

[Join Today!](#)



**April 2019**

**Event Schedules:** [General Meetings](#) | [Special Interest Groups](#) | [Seminars](#)

## **April 5 General Meeting**

The Dallas Genealogical Society will hold the next general meeting on Saturday, April 6, in the 1st-floor auditorium at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, located at 1515 Young Street in downtown Dallas. Hospitality begins at 10:30 a.m. The business meeting begins at 11:00 a.m.

April's presentation will be *Military Pensions: Vital Records in Disguise!* Military pension records are an amazing source of information. This presentation reviews military records of several individuals and puts "flesh on the bones"; it also goes through the steps of retrieving pensions from various repositories while demonstrating how to link a family through these documents.



Our speaker will be Patti Todd Gillespie. Patti brings cheerful energy and humor to her presentations. She formed Family Lines & Stories five years ago and takes clients. Patti lives with her husband, rescue dog, and acreage in Decatur, Texas.

Meeting minutes, video recordings of previous Business Meetings, and videos of our Educational Presentations (when the speaker permits) are all available on our [website](#).

## **2019 Spring Seminar with Dr. Michael Lacopo - April 13**

*By Jim Thornhill*

I can't believe it's almost here!

As we approach the end of March, days are beginning to warm, and spring is in the air. I need to mow my lawn already! Another sign of spring is the beginning of the DGS seminar series, with Michael Lacopo, Judy Russell, and Jen Baldwin.



The Spring Seminar is right around the corner. **Early Bird registration ends at midnight on March 31st.** Now is the time for you to be the Early Bird that gets the Family History worm! Register now and join us for a day with Michael Lacopo on April 13th! Great instruction, door prizes, good food, and networking with your 100 closest genealogy friends. What better way for you and your friends to spend a Saturday!

[Register](#)

---

## Board Nominations

*by Tony Hanson*

There is still time to be considered for a position on the Executive Committee! The slate of proposed officers will not be final until it is presented to the membership at the April 6 General Meeting. To be considered (or to recommend someone for consideration) send an email to the nominating committee at [nominating@dallasgenelogy.com](mailto:nominating@dallasgenelogy.com)



Please make plans to attend the May 4 General meeting when those nominated will be elected.

---

## Need a Sledgehammer?

*by Jim Thornhill*

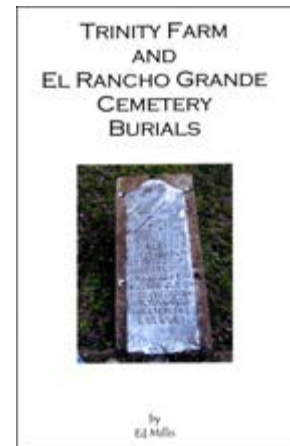
We all have brick walls in our research. If you don't, you're the exception and very lucky! But did you know that you don't have to pound on that brick wall alone? At our monthly meetings, DGS offers Family History Research Help. Every month experienced genealogists are waiting to meet you in the back of the East-West room, where you enjoy drinks and snacks before the meeting. Are they superheroes who break down your brick wall with a single breath? No, but you will find smiling faces, a listening ear, and a fresh perspective on your family history problem. Whether you want to know how to compare your matches on your DNA results, or how to make sense of those tick marks on the 1800 census, the Family History Research Team is here to help!



If you are an experienced Genealogist, we could use your help!

## **Trinity Farms and El Rancho Grande Cemetery Burials by Ed Millis**

The Dallas Genealogical Society has long supported the efforts of individuals and society members who document the history of Dallas County by researching, writing about, and transcribing the cemeteries located in the towns and cities of Dallas County. There is an on-going project to document all Dallas County cemeteries in the DGS [Cemetery Database](#) and the [Cemetery Map](#). As of this date, there are thirty-four cemeteries which are searchable in the Cemetery Database. The Cemetery Map shows the known Dallas Cemeteries using Google Maps. Let us know if you are aware of a cemetery not shown on the Cemetery Map.



Now we have another cemetery resource. Ed Millis generously allowed DGS to publish a PDF copy of his book – “Trinity Farm and El Rancho Grande Cemetery Burials” – on the DGS Publications webpage. This publication provides a comprehensive history of the Trinity Farm and El Rancho Grande Cemetery. It also identifies all of the known burials. You can access the digital book [here](#).

The Dallas Genealogical Society wished to thank Ed Millis and the many, many individuals who work hard to preserve the information about Dallas County cemeteries and the burials within each cemetery.

## **Bockstruck Lineage Society Applications Online**

*by Kathleen Murray*

Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck (1945-2018) was Supervisor of the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library (DPL) for 30 years (1979-2009). He also served as liaison to the Dallas Genealogical Society during that time. As part of the DGS project to archive his collected personal papers, the Society has completed digitization of materials selected for their interest to the wider genealogical community.



In addition to bibliographies he developed for his many lectures, which were made available on the DGS website last month, materials related to 42 of his hereditary and lineage society memberships are now available online. The materials vary by society but in general include applications for membership, related correspondence, and membership certificates. You can find the [“Hereditary and Lineage Society Applications”](#) on the DGS website by selecting Publications>Bockstruck Papers.

In the near term this DGS project will be complete and the entire collection, the Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck Papers, will be transferred to the stewardship of the DPL. The current plan is to house Lloyd’s personal and biographical materials in the Dallas History & Archives on the 7th floor and his genealogical materials in the Genealogy Section on the 8th floor.

## The Importance of Networking for the Professional Genealogist

by Cari A. Taplin, CG

Professional genealogists live somewhat isolated lives. If you are anything like me, you get up from bed, maybe change into your sweats, and wander down the hall to your home office to work for the day. I may not leave my house at all. If I do, it is for a much-needed latte and that little bit of social interaction with the barista. This kind of living works to an extent—genealogists tend to be introverts—but we all need to seek advice from other genealogists from time to time.



Networking is the act of connecting with others to exchange advice and information and develop professional contacts. Forums are available for this, such as mailing lists and Facebook groups. However, meeting up with a group of people who live semi-locally to you, with similar business goals and experiences, is a very valuable resource. Networking is an important device for forming that group of people.

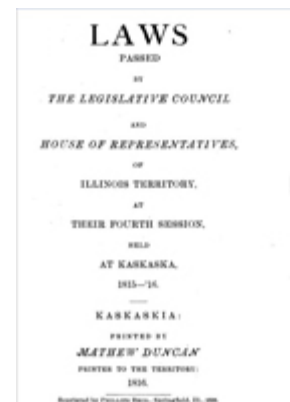
[Read More...](#)

---

## Writers and Your Articles Wanted

by Suzan Younger

Do you have a story to tell? Have you visited a remarkable library or archives recently? Do you like to write? The Dallas Genealogical Society Publications Committee is reviewing the society's publication policy. Expect some exciting changes and new opportunities for our members and interested authors to publish articles on the DGS website. Please watch for more details in a future DGS ENews.



A perfect example of such an article is by DGS member Lamora L. Haidar. Her article is titled “*Women and Property – What is a Private Examination?*” The article features an example of how territorial and state legislators codified property rights for the protection of married women. Before property held by a couple could be sold, mortgaged or otherwise encumbered, a county clerk would ask the wife if she had any concerns or opposition to the transaction. If your research subjects bought and sold land, then you will want to read Lamora’s article on “private examinations.”

Read Lamora Haidar's article [here](#).

---

## A Look Into Irving's Past - The Sowers Cemetery

by The Dallas County Historical Commission

If you know how to ask, cemeteries have long-held the answers to many questions about a community's past. They can tell you when the community began, when it grew, how long its residents lived, and what nationality they were. They can tell you whether a sickness or a calamity may have befallen the community and what organizations its residents may have belonged to.





The picturesque Sowers Cemetery, which predates what eventually became the City of Irving by over thirty years, is no exception.

[Read more.....](#)

---

## FGS Speakers Coming to Dallas

*by Tony Hanson*

You don't need to attend the Federation of Genealogical Societies annual conference to see some of their best speakers: We bring them to Dallas as featured speakers at our Seminars!

Look through the 2019 FGS Conference program ([available here](#)) and you will see a veritable who's who of speakers who have been featured at past DGS Seminars. It also demonstrates the popularity of our 2019 Seminar speakers, each of whom is making 3 presentations at this year's FGS conference. Make plans now to spend the day with each of them here in Dallas:



- [Mike Lacaopo - Spring Seminar \(April 13, 2019\)](#)
  - [Judy Russell - Summer Seminar \(August 3, 2019\)](#)
  - [Jen Baldwin - Fall Seminar \(October 12, 2019\)](#)
- 

## Portal to Texas History Scrapbook Study

*by Shannon Willis*

### More Participants for Scrapbook Study Wanted

Help us improve the way we digitize scrapbooks! The Digital Libraries Division of UNT Libraries is conducting a research study on scrapbooks in The Portal to Texas History. If you are 18 years of age or older, you can help us improve the way we digitize scrapbooks by participating in a research study examining how patrons prefer scrapbooks to be represented online. Participants will engage in a paper prototyping exercise that will last no longer than one hour. All study sessions will be conducted at Willis Library on the UNT Campus in Denton, TX. Those who complete a study session will receive a Portal to Texas History t-shirt (valued at \$10) in appreciation of their participation.



If you are interested in participating, please email Shannon Willis at: [Shannon.Willis@unt.edu](mailto:Shannon.Willis@unt.edu)

---

## Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society Meeting - April 11

“State and Territorial Census – Underused Genealogical Tools”

Join the Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society on Thursday, April 11th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Mesquite Main Library as Bernard Meisner shares the secrets to using the

state and territorial census records in tracing your ancestors. Genealogists are familiar with the federal census records. However, the state and territorial censuses remain a much under-used resource because they were not taken systematically and centrally archived. In this presentation, Bernard will discuss these other census reports and their value in filling in the gaps between the federal census years, and in providing additional information concerning your families, their occupations, and the places they lived. The public is invited and welcome. You do not have to be a member to attend. Come early for visiting and refreshments.

---

## **Arlington & Burleson Texas Stakes Family History Seminar**

The Arlington and Burleson, Texas Stakes presents a Family History Seminar on Saturday, April 13, 2019, at the Arlington, Texas Stake Center located at 3809 Curt Drive, Arlington, TX. There are no charges for the seminar, but pre-registration is requested to aid in the registration process. You can find details about the seminar, along with lecture topics and the registration form at <http://www.arlingtontxfhc.org/>.



---

## **About the Dallas Genealogical Society**

- [Society Leaders](#)
- [Mission Statement](#)
- [History of the Dallas Genealogical Society](#)



---

This edition edited by Suzan Younger

---



**Dallas Genealogical Society**  
Established 1955

P.O. Box 12446  
Dallas, Texas 75225-0446  
866-968-2347

[info@dallasgenealogy.org](mailto:info@dallasgenealogy.org) | [www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org)

[Forward this message to a friend](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

---

Dallas Genealogical Society  
PO Box 12446  
Dallas, Texas 75225  
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

