



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

web site: [www.TXFWGS.org](http://www.TXFWGS.org)

SEPTEMBER 2017

## 2017 Board of Directors

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## SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Our next general meeting will be **Tuesday, September 26, 2017** in the **Tandy Auditorium** of the Central Branch Library when **Patti Gillespie** speaks on: **"Forgotten Treasures in the Texas Courthouse: Discovering the Miscellaneous Books. 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.**

**Refreshments begin at 6:00 p.m., with the meeting starting at 6:30.**

Looking for that elusive ancestor or want to add more details to his life? Discover the Miscellaneous Records in the Courthouse! Patti will provide a list of which TX courthouses have them.



**PATTI GILLESPIE** is a genealogical speaker, blogger, & developed her own professional service: *Family Lines & Stories*, where clients can book her for help. She has spoken at TSGS and received the Birdie Monk Holsclaw IGHR Award at Samford. She is also a founding member and 2<sup>nd</sup> term President of Wise County GS. She holds memberships in many groups such as, Wise Co Historical, WCH Commission, Assoc of Prof Genealogists, & more. She has been a Citizen Archivist for NARA and volunteers at her local Family History Center. After 20 years, she still loves genealogy. Her blog is:

[www.familylinesandstories.com](http://www.familylinesandstories.com)



Look for FWGS  
in FACEBOOK



## FW LIBRARY NEWS

The WW I Centennial Exhibit continues **downtown** as do the lectures and the film series that accompany it. See the September offerings here:

<http://fortworthtexas.gov/library/news/2017-05-WWI/> **Ends in October!**

## AUGUST FWGS MEETING

**ANN MCKEE** presented her own personal story (which was also her quest) to identify the 131 unidentified family photos she inherited. She set out to learn as much as she could about old photos and has been very successful as only about 10 remain without names. She shared books on fashions & hairstyles, as well as customs & photo traditions. She told us to research the photographer as well as your family. In the family post card era, you can date a photo according to the stamp on the back. Did you know in the Civil War era, the North imposed a tax on photos to help pay for their war efforts? The stamp had to be attached to the back of the photo. Ann had so many wonderful examples from her own family research to share. And we were fortunate to have many guests to share her talk with, so thanks Ann!

**It's Easy to attend our General Meetings downtown! You can Park Free on the Streets after 6 P.M. And you have 2.5 hrs FREE in 3<sup>rd</sup> St Garage. Just validate your ticket at the Library desk.**

### September FWGS Meetings:

**Board of Directors:** Sat. Sep 16, 2017  
10:15 Southwest Regional

**Beginners:** CONCLUDED for 2017

**Computer Users:** CONCLUDED for 2017

**General Meeting:** Tues, Sep 26, 2017  
6:30-7:45 Auditorium-Central

**Refreshments at 6:00**

**Sept Refreshments:** The Ed McCoy's

Can You Help with one month?

email [debeejay@aol.com](mailto:debeejay@aol.com)



**From the FWGS Mail Bag .....**



**From the Editor .....**

**President Don Crews** returned in time to preside over the **End of Summer Seminar** with **Lisa Louise Cooke**. And was it a Success! *see p. 3*

**Hurricane Harvey** was a record-breaker dumping over 50 inches of rain and creating dangerous flooding. As we go to print, I have learned that the beloved **Clayton Library** in Houston was affected and is closed for now. I hope to have more info in the next issue. *see more on p. 3*

**We still need some volunteers! It is Nominations Time Again!** The 2018 Board is shaping up to have several VACANCIES: Vice President, Programs Director, Director At Large. Would you be willing to serve? Have to be a FWGS member for a year to hold office and a desire to share your talents. We'll teach you the rest. Please consider giving a year of service to YOUR organization. Contact Debbie Pearson [here](#) for more.

*Don't Forget, our CUG and Beginner's Classes are concluded for 2017.* This is another spot we could use your help next year. Can you volunteer to help there?

Schools have begun again. Watch out for the kids! Don't forget to set aside some time *for you* to learn as well. **Circle that LAST TUESDAY night** on the calendar. Come, enjoy learning more about GENEALOGY!

*Debbie Pearson, Newsletter Editor*



**Center For Texas Studies - TCU & FW Lib**

Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> 10:30-12:00 noon

**"Building the Dallas Cowboys Archives"**

**Jonathan Thorn**, shares his exciting work to organize and document all things Dallas Cowboys--past and present. Don't miss this inside look at the origins of the collection and the treasures it holds including uniforms and game balls, millions of photographs and documents, hundreds of miles of film, and yes, even one of Tom Landry's hats.

by **Jonathon Thorn**, 1<sup>st</sup> Cowboy Archivist (2014)  
in Tandy Auditorium, Central Branch, FWL

**Next: Nov 4<sup>th</sup> Max Hill, "Summer of Love, 1967-1972"**

**Billy W. Sills Center for Archives/FWISD presents**

Saturday, Sept 23, 2017 10 am-12 noon

Presenter: **Dan Smith**, meteorologist, historian, author

Topic: **"Had a Good Time: The History & Significance of Postcards"**

Dan reminds and informs about the history of postcards - - when and how they began, how and why they evolved over the years, and most important, how they can help with historic research.

2720 Cullen St, 2nd Floor Fort Worth, TX 76107  
(817) 814-2040

**FALL Previews..... Mark your Calendars Now**

**1. Sep 19 TCU Extended Learning w/ Quentin McGown**

A 3-part series on Fort Worth history. Focuses on the city's growth and development to 1895. Dates: Tuesdays 9/19 to 10/10, 6pm - 8pm. Course fee: \$111. To reserve your space visit [TCU Extended Education](#).

**2. Oct 27-29<sup>th</sup> Saints & Sinners Tour**  
@Oakwood Cemetery

Twilight Tours \$20 (Reservation only-beginning Sept 12 )  
Daylight Tours—Pay at Gate \$10 Adult \$5 Ch/Students

**Call to reserve a Twilight Tour (817) 625-5082**

**3. TCU Extended Learning w/ Tyler Alberts of the FW Military Museum. 2 days \$146 Th Oct 26 & Sat Oct 28<sup>th</sup>**

Click [Here](#) for TCU Class Info

**FWGS Membership Report:**

**Rob Yoder**, Membership Director reports **146 Members**.

**Welcome Members!**

<b>New</b>	<b>Returning</b>
Dianne Mays	Kathleen Stucker
Brenda James	
Edwina Taylor	
Christine Upton	

**To Join or Send Renewals, Mail to:**

Fort Worth Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 471789  
Fort Worth, TX 76147-1408

**Individual Membership: \$23 Family Membership: \$27**

It is easy to find our FWGS web site. Try:

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



## Hurricane Harvey Hits Houston Area

We probably all have been glued to the TV watching the devastation and we probably all know fellow Texans who were in the path and are suffering. Besides destroyed homes, have you imagined the destruction to libraries, to hospitals, to post offices, and to banks? I wondered about the safety deposit boxes and their contents. I wondered about doctors' offices and hospitals—what about our records, medical samples? But I had not stopped to remember that **Family Tree DNA** is located and headquartered in the Houston area. I received an email newsletter on just that subject which I want to share with you. EDITOR

Family Tree DNA in Houston is headquartered on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of a high rise there. They survived and so did your samples! In fact, after Hurricane Ike in 2008 they did suffer damages and were out of their building for 14 weeks. Plans were made right then to better prepare for disasters like Harvey. They invested in a back-up power system that sustains power to the whole lab floor of their building. Your test kit has two parts to it. One part is kept in a minus 20 degree robotic cooler. The generator kept this safe recently. The other part of your sample is kept at room temperature and preserved by a buffering agent. That was safe as well.

**President & CEO Bennett Greenspan** says that is the beauty of keeping your samples safe and on file. You can have more tests done at future times as you need or if new tests become available. That sample of a deceased relative is still there.

While the headquarters was safe and the power back-up worked as planned, employees could not get to the building. Flooding was in the area and did get into the lower parts of the building. There was some minor damage. Bennett was able to get into the building on Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, but his 10 mile commute took one hour. Employees could work from home to answer emails, the website stayed running and most customers never noticed a disruption. But five employees lost their homes and everything else.

The business was able to open again on September 1. The post office delivered 20 bags of mail and new DNA samples that they had been holding. (The main PO in Houston had been holding mail during the immediate flooding and delayed a bit allowing the local post offices

to clear backlogs.) Bennett says they now have almost cleared the 10,000-20,000 tests they had to run.

Family Tree DNA is helping those five employees who lost everything *and* they are helping Houston. **During the month of September, a portion of sales will be donated to Hurricane Harvey Relief efforts.** As this goes to print, the total raised is almost **\$12,000**. Check their website for more. <https://www.familytreedna.com> For the employees, a crowd funding account was set up on **YouCaring**. So far, over **\$24,000** has been raised for them. At customer's request, it is open to the public. <https://www.youcaring.com/familytreednaemployeehosmesfloodedbyhurricaneharvey-929617>

**Thanks to Family Tree Magazine and Editor Diane Haddad** for first publishing this information in their magazine. See it [here](http://www.Familytreemagazine.com). [www.Familytreemagazine.com](http://www.Familytreemagazine.com)

### End of Summer Seminar is GREAT SUCCESS!

FWGS just wrapped up our latest annual seminar and 50 participants heard **Lisa Louise Cooke** impart her wisdom on technology. Many were inspired to tackle new apps and new ways to stay organized or share their research. (They will refer to their handouts, no doubt.) Fourteen lucky participants won door prizes. The Culinary students of Trimble Tech HS provided a tasty Taco Bar with a Brownie dessert. FWGS continued their celebration of their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with some of the lowest prices on books and CD's ever. Lisa and her daughter, Lacey, had many great books and items for sale too. Lisa even offered a special price to join her Premium edition of her web site **Genealogy Gems**.

<https://lislouisecooke.com/>

She reminded us of so many free things available on her web site too, so please bookmark it and visit it often.

**Thank you** to Trimble Tech HS students, staff and principal, to all the FWGS members and Board who worked so hard, to Lisa and company, and to all who gave up a beautiful Saturday to sit indoors and learn new things. We appreciate you all!

**WINNERS:** Louella Williams (book), Janella Hendon (\$10 gift card), Karen Watson(Starbucks),Cora McLaughlin (car chrgr), Madison Moore (Railhead), Nancy Novak (book), Kirk Cramer (FlashDrive),Linda Brown (book), Kathleen Poznick (West Side Cafe), Judy Ramos (Postal book), Sherry McCoy(book), Wayne James (MarriageCD), Marlin Miller (\$20 gift card), and Carlene Johnson(1890 CD).



# Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Box 471789, Fort Worth, Texas 76147-1408

Founded A.D. 1957

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FWGS Web site: [www.TXFWGS.org](http://www.TXFWGS.org)

FWGS Facebook: [www.facebook.com/FortWorthGenealogicalSociety](http://www.facebook.com/FortWorthGenealogicalSociety)

Please LIKE us on Facebook.

## Membership Application & Renewal Form -\*- Fort Worth Genealogical Society

Individual Membership - \$23  
⇒ \$20 if paid before the new year begins

Family Membership - \$27  
⇒ \$25 if paid before the new year begins

Sustaining Membership - \$50 or more

Contributing Membership - \$250 or more

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Your email address will be added to our mailing list in order for you to receive local announcements.)

This membership application is for:  2017  2018  New  Renewal