



DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US

**Annual Report
September 2023 – August 2024**

Overview

The Dallas Genealogical Society is a non-profit tax-exempt Section 501(c)(3) organization that provides resources and services of interest to family history researchers in (or with an interest in) Dallas and North Texas. We partner with the Genealogy & History Division of the Dallas Public Library to provide services and educational activities that cultivate and nurture an interest in Family History Research.

We are committed to education, service, preservation, and keeping abreast of new developments in genealogical resources, technology, and information providers while pursuing these primary goals:

1. Educate by creating, fostering, and maintaining interest in Genealogy and Family History.
2. Assist and support the Genealogy & History Division of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library in Dallas, Texas.
3. Collect, preserve, copy, and index information relating to Dallas County and its early history.

Society Leaders

- **Tony Hanson** – President
- **Sharon Bowles** – Vice President
- **Terry Turner** - Secretary
- **Susan Rainwater** – Director of Finance
- **Todd DeDecker** – Immediate Past President & Website Administrator
- **Melissa Fleming** – Director of Information Technology, NGS Delegate, TxSGS Delegate
- **Patti Huff-Smith** – Director of Marketing & General Meeting Administrator (Resigned April 2024)
- **Kim Edge** – Director of Membership
- **Barbara Coakley** – Seminar Administrator
- **Patricia Hernandez** - Director of Volunteer Coordination
- **Michelle Dwyer Cohen** – Newsletter Editor
- **Director At-Large** – Gus Hinojosa
- **Stephanie Bennett** – Library Liaison
- **NGS Delegate** – Linda Harrison
- **TxSGS Delegate** – Cheryl Freeman

Committees

Budget Committee

The members of this year's budget committee were Susan Rainwater (Chair), Tony Hanson, Terry Turner and Melissa Fleming.



DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US

Annual Report September 2023 – August 2024

Financial Review Committee

The committee consisted of Larry Webb, Barbara Coakley, Michelle Cohen, Tony Hanson and Susan Rainwater (chair).

Hospitality Committee

The committee consisted of Betty Case and Barbara Coakley.

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee, consisting of Michelle Dwyer Cohen, Tony Hanson, Susan Rainwater and Larry Webb.

Newsletter Committee

The members of this committee consisted of Michelle Cohen Dwyer (Newsletter Editor), Jo Ann Graham, Susan Rainwater, Suzan Younger, Barbara Ware and Patricia Hernandez.

Nominating Committee

The members of this year's nominating committee were Todd DeDecker (Chair), Michelle Dwyer Cohen, Kim Edge, Cheryl Freeman, and Brenda Cannon.

Website Team

The website team consisted of Todd DeDecker (Webmater), Susan Rainwater and Tony Hanson

Membership

We have experienced a 9% decrease in membership over the past year.

September 2023

412 members

- 289 total Individual Members
- 44 Household Members
- 22 Associate Members
- 57 Life Members

September 2024

376 members

- 283 total Individual Members
- 17 Household Members
- 22 Associate Members
- 54 Life Members



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EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US

**Annual Report
September 2023 – August 2024**

Education

General Meetings

We conduct 9 General Meeting each year. Each meeting consists of a short business meeting followed by an educational presentation on a topic of interest to Genealogists. Meetings are held at the Dallas Public Library (usually the downtown location) and are open to the public. Each meeting is also broadcast live via Zoom, and a recording of the meeting is also available on our website.

Meeting	Speaker & Topic	Total Audience*
September	Susan Kaufman: Using Social History for Family History Research	151
October	Gus Hinojosa: My journey back to Spain via My Sephardic Roots	176
November	Catherine “Kay” Bauer: Her Vietnam War experiences as a nurse and how they have influenced her life.	109
December	Kevin Klaus: Genealogy Research at the Texas General Land Office	160
January	Jen Baldwin: Pledging Brotherhood: An Introduction to Fraternal, Benevolent, and Secret Societies	176
February	LaDonna Garner: Surfing for African American Records	123
March	Ari Wilkins: Let Your Fingers Do the Walking: Exploring City Directories, Telephone Books and Criss-Cross Directories	58
April	Barbara Coakley: Search vs. Research	79
May	Annual Awards & Beri Kaplan Schwitzer: Dallas Jewish History	150

* Total Audience includes those attending in person, Zoom Participants and those who watched a recording of the meeting.

Special Interest Groups

Our Special Interest Groups meet throughout the year to discuss issues and topics of interest to group participants. These meetings are open to the public: many of them are hybrid (allowing members to participate in-person or via Zoom).

- **Brenda Cannon** – African American Group.
- **Elizabeth (Liz) Kutz** – Best Practices & Jewish Groups.
- **Mic Barnette, Jean Larson & Barbara Ware** – DNA Group.
- **Ann Broihier & Bernard Meisner** – German Genealogy Group.
- **Happi McQuirk** – MacGen Reunion Group (disbanded).



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Annual Report September 2023 – August 2024

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Total
AAGIG	16	14	8	15	16	26	20	21	11				147
Best Practices	0	0	0	0	0	8	3	4	0	0	0		15
DNA	10		10		22		25		8				75
German	263		96		67		49		32				507
Jewish	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	23	3	0	0	0	37
MacGen		6											6
	289	20	114	15	105	45	97	48	54	0	0	0	787

Special Interest Group Attendance

Happi Mikki McQuirk (1946 – 2024) was the DGS Special Interest Group Leader for MacGen Reunion. She organized and operated the group from 2006 until her death this year, moving it from onsite to virtual programming. Reaching out to Macintosh owners, she invited them to *“Come join us and bring your questions, dilemmas, and suggestions to our gatherings as we discuss all things Mac, getting the most out of your genealogical research!”*

Seminars

Seminars are the primary source of income for the Society. These are fee-based events held at the Dallas Public Library. They are hybrid, allowing participants to attend the seminar in-person or remotely via zoom. Recordings are also available to registered participants for two weeks following the Seminar.

This year’s events were organized by Sharon Bowles and Barbara Coakley with the assistance of Betty Case, Todd DeDecker, Kim Edge, Melissa Flemming, Tony Hanson, Pat Hernandez, Susan Rainwater, Suzan Younger and many other volunteers too numerous to mention.

The Society is deeply indebted to member Ken Johnston for the outstanding artwork he created for each event.



DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US

Annual Report
September 2023 – August 2024

Fall: Michael L. Strauss (88 registrants)



Spring: Tom Jones (151 registrants)



Summer: Nicka Sewell-Smith (72 registrants)



DNA Workshop



78 people registered to participate in our June 8 “You Have Your Ancestry.com DNA Results: Now What?” workshop led by Barbara Coakley and Tony Hanson. 33 participated in-person at the library, and the others participated virtually via Zoom. In a first for this type of event we had a remote location: 12 members of the Robson Ranch Genealogy Club participated from a facility at their location.



DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US

Annual Report
September 2023 – August 2024

Assist and support the Genealogy & History Division of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library

The Society has a long-standing history of supporting the Genealogy & History Division of the Dallas Public Library. The total value of the cash, books, microfiche, microfilm, equipment and other donations provided directly or indirectly by the Dallas Genealogical Society to the library is \$817,204.10. Donations made during this period include the following:

- The total value of books donated to the Genealogy & History Division was \$1,595.67.
- The society donated \$4,180.00 to fund a service contract on the i2S CopiBook Scanner located in the 8th floor Heritage Lab).
- The society provided funds to provide library patrons with access to NewspaperArchive.com (\$3,945.00) and HistoryGeo.com (\$2,600.00).
- Purchase of 64 books requested by the Genealogy Section Staff – \$1,972

Bockstruck Scholarships

The society renewed their commitment to provide scholarships of up to \$1,500 each year to be used by members of the Genealogy & History Division staff to fund attendance and participation at Genealogical Seminars and related events for the next 5 years.

Collecting, Preserving and Copying Information

DGS Publications

- All DGS Newsletters, Journals and Quarterlies are indexed and linked to digital images on the DGS Website.
- We continue to add records to our online database of Cemetery Records: at present there are 41,748 records available in a database that is available to the public on our website.
- Copies of society documents (paper and BlueRay CD) from the previous year were provided to the Archives (7th Floor at the Dallas Public Library) to be placed in the Society archive maintained by the Dallas Public Library.
- We have initiated an effort to add links to FindAGrave.com, BillionGraves.com, digitized death certificate images to each record in the database. At present, 1159 records (2.78%) have been completed.

Other Activities

Annual Awards

The society presented the following awards at the May Awards Luncheon based on recommendations of the Awards Committee (Tony Hanson (Chair), Terry Turner, Betty Case & Paula Perkins).

- **Todd DeDecker** – Award of Merit



DALLAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US

Annual Report September 2023 – August 2024

- **The TXGenWeb Project** – Heritage Preservation Award
- **Sharon Bowles** – Volunteer of the Year
- **Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck Distinguished Service Award** – Drew Smith
- **Barbara Coakley** – Presidents Special Award

Induction of Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck into the National Genealogical Society Hall of Fame

Long-time DGS member Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck was selected by the National Genealogical Society to be inducted into the National Genealogy Hall of Fame in 2023. This award honors outstanding genealogists whose achievements in American genealogy have had a great impact on the field and who have been deceased for at least five years. Their contributions to genealogy in this country need to be significant in a way that was unique, pioneering, or exemplary. Entries are judged by a panel of genealogists from various parts of the United States.

North Texas Giving Day

The society participated in the 2022 Campaign and raised a total of \$3,387.89 which was used to offset the cost of providing access to HistoryGEO.com and NewspaperArchive.com.

Community Outreach

Tarrant County Black Historical & Genealogical Society Donation

When the Lone Star virtual chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists was dissolved in 2022, they donated \$500 to the Dallas Genealogical Society with the stipulation that the funds were to be used for digitization projects.

The Board of Directors decided to donate the funds to the Tarrant County Black Historical & Genealogical Society in support of their digitization project. DGS President Tony Hanson presented the check to Brenda Sanders-Wise (TCBHGS Executive Director) on October 24, 2023.

Thanksgiving Square Biographies

DGS members Regena Street, Kathleen Murray, Barbara Ware, and Michelle Dwyer Cohen researched the historical and genealogical backgrounds of the four Foundation Directors of Thanksgiving Square and presented the information to Kyle Ogden, President and CEO.

Area Events

The society was represented at several local events

- October: DPL Family History Day, DPL Volunteer Day
- November: DGS was an exhibitor and sponsor (Gold Level; \$500) at the Texas State Genealogical Society Annual Conference.
- January: Dalla Legacies Conference and Genealogy Presentation made at The Senior Source.
- March: Arlington Stake Family Education Day



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September 2023 – August 2024**

Community Interest Survey

A survey was distributed to 2,253 recipients in October. 323 constituents responded. The results of the survey were summarized by Kathleen Murray and distributed to all society leaders. A high-level summary revealed the following:

- 52% of respondents were DGS members.
 - ~40% of our members responded.
- Age Breakdown:
 - 21 - 40: 1%
 - 41 - 60: 17%
 - 61 - 75: 58%
 - 76+: 25%
- Gender: 81% Female
- Experience Level
 - 10% - Beginner
 - 32% - Intermediate
 - 58% - Advanced
- Location:
 - DFW Area: 71%
 - Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana or Oklahoma: 15%
 - Other US State: 14%
 - Other Country: 1 response

Awards Received

Last Year's efforts by our website team were rewarded with a 1st place finish in the annual Texas State Genealogical Society Partner Website contact.

Our newsletter was recognized with a 2nd place finish in the Partner Society Newsletter category.





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**Annual Report
September 2023 – August 2024**

Financial Information

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee recommended that the society divest itself of bond investments and move the funds into CDs instead. A \$100,000 fund was approved for this purpose by the board and four \$25,000 CDs were purchased in December.

Financial Review Committee

The committee report stated:

“The committee concluded that the financial and statutory issues of the society were in good order and highly commended the work that Susan Rainwater has been doing in her position as Treasurer for the organization.”

North Texas Giving Day

The society again participated in the annual North Texas Giving Day event, with the objective of raising \$6500 to provide patrons of the Dallas Public Library with access to NewsPapers.com and HistoryGEO.com. A total of \$3,387.89 was raised: The balance of the required funding was provided from Society funds.

Financial Summary

Our fiscal year began October 1, 2023, and ended September 30, 2024.

- Total income for this period: \$47,558.13
- Total expenses for this period: \$50,305.87
- Net income for this period: -\$2,747.74

The Profit & Loss statement for this period is attached.

Our cash in accounts is as follows:

- Checking: \$28,456.84
- Savings: \$54,722.67
- Investing Accounts (CD's): \$100,000

Report created and submitted by Tony Hanson, DGS President 2023 – 2024.

Dallas Genealogical Society
Profit & Loss
 October 2023 through September 2024

	Oct '23 - Sep 24
Income	
4100 · CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS & GRANTS	
4110 · Contributions - Individuals	682.00
4130 · Corporate Reward Card Programs	342.89
4140 · Indirect Contributions	10,479.76
	11,504.65
Total 4100 · CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS & GRANTS	11,504.65
4200 · PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE	
4210 · Registration Fees	23,815.00
4250 · Hospitality Donations	369.40
	24,184.40
Total 4200 · PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE	24,184.40
4300 · MEMBERSHIP DUES	
4310 · Memberships - Individuals	8,125.00
4320 · Memberships - Households	1,360.00
	9,485.00
Total 4300 · MEMBERSHIP DUES	9,485.00
4400 · INTEREST INCOME	
4411 · Interest/Savings Account	14.95
4412 · Interest/Investment Account	2,369.13
	2,384.08
Total 4400 · INTEREST INCOME	2,384.08
Total Income	47,558.13
Gross Profit	47,558.13
Expense	
6100 · GENEALOGICAL EDUCATION	
6110 · Speaker Fees	6,100.00
6120 · Reimbursed Travel & Meals	1,558.36
6130 · Catering	3,214.25
6140 · Printing	1,645.86
6160 · Online Advertising & Promotion	150.18
6180 · Supplies and Other	4.00
6190 · Hospitality Expenses	28.00
	12,700.65
Total 6100 · GENEALOGICAL EDUCATION	12,700.65
6200 · DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY SUPPORT	
6210 · Donations	14,045.00
6220 · Gifts in Kind	6,178.28
	20,223.28
Total 6200 · DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY SUPPORT	20,223.28
6300 · RECORD INDEXING & PRESERVATION	
6340 · Grants to other organizations	250.00
6300 · RECORD INDEXING & PRESERVATION - Other	500.00
	750.00
Total 6300 · RECORD INDEXING & PRESERVATION	750.00
7000 · MANAGEMENT & GENERAL EXPENSES	
7051 · Investment Expense	6,377.13
7100 · Credit Card Processing Fees	1,037.00
7200 · Direct Mailing	474.00
7300 · Information Technology	5,446.10
7400 · Insurance - Liability, D & O	1,282.00
7600 · Postage, Box Rental, Permits	965.78
7650 · Printing and Copying	82.96
7700 · Supplies and Other	271.48

1:50 PM
10/03/24
Cash Basis

Dallas Genealogical Society
Profit & Loss
October 2023 through September 2024

	<u>Oct '23 - Sep 24</u>
7800 · Telephone & Communications	148.16
7898 · Advertising & Publicity	<u>547.33</u>
Total 7000 · MANAGEMENT & GENERAL EXPENSES	<u>16,631.94</u>
Total Expense	<u>50,305.87</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-2,747.74</u></u>