



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, October 1, 2009

Kelvin Meyers

Methodology To Find Your Relatives

Kelvin Meyers is a professional genealogist for the last eighteen years, and an avid researcher-historian for the last twenty-eight years, Kelvin Meyers brings a great knowledge of social sciences, history, genealogy and some PI techniques to his work. The Dallas Public Library employed him for ten years in the Genealogy Department. Now, he is engaged in missing heir searches with the firm of Blake and Blake. A native of Crosby County, Kelvin has published two books on his home county; deed abstracts and a compilation of records, including, church, marriage, and census. For a spring of 2007 release, his third book will feature abstracts of the probate minutes. He is also abstracting the births, deaths, and marriages from the Semi-Weekly Farm News.

Refreshments at 6:30 pm

Provided By

Program begins at 7:00 pm

Grand Prairie Memorial Library
 901 Conover Drive, Grand Prairie
 Visitors Are Always Welcome

Cynthia Jones
 Vice President of Programs

*Finding Your Roots
 Using Modern Resources:
 A Research Lock-In*

*Friday, October 23, 2009
 4:00p.m. to 10:00 p.m.*

The countdown till the Grand Prairie Genealogical Societies 2009 Library Lock-In has begun. You only have a few days left to sign up. Go to the society's website www.gpgstx.org to find the complete flyer and registration form. Make plans to join us for a great Friday night dedicated to research and family history. We will have the library, its collection and computers all to our self. Professional genealogists will be available to help. Cost is \$15.00 for GPGS members and \$20.00 for non-members. Refreshments will be served.

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From the Gavel

This month I have some questions for you.

1. Have you paid your 2009 – 2010 dues yet? They are due now.
2. Have you registered for the Lock-In we're having Friday evening 23 October? (Registrations on or before 1 October cost \$5 less than later registrations)
3. Have you seen the Naturalization Records, Military Records and other National Archives records available at Footnote.com? Everyone in the library has free access to Footnote.com while at the Lock-in.
4. Are you signing the clipboard by the computer when you visit the Genealogy Room? Since most books in the Genealogy Room cannot be checked out, names on the clipboard help the library prove to City Budgeting officials that genealogists use the genealogical resources. In the current budget crunch, libraries across the nation are being forced to cut hours and staffing. Ours has already been forced to close on Fridays.
5. Have you thought about how you can help GPGS this year? Karen Brown's Lock-In Crew and Regina Shumaker's Cemetery Survey Crew are hard at work. Kathy Ritterhouse, Director of Library Services, has listed several tasks we can do to help fellow researchers, her staff and make the Genealogy Room more useful. Jan Barrett will Chair the Indexing Club Scrapbooks Project. This project will index the names on each page in clubs' scrapbooks that have been donated to the library. This will help researchers quickly find the photo of or article about their ancestor and it will help the staff retrieve the correct scrapbook from the Archive. Kathy will designate a staff member who will be our "go-to person" for

this project and Jan is assembling her team. Is this a project you are willing to help with? If not, there are other projects to do and, as the year progresses, GPGS will have more tasks as well.

The Grand Prairie Genealogical Society is us – all of us.

Barbara Brixey Wylie
President

Library Liaison Report

Barbara Wylie donated Ernest Thode's "German-English Genealogical Dictionary" to the Society for the Library. This is a basic work for anyone doing research on their German Ancestors.

Twelve volumes of the NGS Special Publications "Research in the State" were donated to the Library in memory of six members who have passed on. The states covered by these excellent books written by the best experts in the country are: Arkansas, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia. They were all given in memory of:

Rosaline Baker
John Albert Wilkerson
Ester Cunningham
Roger Thomas
Bruce Sinclair
Maxine Robertson

Barb and I met with Kathy Ritterhouse to get the initial information needed for the Society to start on projects to organize, index and digitize scrapbooks and vertical files for the Library.

John V. Wylie
Library Liaison

Member Profile

DAVIS HOPKINS

I was born and raised in Richland Springs, TX, youngest of nine children, to Arch and Fannie Hopkins. We farmed and raised usual kinds of livestock found on farms. This environment was great for growing up during the great depression. We worked hard and played hard like everyone else in rural Texas. In 1936 Texas celebrated the Centennial in Dallas and Gov. Alred decreed all the school children in Texas should go and see the pageant of our first 100 years as shown in the fair grounds. My mother and I and hundreds of other school children caught a special train in Richland springs and we went to the centennial. We lived in tent city with swarms of other parents and children. My mother carried homemade bread, fried chicken and plenty of fried pies so we did not have to buy much food while at the fair. I really liked to slid on the marble floors at the Hall of State until a Dallas policeman told me in uncertain terms I had to stop or else. I stopped! This is where I had my picture made as a Junior Ranger at the Kellogg exhibit in the food building. These were exciting times for an eight year old boy from the country.

After graduation from high school I enlisted in the US Army as WW II was winding down. I was stationed in both Germany and Italy and discharged in 1949 at Ft Rod, CA,

Upon returning to Richland Springs I enrolled at San Angelo Junior College where I met the love of my life Mary Lou Garrett. from Paint Rock, TX We were married in 1951 and moved to the metroplex where I was employed as a Manufacturing Engineer by Chance Vought Aircraft and retired after

forty two years. We have two Children Dr. Ronald Hopkins of Redondo Beach, CA and Dee Ann and Terry Williams of Grand Prairie, TX

I finished my formal education at SMU and UT Arlington receiving a BA Degree in History and Government. I was honored to serve the City of Grand Prairie as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission and for two years as a member of the City Council.

My Grandmother, Mary Elmira Glaze Hopkins lived with us during my early years and related stories of her childhood during the Civil War and of her relatives back in GA to me. She also related stories of my g-g uncle Ben Harrison Young fighting and dying at Goliad. She had many letters her mother and father had received from her uncle's fighting for the South during the war and from other relatives still in GA as far back as the 1840's. After her death my mother kept the letters until in the 1970's when I received them and our son Dr. Ronald Hopkins compiled them into a book "From Lincoln to Linden".

After retirement our hobbies are gardening, genealogy research, volunteer work for several organizations in the Metroplex. We are also members of the International Brick Collectors Assoc. We have over a thousand bricks with different names and logos. Some of them are almost 200 yrs old and from many foreign countries.

We began to search for our ancestors after retirement and this has carried us to many states and foreign countries and we still have many questions unanswered and the search goes on.

Name That Person

Can you name this Grand Prairie Genealogical Society member?



Last Month's photo:
Davis Hopkins

Membership Renewal

September is Membership Renewal Month. Attached to this newsletter is your membership form, please take time to fill it out and return it with your dues payment. You may bring it with you to our next monthly meeting, Thursday September 3rd or mail it to the society at:

*Grand Prairie Genealogical Society
Attention: Membership
PO Box 532026
Grand Prairie, Texas 75053-2026*

Make a copy and invite a friend to join us.

In The Coming Months

November 5, 2009 Judy Knight
Seeking a Better Life: Immigration

America is seen as the "Land of Opportunity." It was no different for our ancestors who began arriving in the New World in the 1600s. Learn why your ancestors came to this country, what their journey was like, and what records can help you track them once they arrived. We'll examine ports of arrival and departure as well as online records and other materials.

December 3, 2009 Holiday Dinner
Annual covered dish dinner and show and tell.

January 6, 2010 John V Wylie
Family History on the Cheap

This presentation demonstrates real world tools and tips for cutting the cost of researching your ancestors. John Wylie serves the Association of Professional Genealogists as Secretary. He serves his church as chair of the Information Technology/Audio Visual Committee and as a member of the History Committee. From 2000 through 2004 he served on the Board of Directors of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He is the 2004 recipient of the Dallas Genealogical Society Lloyd Bockstruck Distinguished Service Award. He and his wife, Barbara, hosted 35 researchers on the Dallas Genealogical Society's 2006 Research Trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. One of GENTECH's founders, John was an active participant in the Genealogical Data Model Working Group and served on the NGS Computer Interest Group Committee in 1999 and 2000. John and Barbara have taught genealogical courses at Mountain View College and to church and Boy Scout groups. He has a deep interest in records preservation and enjoys teaching genealogists how to use computer technology and computer users how to do sound genealogical research.

February 6, 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.

Cynthia Jones
Vice President of Programs

Financial Report

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

Beginning Balance	\$1231.59
Deposits	+315.00
Expenses	- 62.00
End Balance	\$1484.59

John Cockrum
Treasurer

Workshops/Conferences

**Grand Prairie Genealogical Society
 Centennial Celebration Lock-In**

October 23, 2009
 Grand Prairie Memorial Library

Texas State Genealogical Society

San Antonio Genealogical &
 Historical Society
 Present

2009 Genealogy with a Mission

Speaker: Craig R. Scott, CG
 Colonial & Military Records
 November 6-7, 2009
 Omni Hotel San Antonio

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

Executive Board Members

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

Barbara Wylie

barb@johnwylie.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT:

Regina Shumaker

golfinshu@sbcglobal.net

1st Vice President - Programs:

Cynthia Jones

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Treasurer:

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Executive Board Directors:

Historian/Reporter:

Carol Franklin

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Library Liaison:

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Webmaster:

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www.mgfpersonalsecretary.com

Hospitality:

Becky and Beau Garland

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*Grand Prairie Genealogical Society
is a Partner Society of the
Texas State Genealogical Society*

Items Needed

Lock-In Committee Requests:

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 Lock-In, please bring an empty ink cartridge to the next meeting. We can be earth friendly plus reduce the expenses for the Lock-In.

Old CD's and DVD's Needed

Have old CD's and DVD's, received any internet start up CD's in the mail? Your Lock-In Committee needs them to decorate for our upcoming event. Please bring all your old discs to our September meeting.

*We pay for the mistakes of our ancestors,
and it seems only fair that they
should leave us the money to pay with.*

Don Marquis

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 18, 1910 issue.

Grand Prairie Texan February 18, 1910

Court procedure was next discussed, and he stated that he believed the methods should be simplified, so as to save time to litigants and expense to the State and Counties.

He defined his position on prohibition, which was that any kind of prohibition had his sanction, the end sought being the elimination of the saloon, in whatever manner it could be accomplished.

Mr. JOHNSON explained the attitude of the several candidates on prohibition, but states that he and POINDEXTER were the only pros in the race and that of the two, he was the best pro.

He was frequently applauded and received many congratulations on his speech. There were about 250 people present.

The Texan intended to give a verbatim report of Mr. JOHNSON's speech, but lack of space and the freeze prevented.

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

When any man wrongs another, he wrongs himself still more.

What does Grand Prairie need more than a good spacious place for all classes of public

gatherings? The town is absolutely without a public gathering place, and efforts looking to this end could well be expended.

DOING BETTER

Last week we published a statement that we would put the date of expiration on your paper and requested you, if your time is out, to send us a renewal at once. We are indeed very grateful that so many have complied with our request.

It is just as impossible to run a newspaper without collecting as it is to run any other business.

We are not complaining at those who have stood by us, but there are many who should lend their patronage to this paper and this appeal is made with the hope that they will become a permanent patron of THE TEXAN.

THE COUNTRY LABEL

In an issue of the Texan a few weeks ago we called the attention of our subscribers to the country label. The label at the top of the editorial page of this paper is a large label with the same lettering and design as the one we use on all campaign printing turned out by this office. The men in the country, the farmer and the businessman alike, should stand together as do the unions, but we do not want our printing used by the candidates in the country. This label was adopted to designate that printing turned out by country shops was legitimate, not printed in a scab shop. When you are handed a card or receive any piece of campaign literature, look for the country print shop label and if it does not bear it, help the home shop by reminding the candidate of the fact.

If a man looks at his watch while you are telling a story, cut it short.

The TEXAN acknowledges receipt of a season ticket and invitation to attend the fourteenth annual exhibition of the National Feeders and Breeders Show to be held in the coliseum, Fort Worth Stock Yards, March 14 to 19. This promises to be the most successful exhibition ever given in the South, and the public is urged to make it so.

THE IDEAL SUBSCRIBER

Good morning, sir; Mr. Editor: How are the folks today? I owe you for next year's paper, and I thought I'd come in and pay. And JONES is goin' to take it, and this is his money here. I shut down lendin' it to him and then coaxed him to try it a year. And here is a few little items that happened last week out our way. I thought they'd look good in the paper and so I just jotted 'em down. And here is a basket of apples my wife picked expressly for you, and here is a pumpkin from Jennie - she thought she must send something too. You're getting out a mighty good paper, as all of our family agree; just keep your old goose quill a-flappin' and give bad men a good one for me. Fayette City, (PA.) Journal.

THE BAPTIST MEETING

The week's revival meeting at the Baptist Church was just as advertised, "a rich feast." All the preachers on the program came and filled their appointment with only one exception.

The great day was Sunday. Dr. J. B. GAMBRELL preached to a full house at 11 a.m. after a most touching and inspiring closing service of the Sunday School. Supt. LIVELY had made a proposition that anyone who was for peace or wanted the peace of heart that Christ alone could impart, to come and give him their hand.

The pastor of the church also stood by and took part in the service. A very large number came, both old and young.

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock Dr. GEO W. TRUETT, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, preached to a great crowd—it was said by some to be the largest crowd ever assembled in Grand Prairie to hear preaching.

At night a very interesting talk was made by Rev. MOSA, a Galillean, who spoke about the character and customs of the people in far-off Palestine and how he became a Christian and then a Baptist.

NOTICE! I wish to call attention to my customers and many friends that I have moved my stock into the Shannon old stand. I expect to increase my Dry Goods stock and make it one of the most attractive stores in the city. My prices are right and I will save you money if you will trade with me. Come and see us. J. D. DUNCAN

THE NEW DISTRICT COURT

If there were any who doubted the wisdom or necessity of the creation of an additional District Court of Dallas County by the 31st Legislature, the developments of the past year should certainly dispel such doubts.

When the 68th District Court began business one year ago, there were 1,300 cases pending on the three civil district courts, exclusive of tax suits, which cases were equally divided among the three tribunals, 433 cases to each court. During the past year 1,600 new cases were filed, distributed equally among the three courts.

Extractions from the February 18, 1910 issue of the "Grand Prairie Texan" will continue in the October 2009 issue of Roots 'n Branches.