



# 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](http://www.gpgstx.org)

June 3, 2010

**David Appleton**

## One approach to writing your family history

As genealogists, we know how important it is: preserving and sharing not just the names and dates, but the stories, the events in the lives of the people in our family trees. But it is such a daunting task that too many times it never even gets started. How do you begin? What do you write? What about pictures or other personal touches? How do you print and publish? This presentation discusses one approach to writing and sharing these stories.

David Appleton (B.S., History) is an internationally known lecturer and author who has written and published a number of books. These include an on-going series of illustrated family history books for his children, grandchildren, and parents entitled *Appleton Family Stories*, which he began writing to share some of his genealogical finds with them.

*Rena Yarach*  
Vice President of Programs

Refreshments and Conversation at 6:30 PM  
Program at 7:00 PM  
Grand Prairie Memorial Library  
901 Conover Drive, Grand Prairie

**Visitors Are Always Welcome**

May refreshments provided by  
Pam Knight and John and Barb Wylie

## 2010-2011 Officers Installed

The following Grand Prairie Genealogical Society officers for the 2010-2011 Executive Board were installed at the societies May meeting.

President	Regina Shumaker
President-Elect	Cynthia Jones
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Rena Yarach
Programs	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Richard G. Waller
Newsletter	
Secretary	John Cockrum
Treasurer	Shirley Willingham
Historian/Reporter	Carol Franklin
Library Liaison	John V. Wylie
Webmaster	Pamela Knight
Hospitality	Becky & Beau Garland

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## From the Gavel

How many of you have said, "Never in a million years"? Well, "never in a million years" came early for me. I joined GPGS to learn from the speakers and meet others interested in family history; never with the intention of volunteering much less becoming President. I admit that I have truly enjoyed every office held and committee I've been on.

Thanks for electing me President. If you have held back in volunteering, don't wait to be asked. Get ready; your "million year's moment" could be right around the corner!

*Regina Shumaker  
President 2010-2011*

## Library Liaison Report

At the NGS Conference in Salt Lake City in April I purchased the new *NGS Research in the State Series* for New Jersey, West Virginia and Colorado. These will be donated to the library in memory of members who have passed.

The Indexing Committee, under the leadership of Jan Barrett continues to abstract names and details from the collection of scrapbooks at the Library. Jan can always use more volunteers. To learn more come to a Society meeting or contact Jan directly at [jbar2@flash.net](mailto:jbar2@flash.net).

Tutoring in the Genealogy Room on the third Thursday of each month continues to be rewarding. In April, I was able to work with a teen and her mother who are researching the young ladies' father's line. The thrill of helping a young person discover their great grand parents for the

first time, makes the two hours each month worthwhile. If you're interested in learning more about this, please contact me at [john@johnwylie.com](mailto:john@johnwylie.com)

*John Wylie  
Library Liaison*

## In The Coming Months

### **July 1, 2010**

Annual Ant-less Picnic and member Show and Tell

### **August 5, 2010** Nancy Maxwell

"Using directories to locate people and family"

Nancy Maxwell is the Genealogy Librarian at the Grapevine Public Library in Grapevine, Texas.

### **September 2, 2010** Sandra Crowley

"Wicked Weather"

She will tell stories about how weather events may have influenced the movements of your ancestors. 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.

*Rena Yarach  
Vice President of Programs*

## The Folks Who Made Grand Prairie

### Charles Burrell Tibbs 1896 - 1965

Born March 11, 1896, in Royce City, Texas, Charles Burrell Tibbs was better known as Burrell Tibbs. He began working as a "greaseball" mechanic in 1909 at St. Louis, Missouri, for the French aviator, Tom Benoist, builder of seaplanes. Burrell became a pilot in 1914 and soon became part of a barnstorming flying circus that thrilled audiences across Oklahoma and Texas. They didn't need an airfield—they landed in farmer's fields and the crowd came to them. In later years, he liked to say that he flew out of Love Field when it was just a cow pasture. He was also a Fixed Base Operator, with Les Miller as an associate, in Dallas, Texas.

From 1917 to 1919, Tibbs flew with the Army Air Corps in World War I and trained wartime fliers. In 1919 he went back to barnstorming as a member of "Texas Top-Notch Fliers." Part of the act was recruiting a man from the audience to parachute out of Burrell's plane. Wiley Post volunteered. It was Wiley's his first parachute jump and Burrell soon taught Wiley how to fly. When World War II came, Burrell taught airplane mechanics at the National Defense School in Dallas and was a pilot instructor for the U.S. Army.

After the war, Burrell operated a flying service in Grand Prairie, Texas. At age 57, he flew a World War I Jenny from Bloomington, Illinois to Grand Prairie, a seven day trip covering 750 miles to celebrate the 50th anniversary of powered flight. In its 21 December 1953 issue, *The Cleveland [Ohio] Plain Dealer* quoted Burrell

as using a "dollar watch, a yardstick and a Rand McNally map" were his navigation instruments for this trip.

Barnstorming throughout Oklahoma and Texas was only the beginning. In his lifetime as an industrious and enterprising business man, Tibbs operated flying schools, commercial air services, did crop dusting, managed several airports in Oklahoma and Texas, and taught cadet aviation classes at the University of Oklahoma, Norman

Burrell Tibbs was a member of Early Birds, OX5 Club of Aviation Pioneers, Q.B. Club of Oklahoma and Texas, Air Indians, Antique Aircraft Association, Tau Omega (honorary), Kill Devil Hill Memorial Society, Institute of Aeronautical Science, and the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Charles Burrell Tibbs died May 5, 1965 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. His body was cremated and the ashes dropped from an airplane above his birthplace, Royce City, Texas. His obituary in *The Dallas Morning News*, 6 May 1965, listed his survivors as his wife, Julia; two daughters, Mrs. Ruth Crossley and Mrs. Jeanne Santerre.

To learn more about the Burrell Tibbs-Wiley Post connection, visit the Oklahoma Historical Society's website [digitallibrary.okstate.edu](http://digitallibrary.okstate.edu).

*Submitted by: Karen Brown, Grand Prairie Genealogical Society, Grand Prairie, Texas - June 30, 2008*



**Memorial Day  
May 31, 2010**

## State Library Renovation

Renovation of the historic Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building is winding down and expected to be completed by Summer 2010. Although materials that have been stored offsite are being moved back to the de Zavala building, we encourage you to call before you visit to ensure that the materials you are seeking will be available. We thank everyone - staff and patrons alike - for your patience during the last two years of the renovation process. Before you visit please call **(512) 463-5455** for more detailed information about available times and services.

## Cemetery Project

The GPGS Cemetery Committee and a great group of volunteers are working hard on canvassing cemeteries in Grand Prairie for the societies cemetery project. Recent work has been done in Jordan-Hight Cemetery in the North East portion of Grand Prairie as well as Estes Cemetery on the peninsula of Lake Joe Pool in the far South portion of Grand Prairie. Thanks to everyone who is working on this project.

## Save Texas History Program

The Texas General Land Office has begun the "Save Texas History Program". Below is the link to the Save Texas History Newsletter.

<http://www.glo.state.tx.us/archives/pdfs/newletters/volume6/STH%20Newsletter%204-10.pdf>

## Query

Do you know anything about the Modular Ambulance Corp? Do you know what year they went out of business? Modular was located in Grand Prairie, They were a manufacturer of ambulances in the 1960s, '70s & '80s. They are believed to have been located at the Southeast corner of Great Southwest Parkway and Marshall Drive. If you have information about this company or know anyone that might have more information please email [Richard.Waller@gpisd.org](mailto:Richard.Waller@gpisd.org).

## Special Collections of Interest

Many libraries have special collections and this one caught my eye for it's genealogical perspective:

For centuries parents have been keeping meticulous records of their children's early years in baby books, and UCLA has an amazing special collection of these treasured mementos. The Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library has been working on building a collection of these memory books from the 19th through 21st centuries to help shed light on trends in early childhood care and children's health. The collection includes everything from books that haven't been filled out at all to diligently completed books. Where has the school been able to round up so many baby books? You guessed it: eBay.

<http://www.library.ucla.edu/specialcollections/biomedicallibrary/13477.cfm>

*Kate Stirk, Campus Librarian  
Chattahoochee Technical College, Georgia*

## Texas Land Survey Books

Arphax Publishing Co. has published two new Texas Land Survey books. The newest additions to their catalog are: **Texas Land Survey for Grimes County, Texas and Texas Land Survey Maps for Ellis County, Texas.** Arphax Publishing Co. has now published Federal Land Patent books for 404 counties and are still averaging three new titles each week.

Arphax Publishing Co. is located at 2210 Research Park Blvd., Norman, OK 73069 and can be contacted at (800) 681-5298 TOLL FREE and (405) 366-6181 or faxed at (405) 366-8184. Explore their website at: [www.arphax.com](http://www.arphax.com)

## Name That Person

Can you name this Grand Prairie Genealogical Society member?



## Executive Board Members

### EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS:

#### PRESIDENT:

**Regina Shumaker**  
[golfinshu@sbcglobal.net](mailto:golfinshu@sbcglobal.net)

#### PRESIDENT-ELECT:

**Cynthia Jones**  
[cynthiajones1957@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthiajones1957@yahoo.com)

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Programs:

**Rena Yarach**  
[renae2tex@yahoo.com](mailto:renae2tex@yahoo.com)

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Newsletter:

**Richard G. Waller**  
[wallerandsons@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wallerandsons@sbcglobal.net)

#### Secretary:

**John Cockrum**  
[jeclonghorn@gmail.com](mailto:jeclonghorn@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer:

**Shirley Willingham**  
[willingham@rocketmail.com](mailto:willingham@rocketmail.com)

#### Executive Board Directors:

##### Historian/Reporter:

**Carol Franklin**  
[cfranklin1223@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cfranklin1223@sbcglobal.net)

##### Library Liaison:

**John V. Wylie**  
[john@johnwylie.com](mailto:john@johnwylie.com)

##### Webmaster:

**Pamela Knight**  
[pffaye@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pffaye@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.mgfpersonalsecretary.com](http://www.mgfpersonalsecretary.com)

##### Hospitality:

**Becky and Beau Garland**  
[owengarland@sbcglobal.net](mailto:owengarland@sbcglobal.net)

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

## Financial Report

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

Balance on 05-1-10	\$1,512.52
Deposits	0.00
Expenses	0.00
Balance on 05-31-10	\$1,512.52

Shirley Willingham  
Treasurer

## 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.

## 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](http://www.gptx.org/library)

## Workshops/Conferences

Dallas Genealogical Society  
Summer Institute 2010  
John T. Humphrey  
German Genealogical Research  
July 22-24, 2010

\$200 per member  
\$230 for nonmembers

[www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org)

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Federation of Genealogical Society  
August 18-21, 2010  
*Rediscovering America's First Frontier*  
Knoxville, Tennessee

<http://www.fgs.org/2010conference/index.php>

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Texas State Genealogical Society  
November 4-6, 2010  
50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration  
*Bridging Generations*  
Waco, Texas

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs/>



## 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 March 4, 1910 issue.*

## GRAND PRAIRIE TEXAN FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1910

The bonds are to be sent to the firm of DILLON & HUBBARD, New York, for examination and it is expected that all details will have been arranged within two weeks.

### WASHINGTON NEWS

The Army has just adopted a new type of machine gun that can be carried by a man or two with full equipment of arms and ammunition.

The House Committee on public lands reported favorably the Senate act granting the Standard Oil Company a right of way across the public lands in the State of Arkansas, passed over the protest of Sen. Jeff DAVIS.

PEARY's proofs that he reached the North Pole have been called for by the Naval Committee of the House, which believes that it should be furnished with something more official than "general reports" that PEARY reached the Pole.

The disclosures made before the Senate Committee on Territories by the BELAINE proposal to pay heavy royalties for the privilege of mining coal in Alaska, and by the testimony of Managing Director BIRCH and General Counsel STEELE of the MORGAN, GUGGENHEIM SYNDICATE, as to the enormous value of the coal deposits in Canada, led Senator BEVERIDGE, Chairman of the Committee on Territories, to introduce bills which are designed to prevent the rich mineral resources of Alaska from being monopolized by a powerful syndicate.

## DOMESTIC NEWS

Fifteen days' quarantine on all cattle coming from the United States has been declared by the Dept. of the Republic of Mexico. The order comes as a result of TB being found among the milch cows.

When a youth begins to sow wild oats, it is time for father to start the thrashing machine.

### LOCAL NEWS

If you see a stranger in town who is all smiles and has the habit of talking freely and shaking hands with everybody going and coming-- he's a candidate.

The aviation meet at the Texas State Fair grounds, March 3, 4, 5 and 6, has not been cancelled. Aviator BRODIE with the same type of Curtiss 8-cylinder biplane which holds the world's record for speed, will attempt to break a number of records.

The premises to some of the residences in Grand Prairie are in a very unsanitary and unsightly condition, and it occurs to us that Clean-Up Day, March 10<sup>th</sup>, could be well spent in the improvement.

We are authorized to announce Judge H. C. JARREL as a candidate for the office of Judge of the County Court at Law of Dallas County.

### BUSINESS LOCALS

FOR SALE: The cheapest house and lot in town. See STUBBS.

TO EXCHANGE: Buggy for stock. D. A. BRADSHAW

FOR SALE: Full blood white rock eggs. O. D. WITHERSPOON

FOR SALE: Seven vacant lots in East Grand Prairie. J. J. FAGAN

FOR SALE: Full blood Poland China sow and eight pigs. D. A. BRADSHAW

FOR SALE: One new two horse corn and cotton planter, at a bargain. O. D. WITHERSPOON

FOR SALE: Good second hand sewing machine for \$5.00. S. A. FISHBURN

FOR SALE: Two good work horses. Enquire of J. B. CAWARD before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE: Two brood mares and some nice drivers; also good work horse. D. A. BRADSHAW

RED POULTRY YARD - Rhode Island Red Eggs \$1.50 per setting.  
C. L. WAY, Mgr., Grand Prairie, Texas.

Wood - Got 100 cords of dry wood in a trade and will sell by cord, stove size or chunks, delivered if desired, or will trade for Jersey heifer calves. FISHBURN, phone 52.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Three and one-half lots, each 50x200 feet, near the school building. East front. A bargain at \$400. Terms. For further information, apply at my office at G. W. OWENS LUMBER YARD. P. A. GEE

S. S. TULLOS has been busily engaged the past few days organizing a company to put in a bottling plant, and some fifty people have agreed to take stock in the enterprise. No charter has yet been taken out and if any one desires stock who has not already subscribed, the matter should receive

prompt attention as all the preliminaries will be consummated within another week.

This is a Grand Prairie enterprise and should receive the cooperation and encouragement of every one.

The plant is expected to be in operation by the middle of the month.

Monday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, the Woman's Home Mission met, and after the devotional exercises, the leader, Mrs. SMITH, read the scripture lesson.

Monday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, was Bible study evening. After opening with devotional exercises, the scripture lesson was taken up with Mrs. MOORING, leader.

Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> was our regular social meeting and was spent with Mrs. T. S. SMART, who gave us such a warm welcome, there was no ice left to break. There were six visitors whom we were glad to have with us. Mrs. McGLOSSON of Texarkana and Mrs. SOXMAN of Dallas greeted old friends. Delegates were elected to attend the district institute which convenes in Dallas March 7, 8, 9. The old seats ordered sold to make ready for our new pews. Business meeting March 7.

HUDSON, DAVIS & CO. - The New Store of Arlington. We want you to visit our new store at Arlington. Lots of new goods.

We only have one price to all, and that in plain figures and for cash. The ad features skirts, ladie's tailored waists, linens, linen sheeting, work shoes, ladie's shoes, novelties, etc.

*Extractions from the March 4, 1910 issue of the "Grand Prairie Texan" will continue in the January 2010 issue of Roots 'n Branches.*