

DCGS NEWS

DENTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER MEETING



1896- Denton County Courthouse-

The Denton County Genealogical Society meets on the second Thursday during the months on September-November and January-May. 6:30 P.M.

Denton Public Library, Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland St., Denton, TX 76201
www.genealogydentontexas.org

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Between the Lines: What Your Ancestors Didn't Tell You

(Getting the most from your DNA Results)

Presented by Patti Huff-Smith

September 9, 2021 6:30 pm
Emily Fowler Central Library
or via Zoom

"Between the Lines" DNA program is one family's journey to discover new family connections, solve stubborn brick walls, and uncover family secrets buried long ago, revealed through the DNA tests of 60 family members.

In this DNA program, you will learn a simple approach to help utilize your DNA results successfully. Using Ancestry.com results and loading them to GEDMatch.com will be a portion of this presentation. You will leave inspired, equipped, and ready to get the most out of your DNA results.

Patti Huff Smith is the Director of Volunteer Coordination at the Dallas Genealogical Society and holds membership there. She is also a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society, Texas State Genealogical Society, and the counties in Texas where her roots run deep are: Navarro, Hill, Johnson, and Central Texas Genealogical Society in Waco, Texas.

Along with her genealogy research skills, Patti manages 60 DNA kits for her immediate and extended family. Using DNA, she has solved some of her own family's mysteries. She has

also located biological families for clients using their DNA combined with traditional genealogy research, DNA matching tools from Ancestry.com, DNAPainter.com and GEDmatch.

Patti completed the 15-week Boston University Certificate in Genealogical Research program in December 2020 to further her expertise in genealogy. In February 2021, Patti completed Diahn Southard's 5-week Academy DNA Skills Workshop.

Patti worked fulltime as a marketing coordinator for ten years in Dallas until March 2018. She formerly worked nine years for motivational speaker and author Zig Ziglar as a sales representative, seminar facilitator, and speaker. Patti and husband, Gary Smith, led marriage conferences and held positions of leadership in the church over 21 years. Patti has been married 35 years and has four children, ages 23-33.

If you would like to attend the meeting virtually, please register at, <https://denton.bibliocommons.com/events/search/index/>

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PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

Hello, Everyone,

September 9 is our first meeting of the 2021-2022 year, and I look forward to seeing many of you in person at the Emily Fowler Library. This will be our first hybrid meeting which is a combination of in-person attendees as well as participants on Zoom. Please be patient as we learn how to deal with this new technology. Hybrid meetings could bring us new members from outside Denton County.

Your Program Committee led by Vice President Beth Leggieri has some excellent programs scheduled based upon your input in the survey. See on our web site for dates and topics.

The Executive Board has voted to create free, job-specific email addresses like presidentdcs@gmail.com or vicepresident@gmail.com to have mailboxes with several months' contents which can be turned over to the 2022-2024 Board. The state genealogical society, TxSGS, will benefit, too, by our using job-specific

email addresses. I will provide more information after we get the nine mailboxes created and in use.

Now is the time to begin planning for the election of 2022-2024 officers. At each of our next four meetings we will have a brief report by some of our officers about what they do and how they do it. Once you know what's involved, you can better decide how you can serve DCGS.

Stay well and stay safe. I look forward to being together again at the Emily Fowler Library.

Joe Spears
Email: presidentdcs@gmail.com



TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance May 1, 2021 **\$2,667.23**

Deposits:

5/6 – Dues	\$ 70.00
5/20 – Dues	420.00
5/27 – Dues	60.00
6/24 – Dues	20.00

Total Deposits: \$ 570.00

Disbursements:

6/3 –NGS dues	\$ 50.00
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Total Disbursements: \$ 50.00

Balance August 31, 2021 **\$3,187.23**

2021-2022 Paid Members – 35

Library Donations

April 1995 – May 2006	\$2,876.52
June 2006 – June 2012	\$3,310.00
July 2012 – August 2021	\$2,925.53

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Touraine, Treasurer



MAY 2021 MINUTES

President Joe Spears called the meeting at Rudy's Country Store and Bar-B-Q to order at 7:10 p.m. He introduced himself and welcomed everyone. There were 26 persons present, including two visitors who joined. Everyone applauded being able to meet in person for the first time since the COVID pandemic lockdown began. The last in-person meeting of the DCGS was March, 2020. Joe led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The motion to approve the April 2021 minutes as published in the Newsletter was made by Bob Lane and seconded by John Windsor. Motion carried. The Treasurer's report was filed for audit.

OLD BUSINESS

The President gave the report on the April 14, 2021 Executive Board Meeting. The Board recommends election of Beth Leggieri as Vice President and Sandra Robertson as Secretary to complete the terms of office until June 1, 2022. Donna Spears made a motion to accept the recommendation which was seconded by Audrey Mabe. Motion carried.

The President noted a need to develop a succession plan for the May, 2022 election for the positions of Treasurer, Newsletter, Web Master, and President.

Pros and cons of hybrid in-person and Zoom meetings for the fall were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Beth Leggieri distributed a DCGS Member Survey: Program Topics for 2021-22. A follow-up email will be sent.

Laura Douglas distributed a flyer on genealogy programs presented by the Denton Public Library.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our next meeting will be in September, 2021 at the Emily Fowler Branch of the Denton Public Library. Bob and Linda Lane are in charge of arrangements for refreshments.

The meeting of the 2021 Texas Institute of Genealogy Research is June 13-18.

The Fall Texas State Genealogical Society Family History Conference will be virtual.

The Denton Family History Center is open Tuesdays 2 pm - 9 pm and Wednesdays 10 am - 6 pm.

PROGRAM - Round Robin

The following members shared stores of interesting genealogical finds:

Carol Brantley, Charles Robertson, Sandra Robertson, Donna Spears, Kathi Coatney, Bob Lane, Linda Lane, Beth Leggieri, Lisa Hetzel, Arthur Medrano, and Joe Spears.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



GenPen

GenPen, the writing group affiliated with DCGS, assumed inactive status for the 2021-2022 program year (effective August 31, 2021).

Meeting times/space and a closed FB page remain in place for the DCGS member interested in facilitating the group and continuing the transfer of genealogical research to narrative form.

If interested, contact: vicepresidentdcs@gmail.com

TIMELINES & THRULINES: UNTANGLING 2 ELIZABETH BUTLERS IN OHIO

by Nancy Gilbride Casey

DCGS member Nancy Gilbride Casey has written a interesting and instructive article about two women named Elizabeth Butler who were born in the 1830s in Ohio.

Click on the link below to read the article in her blog:

<https://myleavesonthetree.blogspot.com/2021/06/timelines-thrulines-untangling-2.html>

BEHIND ONE MAN'S PUSH TO RESTORE A NORTH TEXAS FREEDMAN'S CEMETERY

Willie Hudspeth drove past the burial site the first time he went looking for the bodies.

The longtime activist was trekking down a country road in search of a freedman's cemetery in Pilot Point, a small town north of Denton. But over time, nature had run its course. Grass and weeds blanketed some 400 graves of **St. John's Cemetery**, the final resting place for a community composed of freed slaves. Before a fence was installed, cattle would occasionally roam through the wooded grounds.

But on that day several years back, Hudspeth encountered a caretaker on the gravel road. Upon spotting his vehicle, she assumed he may be yet another high-school kid out to steal headstones. She held a .45 pistol behind the door of her truck.

Hudspeth laughs when he tells the story, explaining how the caretaker soon relaxed and showed him the way to St. John's. Looking back on it now, the 75-year-old civil rights activist and local NAACP president is amazed he was able to find the overgrown site, largely forgotten. Ask him, and he'll say it's divine providence.

"I don't know how in the world we found this. I don't know how we found her, I don't know how we found the road to turn on. Nothing," he said. "But that's how we actually found it, and then I got her permission to come out and do some work out here whenever I could."

You can read the rest of the story in an article by Simone Carter published in the Dallas (Texas) Observer at <https://bit.ly/3wHmLMs>.

STUDY FINDS LEONARDO da VINCI'S FAMILY TREE SPANS 21 GENERATIONS, INCLUDING 14 LIVING MALE DESCENDANTS

How is this for a well-documented family tree?

The newly documented genealogy could help scientists identify Leonardo's long-lost DNA.

Although Leonardo da Vinci never married or fathered any children of his own, he had at least 22 half-brothers that proliferated the family's genes centuries after the famed renaissance artist and inventor passed away. According to the results of a decade-long investigation by researchers in Italy, the da Vinci family tree includes at least 21 generations spanning across 690 years. At least 14 da Vinci male descendants are still alive today, according to the researchers, which could greatly aid the search for Leonardo's DNA.



Source: Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter

Leonardo's family roots

The Renaissance polymath, known for paintings like "The Last Supper" and "Mona Lisa," was born in the Tuscan town of Anchiano in 1452, about 18 miles west of Florence.

Born out of wedlock to respected Florentine notary Ser Piero and a young peasant woman named Caterina, da Vinci was raised by his father and his stepmother. At the age of five, he moved to his father's estate in nearby Vinci (the town from which his surname derives), where he lived with his uncle and grandparents.

For over a decade, Alessandro Vezzosi and Agnese Sabato, both art historians and experts in Leonardo's life, have been piecing together the puzzle pieces that form the da Vinci family tree. Using historical documents, the two Italian researchers performed genealogical detective work that documented Leonardo's family across many generations.

You can read the details in an article by Tibi Puiu in the ZME Science web site at: <https://www.zmescience.com/science/da-vinci-family-06072021/>.



**2021 State-wide Genealogy Lock-In
Friday, October 15, 2021
9 a.m. to 10 p.m.**

Come celebrate Family History Month with us! The Denton Public Library and the Denton County Genealogical Society are partnering with other libraries and genealogy societies across Texas to host the Annual Genealogy Lock-In

You can "come and go" for select workshops or stay for the full day. This year's workshops consist of a series of eight video programs, recorded specifically for the event, that will be streamed throughout the day and in-house presentation by Dr. Emily Richardson held at 7 p.m. There will also be an option to view the programs virtually.

One-on-one research help will also be available for beginners and more experienced genealogy enthusiasts who have hit a brick wall in their research. This event is free, but food will be provided so registration is required. Sponsored by The Genealogy Network of Texas*.

The registration information will be available at https://library.cityofdenton.com/screens/sc_lockin.html beginning September 1, 2021.

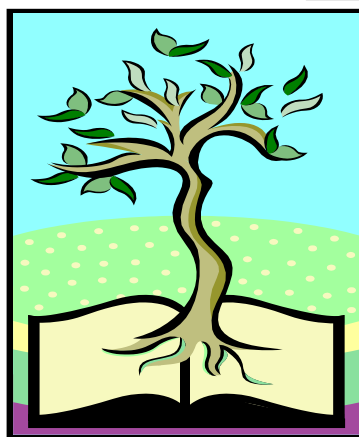
Please call (940) 349-8752 or email genealogy@cityofdenton.com for more information.

Help Needed for Annual Lock-In

We are looking for individuals who would like to help with the Lock-In. We need people to help monitor the classes and those who are interested in helping with one-on-one research questions. You do not have to stay for the entire day, times are flexible. Contact Laura Douglas if you would like to volunteer. Laura.Douglas@cityofdenton.com or (940)349-8749

2020-2022 OFFICERS

- President—Joe Spears**
- Vice-President—Beth Lettieri**
- Secretary—Sandra Robertson**
- Treasurer—Linda Touraine**
- Librarian—Laura Douglas**
- Webmaster—Chris Strauss**
- Membership—Donna Spears**
- Newsletter Editor—Kathy Strauss**



Schedule of Workshops

9:00 – 10:50 am **NARA Mythbusters: Your Family IS in the Archives** presented by *Judy G Russell, JD, CG, CGL, The Legal Genealogist*
Sponsored by: Friends of Corpus Christi Public Libraries

10:00 – 10:50 am **Methodology: Using Timelines to Focus Your Research** presented by *Susan Ball, President TxSGS*

11:00 – 11:50 am **Filling in the Family Stories** presented by *Susan Kaufman, Senior Manager, Houston Public Library, Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research*

12:00 – 1:15 pm **Beginning Genealogy Workshop** presented by *Kathy Huber, MLS, Director of the Tulsa Genealogy Center, Hardesty Public Library*

1:30 – 2:20 pm **Discover Genealogical Treasure Using Historic U.S. Maps** presented by *Hannah Kubacak, Genealogy Librarian, Genealogy Center Waco-McLennan County Library*

2:45 – 4:15 pm **Attacking 18th and 19th Century Mysteries with DNA** presented by *Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D., J.D., The Genetic Genealogist*
Sponsored by: Waco-McLennan County Library

4:30 – 5:45 pm **So, You've Found Your German Town of Origin, Now What?** Presented by *Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, CG*
Sponsored by: Waco-McLennan County Library

6:00 – 7:00 pm **Dinner Break** – will be provided to those that pre-register.

7:00 – 8:30 pm **Researching Your Ancestors in Military Records from the Revolutionary War through the Civil War**
presented by *Dr. Emily Coffman Richardson, Ed.D.*
Sponsored by: Denton Public Library

8:45 – 9:45 pm **Fingerprinting Our Families: Using Ancestral Origins as a Genealogical Research Key,** *Curt B. Witcher, MLS, FUGA, IGSF Manager, The Genealogy Center Senior Manager, Special Collections, Allen County Public Library*



**NEXT MEETING OF THE
DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY WILL BE ON
OCTOBER 14, 2021 AT THE
EMILY FOWLER
CENTRAL LIBRARY, 502
OAKLAND ST., DENTON,
TEXAS**

DENTON COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

502 Oakland Street
Denton, TX 76201