



# TEXAS RESEARCH RAMBLERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Bryan-College Station, Texas

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<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

**VP Dean Duncan**, presiding for **President Mary Elizabeth Dresser**, opened the July 30, 2008, meeting at C.S. Professional Building II on Rock Prairie Rd. Attending were 39 members and 4 guests: Joe and Barbara Ferreri and Carl and Shannon Barton. Dean announced that our 3 part meeting will include a short business meeting, a silent auction, and a brunch.

- **Business meeting:** The minutes from **Georgianne Bigam** were approved as sent, and the Financial Report prepared by **Sue Foy** was read and submitted. For the election, **Bill Lay** moved we accept by acclamation **Henry Hanson** as Vice-President and **Bobbie Middleton** as Recording Secretary. Seconded by **Dan Louis**, the motion carried. The two new officers will begin their duties at the September meeting. **Ellen Horner** reported on a cemetery concern that she will report on later.

- **Silent Auction:** "Bid High, Bid Often" was **Rodger Koppa's** motto as he announced bidding on items began at \$1 and would increase at least in \$.25 increments. Part of the fun was getting to your desired item list just before the 10:45 deadline. Funds from the Silent Auction netted \$108 and most of the donated items were sold. Thanks to all who helped in some way to make this event a success.



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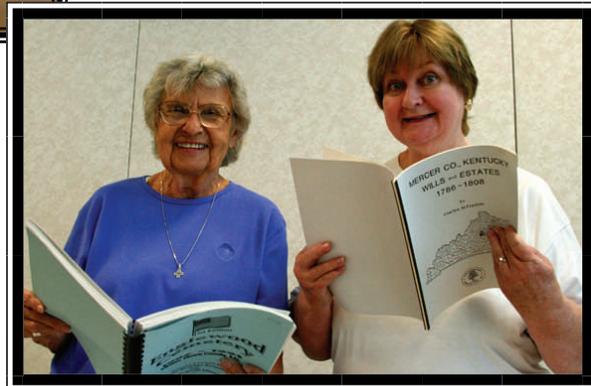
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Brunch Coordinator **Bliss Wolfe** made sure all the food was ready before serving time.



**Kathleen Kenefick, Barbara Brodigan, and Pat Gunter** look through magazines at the Rambler Library.



**Rae Wiley and Linda Martin** find some items to bid on at the Silent Auction.



**Rod Martin and Patti Kruger** are just starting to choose from the many delectable items on the brunch table.



**Ruth Cozart shows Lillian Beasley** discuss some of the scrumptious choices at the brunch table.

**NEXT MEETING:** On August 27, 2008, we will have four Ramblers share their Success Stories. Their success stories were once their brick walls. Their success may provide insight for us to find success also.

## FUTURE SEMINARS AND TRIPS:

Every **2nd Wednesday** of the month: Ramblers travel to Clayton Library in Houston. Contact **Novella Hronek**, (979)-272-8040 or [novella.hronek@verizon.net](mailto:novella.hronek@verizon.net) for details or sign up at the meetings. **September 10, 2008**, is the next trip.

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: August 20, 2008.**

Every **last Wednesday** of the month: Ramblers will meet at the 2nd floor Senior Circle rooms of the College Station Professional II building, 1651 Rock Prairie Rd. in College Station at 9:30 a.m. **Mark your calendar: August 27, 2008.**

No **Roots Magic** meetings until September.

**September 3-6, 2008:** Federation of Genealogical Societies presents “Footprints of Family History” at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia. Go to [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) for more information. Copy the link and paste it into your web browser search location.

**October 4, 2008:** Czech Roots and Christmas Memories at the Caldwell Civic/Visitor Center. Full details coming soon.

## FYI:

One of the difficult things about writing a story on an ancestor is adding information that makes your person three-dimensional—how he felt, what he ate, his working conditions, etc. Besides books, one can “Google” the state and time period to perhaps find just the right information to give depth to your ancestor’s activities.

*Internet Genealogy* (October/November 2006, pp. 30-34) from the Rambler Library had an article that had websites to find background information. Janice Nickerson in her article, “Our Ancestors’ Daily Lives” gave this example of how to “flesh out” the character:



“Sixteen-year-old Sarah was sure she couldn’t take another step. It seemed like she’d been walking for weeks. In fact, it had only been three days since she and her family had climbed wearily out of the flat-bottomed boat that had carried them up the St. Lawrence River to the small town of Cobourg. She was tired and hungry and was sick of eating salt port and stale bread...”

That example sure beats, “Sarah Edwards was born 5 October 1816 in Wiltshire. She married George Payne in 1836, and died 5 May 1887 in Dummer Township, Peterborough

Then, Ms. Nickerson presents topics with websites to help genealogists gather information in order to “flesh out” their ancestors as she did in her example.

- Immigration: [www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAimmigration.htm](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAimmigration.htm)
- Ships List: [www.theshipslist.com](http://www.theshipslist.com)
- Transportation: Railroad: [www.explorepahistory.com/story](http://www.explorepahistory.com/story)
- Transportation: Ships: [www.hbc.com/hbcheritage/history/transportation](http://www.hbc.com/hbcheritage/history/transportation)
- Travel and Westward Expansion: <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/oahtml/mncsptravel.html> (This site gives a list of books to find in libraries or Google: Books.
- Food Timeline: [www.foodtimeline.org](http://www.foodtimeline.org) . Check out *Mrs. Beeton's Book of Household Management*.
- Food and Dinner Time: [www.history-magazine.com/dinner2.html](http://www.history-magazine.com/dinner2.html)
- Historic American Recipes: [www.foodbooks.com/recipes.htm](http://www.foodbooks.com/recipes.htm)
- Government Land Sales: [www.gloreCORDS.blm.gov/Visitors](http://www.gloreCORDS.blm.gov/Visitors)
- New England Architecture: [www.memorialhall.mass.edu/activities/architecture/](http://www.memorialhall.mass.edu/activities/architecture/)
- Fashion-Era: [www.fashion-era.com/index.htm](http://www.fashion-era.com/index.htm)
- Living History Farms: [www.lhf.org](http://www.lhf.org)
- Agriculture: [www.agclassroom.org/gan](http://www.agclassroom.org/gan)
- Religion: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~gentutor/churches.html>
- Popular Medicine in Early America: [www.librarycompany.org/doctor/everyman.html](http://www.librarycompany.org/doctor/everyman.html)
- Documenting the South: <http://docsouth.unc.edu>
- Newspapers:
  - Paper of Record: [www.paperofrecord.com](http://www.paperofrecord.com)
  - NewspaperARCHIVE.com: [www.newspaperarchive.com](http://www.newspaperarchive.com)
  - Godfrey Memorial Library: [www.godfrey.org](http://www.godfrey.org)

Ms. Nickerson closes by saying that as wonderful as the Internet is for all kinds of research, you will find a vast array of additional sources for social history information at your local library. Look for books of special interest as well as local history publications on the region you're researching. Her favorite magazine is *History Magazine* by Moorshead Magazines.

## SUCCESS STORIES:

**Henry Hanson** reports that twelve Research Ramblers met at the Lincoln Center on Wednesday 23 of July from 9:00 am until noon for a genealogy computer workshop.

Attendees **Emma Schroeder, Mary Hamlin, Sue Thomas, Marjorie Leinhart, Linda Ferguson, Wayne Schmidt, Kim Feldman Jo Ann Dean, and Bud Fisher**, found out some techniques with Texshare Database and searching census using the Heritage Quest online. Also, they discussed how PERSI could help with researching periodicals.



Henry thanks Sue Foy and Georgianne Bigam for helping facilitate the workshop.

**HISTORIC MOMENT:** Religious Affiliation from New England to Texas  
Last month we saw English emigrants place of departure and their ultimate destination.  
This month, we see the New England immigrants major religious affiliation.

### **The Denominations in the 13 Colonies:**

**Connecticut:** *Congregational*

**Delaware:** *Anglican, Dutch Reformed, Lutheran, Presbyterian*

**Georgia:** *Anglican, Moravian*

**Maryland:** *Roman Catholic, Presbyterian*

**Massachusetts:** *Congregational*

**New Hampshire:** *Congregational*

**New Jersey:** *Dutch Reformed, Lutheran, Quaker, Presbyterian*

**New York:** *Dutch Reformed*

**North Carolina:** *Anglican, Presbyterian*

**Pennsylvania:** *Amish, Brethren, Lutheran, Mennonite, Moravian, Quaker, Schwenkfelder, Presbyterian, Reformed*

**Rhode Island:** *Congregational*

**South Carolina:** *Anglican, Huguenots*

**Virginia:** *Anglican, Presbyterian*

### **1820 to 1850: Denominational Expansion**

**America's independence was followed by denominational expansion.**

Add the following denominations to the above list:

*Episcopal*

*Unitarian*

*Methodist*

*Universalist*

*Mormons*

The most rapid growth during this time period was among the *Methodists* and *Baptists*

### **After 1850-Present:**

New religious groups and ethnic groups added to the diversity of religion in the U.S.

More information about Churches can be found at the following website:

*Beverly Whitaker. "What Church Did Grandpa Attend?" Kansas City, Missouri, 1998-2003 as summarized on Internet web page: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~gentutor/churches.html>*



Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) is the oldest Christian congregation in the Delaware Valley, tracing its origins to 1640. More information can be found at this website:

[www.colonialswedes.org/Churches/HolTri.html](http://www.colonialswedes.org/Churches/HolTri.html)

## TEXAS, HERE WE COME!

If you've lived in Texas for any length of time, perhaps you've heard of the **Painted Churches**. The term "**Painted**" comes from the elaborate faux-finished interiors - painted by itinerant artists who advertised in church bulletins and newspapers. Several were resident artists in San Antonio. Gold-leafed, stone and polished marble columns and ceilings are (upon closer examination) actually finely-fitted woodwork. The paint - mixed on site - is still vibrant and bright - even after all these years.

Inscriptions on the walls are in Czech or German, the language of 19th century immigrants.

In 1984, 15 of these churches were listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

You can take a day trip to visit the churches by going to Schulenburg and pick up a printed tour. The Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce has detailed directions for the painted churches. Brochures are available outside the chamber office for weekend visitors. 618 N. Main, [Schulenburg](#), Texas. 979-743-4514

Some churches you may want to visit on the tour in Fayette County follow. Just click on the link to learn more about these painted churches.



[St. Mary's of Praha](#)



[St. John the Baptist of Ammannsville](#)



[Saints Cyril and Methodius Church in Dubina](#)

More information can be found at [www.texasescapes.com/CentralTexasTownsSouth/PaintedChurchesTour.htm](http://www.texasescapes.com/CentralTexasTownsSouth/PaintedChurchesTour.htm)

**GENQUIP:** "He that boasts of his descent is like the potato, the best part of him is underground."—Thomas Overbury



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