



TEXAS RESEARCH RAMBLERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Bryan-College Station, Texas

Volume XVII, No. 11 November 15, 2007

<http://www.texasresearchramblers.org>

OFFICERS for 2007-2008

President: Mary Elizabeth Dresser
 Vice-President: Dean Duncan
 Secretary: Georgianne Bigam
 Treasurer: Sue Foy
 Corresponding Secretaries: Pat and Rodger Koppa

LAST MEETING

Mary Elizabeth Dresser, president, called the meeting to order on October 31, 2007. Our guest was Raby Womack, who was introduced by new member Linda Ferguson.

The Minutes by **Georgianne Bigam** were approved as sent and the Financial Report by **Sue Foy** was approved as sent and read.

New business was the question of moving our meeting place to the Active Advantage facilities on the second floor of the **College Station Professional II** building. (See map on p.5) The motion was made and seconded to move our meeting place to 1651 Rock Prairie Rd. across from The Med starting in January.

With the business portion closed, the program began. 28 Ramblers made the trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City during the week of October 14-21, 2007. For an overview of the sequence of events, **Sue and Mary Elizabeth** showed and described Ramblers doing what they love to do—researching—through a Power Point presentation.

First-timer **Rod Martin** gave an account of his impression of the trip. Besides having a very positive experience with hotel arrangements, library facilities, computer databases, he hit the jackpot by

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finding a copy of a will that extended his direct line by one generation or more. Copying 40 pages from 9 different books has given Rod some heavy-duty homework.

Frances Martin took the limelight next by sharing a novel approach to getting your information. After typing in a family surname, Garrett, she was given the option of viewing a digital version of a book about the Garrett family. She then had the option of printing all that info at FHL, but wisely chose to print it up when she got back home. What a lucky find!



Henry Hanson then pointed out 2 more technical advances he used. One technique was how he saved his information. He scanned information from an 1876 church roll on the library's hard drive. He then copied that scan onto his thumb drive. This method costs no money and he could use the info when he got home. Another technique was how to get the pamphlet of a foreign country from B1 floor or on-line. A step-by-step procedure is discussed in **FYI**.

Bliss Wolfe also presented a success technique. Her goal was to find the maiden name of Margareth __, who was married to Lewis Roth. Before going to SLC, she did her homework by going to the IGI on familysearch.org. She found the possible date and place of the marriage—Heidelberg, Township in Lehigh County, PA. She then located the film number of Heidelberg, Twp.



Then in SLC, she looked at those films which were a church pastor's records where she located the marriage record and the maiden name. Next on the same film she located Margareth's baptismal record, which gave her not only her parents' names but also the town in Germany where her father was from. So now she can jump the big pond and locate the records for that town.

It is easy to see that these presenters did their homework before they got to SLC. Not only does it save precious time but they have the satisfaction of coming home with valuable information.

Next year's trip is October 19-26, 2008. That date may seem a long way off now, but it is really just around the corner. Just like Thanksgiving!



FYI:

Jane Maxwell sent additional information on how to get the pamphlet and other material that Henry Hanson had described.

1. <http://www.familysearch.org>
2. Click on the Library tab.
3. Click on the Education section under the Library tab.
4. Click on the Family History Library Publications.
5. Click on the Resource Guides.
6. You will find a variety of place topics, such as Norway, France, Hamburg, and 1881 British Census indexes.

DECEMBER MEETING:

Our December meeting will be a Holiday Social on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, at 11:30 a.m. at Glory Inn at Still Creek Ranch. Cost is \$10.50 per person. Reservation deadline is November 28. Sign up at our meeting or email Bliss Wolfe. Checks or cash.

FUTURE SEMINARS AND TRIPS:

Every **2nd Wednesday** of the month: Ramblers travel to Clayton Library in Houston. Contact **Bliss Wolfe** for details. Also, there is a sign-up sheet at the meetings.

Every **3rd Wednesday** of the month: Computer Genealogy Users Group will meet at The Exit, 1520 Rock Prairie Rd. in College Station, at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to eat at a local restaurant after the meeting. **Mark your calendar: November 21, 2007.**

Every **last Wednesday** of the month: Starting in January Research Ramblers will meet at the 2nd floor Action Advantage rooms of the College Station Professional II building, 1651 Rock Prairie Rd. in College Station at 9:30 a.m. **Mark your calendar: January 30, 2008.**

The **Roots Magic Study Group** will the **4th Monday** of each month (except December). The next meeting will be on **November 26, 2007**, at the Bryan Library Meeting room. **Bob Cohen** will demonstrate how to make a simple wall chart in RM. Come and see!

FYI: The **Genealogy Computer Users Group**, from left, **Patti Kruger, Jane Maxwell, Jane Horn, Chris Hyman, Robert Lyon and Carol Lyon** discuss computer techniques.



HISTORICAL MOMENT:

With the Thanksgiving Holiday approaching on the 4th Thursday of November, we start thinking about turkey and dressing, cranberry relish, sweet potato casserole, and pumpkin pie. Mmmmm... Anybody hungry yet? Another question is from where and when did these foods originate and eventually become part of our tradition?



- **Turkey:** Of commercially available meats today, turkey is the only one native to North America. New World explorers took to it immediately; by the 1500s, turkeys had already immigrated to Italy, France, and England, courtesy of hungry adventurers.

- **Stuffing vs. Dressing:** What's in a name? That may depend on how closely you associate yourself with the Victorian Era. The term "stuffing" has been around since the 1500s, but in Victorian England, the term "stuffing" seemed a tad barbaric. The term "dressing" was introduced to please the very proper society.
- How do you like your stuffing/dressing?

19th century: oyster stuffing

Southerners: pecan, rice, or cornbread stuffing

Italians: sausage stuffing

Germans: dried fruit, potato, or apple stuffing.



- **Cranberries:** "Crane-berries"—named by German and Dutch settlers for the plant's birdlike appearance—were used extensively by Native Americans in cakes and dyes. The cranberry is one of only three major fruits native to North America (Blueberries and grapes are the other two.) Of the 400 million pounds of cranberries Americans consume each year, 20 percent are eaten during the week of Thanksgiving.

- **Yams:** Native to Africa and Asia, yams came to America aboard slave ships as one of their staples. Today, yams are often substituted for their distant cousin, the native American sweet potato.



- **Pumpkin Pie:** It's unlikely this Thanksgiving staple was present for the first Thanksgiving dinner—pie-baking ovens just weren't available to colonists so early on. But they undoubtedly had pumpkin, stewed with milk, honey, and spices in the pumpkin shell.

(from Jane Wallace Isenburg's article in November/December 2007 *Ancestry*, pp. 34-35.)

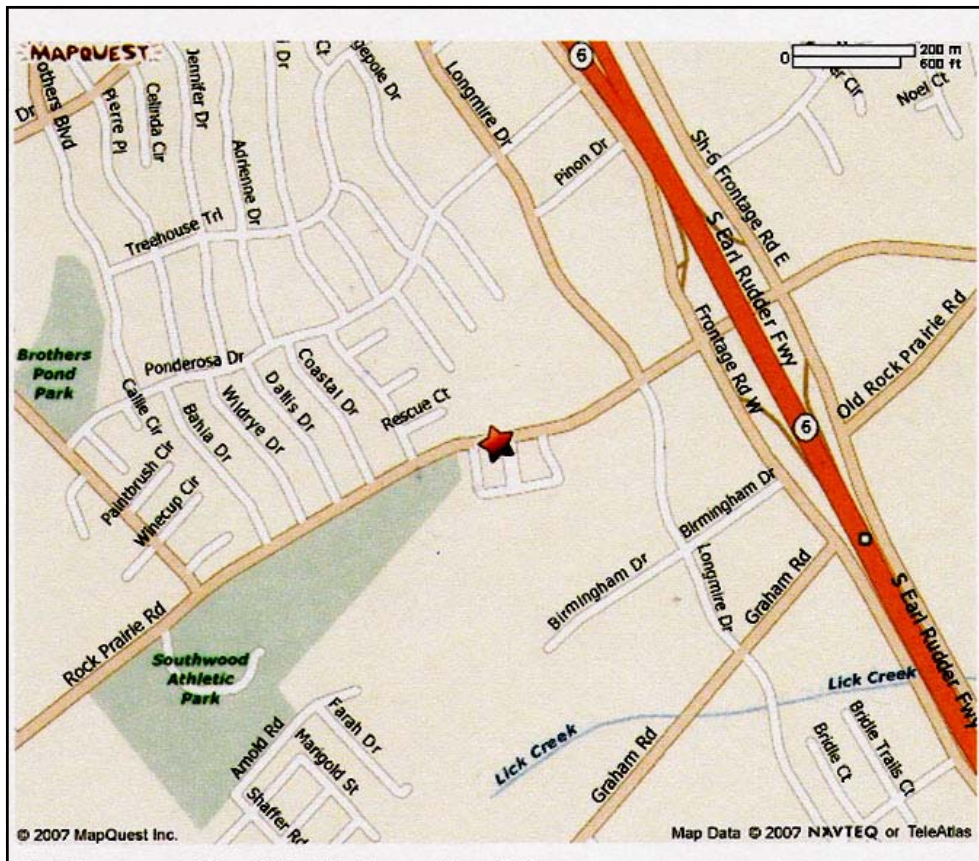
Map: Directions to College Station Professional II building, 1651 Rock Prairie Rd.

Going south on S. Earl Rudder Fwy/SH 6 East Bypass:

1. Take a right on Rock Prairie Rd. Exit. Turn right on Rock Prairie Rd.
2. Turn right into the front parking lot of **1651 Rock Prairie Rd.**
3. Handicapped parking is in the front and the back of the building.
4. Go to the back of the building for an abundance of parking spaces.
5. Take the elevator to the second floor, the **Active Advantage** floor.

Leaving 1651 Rock Prairie Rd.:

1. If traffic is too congested to turn left, turn **right** on **Rock Prairie Rd.**
2. Take another **right** on **Normand**. Then, another **right** on **Ponderosa**.
3. Take another **right** on **Longmire** to get back to the light at **Rock Prairie Rd.**



GENQUIP:

Coexistence: what the farmer does with the turkey—until Thanksgiving.

Mike Connolly

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.