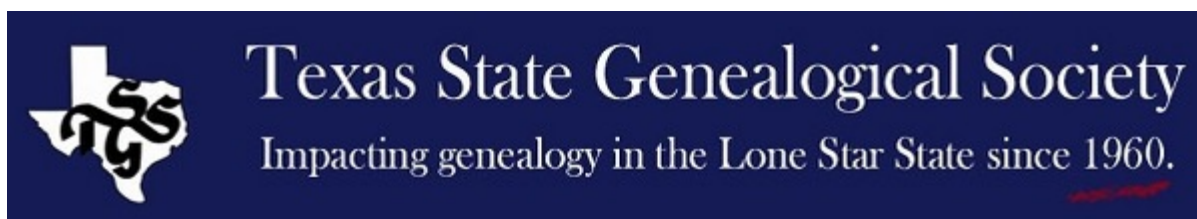


The two hour workshop was presented by Patti Smith, DGS Director of Volunteer Coordination, and Lisa Ross, DGS Director of Education. In attendance were 14 children (aged 10-12) and 15 parents. A 16th parent participated with her daughter via FaceTime!

The workshop focused on how to get started with family history research. The children learned basic skills, such as common terminology, where to find information, how to track research, and interviewing skills. Having the parents present allowed for a very interactive program that included the children getting to interview their parents. Both the children and the parents were very engaged in the process and excited to learn and share about their families

Following the workshop, the group toured the genealogy department, located on the 8th floor of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library. Several members of the Dallas Genealogical Society were available to offer research assistance to the parents and children who stayed after the tour.

All the feedback received on the program was very positive! The organization has already inquired about repeating the program on an even bigger scale and possibly offering workshops for additional age groups.



The Texas State Genealogical Society announces a Call for Presentations for our 2018 Family History Conference. This year's conference will be held 2-4 November in San Antonio, Texas, at the Omni San Antonio at the Colonnade.

We are looking for dynamic, enthusiastic presenters! If you feel passionate about your area of expertise and would like to teach and inspire other genealogists, this is the venue for you. Seasoned speakers and speakers new to the genealogical lecturing arena are encouraged to submit proposals for presentations or workshops.

For more information about how to submit a proposal, go to the link below.

<https://txsgs.z2systems.com/np/clients/txsgs/viewOnlineEmail.jsp?>

## 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:

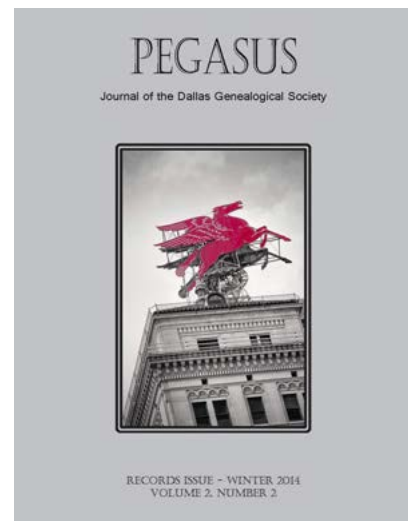
- **Manage the writing contest:** The articles that are published in Pegasus are the winners of a writing contest. This contest is managed by the Editor, who accepts entries, oversees judging the entries, and works with authors to bring a professional quality article to publication. More information 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](mailto:info@dallasgenealogy.org).



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## March Special Interest Group Meetings

Do you want to explore a special genealogical interest? The Dallas Genealogical Society has special interest groups that meet at various times during the month? The groups that meet in March are listed below.

- **Technology Special Interest Group** meets March 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.
- **Roots Magic Special Interest Group** meets March 11, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. on the 5th Floor Hamon Room, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Dallas, TX 75201.
- **Next Gen Sitebuilder Special Interest Group** meets March 11, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on the 5th Floor Hamon Room, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Dallas, TX 75201.
- **DNA Special Interest Group** meets March 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 March 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 March 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on the 8th Floor - McDermott Room, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Dallas, TX 75201.
- **Brown Bag Special Interest Group** meets March 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](#)

## Spotlight on Gayla Bush



I'm a week into my retirement from being the manager of the Genealogy & History Division at the Dallas Public Library, and it has been everything I had hoped, and a little more. Those of you who have been around me much realize that I don't really relish the spotlight, but I was surprised to find out how much I enjoyed my lovely sendoff from my coworkers that last day at work. They showered me with gifts, sweets, well wishes, and best of all, about a hundred HUGS. I don't think I've ever felt so special. I miss my coworkers, customers and my DGS buddies a lot. That said, I'm looking forward to a future of adventure, travel, fun, relaxation and the sheer luxury of having a good bit of control over my schedule. As much as I have loved working for the Dallas Public Library and being a part of something very meaningful and wonderful, I'm elated to contemplate my next phase of life.

First off, I'm excited to be able to attend some DGS seminars, and I know that the Spring Seminar featuring Michael Strauss will be a terrific one. I heard him speak at the Texas State Genealogical Society Conference in October of 2016 and thoroughly enjoyed his presentation on the New Deal. Plus, I'll be able to catch up with my DGS friends and no doubt meet new people with shared interests. No, I'm not planning on being a stranger!

Now that I can stay up all night if I want to, I'm going to delve into some serious genealogical research. While I was working, it always seemed that just about the time I would be hot on the trail of an elusive ancestor, I'd have to remind myself to get to bed so that I'd be fit for work the next day. I've joked with my former employee Mic Barnette that I'll be crashing his genealogy class at Brookhaven College one of these days as his number one fan and occasional heckler. Do you see a theme here? Genealogy has a way of getting under one's skin, and I'm no exception. I suspect that some (or many) of the trips that my husband and I plan will feature side trips to uncover facts about interesting ancestors. For me, genealogy seems to lend itself to creating that perfect balance of recreation, intrigue, mental agility, and storytelling. And I surely will miss the family stories that I heard at work. It was a sheer joy to watch my top-notch staff help customers burst through those brick walls of genealogical frustration to discover the family puzzle pieces that make each person unique and special. I think I'll miss those constant, heartwarming, surprising stories the most.

With sincere gratitude and warmest regards,  
Gayla Bush





## Dallas Genealogical Society

Established 1955

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