

OGS NEWSLETTER



Oklahoma Genealogical Society -- Tips, Techniques, & Tidbits

Jan/Feb 2009

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New Year Resolutions for Genealogists

Forget the usual resolutions like losing weight and increasing exercise. Let's plan some fun things we want to accomplish this year. Here are ten suggestions:

1. Get a book finished and published about at least one ancestral line.
2. Take a class and learn a new research skill -- consider DNA (or read a history book or attend a genealogical conference).
3. Find sources to back one more generation on each ancestral line!
4. Visit a new location where ancestors lived, even if that is a "virtual" visit online, to learn more about the place and "feel" their presence.
5. Phone a friend -- join a Surname mailing list for your family name and swap tips and resources with others researching the same name.
6. Consider becoming a Certified Genealogist, and investigate what that requires.
7. Set aside time for volunteer hours to work at the History Center.
8. Catch up filing and organize notes and records -- both online & hard copy; while looking at these papers set up a plan for what to do next and put it in your notebook to take with you on the next library trip.
9. Visit a new courthouse and explore

their public records, just for the experience.

10. Tame the photo monster, get those pictures out of the boxes, get them sorted by family and date, labeled and into some sort of system where you can find them. Scan as many as you can and save the scans to computer disk, knowing that even that method has an expiration date.

Seriously, most of us self-appointed family historians have notes piled on the floor, shoeboxes full of unlabeled photos, classes we wanted to take, relatives we meant to talk to, and other researchers we planned to contact for help.

Let's make this the year that we finally get organized and really work on improving our genealogical or family history research skills. More importantly, let's get our research into publishable form so our descendants don't have to re-invent the wheel.

by Carolyn B. Leonard



REAL HEADSTONE:

Someone determined to be anonymous in Stowe, VT

**I was somebody.
Who, is no business
Of yours.**

**"To live in the hearts we
leave behind, is not to die."**

- Thomas Campbell

**OKLAHOMA
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY
(OGS)**

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LOST SOMEBODY?

It is easy to place a Query in the Oklahoma Genealogical Society Quarterly.

OGS members can post queries by emailing V.Jimenez@worldnet.att.net with the who, where, when, and what you are seeking about your ancestors.

Be sure to include your OGS member number along with your name and address.

Don't know your OGS member number? Find it in the upper corner of the mailing label on your Quarterly or on your membership card.

Non-members need to send two dollars with their queries.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.okgensoc.org/>
(with map to meeting place)

AND we have a mailing list!

Send an email to:

[ok-gen-soc-L-
request@rootsweb.com](mailto:ok-gen-soc-L-request@rootsweb.com)

... and put "subscribe"
in the subject line.

The OGS Newsletter is published and distributed in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

*Phyllis Davidson
6 pm, Monday, 5 Jan 2009*

**What can you find
in the Downtown
Library ...
and where?**

Monday, January 5, Phyllis Davidson will describe the services available through the Metropolitan Library System and genealogy sources at the Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library.

She will offer a brief demonstration of Heritage Quest Online, the Oklahoma Electronic Archives, and Sanborn Maps, all of which are free to library members.

Phyllis Davidson is a librarian at the Downtown Library with a Master's Degree in Library and Information Studies from Oklahoma University. She first began researching her family tree when she was 18 years old. She is a member of the First Families of the Twin Territories and editor of a family newsletter published monthly for the past ten years. She teaches classes on writing family history and publishing family newsletters and participated in Oklahoma Voices.

The meeting will begin at 6:00 P.M. at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Ave, Oklahoma City. Help will be available before the meeting at 5:30 P.M. for those with genealogical questions or needing information about First Families.

*How to Locate Maps, Films,
Videos, Death Registers
and more in the
OHS RESEARCH LIBRARY
by Library Staff
6 pm, Mon, 2 Feb 2009*

Members of the Oklahoma Historical Society Research Library staff will speak on different resources available in their facility. For example; Film and Video collections, Maps, the Hillerman Collections, and the Oklahoma City Death Register.

This meeting will be held inside the research library at the Oklahoma History Center instead of the customary Chesapeake Room, so be prepared to "cosy up".

**Researching Ancestors
in the 1836 Texas War of
Independence**
*6 pm, Mon, 2 March 2009
William I. Davis, Jr*

In March, William Davis, retired aviator, will show a PowerPoint presentation on the Texas War of Independence, and the Davis family's participation in that event.

"Hard economic times may restrict our future travel but need not restrict our research on our personal computers," Davis said. He said his Davis tale became one his Texas cousins enjoyed re-telling, and he will share techniques anyone could use to create such a video record.

COMING ATTRACTIONS!

Clip 'n' Save!



- # Mon, Jan 5, 6 p ...Phyllis Davidson....Research at Ron Norick Library
- # Mon, Feb 2, 6 p ...Laura MartinExploring OHS Library Archives
(This Feb. meeting will be in the OHS LIBRARY instead of Chesapeake Room)
- # Mon, Mar 2, 6 p...William I. Davis, Jr..... Texas War of Independence
- # Mon, Apr 6, 6 p....John Phillips, OSU.....Early Maps of Oklahoma
- # Mon, May 4, 6 p...Nona D. Thompson ..Find your Tennessee Ancestors
- # Mon, June 1, 6 p ..Jan Davis Records in OK Dept Libraries

OGS MEETING, Free for OGS members, \$3 donation suggested for guests
Contact OHS 405-522-5225 for info on fee & registration for other programs
check the webpage OKGENSOC.ORG for more info.