



TEXAS RESEARCH RAMBLERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XVI, No.10, October 15, 2006 Bryan-College Station, Texas

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Officers
2. Last Meeting
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Next Meeting
5. Future Seminars and Trips
6. FYI: Tips from Others
7. Websites
8. Historical Moment
9. GenQuip

OFFICERS for 2005-2006

President: Daniel Castillo
Vice-President: Mary Elizabeth Dresser
Secretary: Georgianne Bigam
Treasurer: Sue Foy
Corresponding Secretary: Helen Wolf

LAST MEETING

Dan Castillo called the meeting to order at CSUSC. New member Mima Barrett was introduced. Welcome, Mima, it's good to have you with us.



A big thank you to Sue Foy for two big jobs she performed for us. One was the new Directory she put out herself. A nice one it is too. So, when new members with their phone numbers, etc. come to us via MailServ, add them to the Directory. Also, if you have any questions about the By-Laws, you can check your Directory.

Also, Sue stepped in to give our program. Some salient points to remember about **Source Information** are the following:

1. Put the source information on the document somewhere. Whether you write the info on the front or back is just personal preference.
2. Place the date and location of source on the document as well.
3. For *Roots Magic*, *Family Tree Maker*, or other software, the “be consistent” suggestion still applies.
4. Reference to a census entry would be typed as--
Census-1910-Shelby Co., MO. This listing would be easy to find in the index.
5. Reference to a book entry would be typed as --
Book- Roy Grimes, Ed. *300 Years in Victoria County*. Austin, Texas: Nortex Press, 1985.



Photo courtesy of Joyce Louis

TREASURER'S REPORT

Sue Foy reports the ending balance as of 9/29 /2006 was \$18,854.34. However, after the October 15-22, 2006, Salt Lake City trip, the \$11,181.57 Salt Lake City funds, will be subtracted.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROGRAM

Our **last** meeting at the College Station Utility Service Center, located at 1601 Graham Rd. in College Station, is **November 29, 2006**, at 9:30 a.m. The program will be about the Family History Library and individual members' accounts of their experiences.

NOTE: Our **December 7, 2006, Christmas Social** will be at Still Creek Girls Ranch at Glory Inn. In the November newsletter we will have a registration form to send in your \$10 and sandwich choice as part of the menu.

Directions: The Glory Inn is 8 miles east of College Station, TX. Exit Harvey Road and go east. Continue on Harvey and stay on it as it turns into Elmo Weedon Road. Drive 8 miles until you see Grassbur Rd. and turn left. Go 1.5 miles and The Glory Inn is on the right at 1333 Grassbur Rd. (look for a white fence and The Glory Inn sign).

To gain a better understanding of Still Creek Ranch, take a look at their websites:

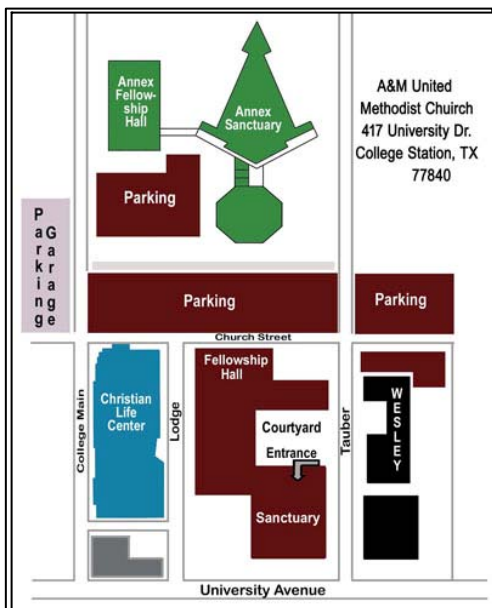
<http://www.stillcreekranch.org/gloryinn.html>

<http://www.stillcreekranch.org/girlshom.html>

Starting **January 31, 2007**, we will meet at the Annex Fellowship Hall of A&M United Methodist Church unless Marci Rogers can find us a no-cost place to meet. The Hall was previously a part of the Lutheran Church. The first map below is the general location in College Station.



The second map shows where to park. When you drive into the main parking lots, you will see Ramblers handing out an index card that you will place on the dashboard to indicate you are attending a meeting in the Annex Fellowship Hall.



If you want to check out our location more, go the A&M United Methodist Church website:

FUTURE SEMINARS AND TRIPS

Every **2nd Wednesday** of the month: a trip to Clayton Library in Houston. Meet at Sam's Club Parking Lot prior to 6:45 a.m. \$7.50 to your driver. Sack lunch. Contact person: Bliss Wolfe, 696-0170 or (even better) cell ph# 255-2429. **October 11, 2006**

Every **3rd Wednesday** of the month: Computer Genealogy Users Group will meet at the Exit Teen Center, 1600 Rock Prairie Rd., at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to eat at a local restaurant after the meeting. **October 18, 2006**

Every **last Wednesday** of the month: Research Ramblers will meet at College Station Utility Service Center at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to eat at a local restaurant after the meeting. **October 25, 2006**

Every **4th Monday**, Roots Magic Users will meet at the Bryan Public Library on the second floor from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Mark your calendar: **October 23, 2006**. Anyone who has a laptop is welcome to bring it with their own data so that they can possibly follow along with the tips that **Anne Wirtz** will share with us. Also, you may want to share some "challenges" you've encountered.

For workshops around the state: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txgenweb>, which will give you the full information on seminars/conferences around the state.



FYI: TIPS FROM OTHERS

Most of us started our family research looking for our parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and so on. According to Donn Devine, we may have branched out, but, eventually, the tendency to concentrate only on our narrow, direct line returned. Computer data entry has propelled this direct-line tendency, as well as family group sheets.

When you focus only on direct lines of descent—parents, great-grandparents, and so on, it becomes pretty easy to fall into some of the following traps:

Overlooking distant, yet unidentified cousins who may possess records, heirlooms, or family traditions that didn't survive in your line of descent.

Missing important indirect evidence that might be needed to establish your own line of descent, particularly when there is not direct evidence to be found.

Losing valuable insights that a more detailed look at the whole family would reveal, like earlier marriages by one or both spouses.

The author says that the greatest benefit to seeking collateral relatives might come in what their direct-line descendants possess---records that don't exist in any online database, public repository, or your own collection. As a bonus, you may even stumble upon a collateral line that includes a genealogist who has already compiled the family's ancestry.

(Donn Devine, "Collaterally Connected." *Ancestry*. September/October 2006, p.24.)

HISTORICAL MOMENT

The Civil War was over, and people were trying to get on with their lives. Besides finding adequate food lost family, and a decent income, Confederate survivors were attempting to resolve the issues of a lost Confederacy and its system of slavery. The period of Reconstruction, 1865-76, addressed the return of the southern states that had seceded, the status of the ex-Confederate leaders, and the integration of the African-American Freedmen into the legal, political, economic and social system. Violent controversy arose over how to accomplish those tasks. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reconstruction>)

Three new Constitutional amendments were adopted.

The 13th Amendment abolished slavery and was ratified in 1865.

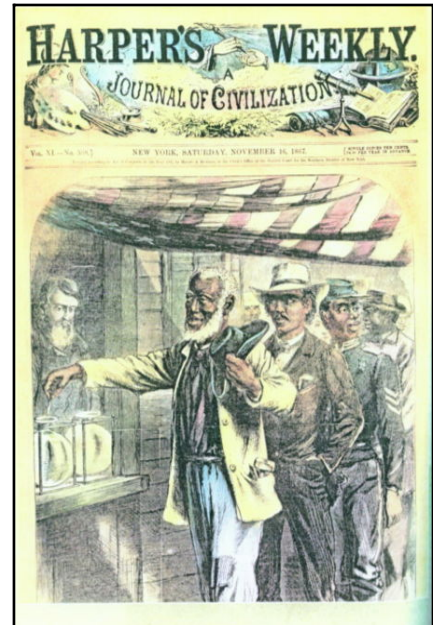
The 14th Amendment guaranteed citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the U.S. and granted them federal civil rights in 1868.

The 15th Amendment decreed that the rights to vote could not be denied because of race, color, or previous condition of servitude in 1870.

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:B-vote.JPG>)



A former slave with horn with which slaves were called. Photo by Russell Lee was created April, 1939, near Marshall, Texas.



The cover of *Harper Magazine* Nov 14, 1867

So, how did all of this affect Texans? On March 30, 1870, a reluctant Texas was one of the last states to be re-admitted to the Union.

Things started changing a bit faster, because people from the Southern states facing huge economic problems as a result of war saw Texas as the land of opportunity. Texas' extensive public lands were a magnet for Southern black and white immigrants.

In addition, European immigrants came to Texas. In fact, 24,000 German, Irish, French, English, Austrians, Czechs, Scots, Swedes, and Swiss arrived in 1873.

Factoid: The population in Texas in the years:
1860: 604,215 people
1870: 818,579 people
1876: over 1 million people



In this time blacks were free but not accepted as integral members of society. However, blacks gained control over their families, schools, churches, all of which became vehicles for improvement within their community. By the end of Reconstruction, they had gained basic control over their economic lives. All Texans were ready to improve their lives, which they did by investing in schools and railroads. But that's another story.

GENQUIP

October 31 is the traditional Halloween, the time for ghosts, pumpkins, and trick or treating. The name "Halloween" has distinctly Christian origins. In efforts to stop seemingly non-Christian celebrations, the Roman Catholic Church incorporated Samhain festivities into the Christian calendar.

In 731 A.D., November 1 was declared All Saints' Day (All Hallows Day). October 31 thus became All Hallows Eve, and in time was shortened to "Halloween."
(<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp>)

Have you heard these? Try them out on your children and grandchildren

Q: How do you know if a ghost is lying?

A: You can see right through him.

Q: How is a werewolf like a computer?

A: They both have megabytes

Q: Why don't witches like to ride their brooms when they're angry?

A: They're afraid of flying off the handle.



(<http://www.ece.ndsu.nodak.edu/>)

The Research Rambler Newsletter is published by the Texas Research Rambler Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 11195, College Station, Texas 77842-1195. Comments to Helen Kunz, [hkkunz at verizon.net](mailto:hkkunz@verizon.net)