The Bell County Genealogical Society (BCGS) publishes this quarterly newsletter for the benefit of members and anyone interested in genealogy. The publication is intended to support the society’s goal to promote genealogical research and preservation of records to perpetuate the memory of our ancestors and their contributions to the cultural heritage of our country.

BCGS, formed in 1991 under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, is a partner society of Texas State Genealogical Society. Locally, the society supports Temple Public Library.

The society meets on the third Tuesday of each month, 6:30-8:00 p.m., in the McLane Room (third floor) at Temple Public Library, 100 West Adams Avenue, in Temple. Each meeting opens with an introduction of new members and visitors followed by a general session and a speaker or activity of genealogical or historical interest.

BCGS is for everyone, from the beginner to the advanced genealogist. Information about membership is available in this newsletter and at our website www.txbcgss.org.

Order a BCGS polo shirt! See page 3 for details.

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**President’s Message**

Welcome to our spring 2019 newsletter. We hope that you will find the information presented helpful to your genealogy research.

In March, health concerns necessitated Dr. David Yeilding’s resignation as president of BCGS. We extend our heartfelt thanks to David for his leadership and active support of the society. We pray for his return to good health and look forward to seeing him and his smiling face again soon.

Thanks to Mary Duke, Jalenn Ellis, Nancy Kelsey, and Kathy Taylor for stepping in to conduct meetings on David’s behalf in recent months. Members chose Judy Tyler to succeed David as president at a special election during our regular meeting on March 19.

Visit the Meetings page of our website to view the schedule of our meetings and descriptions of programs for 2019. Those looking to venture into the world of DNA testing or needing help to understand DNA test results will want to attend our meeting in May to watch the Lisa Louise Cooke presentation “Getting Started with Genetic Genealogy with Diahann Southard.” Anyone undecided about DNA testing for family history will want to read the article by Southard on page 2 of this newsletter.

Please note our society has a new email address – txbcgss@gmail.com. Also, if you have not yet done so, please pay your 2019 dues. Use the membership application form to update your contact information and to add your surnames to the research page of our newsletter.

_Judy Tyler_
Teenagers (including my own) are always talking about the things that “everyone else has,” a phenomenon that Malcolm Gladwell describes as the “tipping point.” He says that the tipping point is “the moment of critical mass, the threshold, the boiling point” for change in human behavior. For my kids, it’s everything from the point at which a party becomes fun to doing everything humanly possible to procure a fidget-spinner (if you don’t know what that is, ask the nearest 11-year-old).

In DNA testing for family history in the United States, that tipping point is now. We have reached the point where most genealogists at least have the passing notion that genetics can be useful in genealogy. Most genealogists (I would guess 85%) who attend the lectures I give have already had at least one DNA test completed.

Let’s stop for just one minute and recognize how incredible that is! Not too long ago I was still trying to convince people that this was a good idea and that you didn’t have to dig up your ancestors to do it. But now we have scores of genealogists who have not only tested themselves, but have convinced half their family to test as well!

“I don’t need DNA testing for family history.” Really?

This got me thinking though: who are those people who haven’t tested? And why not? One category of people sans DNA test is those who have full pedigree charts. I have heard many of them say that they don’t see the need to do DNA testing since they have most of their lines “way back.”

To those with the blessing of ancestors who kept better records than mine, I am offering four reasons why you should RSVP anyway to your invitation to DNA test.

1. To create and preserve a unique record. First and foremost, your DNA is a record. Just as you have obtained birth certificates and marriage licenses for your ancestors, your DNA is a unique record. It does represent you and your family in a way that no other record can. It is a document of your genetic history and should be preserved. Further, while you may doubt the ability of your DNA to shed light on your current genealogy, don’t underestimate the contribution it might make in the future.

2. Because you have second cousins. And third cousins, and fourth cousins, etc. Having your DNA tested means you can see a biological connection between you and other relatives that have had tested. For many, the idea of meeting or forming relationships with distant cousins is not appealing. But even if you have no intention of attending DNA family reunions or even in corresponding with these relatives, there is something
WHY DO DNA TESTING FOR FAMILY HISTORY IF YOU ALREADY “KNOW” YOUR TREE
(CONTINUED)

reassuring about seeing them there on your match list. There is a certain thrill that comes with recognizing the connection between you and someone else. A connection that may not add any new names to your tree, but it helps you feel a deeper connection to your ancestor, and a greater appreciation for your biology.

3. To verify what’s on your tree. Which brings me to the next point. Seeing these cousins on your list can actually help verify the genealogy you have already collected and documented. It helps to reassure you that you have made the right steps along the way, and may help you gain additional resources about your relative through their descendants that you find on your match list. Resources that can help turn that ancestor from a name on a chart to a story and a life worth preserving.

Verifying what’s on your tree brings with it a certain amount of uncertainty, it’s true. In fact, in the process of verifying your tree, you may discover new genetic truths about it. You may find that some who you thought biologically related actually aren’t, and you may discover new biological relatives you didn’t know about. Not everyone is prepared for this, especially if they’re pretty sure they know everything about their ancestry. But increasingly, I’m finding, people do want to know about a second cousin who was adopted out of the family or their grandpa’s secret half-sibling — and these connections may never emerge unless you participate in DNA testing for family history.

Remember, your genealogical pedigree is not the same as your genetic pedigree!

4. To help someone else build their tree. The last reason to go ahead and have your DNA tested is to help others. If you have been lucky enough to fill in most of the blanks on your tree, you can help others do the same by simply having your DNA tested. Your DNA provides a link to your tree that might be just what someone needs to overcome a brick wall in their family history.

So, if you have been hanging out on the outskirts of DNA testing because you feel like your tree is full enough without it, remember to RSVP to your invitation to be DNA tested, and join the party!

This article was posted on September 6, 2017, at LisaLouiseCooke.com, the website of Lisa Louise Cooke, host of the Genealogy Gems Podcast.

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BCGS POLO SHIRTS

Shirts are 50/50 cotton/polyester and available in a variety of colors and sizes with the BCGS logo embroidered just below the collar on the front. To order, email Kathy Taylor at diamondt.kathy@yahoo.com and put “BCGS Polo Shirt” in the subject.

Colors: The official color of the society’s polo shirts is hunter green with the logo in white. However, shirts are available in other colors. Email Kathy for availability.

Sizes and pricing: Men/unisex SM-XL $17; Women SM-XL $18*; Men 2XL & 3XL $19; Women 2XL & 3XL $20*. Please email Kathy for availability and prices of larger sizes.

*Shirts for women run small, and Kathy suggests you order at least one size larger than you normally wear. Shirts for women are more fitted than the men/unisex sizes. If you like a roomier fit, Kathy suggests you order the unisex size.
Research Objectives
Of course you have noticed that the charts or forms you work with have similarities in their basic requirements. Without a name in each generation, even if it’s only a surname, you can’t begin to start filling in the details for an ancestor. You want to concentrate on the elementary vital events that frame each ancestor’s life span: BIRTH–MARRIAGE–DEATH, often abbreviated to BMD. Each of these events requires the person’s name to be associated with a date and place (NAME–DATE–PLACE or NDP).

When you’re searching any kind of records for a birth, marriage or death, the time period (date) and the location (place) help to identify whether you are looking at an event for the “right” ancestor. In other words, the date and/or location can help distinguish between a father and son with the same name, or two cousins, or uncle and nephew, and so on. You may be surprised how many “same names” pop up in different places!

We try to collect and confirm all this basic information on our working charts for a “bare bones” outline before we can find and add interesting biographical details and contemporary context.

You may wonder if there is a distinction or difference in the terms “genealogist” and “family historian.” Probably a genealogist was once regarded as more of a technician than a story-teller. Family historians may be regarded as less careful or exacting about their work. These days, the terms are commonly used interchangeably as widespread educational opportunities teach a professional and principled approach to whatever your personal project is. Most of us now are not content with merely collecting NDP and BMD or constructing lengthy genealogical tables. We not only want to reconstruct the lives of our ancestors, we want to do it to a high standard.

Research Procedures
Sources give information; information gives evidence. Evidence is what you finally insert on your charts or family history or software, when you are satisfied that you are as close to the truth as possible about an ancestral identity, event or relationship. Both sources and information must be examined and evaluated for their genealogical value.

THE SOURCES WE USE
It is necessary for you to be discriminating about the source of a piece of information. Sources are the form in which we find our information. Sources may contain one or more pieces of information. How credible or reliable is a particular source? When was it created, and by whom? If your father tells you that great-uncle Jimmy came to Canada from England in 1912, you believe him, right? But later you find Jimmy’s marriage registered in Manitoba in 1910. Then his obituary says he came to Canada in 1910. Meanwhile, an Internet site shows a family group record for him with a specific marriage date in 1908. We will return to Jimmy later on.

What are you to believe about his emigration and marriage dates? First of all, consider the sources. We ask ourselves, am I dealing with an original source, or a derivative source? Are some sources more “reliable” than others, or inherently carry more value than others?

An original source is one that was created at or about the time a certain event happened, reported by a witness or participant in that event. In other words, the informant was in a position of firsthand knowledge. An original source is one that does not derive from a previously existing record. It happens that sometimes an original record, like a birth or a baptism, was never created or has not survived destruction of some kind.

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A derivative source is any non-original source. We have to remember to distinguish between a source and the information within it. In general, a derivative is any source that is based on a previous source, even if the original source no longer exists. Examples are family stories, family histories, databases, indexes, transcriptions and abstracts. Someone repeated these (verbal stories) in the effort to duplicate them, or compiled (in writing) their version of a finding aid, summary or history. The latter usually reflect conclusions reached by the compiler, which may or may not agree with your own examination of the same sources. But “conclusions” are broaching on the topics of information and evidence.

We are saying that derivative sources should not be taken at face value without studying the who-why-how-when-where of their creation, in order to place a relative weight on various bits of information within them. They are less reliable than an original source, simply because they are further removed in time or composition from an original, and become more prone to human error. However, derivative sources are frequently necessary for providing information and clues when original records are absent.

At one time we would have said that all published material (in print, orally transmitted or Internet material) is derivative. The Internet is akin to a giant publisher where anyone can post family information (we are not referring to such valuable tools as library catalogs and the like). While this still holds, the digitization of historic original records by reputable institutions is becoming a fast-growing segment of Internet activity. Viewing a digital image of a census return, for example, seems just as valid as searching the same page on a microfilm reader—which is normally as close as we are allowed to a census return. Therefore, the Internet itself can hardly be categorized as a “source” but needs citation to the specific site or URL of interest.

**TYPES OF INFORMATION**

Genealogical information is a statement about an ancestor, event, relationship, etc. (This is not the same as a deduction or assertion you make after examining the information you collected and your analysis of its evidence.) Information might be reported in writing or orally.

The information you find in a source may be primary or secondary. Those two adjectives describe the knowledge a source offers about NDP or BMD as they relate to a specific individual. Primary and secondary are words previously used in genealogy, and still used in other studies, to describe sources. Now the discriminating genealogist understands that it is the information itself which can be differentiated. One source can even contain both kinds of information.

Primary information is a statement of knowledge by a participant or witness to the NDP in any given situation, whether that person reports it at the time, or later. It may sometimes be erroneous, deliberately or inadvertently.

Secondary information is a statement of knowledge reported by someone who was not a participant or witness to a certain event. It has more chance of being inaccurate.

A death certificate or registration is an original source, often with many pieces of information within it. We normally view the person’s name, date and place of death, name of informant and cause of death as primary information. If the record also provides his age, date and place of birth, the names of his parents, and more, we must regard such as secondary. Even if the informant was his widow or one of his children, they do not have firsthand knowledge of his birth. If the informant was a physician or non-family member, would he be accurate about the names of parents?

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Example
Our initial question or problem about Jimmy was to determine his date of immigration into Canada. Applying the above descriptions and explanations to our example of Jimmy, we had these sources and information:

- your father said Jimmy arrived in Canada from England in 1912
- Jimmy’s marriage certificate says he was married in Canada in 1910
- Jimmy’s obituary said he came to Canada in 1910
- a family group record on the Internet gave Jimmy’s marriage date as 1908

1. Your father is the oral source of the information. How does he know that date? Was he alive and at the steamship pier when Jimmy sailed in? Or was he in the family home when they welcomed Jimmy to Canada? You should be able to learn if your father was born before 1912 in Canada and thus whether he was old enough to provide a first-hand account. This will help determine whether he is an original or derivative source and if his information is primary or secondary.

2. The marriage certificate was created by at least one party to the event and is an original source. By the 20th century, most jurisdictions placed the onus on the officiating person (clergyman or civil magistrate) to register this event. We expect the names, date and place of marriage to be primary and accurate information. Clearly this date conflicts with your father’s story. At this point we are not examining or commenting on all other information in this record (presumably provided by the groom or bride or both).

3. Jimmy’s obituary provided additional information. The source is a local newspaper, presumably where he had been living. A newspaper is an original source in itself but contains a multitude of reports relating to current events, editorial opinions, notices copied from other newspapers or services, advertisements, local news and so on—a lot of it secondary information. Its value as a source is strictly dependent on the particular piece of information relevant to the enquiry at hand. Since an obituary is obviously published after someone died, who supplied the information to the journalist? Did that person have first-hand knowledge of Jimmy’s immigration date? If it was his widow, was she present when he arrived in Canada? If it was one of his children, they would have no first-hand knowledge of the event. Sometimes the questions we must ask will never get clear answers. In this case, chances are the year of immigration is secondary information, but does not necessarily conflict with the date of his marriage.

4. A family group record on an Internet site is a derivative source, compiled and posted by some other researcher whom you likely do not know or have never met. Or perhaps the website owner is not even a researcher, but someone who lifted the material from a friend, relative or distant contact. The information has to be regarded as secondary. Are there clear citations for each piece of information? That would enable you to check the sources which were used and make your evaluations.

Conclusion
The only original source with primary information cited above is Jimmy’s marriage record. In view of that, your father was mistaken about the year he immigrated and the website is wrong about his marriage date. Although we have unresolved questions about the informant for the obituary, it confirms the 1910 immigration date. It is possible that he arrived from England and was married in the same year. A good researcher will explore additional sources in order to draw a firm conclusion.

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It should be clear from this small example that:
   a) you will constantly come across both original and derivative sources
   b) some of the information can be contradictory
   c) you will need to develop the skills of evaluating sources and analyzing information.

**EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS**
You are beginning to see how many questions you can ask yourself about sources and information, as you proceed in your personal project. Evaluation of sources and analysis of information is an ongoing procedure. As long as you examine all your sources and information as you go along, you are learning to act in a logical and professional manner.

This information appears on the [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) website.

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**LINKS TO MORE ARTICLES**
Follow the links below to information that might be useful to you in your genealogical research:

- **Quick Reference: How to Read the 1940 U.S. Census** by Briana Taylor, November 4, 2018. Records from the 1940 census can give you a lot of information about your family. Because so many questions were asked in the 1940 census, the records might seem overwhelming at first. Learn how to read a 1940 census record.

- **How to Easily Convert Old Cassette Tapes to Modern MP3 Files** by Dick Eastman, January 4, 2019. Do you have old cassette tapes but have no way to play them? Luckily for you, there are multiple ways to convert cassette tapes to modern MP3 or other format files that can be stored in your computer’s hard drive, an external hard drive, a flash drive, CD disks, stored in the cloud, or even sent to anyone via email.

- **Digitization at the National Archives** by National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), as viewed/captured on January 8, 2019. With NARA’s strategic plan, [2018-2022](http://NARA), NARA has committed to digitize 500 million pages of records and make them available online to the public through the [National Archives Catalog](http://NationalArchivesCatalog) by October 1, 2024. This goal will be accomplished, in part, by integrating digitization into the responsibilities of archival units nationwide and through entering into new public-private digitization partnerships.

- **Using Maps In Genealogy** published by U. S. Department of the Interior & U. S. Geological Survey. Learn how maps can be useful to uncover more specific info or to solve historical “mysteries” as you document your family tree.

- **3 Ways You Can Learn About Your Irish Immigrant Ancestors Using Newspapers** by Karen Lee and posted at Fishwrap, the official blog of Newspapers.com, on March 5, 2019.

Provided below are links to records available online:

**U.S. Records & Databases**

- New from the University of Arkansas: a fascinating digital collection of the American Old West in the form of diaries. “Whiskey smuggling, murder, scandal and a ‘hanging judge’ — the latest digital exhibit from University Libraries has all this and more. The Deputy Marshal Addison Beck and Judge Isaac Parker’s Court collection is now available worldwide, free of charge. Addison Beck was a deputy marshal for the United States from 1875 to 1883 who patrolled for the United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas in Fort Smith. Addison Beck’s two surviving diaries chronicle 1880 to early 1881 and from April through August 1881.”

- Over at FamilySearch is a new collection for North Carolina, Historical Records Survey, Cemetery Inscription Card Index. This index contains images of Surname index cards listing county, name of cemetery, town, person, date of birth, death date, age, spouse or parents, location of grave, military information.

**German Civil Registrations**

- Check out these new online records for Germany, Saxony-Anhalt, Halberstadt, Civil Registration, 1874-1982, available for free at FamilySearch. In this collection you’ll find an index of the birth, marriage and death records from Halberstadt Kreisarchiv. Included in these records are these localities Aspenstedt, Emersleben, Halberstadt, Klein Quenstedt (Kr. Halberstadt), Langenstein, Mahndorf, Sargstedt, Ströbeck, and Wehrstedt. Original records held at Halberstadt Kreisarchiv, Saxony-Anhalt, Germany.

- In addition, this collection was updated with more records: Germany, Schleswig-Holstein, Kreis Steinburg, Civil Registration, 1874-1983. This collection consists of civil registration of births, marriages, and deaths for the district of Steinburg, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. Original records are located in the Gemeinsames Archiv des Kreises Steinburg und der Stadt Itzehoe (Joint Archive of the District of Steinburg and the City of Itzehoe).

  *From an article by Lacey Cooke posted at LisaLouiseCooke.com on December 28, 2018.*

- Texas, Gonzales County, Death records, 1863-1970 This collection at FamilySearch.org was recently updated with over 36,000 more records. It includes an index and browse-only images.

- Rosters of Revolutionary War Soldiers and Sailors, 1775-1783 Look for your Revolutionary War ancestors in this FamilySearch.org collection of published state rosters of Revolutionary War soldiers from the states of Alabama, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Vermont, and Virginia.

- War of 1812 Pension Files Update Fold3 has almost completed digitizing through the letter “P” with their War of 1812 collection. The files are organized by state or organization, and then by the soldier’s surname and given name. While the digitization process is slow, they are continuing to add to this collection and will continue to do so until it is complete, so keep checking back!

  *From an article by Lacey Cooke posted at LisaLouiseCooke.com on February 15, 2019.*

- U.S., Indexed County Land Ownership Maps, 1860-1918, with nearly 7 million records extracted from about 1,200 county and land ownership maps from across the country. These are indexed by property owners’ names. According to the collection description, “They also indicate township and county boundaries and can include photos of county officers, landholders, and some buildings and homes.”

  *From an article by amietennant posted at LisaLouiseCooke.com on March 25, 2019.*
SURNAME RESEARCH

Georgia Downey (gid12000@yahoo.com) - Riley, Beene, Moore, Hill, Vannoy, Spencer, Breedlove, Graves, McEwen, Davison, Kuykendall, Embree, and Adair.

Lonnie Moore (lonnie@lonniemoore.com) - Moore, Horton, Knight, and Lancaster.

James E. (Jim) Bridges (bridgework@aol.com) – Wright and Kelsy/Kelsey/Kelcy. My great grandfather E. A. or A. E. Wright was adopted by his stepfather Kelsey after the death of his own father and the remarriage of his mother. I am seeking info on that relationship and the burial place of Alexander Edwin Wright.

Kathleen Trautman (kathleenst@mac.com) - Smith, Robey, Mead, Price, Carothers, Watson, Henderson, Gillespie, Calloway, Webb, Cowan, and Blewett.

Brenda McGuire (bmcguire7679@gmail.com) - Goates, Bingham, Logsdon, and Pilcher.

Marilyn Fleisher (news@saladovillagevoice.com) - Fritsch, Richards, and Beadle.

Rich Trautman (trautmanrich@gmail.com) - Trautman, Stone, and Lovelady.

Ronald Neubert (singtoswing@gmail.com) - Neubert and Zoellner (both of German extraction).


Ginny Parsons (ginnyguinn@yahoo.com) - Barnes, Brown, Davis, Dearman, Dobson, Durden, Fry, Galyon, Guinn, Killian, O'Connor/O'Conner, O'Neal/O'Neil/O'Neill, Otis, Parks, Rhode, Ryan, Simpson, Tuberty/Tubridy/Tubirdy, Vick, and Ward.

Jennifer Schwenker (junder4@aol.com) - Teaff, Shipp, Jones, and Bawcom.

Submit your list of surnames and contact email address to txbcgs@gmail.com for inclusion in future newsletters.

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IN SEARCH OF FAMILY PHOTOS

Georgia Spencer Downey (gid12000@yahoo.com) is hoping our readers can help her to find pictures of her paternal grandparents James and Bama Spencer. James Thomas (Tom) Spencer (1881-1955) and Bama Riley Davison Spencer (1882-1954) lived in Temple for most of their lives. In Temple, over a 30-year period, Tom was a grocery man at Calloway Grocery, Lavenduskies Grocery, Grubb's and Spencer Grocery, and Spencer's Grocery. Bama graduated from Temple High School around 1900 and is believed to have taught school in Temple at one time. The couple’s only child was James Carroll Spencer. Any help would be very much appreciated.

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UPCOMING MEETING PROGRAMS

April 16 – Ten Ways to Add Volume to Your Family History with Video
In this Genealogy Gems premium video, you will learn how genealogists can use video in countless ways to learn more about their ancestors, enhance their online presence to attract others researching the same family lines, and create intriguing projects to be shared.

May 21 – Getting Started with Genetic Genealogy with Diahan Southard
Many genealogists have hopped on the DNA testing bandwagon only to face test results that they do not understand. Like a new toy, it just takes someone who knows how, to show you how! There are only three questions you need to ask (and answer!) in order to get started: Which test should I take? What will I get from the testing? Will it help? Diahan Southard (YourDNAGuide at Genealogy Gems) will walk you through the process in a fun and easy-to-understand way.

June 18 – Google Books for Genealogy
Twenty-five million digitized and searchable free books are at your fingertips. Learn how to make the most of this goldmine chock full of historical data! You will discover the best techniques for finding fully digitized book FAST, and search secrets for locating genealogical data. Learn to capitalize on and translate the foreign language volumes from your ancestor’s homeland. Then we will go beyond the obvious and track down maps, images, photos and more.

Suggestions for future programs are welcomed
and should be sent by email to bcgsprograms@gmail.com.

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DID YOU KNOW

The United States Census Bureau put a lot of effort into conducting the 1940 census. More than 123,000 census takers were tasked to gather census information in 48 different states and various territories. The cost to perform the 1940 census was more than $67 million. All this effort put into creating 1940 census records can pay off as you learn about your family history.

The Census Bureau reexamines the questions asked in each census, and 1940 census records will tell you more than just where your ancestors lived and who lived in their household. In the case of the 1940 census, your ancestors may have answered up to 50 questions, and their answers can illuminate their personal struggles during the time of the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl, and the start of World War II.

This information was posted at FamilySearch Blog on October 26, 2018.

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At the "Writing Your Family History Workshop" in Waco on March 16, 2019

BCGS members Jalenn Ellis, Linda Judd, Nancy Kelsey, and Richard Trautman attended the workshop, co-sponsored by the Central Texas Genealogical Society, to learn about writing a family history. Tim de la Vega and Bill Buckner were among the presenters.
Recently elected officers for the Bell County Historical Commission include (front row from left) Kathy Taylor, treasurer; Nancy Kelsey, chairperson; Jalenn Ellis, corresponding secretary; (back row from left) Gloria Harris, reporter; Sandy Wicker, recording secretary; and Judy Tyler, assistant chairperson. Taylor, Kelsey, Ellis, Harris, and Tyler are members of BCGS. (Photo courtesy of Terry Tyler)
**Bell County Genealogical Society**

**Membership Form**

**Date:** ___________________________________________________________

**Name(s):** __________________________________________________________

**Mailing Address:** __________________________________________________

**Telephone:** _________________________________________________________

**Email:** __________________________________________________________

**Amount Enclosed (Please do not send cash):** $___________________________

**Family Surnames and Localities of Interest to You (Need not limit to Bell County or Texas):**

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(Continue on reverse if more space is needed)

**Membership:** Membership is open to all persons who have attained their twelfth birthday, are willing to abide by the by-laws, and are willing to support the society by service on committees. Members are encouraged to submit the surnames and localities they are researching.

**Annual Dues:** $12.00 per individual; $15.00 per family. Dues cover the period 1 January through 31 December and are payable January 1 of each year.

**To Join:** Please complete and mail this Membership Form with your check or money order payable to Bell County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1493, Temple, TX 76503-1493. Alternatively, consider bringing your form with you to one of our meetings.

**Note:** Current members may use this Membership Form to update their personal information. Please note that it is important that the society has current contact information, particularly in the event a meeting is canceled.
BCGS Officers & Committee Chairs

An elected Executive Board is the governing body of BCGS, and standing and special committees are appointed by the society’s president.

Officers

President – Judy Tyler
First Vice-President (Programs) – Nancy Kelsey and Kathy Taylor
Second Vice-President (Reporter) – Linda Judd
Secretary – Becky McEntire
Treasurer – Terry Tyler
Historian – Juanita Jones

Committee Chairs

Membership – Judy Tyler
Door Prizes – Richard Trautman
Refreshments – Jalenn Ellis
Research – Mary Duke
Facebook – James Bozeman
Website & Newsletter – Ginny Parsons

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Visit us at our website www.txbcgs.org
and on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/groups/120501541316366/)

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Newsletter Publication

The BCGS newsletter is published quarterly by editor Ginny Parsons. Send comments, questions, and suggestions for content to txbcgs@gmail.com.

Note: Bell County Genealogical Society is not responsible for the content of any external websites to which we provide links. Be sure to read the privacy policy for the website before disclosing any personal information. These websites or services have separate data and privacy practices independent of us, and therefore we hold no responsibility or liability for their policies or actions.

Look for our Summer 2019 Newsletter in July!

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