



# Arlington Genealogical Society News

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P. O. Box 373, Arlington, TX 76004-0373

**MARCH 2016**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016**

**6:30 - 9:00 p.m.**  
**Community Room of**  
**Arlington West Police Service Station**  
**2060 W. Green Oaks Blvd.**



**PROGRAM: Kelvin L. Meyers** on Fold3. You will remember that Fold3 is available through the Arlington Library website.

The following people have volunteered to furnish refreshments for the March Meeting: Quenna Cox, Carol Hubbard, Betty Swain, and Dorothy Rencurrel.

#### **AGS OFFICERS 2015-2016**

President: Pete Jacobs  
1st VP Programs: Steven Brown  
2nd VP Refreshments: Jeanne Rives  
Secretary: Sylvia Hoad  
Treasurer: Jeannie Schemensky  
Parliamentarian: Dorothy Rencurrel  
Publicity Chair: Ruth Goodman  
Purchasing Chair: Mary Ann Conrad  
Photographer: Wally Goodman  
Membership Chair: Cherry Williams  
Website: Sheri Tiner

Web Address:

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

Website is currently not available due to maintenance problems.

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 AGS PROGRAMS:**

**April 12: Richard Selcer** on Life in Fort Worth 1849-1853

**May 10: Bernard Meisner** on Civil War Pensions

**June 14: Round Table Discussion** or "Brick Wall Brainstorming"

#### **A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR SOCIETY PRESIDENT**

Our Society's current website pages are very basic, and AGS hosts our web pages on ([www.ancestry.rootsweb.com](http://www.ancestry.rootsweb.com)) at no cost. AGS gets a free internet presence, and Ancestry places a "search" ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com)) byline on each web page we post. That arrangement has been a "win-win", so to speak, until 24 February. As I keyed my comments for this March newsletter, the [ancestry.rootsweb](http://ancestry.rootsweb) internet server has been off line more than 5 days. We have an AGS web site revamp in progress, and at the February members meeting, we previewed some of those new web site pages. Attendees saw a more sophisticated series of AGS web site pages that are compatible and viewable on all internet devices. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the service interruption at [ancestry.rootsweb](http://ancestry.rootsweb) will have been resolved. But, in the meantime, the website committee is reviewing other options for hosting our website.

The browsing table is a popular feature at member meetings. You can help keep our browsing table supplied with interesting genealogy related media. Be on the lookout for announcements, brochures and flyers; and bring some of them to the members meeting to share via the browsing table.

Our March meeting features Kelvin L. Meyer's Fold3 program. Don't miss this opportunity to fine tune your research skills. Fold3.com has a focus on US military records, including the stories, photos, and personal documents of the men and women who served. Along with the military focus, Fold3 is continually-growing a collection with millions of records from world-class archives, many of which are exclusively available on Fold3. A library card is your "passport" to Fold3 Library Edition, one of the genealogy specific research resources available via the Arlington Public Library web pages.

It has been a year since your Society volunteered hours assisting Arlington Public Library staff relocate the Library genealogy research collection to the Northeast Branch at 1905 Brown Blvd. Many researchers default to online research, and overlook the 6000 plus titles close at hand on library shelves. Take some time to visit Arlington's on the shelf genealogy research collection in person or by way of the library catalog. You will be glad you did.

See you at the next members meeting.  
Peter G. Jacobs, President of the AGS

### **UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE AREA**

**March 3:** Grand Prairie GS Speaker will be Bernard Meisner on "Finding German Ancestors: Their Information Is Not All on the Internet." The meeting will be at The Ruthe Jackson Center, 3113 S. Carrier Parkway, Grand Prairie, TX.

**March 3: Mid Cities GS:** Speaker will be **L. Vaughn Oliver**, Sons of the Republic of Texas.

**March 4: National Archives**, Fort Worth Lunchtime Learning Program. "Fort Smith Court Records." Space is limited, reserve your spot today by emailing us at [ftworth.education@nara.gov](mailto:ftworth.education@nara.gov) or calling us at 817-551-2051

**March 5:** Arlington Texas Stake Family History Fair. The Guest Speaker will be Warren Bittner with local speakers and selected pre-recorded classes from the 2016 Rootstech genealogical conference. For the flyer, schedule and registration form, go to <http://www.arlingtontxfhc.org/>

### **March 10 Cedar Hill GS**

Speaker: **Bernard Meisner** on "Working with an On-line Family Tree." A discussion of the pros and cons of On-line Family Trees – especially with posting your own family research. Bernard will look at a variety of issues that concern family historians, using examples from his own research.

**March 12: Texas Sons of the American Revolution Arlington Chapter #7** invites you to join them in their graveside recognition of two past Texas Society State Presidents from Arlington at 2:00p.m., at Arlington Cemetery, 801 S. Mary Street, intersecting East Mitchell Street.

**March 12:** Billy W. Sills Lecture Series: **Susan Kline**, historian and author on "The Familiar and No-so-Familiar: Properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Fort Worth."

**March 19:** Williamson County GS 2016 Annual Seminar will feature **Curt B. Witcher**, from the Allen County Public Library.  
<http://www.williamsontxgenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=18>

**March 26: FWGS Beginners Workshop** Series: Researching at the County Courthouse.

**April 1: National Archives, Fort Worth**  
Lunchtime Learning Program on  
"Naturalization and Passenger Arrivals."

### **MASS GRAVE OUTSIDE CHICAGO**

Beneath the ground in a Chicago Northwest Side neighborhood, Dunning Cemetery, lie the remains of a wide assortment of souls, many of whom went to the grave without a ceremony or a certificate to document their passing. But history buff, Barry Fleig, said he has created a portal back from anonymity for 8,000 of those who were interred at the grounds. The area once housed the Cook County Almshouse, the county insane asylum, tuberculosis hospital and a potter's field that eventually became Cook County Cemetery. Fleig, who said he has spent 25 years compiling cemetery records, made a searchable database available to the public this month.

"These are the people who fell through the cracks," said Fleig, 70, of Phoenix. "These poor people were forgotten, but they don't have to be forgotten anymore." In all, the property is believed to contain the remains of as many as 38,000 people. The article can be found at  
<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/c-t-forgotten-cemetery-dunning-20141021-story.html>

The database can be accessed at  
[www.cookcountycemetery.com](http://www.cookcountycemetery.com).

*Via Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness*

### **Italian 'Coffee King' Renato Bialetti**

After Renato Bialetti, 93, died last week his children decided to honor his life's work by placing his ashes in a container that symbolized his family's legacy. During a funeral service in Montebuglio, Italy Bialetti's ashes were buried in a replica of the Moka coffee pot, which his father, Alfonso, invented.



Bialetti's three children came up with the idea to bury their father in the octagonal coffee pot he dedicated his life to popularizing. I guess being famous for coffee does have some perks.

*Via Dick Eastman, February 19, 2016*

### **FAMILY TREE MAKER POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT**

For those who use Family Tree Maker, Lisa Louise Cooke has on her website, Genealogy Gems, an article on a possible replacement for FTM. The article can be found at:

<http://lialouisecooke.com/?s=rootsmagic+essential>

*NOTE: This is in no way an advertisement but is a possible solution. RG*

### **NORTH CAROLINA WEBSITE**

The Government and Heritage Library, part of the State Library of North Carolina, has many databases that can be found at <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/>. The databases are created in conjunction with the State Archives of North Carolina. Of particular interest to genealogists would be (all pertaining to NC) the 1901 Confederate Pension Applications, Alien Registration and Naturalization, Family Records (includes digitized Bibles from the Archives, marriage and death notices from newspapers, cemetery records, published books that are not under copyright or the author gave permission to put in the database, newspapers, War of 1812 pay vouchers. The databases are always growing and new ones created. Our Digital Information Management Program (DIMP) is always hard at work on this!

*Thanks to Mary Ann Conrad*

### **ST. PATRICK**

St. Patrick was a 5th-century Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. Much of what is known about Saint Patrick comes from the *Declaration*, which was allegedly written by Patrick himself. It

is believed that he was born in Roman Britain in the fourth century, into a wealthy Romano-British family. His father was a deacon and his grandfather was a priest in the Christian church. According to the *Declaration*, at the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland. It says that he spent six years there working as a shepherd and that during this time he "found God." The *Declaration* says that God told Patrick to flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting to take him home. After making his way home, Patrick went on to become a priest.



According to legend, Saint Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to Irish pagans.

According to tradition, Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. The *Declaration* says that he spent many years evangelizing in the northern half of Ireland and converted "thousands". Patrick's efforts to convert, subjugate, and drive off the Pagans (specifically the Celts) were eventually turned into an allegory in which he drove "snakes" out of Ireland. (Ireland never had any snakes.)

Tradition holds that he died on 17 March and was buried at Downpatrick. Over the following centuries, many legends grew up around Patrick and he became Ireland's foremost saint.

*Via wikipedia*

## **VOLUNTEERING IN GENEALOGY**

One of the things you will come across frequently in genealogy is the concept of giving back to the community. The genealogical community is all about doing things for each other. You may have information on someone else's family that they need and wouldn't find without your generosity. It is said that whenever you do a genealogical good deed, it makes it more

likely someone will do the same for you. Even if they don't, it still feels good to do. Here are nine ways you can volunteer in genealogy.

### **1. FindaGrave.com**

If you live near one or more cemeteries that are remote and/or have not been recorded on [FindaGrave.com](http://FindaGrave.com) yet, you can do a lot of your fellow genealogists a big favor by taking pictures of the graves there and making entries for them on this free website.

### **2. The U.S. Genweb Project**

This free website collects genealogical documents from around the world and puts them into their appropriate state and county sections. It depends on donations from its members to add to the collection. Donate some of your own rare documents, or even volunteer to administer the page for an "orphan" county.... a county without someone to administrate it yet.

### **3. Volunteer at Your Local Archives**

Volunteering at the local archives in your area is a wonderful way to give other genealogists, some of whom may be visiting from out-of-town, the assistance they need to find the trails of their ancestors in your town.

### **4. Be a Leader in a Genealogical Society**

Most genealogical societies have officers and committees. You can run for an office among the officers or volunteer for a committee. Either one will give you an opportunity to bring more prominence to the society and to let other genealogists know about the group and what it can do for them.

### **5. Teach a Class**

If you've become quite good at genealogy, you can volunteer to teach a class in it at your local adult education center. You can teach beginning, intermediate, or advanced genealogy.

### **6. Contribute to DeadFred.com**

[DeadFred.com](http://DeadFred.com) is a website where people

contribute photos of their ancestors. This is a wonderful resource for people who are looking for photos of ancestors whose faces they may have never seen. You never know who is related to your own ancestors that you've never met, and who may be looking for the very photographs you possess.

### 7. Organize Genealogical Field Trips for Senior Citizens

Introduce yourself to the activities director at the local senior center and explain your genealogical expertise. Then, work with the director to arrange an outing for the people who spend time at the center to go to a local genealogical library or archives, with you as the leader and chief helper, giving participants tips on using the resources there to find their ancestors.

### 8. Transcribe Old Documents

If you do a lot of work in courthouses, you will often come across handwritten documents in ancient handwriting. You can transcribe this often hard to read writing and put the transcriptions online, to make them available for other genealogists.

### 9. Blog About Your Genealogical Adventures

No one tells the tale of your own genealogical adventures better than you. Blog about them, and others may learn new research techniques from them, or even discover new information about their own ancestors on your website.

<http://www.ancestralfindings.com/genealogy-tips/> NOTE: This website offers many other genealogy tips. Check it out.



It only took ten minutes to find him, and I love the search!



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

Friday September 27, 1929

Arlington Fire Department

Editor The Arlington Journal—

Dear Sir: Will you please publish this.

I wish to take this means of thanking the Arlington Fire Department for making a run to a fire that destroyed a dwelling that I owned just outside the city limits, on the end of South Pecan street, about three or four weeks ago. On the morning of that day my son, with a friend of his, went over to burn the grass around the dwelling. They came home about 11 o'clock, stating that they had put out all fires before leaving. I have been told that about 12:30 the house was discovered afire, and an alarm sent in. The Fire Department made a quick run, although the whole house was already a furnace of flames. The nearest fire plug was entirely too far away, but the fire department connected up their fire hose any way, only to find it liked a long way of reaching to the house. I wish to commend this spirit of our fi(ne) bunch of firemen, of always making a real effort, no matter how hopeless the results might look. We have an exceedingly efficient progressive Fire Department for the size of this town and I want them to know that I appreciate their efforts for the benefit of our town, and that I am backing them. I have seen them make some unusually fast runs and so some wonderfully fast work on fires in the past. They have saved the town of Arlington a whole lot, again I say thanks.

Gentlemen:-- I did not know about the fire, until three hours afterwards.

As to the fire, there was no insurance on the dwelling, and it was vacant. No blame attached to my son or his friend, as it may have caught from some covered up fire, that they did not see.

Respectively, W. H. Coleman.

### **Friday September 27, 1929**

Arlington ranks high as a poultry center and eggs and choice fowls are easily marketed to the profit of the grower. There are several important reasons why this is true.

First Arlington is centrally located between two of the largest and most progressive cities in the South. The Bankhead Highway which connects these two cities carries some eight or ten thousand motorists through our city daily. The splendid railroad connections make mail and express shipping convenient and speedy. Also the interurban which runs every hour has meant a great deal in bringing people to the town as well as the baggage and express service rendered by the interurban for shipping purposes. Being located as it is, it is convenient for poultry men to market their products in either Fort Worth or Dallas.

Second, the soil in Arlington is very favorably adapted to poultry raising. In practically every section of the country there is some sandy soil, with gravel, and well drained which make it ideal for poultry raising. Even the black land section to the southeast of the city has proven very successful for poultry when handled properly. Many farmers have from a hundred to five hundred hens to his flock. The surplus eggs are marketed at a profit and often add very materially to the family budget which in recent years has been lessened by crop failures. Raising fryers for the market purposes also has proven very successful in this section.

Arlington has proven an ideal location for the sale of baby chicks, a number of hatcheries being located here. The total egg capacity of hatcheries in this city will run well into several hundred thousand. These men who have chosen this as their chosen occupation have always found a ready sale for their chicks and make large shipments into all parts of the United States.

Some of the largest poultry farms in the South are located here and these men who have nothing but pure bred stock have won first places on their stock at the State Fair held each year in Dallas, Southwestern

Fat Stock and Exposition in Fort Worth and many other Fairs throughout the State.

An organization which has been a decided advantage and help to poultry men here is the Poultry Association which boasts a large membership. Meetings are held in which mutual help and advice are given, not only for the benefit of the members, but for the building up of the entire community.

Business men in Arlington have realized the importance of this industry to the growth of the city and stand ready at all times to aid and cooperate with the poultry men in anything that they can. With this splendid cooperation and other favorable conditions, which have already been mentioned, it is no wonder that Arlington is now ranked one of the best poultry centers of the Southwest.

### **Friday September 27, 1929**

#### ***Student Body and Faculty of Arlington Public School in 1897***

*(picture of large group of students and teachers)*

Top Row: Haskell WhitMe(?), Will Rose, Miss Eliza Hayter, Fred Litton, Elbert Litton, Luther Hahn. Second Row: A. J. Mahaney, Photographer: Henry Williamson, Hub Litton, Frank Walker, Fletcher Crockett, Will Massey, Ernest Lowe, Thos. (Sandy) Copeland, Chas. Walker, Marshall Collins. Third Row: Nannie Rose, Bettie Collins, Ellie Dalton, Flora Coker, Kate Collins, Irene Henry, Ella Walker, Mittie Collins, Pearly Godwin, Olin Davis, Florence Snodgrass, Ida Ferguson, Clara Hahn, Carver King, Fourth Row: Mamie Mahan, Nannie Rice, Kati Copeland, Fannie Watson, Lillian Dalton, Genie King, Prof. W. W. Witt, Georgia Finger, Edna Griffin, Pearl Hutcheson, Hettie Williamson, Willie Hood, Cordie? Griffin, Harold Watson, Chas. Rose, Gard Mastey, Wyeth Rose, Gene Copeland, Edd Collins, Louis Tillery, Fred Massey?, next two unknown, Gene Mahan, next three unknown.