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November 2018

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

Next General Meeting: Saturday, November 3

Lisa Ross

Our November 2018 General Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 3rd, 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 will begin at 11:00 a.m.

Our Educational Presentation will be made by Dallas Public Library's very own Stephanie Bennett, who is currently serving as the Genealogy & History Division Manager. She will be discussing all of the wonderful genealogical resources that are available at the Dallas Public Library. This will include tips and tricks for navigating the collection, online databases, and other resources in the building that may be helpful to those researching their family history.



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!

Annual Awards Banquet

Todd DeDecker

Our Annual Awards Banquet will be held on **Saturday, December 8, 2018**. This is a time for fellowship, having fun and recognizing the leaders and great volunteers that help make this organization strong!



[Register Now](#)

Log in and select "Upcoming Events" from the "What would you like to do" pull-down menu.

We also need your help identifying this year's nominees for each award. Look back over the activities of the past year and identify **your** most deserving candidate(s) for these awards:

- **Award of Merit** - Presented annually to a DGS member who has consistently contributed time, talent, expertise, and abilities to the Society over a period of years. This member's dedication and hard work in the name of the Society usually goes way above the norm. Their contributions stand out.
- **Heritage Preservation** - Presented annually to an individual, group, or organization in recognition of contributions to preserve, conserve, house, or collect family history. Past recipients in this category cover many varying types of genealogical and historical preservation endeavors.
- **Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck Distinguished Service Award** - Presented to an individual for outstanding contributions to the genealogical community on a national level.
- **Volunteer of the Year (DGS)** - Presented annually to a member who has generously volunteered time, expertise, talents, and abilities to the Society during the previous year to the extent to make that member stand out and draw attention.
- **President's Special Award** - The President's Special Award honors individuals or groups whose contributions to the Society fall outside the criteria for our other awards.

[Nominate Someone](#)

You can also nominate someone via email. Be sure to include your nominee's name, the award you are nominating them for, and an explanation of why you feel they deserve the award. Send the email to nominating@dallasgenealogy.com.

DGS Gift Certificates Now Available

Jim Thornhill

Looking for the perfect gift for a fellow genealogist? We have a deal for you! We are now offering gift certificates for DGS Membership and our 2019 Seminars.

- One year Society memberships can be purchased for Individuals or Households.
- Seminar gift certificates will entitle the recipient to attend one of our three seminars for 2019 (Michael Lacopo, Judy Russell or Jen Baldwin).

They are available now in the [DGS Online Store](#).



DGS Newsletters Needed

Tony Hanson

We will be sending our collection of Newsletters to the University of North Texas to be digitized soon. However, we are missing a few original paper copies.

If you have one of the issues listed below, please contact Tony Hanson at pastpresident@dallasgenealogy.org so we can make arrangements to borrow it and use it to create high quality images that will be archived on The [Portal to Texas History](#).

- 1989 - November (Issue 117)
- 1992 - November (Volume 16, Number 9, Issue 145). Our copy lacks part of the last page.
- 1985 - October (Volume 19, Number 6, Issue 163). Our copy does not have the last page.
- 1995 - May (Volume 20, Number 5, Issue 169). Our copy does not have the last page.
- 1996 - November (Volume 20, Number 9, Issue 173)
- 1996 - December (Volume 20, Number 9, Issue 174)
- 2011 - January 2011 (Volume 37, Number 1, Issue 297)
- 2011 - April (Volume 37, Number 2, Issue 298)



North Texas Society Summit

Kathleen Murray

The Dallas Genealogical Society initiated a North Texas Society Summit in 2016. This year's Summit was attended by 40 people representing 18 North Texas Genealogical Societies.



The day's events included a panel discussion and two table exercises that allowed attendees to discuss common issues and share strategies for success. The day closed with a presentation by David Rencher titled "*Future Vision for Genealogical Societies*".

Videos and documents from the event are available on the [North Texas Society Summit page](#) on the DGS website. Read and share!

Genealogy Network of Texas

Tony Hanson

This was the first time that the Dallas Public Library and the Dallas Genealogical Society participated in this event, and from all appearances it was a great success. Attendees were able to watch live-streamed and on-site live presentations throughout the day. In addition, DGS volunteers staffed a "Family History Research Assistance" table and helped visitors with their research questions. We are already looking forward to doing this again next year!



May The Road Rise Up To Meet You!

Jim Thornhill

This classic Irish saying was certainly true for those who attended our Fall Seminar with David Rencher. From the syllabus that was packed with useful content, David's relaxed and humorous speaking style, to his unquestioned expertise on Irish genealogy, participants were equipped with the tools to tackle their toughest Irish research challenges. Responses such as "David gave so many great tips and suggestions for researching my Irish ancestors that I'll be busy following up on them for quite a while" and "...I'm looking forward to using it to knock down some Irish walls" were common.



I want to thank all of our volunteers who helped us with this and other seminars. We truly could not do it without you, and you are a vital part of the success of our seminars. I also want to thank our attendees for filling out the post seminar survey. We carefully read all of your suggestions and they are a great help when we are planning future seminars.

Help Wanted: Newsletter Editor

Tony Hanson

Do you know the difference between a noun and a verb? Do you understand parallel structure? Because I don't even know that you shouldn't start a sentence with "Because", so you are obviously **much** better qualified to be a newsletter editor than I am!



In all seriousness, we are looking for someone to become our full time newsletter editor. This is a great way to get involved in a great Society and perform a much needed function. We publish 10 newsletters each year, and everything that you need to do can be done from the comfort of your own home.

Take a look at our [job description](#) (click on "Responsibilities & Duties"). If you are interested please contact Tony Hanson at pastpresident@dallasgenealogy.org.

Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck Papers Update

Kathleen Murray

What do you do with 16+ file drawers of papers and files collected by an esteemed genealogist and librarian over a 30 year career?



Our answer: Consult with the experts, hone our organizational skills, and dive in! That's what this group of DGS volunteers did starting in January 2018: Suzan Younger, Tony Hanson, Patrick McKinney, Kathleen Murray, Kelvin Meyers, Sammie Lee, Terri O'Neil, Jean Larsen, and Barbara Ware.

The bulk of the organizational work is now complete, with Lloyd's legacy sorted into 16 distinct categories or series. We can tantalize some of you with *Series III. Research and Lectures*, which includes notes and resources for everything from African Americans to Migration to Royal Bastards. And, before you ask: Yes, it includes bibliographies and many of the original images used in Lloyd's overheads.

Work on moving each series into archival folders is underway. The next steps will involve placing the folders in archival boxes and finalizing the finding aid, which will be available online. Much of the collection will remain on the 8th floor, while some biographical series will be on the 7th floor in the Archives. Typical archival access procedures will be used by patrons and researchers to use the collection.

It's been a learning experience for all of us! We are very grateful to Brian McKinney and Stephanie Bennett of the Dallas Public Library for helping us whenever needed. It's been great to work with them on this special project.

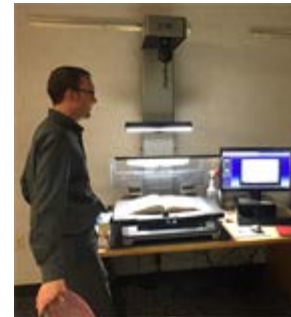


Family Search Scanning at the DPL

Tony Hanson

Volunteers and scanning equipment from FamilySearch have arrived and are getting settled in on the Genealogy Section at the J. Erik Jonsson Central library. They will be scanning books from the collection that are out of copyright.

Stop by and welcome them to Dallas and admire the state-of-the-art scanning equipment they will be using.



What Does It Take?

Patti Huff Smith

Walking into my first DGS seminar the energy filled room felt contagious. Registration had gone so smoothly that after I saved myself a seat I wandered back to take a closer look.

Name tags were prepared and laid out in an orderly fashion. Cheerful women were behind the table assisting with the registration process. A syllabus was handed to each participant, tickets were being given for door prizes, people were warmly greeted, coffee and delicious snacks were arranged in our hospitality room.



At the helm of the registration was Gloria Goodwin, our DGS Director for Membership.

With her proficient organizational skills, Gloria manages each DGS event with ease. But, she doesn't do this alone!

Our volunteers fulfill a vital role to make each event possible! What does it take? Someone ready to give their time, share their talent and say, "Yes, I'm willing."

It's easy! Just check out our website, click "Get Involved," then, "Help Wanted," or "Volunteer Sign-up." It's simple!

[More Information](#)

October General Meeting

Lisa Ross

Our October meeting was attended by 34 members and 1 visitor who saw Greg Boyd, President of Arphax Publishing Co. and developer of HistoryGeo.com. Greg provided extensive information on using the HistoryGeo.com website and provided several examples of how using maps can help with genealogical research. He also discussed some projects the company is currently working on that have the potential to offer even more opportunities in the future.



Greg generously allowed us to record and share a video of his presentation on our website for the 30 days following the meeting. The presentation has been viewed multiple times.

[Watch Video](#)

Just a reminder that there will be no General Meeting in December, due to our [Annual Awards Luncheon](#). But, please join us on January 5th.

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

Help Wanted: Treasurer

Tony Hanson

No, nothing has happened to Travis Tynes. We all hope that he will continue doing the fantastic job that he currently is doing through the end of his term in office which ends next year (September 2019).

However, at that time he will reach the end of his two year term in office and we will need to replace him. Finding somebody with the right skills and the time required for the position is usually a bit of a challenge so we are starting the search a little early.



See the [Responsibilities & Duties](#) for the Treasurer's position: if you are interested please contact Tony Hanson at pastpresident@dallasgenealogy.org.

A Firm Foundation

Jim Thornhill

When I began researching my family history, I dove right into the middle of my tree, looking for those war heroes or famous ancestors that were hiding in my family's history. But, as I have been reminded in several of our recent DGS seminars, my family's history needs to be based on what I know, not on what I am trying to discover.



Building your family tree is like building any structure, you need to have a firm foundation. You build your tree one generation at a time, starting with yourself and your family, then going to your parents, and then to your grandparents, three generations which you can be relatively certain are correct. This gives you a firm foundation for your family tree which is based on fact so you can go on to discover new generations.

The way to develop this firm foundation is different than the way we research our ancestors who are no longer with us. Most of us have family that we can talk to that were living the most recent part of our family's history. Our parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents and other family members all have valuable memories that will add rich information to our family trees.

We are entering a season that gives us an excellent opportunity to get these family stories. As you gather together with your family, have a conversation about what things were like for your older relatives. What was the most outrageous thing they did as a child? Did they play sports? What were their hobbies? The answer to these questions will provide an incredible richness to your family's history.

One tool that can make this easier is our smart phones. A free voice recorder app on our phone will enable us to concentrate on that conversation instead of trying to take notes or remember important details.

I hope this holiday season is a joyous one for all of you! Having conversations about your family's history will not only bring you closer as a family, it will make your history much richer and leave a legacy for generations to come.

This edition edited by **Tony Hanson**



Dallas Genealogical Society
Established 1955

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