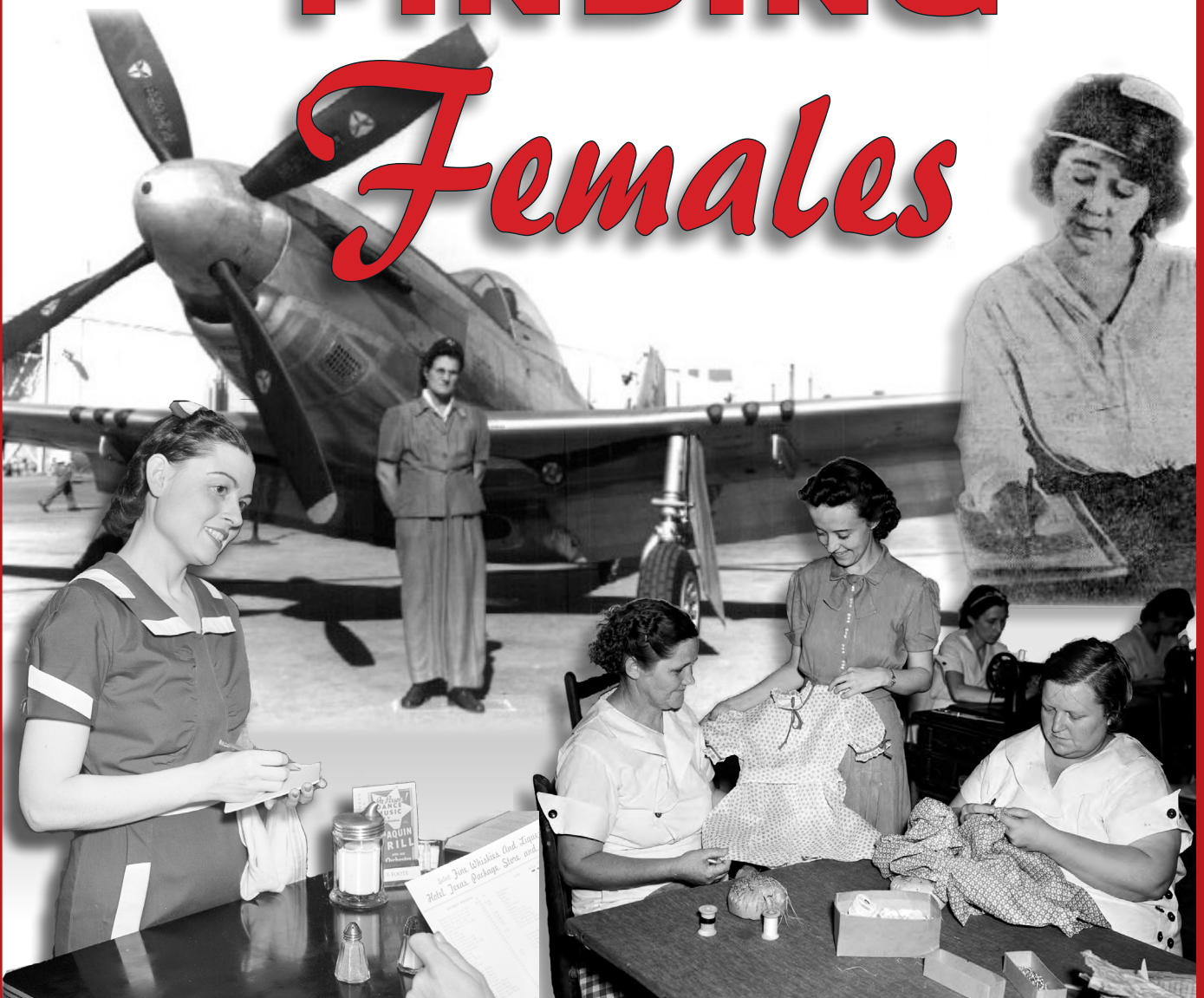


THE JOURNAL OF THE TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

# Starstripes

## FINDING

# Females



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*Why Name our Journal Stirpes?* Pronounced "STÛR'PEZ," it perfectly describes the core understanding of our passion in researching ancestry and family history: The phrase "... to my heirs, per stirpes" means that the legal heirs share their inheritance based on their relationship to the deceased." (See full story in *Stirpes*, 2016, Volume 55, Number 3-4)



## Editorial Policy

Neither the Texas State Genealogical Society, the board of directors, nor the editors assume any responsibility for information or material included in the publication *Stirpes*. We expect all contributions to be factually accurate and will print corrections as they are brought to our attention. We solicit material that is Texas related or of a general research nature. The editors reserve the right to accept or reject data submitted and to edit such material. Electronic submissions are preferred, as a Word document (.doc or .docx) or in rich text format (.rtf). For a copy of our style sheet, please contact the editors: Susan E. Ball and Sandra Crowley, [stirpes@txsgs.org](mailto:stirpes@txsgs.org).

## Submission Guidelines

*Stirpes*, a periodical of the Texas State Genealogical Society, Inc., is generally published four times a year in March, June, September, and December. The editorial board solicits articles and materials such as letters, diaries, photographs, and book reviews relating to genealogy, Texas, and history. *Stirpes* has no quotas with respect to authorship or content. Statements of fact beyond common knowledge should be documented with endnotes and located at the end of the manuscript. For specific questions about the use of endnotes, please contact the editors. Edited works may be submitted to the author for review at the end of the editing process prior to publication. The author retains copyright to his work. The Texas State Genealogical Society retains the right to print this material exclusively for one year dating from its first printing in *Stirpes*. The writer may use and distribute his material for presentations, lectures, seminars, or for similar purposes.

- One digital copy of manuscript sent to the editor at [stirpes@txsgs.org](mailto:stirpes@txsgs.org).
- Preferred manuscript length of 1,500-5,000 words, exclusive of source notes.
- Please use 11-point type and double spacing, both for text and notes.
- Photo images, illustrations, maps, and tables that enhance the article are encouraged.
- Images should be accompanied with captions, source citations, and permission from the image owner to publish or proof that the image is in the public domain.
- Please follow *The Chicago Manual of Style* (16th ed., 2010) for general form and style, *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* (11th ed., 2003) for spelling and word division, and *Evidence Explained* by Elizabeth Shown Mills (3rd ed., 2015) for citation models unique to genealogy and history. *Stirpes* follows Chicago's recommendation with regard to the use of the ellipsis to indicate omissions.
- Do not embed images into text; the resolution is too low. Send each image in a separate file. See *Stirpes* submission guidelines for detailed instructions.
- Deadlines: January 15 for the March issue; April 15 for the June issue; July 15 for the September issue; and November 15 for the December issue.
- View submission guidelines online at [www.txsgs.org/publications/stirpes/submission-guidelines](http://www.txsgs.org/publications/stirpes/submission-guidelines)

## Back Issues

Copies of previous issues of *Stirpes* are available at the price of \$15.00 per issue, if available, which includes mailing. Contact: Betsy Mills, treasurer, at Texas State Genealogical Society, attn: Treasurer, 2028 E Ben White Blvd #240-2700, Austin, TX 78741; e-mail: [treasurer@txsgs.org](mailto:treasurer@txsgs.org). **Claims for lost issues must be made within 60 days of the last day of the publication month.** Claims made after the 60-day period are handled as a sale.

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## About TxSGS

TxSGS is a non-profit, tax exempt 501(c)3 organization registered with the IRS. All donations are tax exempt to the full extent allowed by law.

From the

# Editors' Pen



We all have our brick wall ancestors, but nothing challenges us like researching the right side of our pedigree chart, those elusive women who seemed to exist only in the shadows of their husbands. This issue focuses on finding those females through a wide variety of records.

Mary Torres provides a basic tutorial to finding women in the federal census enumerations, with hints for Hispanic research, in "Finding Females in the US Census." "Who Were the Parents of Mary Smart McMurry of Winn Parish, Louisiana?" by Jessica Collins builds on the tips provided by Mary and analyzes every aspect possible for census records and more in an exhaustive search for Mary Smart McMurry. This article provides an excellent road map for researching those ancestresses who show up in only one census as a married woman, then disappear.

An outstanding "how to" article on researching women through military records is provided by Paula Perkins in "Skirts & Skirmishes, Wars and Widows: Finding Service Records, Pensions, and More."

Russ Rahn delves into researching females in his two articles. "Fitting the

Pieces Together: Spelling and Transcription Issues May Help Solve Lineage Questions" starts with a baptism document, then takes the reader through the twists and turns introduced by spelling variations of family names. "Making the Connection" focuses on a Native American woman and her need to prove descent through a "Family – History Statement of Facts" document.

Doug Greenhill shares a look at his grandmother's service as one of the first women in the US military in "Dorothy Alice (Dougherty) Greenhill: Yeoman (F) 2c World War I." A look at the lives of women during the Great Depression shows the struggles our female ancestors faced in "Women in the Great Depression" by Pat Gordon. Pat's article can add context to the lives of our ancestors who lived through that desperate time.

Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage, "Houston Area Women in 1920: Modern Crossroads? or Cultural Collision?" by Rae Bryant, Mary Hollis, Monica Andersen, Barbara Richards, and Ginny Douglas takes the reader through the struggle for the right of women to vote and how it played out leading up to the

presidential election in 1920. Not only does this article read like a fast-paced thriller, it also shows what a group of dedicated genealogists can accomplish with the research skills they've developed. Because of their outstanding effort on this work-in-progress, *Stirpes* features these five women in this issue's "Volunteer Spotlight." Updates on their work will be included in future issues as we follow their progress and discoveries.

Keeping with the theme of "Finding Females," Bill Buckner's book review features *McLennan County, Texas, Divorce Records 1851 to 1904* by Betty Ross Crook, published by the Central Texas Genealogical Society. Divorce records are excellent research resources for those women who just disappear. They may have married and divorced between the decennial censuses, thus changing names.

Our June issue of *Stirpes* focuses on skill building, with articles on various aspects of genealogical research and resources that can help you get to the next level. If you have a technique, tip, website, or resource you'd like to share, please contact us at [stirpes@txsgs.org](mailto:stirpes@txsgs.org).

~ *Stirpes* Editors ★

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## Deadline for TxSGS Award Submissions September 15, 2020 \*



The Texas State Genealogical Society recognizes individual and society excellence in the genealogical community with several awards and grants. Winners are announced each year at our Annual Conference.

Visit the TxSGS website for categories, guidelines, and additional details.

[www.txsgs.org/programs/awards-grants](http://www.txsgs.org/programs/awards-grants)

Submissions must be received by September 15, 2020.

\* Committee must receive submissions by deadline to be considered.

## Volunteer Spotlight:

# *Monica Andersen, Rae Bryant, Ginny Douglas, Mary Hollis, and Barbara Richards*

In this issue, *Stirpes* features in our Volunteer Spotlight a group of friends and genealogy buddies in Houston who have embarked on a project to document every woman that voted in the first federal election in Harris County in 1920.

In the process, they've discovered that their findings will rewrite understanding of the Harris County suffrage movement and women's participation in that election. Included in this issue is their article describing the progression of this project from idea—"Wouldn't it be cool if we could..."—to intensive involvement.

Rae Bryant shared their fascinating journey as they uncovered a compelling story of the power of women to institute change. By applying investigative techniques honed through years of genealogical research, this group has taken the view of suffrage in Harris County and beyond from the global to the personal. In the process, they are discovering the stories of the individual women who fought for the right to vote, many of them African American.

Rae related, "At each juncture, we have been astounded at the wealth and depth of information that can be discovered when applying good genealogy research techniques. This project has been an exploration and adventure for each member of the group." She continued, "Our discoveries are inspiring individuals and groups.



*Barbara Richards and Ginny Douglas examine records in the Harris County Archives.*



*Mary Hollis and Rae Bryant pursue voter records in the Harris County Archives.*

African American churches and many other groups are planning exhibits in their communities to share what happened 100 years ago when women fought to get the right to vote in Harris County."

We are inspired and energized, as well, by what five genealogists with a vision can do. ★



*Monica Anderson, Mary Hollis, and Ginny Douglas search for clues in the Minnie Fisher Cunningham Papers at the University of Houston Archives.*

# Texas Women in the Great Depression

by Pat Gordon

As newlyweds in 1930, Lavonia Leverett Jenkins Barnes and her physician husband, Maurice, were awakened one morning by the noise of people talking under their apartment window in Coleman, Texas. When Lavonia looked out the window, she was surprised by what she saw.

"I looked across the street and here were the people lined up—the bank didn't open. And in a little town, everything opens early: the bank opened at eight o'clock, the post office opened at seven, doctors' offices opened around seven," she recalled 46 years later in an oral interview for Baylor University.

From the beginning, most Texas newspapers ignored the rapidly deteriorating economy after the October 1929 stock market crash. The Coleman newspaper never mentioned it, nor did most other rural newspapers. Even larger newspapers buried economic stories deep in the paper. A 1930 editorial in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* noted, "As a matter of fact, in America, we don't know what hard times are."

When the stock market failed, unemployment in the United States was 3 percent. People lost money in the stock market; lost money in bank failures; lost jobs as businesses failed. This domino effect left millions jobless. By 1932, unemployment reached 24 percent nationwide. It finally peaked at 25 percent—more than 12 million

people—in 1933, before the New Deal programs could take effect.

The Depression affected working women as much, if not more, than it did men. The plight of working women was largely ignored, despite the fact



*Gene Holmes, waitress, was included in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram's photo collection as "one of the prettiest 'working women' in Texas" in 1938. (Image courtesy of UTA Libraries Digital Gallery.)*

they accounted for 25 percent of US employees prior to the Depression. Although society had become more accepting of working women in the 1920s, most of them still worked just to survive. They were single, divorced, widowed, abandoned, or responsible for family members with health problems or disabilities. When the Depression hit, the public often saw a working woman as taking a job that was rightly

deserved by a man.

A 1932 *Dallas Morning News* headline proclaimed: "More Earn Own Way Than Did 10 years Ago. It's Women Filling Men's Shoes That Causes Unemployment Problem." The writer explained that of 72 occupations listed in the 1931 federal manufacturing census, Texas women held jobs in all except eight, which he considered "her encroachment on the man wage earner." For example, he continued, in Texas there are three women carpenters compared to 38,134 men; 39 women truck, taxi, or tractor drivers compared to 34,430 men; and 79,825 women farm workers compared to 761,719 men.

Teaching was one profession in Texas where women ruled with 39,695 women teachers to 9,756 men teachers. This high number of women teachers may have been attributed to teachers rarely earning enough to make a living. State government provided 60 percent of financing for public schools; local school taxes financed the other 40 percent. During the Depression, many schools didn't collect taxes. Without tax income, the state limited a teacher's pay in those schools to a maximum of \$100 a month for the lowest certification and \$150 a month for the highest certification. Most were paid less, especially in rural areas, when they were paid at all.

In a school with only two teachers, the second teacher was paid \$75 a month. From the beginning of the



# Finding Female Ancestors in the United States Census

by Mary Torres

The United States Federal Census records are one of the most valuable tools you can use when researching family history that involves ancestors who lived in the United States between 1790 and 1940.

You can learn a great deal about your ancestors from these records such as birth and marriage dates, children's names, social status, occupations, citizenship status, country of origin, whether they owned or rented their home, if they could read or write, and much more. When I started doing genealogy, they were the first records I used. I was convinced that my ancestors had hidden from the census takers and hadn't participated in the census, but thankfully, I was wrong. It was exciting to find them listed in Texas in the 1850 US census!

March is Women's History Month and because finding the females in your family tree can often be challenging, I want to share some general information about the decennial United States Census and illustrate some of the techniques you can use to find those elusive female ancestors in the census.

The Census Bureau is the federal government's largest statistical agency, dedicated to providing current facts and figures about America's people, places, and economy. The US Federal Census has been taken every ten years since 1790 and although the US Census Bureau carries out hundreds of surveys every year, its most well-known duty is still to conduct the decennial census. Census results have several

high-profile applications: they are used to reapportion seats in the House of Representatives, to realign congressional districts, and as a factor in the formulas that distribute hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funds each year.

Census enumerations taken between 1790 and 1840 only list the name of the head of the household and number the rest of the people living at a residence by sex and age. They are harder to use but if you've gathered information on a family unit, you can sometimes find a correlation. Census records from 1850 to 1940 are more useful for genealogical research as they enumerate each individual in the household by name. The first US census taken in Texas was in 1850, when the state's population comprised 154,034 whites, 397 free Negroes, and 58,161 slaves. The 1890 census is missing a majority of the year's enumeration due to fire, smoke, and water damage, and portions of the 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, and 1830 census records are also missing.

Due to privacy laws, census schedules are made public 72 years after the census has been taken. The



1950 census will be released in April 2022. The questions posed on the US census forms changed from census to census, depending on the demographics, priorities, and prevailing political climate. Information about the questions asked on each census can be found at <http://www.census.gov/>.

Most of us start our research in the US and, as with all genealogical research, you are working back in time, generation by generation. The techniques used in finding your female ancestors in the US census are similar to those used in identifying the women in your family tree. Because women had fewer legal rights than men, you won't find as many records created for them as there were for men. You need to find out all you can about your female ancestor and search for clues that may help you find her in the US census such as birth records, parents' names, and marriage records.

# Fitting the Pieces Together

## Spelling and Transcription Issues May Help Solve Lineage Questions

by Russell A. Rahn  
russandmarionrahn@gmail.com

Some time ago, I acquired a baptismal certificate that presented some interesting possibilities for creating the family tree of a person in the Oshkosh area of Winnebago County, Wisconsin. Baptismal certificates from the 19th century contain not only the name of the individual being baptized, but the parents and godparents as well. Fitting all these people into one family tree would be both the challenge and the problem in this study.

The person baptized was Josephine Hermine Lindner, born in 1888. Her parents were Herman<sup>1</sup> and Anna Lindner, and the document shows her godparents or “sponsors” as being Otto Lindner, John Henseler, and Amalie Bestler. The important portions of the document are shown here, and armed with that information I proceeded to search a well known website for connections between these folks.

Little by little, names emerged along with dates and events that augmented the tree. However, after a bit of time and effort, it soon became apparent that there would not be one family tree, but two of them. There appeared no way of joining the two into a single entity describing a single family. Of course, with the typical genealogist’s mindset, it just had to be so, and I kept going over the same ground again and again, with the same results.

What finally became the key to unlocking this puzzle was the question of whether or not names in the records had been transcribed and spelled correctly, and if not, would the name be recognizable in spite of the misspellings?

The first clue for the possibility of serious spelling errors was in the name of the baptismal sponsor, John Henseler. In the record for his marriage to Anna Lindner in 1887, his name

The next piece of this puzzle did not come into view until a second marriage record for Herman Lindner was located. His first wife, Anna, passed away in 1890 and in 1892,



*While not very dark, the script reads Josephine Hermine/ born the 10th of March, 1888, in Oshkosh/ daughter of Mr. Lindner and his wife Anna/ was baptized the 30th of December, 1888.*

comes out “Huiceler.” A transcriber who substitutes the letters “uic” for the letters “ens” in Germanic script may not be so terribly far from wrong, especially with the issues of clergy handwriting that are not uncommon in historical documents.<sup>2</sup> At that point, I was willing to make the substitution, especially since it fit into the overall picture of other data available.

Herman married Pauline Beske. On this marriage record, the names of Herman’s parents were given as Carl Lindner and Emilie Schleicker. Once again, the question that came to mind was how far removed from the desired spelling would one accept a substitute? Replacing “leick” with “hreib” in Emilie’s name did not seem



*Godparents were: John Henseler, Otto Lindner, Amalie Bestler. The first two are family members. Amalie Bestler seems to have been a neighbor or family friend.*

impossible, but required a greater leap of faith than the first one. Considering that aunts and uncles were frequently the godparents of the children being baptized, at this point I was willing to make that connection. It should be

remembered, however, that if the spellings on the actual original documents have been correctly transcribed, then we are still searching for the correct connection and must try again. A question mark would then

remain in the family tree.

A final piece in this puzzle presented itself when the 1900 census record for the Herman Lindner family was located. The interesting thing here is that his surname was spelled two different ways on the same census schedule. The record, located at the bottom of a sheet, flows from one page to the next. Herman's surname is spelled "Linder" on the first page, but his spouse's surname is spelled "Lindner", on the following page. The correctness of this record is supported by the fact that five of the children from Herman's first marriage are still living at home, and all are listed in the correct chronological order. It appears that Josephine Lindner had found her home. ★

**Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> Herman Lindner's name appears in the records as either "Herman" or "Hermann." The spelling most often used was Herman, which is the spelling used in this article.

<sup>2</sup> E. Kay Kirkham, *The Handwriting of American Records for a Period of 300 Years* (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1981).

**About Russell A. Rahn:** Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Russell moved to Texas in 1979 with his wife and four children. After a 40-year career teaching junior high school science, he is now retired and pursuing his lifetime interest in genealogy. Besides genealogical pursuits, the Rahns enjoy traveling, spending time with their family, reading, and listening to classical music.

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# Who Were the Parents of Mary Smart McMurry of Winn Parish, Louisiana?

by Jessica Horne Collins

*Identifying the parents of an elusive female ancestor can be difficult, especially in a location with record loss. Here, a family is reconstructed with indirect evidence and FAN (Friends, Associates, Neighbors) Club analysis.*



Very few records exist for Mary Smart McMurry of Winn Parish, Louisiana. Any local records of Mary’s life, including a marriage license or court records, were likely lost in an 1886 fire that destroyed the Winn Parish courthouse.<sup>1</sup>

Census records are unhelpful, as Mary never appeared on a census with her husband or children. Mary married John McMurry after the 1880 census in which John’s marital status is reported as single.<sup>2</sup> By the 1900 census, John is listed as widowed,<sup>3</sup> signaling Mary’s death sometime before that date.

In this 20-year span, Mary gave birth to three known children: Robert Franklin McMurry in 1882,<sup>4</sup> James McMurry in 1884,<sup>5</sup> and George Washington McMurry in 1888.<sup>6</sup> Records generated by these sons are the only direct evidence of Mary’s name. James and George identify their mother as “Mary McMurry” in statistical data collected when they applied for marriage licenses.<sup>7</sup> The only record of Mary’s maiden name comes from son Robert’s Social Security application; he listed his mother as “Mary Smart.”<sup>8</sup>

Family oral tradition supports the Smart maiden name. Research conducted in 1992 by family historian Agnes McWeeny Johnston reported that Robert’s son, Wallace McMurry, said, “his grandmother was a sister to Jim [James] Smart and Alma [Smart Johnston McKaskle] and Georgia [Smart Horne].”<sup>9</sup> These hypothesized Smart siblings are familiar names in

Johnston research; all of them married descendants of Wiley Johnston of Leake County, Mississippi.<sup>10</sup> This large, extended family migrated to northeast Louisiana in the late 1870s, and settled in or near Franklin Parish, Louisiana, by 1900.<sup>11</sup>

Identifying Mary Smart McMurry’s parents focused on three research areas: (1) identifying Mary in earlier census records, (2) making connections among hypothesized

Smart siblings, and (3) tracking interactions between the McMurry sons and their hypothesized Smart aunts and uncle after Mary’s death.

## Identifying Mary in Earlier Census Records

Throughout their lifetimes, census records for Mary’s sons report their mother’s birthplace as many locations, summarized in table 1.

**Table 1: Mary Smart McMurry’s Possible Birthplaces as Reported in Sons’ Census Records, 1900-1930**

	Robert	James	George
1900	Texas <sup>A</sup>	Texas <sup>A</sup>	Texas <sup>A</sup>
1910	Louisiana <sup>B</sup>	Louisiana <sup>C</sup>	Louisiana <sup>D</sup>
1920	Mississippi <sup>E</sup>	Louisiana <sup>F</sup>	Alabama <sup>G</sup>
1930	Ireland <sup>H</sup>	Louisiana <sup>I</sup>	

**Sources:**

- <sup>A</sup>1900 U.S. census, Winn Par., LA, pop. sch., Ward 7, ED 119, sheet 3-B, dwelling 50, family 50, Robert, James, George McMurry
- <sup>B</sup>1910 U.S. census, Franklin Par., LA, pop. sch., Ward 7, p. 105 (stamped), ED 51, sheet 28-B, dwell. 391, fam. 433, Robert F McMurry.
- <sup>C</sup>Ibid. > Ward 8, p. 130 (stamped), ED 52, sheet 18-A, dwell. 340, fam. 340, Jim Murry.
- <sup>D</sup>Ibid. > Ward 7, p. 94 (stamped), ED 51, sheet 16-A, dwell. 208, fam. 233, George McMurry
- <sup>E</sup>1920 U.S. census, Franklin Par., LA, pop. sch., Ward 8, p. 217 (stamped), ED 41, sheet 5-A, dwell. 94, fam. 94, Robert McMurry
- <sup>F</sup>Ibid. > p. 221 (stamped), ED 41, sheet 9-B, dwell. 146, fam. 146, James McMurry
- <sup>G</sup>Ibid. > p. 214 (stamped), ED 41, sheet 2-A, dwell. 27, fam. 27, George Murrie
- <sup>H</sup>1930 U.S. census, Franklin Par., LA, pop. sch., Ward 8, p. 276 (stamped), ED 21-20, sheet 3-A, dwell. 52, fam. 52, Robert F McMurry
- <sup>I</sup>Ibid. > p. 276 (stamped), ED 21-20, sheet 5-A, dwell. 90, fam. 90, James McMurry

# Skirts & Skirmishes, Wars & Widows: Finding Service Records, Pensions, & More

by Paula Perkins

The quest to learn more about the strong women in my family led me to begin searching for information about who they were. I wanted to know their maiden names, their parents, and siblings.

What little I knew was that they appeared to live long lives for the time period and each had several children. I discovered how family connections were related. I didn't know the maiden names of the wives in several of the families, and I was curious to learn all I could about the females in my family.

Along the way, I discovered a connection between my ancestors and military service, including my female ancestors. My maternal grandmother Frankie Ellen (Cook) Harris was a pilot for Great North American Aircraft in Grand Prairie, Texas, during WWII. She flight-tested P51 airplanes before they were sent to the military. As Frankie was a civilian, she did not receive a military pension. This piqued my interest in other possible military connections of both male and female ancestors.

Nearly all our male ancestors were eligible for military service, which created records not only for them but also involved spouses, mothers, heirs, and siblings. Before females were allowed to serve in the US military, they often provided some type of important service in so many aspects



*Frankie Ellen Cook Harris with P51*

of the conflict. In some instances, women served in early wars as nurses or disguised as males. In the era of WWI and WWII, men had to register with the draft board. Women served in both world wars in several capacities but were not required to register.

Examples for this article are from several conflicts including the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Indian Wars, the Mexican American War, and the Civil War.

Some pension file packets have now been digitized and are available online with more to come. These can be obtained through both subscription and free sites.

Before digital records, the files I obtained were from the National Archives and Records Administration, State Archives (where that soldier or widow resided at the time of application), pension index cards, and microfilm. In my search at public

## US Wars

Colonial Wars	Post-Revolutionary Wars					Modern Wars			
Revolutionary War	War of 1812	Indian Wars	Mexican War	Civil War	Spanish American War	World War I (WWI)	World War II (WWII)	Korean War	Vietnam War
1775-1783	1812-1814	1817-1858	1845-1848	1861-1865	1898	1917-1918	1941-1945	1950-1953	1961-1973

# Dorothy Alice (Dougherty) Greenhill

## Yeoman (F) 2c World War I

by Doug Greenhill

Often family members only learn details about a relative's life after they are deceased. Family stories provided no hint that Dorothy Alice (Dougherty) Greenhill was a WWI veteran. Genealogical research uncovered her military service during those turbulent times.

Dorothy Alice Dougherty was born in Monticello, Sullivan County, New York on 31 July 1902, the only child of parents Alice May Young and Thomas H. Dougherty.<sup>1</sup> Her birth certificate, which was included as part of the National Personnel Records Center US Naval Reserve Record for Dorothy Dougherty, confirms this date.

Thomas Dougherty owned a harness store with a large storefront on Monticello's main street. On 13 August 1909, much of Monticello's business district burned down due to a powerhouse fire.<sup>2</sup> Alice would have just celebrated her seventh birthday when this disaster occurred. The town rebuilt, and Thomas' new store is shown in the postcard image of figure 2.

The Dougherty family was still living in Monticello when they were enumerated in the 1910 census.<sup>4</sup> The Connecticut Military Census taken in 1917 shows that the family had subsequently moved to New Haven, Connecticut.<sup>5</sup> The 1918 New Haven High School Year Book and a family heirloom class ring that belonged to Dorothy inscribed 1918 New Haven Hillhouse Boardman<sup>6</sup> suggest that Dorothy graduated high school at a young age. "Hillhouse Boardman" refers to two schools, Hillhouse High School and Boardman Manual Training School, that consolidated in 1904 to become New Haven High School.<sup>7</sup>

**PERMANENT RECORD**  
Fee must be made for this record

**New York State Department of Health**  
 DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS  
**CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH**

1 PLACE OF BIRTH Dist. No. 5222  
 (To be inserted by Registrar)  
 County Sullivan  
 Township \_\_\_\_\_  
 Village Monticello  
 City \_\_\_\_\_

2 Full name of child Dorothy Alice Dougherty

3 Sex of child Female  
To be answered ONLY in event of plural births

4 Twin, triplet or other \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 Number, in order of birth \_\_\_\_\_

6 Legitimacy yes

7 Date of birth July 31 1902  
 (Month) (Day) (Year)

8 Full name of FATHER Thomas H. Dougherty

14 Full maiden name of MOTHER Alice May Young

9 Residence (Usual place of abode) Monticello  
If nonresident, give place and State

15 Residence (Usual place of abode) Monticello  
If nonresident, give place and State

10 Color of hair White

11 Age at last birthday 87 (Years)

16 Color of eyes Blue

17 Age at last birthday 87 (Years)

12 Birthplace (city or place) Sullivan Co. N.Y.  
(State or country)

18 Birthplace (city or place) Sullivan Co. N.Y.  
(State or country)

13 Occupation Harnessmaker  
Nature of industry

19 Occupation Housewife  
Nature of industry

20 What preventive for Ophthalmia Neonatorum did you use? \_\_\_\_\_  
If none, state the reason therefor

Number of children born to this mother, including present birth 1  
 Number of children of this mother now living 1

**CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR MIDWIFE\***  
 I hereby certify that I attended the birth of this child, who was born alive at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on the date above stated.  
\*When there was no attending physician or midwife, then the father, householder, etc., should make this return. A stillborn child is one that neither breathes nor shows other evidence of life after birth.

(Signature) Dr. W. H. Mayet  
 Dated Aug 2, 1902  
 Address Monticello, N.Y.  
 Filed Aug 2, 1902 Registrar George Hill

This certificate must be FILED with the Local Registrar within FIVE (5) days after birth (See instructions, and additional data required for STILLBIRTHS on other side)

Figure 1: New York Certificate of Birth for Dorothy Alice Dougherty.

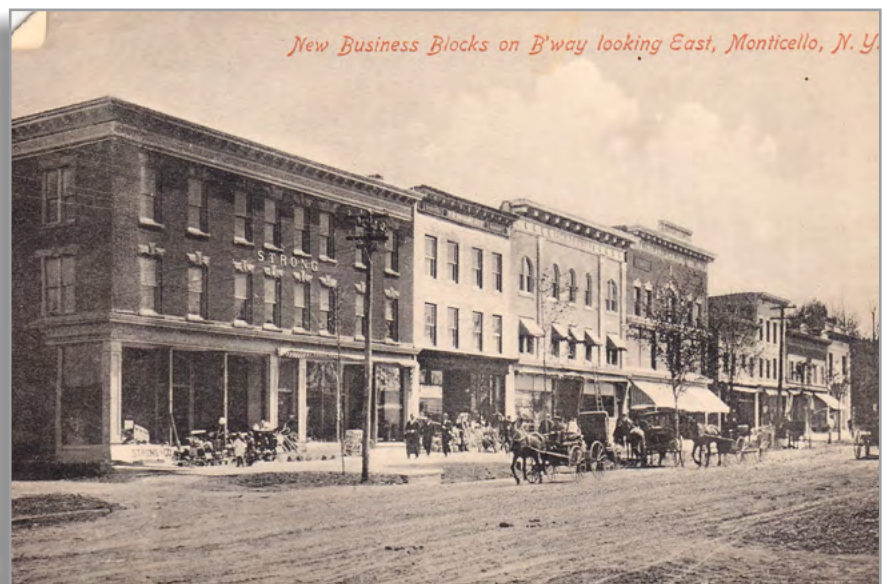


Figure 2: In this photo of the rebuilt business section of Monticello, Thomas H. Dougherty's storefront is second from left.<sup>3</sup>

# Making the Connection

by Russell A. Rahn  
 russandmarionrahn@gmail.com

It is always challenging to see or find an interesting document of potential genealogical interest without examining it more closely. And of course, once having seen it, to then lay it down again and not make the purchase is just flat out impossible.

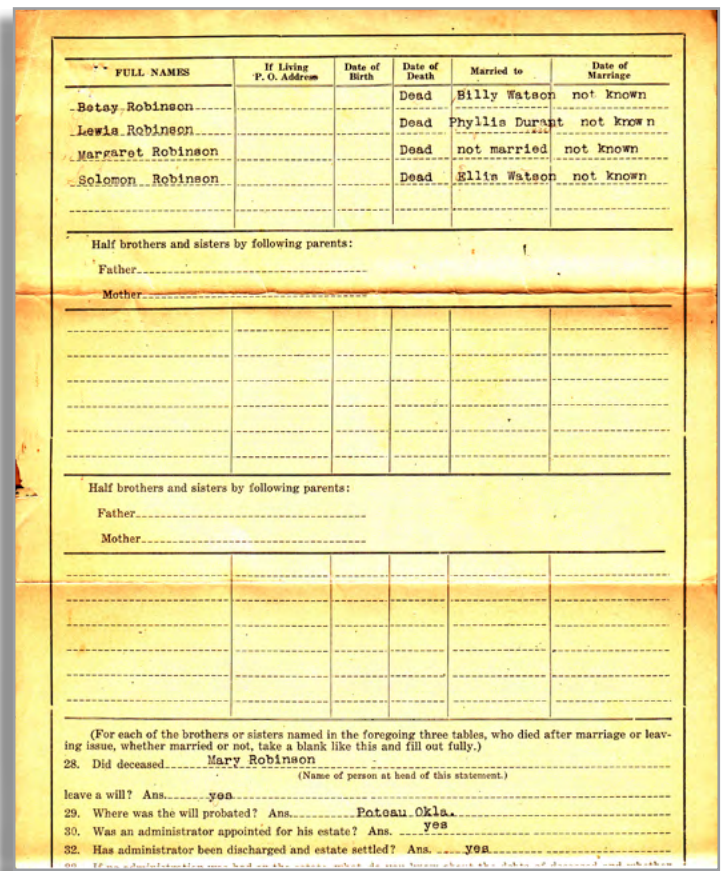
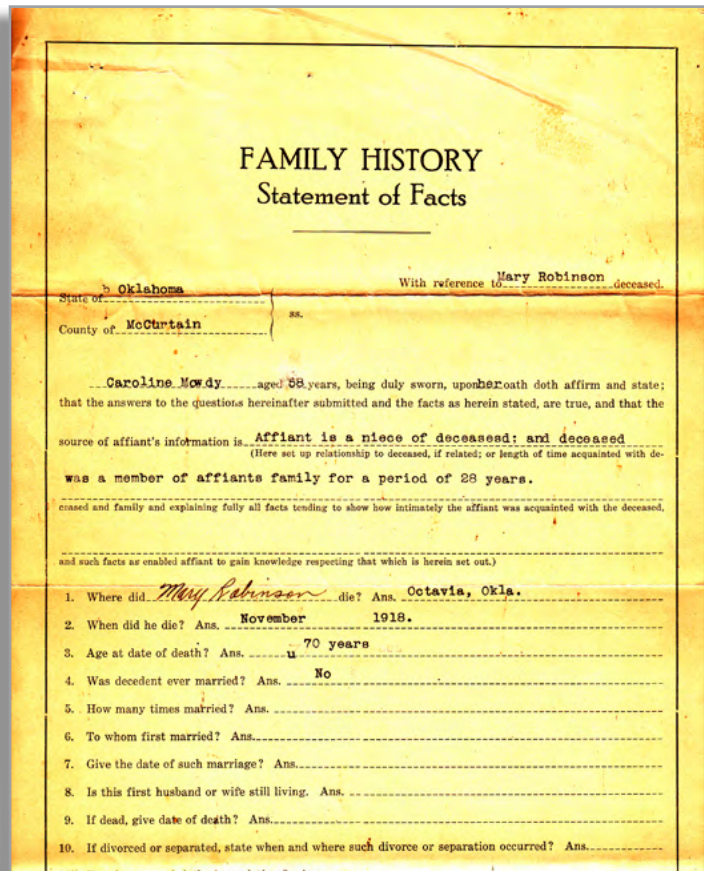
This was the case with a document of a type I had never seen and initially could not determine the reason for its existence and use. It is called “Family History – Statement of Facts” and it must have been used regularly enough that some enterprising printer would be able to print it in sufficient numbers to make a profit by selling them to whoever needed them.

The document itself is actually four pages in length, consisting of a single

large sheet folded once to become a double-paged sheet that is slightly larger than legal-sized paper. Formatted as a form, the document contains spaces for presenting and recording information about one’s family members, current as well as past. The accompanying illustration shows two pages of the document that, to some extent at least, reminds one of the standard “Family Group Sheet” used by genealogists today.

Portions of the two critical pages are illustrated below, giving the data that was useful in this study. By far, the greater part of the document remained unused. The importance of this document is emphasized by the fact that the information it contained was notarized three times on the final page of the document.

When I acquired it, the logical thing to do, it seemed to me, would be to assemble the persons named therein into a family tree diagram and learn whatever could be learned about those persons and perhaps their immediate families. The results of that effort are seen here in the illustration of the family tree.



First page of Caroline Mowdy’s “Family – History Statement of Facts.”

Subsequent page of Caroline Mowdy’s “Family – History Statement of Facts.”

# Houston Area Women in 1920: Modern Crossroads? or Cultural Collision?

by Rae Bryant, Mary Hollis, Monica Andersen, Barbara Richards, Ginny Douglas

## *The Idea*

**A**t the TxSGS Family History Conference in Houston in October 2019, several of us excitedly discussed the upcoming 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution in 2020. We thought there would be a lot of interest in this event. *How cool would it be to look at our own city and see what happened in 1920? How cool to find the poll tax list of the first women who voted in Houston and Harris County!!*

Then we discovered that in 1918, women could vote in Texas state and local primaries (though not federal elections). We thought that was pretty cool, too. Who knew Texas was a little ahead? Houston women were already part of the political process.

Our first stop was to look at the online Houston newspapers to see the election results of the 2 November 1920 election. The 1920 election results showed that out of approximately 13,000 voters in Harris County, about 5,000 were women.<sup>1</sup> Five thousand women—that is a do-able list. *Cool !!! This ROCKS! What a great local project to celebrate this significant event!!! Think how much fun we can have! We're genealogists! We love to do research!* Five of us joined this project as individuals working together. As friends and colleagues, we have done the reading, the research, the writing, the editing, as well as pounding the pavement talking to librarians, archivists, historians, and other genealogists for our project.

Since 1920 was also a census year, we planned to cross-reference “the list” of the reported 5,000 women voters to the 1920 Harris County Census records to get their full names, addresses, ages, race, and occupations.

*Wouldn't it be cool to plot on a Houston/Harris County map those addresses of every woman who voted with red flags or dots?!!! This idea kept growing in our minds.*

We thought it would be a fairly easy task. The first logical place to call was the Harris County Archives. Reality Check – NO SUCH LIST EXISTS! Sarah Jackson, Harris County Archivist, said a purge occurred in the 1940s. Many items in the Harris County Archives were thrown out, including voter registrations and the actual voters lists. *Bummer. This is so unfortunate for so many reasons.*



*Hortense Sparks Ward signing the first voter registration receipt issued to a woman in Harris County in the hallway of the courthouse in Houston*

## *Building “The List”*

So, we had to build our own version of “The List” from scratch. Monica Andersen found an online article in the *Houstonia Magazine* published in the June 2018 issue celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 1918 law in Texas. This article, written by Abby Ledoux, was entitled: “100 Years Ago, Women in Harris County Were Granted the Right to Vote” and underneath the title: “Thanks to Hortense Sparks Ward’s tireless fight for women’s suffrage.” The article credited the photo of Hortense Sparks Ward to the Minnie Fisher Cunningham (MFC) Papers at the University of Houston Digital Library.

Obviously then, our first group field trip was to the University of Houston (UH) Special Collections at the UH MD Anderson Library. We knew Christian Kelleher,



# Partner Society Roundup

Is your Partner Society missing? Perhaps our contact information is out of date. Please contact your District Representative and [memberinfo@txsgs.org](mailto:memberinfo@txsgs.org) with current contact data. Partner Societies are encouraged to investigate the many benefits and resources available from TxSGS at

the Partner Society Resource page at <http://www.txsgs.org/partner-society-resources/>. Benefits include publicity support for society events, media downloads, preservation and access support, awards, digitization equipment loan grants, and much more.

*Note: Due to coronavirus concerns, TxSGS recommends that persons interested in society events check the society's website and Facebook page to make sure the event is still scheduled.*

## District A – Open

The *Amarillo, South Plains, and Hi-Plains Genealogical Societies* are featuring Cari Taplin in their 3rd Annual Caprock Genealogy Conference, slated June 20 at the Plainview Country Club in Plainview, Texas. Cari Taplin holds the Certified Genealogist® credential and has served in a wide variety of volunteer and leadership positions for state, local, and national societies. Cari currently serves on the board of the Association for Professional Genealogists and as Vice President of Membership for the Federation of Genealogical Societies. As the owner of GenealogyPANTS, she provides speaking, research, and consultation services. Her topics are: “Spitting is the Easy Part! DNA and Genealogical Research Problems;” “From Deeds to Dirt: Case Studies in Analyzing Research with Maps;” “Using Church Records to Find Ancestral Origins;” and “Finding Newspapers Online.” For more information, see ad on page 50 and go to <https://spgstx.org>.

## District C

Emily Richardson,  
District Representative

Meeting on the second Thursday of the month at the Emily Fowler Library

in Denton, Denton County, Texas, the *Denton County Genealogical Society* (DCGS) has had two programs since the beginning of 2020. January was the semi-annual Members Round Robin, which began with a presentation by the GenPen Writers’ Group. Then, several society members told the story of their ancestors. In February, Ari Wilkins, from the Dallas Public Library, gave a presentation titled “Southern Manuscript Collections.” The program for March was “Proving Your Lineage to a Patriot of the War of the Revolution” by Jane Sanzone and Donna Spears.

The *Heritage Ranch Genealogical Society* (HRGS) requested that their February event be one of the webinars that can be selected by TxSGS Partner Societies for free use at their regular meetings. The webinar they chose was “From Microfilm to Hyperspace: Billions of Family Records at Your Fingertips” by Andrew Lee. (For more information about the TxSGS Partner Society Webinar Program, see <https://www.txsgs.org/programs/webinar-series-partner-society/>.) HRGS is located in Fairview, Collin County, Texas.

The *Robson Ranch Genealogy Club* had a workshop in January, “Two Vital Genealogy Websites,” and in February, “Mastering Genealogy.” They were

both designed to help new genealogists learn search basics as they prepared for the one-day workshop held in late February, where Sandra Crowley presented three hands-on workshops: “Hiding in Plain Sight,” “Finding Your Ancestors Between 1790 and 1840,” and “Transcribing Documents: There is More Than Meets the Eye!” In March, Bernard Meisner presented “Luck of the Irish.” Robson Ranch is located in Denton, Denton County, Texas.

## District E

Tim de la Vega,  
District Representative

At 6:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month, the *West Texas Genealogy Society* (WTGS) meets at the Rose Park Senior Citizens Center, Rose Park, South 7<sup>th</sup> and Barrow Streets in Abilene. WTGS will have a program on German Immigration in March, which will be in conjunction with the museum, Frontier Texas!, in Abilene.

Randy Whited, former president of TxSGS and current District L Representative, spoke at the *San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society* (SAGHS) at their March 3 meeting. Made possible by the SAGHS Speakers Fund, which provides speaker honorariums and expenses for out-of-town speakers, his presentation was

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“Federal Land Records: Finding the Old Home Place.” SAGHS has several ongoing projects, one of which is to create a full-name index for their journal, the *Stalkin’ Kin in Old West Texas*. The project is two-thirds complete, with 31 volumes indexed and with over 190,000 names available for searching on their website at [www.saghs-tx.org](http://www.saghs-tx.org).

## District G

Tony Hanson,  
District Representative

The *Cedar Hill Genealogical Society* is partnering with the Cedar Hill Historical Society on a book. The project involves identifying some of the earliest settlers to the Cedar Hill area and telling their stories of life in the mid 1800s.

Committed to the goal of supporting the Dallas Central Library’s outstanding Genealogy Section, the *Dallas Genealogical Society* recently funded a one-year subscription to the [HistoryGeo.com](http://HistoryGeo.com) website for the Genealogy Section. This is in addition to the end of the year gift of over \$2500 in family research books.

The *Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society* started a new SIG Group this year. It is a Beginner’s Group to help new genealogists get started on their genealogy. The SIG meets the third Saturday, from 9:00 am to noon. Their first turn out was small (5 beginners), but they expect to have more as the year goes on.

## District H

Bill Buckner,  
District Representative

The *Bell County Genealogical Society* (BCGS) hosted a very successful beginner’s genealogy workshop in November with Patti Gillespie, attracting approximately 45 attendees. President Judy Tyler reported that they



Through *Stirpes*, our blog, Facebook, and more, TxSGS delivers Texas genealogy news to thousands of researchers, hobbyists, and professionals across the nation. Wouldn’t you like to get your society news and events publicized among this large group of avid genealogists?

were able to obtain sponsors that allowed the society to keep the registration fee low. For 2020, BCGS will have a combination of webinars and live speakers, with the topics being tied to the time of the year.

Quality programs (field trips, webinars, and workshops) have provided new members to the *Bosque County Genealogical Society*. Each year starts with a beginner program. Each quarterly meeting features a webinar; the webinars become more advanced over the year. Debbie Ferguson, President, stated that one of their most successful ventures has been the creation of a quarterly publication. It is expensive and requires sponsorships but has yielded many new members.

December 2019 featured a year-end holiday “Genealogy Jeopardy” game hosted by the *Central Texas Genealogical Society* (CTGS). CTGS creates a new game each year as a means of reviewing past events, providing society history, and testing the skill level of the membership. Questions and answers are entered into a Jeopardy board game available online at <https://jeopardylabs.com/>, where users can either create or find a jeopardy game.

The *Coryell County Genealogical Society* (CCGS) is participating in Gatesville’s 2020 sesquicentennial

celebration with displays at the Gatesville Public Library. In addition, CCGS is hosting a genealogy booth at the annual Spurfest and Shivaree. CCGS offered a \$500 vocational scholarship for the first time in 2019. This scholarship goes to a graduating Coryell County high school student who would be unable to attend a four-year college due to financial or scholastic difficulties and would be continuing their education in the vocational field.

A small group that meets quarterly at a rural library in Dublin, Texas, *Erath County Genealogical Society* is proud of their 72 members, with 36 out of county and 7 outside of Texas! Recent accomplishments include the preservation of Erath County newspapers at the Portal to Texas History.

President Cari A. Taplin reports that the *Lone Star Chapter, Association of Professional Genealogists* is a support network of professional genealogists (and those who aspire to be) in Texas and surrounding areas. They hold three online meetings and one in-person meeting per year. This year’s topics include continuing education, time management, and client reports. They also launched a new website in 2020: <https://lonestarapg.com>. See their ad on page 71.

The *Pecan Valley Genealogical Society* (PVGS) reports that their pride and joy, the Brown County Local History and Genealogy Library, contains about every county book in Texas as well Texas history and state county books. Located at 213 S. Broadway St. in Brownwood (across the street from the courthouse), the genealogy library opens from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm with assistance from PVGS members. PVGS meets the second Monday of each month with a business meeting and program.

The *Texas Czech Genealogical Society* (TCGS) has 522 active members around the world. Sara Barton, TCGS Publicity Chair, announced that TCGS recently initiated a “book of the month” offering (shipping and handling is free) from the TCGS book publications. The most recent TCGS publication is *Pamatnik Cechoslovaku*, a 222-page memorial book. A new cookbook will be published by the end of the year and offered for the first time at the TCGS 2021 Annual Meeting.

The Fourth Annual Genealogy Workshop slated for April 3 and 4 has been postponed due to coronavirus concerns. Watch their website for details: <https://txczgs.org/>.

## District I Paula Perkins, District Representative

The *Freestone County Historical Museum* (FCHM) is constructing a reproduction 1900 era farmhouse called the Littlejohn House with a planned opening by June 2020. They will have an Open House Celebration upon completion.

A new book is in process by Freestone County historian, Nancy Rula, which will be a fundraiser for the museum. The book will help fill in the gaps for the missing 1890 census and will contain documentation such as tax

and school records for the 1890s, Masonic annual proceedings for the 1890s, along with newspaper articles from this time period. Hours for the museum are Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. The location is 302 E. Main, Fairfield, Texas. For current information, visit their Facebook page and their website at <http://www.freestonecomuseum.com>.

Regularly scheduled meetings of the *Hill County Genealogical Society* are held at 6:30 pm, the second Monday of each month in Hillsboro at the Hill County Courthouse Annex, 126 South Covington, Hillsboro, Texas. On occasion, they may be scheduled at other times or locations having significant historical resources, such as Hill College, the Hillsboro City Library, or the Cell Block Museum. For more information, see their website at <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~txhcgcs/>. The Hillsboro Library houses the society's collection; the library website is at <https://www.hillsborotx.org/departments/Library/genealogy-local-history>.

The *Van Zandt County Genealogical Society* (VZCGS) hosted a Beginner Workshop on March 14. The featured speaker, Carrie Woolverton, discussed topics of interest to beginners and intermediate genealogists. Featuring a speaker at each meeting, VZCGS meets at 2:00 pm on the fourth Saturday of every month at the Van Zandt County Sarah Norman Library on FM 859. For more information, see <https://www.facebook.com/VanZandtCountyGenealogy/>.

## District K– Open

The *Genealogy Society of Kendall County* (GSKC) has completed a study profiling all of the 22 men and one woman who have served as Sheriff of Kendall County since its formation in 1861. The study was started as a project

for the present Kendall County Sheriff, Al Axier, who asked the group to research prior sheriffs. GSKC presented a copy of the study, *Histories of the First 12 Sheriffs of Kendall County 1862-1918*, to the sheriff and is planning a plaque for the new jail when it was completed.

In July of 2019, GSKC presented a copy of the latest issue of their journal, *Keys to the Past*, to County Judge Darrell Lux at the Commissioners Court Meeting. The society also sent 19 duplicate books to Paradise Valley, California, as a donation to help replace books lost to the Paradise Fire.

Volunteerism in GSKC was awarded in 2019 with the following presentations: Hal Harwell received the Rachel Morgan Betz award for his work on First Families and Early Settlers; Volunteer of the Year went to Jennifer Bishop; and the President's Award went to Kathryn Adam-Hurst and Janice Brazil, current and past editors of the GSKC journal, *Keys to the Past*.

GSKC meets at 10 am on the third Saturday of each month at the Patrick Heath Public Library. The GSKC Library, “The Family History Place,” is open for research at 114 E. Blanco Rd. For hours and days of operation, see [familyhistoryplace@gvyc.com](mailto:familyhistoryplace@gvyc.com).

In July 2019, the *Kerrville Genealogical Society* (KGS) received a \$5000 grant from the Pevehouse Family Foundation, Inc. (Midland, Texas) for operating expenses including website subscriptions for their library. Recent speakers at their monthly meetings in 2019 included Kurt Kneeland, “What to Know about DNA Testing For Family History;” Randy Whited, “Locating Federal Property Records;” Wilson Seawright, Archivist for Chickasaw Nation; and Robert Guerrero Puig, “Understanding the Rich History of the Hispanic Community in Kerrville.” KGS celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at their January 2020 meeting at the

Guadalupe Basin Natural Resources Center.

To date in 2020, KGS speakers have included Julius Real Neunhoffer, 5<sup>th</sup> generation to live on the Julius Real Homestead on Turtle Creek, “How the Neunhoffer Family arrived in the US.” The February meeting featured presentation of the “Most Outstanding Volunteer” award to Pat Weber, who averaged 24 to 36 hours per week. In addition, Patrick Blackman presented “400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mayflower Landing in America.” KGS Board member Harriet Chesi discovered she descends from Chief Aspinet of the Cape Cod tribe of Nauset Indians.

## District P

Barbara J. Froebel,  
District Representative

The most recent quarterly meeting of the *Castro Colonies Heritage Association* (CCHA) was Sunday, March 8, at Quihi Bethlehem Lutheran Church's fellowship hall at 2:00 pm. T. Kent Keeton, Ph.D., presented the program “Recreating the Life of Private William C. Jones, CSA.”

Current officers for the *Comal County Genealogy Society* (CCGS) are President John Coers, Vice President Ray Reininger, Treasurer Terry Fisher, and Secretary Cindy Coers.

Upcoming meetings and topics are: “Genealogy Resources at the New Braunfels Public Library” by Lynn Thompson; “Use exact locations, names, etc. especially tiny ‘dorfs’ (villages)” by Everett Fey; “The Legacy of the Lands of the 711 Ranch, Comal County” by Paula Reiker; “Texas Saengerfests – Past and Present” by Cindy Coers; “Rich or Poor, Some Have It, Some Don't; Finding Unusual Source Records” by Cindy Forman; “Events and Projects for New Braunfels' 175th Anniversary in 2020” by Ann Miller; and “Discovering more about your German Ancestor's

Village or Town” by John Coers. The Genealogy Corner will be “Just what are the ‘Chronik’ Books from German Towns?” by Everett Fey.

CCGS meets at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of February, March, April, May, September, October, November, and December. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at the Emmie Seele Faust Library Building on the grounds of the Sophienburg Museum and Archives, 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels. For more details, watch the CCGS facebook page or see their website at: <http://www.ccgstexas.org/>.

The library of the *Los Bexarenos Genealogical and Historical Society* (LBGHS) is located at 2300 W. Commerce, Suite 104, in San Antonio. Regular hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm; appointments may be made on Saturdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm except for the second Saturday of each month.

LBGHS meets on the second Saturday of each month at 9:30 am at the Mexican American Unity Council (MAUC) Building on 2300 W. Commerce Street. Recent speakers and topics include Barry Harrin, “Helena, Texas: the Toughest Town on Earth;” Matthew Elverson: “The Spanish Colonial Powder House;” Peter T. Baron, Jr., “Establishment of the Continental Army;” Graciela Sanchez, “Saving the Culture and Neighborhood of the West Side (San Antonio);” Mickey Killian, “Families of Mission – Native Americans;” Renato Ramirez, “Homage to the Valiant – Latin Recipients of the US Medal of Honor;” Dr. Alonso Marroquin Perales, “Native American Cultures of South Texas & Northern Mexico;” and Dan Arellano, author/historian, Commissioner of the Bexar Co. Historical Commission, and President of the Battle of Medina

Historical Society, “Debunking the Myth of the Texas Revolution.”

LGBHS has a new publication: *Baptisms of Our Lady of Refuge, Eagle Pass, Texas, Jan. 1, 1891–Dec. 31, 1895* by Armandina Galan Sifuentes. The society offers two \$500 student scholarships, one for male and one for female, to students who live in Bexar County or are related to an LBGHS member in good standing.

The *San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society* (SAGHS) has recently received a bequest from long-time member Yvette Dwyer, who has given \$1,600,000.00 to the society, to date. The bequest came in several installments, enabling SAGHS to pay off the library mortgage; provide new flooring, air conditioning and high-density mobile shelving for the Texas Room; and enclose and add air conditioning to the breezeway.

SAGHS had long wished for the church property next door, with its ample parking space and building, for it once was part of the Library property. As the bequest was being processed and library upgrades were taking place, the church disbanded and the SAGHS was able to purchase the property! The “new” property is already being used for meetings, classes, and office space. President Steve Mabie and 30-year member Barbara Dehle dedicated the new Dwyer Center at the January 2020 meeting with a ribbon cutting; the dedication drew 82 members and guests. Member Neka Skarborough-Jenkins painted a lovely portrait of Yvette for the lobby.

During their 2019-2020, year SAGHS became a Family Search Affiliate library and hosted a film crew from *Long Lost Family* TV show. What took 4.5 hours to film amounted to about two minutes of air time. It did include a shot of the front of the SAGHS Library and the name was prominently

displayed for about two seconds.

The 2019 seminar featuring Dr. Michael Lacopo was very well attended. The 2020 seminar will feature J. Mark Lowe! Providing audio-visual installations are complete, the seminar will be held at the new Dwyer Center.

## District R

Susan Kaufman,  
District Representative

The *Bay Area Genealogical Society* is sponsoring an Eagle Scout candidate, James Williams, for his project of documenting a local cemetery through Billion Graves. BAGS offers regular bus trips to the Clayton library. The BAGS *Journal* editor, Melodey Hauch, will be retiring from her position at the end of August, after 12 years of service. Anyone interested in writing and editing genealogical articles and producing the journal is encouraged to contact BAGS at [info@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:info@TxBayAreaGen.org).

The *Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston* is planning the 41st Annual Hispanic Historical and Genealogical Conference! We want all of TxSGS to join us! October 1-3, 2020, at The Whitehall Hotel Houston: <https://www.hgshtx.org/2020-conference>.

## District S

Mary Torres,  
District Representative

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and the National Park Service's Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park (NPS) announced the launch of the US-Mexican War Soldier & Sailor database on January 27 at the Palo Alto Battlefield National Park Service, Brownsville, Texas. This online, searchable database contains information for over 85,000 US and Mexican veterans who served in this war. This project started in 2007. Progress was extremely slow until



*Barbara Deble cuts the ribbon for dedicating San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society's new Dwyer Center.*

2015 when FGS joined forces with the NPS. FGS offered their expertise and numerous volunteers, including Barbra Brown of the *Tip O'Texas Genealogical Society* of Harlingen, who joined a dedicated group that spent over 17,000 hours performing the tedious task of inputting data. It is their dedication that makes it possible

for future generations to learn about those who served in the US-Mexican War. For more information visit the Palo Alto website at <https://www.nps.gov> > paal or the Palo Alto Battlefield Facebook page.

## District Z

John Wylie,  
District Representative

The *California Genealogical Society* held a Photo Scanning Workshop in February. Learn more at [www.californiaancestors.org](http://www.californiaancestors.org).

The *North San Diego County Genealogical Society* hosts a day-long Beginner/Refresher Class five times each year. The Memoir Writing Class series looks interesting. Visit: [www.nsdscgs.org](http://www.nsdscgs.org).

The *Midwest Genealogical Center* continues to provide a wonderful service to family historians. Their new URL is [www.mymcpl.org/genealogy](http://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy). Years ago, Barb and John Wylie would make at least one annual pilgrimage to this marvelous collection of sources for Midwestern ancestors. It's something every serious genealogist should consider. ★



*From left to right: Karen Weaver, Park Ranger, Palo Alto Battlefield NPS; Barbara Brown, Indexer, Tip O'Texas Genealogical Society; Ann Roberts, Past President, Tip O'Texas Genealogical Society; Faye Jenkins Stalling, President, Federation of Genealogical Societies; and Mary Torres, District S Representative, Texas State Genealogical Society.*

# Texas State Genealogical Society

## Partner Societies

The Texas State Genealogical Society is composed of several types of members, including genealogical societies and family associations that are TxSGS Partner Societies. Scattered throughout the state of Texas in 19 districts, these Partner Societies are vital to our [mission](#) of preservation and education. On behalf of our Partner Societies and the genealogical community, TxSGS advocates on a state level for policies that support genealogy and preserve local records.

One of TxSGS's founding principles is to assist in the development of local societies throughout the state to provide education, fellowship, and

opportunities to serve the genealogical community. Through these groups, individuals researching their family history work together to learn and improve skills, collaborate on projects to conserve records and resources in their community for future generations, support TxSGS and national organizations in efforts to preserve access to records through RPAC, and, in the process, form lifelong friendships.

Our network of TxSGS Partner Societies is listed below. Check out the ones in your area! You can learn more about each of these on our website at <https://www.txsgs.org/partner-societies/>.

*Is your society's name missing? Check with Tony Hanson, Director of Membership, at [memberinfo@txsgs.org](mailto:memberinfo@txsgs.org) to determine the status of your society's membership.*

Amarillo Genealogical Society  
 Arlington Genealogical Society  
 Association of Professional Genealogists - Lone Star Chapter  
 Atascocita-Kingwood Genealogical Society  
 Austin Genealogical Society  
 Bay Area Genealogical Society  
 Bell County Genealogical Society  
 Bosque County Genealogical Society  
 California Genealogical Society & Library  
 Castro Colonies Heritage Association  
 Cedar Hill Genealogical Society  
 Central Texas Genealogical Society  
 Cherokee County Genealogical Society  
 Clayton Library Friends  
 Coastal Bend Genealogical Society  
 Collin County Genealogical Society  
 Comal County Genealogy Society  
 Coryell County Genealogical Society  
 Dallas Genealogical Society  
 Denton County Genealogical Society  
 East Texas Genealogical Society  
 El Paso Genealogical Society  
 Erath County Genealogical Society

Fort Worth Genealogical Society  
 Franklin County Genealogical Society  
 Galveston County Genealogical Society  
 Genealogical & Historical Society of Caldwell County  
 Genealogical Society of Kendall County  
 German Texan Heritage Society  
 Greater Houston Jewish Genealogical Society  
 Heritage Ranch Genealogical Society  
 Highland Lakes Genealogical Society  
 Hill County Genealogical Society  
 Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston  
 Hopkins County Genealogical Society  
 Houston Genealogical Forum  
 Houston West Family Genealogy Society (aka Bear Creek Genealogical Society)  
 Humble Area Genealogical Society, The  
 Kerrville Genealogical Society  
 Lago Vista Genealogical Society  
 Lamar County Genealogical Society  
 Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society  
 Mid-Cities Genealogical Society  
 Midland Genealogical Society  
 Montgomery County Genealogical & Historical Society  
 Navarro County Genealogical Society

North San Diego County Genealogical Society  
North Texas Genealogical Association  
Pecan Valley Genealogy Society  
Rio Grande Valley Hispanic Genealogical Society  
Robson Ranch Genealogy Club  
San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society  
San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society  
Smith County Historical Society  
Society of Sons & Daughters of WWII Veterans  
South Plains Genealogical Society  
Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin Inc.  
Texas Czech Genealogical Society  
Texoma Genealogy Group  
Timpson Area Genealogical & Heritage Society  
Van Zandt County Genealogical Society  
Victoria County Genealogical Society  
Walker County Genealogical Society  
Washington County Genealogical Society  
Williamson County Genealogical Society  
World Chamberlain Genealogical Society

*\*Membership is current as of 11 March 2020.*



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## **TxSGS Webinar Series** Partner Society Program

Does your society struggle with finding good speakers for programs? Do you have backups for situations when a speaker has to cancel at the last minute?

Through the new TxSGS Webinar Series Partner Society Program, TxSGS is pleased to offer its Partner Societies access to well-known speakers in the genealogical community. This program provides a solution to the ongoing problem of obtaining quality programs for monthly society meetings, especially for small societies in remote locations. A webinar from the Partner Society Program also can be used as a substitute program for those situations when a speaker can't make the meeting at the last minute.

*Webinar*  
**SERIES**

**Partner Society Program**



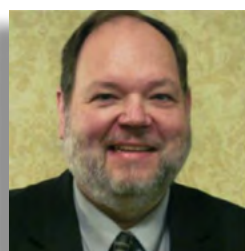
The Partner Society program provides FREE access to one of the video recordings made at the 2019 TxSGS Family History Conference for use at a Partner Society regular meeting. Additional subscriptions to three videos may be purchased as well. For more information about the speakers and topics available, see <https://www.txsgs.org/webinar-series/>.





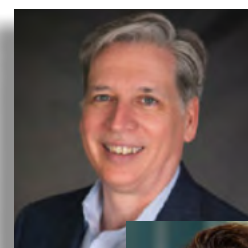
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