

# FAMILY FOOTSTEPS



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## Greetings

This Spring we have had some very welcomed rain in Comal County. We also had several very interesting presentations on a variety of genealogy topics. We also presented the 2nd annual CCGS High School Scholarship. You can read summaries of each in the pages below.

Now Summer is upon us, and we have several outdoor activities planned. First, the group is taking a field trip in June to see the Alamo. The Alamo grounds are going through a massive renovation and it will be interesting to see what has been done and what is still planned. Then in July, we plan on visiting the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin. We take August off and then we will once again have our annual CCGS picnic in Landa Park. See inside for more details.

As usual, if you have comments, suggestions, or material for publication, please let us know at [suggestions@ccgstexas.org](mailto:suggestions@ccgstexas.org).

## Previous Meetings

### 10 February Meeting



**Ruth Foreman** from the DNA Doe Project (<https://dnadoeproject.org/>) and TV show "[Naming the Dead](#)" hosted the CCGS meeting at her Guest House.

Ruth Foreman introduced herself and described the Guest House, which while modern has furnishings and furniture from her family's old ranch home. She pointed out that when she hosted the first DNA Doe retreat, this structure did not exist, and they had to meet under tents for the weekend. Now the Guest House provides some living space, but the actual work for retreats is still done under the tents in the yard.

Next she began describing how she became involved in the DNA Doe project, which was largely the result of her own genealogical research, and the results of her and her brother's DNA test, which showed that their dad was NOT their biological father!



Great desserts and conversation in the kitchen.  
L to R: Ruth Forman, Tina LaFreniere, Vanessa Miller,  
Melissa Parma, Chris Parma.

Image: W. Voigt

Ruth Foreman joined the DNA Doe project in 2018, which started in 2017. The idea underlying the project was to use genealogical research skills, advances in DNA extraction and access to DNA data bases in an effort to identify remains of unknown people. After a few years, by chance someone from the Nat Geo Channel heard about the DNA Doe Project and thought that what they were doing would make an interesting TV show. The very first episode of "Naming the Dead", "Tyler Jane Doe" was what she played for the group.

The episode centered on the skeletal remains of a young woman found in 1985 near an interstate off ramp outside Tyler, Texas. Efforts to identify the victim were unsuccessful. Finally, the detective who had worked the case for 38 years decided to refer it to the DNA Doe Project in the hopes that the victim could be identified before he retired. The episode followed what happened once the DNA was extracted and turned over to the DNA Doe project. They were able to positively identify the young woman her DNA showed likely matches with cousins, and then narrowing down identity from there with what was known from the remains.

After the episode, Ruth held a question and answer session, and every CCGS member present asked at least one question, and she answered all of them. She described some of the changes made for the show from how the members would discuss what they found - mostly minor terminology changes - to make the information more comprehensible to audiences. Ruth also talked about specific factors which the production bosses use when selecting what cases will be made into episodes of "Naming the Dead". To date more than 150 cases have been identified by the DNA Doe project.

- Summary extracted from the meeting minutes by Chris Parma, CCGS Secretary.

## 10 March Meeting



Members of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT) came to discuss various aspects of the organization. Speakers included:

**Sally Startz Blacksmith** gave a brief history of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, from its founding in 1891 in Galveston to its current activities. The Daughters of the Republic of Texas is the oldest patriotic women's organization in Texas. She spoke about the DRT library in the Bexar County Archives Building in San Antonio and briefly described its holding. Ms. Blacksmith answered questions from CCGS members about access to the DRT Library after she finished her part of the presentation.



Sally Startz Blacksmith Image: W.Voigt

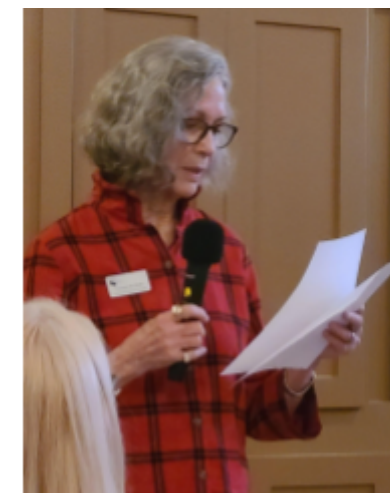
**Dana Watson** spoke next, describing the lineage requirements for membership in the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. She explained what the membership application process involves, including what types of evidence applicants must provide to confirm their lineage and have their membership approved. In answering CCGS members' questions Ms. Watson explained that younger generations of DRT members can use the proof of lineage from current members.



Dana Watson Image: W.Voigt

**Carolyn Reed** talked about what DRT does today and mentioned some of the historical structures sponsored by them around the state. She mentioned that the Alamo had been the most famous of the buildings under their care until custodianship of the Alamo was transferred to the Texas General Land Office in 2011. Ms. Reed stated that the historical documents owned by the DRT at the San Antonio or Austin libraries are available to the general public by appointment. She also mentioned educational activities sponsored by the DRT, such as essay contests for fourth and seventh graders, and a teacher of the year award.

- Summary extracted from the meeting minutes by Chris Parma, CCGS Secretary.



Carolyn Reed Image: W.Voigt



Carolyn Reed presenting to the group.

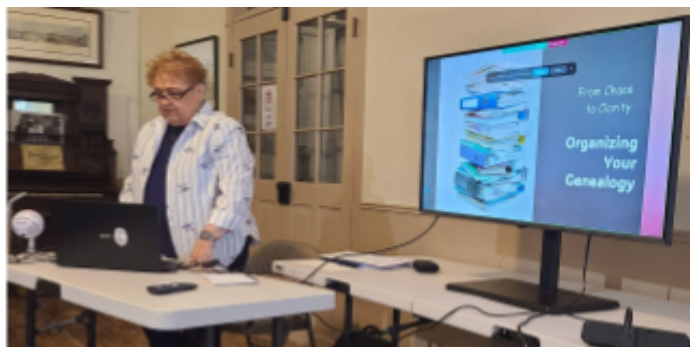
Image: C.Parma

## 14 April Meeting



Due to a scheduling conflict with a Sophienburg event, the April meeting was moved to the Forke Store at Conservation Plaza. **Kaye Feuerbacher Wykoff** presented "Organizing Your Genealogy: From Chaos to Clarity."

Kaye described how she came to genealogy, starting with hearing about Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas in 1975. She wondered if she met their requirements for membership. By the late 1970s she had begun researching her family and discovered that she qualified for membership in both the DAR and DRT. She also realized that her papers were becoming unwieldy and that she needed to get organized.



Kaye Feuerbacher Wykoff

Images: W. Voigt



Kaye Feuerbacher Wykoff presenting to the group in the Forke Store on Conservation Plaza.

Image: W. Voigt

She explained that being organized meant that she knew what records she had, and also what she did not have. Kaye then listed and explained her "Golden Rules" for organization.

Kaye also recommended keeping a research log so that you know when, where and what type of information you were looking up. This makes finding some records easier later, or helps you know where to begin or resume a search.

She described five common ways to organize records: by surname, married couple, record type (which she uses), location, and numeric/Ahnentafel. Kaye showed slides of how her system appears both in paper records and in digital format. She included examples of index sheets that she used to show examples of doing research at the Texas General Land Office. She also demonstrated why consistency in naming conventions is so important when looking at file names.

Kaye's presentation finished with good habits for genealogical researchers.

- Summary extracted from the meeting minutes by Chris Parma, CCGS Secretary.

The following pages are handouts from Kaye Wykoff's presentation.

# Organizing Your Genealogy From Chaos to Clarity

By Kaye Wykoff

Comal County Genealogy Society

April 14, 2026

## I. The Goal of Organization

- **Know what you have** and, more importantly, **what you don't have**.
- **Find what you have** quickly (aim for the "60-second or 2-click" test).
- **Gain peace of mind** and more time for actual research.

## II.

Golden Rules for a Successful System

- **Keep it Simple:** Ensure it is easy to maintain so you don't abandon it.
- **Logical to You:** It must make sense for the way your brain works.
- **Consistency:** Use the same naming conventions every time.
- **Mirroring:** Your paper and digital systems should use the same structure.
- **Research Log**

## III.

Selecting Your Method

Common organizational methods include:

- **By Surname or Married Couples.**
- **Numeric/Ahnentafel** systems.
- **Record Type or Location.**
- **Color Coding** (e.g., by generation or maternal/paternal lines).

**A Recommended Hybrid Method: The Surname > Record Type System**

1. **Level I:** Surname (e.g., ALEXANDER).
2. **Level II:** Record Type (e.g., Vitals, Land, Probate, Military).

## IV.

Practical Implementation

**For Paper Files:**

- Use **Family Line hanging files** with color-coded labels.
- Use **Table of Contents** inside each folder to track contents (Doc #, Subject, Source #).
- Apply **ID templates** or labels to documents for quick identification.

**For Digital Files:**

- Avoid "the mess": no consistent names, everything in one folder, and unidentifiable files.
- Create **Folder Templates** for surnames and record types to reuse.
- **File Naming Conventions:**
  - *Option A:* TYPE\_SURNAME, given\_date Place, info (e.g., DTH\_Alexander, AD\_1929 TX cert).
  - *Option B:* SURNAME, given\_date Place type (e.g., Alexander, AD\_1929 TX dth cert).
  - *Option C:* Date\_SURNAME, given\_Place, type (e.g., 1929\_Alexander, AD, dth cert)
  - Identify surnames not shared with same as Family Line names, with a **Surname code** prefix and file in SURNAME folder

**V.**

## Good Habits for Consistency

1. **Download immediately** when you find a record.
2. **Rename meaningfully** and immediately.
3. **Cite your sources** directly on the document, in a footnote, or by expanding the canvas.
4. **Extract data** into your database as soon as possible.

**VI.**

## Labeling images and scans

1. Add identifying info to images
  - a. Citation
  - b. Translation
  - c. Your name & contact info
  - d. Other explanations as needed
2. Use text boxes or 'expand the canvas'

**VII.**

## Output &amp; Sharing

Once organized, consider how you will share your work:

- Physical Binders.
- Electronic saving/Cloud storage.
- Writing a book or creating a website.

## Credits:

Cyndi's List—providing links to articles and blogs about organizing:

Organizing Your Research>Filing Systems

*5 Systems for Organizing Genealogy Paper Files*: Devon Noel Lee, 2025

*Digital Folder Organizing & Naming Made Easy*: Diane Gould Hall, Michigan Family Trails

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

*Genealogical Filing Systems* (National Institute): Teri E Flack

*Organizing Your Genealogical Files*: Drew Smith

GenSocSoup Webinar Library

*Navigating the Seven C's of Genealogy*: Thomas MacEntee

Gemini.Google.com—image generation

## Sample record types, Document prefixes

### Record Types

#### Folders



































-  Birth\_Baptism\_BTH
-  Death\_Obits\_Tombstones\_DTH
-  Emails/Interviews\_EML
-  Images-People\_Misc\_IMG
-  Land Records\_LND
-  Marriages\_Divorce\_MAR
-  Military\_MIL
-  Misc\_Artifacts\_ART
-  Newsclips\_NWS
-  Probate-wills, inv, estate\_PRO
-  Research\_RSCH

### Document Prefixes

- LTR Letter
- CNS Census
- ART Artifacts
- BAP Baptism
- BTH Birth
- DAR DAR
- DTH Death
- EML Email
- HIST History
- IMG Image
- IMM Immigration
- LND Land
- MAP Maps
- MAR Marriage
- MIL Military
- MISC Miscellaneous
- OBIT Obituary
- PRO Probate
- RSCH Research
- TMB Tombstone
- WILL Will

## Sample digital folders under your genealogy folder

### Documents > Genealogy > Exhibits (Media)

| Folders  | Folders  |
|--|--|
|  **ORA Backups >                  |  ^BOOKS >                           |
|  **TMG Backups & key >            |  ^CENSUS >                          |
|  *FamilySearch Famous Ancestors > |  ^ENTERED by SURNAMES* ☁ >          |
|  *Second Site content_tips ☁ >    |  ^ENTRY needed SURNAMES ☁ >         |
|  ^EXHIBITS_SOURCES_IMAGES ☁ >     |  ^ENTRY needed TMG >                |
|  CIDA-SA ☁ >                      |  ^LOCALE FOLDERS ☁ >                |
|  Conf_Wkshops-Pres >              |  ^PHOTOS_IMG >                      |
|  DNA ☁ >                          |  ^REFERENCES >                      |
|  Family Reunions >                |  ^RESEARCH in PROGRESS ☁ >          |
|  Genealogy Purchased downloads >  |  Folders Sources, Media, Exhibits > |
|  General Genealogy ☁ >            |  Folders Surnames Kaye_Empty copy > |
|  GSKC ☁ >                         |  Folders Surnames_Empty ☁ >         |
|  HRE >                            |  Folders-Surname topics_Empty >     |
|  Imaging & Computer Tips >        |  Images >                           |
|  Kaye's Presentatiions ☁ >        |  LDS Films >                        |
|  Lineage DAR >                    |  Relative Finder (famous) >         |
|  Lineage DRT >                    |  Research logs >                    |

## Sample digital folders under your Media/Source folder

| Genealogy                | Media                            | Surnames         | Document Types                 |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| **ORA Backups            | ^BOOKS                           | **To file        | CA* Birth_Baptism              |
| **TMG Backups & key      | ^CENSUS                          | *ALEXANDER_AL    | CA* Death_Obits_Tombstones     |
| *FamilySea...s Ancestors | ^ENTERED by SURNAMES*            | *BUKEY_BU        | CA* Emails/Interviews          |
| *Second...nent_tips      | ^ENTRY pending SURNAMES          | *CARTER_CA       | CA* Images-People-Misc         |
| ^EXHIBITS_MEDIA          | ^ENTRY pending TMG               | *COX_CX          | CA* Land Records               |
| CIDA-SA                  | ^LOCALE FOLDERS                  | *DUESTERHOEFT_DU | CA* Marriages                  |
| Conf_Wkshops-Pres        | ^PHOTOS_IMG                      | *FEUERBACHER_FE  | CA* Military                   |
| DNA                      | ^REFERENCES                      | *HERNSDORF_HE    | CA* Misc_Artifacts             |
| Family Reunions          | ^RESEARCH in PROGRESS            | *LEWIS_LW        | CA* Newsclips                  |
| Genealogy...d downloads  | Folders Sources, Media, Exhibits | *MARTIN_MA       | CA* Probate-wills, inv, estate |
| General Genealogy        | Folders Surnames Dave            | *MIDDLETON_MD    | CA* Research                   |
| GSKC                     | Folders Surnames Kaye            | *MOON_MN         |                                |
| HRE                      | Folders-Surname topics_Empty     | *MOORMAN_MO      |                                |
| Imaging &...omputer Tips | Images                           | *MORGAN_MG       |                                |
| Kaye's Pr...entatiions   | LDS Films                        | *OWENS_OW        |                                |
| Lineage DAR              | Relative Finder (famous)         | *PATTERSON_PA    |                                |
| Lineage DRT              | Research logs                    | *PRUITT_PR       |                                |
| Lineage UDC              |                                  | *SHARP_SH        |                                |
| OndDrive issues          | Other                            | *SIMPSON_SI      |                                |
| Other's Research         | Thumbs.db                        | *SMITH_SM        |                                |
| Quick Tips-Ancestry      |                                  | *STERNBERG_ST    |                                |
| Research for others      |                                  | *SYLVESTER_SY    |                                |
| RootsMagic Registration  |                                  | *TRENARY_TR      |                                |
| Second s...ples, clips   |                                  | *WYKOFF_WY       |                                |
| TMG                      |                                  | Vogt_VO          |                                |
| TMG to RM                |                                  | Wheeler_WH       |                                |
| Trips                    |                                  |                  |                                |

Sample folder organization

GENEALOGY > EXHIBITS\_MEDIA > ^ENTERED by SURNAMES\* > \*CARTER\_CA

For Paper docs: Info for back of documents, use pencil

- SURNAME Surname folder
- RECORD TYPE Birth/Death, will, deed, etc
- Doc # # in this Surname folder (back to front)
- SOURCE # # of source in database program
- CITATION & OTHER INFO: Source citation & info about where found, quality, etc

Option #1

Option #2 for back of Paper Docs: Can print on back

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| FAMILY NAME:         |  |
| RECORD TYPE:         |  |
| DOCUMENT #:          |  |
| SOURCE #:            |  |
| DESCRIPTION:         |  |
| OTHER INFO:          |  |
| OTHER STORAGE PLACE: |  |
| CITATION:            |  |

## 12 May Meeting



The meeting started with the presentation of the 2026 CCGS High School Scholarship. Read more about it below on page 12.

**Tina LaFreniere**, CCGS Director of Genealogy and founder and CEO of Related Faces Technologies (<https://www.relatedfaces.com/>), presented “The Benefits of Attending a Genealogy Conference.” She is a regular attendee and exhibitor at the RootsTech, the National Genealogical Society conference, as well as other genealogy conferences across the country.

To help convey what goes on at a typical booth in the Expo Hall of conference, Tina had a table set up with a TV showcasing Related Faces services, plus pamphlets, stickers, as well as candy.

Tina’s presentation described the various types of genealogy conferences: size or scope of conference; in-person conferences versus online conferences versus hybrids of those two; and conference duration, from single day conferences to multi-day gatherings. Because of the many different types of conferences, Tina stated that attendees should have a goal: “what do I want to accomplish”, and consider the costs of conferences as well as one’s own limitations. The next step is to visit the conference website to find out who the speakers are, what groups will be attending, and then basic logistics: schedules of events and maps of the venue.

Much of Tina’s presentation focused on explaining what the different types of conferences offer, and why attending such a conference could be useful. For example, state and regional conferences will usually be focused on that particular area and specific records useful for researching people in that area.

Lineage specific conferences focus on specific genetic lines such as Jewish family conferences, or they might focus on people from a particular community. These conferences are useful because they provide specialized knowledge of particular countries, regions, languages or religious records. Tina described how she attends one such language conference not because she speaks that language, but because it helps her research a particular branch of her family.

Next, she spoke about pros and cons of online-only versus in-person conferences, and hybrid conferences. Online conferences are more accessible, less expensive, and often have classes and presentations available for viewing weeks after the actual conference date. However, they are usually less interactive, and you miss the human contact from in-person conferences. Hybrid conferences will have an on-line component as well as in-person attendance, but may be more limited in online offerings.

At this point she began talking about conference length, which also moved from very specific topics and perhaps a local focus for single day conferences, to multi-day national/international conferences with expansive course offerings and attendance by most major genealogy societies and organizations.

Single-day conferences tend to be small, intimate affairs addressing a single topic, but they also create close contacts between participants.

Multi-day conferences will be massive affairs with several thousand participants and literally hundreds of presenters and vendors. Major vendors of various services will often have experts on their products handy to answer questions or troubleshoot issues for attendees. Attendees will often find a service that they can use - sometimes at a discount! - and might also find out information about classes needed to become certified as a professional genealogist.

Because multi-day conferences are so big, Tina recommended creating a Plan A and a Plan B of sessions to attend, and because these conferences are also expensive, she recommends trying to combine attendance with a vacation, so that people have a chance to also see family, friends or sites in addition to the conference.

Finally, Tina recommends using "Conference Keeper" as a way to locate and learn about upcoming events.

- Summary extracted from the meeting minutes by Chris Parma, CCGS Secretary.



**Tina LaFreniere** presenting. Note the conference display table with balloons, banners, swag give-a-ways, and display (which was off during the presentation.)

Image: C.Parma

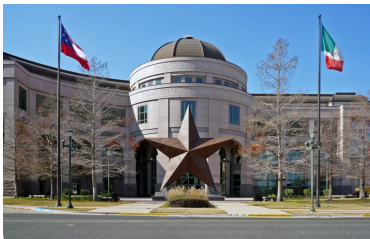
## Upcoming Meetings

### 09 June Field Trip - San Antonio (Tuesday)



The Alamo complex has been going through significant changes and renovations over the last few years. Come join the CCGS on a field trip to see the latest developments and new historical displays. The group plans to meet at the Alamo at 9:30 a.m.. Afterwards we will have lunch on the Riverwalk (tentatively at Shilo's German-Texan restaurant). If desired, we can work on car pooling. We will confirm the details as we get closer to the event via email and the website.

### 18 July Field Trip - Austin (Saturday)



Come join the group as we explore the Bob Bulluck Texas State History Museum (<https://www.thestoryoftexas.com/>) located near the Capital at 1800 N. Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701. The group plans to meet at the museum at 10:00. Afterwards we will have lunch nearby (tentatively at Shultz Garden). If desired, we can work on car pooling. Note: In order to accommodate those that work during the week, this event is on a Saturday. We will confirm the details as we get closer to the event via email and the website.

### August - Board of Directors Meeting

There is no general membership meeting in the month of August.

### 08 September - Picnic (Tuesday)



The annual Comal County Genealogy Society Picnic will be held at pavilion #16 in Landa Park from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. CCGS will provide food and drinks. We will confirm the details as we get closer to the event via email and the website. Please RSVP by September 4 at <https://forms.gle/5NUiKUEqwV7iTPna6>

## News

### *New Braunfels: The First Founders* Reprint

The definitive two volume set of *New Braunfels: The First Founders* by Everett Fey is out of print. There are no remaining original copies to be sold, and the publisher is no longer in business. The family of Everett Fey, the Sophienburg Archives, and the Comal County Genealogy Society (together the copyright owners) are collaboratively working to bring this classic into print again. The following work has been done or planned to be done:

- An existing copy was sacrificed for scanning by having its binding removed.
- Both volumes have been scanned into PDF format (over 1000 pages!)
- Pictures used in the book were located in the Sophienburg and are to be scanned.
- The scanned pictures will be inserted into the PDF files. This will provide the best print picture quality.
- A new publisher/printer is being sought which can use the PDF files to produce the books.

Once a printer is selected, a definitive schedule and book price can then be set. It is hoped that the printer can then provide copies of the book "on demand" instead of needing to do a large (expensive) print run.

**UPDATE:** CCGS and the Sophienburg were working with a publisher in San Antonio to insert the higher resolution pictures into the PDF files. However, after many delays, the publisher gave the files back. An alternative solution is being investigated.

### 2026 High School Scholarship

Last year, the Board of Directors approved a \$1000 scholarship to a local Comal County high school senior. This was the second scholarship given by CCGS. The 2026 Scholarship committee consisted of Wendel Voigt, Simone Hierholzer, Vince Callier, Chris Parma, and Lynne' Voigt.

CCGS received 12 applications from 5 different Comal County High Schools – New Braunfels, Canyon, Canyon Lake, Davenport, and Memorial Early College High School



Wendel Voigt presenting the 2026 CCGS Scholarship to Timothy Walbeck of Canyon Lake High School.

Image: C. Parma

The winner of the 2026 Comal County Genealogy Society Scholarship is **Timothy Walbeck** from Canyon Lake High School. He will be starting The University of Texas at Tyler in the Fall, majoring in Information Technology and Cyber Security. Timothy and his family attended the May 12th CCGS meeting to accept his scholarship. The \$1000 will be sent directly to his school.

All applicants were asked to provide a Four Generation Ancestor with documentation and information on a favorite Treasured Object. The next 4 pages are Timothy's submission.

## Four Generation Ancestor Chart

### Self / Parents

If person is living, type "Living" for Date of Birth and leave other fields blank

- B. Date of Birth
- B.P. Place of Birth
- M. Date of Marriage
- M.P. Place of Marriage
- D. Date of Death
- D.P. Place of Death

### Grandparents

### Great Grandparents

**2. Matthew Dale Walbeck**  
 B. Living  
 B.P.  
 M.  
 M.P.  
 D.  
 D.P.

**4. Timothy James Walbeck**  
 B. Living  
 B.P.  
 M.  
 M.P.  
 D.  
 D.P.

**8. Dale Carroll Walbeck**  
 B. 09 JAN 1920  
 B.P. Marshall, Calhoun, Michigan, USA  
 M. 29 JUN 1946  
 M.P. Marshall, Calhoun, Michigan, USA  
 D. 26 APR 1990  
 D.P. Battle Creek, Calhoun, Michigan, USA

**9. Frances Lorraine Bicknell**  
 B. 28 FEB 1924  
 B.P. Marshall, Calhoun, Michigan, USA  
 D. 09 FEB 1989  
 D.P. Battle Creek, Calhoun, Michigan, USA

**1. Timothy Steven Walbeck**  
 B. Living  
 B.P.  
 D.  
 D.P.

**5. Deborah Marie Evans**  
 B. Living  
 B.P.  
 D.  
 D.P.

**10. Keith Richards Evans**  
 B. 03 FEB 1931  
 B.P. Lansing, Ingham, Michigan, USA  
 M. 31 MAR 1951  
 M.P. Lansing, Ingham, Michigan, USA  
 D. 10 AUG 2014  
 D.P. Marshall, Calhoun, Michigan, USA

**11. Viretta Jean Smith**  
 B. 04 DEC 1933  
 B.P. Lansing, Ingham, Michigan, USA  
 D. 06 MAY 2021  
 D.P. Marshall, Calhoun, Michigan, USA

**3. Michelle LeeAnn Cornelius**  
 B. Living  
 B.P.  
 D.  
 D.P.

**6. Steven Murray Cornelius**  
 B. Living  
 B.P.  
 M.  
 M.P.  
 D.  
 D.P.

**12. Gordon Murray Cornelius**  
 B. 03 MAY 1934  
 B.P. Kansas City, Wyandotte, Kansas, USA  
 M. DD MAY 1951  
 M.P. Bosworth, Carroll, Kansas, USA  
 D. 25 MAY 2018  
 D.P. City, County, California, USA

**13. Elizabeth Ann Young**  
 B. 22 JUL 1934  
 D. 21 JAN 2021  
 D.P. Marshall, Saline, Missouri, USA

**7. Sheryl Lynn Thomas**  
 B. 01 APR 1956  
 B.P. Santa Ana, Orange County, California, USA  
 D. 27 FEB 1999  
 D.P. Marietta, Cobb, Georgia, USA

**14. Rolan Don Thomas**  
 B. 05 SEP 1933  
 B.P. City, County, Oklahoma, USA  
 M. 06 JUL 1953  
 M.P. Riverside, Riverside, California, USA  
 D. 27 NOV 2019  
 D.P. Springport, Jackson, Michigan, USA

**15. Barbara Jean Fahrner**  
 B. 11 MAR 1936  
 B.P. West Branch, Ogemaw, Michigan, USA  
 D. 17 APR 2023  
 D.P. Springport, Jackson, Michigan, USA

# Documentation and Notes

- 1. Living
- 2. Living
- 3. Living
- 4. Living
- 5. Living
- 6. Living

**Barrett, Max D., 72, of McMillan, formerly of St. Johns, retired Sealed Power tool grinder, died Saturday. Services 11 a.m. Wednesday at Os-good Funeral Home, St. Johns.**

**Cornelius, Sheryl Lynn, 42, of Marietta, Ga., formerly of Michigan, died Saturday. Memorial services 4 p.m. Wednesday at The Chapel of Carmichael Funeral Home, Marietta.**

**Hock, Virgil J., 85, of Sebring, Fla., formerly of Sunfield, World War II Army veteran, retired General Motors welder, died Monday. Arrangements by Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home, Sebring, Fla.**



7. [https://californiabirthindex.org/birth/sheryl\\_l\\_thomas\\_born\\_1956\\_6031116](https://californiabirthindex.org/birth/sheryl_l_thomas_born_1956_6031116)

**Marriage License** 13 15462

To any person legally authorized to solemnize marriage in the State of Michigan,  
**Greeting:**  
 Marriage May Be Solemnized in the State of Michigan, Between

|  |     |   |
|--|-----|---|
| <b>Dale Walbeck</b><br>Age of the Bridegroom<br>28<br>Marshall, Michigan<br>City State | and | <b>Frances Hainwell</b><br>Age of the Bride<br>29<br>Marshall, Michigan<br>City State |
| <b>Wm. E. Spensone</b><br>Minister of the Gospel<br>Marshall, Michigan<br>City State   |     | <b>Wm. F. Troopert</b><br>Minister of the Gospel<br>Marshall, Michigan<br>City State  |
| <b>Walter W. Co.</b><br>Occupation<br>Carroll Walbeck<br>Father's Full Name            |     | <b>Inspector</b><br>Occupation<br>Harold Hainwell<br>Father's Full Name               |
| <b>Anna Fata</b><br>Mother's Maiden Name<br>None                                       |     | <b>Herna Kooeman</b><br>Mother's Maiden Name<br>None                                  |

In Witness Whereof, I have signed and sealed these presents,  
 this 24th day of June, A. D. 19 56.

**Certificate of Marriage**

I hereby certify that, in accordance with the above license, the persons herein mentioned were joined in marriage by me, at Marshall, Michigan, county of Calhoun, Michigan, on the 29 day of June, A. D. 19 56 the presence of Charles Hainwell, Minister of the Gospel, of Marshall, Mich., and Mary Adams, of Battle Creek, Mich.

George A. Higgins, Priest  
 St. Marys Rectory, Marshall, Mich.

**REGISTRATION CARD**

|  |   |                                     |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| SERIAL NUMBER<br>S-44  | 1. NAME (Print)<br>DALE CARROLL WALBECK | ORDER NUMBER<br>S-2421              |
| 2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)<br>322 S. SYCAMORE ST. MARSHALL CALHOUN MICH                               |   |                                     |
| 3. MAILING ADDRESS<br>Same   |   |                                     |
| 4. TELEPHONE<br>207 W  | 5. AGE IN YEARS<br>21                   | 6. PLACE OF BIRTH<br>Marshall Mich. |
| 7. OCCUPATION<br>trucking  |   |                                     |
| 8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS<br>CARROLL WALBECK (father) same address |   |                                     |
| 9. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS<br>WILCOX-RICH. DIV. EATON MFG. CO Marshall Mich                          |   |                                     |
| 10. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS  |   |                                     |

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. FORTH I (Revised 6-9-41) (over) 15-21630 Dale C. Walbeck (Registrar's signature)

8. [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/74877118/dale\\_carroll-walbeck](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/74877118/dale_carroll-walbeck)



## Treasured Object



### Description

This is my Great-Grandma Walbeck's ceramic mixing bowl, used in her Michigan kitchen for everyday baking, though my dad remembers it most at Christmas, filled with cinnamon-roll dough. Later, my grandmother passed the bowl to my mother along with a new family cookbook, filled with every recipe she could remember. Now the bowl sits in our Texas kitchen, its glaze slightly chipped from decades of use. Each time something new is mixed in it, this heirloom connects us back to those Michigan holidays and the women whose hands quietly shaped our family traditions.

### Importance

This bowl is a treasure because it makes my family's history feel tangible, linking four generations through the simple act of mixing dough. I picture my Great-Grandma Walbeck leaning over it in her Michigan kitchen, baking for her family, and my dad savoring her Christmas cinnamon rolls made within. My mother received it from Great-Grandma Walbeck alongside a handwritten family cookbook, preserving those recipes. It's my designated bowl for baking bread, as I love the way the dough rises in it, carrying forward their legacy. Using it honors the love they poured into us, one loaf at a time.

# Membership

## Benefits of Membership

Your membership in the Comal County Genealogy Society provides:

- Meetings featuring guest presenters on a variety of genealogy-related topics.
- The September Picnic in Landa Park, which includes catered food.
- Access to the *Family Footsteps* published in February, June, and October.
- FREE access to the Sophienburg Archives with the CCGS' collection of local family histories and important research materials.
- Access to the CCGS computer at the Sophienburg Archives with Ancestry.com & Fold3.com subscriptions.
- Provides financial support for CCGS ongoing obligations as well as to our High School Scholarship program.

Members at the Prinz and Baron level will be recognized in the *Family Footsteps*.

Members at the Prinz level will have a research item donated to CCGS in their honor (with their name inscribed) and placed in the Research Room at the Sophienburg Archives.

## New Members

Vanessa Miller  
Robin Skeen

## Premium Members

Stephen Beisser - Baron  
Bryden Jr. & Marcia K Moon - Baron

## How to Join

To join, or renew membership to the Comal County Genealogy Society you can go to <https://ccgstexas.org/membership> online, or use the form on page 23.

## Donations

If you would like to make a donation to CCGS or the CCGS Scholarship fund, you can go online to <https://www.ccgstexas.org/donate/>.

## Remembering - Ethel Canion

Ethel Canion was one of the founding members of CCGS and was very active for many years. She participated in numerous publications and held various Board of Director roles and was a Lifetime Member. Connie Krause recently found this announcement.



### Ethel Canion

**12 Apr 1926 to 09 Jan 2024**

Obituary published on Legacy.com by Hewett - Arney Funeral Home on Feb. 7, 2024.

Ethel Canion peacefully passed away on January 9, 2024, at the age of 97 among relatives and friends.

She was born April 12, 1926 in New Orleans, LA to Leo Ross and Ethel Roberts Wyeth. She moved to the Houston Heights area in her early years. She married her husband of 63 years Barney Canion, Jr on January 15, 1945, and graduated from Methodist Hospital of Houston, School of Nursing in 1946. Her career in nursing spanned 37 years. She retired in 1983 from

North Forest School District in Houston as a school nurse.

She and her husband retired to New Braunfels where they lived for more than 25 years. There she was active in the local DAR chapter, the Genealogy Society, the Conservation Society and Methodist Women's groups. She was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church. Until her eyesight failed, she was an avid gardener, genealogist, and needle worker. She crocheted, knitted and cross-stitched as well as machine sewing.

In 2012 she relocated to Temple and resided at the (now) Morada, where she was a 'voice to be heard' and made many friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her siblings and a grandson, Chris Taylor.

Survivors include her children: daughter Gwen Garrett, husband James; son Barney Canion; daughter Rachel Garza, husband Mark; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at Hewett-Arney Funeral Home in Temple on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at 2 o'clock p.m. with Barney Edward Stump officiating

Hewett-Arney Funeral Home of Temple is entrusted with these arrangements.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Ethel, please visit our floral store.

To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).

Source:

[https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/ethel-canion-obituary?id=54314738&utm\\_source=webshareapi&utm\\_medium=share\\_button&utm\\_campaign=wsapimobile\\_beta](https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/ethel-canion-obituary?id=54314738&utm_source=webshareapi&utm_medium=share_button&utm_campaign=wsapimobile_beta)

## Remembering - Linnette Habermann

Linnette Habermann was a former member of CCGS. Connie Krause recently found this announcement.



**Linnette Habermann**

**10 Dec 1936 to 06 Dec 2025**

Linnette Habermann, age 88 of Seguin, passed away on December 6, 2025. Linnette was born on December 10, 1936, in Seguin, Texas to Linda Emma (Dietert) and Gilbert Robert Habermann.

She was a lifelong member of Cross Church. Linnette worked for the City of Seguin for over 34 years serving as City Secretary. Upon retirement, Linnette loved nothing more than being out in nature, tending to her cattle.

Linnette is preceded in death by her parents and her brother Sonny Habermann. Survivors include cousins and friends.

Private graveside services will be held in San Geronimo Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Cross Church, 814 N. Bauer, Seguin, Texas, 78155 or to the Guadalupe County Humane Society, P. O. Box 1593, Seguin, Texas, 78155 or to the charity of one's choice.

To plant a [memorial tree](#) in memory, please visit our [tree store](#).

Obituary published on [TresHewell.com](#) by Tres Hewell Mortuary.

Source:

<https://www.treshewell.com/obituaries/linnette-habermann>

## 2026 Calendar

Meetings are held at 7:00 P.M. on the second Tuesday of February, March, April, May, September, October, November and December. Unless indicated otherwise, all General Meetings are held at the **Emmie Seele Faust Building** at the **Sophienburg Archives**, 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels, Texas 78130.

New Members and Visitors are always welcome.



|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>January</b>      | Board of Directors meeting only   |
| <b>February 10</b>  | General Meeting - Ruth Foreman - "Naming the Dead" field trip                       |
| <b>March 10</b>     | General Meeting - Sally Blacksmith - Daughters of the Republic of Texas             |
| <b>April 14</b>     | General Meeting - Kaye Wykoff - Organizing your Genealogy                           |
| <b>May 12</b>       | General Meeting - Tina LaFreniere - Benefits of Attending a Genealogical Conference |
| <b>June 09</b>      | Field Trip - The Alamo in San Antonio.  |
| <b>July 18</b>      | Field Trip - Bob Bullock Texas History Museum, Austin (Note: a Saturday)            |
| <b>August</b>       | Board of Directors meeting only   |
| <b>September 08</b> | CCGS Picnic - 6:00pm to 9:00pm at Pavilion #16 in Landa Park                        |
| <b>October 13</b>   | General Meeting - Joe Grist - Founding of Wurstfest                                 |
| <b>November 10</b>  | General Meeting - TBD   |
| <b>December 08</b>  | New Officer Installation and Holiday Party  |

# Organization

## Purpose

The purpose of the Comal County Genealogy Society is to create, foster and maintain interest in history and genealogy and to work with other organizations to preserve historical & genealogical publications and records.

## Board of Directors

### Officers

| Office         | Officer           |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President      | Wendel Voigt      |
| Vice President | <i>vacant</i>     |
| Treasurer      | Simone Hierholzer |
| Secretary      | Chris Parma       |
| Past President | Lynn Thompson     |



Image: V. Callier

**2026 Officers and Directors (left to right):**  
**Wendel Voigt**, President & Director of Footsteps; **Christopher Parma**, Secretary; **Lynn Thompson**, Director of Publications & Past-President; **Mary Simone Hierholzer**, Treasurer & Director of Membership; **Tina LaFreniere**, Director of Genealogy; **Tommy Daum**, Director of Publicity.

### Directors

| Director of...   | Director          |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Footsteps        | Wendel Voigt      |
| Genealogy        | Tina LaFreniere   |
| Membership       | Simone Hierholzer |
| Public Relations | Tommy Daum        |
| Publications     | Lynn Thompson     |

All Officers and Directors are members of the Board of Directors.

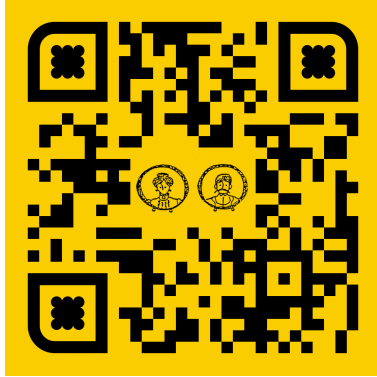
### Committee Chairpersons

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Welcome / Greeting | Simone Hierholzer |
| Cemetery           | Connie Krause     |
| Archives/History   | <i>vacant</i>     |
| Library            | Lynn Thompson     |
| IT / Website       | Wendel Voigt      |

## Find Us on the Internet

### Website

<https://ccgsTexas.org>



### Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/CCGSTexas>



### Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/ccgstexas/>



## Footsteps Contributors

### DIRECTOR OF FOOTSTEPS

Wendel Voigt

### EDITOR

Wendel Voigt

### CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Simone Hierholzer, Tina LaFreniere, Lynn Thompson, Chris Parma, Lynne' Voigt, Connie Krause

### ATTENTION!

If you have an interesting poem, story, translation from a newspaper, or article about your ancestors, or your research has turned up something that you think is interesting, please consider sending it to us to publish in the "Family Footsteps." Persons submitting published materials will be listed as a contributing editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit submissions as necessary. Please make sure all submissions are either ready in rich text format or camera-ready.

Please send your submission to [footsteps@ccgstexas.org](mailto:footsteps@ccgstexas.org)

## Online Membership



After September 1st, you can renew your membership for 2026 by either filling out the Membership Application found at the end of this publication or you can go to <https://ccgstexas.org/membership> to renew online.

# Membership Application

## Comal County Genealogy Society

### P. O. Box 310190, New Braunfels, TX 78131-0190

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMBERSHIPS (January - December)

**Individual:** \$20.00      ( ) New      ( ) Renewal

**Family:** \$25.00      ( ) New      ( ) Renewal

**Baron:** \$50.00      ( ) New      ( ) Renewal

**Prinz:\*** \$100.00      ( ) New      ( ) Renewal

\*A Research item will be donated to CCGS in your honor (with your name inscribed) and placed in the Research Room at the Sophienburg Archives.

#### DONATIONS

CCGS Scholarship      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Included      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

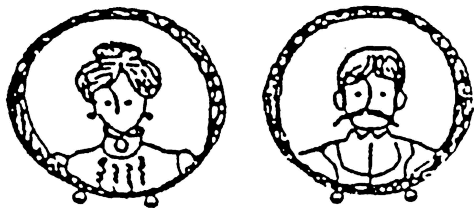
Membership includes a subscription to "Family Footsteps" newsletter, free queries, use of the Research Room at the Sophienburg Archives, and interesting programs at our meetings. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday in the months of FEB, MAR, APR, MAY, SEP, OCT, NOV, and DEC. JUN and JUL are reserved for field trips to a local site and to sites in nearby counties. The SEP meeting is often a group picnic. (Board meetings are held in JAN and AUG.)

Meetings are held at the Sophienburg Archives, 401 West Coll St, New Braunfels, TX.

Please mail this application to the address given above and your check made payable to *Comal County Genealogy Society*.

I/We are researching the following surnames:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Comal County Genealogy Society**  
**P. O. Box 310190**  
**New Braunfels, TX 78131-0190**

**Postage needed  
for mailing**