January 2020

Event Schedules:  General Meetings  |  Special Interest Groups  |  Seminars

January 4 General Meeting

The Dallas Genealogical Society will hold the next general meeting on Saturday, January 4, in the 1st-floor auditorium at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library. The library is located at 1515 Young Street in downtown Dallas. Hospitality begins at 10:30 am. The business meeting starts at 11:00 am immediately followed by the presentation.

Tony Hanson, Webmaster of the Dallas Genealogical Society, will present “Technology-Enabled Collaboration”. Tony’s presentation will examine three relatively new capabilities that are enabling collaborative family research: Greatly improved presentation of DNA results from Ancestry DNA and MyHeritage DNA, The Family Search Family Tree, and self-publishing family history using a blog or a website. Attendees will learn the benefits provided by each and will learn how to effectively incorporate them into their own personal research methodology.

For more information read here.

A New Option to Attend the General Meetings

by Suzan Younger

The DGS welcomes members and visitors to the General Meetings, held on the first Saturday, September through May. The DGS director of education coordinates the meetings and arranges speakers with varied presentations. The main focus of the meeting is to provide educational material of interest to genealogists, but just as important is the opportunity to join fellow genealogists for conversation and sharing. There is no cost to attend General Meetings.
DGS started recording business meetings and, with the approval of the speaker, the programs in 2016. You can access the archived videos, meeting minutes, and with the speaker’s permission, a copy of the program handout here. DGS posts a variety of videos on the DGS YouTube channel accessed here.

Beginning in January 2020, DGS will live-stream the General meetings, including the programs, over the Internet. We will use a video conferencing service from a company called Zoom. To join, you will need a computer, smartphone or tablet with access to the internet. Our webmaster posted instructions to use and access the meetings with Zoom at the bottom of the Next General Meeting webpage accessed here. Look for and click on this sentence, “This meeting will be streamed live over the internet. Here are a few tips on how to watch it.”

We would like to meet and greet you in person, but if that is not possible, please join the January 4 General Meeting using Zoom and hear our own Tony Hanson talk about “Technology-Enabled Collaboration.”

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**The DGS 2019 Awards Luncheon**

*by Suzan Younger*

DGS held its Annual Awards Luncheon on Saturday, December 7, 2019, in O’Hara Hall at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Dallas Public Library. The Society recognized six individuals and groups for their contributions to DGS and the genealogical community. The DGS board congratulates the winners and recognizes their contributions. Without volunteers, our society cannot exist. We honor those who make outstanding contributions, but the efforts of all volunteer are essential for DGS, and every minute spent by our volunteers collectively make DGS one of the outstanding societies in the country.

DGS offers the highest quality genealogical education with our spring, summer, and fall seminars, monthly general meeting presentations, and lectures offered at local special events such as the DPL’s Family History Month Celebration. We have a history of completing projects which result in tools to assist genealogists in their North Texas research. It is the work of many volunteers who attend to the details needed for an event and spend hours (weeks, months and years) working with historical records. Every task needs a volunteer and we have many dedicated individuals who step-up and contribute to the success of each event or project. To all of the DGS volunteers, our heartfelt thanks for the generous gifts of your time, effort, and expertise.

Please click here to read the DGS Blog with information about the 2019 awardees which includes the Bockstruck Papers & Books Project Team, Tony Hanson, Ken Johnston, Susan Kaufman, Steve Rainwater, and Patti Huff Smith. And when you next see one of these people, give them a big thumbs up and congratulate them for a job well done. Volunteer opportunities are available on the DGS website on the “Get Involved” tab and on the Volunteer Signup Page.

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21st Annual *Legacies* Dallas History Conference
by Suzan Younger

The Dallas Genealogical Society is one of several proud sponsors of the 21st Annual Legacies Dallas History Conference, to be held Saturday, January 25, 2020, on the 7th floor of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library. Legacies Dallas History Conference is a half-day event offering presentations that examines historical, socioeconomic and cultural factors occurring in the Dallas area and which helped shape the Dallas County cities of today. This year’s theme is Disasters: Natural & Man-Made. The five lectures include topics covering significant explosions, fires, and tornadoes which affected citizens and altered the cities’ landscape in the twentieth century. Whether you research Dallas County families or not, these lectures will be representative of disasters in any locale, and the talks are always interesting and informative. You can access the Legacies Dallas Conference schedule, brochure, and registration here.

Growing Your Roots 2020: The Inaugural African-American Genealogy Conference

Free Registration is open for Growing Your Roots 2020: The Inaugural African American Genealogy Conference of Austin, Texas. The genealogy conference will debut the first weekend going into Black History Month (January 30, 2020 - February 2, 2020). The free four-day conference is hosted by the Austin History Center, Austin Public Library’s African American Community Archives Program. The genealogy conference will feature a variety of speakers, panel sessions, workshops, exhibitions, tours, and networking opportunities for genealogy professionals, scholars, and novice enthusiasts. You can read additional information and register for the conference here.

DGS Donates Books to the DPL Genealogy Section

by Suzan Younger

A key element of the DGS Mission Statement is “to assist and support the genealogy section of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library.” This year DGS donated books requested by library researchers and the book entries for the National Genealogical Society’s 2019 Book Awards. The Lloyd D. Bockstruck Memorial Fund raised $1,126, and DGS used money from our annual seminars to fund the balance of the book costs. At the end of 2019, DGS donated the 53 books requested by Stephanie Bennett, manager of the Genealogy Section. The value of the donation was $2,548.27. Additionally, we are working with the library’s IT department and Gary Boyd with HistoryGeo.com to fund a one-year subscription to the HistoryGeo.com website. Arphax Publishing Company produces HistoryGeo which is a family history software service for linking old maps and land records to your genealogy research. Watch for a future eNews article announcing the availability of this important resource.
You can view a complete list of the donated books here. Stop by the genealogy section and check out all of the new books.

**Microfiche Database for the Dallas Public Library Microfiche Collection**

*by Suzan Younger*

In November 2008, the DGS Board approved a project to acquire genealogically-useful microfiche from the Family History Library at 15 cents a sheet, with funding provided through DGS. Shirley Sloat led the project and coordinated the work of volunteers who identified fiche available from the FHL that contained material not already available in Dallas. Lloyd Bockstruck reviewed and approved the lists of potential acquisitions created by the volunteers. The DPL staff subsequently ordered, received, cataloged, and filed the microfiche in cabinets within the Genealogy Section. Maybe you are one of the many volunteers who helped with the project. Do you remember this resource is available at the Dallas Public Library?

After volunteers completed the project, library staff and volunteers created a searchable database of the approximately 16,500 sheets of microfiche ordered as a result of this project. Researchers can access the database on the DGS website [here](#). You can [search the database](#) by country, state, county, description or fiche number.

You can read more details about the original project and collections [here](#). This is a great resource you may want to browse for the first time or re-visit one more time.

**Call for Presentations**

The Texas State Genealogical Society announces a Call for Presentations for the 2020 Family History Conference. This year’s conference will be held on November 13-15, 2020, Irving, Texas, at the Omni Mandalay at Las Colinas.

**German Genealogy Group Meeting**

*by Ann Broihier*

The German Genealogy Group will meet January 18th at 10:30 am in the 5th Floor – Hamon Room, J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young, Dallas, Texas 75201.

The topics for the meeting will be:

- Pushes, Pulls and the Records: A Brief Review of the Various Waves of German Immigrants to the United States
- Finding Church Records
The meeting will be broadcast and recorded using Zoom. You can join the meeting from home or on a device of your choice by logging into the Zoom application. See the tips on using Zoom here. If you have a topic you would like to present or see presented at a future meeting, please email ggg@dallagsenealogy.com.

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**Local Society Events**

Please join **Grand Prairie Genealogy Society** Thursday, January 2, 2020, to hear Ari Wilkins speaking on "**Hitting Pay Dirt In Manuscript Collections**". Ari Wilkins, graduate of Louisiana State University is the owner of the genealogical consulting company, Black Genesis. Manuscript collections can be a goldmine of information for family history researchers. Learn about where to find collections, how they are organized, how to use a finding aid, and the variety of interesting items that can be found in the collections.

The meeting is held at the Grand Prairie Memorial Library in the Inspire Room, 901 Conover Dr., Grand Prairie 75050. Refreshments are available at 6:30 pm and our speaker begins at 7:00 pm.

**“Area Research Opportunities”**

Do you need more ideas of places to research your family’s history? Join the **Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society** at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 9th, at the Mesquite Main Library to explore the many research opportunities for genealogy in Dallas County, other Texas archives and Salt Lake City. We will discuss resources available in the genealogy libraries in the Dallas and Fort Worth area as well as others in Houston and Austin, plus using the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Everyone 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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**Save the Date**

Jan. 2. Grand Prairie Genealogy Society

Jan. 4. Dallas Genealogical Society General Meeting

Tony Hanson: *Technology-Enabled Collaboration*

Jan. 9. Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society

Jan. 12. Roots Magic Special Interest Group

Jan. 12. Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group


*Salt Lake City, Utah*

Jan. 15. Jewish Special Interest Group
Jan. 16. DNA Special Interest Group

Jan. 18. German Genealogy Group

Jan. 18. African American Genealogical Interest Group

Jan. 25. 21st Annual Legacies Dallas History Conference

Jan. 25. Best Practices Special Interest Group

Jan. 30 - Feb. 2. Growing Your Roots 2020: The Inaugural African American Genealogy Conference
  *Austin, Texas*

Feb. 1. Dallas Genealogical Society General Meeting

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This edition edited by Cathy Dempsey

**About the Dallas Genealogical Society**

- Society Leaders
- Mission Statement
- History of the Dallas Genealogical Society
- Events Calendar

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