



DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US

DGS Annual Report September 2021 – August 2022

The Dallas Genealogical Society has continued to be a leader among societies in the North Texas area. This report will cover the period from September 2021-August 2022.

Our year really starts in August with the board's annual planning meeting. The board conducted an analysis of the society's current condition and set the following goals for the 2021-2022 year:

- 1950 census-work with FamilySearch to index North Texas-area records
- Regular Classes on popular topics-beginner, DNA, etc.
- Create a high quality, organized video library
- Have workshops on different subjects, such as German, DNA, etc.
- Free or low cost webinars
- Become a resource for other societies (long term)
- Partner with other genealogy organizations on projects, such as TxSGS, The Portal to Texas History, and FamilySearch
- DGS/DPL joint projects/preservation events
- Leadership recruitment/mentoring
- Hire a non-profit publicity/media consultant to review DGS output

These goals were in addition to the society's normal activities for the year.

During 2021, the world was still recovering from the Covid pandemic so general meetings and most of our seminars were conducted via Zoom. Our first in-person meeting of the year was the 2022 Summer Seminar. This was our first real endeavor since 2020 into hybrid meetings, where we had a live speaker at the Central Library and a virtual audience on Zoom. Thanks to the hard work and expertise of our Tech Team, the seminar was a success. All our General Meetings and Special Interest Group meetings were held virtually. Information about those meetings can be found on our [events calendar](#).

The Virtual Help Desk was discontinued after the October meeting. It was found that the only people who attended were board members and the meetings were not accomplishing their intended purpose.

DGS started a re-branding initiative in 2020. In preparation for in-person meetings starting up again, we ordered a new stand-up sign, podium sign, and table top sign. Our print collateral was also updated.



DGS participated with Preservation Dallas in their annual tour. Because of pandemic concerns, Preservation Dallas decided to sponsor a tour of historic Dallas cemeteries instead of homes. DGS was responsible for Oakland Cemetery. Several DGS volunteers staffed well-known historic grave sites and other DGS volunteers staffed an information table near the cemetery entrance. Several people attending the event told that the Oakland cemetery stop was the best-staffed and most informative on the tour. It was estimated that about 250 people visited Oakland Cemetery during the day.

Sharon Bowles and Jim Thornhill met with Social Media consultant Becky Winn. This service was provided through Catchafire, a free non-profit consulting service from the Communities Foundation of Texas. Becky suggested several things we could do to enhance our Facebook presence and drive traffic to our website.

In November, a committee was appointed to review the board structure in the bylaws. The bylaws had been updated in 2019, but the board structure had not been addressed for lack of time. The committee met and recommended significant changes. The changes were presented to the board for approval, revised, and then presented to the members at the general meeting in February and approved at the March general meeting.



In January, DGS staffed a table at the Arlington Family History Center's (FHC) Genealogy Fair. The fair was well attended, with 150-200 people. DGS provided information about the society and its activities. In addition, volunteers helped several people who had questions about how to discover their family history.

During 2021 significant changes were made to the database of historical records on the DGS website. Changes were made by the web team to make our legacy publications more searchable.

In December, long-time member Shirley Sloat donated \$25,000 to DGS. Shirley asked that part of the donation be used to directly benefit our members. The board honored this request by offering special pricing for our Summer 2022 seminar and using part of the donated funds to reduce the member price for that seminar to \$25.



Ed Millis, Shirley Sloat, and Suzan Younger

In conjunction with this offer, the society conducted a membership drive. Membership statistics were reviewed in the May board meeting and it was determined that the membership drive was a success and should be repeated next Spring.

In December, a committee was appointed to investigate investing some of the society's excess funds. The committee met and made a recommendation to the board, which approved the investment. The committee created a set of investing rules, which were approved by the board and added to the Standing Rules.

In January the board also approved an incentive for the SIGs to increase compliance with the society's SIG requirements. This effort met with limited success.

There was much anticipation looking forward to the release of the 1950 census and how societies could help with indexing. Unfortunately, the way the indexing effort was set up by FamilySearch there was not an easy way for a society to participate as a group. There were

numerous software problems and by the time these issues were solved, it was May and the opportunity for DGS to participate as a society had diminished.

Because of lingering concerns about Covid-19, the board voted to have the May awards meeting virtually. It was decided that if the area continued its current rate of recovery, that the first in person general meeting would be in September of 2022. A committee was formed to look into door prizes, a special speaker, and other features to make our first in person general meeting a special one.

In April, we had a special guest at our board meeting. Alex Martinez from HOGAR de Dallas attended. It is hoped that we can foster an atmosphere of cooperation for the future.

At the May board meeting, the decision was made to change postal services from a US post office box to iPostal1, an online service that offers several advantages. Letters are scanned and can be seen online when they come in. Mail can be delivered to multiple locations around the Dallas area. If necessary, we can request that mail be opened and scanned so it can be read online. The cost of this service is comparable with what we had been paying for our PO Box.

It has also been a successful year financially for DGS. Under the watchful eye of our Treasurer, DGS has ended its financial year in excellent condition. A Profit and Loss statement for the 2021-2022 year is.

Overall, it has been a successful year for the Dallas Genealogical Society. Our survey results from our seminars continued to indicate positive feedback. The board worked together to further the society's mission. Although not all the goals set for the year were reached, the board worked diligently to handle several other unforeseen issues. This illustrates one of DGS's core advantages, a board of directors that works well together and is dedicated to the best interest of the society.

Information for this report was gleaned from the Board of Director's minutes and the events calendar on the website at dallasgenealogy.org.

Jim Thornhill
President

Dallas Genealogical Society
Profit & Loss
 October 2021 through September 2022

	Oct '21 - Sep 22
Income	
4100 · CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS & GRANTS	
4110 · Contributions - Individuals	26,071.34
4130 · Corporate Reward Card Programs	478.81
4140 · Indirect Contributions	230.00
4150 · Gifts in Kind	59.54
	26,839.69
Total 4100 · CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS & GRANTS	26,839.69
4200 · PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE	
4210 · Registration Fees	16,260.00
4220 · Lunches	240.00
4250 · Hospitality Donations	14.00
	16,514.00
Total 4200 · PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE	16,514.00
4300 · MEMBERSHIP DUES	
4310 · Memberships - Individuals	9,750.00
4320 · Memberships - Households	2,120.00
4330 · Memberships - Life	520.00
	12,390.00
Total 4300 · MEMBERSHIP DUES	12,390.00
4400 · INTEREST INCOME	
4411 · Interest/Savings Account	23.95
4412 · Interest/Investment Account	486.56
	510.51
Total 4400 · INTEREST INCOME	510.51
Total Income	56,254.20
Expense	
6100 · GENEALOGICAL EDUCATION	
6110 · Speaker Fees	4,250.00
6120 · Reimbursed Travel & Meals	20.58
6130 · Catering	1,907.00
6140 · Printing	638.07
6160 · Online Advertising & Promotion	230.97
6180 · Supplies and Other	968.06
6190 · Hospitality Expenses	497.29
	8,511.97
Total 6100 · GENEALOGICAL EDUCATION	8,511.97
6200 · DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY SUPPORT	
6210 · Donations	6,435.78
6220 · Gifts in Kind	7,625.85
	14,061.63
Total 6200 · DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY SUPPORT	14,061.63
7000 · MANAGEMENT & GENERAL EXPENSES	
7100 · Credit Card Processing Fees	852.84
7200 · Direct Mailing	510.00
7300 · Information Technology	5,178.03
7400 · Insurance - Liability, D & O	1,275.00
7500 · Memberships and Dues	130.00
7600 · Postage, Box Rental, Permits	594.46
7650 · Printing and Copying	236.43
7700 · Supplies and Other	330.28
7800 · Telephone & Communications	146.86
7898 · Advertising & Publicity	2,406.70
	11,660.60
Total 7000 · MANAGEMENT & GENERAL EXPENSES	11,660.60
Total Expense	34,234.20
Net Income	22,020.00