



## RAMBLERS' RAMBLINGS

Volume XX Number TWO SUMMER 2010

### APRIL MEETING

The Ramblers closed out the month of April with a program on "Writing Your Memoirs," given by local author Bill Harper.



BILL HARPER

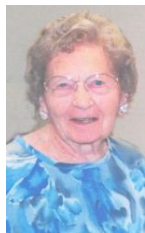
Bill involved members with a short story about his family. He asked each of us to make a note of a story of their own when one came to mind while he talked, then asked us to share a short story with someone at our table. Next Bill gave us a few minutes then asked us to write about three

paragraphs on that same story. Bill chose three Ramblers to share their story, proving that we all could write if we would just put the words on paper.

### IN MEMORIAN by Henry Hanson

April 29, 2010 the Ramblers lost a dear friend and long-time member, Lucy Patton. If you read the Eagle Obituary, you may have noticed the obit said that Lucy was born in Bay City, Matagorda County, Texas. On that same day, listed on the Taylor Bros. funeral home website in Bay City, Carrie (Yeager) Rudd, born in Kurten, Brazos County, Texas, died that same day in Bay City, Texas. Carrie (Yeager) Rudd was my first grade teacher at Van Vleck, Texas in 1952. Both persons died April 20, 2010, each died in the area where the

other was born and both were women for whom I held high regards. They will be missed very much.



LUCY PATTON & CARRIE RUDD

## GEORGE BUSH LIBRARY & MUSEUM

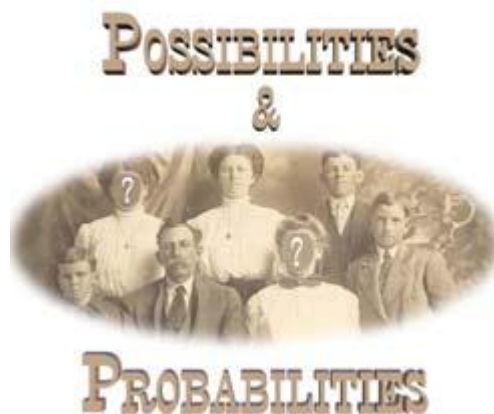
On Saturday October 2, 2010 the **GEORGE BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM** will present a free program "Find Out Who You Really Are" designed for all levels of genealogical interest. The program begins with the entertaining character actor Robert Vann, from the Family history Center, Huntsville Texas and Meg Hacker, Director, Archival Operations - National Archives & Records Administration - Southwest Region Archives, Ft. Worth, Texas, Susan D. Kaufman - Manager, Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, Houston, Texas and a panel of local genealogists, who will explain how best to explore research facilities in

Houston, Ft. Worth, locally and on the web.



Make sure to mark your calendar now.

## ANGELINA CONFERENCE



There is still time to register for the Angelina Conference in Lufkin to be held July 15 - 17<sup>th</sup> on the campus of Angelina College. Ramblers can find this conference a great tool to jump start your genealogical research.

## CEMETERY COMMITTEE



Ellen Horner announced that the Cemetery Committee decided to tackle the Bryan City Cemetery, that cemetery has not been updated since the 1990's. Volunteers need to notify Ellen and she will assign a section to each volunteer.

## MAY MEETING

The guest speaker for May was Richard Hooverson, who contributed to many genealogical publications during his past 18 years as a professional genealogist.

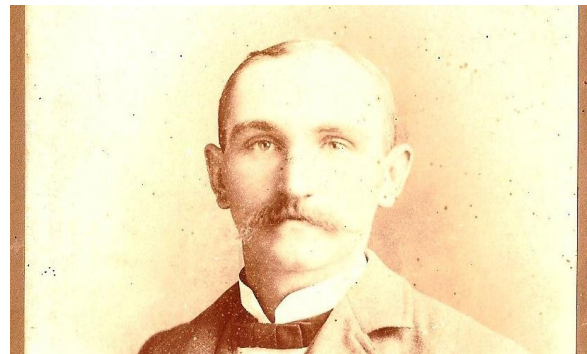


RICHARD HOOVERSON

Mr. Hooverson's presentation "Lowland to Uplands: The Saga of the Scot-Irish" was very informative and he gave the Ramblers a lot of reference information, some of which has already proved to be fruitful to members.

## JUNE MEETING

The speaker for the June monthly meeting was Doug Dubicek from Hallettsville. Doug is a history teacher and specializes in Lavaca County history and Cultural Geography.



Doug's presentation was "A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words," provided Ramblers with many resources for dating old photographs along with ideas on how to use old photographs in genealogical research.

## FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

Many of you may already be familiar with this site.

<http://www.historiccourtrecords.org/courthistory.stm> Pre-1914 court papers located in the Circuit Court for the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, are being processed for archival storage. As part of this on-going project, a database containing the

names of primary parties (plaintiffs, defendants, deponents, petitioners, etc) has been created. Also included in the database are names and places contained in remarkable contents of records containing documents of historical or genealogical significance.

## FGS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Federation of Genealogical Societies 2010 Annual Conference is co-hosted by the East Tennessee Historical Society and the Kentucky Historical Society August 18 -21 in Knoxville, Tennessee.



The four day event offers 135 lectures on various subjects, many of which are unique to East Tennessee and Kentucky. Many Research Ramblers had ancestors migrate through that area and will find these lectures a great research aid. You can find more information on [www.fgs.org/2010conference/program](http://www.fgs.org/2010conference/program)

## INDEXES

Are you using only records that have **Everyname Indexes**? Keep in mind that there are a variety of records that might mention your ancestor and that not every name is indexed. Court records, estate records, and other records usually are not FULL name indexed, unless they have been abstracted and published.

It may be necessary to get away from indexed records in order to solve your problem. The difficulty is that unindexed records take longer to search.

If you are stuck on an ancestor, are you using the "same old sources" you always use? Are there records you avoid because you don't understand them or they are "difficult" to access, etc? Some individuals avoid land records, court records, and other records for these reasons. Are there un-utilized sources that might have the answer to your problem? (Copied from Michael John Neill)



## TIP OF THE DAY

There are times when the best research and analysis are done when you can really concentrate.

- Turn off the email
- Turn off any online "alerts"
- Turn off instant messaging
- Put the cell phone away
- Let your answering machine pick up your land line

There are times when multitasking does not really allow you to think about something and really understand it. Read that record or series of documents closely.

Transcribe them--and do it without numerous distractions. You may be surprised at the results. (By Trevia Wooster Beverly)

## FAMILY SEARCH LABS

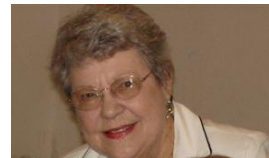
### SUCCESS STORY by Henry Hanson

Shortly after I became familiar with Family Search Labs and the possibility of finding death records online, I began to go back through my genealogy file and fill in the blanks.

On one occasion I recorded a burial location and it came to mine that I

might find more of that family in that cemetery. To try my luck I went to "[Find A Grave](#)" online and found more than two dozen family members buried in that cemetery. That site also had family pictures posted along with the email address of the lady who had supplied the information, whom I immediately contacted.

Cousin Linda Clarke and I began to share information and family stories. One day Linda sent me a invitation to see her family page on Ancestry.com. While surfing her web pages, I recognized a picture of my wife's Aunt Jeannie's cousin Betty Jo.



Aunt Jeannie

At some previous time I told Aunt Jeannie that her Aunt Bernice was married to my cousin Calvin Perry Bingham. Immediately, Aunt Jeannie began to talk about her mother's family and I got the sense that she didn't believe I was really related to her family.

I asked cousin Linda Clarke to scan those picture of Calvin Perry and send them to me when she had time, that I wanted to share them with Bernice's niece who was my wife's aunt.

When Aunt Jeannie received the pictures she shared them with Betty Jo. Later that same day Aunt Jeannie wrote me and asked me if I could help Betty Jo find more information about her birth parents. I began to learn that Betty Jo was not Calvin and Bernice's daughter but Calvin's cousin. Betty Jo's birth mother died three days after she was born and Calvin and Bernice agreed to take Betty Jo and raise her. Six year later the father died and all the children were sent to live with family and friends. None of them was adopted out,

Betty Jo and her four sisters were always around their father's family and knew them very well, but they had never had any contact with their birth mother's family and weren't really sure who they were or where they were from. Betty Jo had asked Aunt



Jeannie if she thought I would help her.

I wrote Betty Jo, carbon copied Linda Clarke and asked her for some birthdates and places. Linda and I were biting at the bits, looking for a challenge and before the sun went down we sent Betty Jo a nine page genealogy file on her mother's family along with pictures of her parents' tombstone and where they were buried.

We received the nicest thank you note from Betty Jo, thanking us for the information she had never able to share with her kids and grandkids.

## RECENT NEWS by Joyce Louis

The Galveston County USGenweb site had recently added the marriage records from 1835 through 1899.

### Newsletter Staff

Mary Jane Millender – Editor & Brickwalls

Joyce Louis – Queries & Programs

Kate Thomas – Genealogy Lessons

Jane Maxwell – Websites

Henry Hanson - Photographs

