



Roots 'n' Branches

Your Award Winning Newsletter!

The Monthly Grand Prairie Genealogical Society Newsletter
P.O. Box 532026 Grand Prairie, Texas 75053-2026

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Thursday, February 4, 2009

Searching for Holocaust Survivors

RUTH LLOYD will share how research led to her parents story as Holocaust survivors. She was born to Motek (Max) and Gitla (Gertrude) Grinszpan Fischbein. Motek survived Auschwitz and Gitla survived Skarzysko-Kamienna Slave Labor Camp.

Ruth is a first generation American born in Fort Worth, Texas. She graduated from the University of Texas Arlington with a BBA in Marketing. Her career has been in sales for several paper companies over the last 30 years and is currently employed by xpedx, an International Paper Company. Ruth is married and has one son.

GRAND PRAIRIE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

GRAND PRAIRIE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

901 CONOVER DRIVE

Refreshments will be provided by
Glen & Jean Simpson

Regina Shumaker
Vice President of Programs

Due to Library Renovations, our February meeting will be held in the Children's Theater of the Grand Prairie Memorial Library. Please use the Main Library Entrance.

100 Years of Grand Prairie Celebration

The City of Grand Prairie is celebrating its 100 years of incorporation in 2009 with a variety of celebrations. Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 28, 4-10 p.m., for the main Celebrating a Century Celebration at the Airhogs ballpark, 1600 Lone Star Parkway. Bring the family for rides, games, food, demonstrations, displays, concerts, and Fireworks. The \$1 per person admission fee will be waived with your donation of a canned good. Dress in the decade of your choice! Call 972-237-8100 for more information. The Grand Prairie Genealogical Society will be participating in this kick-off event for the cities 100 year celebration.

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From the Gavel

What a Ride!

I've never been one for roller coasters but - Wow! What a year it has been so far. I am so excited about all that we have accomplished in the last few months and the things that are ahead. I know that personally I have managed to do more research this year than in recent years but what's happening in the club delights me. Great programs, regularly scheduled helper times in the library, a successful lock-in, statewide recognition for our newsletter and new members are all so exciting. I love to see so many members being so active. And what fun we're having working together.

Then there are the comments and the successes that I have heard because of our last meeting. Just getting all those people in the genealogy room was a great accomplishment. Kudos to Becky and our hospitality people that night for their work. I think most people had a good time and some broke through those brick walls.

And there are exciting things ahead. Programs on Jewish, Indian and Internet subjects as well as highlights from our members make our meetings not only anticipated but enjoyable. Before you know it, we'll be electing officers and the society will spark with new ideas and new participation. So tighten your seat belt and hold on tight as we top the hill and rush into another exciting year where your opportunities promise to be many.

Pamela Knight
President

In Loving Memory

Bruce Albion Sinclair
May 28, 1926
January 7, 2009

Grand Prairie Genealogical Society member Bruce Albion Sinclair, 82, passed away Wednesday, January 7, 2009. Mr. Sinclair was born in Derry, New Mexico, May 28, 1926 to Luther and Elizabeth Sinclair. He served in the United States Air Force. Bruce is survived by his wife, Mary and children Barbara and Bryan. He will be greatly missed by all who know him.

Query

Seeking: Information about an area of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas that was called "Grand Prairie" in the 1860's. If you have information about this area please contact the GPGS Executive Board at gpgstx@yahoo.com

Library Update

Renovations continue on the large meeting room and the area to the west of it. The city is updating the carpet and lighting in both areas, as well as adding a new modular computer classroom. To accommodate the new classroom, the public computer area is moving to the West into the area currently occupied by the DVD collection.

Member Profile

Richard G. Waller

The youngest of six children born to Willis A. "Buddy" Waller and Wanda Jean Parker, Richard was born in Methodist Hospital Dallas, on April 20, 1964. My Waller Family left Virginia in 1832 and arrived in East Texas about 1840, where they settled in and stayed until my father moved to Grand Prairie to build airplanes. My mothers family, the Parker Family, arrived in Texas from Mississippi because of my G-G-Grandfathers health, his son moved to Oklahoma and my mother returned to Texas where she met mo father while working as a waitress for a relative in Big Sandy. My parents bought a home here in Grand Prairie after living in Avion Village and began a family. My oldest brother, David died at 4 and my sister Norma Jean died at 11 month's. They were followed by Carol, Donna and William before an extremely cute red headed boy, ME, came along. After my father passed away in 1980, my aunt Aubrey Hight Waller gave me copies of her family group sheets (approx 100) as well as copies of documents she had collected over the years. At the ripe old age of 30 I married Terri Diane Thomason, a native of North Louisiana. Diane and I met at children's church camp while she was the children's minister at Highland Park Baptist Church. Diane attended North East Louisiana University in Monroe as well as Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary where she received a Masters Degree in Religious Education. In 1997 Ricky joined our family and in 1999 David arrived. In 2001 Diane became seriously ill and passed away after a week in ICU. Raising two sons brings new challenges daily.

Name That Person

Can you name this Grand Prairie Genealogical Society member?



Last Month's photo:
First Grader Richard Waller.

Thank You

Thank you to Beau and Becky Garland of the great refreshments we had at our January meeting. The societies January meeting was a great success. Members and visitors shared "Brick Wall" research problems and help each other map out a research plan. Thanks for all those who participated.

**Coming Soon
To This Newsletter**

A Genealogy Advice Column

"Ask Uncle Leon"

Workshops/Conferences

City of Grand Prairie's Celebrating A Century Celebration

March 28, 4-10 pm
Airhogs Ballpark
1600 Lone Star Parkway
Grand Prairie, Texas

National Genealogical Society Conference In The States 2009

**The Building of a Nation:
From Roanoke to the West**
May 13-16, 2009
North Carolina Genealogical Society
Raleigh, North Carolina

Federation of Genealogical Societies 2009 Annual Conference Passages Through Time

September 2-5, 2009
Little Rock Statehouse Convention Center
Little Rock, Arkansas

Grand Prairie Genealogical Society Centennial Celebration Lock-In

October 23, 2009
Grand Prairie Memorial Library

PBS Documentary

Forgotten Ellis Island, a documentary based on film producer Lorie Conway's book *Forgotten Ellis Island, The Extraordinary Story about America's Immigrant Hospital* about the immigrant hospital at America's busiest port of arrival, is set to air on many PBS stations Feb. 2 at 10 p.m. (It'll air Feb. 16 at 8 p.m. in some places.) See the Forgotten Ellis Island Web site <http://forgottenellisland.com/> and check local TV listings for updates.

In The Coming Months

Below is a listing of the programs planned for the Grand Prairie Genealogical Society regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

March 8th:

Judy Allen Knight will speak about "Footnote.com and NARA Digitize Records". She will explain what is available on this website and how it compares to other online resources. Judy has over 30 years experience researching family history; teaches genealogy at Tarrant Community College, Southeast Campus; President of Historic W.V.S. Allen Cemetery Association; Past President of Mid-Cities Genealogical Society in Euless, Texas; and Past District 11 Representative of Texas State Genealogical Society.

April 2nd:

To Be Announced

May 7th:

Society members, Doris Kettlehut, Karen Hamilton and Jan Barrett will share research experiences from their 2008 road trip across several states.

Regina Shumaker
Vice President of Programs

Genealogy and Reality TV

A genealogy-reality TV show-in-production has a premiere date: April 20 at 8 p.m., according to the [Hollywood Reporter](http://www.hollywoodreporter.com). It will air on Mondays. Modeled after Britain's successful "Who Do You Think You Are" series, the show will have professional genealogists tracing the family roots of American celebrities including Sarah Jessica Parker and Susan Sarandon.

Executive Board Members

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS:

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Have a Query?

E-mail your query to gpgstx@yahoo.com,
Queries will be printed as space allows.

Finance Report

The Grand Prairie Genealogical Society Finance Report that will be presented at our February meeting is as follows:

Balance 1-02-09	\$1437.25
Deposits	\$ 62.51
Expenses	\$ 0.00
Balance 2-01-09	\$1499.76

John Cockrum
Treasurer

Chuckles

Mr. Charles B. Ware, of Aurora, was recently adjudged insane, and taken to Elgin. The cause of his insanity is said to be disappointment in a love affair. Another warning to young men to **B. Ware** of girls.

*From our friends at
The Genie's View*

Beginners Time

Grand Prairie Genealogical Society is providing research assistance in the Genealogy Room at the main library. During our November session society members John and Barb Wylie volunteered. Our next Beginners Time will be from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm the third Thursday night of the month, February, 2009. To volunteer contact Richard Waller.

"Everyone has ancestors and it is only a question of going back far enough to find a good one."

Howard Kenneth Nixon

Wholly Genes Conference

Wholly Genes, Inc., of Columbia, Maryland, is proud to announce the 2009 Genealogy Conference and "Land Cruise," 26-30 August 2009. Prompted by economic conditions, the company has broken from the tradition of its annual conference on a cruise ship and is hosting this year's event in the pastoral setting of an historic hotel in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, about 2 hours west of Washington D.C. This setting provides a very inexpensive venue for the genealogy presentations while its proximity to Washington D.C. offers the opportunity to follow those preparatory lectures with an all-day research trip to the extraordinary research repositories of the nation's capital. As in previous years, the focus of the conference is on providing first-class genealogical speakers on topics that will interest all researchers. To that end, this year's speaker list includes some of the most respected and knowledgeable professional genealogists in the world, including:

- John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. - a popular speaker, prolific author, and expert on research at the Library of Congress, among many other topics.
- Marie Varrelman Melchiori, CG, CGL - a full-time researcher for 30 years, an expert on the National Archives, military records, and other topics.
- Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG - the Director of the National Institute on Genealogical Research, author, and an expert on research at the DAR Library and National Archives, among other topics.
- Craig Roberts Scott, CG - publisher, professional researcher for more than 23 years, and an expert on a wide variety of record types and resources, including colonial, Civil War, federal records, migration, military, Quaker, and government publications.

The four-day conference will start with a day and a half of lectures about methodology, repositories, records, and finding aids in D.C. (including NARA, the Library of Congress, and the DAR), followed by a full-day research trip to Washington D.C. (the "land cruise" part), and then another day and a half of presentations, among other activities. The company will also offer a series of presentations about its flagship product, The Master Genealogist (TMG), but, in another break from tradition, those software presentations will be concentrated on the last day of the conference, allowing researchers the choice to register for a three- or four-day conference, according to their interest. "We're looking forward to another great opportunity to learn to be better researchers while enjoying the company of others who are doing the same," he said. The event has been sold out for each of the last four years and is limited this year to just 200 attendees so the company expects it to fill up quickly. At under \$400 per person (for double occupancy), including meals and all conference events, the event is less than half the price of last year's conference and a fraction of the cost of a typical genealogy conference. There's even free wireless internet and free parking. You can find more information about the 2009 Genealogy Conference and "Land Cruise" to Washington D.C. at <http://www.WhollyGenes.com/conference.htm>

Extractions

The Grand Prairie Genealogical Society expresses its sincere thanks to society member Ruth Goodman, for her continued extractions from the "Grand Prairie Texan". The following pages are from the January 28, 1910 and February 4, 1910 issues.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1910
GRAND PRAIRIE TEXAN**

FROM FISH CREEK

Mrs. J. H. VINCELL has returned from a few days visit to friends and relatives north of Dallas.

The little child of **JIM ADAIR** is reported better this week.

Mr. and Mrs. M. H. COLE have returned from Heath, where they spent two weeks with friends and relatives.

The farmers have finished our new road, which is good enough for autos.

MOUNTAIN CREEK LOCALS

GUY VICTORY of Dallas spent a few days on the farm at his father's last week.

W. E. PETERSON is reported on the sick list this week.

R. F. ROBINSON of Kemp visited his daughter, **Mrs. SADIE PETERSON**, returning home Tuesday.

Mrs. A. L. LATTIE left Saturday for Oklahoma where she was called to the bedside of her father, who was reported to be dieing.

E. C. PETERSON spent Saturday night with **WILL HENDRIX** and family.

**GRAND PRAIRIE TEXAN
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1910**

**IMPORTANT TO
RURAL ROUTE PATRONS**

The following letter from the 4th assistant postmaster general needs no explaining and all R.F.D. patrons should take special notice:

Washington, Jan. 25 '10. The Postmaster.

Sirs:--

In view of the extent to which the practice of placing loose coins in boxes by patrons has grown, and the delay in the delivery and collection of mail and the hardship imposed on rural carriers incident thereto, you are informed that, commencing February 15, proximo, rural letter carriers will not be required to collect loose coins from rural mail boxes.

Patrons should enclose coins in an envelope, wrap them securely in a piece of paper, or deposit them in a coin holding receptacle so they can be easily and quickly taken from boxes, and carriers will be required to lift such coins, and, where accompanied by mail for dispatch, attach the requisite stamps. Respectfully,

P. V. DeGRAW, 4th Asst. Postmaster Gen'l.

FOWLERS HOME

We have just gone through a siege of lagrippe and pneumonia, as many as nine were down at one time. But all are better now, except one, who has a well developed case of measles.

Our two schools are doing fine under the direction of **Mrs. ANDERSON** and **Miss SPENCER** as teachers.

Among our visitors recently was **Dr. MARSHALL** of Chandler, Okla., whose ward, **ALEC O'NEAL**, has been very sick. When the doctor herd of **ALEC's** illness, he came at once and told us to give the little fellow the best attention possible and he would pay the bill. **ALEC** is an orphan **Dr. MARSHALL** sent here to place in our care to get him away from the bad influences in Oklahoma. We consider this a complement to us. We wish for many more who will say "do your best for the children, I'll pay the bill." **Superintendent**

\$400,000 WILL BE SPENT

GEORGE D. ALLEN, a millionaire wholesale paper dealer of St. Louis, was in Dallas last Friday, closing plans for the building of the model city, Dalworth, located about midway between Dallas and Fort Worth.

Mr. ALLEN is an enthusiastic booster for Dallas and Texas, and believes investment opportunities are more flattering in the city and state than anywhere else in the United States.

Discussing the future of Dalworth, **Mr. ALLEN** said: "Work on the building of a model interurban city in close touch of Dallas and Fort Worth will begin in the next 45 days.

"The ground will be surveyed and platted and sites for stores and factories and residences laid out next week.

"To make Dalworth an ideal home and business place, we will expend \$400,000 in the next twelve months.

"Lights, sewers, streets, sidewalks, power, heat and every modern convenience will be installed."

BUILDING NEWS

There has been erected during the month of January in Grand Prairie ten cottages and as many more are being planned to be erected this month.

T. C. OLIVER, **Rev. I. W. CLARK**, **E. W. DALLAS** and **H. A. HOOD** each have now in course the construction a four-room cottage.

This is a splendid showing for one month, especially the month that had a great deal of bad weather. Several business houses are

being planned to be erected during the early spring months. The greatest building activity in the history of our town is anticipated this spring and summer. And yet there is a cry of more rent houses.

SHADY GROVE LOCALS

Mrs. M. FRAYER is on the sick list this week.

Mrs. ALICE BARTON visited in Fort Worth last week.

Mrs. HENRY KIMBL was in Fort Worth last week having her eyes treated.

W. L. SPECK of Haskell County visited his brother, **I. A. SPECK**, last week.

Miss MATTIE LU MARTIN of Grand Prairie was visiting **Misses MABEL** and **NECIA SEAL** last Saturday night and Sunday.

Misses EULA WILLIAMS, **LULA HOLMES** and **Messrs. SAM HOLMES**, **GREGORY VANDERVORT** and **JIM DAUGHERTY** of Grand Prairie were the guests of **Miss FLORA FRAYER** Sunday afternoon. **FLORA & ELSIE**

BAPTIST CHURCH NOTES

The choir practice will be at the Church each Thursday evening at 7:30. All who can sing are asked to come and help.

The Mission Class met Monday afternoon with a good attendance. The paper by **Mrs. COLLINS** was enjoyed and proved very beneficial. Interesting events of China were related in response to roll call. Next class lesson will be 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, Feb. 14th, all are urged to come on time.

Extractions from the January 28, 1910 issue of the "Grand Prairie Texan" will continue in the March 2009 issue of Roots 'n Branches.