



Roots & Branches

Grand Prairie Genealogical Society

www.gpgstx.org

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January 5, 2012 John V. Wylie

Research Wiki by Family Search

—YOU Make This The Most Powerful Research Tool

Have you ever found an online source and wanted to add to or correct it. You can now. The FamilySearch Research Wiki provides free research advice and information for the community, by the community. It's already popular, but with potential beyond words. Experts have already written over 50,000 articles but there's unlimited room for more. A Wiki depends on user contributed material and our resources are almost entirely contributed by informed researchers. Use this Wiki to learn how and where to research your family, but then add to the material as you use it. You'll find thousands on articles on localities, methodology, and actual ancestors while collaborating with others to create a comprehensive knowledgebase. This is the perfect tool for paying forward for all those wonderful sources you've used so far in your endeavor.

John Wylie, a professional genealogist since 1990, serves GPGS as Library Liaison and a past president, the Texas State Genealogical Society as Vice-President, and the National Secretary, Association of Professional Genealogists for four years. A founder of GenTech, he served as President for five year and on the *Genealogical Data Model* development team.

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Karen Schrader, Vice President of Programs

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Refreshments provided by

RUTH & WALLY GOODMAN AND
TOM & ELENA CODGELL

***Meetings held the first Thursday of each month
in the Great Room located on the
east end of the main library.
Visitors are always welcome!***

GRAND PRAIRIE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

901 Conover Drive Grand Prairie, Texas 75051

From the Gavel~

Murphy's Law for Genealogists

The public ceremony in which your distinguished ancestor participated and at which the platform collapsed under him turned out to be a hanging.

When at last after much hard work you have solved the mystery you have been working on for two years, your aunt says, "I could have told you that" You grandmother's maiden name that you have searched for four years was on a letter in a box in the attic all the time.

You never asked your father about his family when he was alive because you weren't interested in genealogy then. The will you need is in the safe on board the Titanic.

Copies of old newspapers have holes occurring only on the surnames.

John, son of Thomas, the immigrant whom your relatives claim as the family progenitor, died on board ship at age 10.

Your great grandfather's newspaper obituary states that he died leaving no issue of record.

The keeper of the vital records you need has just been insulted by a another genealogist.

The relative who had all the family photographs gave them all to her daughter who has no interest in genealogy and no inclination to share.

The only record you find for your great grandfather is that his property was sold at a sheriff's sale for insolvency.

The one document that would supply the missing link in your dead-end line has been lost due to fire, flood or war.

The town clerk to whom you wrote for the information sends you a long handwritten letter which is totally illegible.

The spelling of your European ancestor's name bears no relationship to its current spelling or pronunciation.

None of the pictures in your recently deceased grandmother's photo album have names written on them.

No one in your family tree ever did anything noteworthy, owned property, was sued or was named in wills.

You learn that your great aunt's executor just sold her life's collection of family genealogical materials to a flea market dealer "somewhere in New York City."

Ink fades and paper deteriorates at a rate inversely proportional to the value of the data recorded.

The 37 volume, sixteen thousand page history of your country of origin isn't indexed.

You finally find your great grandparent's wedding records and discover that the brides' father was named John Smith.

[For the following, insert your state/county of choice]

Your distinguished ancestor, related to the governor of Victoria, turns out to be the caterer who once cooked dinner for him.

Your distinguished ancestor who was 1. Secretary of the Mint 2. Brought out from England to be the first accountant for the Sandhurst railway Victoria, turns out to be a clerk in the railways.

Your distinguished ancestor who was well educated, went to Heidelberg University and spoke several languages, shows up in the census as an apprentice to a German silversmith, in Hereford no less!

My contribution ... You finally find the birth of your ancestor, only to find they were born before their parents.

*Cynthia Jones
President*

The Early Years

Shady Grove

Shady Grove, Dallas County, Texas. Shady Grove is between State Highway 183 and Interstate Highway 30 west of Belt Line Road and about ten miles west of downtown Dallas in western Dallas County. In the early 1990s Shady Grove was on the boundary between Grand Prairie and Irving. It was named by early settlers for the local groves of oak trees. In 1933 the Shady Grove community had one business and a population of twenty. By 1947, the last year for which population figures are available, it reported two businesses and a population of fifty. In 1964 the Shady Grove school, located within the city limits of Grand Prairie, was the last common school in the county. The school offered instruction through the eighth grade to white students in the Bear Creek area. In 1964 the local school employed ten teachers and had an enrollment of 307. White secondary students attended school in Irving, and black students from Shady Grove all attended school in Grand Prairie. Tuition for the black students was paid by Irving. In 1964 several residents of Shady Grove tried unsuccessfully to have the common school district abolished and the school transferred to Irving. Shady Grove was annexed by Grand Prairie in 1968. In May 1969 Irving attempted to annex Shady Grove but was thwarted by the Dallas County school board, which refused to approve a change in the school boundaries. In 1972 fifty Shady Grove residents petitioned to have their community disannexed by Grand Prairie, on the grounds that Grand Prairie was not adequately addressing community needs. At the time, Grand Prairie had just begun construction on a four-lane street between the

two communities and was preparing to build water and sewer lines in Shady Grove. Soon after receipt of the petition, the mayor announced that the city council would call for a bond election to finance the construction of a park in the community. In the mid-1980s residents were still complaining about inadequate provision of services. In addition, the fact that the boundary between Grand Prairie and Irving lay 200 feet west of Belt Line Road sometimes caused confusion over which city had jurisdiction when emergency situations developed. In 1985 Grand Prairie and Irving established a joint committee to discuss such issues as zoning and the provision of public services in the Shady Grove area.

*From the
Texas State Historical Association Website.*

Fundraiser Report

President Elect Carol Franklin sends thanks to everyone who has attended GPGS fundraisers at CICI's in the last several months. GPGS has received over \$200.00 from CICI's Restaurants for our last two fundraiser nights. Make plans to join us anytime between 5 and 8 pm for our next night of fun and pizza on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at the Cici's Pizza located at the intersection of Carrier and Pioneer Parkways in Grand Prairie. Invite your friends and neighbors and we like forward to seeing you there.



Workshops/Conferences

Grand Prairie Genealogical Society Library Lock-In

Friday
February 24, 2012

*Arlington Family History Center
Presents*

2nd Annual Family History Fair Searching the World From Musty Books to Digital Records

Saturday March 3th, 2012
8:00 AM to 3:30 PM

<http://www.arlingtonxfhc.org/>

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society Presents

A Day With Dick Eastman

March 27, 2011
Eules, Texas

Scottish Heritage Festival

May 4-6, 2012

Maverick Stadium
University of Texas at Arlington
Arlington, Texas

Genealogy Assistance

Genealogy Assistance at the Main Library

Volunteers from the Grand Prairie Genealogical Society will be available at the Main Library's Local History Room at 901 Conover Drive to assist with family history research. Just starting out? Learn basic researching skills to get started. More experienced? Brainstorm with other researchers for new ideas and approaches.

This service is available on:

2nd Monday of the month, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

3rd Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

4th Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon

The Grand Prairie Genealogical Society meets monthly in the large meeting room at the East end of the Grand Prairie Memorial Library at 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.

Fundraiser Schedule

Thursday

January 12, 2012 5:00 to 8:00 PM

Cici's Pizza Buffet

726 Pioneer Pkwy @ Carrier Pkwy

Thursday

February 9, 2012 5:00 to 8:00 PM

Cici's Pizza Buffet

726 Pioneer Pkwy @ Carrier Pkwy

Name That Person

Can you name this Grand Prairie Genealogical Society member?



Society members who would like to participate in this fun, please contact Roots 'n Branches Editor Richard Waller.

Leadership

Executive Board Officers

PRESIDENT: Cynthia Jones
PRESIDENT-ELECT: Carol Franklin
1st Vice President - Programs: Karen Schrader
2nd VP - Newsletter: Richard G. Waller
Secretary: Bonnie Cockrum
Treasurer: Howard McCalla

Executive Board Directors

Historian/Reporter: Danielle Berry
Library Liaison: John V. Wylie
Webmaster: Pamela Knight
Hospitality: Becky and Beau Garland

Grand Prairie Genealogical Society
A Partner Society of the
Texas State Genealogical Society

Jocularly

A man is driving along a highway and sees a rabbit jump out across the middle of the road. He swerves to avoid hitting it, unfortunately, the rabbit jumps right in front of the car.

The driver, a sensitive man as well as an animal lover, pulls over and gets out to see what has become of the rabbit. Much to his dismay, the rabbit is dead.

The driver feels so awful that he begins to cry. A beautiful blonde woman driving down the highway sees a man crying on the side of the road and pulls over. She steps out of the car and asks the man what's wrong.

"I feel terrible," he explains, "I accidentally hit this rabbit and killed it."

The blonde says, "Don't worry." She runs to her car and pulls out a spray can, then walks over to the limp, dead rabbit, bends down, and sprays the contents onto the rabbit.

All of a sudden, the rabbit jumps up, waves its paw at the two of them and hops off down the road.

Ten feet away the rabbit stops, turns around and waves again, he hops down the road another 10 feet, turns and waves, hops another ten feet, turns and waves, and repeats this again and again and again, until he hops out of sight. The man is astonished.

He runs over to the woman and demands, "What is in that can? What did you spray on that rabbit?"

The woman turns the can around so that the man can read the label. It says... "Hair Spray -Restores life to dead hair, adds permanent wave."

1940 Census Prep

Getting To The Library

1940 Census Release Date

The 1940 U.S. Federal Census was conducted based on a census date of April 1, 1940. Given the seventy-two year privacy restriction, family historians will need to wait until **April 2, 2012** before they can inspect schedules from the sixteenth census of the United States. The census counted a total of nearly 132.2 million people who lived in the United States 48 states.

Since April 1st falls on a Sunday in 2012, we'll have to wait an additional day to access the 1940 census schedules, but recent announcements from officials at the National Archives have indicated the schedules are already scanned and being prepped for digital release through the NARA website, rather than microfilm as has been done in previous years.

1940 Census Street Transcription Project

On 01 April 2012, the 1940 Census will be released from the 72-year privacy mandate and family historians will flood to National Archives in search of ancestors. BUT there will not be an index available and so researchers will be required to know the Enumeration District in the city or town where their ancestors lived. If you would like to help in this effort, visit www.stevemorse.org for more details about a project to create a free time-saving tool for your fellow genealogists throughout the world.

Hwy 161 Construction Road Closures

Updated Information

DETOURS

South bound traffic from Jefferson will have to access SH 161 from SW 14th Street and cross under 161, turn North on the 161 service road and continue north to Conover to access the Library. North bound 161 service road is closed at Conover. Delays are possible due to construction traffic. Road work at Carrier and Conover has been completed.

Go to www.gptx-traffic.org for up-to-date lane closure information in Grand Prairie.

About our Speaker

Continued from page 1:

He authored more than 30 articles in publications that include *Stirpes*, *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* and *Genealogical Computing*. He has lectured at a dozen national conferences and at state and local seminars in 29 states. He co-authored the NGS publication *Indexing Family Histories* and wrote the *How to Cite Sources* tutorial on Ancestry for eleven years.

Extractions

The Grand Prairie Genealogical Society expresses its sincere thanks to society member Bonnie Cockrum, for her extractions from the "Grand Prairie Texan". The following are extractions from the Friday, April 22, 1910 issues of the Texan.

New Brick Buildings

On Monday morning work began on the construction of two new brick buildings in Grand Prairie. T.L. Badgett is erecting one of them on the lot where is hold store building was torn down from last week. Rev. J.T. Beckam, of Denton, is erecting the other on his lot between the Badgett and Burgher buildings. Each building is to be 35X75 feet. Work is being pushed rapidly on the foundations and it is hoped rapid progress will be made on the construction. W.H. Peterman, of Dallas, is the contractor. foundations will be made sufficient for two stories.

R.L. Cox for Commissioner

In our announcement column this week appears the name of R.L. Cox for commissioner of District No.4 of Dallas country. Mr. Cox is one of our oldest and most highly respected citizens, having lived in this precinct about 15 years. Two years ago he made the race for commissioner and was defeated by a very small vote, which was enough to show that he was held in favor by the people. Mr. Cox has no promise to make if elected further than he will discharge the duties of the office to the best of his ability, which we are confident he will. But he does not ask your vote unless you are fully satisfied, it is to the interest of the greatest number of people to vote for him. We take great pleasure in recommending him to the voters of this precinct. And from all reports he will carry the strongest box in the district, which if true, will be greatly appreciated by Mr. Cox and his many friends here.

School Trustee Announcements

We are authorized to announce the following as candidates for school trustee of the Grand Prairie public school. Election May 7th:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| J.F. Waggoner | E.M. Henley |
| A.H. Payne | J.T. Barston |

Duncan Burgoon Nuptials

Barnett Duncan and Miss Nona Burgoon were married Sunday afternoon about four o'clock at the home of the groom's brother J.D. Duncan, Rev. Whitely officiating. After the ceremony the contracting parties, accompanied by Leslie Horton and Miss Sallie Lay went to Dallas, where they spent the afternoon, returning that night.

The groom is a very industrious young man of excellent character, and has a promising future. The bride is of one of our oldest and most highly respected families, being the step-daughter of Haden Trigg, and the younger set held her in especial esteem.

Mr. and Mrs. Duncan have taken up their residence in Arlington, moving there Wednesday.

The Texan joins their many friends in the hope the union may prove happy and successful.

Sunday School Report

The following are the reports of the various Sunday schools in Grand Prairie for Sunday, April 17, 1910: Baptist

Officers and Teachers present....	18
Scholars present.....	86
Visitors present.....	4
Total at _____.....	102
_____ enrolled.....	158
Regular Collection.....	\$1.51

Ruby Lively, Sec.

Grand Prairie Texan

April 22, 1910
Ross Simpson, Editor
J.F. Bradford, Asst. Ed. and Mgr.

Now for the straw bonnets.

Spring, bless her, may go as far as she likes.

Make room for the rhubarb pie and the strawberry shortcake.

When it saw the colonel the Sphinx remained discreetly silent.

Girls' names written on eggs are turned out of cold storage from one to three years old.

Simian dinners are still popular in the New York smart set and some of them cost \$100 per plate.

Paris has a "ham and iron" fair, though ham and diamonds would be a more appropriate combination.

Japan is taking an interest in baseball, which seems to assure a cordial understanding beyond ____?__.

It will be hard for Kermit to content himself with the sport of clam digging when he gets back to Oyster Bay.

Why should not the young man's fancy lightly turn to thoughts of love? Spring millinery bills do not embitter his dreams.

New science has achieved an invention to take the picture of beating hearts. This ought to make effective exhibits in love pleadings.

A celebrated oculist says that people seldom see things as they are. Particularly is this true when they look at get-rich-quick schemes.

Economists who declare there is now too much gold will not exert any noticeable influence on the enthusiasm of the man with a mining prospectus.

A New York man who was run down by a baby carriage is suffering from a broken shoulder. New York men should never go on the street without their nursemaids.

So impetuous are the members of the Hungarian chamber of deputies that they began hurling books and inkwells without waiting for the moving-picture machine.

As a matter of fact man is not in rebellion against buttoning up his wife's waist in the back. he likes anything that proves he is a convenience about the house.

One good thing about the gaseous tail of Halley's comet, which is expected to envelope the earth before long, is that we shall not be compelled to get it through a meter.

Count Komura says that a war between this country and Japan is inconceivable. Little does he realize the strength of the imaginations of some of our after-dinner speakers.

New York gave away a car load of babies to New Orleans people the other day? This corroborates the old saying that generosity consists in giving away something which we do not want ourselves.

Sailing of the Mauretania was delayed half an hour by the non arrival of some cans of cream. We are surprised to learn that the Mauretania does not have among its attractions a cow pasture and creamery of its own.

The appendix, thinking the human race has not enough trouble of its own just now, has started to make more by inventing for itself a new and exclusive disease. This disease the doctors have agreed to call "appendicular gastralgia" and there is small double that those who wish to keep strictly up to date will contract it with delay. Indeed, appendicitis may go quite out of fashion.

The idea of running "instruction trains" for the benefit of farmers appears to be growing in popularity. One of these trains, in charge of the state agricultural department, is on a trip through New Jersey and the farmers are flocking to the stopping places in large numbers to listen to the lectures and witness the demonstrations. The practical value of this method is recognized, and the American farmer who wants to be up to date is catching on. New Jersey evidently is wide awake as to the importance of utilizing its natural resources.

Extractions from the April 22, 1910 issue of the Grand Prairie Texan newspaper will continue in the February 2012 Issue of Roots 'n Branches.