



Roots 'n' Branches

Your Award Winning Newsletter

Monthly Grand Prairie Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 532026 Grand Prairie, Texas 75053-2026

www.gpgstx.org

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Bill Covington

The Continental Soldier
of the American Revolution

Uniformed as a Continental soldier of the late war period American Revolution, Bill will display, explain, and demonstrate the clothing, arms, and accoutrements with which the common soldier of the Continental Congressional cause fought against the troops of the British Empire. Through his presentation, he hopes to bring honor to the memories of the men and women who lived, fought, and suffered through the dark days that preceded the birth of our nation. Bill Covington is a teacher by profession, having spent 14 years in the Dallas Independent School District as an instructor of both Social Studies and English as a Second Language (ESL), primarily at the middle school level. This was followed by 6 years of teaching as an adjunct instructor for several of the local community colleges. Currently, he is an instructor of Social Studies at the Waxahachie Global High School in Waxahachie, Texas where he teaches World Geography and World History. In addition, he is also an adjunct instructor of U.S., European, and Texas History at Navarro College also in Waxahachie. A native of Ft. Worth, Texas, he resides in Cedar Hill, Texas with his wife and three children.

Refreshments and Conversation at 6:30 PM

Program at 7:00 PM

Grand Prairie Memorial Library

901 Conover Drive, Grand Prairie

Cynthia Jones
Vice President of Programs

1940 Census information from NARA

The National Archives and Records Administration does not have a partner for the 1940 Census. NARA will be releasing it digitally. Our people are working on various technical aspects and have been for some time. Official information and announcements are, and will continue to be, placed on our website at our 1940 census page at <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/census/1940/>. We hope you enjoy watching the Census Bureau's 1940 census training videos that we've already placed online.

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Visitors Are Always Welcome

February Refreshments provided by
John and Bonnie Cockrum and Richard Waller

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From the Gavel

From the Gavel--

Our friend, Jake once described an acquaintance by saying, "He chases so many rabbits that he seldom catches one." It was an apt description of that individual and sometimes it fits me. But, today I'm glad I wandered off task and chased a rabbit.

A question on the Association of Professional Genealogists' mailing list prompted me to log onto Footnote.com to verify the date of my third-great-grandfather's Civil War service. The last time I looked for him at that website, there was only one page of his service record shown. Today, there were eleven pages! I learned that in addition to service in the Missouri Home Guards beginning in 1861, by September 1864, he had been promoted to Captain in the 46th Regiment, Missouri Infantry.

With this new information, I decided to see if Ancestry had anything I hadn't seen. They did. *The Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies 1861-1865*, Special Order #55 from the Headquarters District of Southwest Missouri, issued on 28 February 1865, reported that Capt. Brixey was in command at Bloomington and ready to leave one lieutenant and twenty men there.

And the moral of the story is: Revisit various websites. Their content keeps growing, especially the big commercial sites and state archives. Governments are realizing that it is less expensive to scan documents once and put them online than to hire more staff to serve customers face-to-face. Some Sunday afternoons chasing rabbits is a rewarding diversion.

See you at our 4 February meeting,

Barbara Brixey Wylie
President

Member News

Doris Kettlehut

Doris Kettlehut had surgery January 6th at Arlington Memorial. She had 2 stints put in a blocked artery and is home recovering.

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Thanks to Ruth and Wally Goodman and Tom and Elaina Cogdell for January Refreshments.

Financial Report

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

Balance on 01-01-10	\$1711.46
Deposits	0.00
Expenses	0.00
Balance on 01-31-10	\$1711.46

John Cockrum
Treasurer

Websites of interest

Ancestry for your Iphone:

http://landing.ancestry.com/iphone/?sssdmh=dm13.232150&o_iid=42310&o_lid=42310

Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems Podcast:

<http://www.genealogygemspodcast.com/>

Name That Person

**Can you name this Grand Prairie
Genealogical Society member?**



Last Month's photo:
Becky Garland

Member Profile

Becky Montez Navarro Garland

I was born 4/22/1941 in Chicago Il. to Jesus Montez and Concepcion Salinas. I was the 2nd child, having an older sister, by 2 yrs. When I was about 18mo. my father was killed in an automobile accident. My mother was widowed by age 22. My older sister had TB and was in a hospital for my 1st 18mo., so she spoke only English and I spoke only Spanish, but we somehow got along as children have a way of doing.

My mother remarried the following year to Alfonso Navarro, and I had a big sister and brother, as they were teenagers like 13 & 14 and together they had 7 more children. We

were 7 girls and 4 boys. To describe our home it was LOVE, HAPPINESS & FOOD. I also inherited another grandmother, as my stepdad's mom lived with us and she spoke no English. As a child, I was a bit of a tomboy, put me in a dress and I always came home with something torn on it. We lived on the south side of Chicago until 1953 when my dad decided it would be cheaper to live in Mexico, so we packed it up 6 kids (14 to 6mo.) & grandma, mom & dad in a brand new 1953 Dodge, before then we had a 1939 somethin' or the other. What a trip, we settled in Guadalajara, where we had family and my dad headed back to Chicago to work. Oh, by this time my sister and I were adopted by my stepdad and we became Navarro's. This move lasted a bit over a year and my dad missed his family so much, he said sell everything and come home. So we headed back to Chicago by train.

At 18 I married the 1st time and had my first child, Roxana, I divorced six years later and in 1967 met and married Owen Garland,(Beau) (he had 2 daughters from a previous marriage) we had a son in 1968. In 1971 my parents and the kids at home moved to San Antonio, Texas where my mother had family and we tried to follow in 1976, we got as far as Grand Prairie where Beau had a friend and the rest is history we have been here ever since. Both Roxana & Owen Jr. graduated from South Grand Prairie High School. Rox's son graduated from there in 2003 and Owen Jr. had a son graduating this year.

I did work here for MetLife and retired from there after 25 yrs. of service both here and Chicago. Beau has been in the pest control business here over 25yrs. I enjoy crafts and of course traveling. We have a total of 9 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren, some here, some in Nevada and some in Illinois.

The Folks Who Made Grand Prairie

GEORGE HARRISON TURNER

(known to most of Grand Prairie as Harry Turner)

G. H. (Harry) Turner was born in Longview, Texas in 1884. He sold newspapers as a boy to help support his widowed mother. As a young man, he held various positions with railroad companies in Shreveport, Waco, and Greenville.

His civic works included 12 terms as mayor of Grand Prairie. He was first elected in 1923 and, except for 1935 - 1936, served until 1949. During that period, he helped to assemble the site for North American Aviation. This company is now the Northrop Grumman Corporation. The growth of Grand Prairie was sparked by this plant in the early 1940's. From 1940-1946, Grand Prairie had the highest percentage of population growth in the nation. Also, during his tenure as mayor, Grand Prairie has one of the best financial ratings in the state of Texas and the first mercury vapor lighting system in the Southwest was installed. The population of Grand Prairie grew from 1,000 during his first term as mayor to 28,000 by the end of his tenure.

Harry Turner had a wide variety of business interests that included banking, insurance, a savings and loan, real estate, home building, and a furniture store.

Lena Turner was his wife of many years and their home was on Moore Street in Grand Prairie. They had no children. In September 1952, the Lena and Harry Turner Foundation was established by the Turners. This philanthropic foundation has sent numerous Grand Prairie children to various colleges and universities. It has also made

donations to the fire department, the police department, and several churches. Through this foundation, Harry Turner's legacy continues to positively affect the people of Grand Prairie.

Turner Park is named in his honor for his many contributions to Grand Prairie as a civic leader, businessman, and banker.

Harry Turner died December 1, 1959. After a funeral that filled the 1,200 seat sanctuary of First Baptist Church, he was buried in Southland Cemetery. Lena Turner died in July 1980. She, too, was buried in Southland Cemetery.

*Submitted by
John Cockrum*

Donate Your Print Cartridges

Think Green

Do you have an empty ink cartridge? Staples has an ink cartridge recycling program; \$3 for each ink cartridge up to ten per month. If you would like to generate money needed to purchase ink for printing brochures and other items for the society, please bring an empty ink cartridge to the next meeting. We can be earth friendly plus reduce our printing expenses.

*Regina Shumaker
President Elect*

"He who has no fools, knaves, or beggars in his family was begot by a flash of lightning."

-- Old English proverb

Workshops/Conferences

RootsMagic Valentines Cruise

February 14-21, 2010

Royal Caribbean Liberty of the Seas

Come spend Valentines with us on a fun and educational 7 day western Caribbean cruise on one of the newest and largest cruise ships in the world. Enjoy the sun and sand while meeting and learning from some of the most popular speakers in the genealogical community.

<http://www.rootsmagiccruise.com/>

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Clayton Library Friends Welcomes

Dick Eastman

Saturday, March 27, 2010

Houston, Texas

<http://www.claytonlibraryfriends.org/>

NARA: 1940 Census Information

As to finding aids, let me mention three that are available right now: **T1224**, Descriptions of Census Enumeration Districts, 1830-1950, Rolls 91-118. **A3378**, Enumeration District Maps for the Twelfth through Sixteenth Censuses of the United States, 1900-1940 (73 rolls). As well as Steve Morse's website, <http://stevemorse.org/census/intro.html>.

In addition, for those interested in background history, there are (by happenstance) pages from some administrative reports that refer to the Bureau's preparations for the 1940 census in M1870, Selected Bureau of the Census Records Relating to Work Projects Administration Census Indexing Projects, 1935-1943 (1 roll).

Claire Kluskens

*National Archives and Records Administration
Washington, DC*

In The Coming Months

March 4, 2010

Sandra Crowley

Photo Editing and Digital Scrapbooking

Learn a few editing techniques to enhance and repair your images (old or new), then discover creative ways to turn those photos into scrapbook memories that help tell your family's story for future generations. See how to add journaling and embellishments to your pages and examine ways to share them with family and friends.

Sandra Crowley holds a business degree from the University of Memphis and is a former Vice President of Marketing and Communications of several Minnesota technology companies. She has also consulted for Hewlett-Packard, Gelco Expense Management and other computer hardware and software businesses. She was born in Tennessee and lived in Minnesota for 20 years before settling in Texas in 2002. She works part-time, speaks frequently about technology and genealogy, is on the board of several non-profit organizations, and teaches PowerPoint and Online Genealogy/Family Tree Maker classes at Tarrant County College. She enjoys combining her passion for technology and digital imaging with her love of Family history and research.

Cynthia Jones

Vice President of Programs

"If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance."

-- George Bernard Shaw

Executive Board Members

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

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barb@johnwylie.com

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*Grand Prairie Genealogical Society
 A Partner Society of the
 Texas State Genealogical Society*

Our Library

The Grand Prairie Genealogical Society exists to support family history research and the Genealogical Collection of the Grand Prairie Memorial Library. The genealogical collection is located at the Main Branch, 901 Conover Drive. The library may be contacted at 972-237-5700. The libraries hours of operation are listed below:

Monday	10am to 9pm
Tuesday	10am to 9pm
Wednesday	10am to 6pm
Thursday	10am to 9pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	9am to 6pm
Sunday	1pm to 5pm

Visit GP libraries online at:

www.gptx.org/library

Volunteer Opportunities

Your chance to volunteer to help with society projects is at hand. Contact Regina Shumaker, Cemetery Project Chairperson. Contact Jan Barrett, Scrapbook Project Chairperson. You may also contact John Wylie about organizing a project of your own.

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 February 25, 1910 issue.

Grand Prairie Texan February 25, 1910

We are authorized to announce the following candidates for the respective offices, subject to the Democratic Primary election:

For Tax Collector: R. L. ELLIS

For Tax Assessor: G. W. SEARS,

H. M. (Marsh) ELLISTON

For Sheriff: Hayden TRIGG

For County Attorney: R. M. CLARK

JUDGE J. W. PIERSON

For District Clerk: A. H. COOPER

ADVERTISEMENT: J. W. H. DEAN, contractor, House and Sign Painter and Paper Hanger. All work guaranteed first-class and done promptly. Leave orders with H. J. LUCAS or at OWENS' LUMBER YARD, Grand Prairie. Your patronage solicited.

A. H. COOPER FOR DISTRICT CLERK

In this issue, A. H. COOPER, a well known citizen of Mesquite, announces as a candidate for the office of District Clerk of Dallas County, subject to the Democratic primary election, July 23, 1910.

Mr. COOPER was born and raised in Dallas County, having first seen the light of day near Lawson. He is a young man of the highest moral character and having taken a thorough course in business and bookkeeping, is splendidly equipped for clerical duties.

For a number of years, he has been manager and bookkeeper for the HENRY SPENCE GIN. CO., of Mesquite, and had the misfortune to lose his left arm in an accident at the gin a year or two ago, but his misfortune does not affect his ability to do clerical work but it unfits him for hard manual labor where two hands are needed.

He is at present one of the Alderman for Mesquite and is also City Secretary, which duties, he discharges in a highly satisfactory manner.

Mr. COOPER has always been a Democrat and has never before sought office. Both he and his friends will appreciate any interest taken in his behalf.

GRAND PRAIRIE'S ASPIRATIONS

Geo. D. ALLEN, of St. Louis, Mo., is perfecting plans for the building of a model city, Dalworth, located about midway between Dallas and Fort Worth, adjoining Grand Prairie on the west. It is planned to expend about \$400,000 on the site selected within the next twelve months. Lights, sewers, streets, sidewalks, power, heat and every modern convenience will be installed.

The citizens of Grand Prairie have for sometime been manifesting great eagerness in securing the location of manufacturing plants, and already several have been located there. With the prospects of the improvements to be made at Dalworth, the citizens of Grand Prairie have reached that unanimity of purpose in a great conquest for a large and enterprising city.
TEXAS TRADE REVIEW

ADVERTISEMENT: Something NEW and FINE. We take this method of announcing to the public that we will, in the JACKSON Building next to T. & P. Depot, about MARCH 10th, open a Modern Confectionery, carrying a complete line of Candies and Cigars, and Ice Cream and all kinds of Cold Drinks. Watch for the opening. SIMPSON (Ross SIMPSON) & WILLIAMS (Med WILLIAMS).

POLL TAX PAYMENTS OF THE COUNTY

Richardson passed up the third place in number of polls paid in the county at the last moment. Garland leads off with 434; Lancaster

second with 381; followed by Grand Prairie with 282; Mesquite dropped into fourth by 240 votes to Richardson's 234.

RICHARDSON ECHO

Sam, we hate to see Grand Prairie leave Richardson so far behind, but, you know Grand Prairie is an incorporated city, whereas Richardson is only a town, and that makes a difference.

Thursday, March 10th, has been designated by the State Health Board as clean-up day. Steps should be taken to comply with the board's request in Grand Prairie. Let the business men get together and put the movement on foot. Let it be announced from the pulpits and at other public gatherings. Let's clean up and thereby improve the public health.

There is a good opportunity for someone in this community to take up the matter of peanut culture and make something out of it. The price of peanuts ranges right around a dollar a bushel, the hay is worth about fifteen dollars a ton. Anybody can make more money from an acre of peanuts than can be made from the same amount of land in cotton. Plant a few acres in peanuts. It will pay and it will help out the cotton market.

John S. ERWIN, Jr., an ambitious high school athlete of Kansas City, killed himself Friday by over-exercise. If some of the energy expended by athletes were devoted to honest work, they could at least retain their strength and likely attain more, and it's a cinch they wouldn't kill themselves. We have seen fine specimens of athletes who, for practical purposes, weren't worth the lead it would take to kill them.

The place assigned to Mississippi in the National Hall of Fame at Washington will be

vacant for the present, or at least till the prejudice of the North has so died down that the statue of Jefferson Davis is presented by the state of Mississippi there will be no protest. The action of this state is a good one. Mississippi and the entire South will be thus spared the exhibition of such prejudice as was shown when the Lee statue was presented by Virginia. There will come a time when the statue of Mississippi's favorite son can be presented and be welcomed with only words of praise, though that time is not yet. In the interim, the vacant place in Statuary Hall will be most pronounced memorial to the chief of the "Lost Cause." TERRELL TRANSCRIPT.

The "real" reason for the increase of prices has been discovered. It is the limitless appetite of the American citizen for porter-house steaks, fine clothes and good living generally.

On March 15, because of the quarterly dividend of 15 per cent just declared by the Standard Oil directors, John D. ROCKEFELLER will receive a check for \$4,050,000. During the past twelve years, Mr. ROCKEFELLER has received in dividends from this wonderful company \$118,179,440. The total dividends in this period have been \$451,722,900. Mr. ROCKEFELLER owns 27 per cent of the stock. Since 1882, when the trust agreement became effective, Standard Oil profits have amounted to the stupendous sum of \$1,100,000,000. A surplus fund of \$300,000,000 has been set aside. One of the secrets of John D.'s great wealth is advertising. He is the most extensively advertised private citizen in the world, not excepting Theodore ROOSEVELT, and from the above figures, it is evident that advertising pays.

Extractions from the February 25, 1910 issue of the "Grand Prairie Texan" will continue in the January 2010 issue of Roots 'n Branches.