

THE JOURNAL OF THE TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

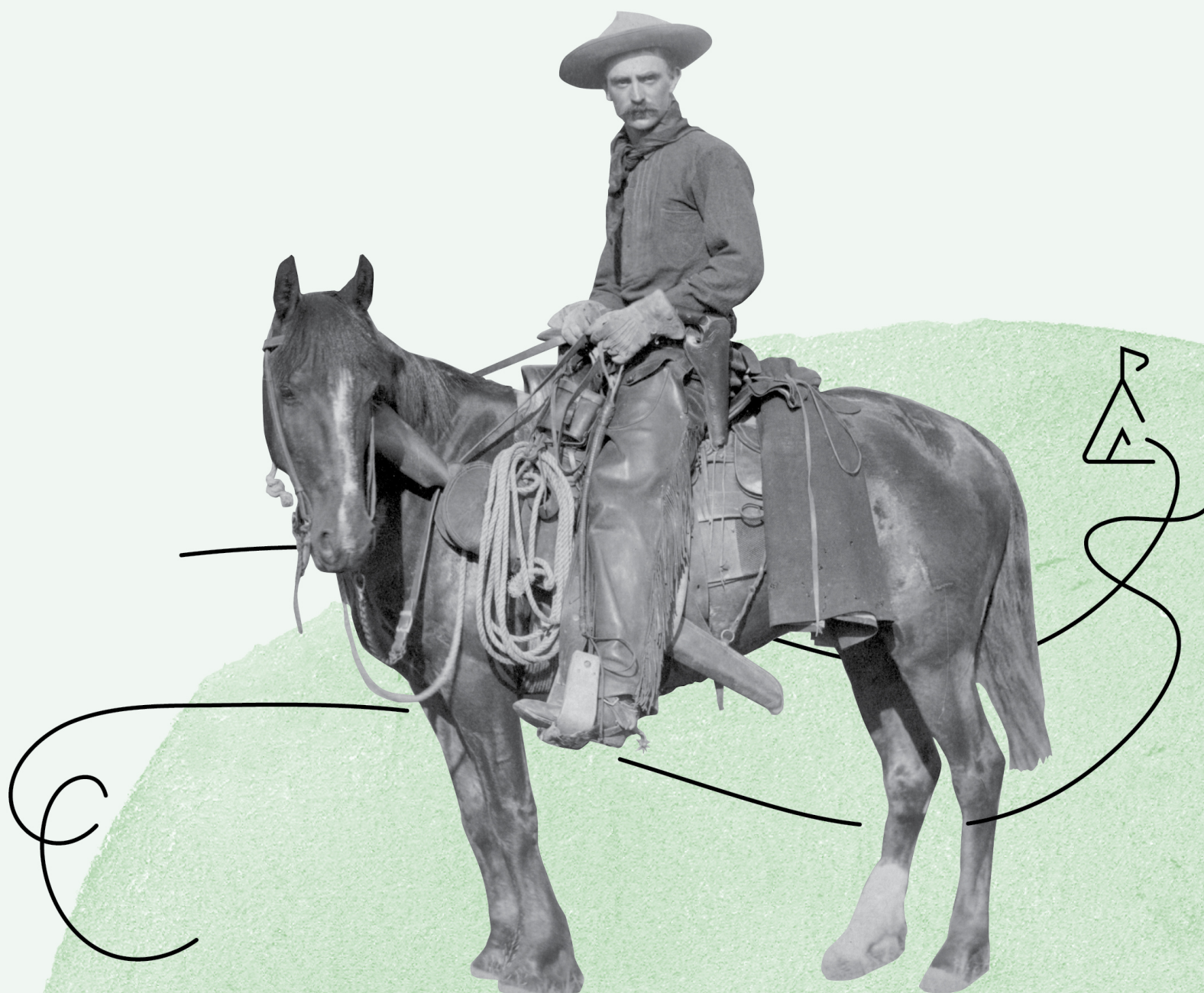
# 13th Stirpes

## Research on Site





# What will you discover?





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For *Genealogy Research!*

*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)

From the

# Editors' Pen



It's been a long two years with COVID. We've researched online, extended our skills through online webinars and classes, and now we're ready for something else. As the pandemic wains (hopefully!), consider in-person researching. Think about what you might find in libraries, archives, repositories, and museums, and how you might maximize a trip to those facilities. What might you learn if you traveled to your ancestor's hometown? What gems might be uncovered in the county courthouse for your ancestor's county?

In this issue, *Stirpes* addresses some of the aspects an in-person research trip might encompass. Emily Richardson and Susan Kaufman cover the planning, preparation, and execution of a genealogy research trip from both sides of the librarian's desk. Emily's article, "Tips for an Effective Genealogy Research Trip," discusses a genealogy research trip from initial planning to analyzing your findings while in "Tips for an Effective Genealogy Research Trip: the Librarian's Perspective," Susan Kaufman shares an "insider's view" of library or archive research and how to get the most out of your research time.

In "Goin' to the Courthouse," Jim Thornhill explains courthouse research and how to access some of the more genealogically valuable documents at the courthouse.

Pat Gordon discusses the value to a genealogist of researching ancestors where they lived in "Walking with Your Ancestors," adding context to your ancestor's lives through hands-on familiarity with their home town and more. Considering the likelihood of visiting with family members over the holiday season, Emily Richardson reminds us of the importance of interviewing living relatives along with some suggested interview questions in "Living Repositories: Another Destination for Research."

Debbie Parker Wayne discusses improvement in third-party DNA clustering tools in "DNA Cluster Analysis: Combining Old and New Tools." Russell A. Rahn introduces readers to the genealogical information available in a postcard in "Knights of Pythias" and addresses challenges for genealogists with old style/new style calendar notations in "Happy New Year - Which One?" In his book review, Bill Buckner highlights *Waxahachie Architecture Guidebook*, which shares family history tidbits while discussing the history of many of the older buildings in Waxahachie.

*Stirpes* applauds the many 2021 award winners in "TxSGS Recognizes Quality Research, Writing, and Websites with 2021 Awards" and proclaims "Good Job!" to all those who submitted books, manuscripts, websites, and publications for award

consideration. Read about our newest Fellows, William "Bill" D. Buckner and Debbie Parker Wayne, in "TxSGS Honors Two Texas Genealogy Leaders." "Volunteer of the Year: Ron Barnett" recognizes the research and service to the genealogical community by a worthy recipient. In addition, President Susan Ball conferred Presidential Citations on five volunteers who excelled in partner society support, genealogy education, and member support. We say thank you and congratulations to these honorees.

This issue also includes a handful of TxSGS articles to keep our members and readers abreast of events: "TxSGS Annual Business Meeting Highlights," "2021 TxSGS Family History Conference Wrap-up," and "Partner Society Roundup," which includes a list of present Partner Societies and information about the Webinar Program for Partner Societies. We especially want to draw your attention to the incoming TxSGS board of directors in "Introducing New Officers for the 2022-2023 Term."

Finally, in this 2021 holiday season, we wish to all our readers a "Happy Holidays" and share with you the hopeful, heartfelt, holiday desires of our readers in "Holiday Wishes." ★

—*Stirpes* Editors



# New Members & More

New Members since  
August 2021

## Heritage Circle

### Benefactor

Terry L. Cochran  
Geneva Shannon Cochran  
Mary Kay Snell  
Susan K. Thompson



### Supporter

Susan E. Ball  
Carol Brooks  
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Tom Henry  
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Roseann Hogan  
Rebecca Lynn Hubert  
Joel K. Levy  
Judi F. Levy  
Valencia Linton  
Kelvin Meyers  
Bernd H. Strassner  
Liz D. Strassner  
Mary Frances Townsend

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T. Scott Atkinson  
Walter A. Baen  
Roger A. Bartlett  
Catherine T. Braasch  
Linda M. Bridges  
Sharon Louise Burton  
Dawn Carlile  
Daion Michelle  
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Michelle Dwyer Cohen  
James Edwin Conrad  
Paula N. Conrad

George Cospier  
Traci D. Curlis  
Elsie M. Deatherage  
Michelle Renee Enke  
Twila George  
Rebecca Graeber  
Betha Ritchey Hall  
Lisa J. Hetzel  
Lani Hightower  
Diane M. Hughes-Hart  
Ann Hunt  
Barbara Johns  
Andrea L. Jones  
Marc J. LeClere

Lynda Logan  
Helen Marable  
Margaret Mills  
Colleen Murray  
Jeremy Myers  
Don Nelson  
Tammy K. Ozier  
Erica I. Peña-Vest  
DeEtte Rozemberg  
Jimmy D. Russell  
Billie J. Salmon  
Robert L. Scamman  
Neka Scarbrough-Jenkins  
Avery W. Smith

Carole Ann Smith  
Nancy L. Smith  
Stephanie P. Sparkman  
Carol Steakley  
Barbara A. Stevens  
Dana K. Stripling  
Robin A. Swattes  
Camille Tafel  
Hugh F. Taylor  
Linda Woodworth  
Merlin Woodworth  
Jerald D. Zimmerman

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with  
TxSGS**



**#TxSGS**

Learn more at [www.txsgs.org/](http://www.txsgs.org/)

## Volunteer Spotlight:

# TxSGS Award Committee Chairs

The TxSGS Awards Program is extremely popular, encouraging individual and Partner Society authors, editors, webmasters, and students to submit their work for awards consideration.

In this issue, *Stirpes* shines the Volunteer Spotlight on the Award Committee chairs for their efforts in promoting their award category, collecting submissions, gathering a judging committee, tallying and ranking their committee's scores, and providing those scores to Bill Buckner, Awards Chair. In some categories, entries are both mailed and emailed, and it can be a challenge to keep up with them all and get them in the hands of the judges. ★



**Book Awards:**  
Bill Buckner



**Manuscripts:**  
Pat Gordon

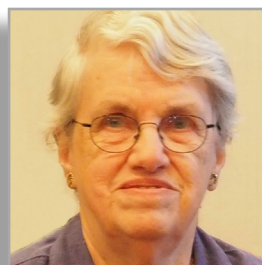
*Thank you,  
Awards Committee  
Chairs!*



**Website Awards:**  
Randy Whited



**Partner Society  
Periodical Awards:**  
Frances Ellsworth



**Student Awards:**  
Pat Metcalfe

For more information about the TxSGS Awards Program and guidelines for award submissions, please see <https://www.txsgs.org/programs/awards-grants/>.



# Goin' to the Courthouse

by Jim Thornhill

Access to records that tell us our family's stories has never been easier. Many private and public organizations are rapidly digitizing records; more become available online each day. In Texas, we are especially fortunate. Records that inform us how our ancestors lived are more available than in many other states.

Our state is full of repositories, ranging from large publicly funded collections to local societies who safeguard collections found nowhere else. One group of repositories, however, uniquely holds the records of the individuals in their jurisdiction, and those are the county courthouses.

County courthouses are different than most repositories because the records tell the story of the people of that county. Most large collections of records will tell of events or famous citizens, but the county courthouse has information on almost every ordinary citizen in the county. The courthouse where our ancestors lived contains records on the small farmer in a remote part of the county, the single mother in a small house in the poor part of town, or the shopkeeper who is barely providing for her family.

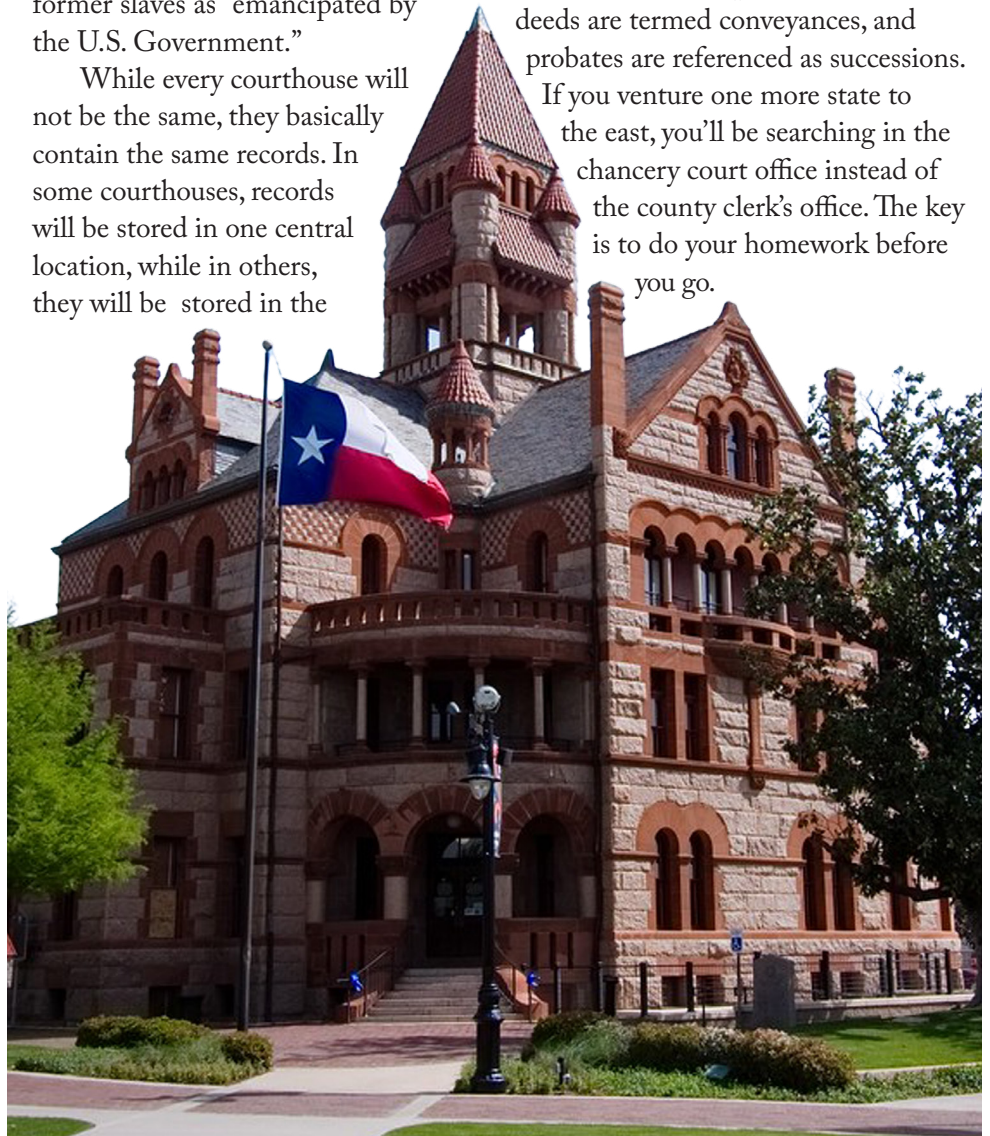
The most valuable repository for you is the one where you find records about your ancestors. Thinking back on the many breakthroughs I have found in record collections, most of them have been at courthouses. There was the divorce file I found which told the story of my grandparent's divorce and what happened to their property, the tax records used to create a timeline for another grandfather,

and the probate inventory that listed former slaves as "emancipated by the U.S. Government."

While every courthouse will not be the same, they basically contain the same records. In some courthouses, records will be stored in one central location, while in others, they will be stored in the

individual departments where the records were created. In smaller, less populated counties, all the county records will be at the courthouse. In larger counties, there may be several annexes that contain records. If you venture outside of Texas, you may find different names for familiar record sets. In the neighboring state of Louisiana, counties are called parishes, warranty deeds are termed conveyances, and probates are referenced as successions.

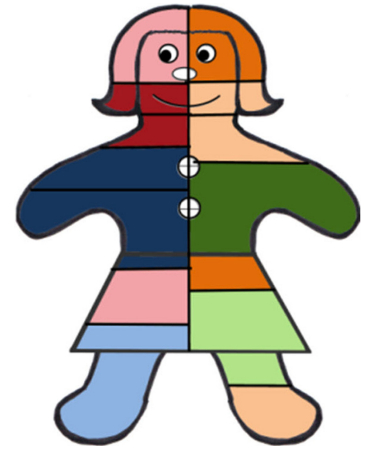
If you venture one more state to the east, you'll be searching in the chancery court office instead of the county clerk's office. The key is to do your homework before you go.



*Hopkins County Courthouse, Sulphur Springs, Texas. Image by Pen-F-Fan licensed with CC BY-NC 2.0.*

# DNA Cluster Analysis: Combining Old and New Tools

by Debbie Parker Wayne, CG®



New analysis tools and methods frequently pop up in the world of autosomal DNA (atDNA) analysis for genealogy. Some dazzle us for a short time then disappear. That disappearance is sometimes because a tool is hard to understand and use. The most useful tools hang around longer. Sometimes new tools are really old tools, polished to make them easier to use. DNA Clustering is a tool that has been around for a few years now—it is a version of shared matches. Match investigation is essential to DNA analysis and should be around for a long time.

## What is DNA Clustering?

Clustering is based on one of the oldest and best tools—shared DNA matches. Shared matches may also be called “In Common With” (ICW) matches or “Relatives in Common.” Clustering combines DNA matches into groups that likely share a common ancestor. Clues from one DNA match in the cluster may help answer questions about others in the cluster. Correlating what is known about two or four or ten matches makes it easier to analyze other matches who likely share the same common ancestor. With clusters, researchers no longer have to scroll down through hundreds or thousands of matches to find those that are obviously related through the same ancestral line. However, for clusters to work well, some limitations or thresholds are imposed; all shared matches may not wind up in a cluster. The cluster alone may not answer all of a researcher’s genealogical questions, but it will lead to clues.

Never forget that taking the road beyond the obvious—using those non-clustered matches (an old tool) combined with what is learned from the cluster (a new tool)—could provide the clue that breaks through a brick wall.

## DNA Clustering Tools

Clustering programs may be free or may charge a small fee and include those listed below. Instructions on using the tool and obtaining the report can be found at the URLs shown.

- **The Leeds Method** (<https://www.danaleeds.com/the-leeds-method/>) by Dana Leeds. See Dana Leeds, “Use DNA Match Clusters to Organize and Analyze Your Shared Matches,” *Stirpes* 58 (March 2019): 35–39.
- **Collins-Leeds Method** (<https://doc.dnagedcom.com/help/collins-leeds-method-clm/>) by Dana Leeds and John Collins available through DNAGedcom Client (<https://www.dnagedcom.com/>) by Rob Warthen. This automates the process while the Leeds Method is a manual process.
- **Genetic Affairs AutoClusters** (<http://www.geneticaffairs.com/features-autocluster.html>) by Evert-Jon “E. J.” Blom.
- **GEDmatch “Clusters, Single Kit input, Basic Version!”** tool (<https://www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/post/gedmatch-clustering>).
- **MyHeritage** provides a customized version of the Genetic Affairs **AutoClusters** report. It is available to anyone with a subscriber account and those who pay a small fee for tool access through a free account (<https://www.myheritage.com/help-center/en/article/what-are-autoclusters>).

Other clustering tools are available; this list includes the most-used. A *MyHeritage* AutoClusters report provides the examples in this article. Endogamy (marrying within a small group generally resulting in multiple shared ancestral lines and complicated DNA analysis) is not seen in these examples and is not discussed. The focus test taker is the person whose DNA match list and AutoClusters report are being reviewed.

The words Certified Genealogist and designation CG are registered certification marks with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, used under license by certifiants after periodic competency evaluations (and only during the current five-year period for which they are certified).



# Texas State Genealogical Society Issues Call for Presentations for the 2022 TxSGS Family History Conference

**Deadline for Submissions is March 14, 2022**

The Texas State Genealogical Society announces a Call for Presentations for their 2022 TxSGS Family History Conference “Unlock Your Past.” This event, slated for November 4-5, will be held virtually. Selected presentations will be included in a *TxSGS Live!* two-day event with live Q&A; other presentations will be recorded for an On-Demand program available for replay for 90 days after *TxSGS Live!* The deadline for proposals is March 14, 2022.

## About the Proposals

We are looking for dynamic, enthusiastic presenters! If you feel passionate about your area of expertise and would like to teach and inspire other genealogists, this is the venue for you. The TxSGS conference draws over 300 attendees from beginner to expert. As well as topics geared toward beginners, submissions offering intermediate and advanced level lectures that delve deep into records and include unique and experienced use of sources are encouraged for consideration. Seasoned speakers and speakers new to the genealogical lecturing arena are encouraged to submit.

## Submission Ideas

The areas of interest may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Methodology and Problem-Solving Techniques
- Record Analysis and Skill Building
- Records & Repositories (land, probate, tax, court, and other records)
- Research in Texas and surrounding states
- DNA Research and Technology
- Ethnic Research topics (African American, Hispanic, and others)
- Writing, Storytelling, and Publishing
- Engaging Youth in Genealogy
- Basic genealogical topics (how to or getting started)
- Genealogical Society Leadership and Management

# TxSGS Recognizes Quality Research, Writing, and Websites with 2021 Awards



The 2021 TxSGS Awards Presentation held Saturday, November 13, was an amazing event. In addition to being introduced to a wide variety of genealogical writing and publication, attendees learned the stories behind the submissions. Congratulations to each and every author, editor, society, compiler, indexer, transcriber, and webmaster for their success. Thank you for submitting your work to be considered for an award.

Those that won awards represent the best in a competitive field that keeps getting better each year. For persons new to TxSGS, the Awards Program, in the spirit of competition,

- Encourages members to write and tell their story;
- Recognizes scholarly research and professional writing; and
- Values the recording of information for future generations.

The Awards Program received many quality submissions. Overall entries were some of the best received

in recent competitions. TxSGS thanks the chairs of the various categories including Pat Gordon, Manuscripts; Fran Ellsworth, Periodicals; Bill Buckner, Books; Pat Metcalfe, Student Projects; and Randy Whited, Websites, along with the judges they recruited.

The TxSGS Awards Program presents awards in the categories of books, manuscripts, periodicals, websites, and student projects. Entry requirements can be found on the TxSGS website: <http://www.txsgs.org/programs/awards-grants/writing-awards/>. We encourage you to begin or continue your writing journey and consider entering in 2022.

## Book Awards

*Chair: Bill Buckner*

### Grand Prize (\$400)

*San Antonio Marriages, 1703-1846: Matrimony in Colonial, Mexican and Republican Texas* (2021), by Art Martinez de Vara of Von Ormy, Texas.

### Category I: Books by Non-Professional / Family History

#### 1st Place (\$200)

*Rupert and Evelyn: the Lives and Lineages of Rupert Claridge Jr. and Evelyn Wisdom, v. 2: Wisdom, Gibbons, and related Families* (2020), by Karen Claridge Walker of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

#### 2nd Place (\$100)

*Encyclopedia of Eight Generations of the Family of John Nicholas Rampy (1729-1781) Palatine Immigrant to South Carolina* (2021) by Michael J. "Mike" Vaughn of Flint, Texas.

#### 3rd Place (\$50)

*Gholsons in Early America and Their Connections with the Founding Fathers* (2020) by Donna Cook of Concord, California.

### Category I: Books by Non-Professional / References

#### 1st Place (\$200)

*The Militiamen of St. Louis & Ste. Geneviève 1779 to 1783: A Compilation of original militia lists from the General Archive of the Indies of Seville, Spain* (2020) by Kristine L. Sjostrom of Seville, Spain; Mary Ann Long Fernandez de Mesa of Madrid, Spain; and Mary Anthony Long Startz of Houston, Texas.

#### 2nd Place (\$100)

*San Antonio River: Gateway to the City's Historical Past* (2020) by Rueben M. Perez of San Antonio, Texas.

#### 3rd Place (\$50)

*19th Century US Sailors and Soldiers of Comanche County, Texas, a partial listing* (2019) by Alfred Evans, ed., of Comanche, Texas.



**Category II: Books by a Professional / Family History**

**1st Place (\$200)**

*Victor Massé and Emilie Lucile Vincent: From the First French Republic to the Republic of Texas* (2020) by Karen Stein Daniel of San Antonio, Texas.

**2nd Place (\$100)**

*Tejano Patriot: the Revolutionary Life of Jose Francisco Ruiz, 1783-1840 (biography)* (2020) by Art Martinez de Vara of Von Ormy, Texas.

**3rd Place (\$50)**

*Our Doss Family: Descendants of Joel Doss and Mary (Penny) Doss Through the Sixth Generation* (2020) by Lise Doss of Austin, Texas.

**Category VII: Books Published by Partner Societies**

**1st Place (\$200)**

*The Sheriffs of Kendall County, Texas 1862-2020* (2020) by Kathryn Adam-Hurst, ed. (The Genealogical Society of Kendall County), Boerne, Texas.

**2nd Place (\$100)**

*The Year of 1890 in Freestone County* (2020) by Nancy Rule (Freestone County Historical Museum), Fairfield, Texas.

**3rd Place (\$50)**

*The Progressive City - History of Downtown Sulphur Springs 1914* (2021) by Shirley Lunceford Patchen, Hopkins County Genealogical Society.

**Manuscript Awards**

*Chair: Pat Gordon*

**Category III: Manuscripts (Non-Professional)**

**1st Place (\$100)**

“Researching a World War II Ancestor” (published in *Our Heritage*, v. 61, nos. 1-2, San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society) by Larry W. Luckett.

**2nd Place (\$50)**

“Thomas Scrapbook” (published in *Our Heritage*, v. 61, nos. 3-4, San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society) by Laura Thomas.

**3rd Place (\$30)**

“David Kirkwood: Entrepreneur in Scotland” (published in *Our Heritage*, v. 62, nos. 1-2, San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society) by Don Armitage.

**Category III: Manuscripts (Professional)**

**1st Place (\$100)**

“Descendants of Jose Manuel Casanova and Maria del Carmen del Toro” (published in *Our Heritage*, v. 62, nos. 3-4, San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society) by Nancy Wright Brennan.

**Periodical, Quarterly, and Journal Awards**

*Chair: Frances Ellsworth*

**Category VI: Official Periodicals of Partner Societies / Newsletters**

**1st Place (\$100)**

*The Humble Genealogist*, The Humble Area Genealogical Society, David Taylor, editor.

**2nd Place (\$50)**

*SAGHS Newsletter (10 issues)*, San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society, Barbara Holmes, editor.

**3rd Place (\$30)**

*Collin County Genealogical Society eNewsletter*, Collin County Genealogical Society, Paula Perkins, editor.

**Category VI: Official Periodicals of Partner Societies / Quarterlies**

**1st Place (\$100)**

*Hopkins County Heritage* (Hopkins County Genealogical Society), Carol Ann Dixon, editor.

**2nd Place (\$50)**

*Newsletter of Franklin County Genealogical Society* (Franklin County Genealogical Society), Veronica Jordan, editor. (Note: even though the term “newsletter” is in the title of this publication, it meets the qualifications of a quarterly.)

**3rd Place (\$30)**

*České Stopy* (Texas Czech Genealogical Society), Marge Kultgen (2019), Charlene Hurta (2020), editors.

**Category VI: Official Periodicals of Partner Societies / Journals**

**1st Place (\$100)**

*Stalkin' Kin in Old West Texas* (San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society), Allen Wright, editor.

**2nd Place (\$50)**

*Cass County Connections* (Cass County Genealogical Society), George Frost, editor.

**3rd Place (\$30)**

*Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston* (Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston), Malena Azios, Mary Anthony Startz, editors

## Website Awards

*Chair: Randy Whited*

### Category I: Website for a Partner Society

#### 1st Place (\$100)

Dallas Genealogical Society: [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org); webmaster, Tony Hanson.

#### 2nd Place (\$75)

San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society: [www.SAGHS-TX.org](http://www.SAGHS-TX.org); webmaster, Jana Jenkins.

#### 3rd Place (\$50)

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society: [www.txsgs.org](http://www.txsgs.org); webmaster, Rob Lewis.

## Presidential Awards

### Volunteer of the Year

Ron Barnett, Central Texas Genealogical Society.

### Presidential Citations (see page 32)

Sandra Crowley, Director of Development

Tony Hanson, Director of Membership

Kelvin Meyers, TIGR Director

Emily Richardson, Secretary

Mary Torres, District S Representative

### Fellow (see page 29)

William D. "Bill" Buckner

Debbie Parker Wayne

# Volunteer of the Year: **Ron Barnett**

Nominated by the Central Texas Genealogical Society

To acknowledge the value to genealogy societies of persons committed to the mission of the organization, TxSGS recognizes a worthy individual as Volunteer of the Year.

Submitted by Partner Societies, candidates are judged on their genealogical or historical research, service to the society, service to their community, and service to the local or genealogical library. The volunteer's service must have been within the last two years, and the nominee must be a member in good standing in the Partner Society at the time of nomination.

The 2021 Volunteer of the Year is Ron Barnett of the Central Texas Genealogical Society (CTGS). According to CTGS President Apala Wilson, Ron "hit the ground running" as soon as he joined CTGS in 2009 and has not slowed down since. The society immediately recognized his value, especially in the field of technology. His skills have contributed to the "Genealogy Lock In" held each October. Ron helped create the

Genealogy Network of Texas (GNT) held the third Friday of October, which shares genealogy programming with societies and libraries across Texas while encouraging attendees to patronize genealogy collections. Ron was responsible for the technical aspects of providing live programming to the participating libraries.

For this year's GNT, Ron pioneered a new approach in virtual programming using technology connected to website creation. He designed forty-three customized websites so that each participating library would have its own agenda from a selection of programs; he also recorded six of the programs. Ron spent over 150 hours making this exciting event happen for all of us.

As webmaster, Ron did a complete re-do of the society's website. He spent hundreds of hours writing and compiling the data for the site that



launched late in 2018. He trained a group of CTGS members for their website jobs, including a presentation and training to the general membership. Due to circumstances beyond CTGS control, it became apparent the society's website would need yet another rewrite. In 2021 Ron has begun creating a newer, updated version of the website using different software and hosting company.

In addition to his extensive website and programming work for CTGS, Ron set up CTGS's virtual board meetings in 2020 and 2021. Apala rightly affirms, "Our society has totally relied on Ron. CTGS would not be where it is today without Ron Barnett." ★

# TxSGS Honors Two Texas Genealogy Leaders

by Susan E. Ball

**T**xSGS is pleased to announce that the honor of Fellow was conferred on two individuals who, between them, have provided genealogical education and DNA insights to thousands of genealogists in Texas and across the U.S.

William D. “Bill” Buckner, Supervisor of the Genealogy Center at the Waco-McLennan County Library, TxSGS Awards Chair and District H

Representative, and Debbie Parker Wayne, noted DNA author, lecturer, and TxSGS DNA Chair, are each recipients of the TxSGS Fellow Award. The designation was bestowed on Buckner and Wayne on Saturday, November 13, at the TxSGS Awards Presentation held virtually.

To receive the Fellow Award, the honoree must have made significant contributions either to TxSGS over a period of several years or made significant contributions of state-wide impact on the Texas genealogical community.

## *William D. “Bill” Buckner*

### **Making an Impact on TxSGS**

Bill has been a valued TxSGS volunteer for over a decade. He began as a member of the Book Awards Committee in 2009 and was enlisted to chair that committee in 2010. In 2014, Bill was appointed TxSGS Awards Chair. He has worked tirelessly with the awards subcommittee chairs, authors, and Partner Societies, soliciting submissions to the Awards Program and encouraging a steady rise in the quality of society publications.

In 2009, Bill was elected as the TxSGS District 12 (now District H) Representative, a position he continues to fill. He works with the Partner Societies in his district, encouraging them to offer dynamic programs and share and promote their activities throughout the state, alerting TxSGS of their society’s events for publicity in

*Stirpes* and on the TxSGS website, and notifying them of TxSGS events that would be of interest to officers and members of the Partner Societies.

The Central Texas Genealogical Society served as local co-hosts of the TxSGS Conference in 2010. Bill was instrumental in bringing the conference to Waco, which featured the new West Waco Library and Genealogy Center. In 2011, Bill received the President’s Award from TxSGS for his contributions.

### **Genealogical Education**

In 2000, Bill and the leaders of the Central Texas Genealogy Society launched the annual Genealogy Lock-In. Held the third Friday in October, Family History Month, the event encouraged family historians to avail themselves of resources in the genealogy collection at the Waco-McLennan County Library,



introducing many to the unique research opportunities the library afforded genealogists.

Bill soon envisioned a statewide version of the Genealogy Lock-In, one that would connect libraries and societies with genealogy collections across Texas, provide a slate of genealogical programming, promote local collection resources, share specific resources during the event, and provide one-on-one genealogical help. This dream was launched in 2011 with help from the Texas State Library



and Archives (TSLAC). Featuring three programs shared via webcam and Skype, the event, held simultaneously at TSLAC and Waco, drew 240 people and provided proof of concept for a state-wide event that would be dubbed the Genealogy Network of Texas (GNT). In 2012, the GNT grew to five participating libraries and six virtual programs, drawing a total 391 participants. Each library hosted their own events to promote their local collection resources, individualizing the event to their local genealogy patrons.

By 2019, GNT featured 51 participating libraries or societies, eight programs shared virtually, and 1,223 participants across the state of Texas and beyond. Thirteen of these libraries were added in 2019. This event illustrates Bill's leadership in Waco and his close relationship with the Central Texas Genealogical Society; locally, over 48 volunteers logged 616 volunteer hours in

preparing for and hosting the Waco Genealogy Lock-In.

Unable to hold the GNT event in 2020 due to COVID, Bill and his team investigated a virtual version of the annual lock-in for 2021. He reached out to TxSGS for assistance in the technical details of hosting this event for 50 or more different organizations across the U.S. The goal was to provide a platform for libraries and societies to serve eight genealogy programs to their attendees in a virtual, in-person, or hybrid (virtual and in-person) format, as determined by the library or society. It was a lofty goal, but Bill and his team came up with a solution involving individualized web pages for each participating organization. Forty-three organizations participated: eight were in-person only events, sixteen were virtual only, and the rest were hybrid. Website analytics show that well over 1,300 attended the 2021 GNT event, with 7,465 total hits registered for the eight presentations.

## About Bill

Trained as a cataloger and technical service librarian, Bill began his career in 1990 as a cataloger at the University of North Texas. After stints in Washington, D.C., with a law firm library and a large legal publisher, Bill returned to Texas and a position in the Townsend Memorial Library at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor as an online services librarian (reference/periodicals). In 1998, he became the Supervisor of the Genealogy Center at the Waco-McLennan County Library, where he has overseen the continued growth of the Genealogy Center's collection and its move to the West Waco Library and Genealogy Center.

Bill has served on various genealogy/history committees with the American Library Association (ALA) and the Texas Library Association (TLA). Notably, he served on the Genealogy Committee for the ALA as chair from 2001-2002 and chaired the Genealogy Round Table of the TLA in 2005-2006.

## Debbie Parker Wayne

### Making an Impact on TxSGS

Chair of the TxSGS DNA Committee, Debbie Parker Wayne has served in this position since its inception in 2011. Debbie also manages the TXStateGS DNA Project for TxSGS at FamilyTreeDNA. Initially, the purpose of the FTDNA Project was to allow members to order DNA tests at a discounted rate. In 2011, Debbie changed the focus of the project to DNA research. She began comparing members' shared DNA to other project members, enabling her to identify cousins. Through her vision, the TXStateGS DNA Project became

the springboard for the Early Texans DNA Project and Database and the wealth of information that can be discovered for genealogists with Texas ancestors through DNA connections.

In conjunction with the TXStateGS DNA Project, Debbie launched a lineage-linked database for the ancestry of each DNA project member; the database uses TNG, an award-winning lineage database. The project and database have grown to the point that Debbie enlisted several volunteers to join her on the DNA Committee. Under Debbie's leadership, the committee is adding submitted lineages to the database, compiling a timeline for Texas research with links to significant



databases that can be used by anyone researching Texas ancestors, and developing a DNA knowledge database that any researcher can use to learn more about DNA.

The project is expanding rapidly. In addition to inputting lineages into the database for 150 project members,

the DNA Committee has accepted for a Heritage Certificate application the first project member based on a DNA proof argument proving his biological ancestors. The committee has also written the first DNA analysis report covering two project members descended from different children of a common ancestor. As more such discoveries are made, the lineage-linked database will help identify ancestors of additional project members.

### Genealogical Education

Debbie is a board-certified genealogist and, self-taught in DNA analysis, she specializes in teaching others so they can also learn to use DNA analysis for genealogy even without a biology degree.

Debbie developed and coordinated the first week-long DNA courses for four institutes in the U.S.: Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), Institute for Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR), Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), and the Forensic Institute of Genealogy. Courses taught by Debbie have trained genealogists of all experience levels to use DNA effectively to further genealogical research. She has taught many workshops on how to analyze DNA from start to finish.

In addition to her work on the Early Texans DNA Project and periodic articles on DNA analysis in *Stirpes*, Debbie has authored and compiled

two important books on using DNA analysis in genealogy. In 2016 Debbie, with Blaine T. Bettinger, coauthored *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*. This basic workbook includes questions at the end of each chapter to help readers evaluate their understanding and define areas needing additional study. In 2019, Debbie compiled chapters written by some of the best genealogists on topics of importance to the community in *Advanced Genetic Genealogy: Techniques and Case Studies*. This book consists of fourteen chapters, most based on case studies, presenting advanced DNA analysis and tools that walk genealogists through complex case studies. Discussions on ethics and future discoveries guide the reader to consider all factors relevant to their situation.

### About Debbie

In addition to her volunteer work with TxSGS, Debbie is actively involved with the greater genealogy community and the DNA Committee of the Board for Certification of Genealogists in refining the DNA Standards and in providing FAQs to clarify what is required to meet the Genealogical Proof Standard when using DNA evidence. Debbie has worked on multiple genealogical television series. She is also a past trustee for the BCG Education Fund, a past board member and Advocacy Committee Chair of the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), and past president of the Lone Star Chapter of APG.

In 2008, before the recent

popularity of genealogy-related shows, Debbie worked on an episode of the Canadian series *Ancestors in the Attic*. This episode featured the descendants of a slave family in Smith County, Texas, who had migrated to Canada. In 2011, Debbie worked on an episode of the PBS series *Finding Your Roots* with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., featuring a descendant of another East Texas slave family. This episode with Ruth Simmons, president of Brown University, was broadcast on 29 April 2012. Additional research has been done for *Finding Your Roots* and *Who Do You Think You Are?* ★



The graphic features the Midwest Genealogy Center logo (Mid-Continent Public Library) and a photograph of an open photo album. Below is a teal-tinted image of the center's building with the following text:

The Midwest Genealogy Center is the perfect place to research your heritage, whether you are just beginning or trying to fill in the last few details on the family tree. MGC is the largest free-standing public genealogy facility in the nation. It features all the services and amenities to make your search successful and comfortable.

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest!

- Midwest Genealogy Center
- @MGCgenealogy
- Midwest Genealogy Center

Access Your History

Midwest Genealogy Center  
3440 S. Lee's Summit Road  
Independence, MO 64065  
Phone: 816.252.7228



# Presidential Honors Conferred at 2021 Awards Presentation

President Susan Ball conveyed Presidential Citations on those volunteers who have provided outstanding service to TxSGS and Texas genealogists. The focus this year was on those volunteers who excelled in partner society support, genealogy education, and member support.

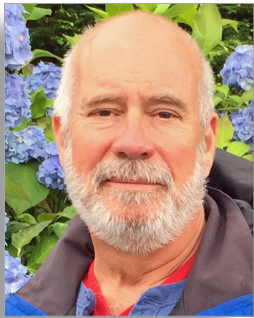
In 2021, **Tony Hanson**, Director of Membership, and **Emily Richardson**, Secretary, launched the TxSGS Partner Society Leadership Forum, a series of quarterly meetings featuring speakers, topics, and discussion groups. The forum's mission is helping genealogy societies thrive. David Rencher kicked-off the forum in March speaking on leadership, programming, publications, and membership. Following meetings addressed how to host virtual and hybrid (virtual and in-person) meetings, recruiting leaders, and retaining engaged volunteers. The response has been so positive from Partner Society leaders that the forum is continuing in 2022.

**Kelvin L. Meyers**, Texas Institute of Genealogy Research Director, and **Sandra J. Crowley**, Director of Development, were recognized for their efforts in conducting 2021 TIGR virtually. Kelvin worked with the TIGR coordinators to ensure that course content and the TIGR structure translated well to a virtual format while Sandra managed the logistics, administration, and technology involved in taking this event virtual.

Based on concerns voiced about hosting a multi-track, week-long, in-person event that depended on

many instructors and attendees traveling to Austin from out of state, Kelvin, the TIGR coordinators, and TxSGS decided that an in-person event wasn't feasible. Since TxSGS had been working with virtual programming technology through its Partner Society support, experienced volunteers were in place to manage a virtual TIGR. Feedback from coordinators as well as attendees affirmed that the event ran smoothly, with no technical issues.

**Mary Torres** has been a staunch supporter of TxSGS for decades, serving as the District S Representative since 2006. As a leader in Hispanic genealogy in Texas, Mary has served as a liaison for TxSGS to the Hispanic genealogy community. In 2021, while navigating the uncertainties of COVID, Mary led the Tip-O-Texas Genealogical Society in hosting the 41st Annual Texas Hispanic Genealogical and Historical Conference on Padre Island. Added to this, she has 20+ years of experience in genealogical research, both in the U.S. and in Mexico, which she shares through programs on general and Hispanic genealogy at the local, state, and national level.



*Tony Hanson*



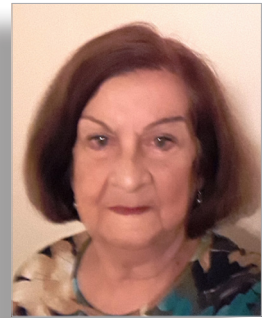
*Emily Richardson*



*Kelvin L. Meyers*



*Sandra J. Crowley*



*Mary Torres*

These five volunteers are representative of the many who devote time and energy to TxSGS and genealogy societies across Texas. Thank you Tony, Emily, Kelvin, Sandra, and Mary for your dedication and support!



# Walking with **Your Ancestors**

by Pat Gordon

Nothing is better than researching your ancestors where they lived. You've searched records in the courthouse. You've searched books in the library. Finally, you're ready to stop. Wait. Don't quit now. Take time to walk where your ancestors walked, if for no other reason than to be able to add social history to their stories.

While you may be able to find courthouse records elsewhere and books in other libraries, you can only follow their footsteps on site. If you are lucky, this part of your journey will begin at the courthouse. Many of your ancestors used the same courthouses that you now search for records. They climbed the same steps to get their marriage licenses, register their land, pay taxes, serve on juries, and file probate estates. Even granite steps will show wear from the thousands of feet that have climbed them for centuries. You may even hold a document that your ancestor held. Some states, such as Alabama, kept marriage certificates instead of giving them to the married couple. Other states, such as Texas, will give you the marriage certificate that your ancestor never picked up.

It happened to me. I have two original marriage certificates; one from Coleman County, Texas, was issued to W. W. Head and Miss Anna J. Bogart, dated 6 April 1884. The other is from Washington County, dated 17 February 1848, for Thomas R. Brown to Miss M. Singleton. I treasure both, knowing that the weddings must have been a joyous occasion for these families.



*Photo by Sébastien Goldberg on Unsplash.com*

Some genealogists don't bother going to cemeteries anymore, since pictures of grave markers and other information are now available online. Still, there is something almost magical about standing at an ancestor's gravesite, thinking about the family members who gathered there at the time of the funeral, and knowing they returned to place flowers on the grave from time to time.

For years I had searched for the grave of my great-grandmother, Jimann (Anna J.) Bogart Head, who had died from tuberculosis. From family stories, I knew Jimann's husband, William Walton Head, their six children, ages 2 to 16, and one of her brothers had traveled by wagon from Coleman County to Colorado. I just didn't know their destination. This was prior to the internet, so it took a while to locate a relative who knew the answer: Trinidad, Colorado. My first stop was the local library where I learned she died 19 November 1901, a month after the family arrived, and was buried in the International Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery. When I finally placed flowers on her grave, I could only think about the grief of her young children and the sorrow of her husband and brother.

Cemeteries are often sad places, despite our joy in locating them. That isn't the case when walking on your ancestor's property. Finding the property's location is easier now than it used to be. In Texas, most county tax offices can show you exactly where it is located on today's roads. Even without that help, you can often find it on your own by using a county patent map, which has today's roads on it. The information you need is also online at a subscription website, [www.historygeo.com](http://www.historygeo.com), or at the Texas General Land Office's website (search for land grants, homesteads, and land patents at <https://s3.glo.texas.gov/glo/history/archives/land-grants/index.cfm>). Since these are county patent maps, it is easy to find land grants. I recently found the exact location of my great-great-grandfather Russell Bogart's land

# Tips for an Effective Genealogy Research Trip

by Emily Richardson

You've spent hours online and are not finding any new documents or information on your lineage, so what's your next step? Taking a trip – yes, visiting a library, an archive, a cemetery, a museum, a land office, or any number of places that might have something focused on your relative.

As COVID began in March 2020, I was in Baltimore for a work conference. The plans were to travel to Pennsylvania and continue my research on the children of John Gardner, my third-great-grandfather, along with his parents. I am still hopeful that the trip will occur, but it is now planned for the spring of 2022. I offer the planning I did for this trip as a framework for you as you plan your next genealogy research trip.

## Determine Your Research Objectives

As you begin thinking about your trip, list all the research questions you want to try to answer. Be sure to write them out, as one research question will lead to another. This is a critical step because, if you spend the time and money to make the trip, you want to have a good chance of getting the information you need to answer your research questions. These questions should provide clarity on the locations and timeframes for your research.

For example, John Gardner was born in Pennsylvania about 1760 and died in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1844. A new connection via DNA created the need to visit both Washington and Westmoreland counties in Pennsylvania to research



where John lived prior to his early 1880s move to Ohio. This DNA connection believes that John lived in Westmoreland County prior to Ohio. But the connection readily admits that he hasn't done any research in Pennsylvania. John's first land record in Ohio states that he came from Washington County. Since Washington County was created from Westmoreland County, visits to both counties will be needed. Initial research in land records shows a John Gardner in both counties prior to 1800. Were there two John Gardners or one? To locate the documents that may answer this question, I need to know:

- What records are available for John Gardner (Gartner) (1760-1844) in Westmoreland County?
- What records are available for John Gardner in Washington County?

This list should include tax records, church records, and a review of family files. If land records are available that haven't been researched, those should be included as well.

To create your research questions, you may need to review the material you have on your individual so that it is fresh in your mind. Evaluate all the documents you have, and begin to think about what kinds of information you need. If you haven't created a timeline, this would be a good time to start one. Use the timeline to think about the types of records you might be looking for that will fill gaps in the dates. Also, update your research log. List the resources in the log that you wish to locate at each facility. This is what you will use first upon your arrival, to help remind you what you want to find.

# Tips for an Effective Genealogy Research Trip: the Librarian's Perspective

by Susan Kaufman

“Tips for an Effective Genealogy Research Trip,” Emily Richardson’s article on page 41 is a wonderful primer on taking a genealogy research trip. Here, I’ll add my perspective from the other side of the reference desk – the person you are coming to visit.

## Why take a research trip to a library or archive?

Taking a trip to a research library, archive, or repository will most likely uncover unique information that can’t be found in other places. In my career, I have had the honor of working with three different-sized libraries that housed local history and/or genealogy collections. My first job was at a local library with a small genealogy collection of materials related to the migration pattern into the state, Illinois. Unique to that library was their local history collection: ephemera such as postcards, ledger books, index cards, photograph collections, newspaper clippings, plus county histories and information. More importantly, a local historian with a wealth of knowledge about the area worked at the library as my mentor and educator. All this was found in the small genealogy and local history collection in Peoria, Illinois. It is this “local” material that is often at the very root of family history.

Larger genealogy research collections that cover a broad geographic area are just as important to utilize. These collections are wonderful for following a migration path through multiple locations. In addition, they often have a large collection of written family histories. Staff at these collections are specifically trained to

help genealogy researchers. In addition to the large geographic coverage, the materials in these collections include source materials and indexes unique to your ancestor’s community. These resources can be beneficial in creating a foundation for your research plan.

## Planning for your visit to a library or an archive

Yes, planning is THE best way to make the most efficient use of your time. Most often when we think of taking a research trip, we think of a “trip:” suitcase + map route = trip to a location to research your family history. As you read these and Emily’s hints, it’s important to apply some of these principles to a trip to your local library or even a trip to the computer for online researching. Practicing these

techniques at home will make you more proficient, maximizing your effectiveness on the research trip.

Planning gives you control of the research process. As you develop your research plan, you will be more likely to identify what you “don’t know,” which leads to defining the resources you need to locate to “find what you want to know.”

From a librarian’s perspective, this means being able to put your research goal into a question for the person on the other side of the desk, helping them to understand your research quest. For you, putting your research goal into a question will also guide you with online research.

Formulating this question is one of the most important things you can do when asking for help. Saying to the





# Living Repositories: Another Destination for Research

by Emily Richardson

When assembling a list of libraries, archives, repositories, and courthouses as research destinations, remember to include “living repositories,” those relatives who can share stories, details, and maybe even photos of your ancestors. While virtual conversations are popular, many of the older generation are not comfortable with online meeting platforms. Making a special effort to visit these “living repositories” may yield great dividends.



Especially during the holidays, many genealogists may be visiting with family members. With that in mind, here are a few questions that should provoke discussion about your ancestors, those living and those that have passed. This is not meant to be an “all-inclusive” list but instead one that should help you gain additional context about your family.

- What was the most interesting story you remember about the family that you heard while growing up?
- What was your favorite holiday celebration and why?
  - What were the traditional foods at the celebration?
  - Who would have attended the celebration?
  - Was a family picture part of the celebration?
- Where are your parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts buried?
  - Did you attend the ceremonies?
- What was your ancestor’s church affiliation?
  - What is your church affiliation?
  - Was there a favorite prayer said before bed?
  - Was there a favorite song request?
  - Did you have any bibles given to you from your ancestors?
- Do you have pictures, scrapbooks, papers (like birth, marriage or death certificates, or military info), or deeds that I might look at?
  - Do you know whether anyone participated in the military?
    - What branch?
    - What war?
    - What story did they tell you about their enlistment or time in service?
  - Was anyone in your family an entrepreneur?
    - What businesses did they start?
    - Were the records of their enterprise kept by the family?
    - Did they file for any patents?
  - As a child:
    - Who were you told you resembled?
    - What do you remember about the house you grew up in?
    - What was your favorite hobby or activity?
    - What was your best vacation? Why?
  - As a teenager:
    - What was your favorite movie? Book? Musical group?
    - What was the fashion fad that you remember? Why?
    - What was your favorite food?

# The Knights of Pythias: Death Notices and Member Assessments

by Russell A. Rahn

Outside of a family Bible, death records are exceptionally difficult to find prior to 1900. Typical places to search include church records, census mortality schedules, newspapers, and the occasional town or state record. One unusual source of death records came to my attention – a U.S. postal card, dated 1883, which contained a listing of death records for members of the group known as the Knights of Pythias.

Information on this card, shown in figure 1, implies that when deaths occurred in the ranks of this organization, members were required to make a payment to the Knights of Pythias endowment fund or forfeit their own rights and membership.

The following list gives the information about the date and place of death of fourteen members of the society for a four-month period in 1883. This information is certainly as useful as a public death record would be and can easily become the starting point of a study leading to a family tree or other family-related report. In the table below, the year of birth is calculated from the information on the card, which gives the age at date of death.

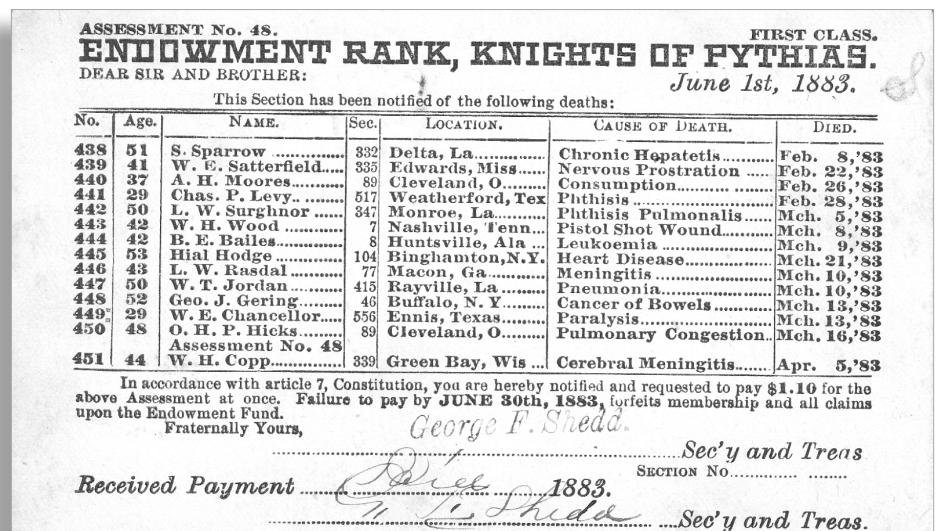


Figure 1.

Name	Birth Year	Death Date	Death Place
Bailes, B.E.	1841	9 March 1883	Huntsville, AL
<b>Chancellor, W. E.</b>	<b>1854</b>	<b>12 March 1883</b>	<b>Ennis, TX</b>
Copp, W. H.	1839	5 April 1883	Green Bay, WI
Gering, George J.	1831	13 March 1883	Buffalo, NY
Hicks, O. H. P.	1835	16 March 1883	Cleveland, OH
Hodge, Hial	1830	21 March 1883	Binghamton, NY
Jordan, W. T.	1833	10 March 1883	Rayville, LA
<b>Levy, Charles P.</b>	<b>1854</b>	<b>28 February 1883</b>	<b>Weatherford, TX</b>
Moores, A. H.	1846	26 February 1883	Cleveland, OH
Rasdal, L. W.	1840	10 March 1883	Macon, GA
Satterfield, W. E.	1842	23 February 1883	Edwards, MS
Sparrow, S.	1832	8 February 1883	Delta, LA
Surghnor, L. W.	1883	5 March 1883	Monroe, LA
Wood, W. H.	1841	8 March 1883	Nashville, TN

# A Guide to Genealogical Goldmines in North Texas

by Paula Perkins



Family history research resources for the U.S. and the world can be easily obtained from Texas facilities both in person and online. The digital age has made planning for in-person research streamlined for all.

Be sure to include the TXGenWeb Project (<http://www.txgenweb.org/>) in your advance planning; this resource has webpages for all 254 counties in Texas with links to resources for each county.

Over 70 libraries and repositories located in North Texas include:

- Family History Centers and FamilySearch affiliate libraries
- Denominational church archives
- Local libraries and archives including the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC)
- Colleges and universities including Regional County Depositories
- Courthouses
- Federal repositories such as National Archives at Fort Worth
- Museums
- Genealogical and historical organizations
- Fraternal organizations

North Texas covers the area south of Oklahoma, east of Abilene, west of Paris, and north of Waco. A more precise term for this region would be the northern part of the central portion of Texas.

Libraries with genealogy sections often contain genealogy reference materials, state and county histories, family books and files, census records, birth and death indexes, city directories, published cemetery indexes, county maps, newspapers (both historic and current), plus local and out-of-state genealogy periodicals.

Many libraries offer a service called Interlibrary Loan (ILL) which allows researchers to borrow materials

from Texas and beyond to view at their local library. In some instances, you might be charged a small fee, which normally covers postage. While this service applies to many genealogically-relevant items, it typically does not include reference books. TSLAC lends selected items and microfilm via Interlibrary Loan.

Another option for local access to genealogy materials is obtaining a TexShare card from your local Texas library. The card is a resource you can use at other participating Texas libraries. Some libraries now have circulating genealogical reference books that can be borrowed with a TexShare card.

## Family History Centers

The main Family History Library is located in Salt Lake City, Utah; however, in cities across North Texas there are over 20 local Family History Centers, which are branches of the Family History Library. The Family History Library houses the largest genealogical and historical collection in the world. An account can be created and records searched online for free. Due to contractual obligations, some records are only available for in-person viewing from a Family History Center or a FamilySearch affiliate library.

Decades ago, court records of most counties in the U.S. were microfilmed by volunteers from the Genealogical Society of Utah; in exchange for access to the records, duplicates of those microfilm rolls were given to the county to use as a backup copy. The Family History Center has now digitized and uploaded to the internet all microfilmed images in their collection.

You can search the FamilySearch online card catalog



# Partner Society Roundup

Is your Partner Society missing? Perhaps your contact information is out of date or your society's membership has lapsed. 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 webinars to use for society programs, publicity support for society events,

media downloads, preservation and access support, awards, digitization equipment loan grants, and much more. TxSGS is continuing Partner Society meeting support by facilitating virtual meetings for partner societies for free through May 31, 2022, for those societies that are not meeting in person. See page 69 for more details.

Read the reports from around Texas to identify events and societies in your area. TxSGS recommends that persons interested in society events check the society's website and Facebook page to make sure the event is still scheduled and whether it will be held in-person, virtually, or in the hybrid (in-person and virtual) format.

## District C

Emily Richardson,  
District Representative

October 2021 brought Tony Hanson to the [Denton County Genealogical Society](#); he presented "Technology Enabled Collaboration for Genealogists." His presentation examined relatively new capabilities for collaborative family research that include the FamilySearch Family Tree as well as greatly improved presentation of DNA results from Ancestry DNA. In November, Lisa Louise Cooke spoke on organizing genealogy "stuff." There was no meeting scheduled for December.

The [Robson Ranch Genealogy Club](#) of Denton finished its 2021 program year on November 16 with "Kilts, Celts and Scots: Researching your Scottish Ancestors on ScotlandsPeople" by Patti Gillespie. Patti was scheduled to give this program in February but got bumped because of the winter weather emergency.

## District E

Tim de la Vega,  
District Representative

Meetings remain virtual through February for the [San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society](#); see the SAGHS website for programming details. December featured Thomas MacEntee speaking on "Did I Get Everything? Creating a Checklist for Genealogy Research." January's speaker and topic are in the works. February brings Janine Cloud of FamilyTreeDNA presenting "It's Never too Late to Start! DNA Testing for Beginners." All monthly programs are free and open to the public. Registration links are available on the SAGHS website at [www.saghs-tx.org](http://www.saghs-tx.org).

## District G

Tony Hanson,  
District Representative

In 2022, the [Cedar Hill Genealogical Society](#) (GHGS) will offer an open workshop once a month that will be "staffed" by experienced members. The workshops spearhead an effort to highlight the benefits of

society membership and draw people back to in-person meetings. The workshops are presently slated for the second Thursday of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Check the CHGS website for updated times prior to attending.

The [Dallas Genealogical Society](#) was one of the sponsors for the Preservation Dallas 2021 Fall Tour – Cemeteries of Dallas event. DGS Past President Tony Hanson participated in a panel discussion that kicked off the event that attracted about 175 participants. Volunteers from the Friends of the Oakland Cemetery group and DGS members greeted participants at the Oakland cemetery, providing information about the history of the cemetery, highlighting selected burials, and providing burial information from the database of burials that has been created by the society.

The [Rockwall County Genealogical Society](#) (RCGS) meets January through November at 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Rockwall County Library (Genealogy section). Monthly meetings range

# Society Program Support Continues in 2022 with New Recordings!



**2022**

- New Lectures
- Well-Known Speakers

Available January-December 2022

**Partner Society Program**

With vaccinations plus reductions in COVID cases, we're all embracing a relaxation on restrictions and considering in-person gatherings. TxSGS encourages all society leaders to consider ways your society can remain viable and in touch with members. Here are a few ways TxSGS can help with programming and more.

## 1) TxSGS Webinar Series for Partner Societies

Need program ideas that are adaptable to virtual or in-person presentations? Consider the TxSGS Webinar Series for Partner Societies. *TxSGS has six new presentations available for use by Partner Societies.* For more information, see <https://www.txsgs.org/programs/webinar-series-partner-society/>.

## 2) Virtual Meeting Support

Considering the impact of the COVID on in-person gatherings, **TxSGS has extended virtual meeting support for Partner Societies through May 31, 2022.** We provide the technical know-how; the society provides the program. Need to hold a meeting and vote? Want to provide announcements? We can make that happen. Read more about our offer at <https://www.txsgs.org/programs/webinar-series-partner-society/> Please note that due to volunteer limitations, TxSGS is not able to provide virtual assistance for in-person or hybrid meetings.

## 3) To request virtual meeting support or presentation webinars, complete the online Partner Society Virtual Meeting Request Form at

<https://tinyurl.com/PSvirtualmeeting2022>.

The presentation webinars are available for societies to use as a program for either virtual or in-person regularly scheduled meetings. This is an inexpensive alternative for society programming that can also be used as a last-minute substitute for a speaker who unexpectedly cancelled.

For those societies that are not meeting in person, TxSGS has committed to offering virtual meeting support through **May 31, 2022**, at which time we will reevaluate the need for this program. If you have any questions, please send them to [webinars@txsgs.org](mailto:webinars@txsgs.org).

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