

TGS E-NEWSLETTER

Tulsa Genealogical Society News, Twig-bits

Dec 2011



Happy Holidays!

TGS Annual Holiday Celebration

"Family Traditions"

December 19, 7:00 P.M.



You are invited to join TGS for an exciting night of family sharing, good food and holiday cheer. We're having a **Pot-Luck dinner** in lieu of our December general meeting and class. If you have a special family dish which you would like to share, bring it for the dinner. And be prepared to share a favorite family Christmas or Holiday tradition with the group. You are welcome to bring a guest and/or invite Family, Friends, and Neighbors to join you for a wonderful evening of great fun. See you there. ☞

A Review of our 2011 Fund-Raisers

A huge "Thanks" to all the TGS members and friends who have contributed and supported our fund-raisers this year.

Membership
\$2326

Just Desserts
\$655

Laptop Raffle
\$456

Chili Tasting/Contest
\$869



All proceeds go to the support of Tulsa
Genealogical Society and Library

Elected Officers:

President: Ron Hardy
1st VP: Betty Trinko
2nd VP: Beverly Weldon
Sec: Virginia Piper
Treasurer: Paul Smith

Chair Persons &

Special Assignments:

Gen. Classes: Janet Cottrell
Com: Dorothy Becknell
Editorial:
Executive: Ron Hardy
Facilities: Bill Graham
FGS Del: Jeaneen Darnell
Finance: Jeaneen Darnell
Grants:
Historical: Gloria Fortney
Honors: Janice Meredith
Librarian: Janice Meredith
Membership: Linda Brown
Nom: Jim Hemphill
Office Manager:
Publications: Mary Craig
Research:
Janice Brantley
Special Programs:
Terri Walker
Asst. Special Programs:
Mary Craig
Ways & Means:
Jenise Brantley

We're on the Web!
Check us out at
www.tulsagenealogy.org

Editor's Corner

WEBSITES

Having trouble with those pesky alternate spellings of surnames? Try these sites to get below the top layer of surname search:

<http://www.searchforancestors.com> is a site that not only tells the meaning of the surname, but provides a map showing where the families were living in the U.S in 1920. Alternate spellings are accessible through their link which takes you to Roots Web's Soundex Converter.

<http://www.ellisland.org> is a site that allows you to type in your ancestor's surname and other information if you know it. Alternate spellings are given also.

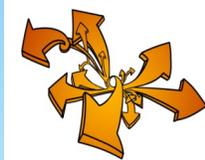
<http://resources.rootsweb.com>. Once the Soundex code is listed, for example, B650, the site displays other surnames sharing this Soundex Code. How many spellings can you find for one surname? ☞



**GENEALOGY IS
LIKE HIDE &
SEEK: THEY
HIDE &... I
SEEK!**



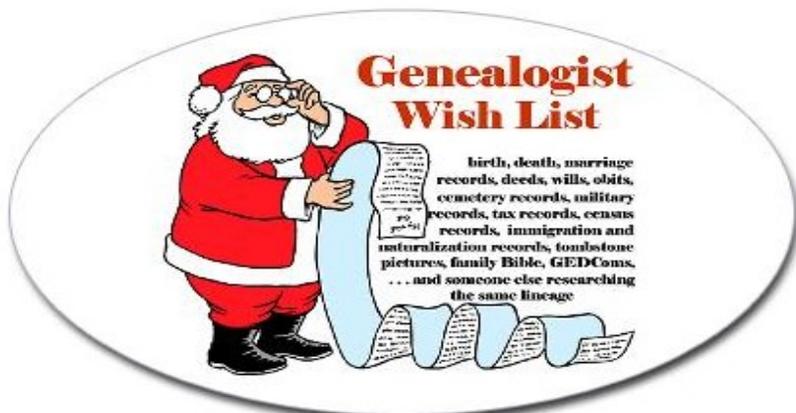
**January
TGS Meeting**



**Navigating
the TGS
Website!**

TGS has a wonderful and instructional website. We are going to spend some time getting acquainted with all the information available and how to make it work for you!

Our webmaster will take you on a tour of the website pages and attempt to answer any website questions you may have. So now is your time to find out what, where and how? ☞



If you have moved, changed your contact phone number or your email address, please inform **Linda Brown**, Membership Chair, (llbrown2000@cox.net) You will receive email reminders (or phone calls) of our meetings and other events in your mailbox...that is if we have your correct address. ☞



*Come early to enjoy the fellowship and our hospitality
Door prize will be awarded at meetings!*

Look for Hidden Family Trees

One of the most frequent comments received from people tracing their ancestors is a desire for a pre-built family tree. Wouldn't it be nice if someone had already written out your family tree? It would certainly speed up the process of tracing your ancestors if you already knew who was related to whom. In fact, most families already have published family trees; it is just not recognized as such. That's because most people expect to see family trees in a certain format. When it is presented in a different format, people often do not recognize it.

Where do you find these hidden family trees? Try looking at an obituary. An obituary can provide a wealth of information about families, not just information about the deceased. This is because most obituaries can be divided into two parts. The first part talks about the deceased and the second part often talks about the family of the deceased.

Obituaries really are an underappreciated source of information for historians trying to construct a family tree. A surprising number of people who research the obituary of a family member will study statements about the deceased but give only a cursory glance to a listing of immediate next of kin. A typical obituary lists two or three generations of a family. There are often, parents, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, children and grandchildren. This additional listing can provide an excellent base for creating a family tree

Even though the information in an obituary is not laid out like a family tree, it serves the same purpose. Obituaries have other advantages for someone looking to construct a family tree:

- Obituaries tend to be fairly accurate and complete as they are usually written by a close family member.
- Obituaries are one of the few documents where family secrets are laid to rest. Often family connections that are not revealed when a person is alive (such as the presence of a black sheep in the family) are laid bare in an obituary. How many times have you read an obituary and asked yourself a question like "I never knew he had a brother" or "I never realized that was her second marriage"? Probably fairly often.

It really pays to look at obituaries. Not only does it provide clues about the deceased, it also can often provide excellent leads about the family of the deceased. Stitching together the names found in even a couple of obituaries can create the foundation for a pretty good family tree. So, the next time you read an obituary, read about the living as well as the dead. ☪

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"They who take no pride in the deeds of a remote ancestry, will hardly be likely to accomplish anything worthy to be remembered by a remote posterity." Macauley

Tulsa Trivia

Indian Territory: 1830-1882 What was to ultimately become Tulsa was part of Indian Territory, which was created as part of the relocation of the Five Civilized Tribes - the Choctaw, Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), Chickasaw, and Seminole peoples. These Native American tribes moved into the region after the passage of the Indian Removal Act of 1830, when they were forced to surrender their lands east of the Mississippi River to the federal government in exchange for land in Indian Territory. Each of the larger tribes was given extensive land holdings, individual governments were formed, and tribal members began new lives as farmers, trappers, and ranchers. The majority of the American Indians (including the numerous Creek and Cherokee settlers) came from the Southern states. During the Civil War, they largely favored the Confederacy, in part because of institution of slavery being common within the Five Civilized Tribes. Most of modern Tulsa is located in the Creek Nation, with parts located in the Cherokee Nation and Osage Nation.

The city now known as Tulsa was first settled by the Lochapoka (Turtle Clan) Muscogee (Creek) between 1828 and 1836. Driven from their native Alabama, the Lochapokas established a new home at a site near present-day Cheyenne Avenue and 18th Street. Under a large burr oak, now called the Creek Council Oak Tree, they rekindled their ceremonial fire. The Lochapoka named their new settlement "Tulasi," meaning "old town" in their native language. Not coincidentally, 'tulasi' is the same word from which Tallahassee, Florida takes its name. Florida is part of the original home of the Muscogee people. ☞

(Reprinted from www.okgenweb.org)

Dear Santa:

Don't bring me new dishes;
I don't need a new kind of game.
Genealogists have peculiar wishes;
For Christmas I just want a surname.
A new washing machine would be great,
But it isn't the desire of my life.
I've just found an ancestor's birth date,
Now I need the name of his wife.
My heart doesn't yearn for a ring
that would put a real diamond to shame.
What I want is a much cheaper thing:
Please give me Martha's last name.
To see my heart singing with joy,
Don't bring me a red leather suitcase.
Bring me a genealogist's toy:
A surname, with dates and a place.



Author Unknown

Reminder:

Tulsa Genealogy Society
Library will be closed
December 21st through December 31st
for the Holidays.



Happy Hanukkah!

Merry Christmas



Tulsa Genealogical Society

P O Box 585
Tulsa, OK 74101-0585
918 - 627 - 4224
Library Location
9136 Briar Village Shopping Center
(31st & Mingo, behind the stores)



Meetings:
September - May
3rd Monday
Genealogy Class 6 pm
General Meeting: 7 pm
Open to public at no charge

Newsletter Editor: [Dorothy Becknell](#)

A Warm Welcome to our newest members

*Gail Bales
Darlene Carpenter
Sara and Patricia Holt
Beverly Weldon*
*Thanks to all who are a part of
2011-2012 TGS Membership.*

(Individual: \$25; Family: \$35
New Year begins July 1, 2012)



Tulsa Genealogical Society
wishes everyone a joyous,
healthy and VERY
genealogically successful
NEW YEAR

“Promoting Family History Research...Worth Looking for - Worth Finding!”



Our Speaker Gene Norris

Photo courtesy of Linda Brown

November Meeting Review

What a wealth of information was received at November’s meeting, “Cherokee Genealogy Research” by Gene Norris, Cherokee Indian Genealogist! He revealed many resources which are available for those of Indian Ancestry to further their research. As in any genealogical search, you always start with yourself. Your birth certificate is a must have. Also, your parents’ birth or death certificates as well as grandparents’. Continue down your ancestral lines until you can go no further. Marriage certificates are also helpful.

You need a “paper trail” to prove the person you have found is, indeed, your relative. As you proceed, organize it immediately. Start a family notebook with plastic protective sheets for old documents and photographs. Visit the cemetery and take pictures of headstones. Talk to as many relatives as you can. Utilize public libraries or historical societies. Be diligent! It will be a long-term project, sometimes taking years to complete. TGS has several resources to help with your search. Check into them during your next trip to the Library. ☞

Feb 20 - “Jacob Brown” - Jim Hartsell