

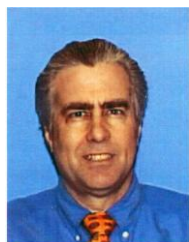


# Arlington Genealogical Society News

101 E. Abram Street, Arlington, TX 76010

APRIL 2014

**TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2014**  
**Arlington Central Library**  
**Community Room 6:30 p.m.**



**PROGRAM:** Carl Oehmann, Apex Genealogical Services on LDS resources and professional services for genealogical research, will discuss "How to Best Use LDS Family History Resources."

The following people have volunteered to furnish refreshments for the April meeting: Cherry Williams, William & Gloria Gochenhour, Jeannie Schemensky and Sue Mathios.

AGS Officers for 2013-14 are:

President: Sylvia Hoad  
1st VP: Refreshments: Linda Tong  
Asst.: Cecilia Messick  
2nd VP: Program Committee:  
Pete Jacobs, assisted by  
Dorothy Rencurrel  
Secretary: Alice Noe  
Treasurer: Virginia Orchard  
Asst. for Membership: Don Lewis  
Parliamentarian: Cherry Williams  
Newsletter: Ruth Goodman  
Library Liaison: Mary Ann Conrad  
Publicity: Wally and Ruth Goodman

Webmaster: Sheri Tiner

Web Address:

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

Arlington Genealogical Society meets on the second Tuesday monthly from September through June. Annual Dues, which are due in September, are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FUTURE AGS PROGRAMS

**May 13: Judy Everett Ramos,**  
Fort Worth Examiner  
**June 10: Wayne Halliburton,** President of  
Friends of the Arlington Library  
**July and August** AGS does not meet.

### COMING EVENTS FOR THE AREA

**April 30, 10 a.m. - 12 noon:** The Arlington Library will sponsor a "Writing Your Memories Workshop," at Southwest Library Community Room. Members of the North Texas Professional Writers Association will share their expertise, tips and tricks to help you accomplish your writing goals. This program is for those 55+. Registration is required and space is limited. Go to [www.arlingtonlibrary.org](http://www.arlingtonlibrary.org) click on Calendar and look at April 30. Then click on the name of the event. Alternatively, go to your local library or call 817-459-6900 and register in person or by phone.

**April 2: Genealogy Assn. of Colleyville:**  
Free Websites

**April 3: Grand Prairie GS:** Glenn Kincade on Perils, Paradoxes, and Pitfalls in Probate Records.

**April 3: Mid-Cities GS:** Bernard N. Meisner on "Applying Family Naming Conventions to Your Genealogical Research."

**April 4:** The National Archives Fort Worth: "Texas in the Records of the National Archives" by Barbara Rust, Senior Archivist.

**April 12: Billy W. Sills Lecture Series** will feature Juliet George, educator, historian and author. Topic: "Time Travel Along Camp Bowie Boulevard."

**April 10: Cedar Hill GS:** Sandra Crowley on "Where Did He Go?"

**April 26: Fort Worth GS** Beginners Workshop: Information from Archives and Libraries. You can also visit the FWGS website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/>

**July 17, 18, 19, 2014: Angelina College** Genealogy Conference in Lufkin, TX  
<http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy/genealogy.html>

**Saturday, August 9, 2014**

Fort Worth Summer Program will feature Lloyd Bockstruck.  
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs/>

**August 27-30, 2014**

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society and the Texas State Genealogical Society presents "Gone to Texas." For more information: <https://www.fgsconference.org/>

### **APRIL FOOLS' DAY PRANK**

In 1957, the BBC pulled a prank, known as the Swiss Spaghetti Harvest prank, where they broadcast a fake film of Swiss farmers picking freshly-grown spaghetti. The BBC

were later flooded with requests to purchase a spaghetti plant, forcing them to declare the video as a prank on the news the next day.

### **MARCH AGS PROGRAM**



Mary Louise Garcia, County Clerk for Tarrant County shared with us how she has created a people-oriented atmosphere in her office and is making more and more documents available online. For online searches, go to:

<http://www.tarrantcounty.com/ecountycle/rk/cwp/view.asp?A=735&Q=427570>

She also recommended that property owners register your property with her office with their Property Fraud Alert system. The website is:

<http://www.tarrantcounty.com/ecountyclerk/cwp/view.asp?a=735&q=472328>

### **GENIE'S GENEALOGY MOMENT**

Death Records can hold a wealth of information. They can give you the

1. Deceased's name, age at death, cause of death, length of illness, attending physician.
2. The exact time of death, name and location of the mortuary, date and/or place of burial.
3. Maiden name of a deceased woman, marital status at the time of death, name of surviving spouse.
4. The date and place of birth, parents names and the name and

sometimes the address of the informant of the death certificate information.

5. Additional information that can be found is the name and birth place of the parents, the residence of the deceased, occupation, and religious affiliation.

Most of this information is only as accurate as the informant's knowledge of the person. Many death certificates can be found on World Vital Records.

### **NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN FORT WORTH, TX**

The National Archives currently maintains two facilities in Fort Worth: a combined records center and archives at John Burgess Drive, and a smaller "storefront" facility at Montgomery Plaza. The National Archives will permanently close the Montgomery Plaza facility in FY 2016. All employees at the Montgomery Plaza location will move to John Burgess or telework locations. No original records are stored at Montgomery Plaza, and researchers will have continued access to archival records through the research room at John Burgess Drive.  
**March 11, 2014 from Dick Eastman**



### **NEW BOOKS ON SHELF**

**TN:**  
Index to the 1880 Census of West Tennessee  
**TN.3 1880**

**TX:**  
Bexar County, Texas Tax Rolls of 1890  
**TX.6 A**

Cemeteries of **Bexar** County, Texas:  
Vols. 1 – 7 **TX.5 C v. 1-7**

**Brazos** County, Texas Births: 1850 1910  
**TX.6 B**

In The Life & Lives of **Brown** County  
People, Bk. 9 : Scrapbook **TX.9 I Bk. 9**

In The Life & Lives of **Brown** County  
People, Bk. 11 **TX.9 I Bk. 11**

Marriage Records of **Matagorda** County  
Texas, 1837 – 1899 **TX.6 D**

Celebrating 100 Years of Ministry at First  
Baptist Church, Loraine, Texas,  
Aug. 15, 1892 – Aug. 15, 1992  
[**Mitchell** Co.] **TX.7 C**

**VA:**  
*The Randolphs of Virginia: A Compilation  
of the Descendants of William  
Randolph of Turkey Island & His  
Wife Mary Isham of Bermuda*  
**VA.29 Randolph**

**VT:**  
Cemetery Inscriptions Danby and MT. Tabor  
Vermont, [**Rutland** Co.] **VT.5 J**

**WV:**  
W.C.G.S. Newsletter Excerpts 1980-1985  
[**Wetzel** Co.] **WV.98 H**

### **MOCAVO**

October 11, 2013 from Dick Eastman  
<http://www.mocavo.com/records>

I use genealogy search engine Mocavo.com frequently when searching for genealogy data and have quite a bit of success with it, finding information that I could not find with other search engines. You can read some of my past articles about Mocavo if you start at <http://goo.gl/yeq1QK>.

Mocavo has been a two-tiered search engine: a free version that searched lots of data and a paid Mocavo Plus version that

offered more options. Now the pricing model is changing. It will remain as a two-tiered system, but free users will receive even more than they have in the past. A paid version, now called Mocavo Gold, will offer some extra features.

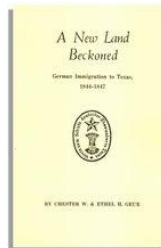
**GENEALOGY PROBLEM SOLVING:**  
"6 Strategies That Helped Me" by Diane Haddad and The Family Tree Magazine Staff

1. Trace family and friends, aka "cluster genealogy.
2. Look for alternate sources of missing information.
3. Use multiple sources for the same data.
4. Formulate a theory.
5. Research a potential relative forward in time.
6. Keep on keepin' on.

**"SMALL PORTS, BIG RESULTS,"**

by Denise Larson

Texas has the reputation of doing everything in a big way, but on a recent visit to the Lone Star state, I found a small gem in the port city of Galveston, more famous as a site for shipwrecks, pirates, and smugglers than immigrants. Sitting on the wharf with the tall ship *Elissa* tied up alongside, the Texas Seaport Museum is a modest building that looks like a warehouse. But rather than fishing tackle, its inventory includes historical artifacts and "the nation's only computerized listing of immigrants to Galveston, Texas." To genealogists looking for ancestors who landed in the Gulf of Mexico, this is a big deal and a great opportunity, but they don't have to make the harrowing trek down I-45 from Houston.



The listing is online at

<http://ghf.destinationnext.com/immigration/Search.aspx>

The Galveston database contains immigration information for the years 1846 to 1948, with limited listings for 1871 through 1894. Included are names of ships with dates of departure and arrival, type of vessel, name of master, ship owner, and number of immigrants. For passengers, information includes country of origin, gender, age, and occupation. The sources of the information are not only passenger manifests of the Immigration and Naturalization Service as stored on microfilm at the National Archives but also legal documents and reliable publications, including passenger lists printed in *The Galveston Daily News*.

Like many other immigration ports dotting the coasts and borders of the United States, Galveston played an important role in regional settlement. Many of the approximately 130,000 passengers who disembarked on Galveston Island settled in Texas, a source of pride for "founding families." Many immigrants did not venture far. They stayed--or at least paused for a while--at the first place they could find a job, and their names sometimes appeared in newspapers, censuses, and other public records that were later collected by local historians. In Galveston, names and dates were incorporated into the immigration database.

Colleges and universities can also be a source of historical and biographical information that might carry the story beyond an immigrant's arrival. The archival collection of Southern Methodist University

in Dallas includes documents relating to the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas, also known as the Adelsverein, or Texas-Verein, which was formed in 1842 for a group of German immigrants who landed in Galveston in the 1840s and settled in Texas on land for which they had acquired grants. Documents in SMU's collection include "land grants, emigration contracts, promotional materials, and fiscal documents," according to Texas Archival Resources Online [www.lib.utexas.edu](http://www.lib.utexas.edu). Texans in southeastern and central Texas are proud of their Germanic roots, and Octoberfests are very popular.



**THE ARLINGTON JOURNAL** (cont.)  
by Will Keller

**Friday April 5, 1929 EULESS NEWS**  
By Sally Ferris

We were very sorry indeed to learn of the death of little **Billy Catherine Sexton**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Riley Sexton of Fort Worth. Mr. and Mrs. Sexton once lived in our community. They were living here when Bill Catherine was born, but later moved to Fort Worth. The funeral service was held at this place last Sunday afternoon, with Rev. Leak of Hurst in charge. The body was laid to rest in the Calloway Cemetery here. This community certainly sympathizes with Mr. and Mrs. Sexton in their great loss. We can't understand why our little ones have to be taken from us, yet it is a much better home than we could hope for them to have here.

**Friday April 5, 1929**

**J. O. Kunze**, owner and operator of the Arlington Bakery shop, died at St. Joseph's sanitarium in Fort Worth, Monday morning, April 1, from a mastoid operation.

He had been confined to his home since the latter part of December, having had an attack of influenza at that time.

Mr. Kunze moved his business here from Handley last June and had made a host of friends here since that time, both in business and socially.

The funeral was conducted Tuesday at the Spellman Funeral home in Ft. Worth with burial in Rose Hill cemetery.

Surviving are his wife and five children, Mrs. Z. E. Koon of San Angelo; Mrs. Johnson of Ft. Worth and Ervin, Joseph and Esther Kunze of this city.

**Friday April 5, 1929** Ft. Worth, Mar. 21. –

Miss Eva Greenspun, sophomore in Texas Christian University here, lived in Russia during the worst of the World War days. She tells of living in a cellar for days, without food or drink, in order to keep out of the way of mad soldiers.

"Bullets came from all directions," Miss Greenspun recalls, with a shudder at the horror of it all even after ten years. "The walls of the house above the cellar in which we hid were often pierced by bullets.

"Bribery was our means of salvation, finally. By bribing guards, my mother succeeded in having herself and three children smuggled thru the military lines and out of the country. We had to crawl much of the distance, to keep from being discovered."

Miss Greenspun's parents are Russian and came to the United States before she was born. Early in 1914 her mother took her three small children and started back to her native land for a visit. Then the World War started.

"I saw Russia under four governments within twenty-four hours," Miss Greenspun relates. "My mother's joy at seeing Russia again was as nothing compared to our joy at returning to the United States."

That was seven years ago. Since then Miss Greenspun has graduated from high school and is now studying at T. C. U.



for the degree of Bachelor of Business Administration.

### **Friday April 5, 1929**

**J. M. Gardner**, born July 31, 1891, died at his home in Abilene, Mar. 23, 1929, age 37. Funeral was held at the chapel of the Moore Funeral Home in Arlington, Mar. 25, Rev. S. M. Bennett conducting the services. Mr. Gardner had been in failing health for the past five or six years.

He had many friends in Arlington where he had lived at one time. He is survived by his wife, father and mother and other near relatives. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

### **Friday April 19, 1929**

Arlington policemen wearing the regulation uniforms appeared on our street for the first time on record yesterday afternoon, and created quite a lot of favorable comment.

Chief Coke and Asst. Chief Lovell were the fortunate officers, and our city is to be congratulated upon this new dress for its officers. It is believed uniformed officers will be especially valuable toward enforcing traffic laws.

### **Friday April 19, 1929**

Last week's question: Who had charge of the first telephone exchange here, and when?

Ans: Miss Lulu Mathers (Mrs. C. T. Brower) about 1900.

### **Friday April 19, 1929**

At the home of his brother, Ben Thomas, 505 South Center street, **Crockett W. Thomas** died at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 13, after an extended illness. Funeral services were held at the residence Sunday afternoon, conducted by Rev. W. T. Rouse of the Arlington Baptist church and Rev. S. M. Bennett, pastor of the Presbyterian church.

Two duets, "Sometime We Will Understand," and "It Won't Be Long, It May Be Soon" were given by Mrs. Alfred Brown and Mr. C. N. Hiatt, also a quartette

number, "Jesus Saviour Pilot Me" with Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Brown, C. N. Hiatt and daughter Mrs. Charles McDonald. They were accompanied by Mrs. Bert Blue at the piano.

He came to Texas with his father's family in the autumn of 1878 from Salem, Virginia, where he was born March 25, 1862. The family settled near Handley where he resided continuously up to about nine years ago when he came to Arlington.

Surviving him are two brothers, Chapman of Johnson City, Tenn., and Ben of Arlington, with whom he lived; and two sisters, Mrs. Alec McBee of Miami, Fla., and Mrs. M. A. Clark of Fort Worth.

Perhaps there was no one trait that so keenly marked the life of this good man than that he loved children. For blocks around he was known by them as "Uncle Crock," and up to within the time of his serious illness it was a familiar spectacle that greeted dwellers along the street to see him in the evenings on his way to the picture show with a crowd of happy youngsters, some running ahead, some holding his hands, and others tagging at his heels.

Mr. Thomas was a member of the Methodist church at Handley at the time of his death, and lived a consistent, upright christian life from his youth. He did not care for the pomp and splendor of the passing hour, but preferred rather the plain abiding things of life, and those who knew him best know that his daily walk was in keeping with his creed.

Although he suffered greatly during the weeks of his last illness, he bore his burdens with a smile and his passing brought to the mind of the writer lines from Longfellow's poem "The Day is Done."  
"And the night shall be filled with music,  
And the cares that infest the day,  
Shall fold their tents like the Arabs,  
And as silently steal away."

In a Ribbesford, England , cemetery:  
Anna Wallace - The children of Israel  
wanted bread and the Lord sent them manna.  
Clark Wallace wanted a wife and the Devil  
sent him Anna.