
NEWSLETTER

Root Seekers Genealogical Society

Volume No. XXI Issue No.1

Mabank, TX

March 2010



January Meeting Highlights

“Digital Preservation of Documents” by Margaret Ann Trail



Photo courtesy of Nina Hendricks

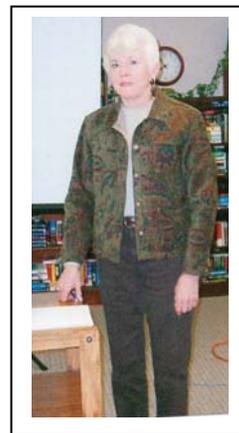


Photo courtesy of Nina Hendricks

The Root Seekers Genealogy Society met January 18, 2010 at the Tri-county Library. The evening began with the swearing in of the newly elected officers by Parliamentarian Margaret Ann Trail. In the photo from left to right are: Skip Gustafson, 1st VP, Julie Gustafson-President, Nell Walker, 2nd VP, Nina Hendricks-Historian/Public Relations, Ruth Shelton-Treasurer, Helen Preston 2nd VP, Betty Foster-Recording/Corresponding Secretary, and Carolyn Bostian-Editor. Congratulations to our new officers and we all look forward to a great 2010! ■

Famous Quotes:

“If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance.”

George Burnard Shaw

On January 18, Root Seekers’ speaker was Margaret Ann Trail who had attended a workshop in 2009 sponsored by the Texas A&M University Commerce Library for the Northeast Texas Library System, to learn how they digital preserve documents. It seems that many libraries including the Daughters of the American Revolution in Washington, DC are now preserving their documents by digital photography and scanning techniques.

“This system allows libraries and museums to collect, store and share information with every partner in its group, as well as place images on the web.”

State of the art software allows combining and accessing information, capable of searching millions of objects and databases. This system allows libraries and museums to collect, store and share information with every partner in its group, as well as place images on the web.

Continued on Page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

-3	Monthly Meeting Highlights
3	What's New? A List of New Books in the Library
4	Welcome to New Members
4	Have You Tried These Web Sites?
4	2009 Fund Raisers and Seminar
5	Tolosa School c1921
6	Indian Wife Story "Looking Back" #5
7-8	Kyser Cemetery Enumerated (Partial List)
9	Hot Tips from NSDAR Lineage Research Comm.
10	Document Recent Generation – Sources
11-12	Increasing Your Genealogy Researching Skills
13-14	Pilgrim's Rest 1 st Church Henderson Co
15	Important Reminder About Dues
16	Root Seekers Statement Page
17-18	Back Page - Editor's Corner

First on the agenda is deciding what to digitize. Unique primary documents, like letters, diaries, journals, old photos, high school yearbooks and scrapbooks are all candidates.

Any deteriorating material needs to be digitally preserved, so the original can be preserved elsewhere. A library that is digitizing is preserving and allowing the public to access a copy, instead of the original.

Digitizing is done by cameras or by scanners. Flatbed scanners or overhead scanners use light sensors to make the images. Digital cameras may need additional equipment such as tripods, lights and stands, so do your homework before you run out and by this equipment. ■

Review courtesy of Nina Hendricks

February Meeting Highlights

"My Grimes Lineage Hunt Story" – A Personal Review of Research by Lana Napper

February 15, 2010 Lana Napper was the Root Seekers' speaker and spoke about her research on her Grimes family. She got the research bug in 2000, when she and her husband, Jim took a trip through the original 13 colony states. She had heard that she had a Revolutionary War patriot ancestor and decided to find out if it was true.

Napper has a deep appreciation for her ancestors and is so thankful for all the sacrifices they made for this country. She explained some things were easy to find, but others were not. She explained how she had to approach some tasks at a different angle when she ran into those proverbial brick walls. She has scrapbooks she takes to her family reunions in Indiana. She keeps all the documents that she has collected for that ancestor in her scrapbook, so she can show other members of her family.

Napper finally did track down that Revolutionary War ancestor, and now is a proud member of the Sarah Maples Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. ■

Review courtesy of Nina Hendricks



President Julie Gustafson and speaker Lana Napper
Photo by Nina Hendricks

On the Lighter Side....

- *Genealogists live in the "past" lane.*
- *Genealogists are time unravelers.*
- *Whoever said "seek and ye shall find" was NOT a genealogist.*
- *Old genealogists never die, they just lose their census.*

March Meeting Highlights

“Folk Medicine and Superstitions” – A Review of Oral Traditions by Betty Foster

On March 15, 2010 the Root Seekers’ speaker was Betty Foster who reviewed many of the oral traditions of old home remedies and medicines and the superstitions that went along with them. These were passed down from generation to generation since there were no doctors or other medicines available for many people in the rural, isolated areas where transportation and communication was difficult. Poverty often played a role when problems arose, and they turned to their families for solution.

Belief in the effectiveness of cures generally depended upon their unpleasantness. An unpleasant medicine was believed to be more effective than a pleasant one. Medicine had to taste bad and smell worse to be good. They relied on whatever was available and many plants provided the basic ingredients that were used in the preparation of medicines and remedies.

The American experience is deeply rooted in the lore of the Native Indians. The Indian prepared for ritual occasions to treat illnesses, injuries and spiritual maladies. Our ancestors home remedies included common household items like baking soda, coal oil, kerosene, sugar, whiskey, vinegar, turpentine, tobacco, honey and soot from wood stoves. These supplemented the meager pharmacopoeia of paregoric, sulphur, alum, Epsom salt, camphor and asafetida.

We may think that we are sophisticated and above all the superstition but we sometimes find ourselves following a course of action to accommodate a superstition. We step over cracks in the sidewalk, we eat black-eyed peas on New Years, we walk around ladders and throw salt over our left shoulder and avoid those black cats walking across our paths. Our ancestors accepted all of this as normal behavior.

Photo unavailable.

Review courtesy of Nina Hendricks



1st VP Skip Gustafson and speaker Betty Foster

Photo by Nina Hendricks



FAMILY ROOTS

Can a first cousin, once removed, return?

I trace my family history so I will know who to blame.

Ever have an ancestor hanging from the family tree?

I think my ancestors had several bad hair days.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome new members. We are happy to have you as a part of our Genealogy Society. It is our belief that we can learn from each other and there is a wealth of wisdom in our collective minds.

Since our society is made up of “newbies” as well as seasoned veterans, there can be much advantage for new members to confer with those veterans about difficulties that you are having in doing your research as the veterans may be able to offer some helpful suggestions for breaking through brick walls.

There are also many advantages of being a member of Root Seekers Genealogy Society. You have the use of the Genealogy Room at the Tri County Library and on each Tuesday of the month, there will be another member or two there to help you with your research. They will show you how to use the computer to access a world of information to which you may not otherwise have access. They can show you how to use the copier that is located within the Genealogy room for convenience while still at the regular library rate per copy of 15 cents. They can show you how to access the data on the many cds and microfilm that we have. If you have not yet checked out the Genealogy room at the Tri County Library, I urge you to do so and take advantage of the many books that have been recently added to the shelves. Plan to go on a Tuesday and receive help from one of our veterans and get full use of all the Genealogy room has to offer to further your research.

We are glad to have you as a new member.

Editor

Have You Tried These Web Sites?

Do you have Brick Walls? Do you have Dead Ends? Do you need a new place to look?

Obviously, many of us have subscriptions to sites such as Ancestry.com or Genealogy.com which both are owned by Ancestry as is the Rootsworld.com site. But for those who don't have that available, did you know that Root Seekers members can access Ancestry.com in the Genealogy room of Tri-County Library? As a member that is one of your privileges.

<http://census-online.com/links/> Census Online-Links to US and 5 Countries Census Has great maps of the states with all the counties but won't have all census but a lot

<http://www.censusfinder.com> Census Finder search by state, county

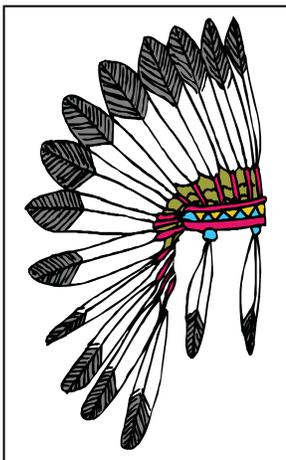
<http://www.familysearch.org> Family Search (Mormon)

<http://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/index> Perpetual Calendar Any Year - Very useful in determining dates of death, marriage, etc. when obit or newspaper clipping doesn't give specific date.

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/PatentSearch/Default.asp?>

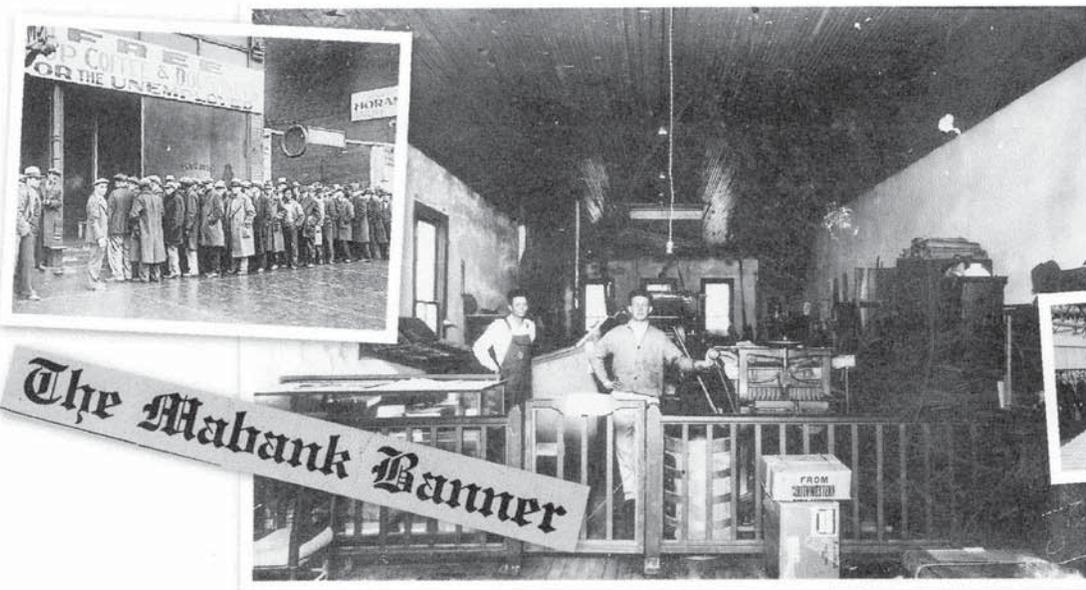
Land Patent Search, search by state and last name, first name. Does not cover the thirteen colonies but does have links to some. Online certified copies \$2.00 suitable for framing. Site explains land patents, gives legal land descriptions, has original document images and explains rectangular survey system.

<http://www.dallasnews.com/archive/obituary> Dallas Morning News - obit section. Pd. Obits for last 30 days are free. 2 Files available online: 1885-1977 and 1984 – present. **Look for more every Newsletter!** ■



2010 FUND RAISERS AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCED

Nell Walker announced that there will be two fundraisers in 2010. The first will be a Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 10 on the Town Square in Eustace. The second will be a Fall Seminar, Saturday, October 24 featuring Aaron Holt as the speaker covering Native American sources from the National Archives. Details are still pending. Start making your plans now to attend this event. More details in next Newsletter.



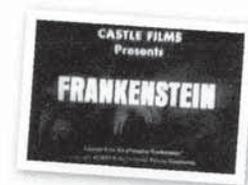
Photographs left to Right:
 Soup line for the unemployed, Thornton Jennings & Archie Hale at the *Banner* Press, Ford Truck



It Happened in 1931

with gleanings from the Mabank *Monitor* and the Mabank *Banner*

For many in the United States and the world, 1931 was a dismal year. Unemployment in the US was at 16,3%; drought in the Midwest created food shortages with the corresponding food price rise; the dust bowl of that era forced families from their homes. Besides the economy there were other things happening : Al Capone was convicted of tax fraud that year; Castle Films produced *Frankenstein* with Boris Karloff as the monster and Henry Clive as Dr. Frankenstein. By the way, it was a very good year in Pascagoula, Mississippi, when Robert Stokes was born.



But things were happening in Mabank, Texas, also.

Sugar was 5 cents a pound; salt pork, 13 cents; and coffee, 28 cents. Henry Compton added up-to-date machinery to his shoe shop. H. L. Allison bought out the interest of K. Morris in the Farmer's Gin, Edgar James came home from Teachers' College in Denton and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Pou Flowers had diphtheria.

While Miss Grace Wheat and F. E. Spence were married, there were 467 children in Mabank schools and work was begun on the Mabank-Canton highway. Also, flour was selling at the City Cash & Carry for 2 cents a pound and Miss Lucille McKee entertained the younger set with a party on Friday, January 9.

The second week of 1931 was not a good one for little Miss Mary Isabelle Allison. She fell and broke her collar bone.



Spanky of Our Gang taken from his bike commercial of 1931

“Prosperity cannot be restored by raids upon the Treasury,” declared President Hoover. His statement is hardly open to doubt, even though it is not so spectacular as those of the politicians who like to hand out the private citizens’ hard-earned tax money on the theory that such a proceeding always gains many votes.” (Quoted from the *Banner of* 1931 on February 15, 1931 by the *Mabank Monitor*)



During the week of February 15, 1931, while Elzie Tharp and family were visiting, someone stole all his fine Rhode Island Red chickens. Tom Eubank, Jr., died at the government hospital in Hines, Illinois and E. F. McShan had three ribs broken when his car skidded off a bridge.

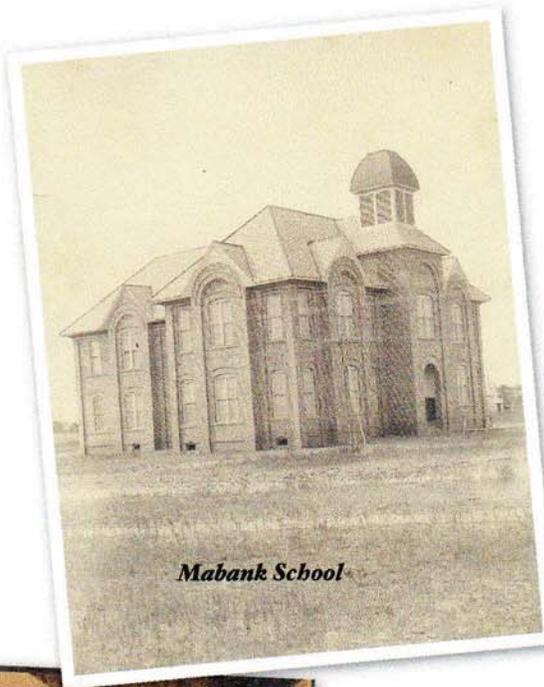
A big oat crop was harvested in the area this year—75 to 100 bushels per acre but the mail service was taken over by the bus line because the train schedules were unsatisfactory.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Salter attended the Rural Carriers Convention in Waco the week of July 5. A terracing school was held on the T. M. Pippin farm and C. H. Lewis and Mrs. Effie Hastings were married. (I know it says, “Mrs.”) When Miss Johnson resigned from the Phalba school, Miss Imogene Stegall was elected to replace her.

Jim Snowden suffered with rheumatism; Miss Genevieve Simmons underwent an appendectomy, Miss Marian Cain got her right hand caught and mangled in a syrup mill and Robert McKee was selling sweet milk—delivered in town—for five cents a quart.

In the letters to Santa Claus that year, Billie Jerome Westmoreland wanted morbles (sic), French harp, fireworks and a big ball and Ruth Scott asked for a doll and a telephone while Katy Jennings wanted a bathrobe.

By and large, 1931 was a good year in Mabank.



Mabank School



Lee Reid at the Dry Goods Store

A Look at the Decade: 1890-1899, Part One

By Juliana Smith 03 February 2010

Epidemics and Disease

As the decade opened, the world found itself largely in the grip of “La Grippe,” an influenza outbreak that would continue through the early years of the decade. *The Decatur Daily Despatch* (Decatur, Illinois) of 7 January 1890 reported that the disease was widespread on both sides of the Atlantic, and that members of royal families across Europe had fallen victims to the disease. Another article from *The Atlanta Constitution* of 5 January 1890 detailed the epidemic’s effects in New York, Boston, Paris, and Berlin.



While the flu pandemic died down by 1891, in February of 1892 a typhus outbreak in New York was traced to immigrants, mostly Jews from Eastern Europe, who arrived on the *Massilia*. Health officials raced to quarantine immigrants from the ship, both sick and healthy. This and a later outbreak of cholera in New York spurred the National Quarantine Act of 1893. The act put in place standards for inspecting immigrants, ships, and cargoes. *The Middletown Daily Times* (Middletown, New York) for 16 February 1892 included reports on the efforts to quarantine immigrants who arrived on the *Massilia*.

That same year there was also a cholera epidemic in parts of Russia and Germany. In Hamburg, 142,000 people (13 percent of the population) died of the disease.

Immigration and North American Expansion

In the 1890s, 3,687,000 immigrants made their way to the U.S., primarily southern and eastern Europeans as well as Russian Jews who came to escape pogroms and Armenians escaping the Hamidian Massacres of 1894-96.

To accommodate the growing numbers of immigrants to the U.S., on New Year’s Day in 1892, the Ellis Island Immigration Center was officially dedicated. On that day, a fifteen-year-old Irish girl, Annie Moore, from County Cork, was the first person processed at Ellis Island. She arrived on the *SS Nevada* and was presented with a ten-dollar gold piece.

The first immigrant station on Ellis Island would last only five years. A fire destroyed the pine frame buildings in 1897 and a new fire-proof receiving station reopened in 1900. During the rebuilding phase, immigrants were processed at stations in New York City. By the time Ellis Island closed in 1954, more than 16 million immigrants passed had through the gateway.

In 1894 there was a proposal to expand New York City, consolidating it with neighboring counties, and although it met with opposition in some of those counties, the vote in New York County overruled those opposed. Eastern areas of the Bronx were annexed in 1895 (western areas had been annexed in 1874), and in 1898 the boroughs of Brooklyn (Kings County), Queens (Queens County), and Richmond (Richmond County) were consolidated with Manhattan (New York County) and the Bronx (Bronx County) to form Greater New York.

http://learn.ancestry.com/LearnMore/Article.aspx?id=15308&o_iid=23560&o_lid=23560 4/23/2010

The independent Kingdom of Hawaii was invaded by United States Marines in 1893 and its Queen Lili'uokalani surrendered her throne to a provisional government made up of white sugar plantation owners. The U.S. annexed Hawaii in 1898 despite a petition protesting the move that was signed by more than half of the Hawaiian population.

The western U.S. was becoming more populous and in 1890, the U.S. Census counted 62,979,766 people. Unfortunately, in 1921 a basement fire in the Commerce Building in Washington, D.C. destroyed most of the 1890 federal census. Ancestry.com has created [a census substitute](#), which includes the surviving census fragments, state censuses, city and county directories, voter lists, and alumni directories from 1890 and surrounding years.

That same year Idaho was admitted as the 44th state. The western division of the U.S. still had the lowest population of all areas of the country with only 3,027,613 people enumerated in the states of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and California. The majority of the population was centered in the Midwestern states. Nearly 65 percent of the population still lived in rural areas, while only a bit more than 35 percent lived in urban areas.

In Utah, strides were taken for women's rights as suffrage was granted to women for the second time. It had originally been granted by the territorial legislature in 1870, but Congress revoked that right with the Edmunds-Tucker anti-polygamy Act in 1887. The Utah State Constitution restored women's suffrage in Utah on 5 November 1895 with the provision that "the rights of citizens of the State of Utah to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex." Two months later, on 4 January 1896, Utah became the 45th state to join the Union. The news prompted a celebration, with business suspended in Salt Lake City.

In 1893, Colorado women won the right to vote by election as well.

In 1897, small tent towns began springing up in Seattle following the arrival of prospectors whose tales of gold from the Yukon Territory ignited the Klondike Gold Rush. Gold seekers would face a long and dangerous trek through some of the most difficult terrain and weather conditions, only to find that most of the most valuable gold field claims had already been staked. Writer Jack London was among those who sailed to join the rush and it was his experiences in the Klondike that fueled books that helped him make his fortune through writing. The following year, the Yukon Territory of Canada was established with Dawson City as its capital.



9191—Bound for the Klondike Gold Fields, Chilcoot Pass, Alaska.

Article from *The Weekly Discovery Magazine*, Feb 03, 2010, Author Juliana Smith, Copyright 2010, Ancestry.com, published weekly online.

Reprint Policy

We encourage the circulation of *The Weekly Discovery* via non-profit newsletters and lists providing that you credit the author, include any copyright information (Copyright 2010, Ancestry.com), and cite *The Weekly Discovery* as the source, so that others can learn about our free newsletter as well.

A Look at the Decade: 1890-1899, part 2

By Juliana Smth 11 February 2010

The Economy

Remembered fondly as “the Gay Nineties” in retrospect, the 1890s weren’t all that gay for many people. 1893 marked the beginning of a four-year-long depression in the United States. Britain and Europe’s economic woes preceded troubles in the U.S. and led to a reduction in investments in the United States.

Economic policy, with heavy reliance on the gold standard, also contributed to the depression, as did the overproduction of agricultural products from a growing farm belt. Farmers had been moving westward with the new ability to transport produce via expanded rail systems and the additional goods drove market prices down.



The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad collapsed in February and more than 15,000 companies and 500 banks would follow leading to a sharp rise in unemployment. Double-digit unemployment rates peaked at an estimated 18 percent in 1894 and would remain high through the crisis.

People were desperate for work and in 1894, Jacob S. Coxey led a protest march from Massillon, Ohio to Washington, D.C. Beginning with one hundred men, five hundred arrived in Washington demanding work on public projects. They were denied and the Coxey was arrested for trespassing when he tried to speak. “Coxey’s Army” was one of several groups planning to march on Washington, but it was the only sizeable group to complete the journey. (The image in the upper right corner is Coxey’s Army traveling by canal.)

In Chicago, George Pullman had cut pay for his employees by 25%. Employees living in “Pullman City” paid rent to Pullman—a rent that remained static despite the pay cuts. The hardship this created pushed three thousand Pullman workers to strike. It was a “wildcat” strike (without the approval of the union), but some American Railroad Union workers followed in support, refusing to move any train with a Pullman car, unless it carried mail. Since most trains by this time had Pullman cars, this affected the railway system across the country. Eventually a federal court ruled that the strike was illegal and federal troops were called in. Violence ensued as riots broke out and in a violent confrontation with soldiers on July 7, many rioters were killed or wounded.

War

In 1895, Cuba was fighting for its independence from Spain and support for the cause was growing in the U.S., fed by newspapers that found that headlines relating to the conflict gave them a boost in sales at the newsstand. The U.S.S. Maine, which had been sent to Havana to protect U.S. interests, exploded on 15 February 1898, killing 266 sailors on board and matters quickly escalated. Although the cause of the explosion was never discovered, the newspapers were quick to blame Spain and after the Spanish rebuffed U.S. demands that it grant Cuban independence, war followed.

American Naval forces under Commodore George Dewey, were deployed to the Philippines where they attacked and destroyed the Spanish forces in Manila Harbor. Further defeats in the Philippines and in the

http://learn.ancestry.com/LearnMore/Article.aspx?id=15316&sssdmh=dm13.234854&o_ii... 4/23/2010

Caribbean by both Naval and Army forces, (which included Theodore Roosevelt and his “Rough Riders”) convinced the Spanish government to sign the Treaty of Paris on 10 December 1898.

As part of the treaty, the U.S. purchased Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines from Spain for \$20 million. However, in the Philippines, the Filipino forces (former allies in the Spanish-American War) had begun to resent American forces. After finally becoming free of Spain, they did not want another occupation, and on 4 February 1899 the Philippine-American War began and would continue for three years at a terrible cost of lost Filipino lives.

In Africa, another war was beginning as the British and the Boers began the Second Boer War in 1899. Here again, the forces of imperialism and nationalism clashed in bloody conflict. For years, Uitlanders (foreigners) had been flocking to the Transvaal (South African Republic) following the discovery of gold in 1886. Threatened by the newcomers, the government restricted the vote to naturalized citizens and began taxing mining interests.

Forces of Nature

Disaster struck the southern U.S. in August 1893, when a hurricane struck Savannah, Georgia, and then moved northward over the Sea Islands to Charleston leaving more than 1,000 dead and 15,000 homeless in its wake. Another storm in October of that same year struck Cheniere Caminada, near Grand Isle, Louisiana, killing half of the resort town’s 1,600 residents.

In 1895, the UK and much of Europe the year was off to a very cold start. In February a record cold temperature of -27.2C (about -17F) was recorded in Braemar, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. The “Great Freeze” of that winter disrupted transportation on the waterways as canals and rivers froze.

1896 was a year of severe weather in the U.S., with more than forty “killer tornadoes,” across the country. In St. Louis, Missouri, an F4 tornado cut a half-mile swath through the city. More than 255 people lost their lives in St. Louis and East St. Louis, and descriptions of the damage from the East Saint Louis Journal paint a picture of “death and desolation.”

In November of 1896, two storms converged off the New England coast. Despite the warnings of bad weather, the SS Portland left Boston, Massachusetts, bound for Portland, Maine. The entire ship and all of her passengers were lost to the storm, which became known as the Portland Gale. The storm brought hurricane strength winds that washed away houses and destroyed boats along the New England coast from Massachusetts to Maine. The loss of ships and wharves hurt the fishing industry of the region.

Between 12 and 14 February 1899, a blizzard ravaged much of the U.S. from New England to Florida. The Newark Daily Advocate (Newark, Ohio) from 15 February 1899 reported that freezing temperatures had devastated the Florida and Georgia citrus crops, and the record cold temperature of 6.8 degrees fahrenheit chilled Charleston. Cape May, New Jersey, snow levels measured forty-three inches after fifty-two hours of continuous snowfall. New York City recorded sixteen inches, while neighboring area measured the precipitation in feet. Even the port of New Orleans was iced over.

Innovation and Invention

Despite financial troubles brought on by the Panic of 1893, the country put on its best face as the World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893 opened in Chicago, Illinois. More than 27 million visitors attended this world-class event, taking advantage of railroads to converge on Chicago to explore the various venues filled with the latest mechanical innovations, agricultural advances, and cultural treasures. Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show thrilled audiences as food and exhibits from around the world amazed spectators.

http://learn.ancestry.com/LearnMore/Article.aspx?id=15316&sssdmh=dm13.234854&o_ii... 4/23/2010

In 1892, AT&T had opened the first commercial long-distance phone line from New York to Chicago. It could only handle one call at a time, and the price was steep, even by today's standards—\$9.00 for the first five minutes.

On a snowy day in 1895, a group of men and their “horseless-carriages” gathered in Chicago for the first ever automobile race in America. The race took more than ten hours on a fifty-five mile course, averaging around seven miles per hour. Bicycle mechanic turned inventor, Frank Duryea won the \$2,000 prize, sponsored by the Chicago Times-Herald.

In London, England, traffic on the London Bridge had become a problem. While there were bridges crossing the Thames to the west, there were none to the east. With population growing on east end of London travel on London Bridge was sometimes delayed for hours. A new bridge was needed and in 1894 the famous Tower Bridge opened. At the time of the opening, it didn't receive the warm welcome you'd expect, but it has since come to be a beloved landmark of the city.

This article was taken from Ancestry's *The Weekly Discovery*, Feb 11, 2010, Author, Juliana Smith
(Copyright 2010, Ancestry.com) Used here by permission according to the attached policy of Ancestry.com.

Reprint Policy

We encourage the circulation of *The Weekly Discovery* via non-profit newsletters and lists providing that you credit the author, include any copyright information (Copyright 2010, Ancestry.com), and cite *The Weekly Discovery* as the source, so that others can learn about our free newsletter as well.

Family History Tip: Keepsake Boxes

By Ancestry Weekly Discovery 03 February 2010

I saw a segment of *Antiques Roadshow* which showed a man with a small chest that had been passed down through his family. It was full of items that various family members had put in the chest through the years. This made me think about my grandchildren, who are under age ten. I have collected items such as themes from their birthday parties, reminders of special trips, etc. I thought about how special it would be to put these items in a type of chest for them to review later in life. I found two wooden chests at an antique mall and have started putting notes on these saved items to start their memory chests. My hope is that when they are older, they will enjoy looking at these reminders of their youth and that they will continue this tradition with their children.

Patty

This article was taken from Ancestry's *The Weekly Discovery*, Feb 3, 2010, Family History Tip: Keepsake boxes, Author, Patty.

Reprint Policy

We encourage the circulation of *The Weekly Discovery* via non-profit newsletters and lists providing that you credit the author, include any copyright information (Copyright 2010, Ancestry.com), and cite *The Weekly Discovery* as the source, so that others can learn about our free newsletter as well.

The Root Seekers Newsletter is published Quarterly at Mabank, Texas, by the Root Seekers Genealogical Society. The mailing address of the society is:

RSGS
Tri-County Library
P. O. Box 1770
Mabank, TX 75147

Our Mission Statement:

The Society, a non profit organization, seeks to further the development of genealogical research; to act as a training agency for persons interested in genealogical research; and to acquire and make available a collection of genealogical and historical materials.

The present membership is approximately 56. Current Officers are:

Julie Gustafson	President
Skip Gustafson	1 st Vice President
Nell Walker	2 nd Vice President
Betty Foster	Secretary
Ruth Shelton	Treasure
Margaret Ann Trail	Parliamentarian
Nina Hendricks	Historian/Public Relations
Carolyn Bostian	Editor

Annual membership dues are \$12.00 for an individual, \$15.00 for a family, and \$5.00 for full time students. Special rates are available for lifetime memberships, with discounts for senior citizens.

Regular meetings of the Society are on the third Monday of each month, except December (do not meet), at 7:00 p.m. at the Tri-County Library on Main Street, Mabank, TX.

The Back Page

Editor's Corner

It would be really easy to fill this page with my many troubles and excuses with all the difficulties that I have had in putting together this first Newsletter of 2010 but I am not going to do it. I want to start off on a much more positive note.

I believe that this year will be better in many ways and I am looking forward to it. It will pose challenges no doubt, but what genealogist hasn't already faced that in doing their own family research. This may well be my year to be accepted into the NSDAR chapter of Sarah Maples. That will be an exciting opportunity for me. I have been working on my family research for the last 8 years since I retired from my job as an accountant for a medium sized oil company in 2002.

I so wanted to prove my ancestor, Silas Monk, as he is in a direct line back from my Mom to him as a Revolutionary War Soldier. I know that the link exists but it has proven to be a difficult one to prove as there is one generation in which no acceptable prove has been found. There is suppose to be a family Bible in the hands of a family member in Alabama that gives the necessary information but that person has not been located in order to get the copies needed. The information that is said to be in that Bible certainly seems to be the proof that would make the connection that is needed but it appears that it will have to wait for more research to be obtained, if ever.

So as many have had to do in the past, I had to switch horses in mid stream. I found another relative David Owen who supplied beef to General Washington's troupes. It has proven a little easier to prove the lineage. So maybe this will be the year. There is still a couple of hurdles yet to jump and more copies to work up but it should be moving toward completion before the end of the year.

So with that hope in mind, I wish for all of you, some successes with your research, some brick walls broken down and new connections made. Let's all look forward to a new year full of promise.

Carolyn Bostian, Editor



My cat likes to lay on the keys!