Texas City Ancestry Searchers Win State Awards

Three members of the Texas City Ancestry Searchers were recognized by the Texas State Genealogical Society (TSGS) for their contributions in the area of genealogical research.

Floyd “Lanny” Martin was voted TSGS Volunteer of the Year. Lanny has been a devoted genealogical researcher for many years, and is currently working on a project to photograph tombstones in Galveston County.

Betty H. Dunquez was named a Fellow of TSGS in recognition of many years of service to the Society.

Melodey M. Hauch won a writing award in TSGS’s manuscript category for her article, “Arcadia Evergreen Cemetery of Santa Fe, Texas.”

Congratulations to all of our award-winning genealogists! We are proud to have you as library patrons and volunteers! The Ancestry Searchers meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month in the Holland Meeting Room. New members are welcome.

Friends of the Library News

The Friends of the library celebrated the holiday season this year with a tea and cookies get-together in the Holland meeting room. Members all brought their favorite Christmas stories to share, and everyone left in a holiday mood.

The Friends Annual Meeting will be held Monday, February 9th at 7 PM in the Holland Meeting Room of the library. Mayor Matt Doyle will be the speaker. To join the Friends of Moore Memorial Public Library, please fill out the form on the back of the newsletter and submit to the library with the appropriate dues.

For more information please visit: http://www.texascity-library.org/friends.htm

The Friends of the Library shared their favorite Christmas stories at a Tea and Cookies get-together.
NEW PURCHASES AT THE LIBRARY

In early 2009, you may see a few new items in the library that will help us provide the best service possible to our patrons. We plan to add two additional shelving ranges to our fiction section to help alleviate crowding and prevent damage to our tightly crowded books.

We will also be replacing the oldest of our public access computers with newer models that run the Windows Vista system. The newer models do not include floppy drives, so for all you floppy disk users, it is time to think about moving to flash drives!

Along with the new computers, we will be replacing some of our older public access printers as well.

Because of consistent high demand for our public computers, we plan to add an additional five laptop computers to our current stable of five. We will also increase the bandwidth capability of our wireless internet service so we can accommodate more wireless internet users at the same time.

Finally, we are hoping that later this year we will be able to purchase a self-check machine for patron use.

LIBRARY RECEIVES LONE STAR GRANT FROM STATE OF TEXAS

Last fall, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission awarded Moore Memorial Library $13,713 under the Loan Star Grant Program. The Lone Star Libraries Grant was authorized by the Texas State Legislature and awarded to the Texas State Library and Archive Commission for Moore Memorial Library to purchase materials. We have already received and processed the first of our new Lone Star materials, so there are lots of new large print books, audiobooks and DVDs ready for you to check out!

TAX SEASON 2009 AT THE LIBRARY

As always, with the new year comes tax season. Tax forms and instructions will be available online on the IRS website, www.irs.gov. During tax season, we plan to dedicate one public computer solely to printing tax forms and instructions. Printing costs for tax forms are 10¢ per page.

Print tax forms will not be available this year at the library. We have ordered a very limited number of print instruction booklets. All IRS instructions and publications are available through the IRS website.

NEWSPRIFFS

LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:
The library will be closed on the following dates:
- Thursday, January 1st (New Year's Day)
- Monday, January 19th (Martin Luther King Day)

BOOK CLUB: “Book Bits” the book club for ages 18 and up continues to meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 2PM. This informal group setting allows readers to share new & old print favorites, discuss controversial titles, compare favorite authors and more. The group will meet on:
- Jan. 7th
- Feb. 4th
- March 4th
Looking for a guaranteed good read? Check out our choices for the best books of 2008, in no particular order, on the list below:

♦ The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society / Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows : FIC SHAFFER
  A young English writer looking for the subject of her next book begins exchanging letters with members of a unique book club, located on the British island of Guernsey, which was occupied by the Germans during WW II.

♦ A Mercy / Toni Morrison : FIC MORRISON
  Set in the late 1600’s in what will eventually become the United States, Morrison explores the full range of human bondage and its effects on the people it touches in this slim, elegant novel.

♦ Forever War / Dexter Filkins : 956.70433 FILKINS
  New York Times reporter Dexter Filkins presents an even-handed picture of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan through multiple vignettes detailing his experiences interacting with citizens and soldiers on both sides of the conflicts in that region.

♦ Hemingses of Monticello : an American family / Annette Gordon-Reed : 973.460922 GORDONRE
  The author traces the Hemings family from 1700’s Virginia until after Thomas Jefferson’s death in 1826. She follows not only the Sally Hemings-Thomas Jefferson line, but also explores the family history of Sally Hemings’ siblings and children. This book won a National Book Award.

♦ American Lion : Andrew Jackson in the White House / Jon Meacham : B JACKSON
  Newsweek editor Meacham provides a very readable biography of Andrew Jackson, delving into the family and political life of one of our most controversial presidents.

♦ The Ascent of Money : a financial history of the world / Niall Ferguson : 332.09 FERGUSON
  Harvard history professor Ferguson presents a lively and engaging history of money, which is especially timely in view of the current economic climate.

♦ 2666 / Roberto Bolano : FIC BOLANO
  First published posthumously in 2004, this year is the first time Chilean author Bolano’s novel is available in English. The story centers around a group of scholars who obsess over a German novelist. They follow his trail to the Juarez-like city of St. Teresa, where hundreds of working class women have been mysteriously killed.

♦ What I saw and how I lied / Judy Blundell : YP FIC BLUNDELL
  Another National Book Award-winner, this mystery is targeted to a young adult audience. Set in WW II, fifteen-year-old Evie finds her first love on a trip to Florida with her parents. But after a mysterious death, she must reconsider how well she knows her new love. Great period detail and characterization.

♦ Likeness / Tana French : MYS FRENCH
  In this sequel to In the Woods, Dublin police detective Cassie Maddox has decided to retire from the homicide division — until a woman who could be her double is found murdered. Cassie lets herself be convinced to assume this woman’s identity in order to catch the killer in this tense and suspenseful thriller.

♦ Private patient / P. D. James : MYS JAMES
  The newest in James’ Adam Dalgliesh mystery series, the policeman investigates the murder of a journalist who had recently had work done at a private plastic surgery clinic. James explores the universal themes of aging, education, love and hope.
FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

Our computer classes are aimed at beginning to intermediate computer users. All attendees will be pre-screened for skill level before each class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Beginning Computer &amp; Mouse Use</td>
<td>Thursday, January 8</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Windows</td>
<td>Friday, January 9</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Internet</td>
<td>Thursday, January 15</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Internet</td>
<td>Friday, January 16</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Email</td>
<td>Thursday, January 22</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make the Texshare databases work for you</td>
<td>Friday, January 23</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic MS Word</td>
<td>Thursday, January 29</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic MS PowerPoint</td>
<td>Friday, January 30</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very Beginning Computer &amp; Mouse Use</td>
<td>Thursday, February 5</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Windows</td>
<td>Friday, February 6</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<td>Beginning Internet</td>
<td>Thursday, February 12</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Email</td>
<td>Friday, February 13</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Internet</td>
<td>Thursday, February 19</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Further Tips and Tricks for Online Searching</td>
<td>Friday, February 20</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<td>Basic MS Excel</td>
<td>Thursday, February 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Hardware</td>
<td>Friday, February 27</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very Beginning Computer &amp; Mouse Use</td>
<td>Thursday, March 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Windows</td>
<td>Friday, March 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Internet</td>
<td>Thursday, March 12</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Internet</td>
<td>Friday, March 13</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Hardware</td>
<td>Thursday, April 2</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Further Tips and Tricks for Online Searching</td>
<td>Friday, April 3</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Email</td>
<td>Thursday, April 16</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic MS Word</td>
<td>Friday, April 17</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic MS Excel</td>
<td>Thursday, April 23</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic MS PowerPoint</td>
<td>Friday, April 24</td>
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Sign-up & Registration Procedure: Registration for ALL computer classes will occur THE DAY OF the scheduled class. All potential students must come to the library between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m. on the day of the class for pre-class screening. Admission to the class will be granted on a first-come first-served basis for those persons successfully completing the pre-assessment survey exercise. Admission for most classes is limited to 10 persons per class.

For more information, please contact the Reference Desk at the library, 409-643-5977.
Now you have a new way to access the library’s many article and periodical databases. We’ve added the button pictured above to the front page of our website, www.texascitylibrary.org, to take you straight to our database webpage.

Accessing our databases directly through our homepage will allow us to count the number of patrons who use each of our databases, giving us a clearer picture of our patrons’ information needs. Most of our databases are accessible from your home if you have internet access and a library card. Click on the name of the database you’d like to search, enter your library card number, and you will gain instant access to thousands of magazine, journal and reference articles, homework help, legal forms, reliable medical information, and advice on what to read next.

For more information on accessing the library’s databases from home or from the public computers in the library, contact the Reference Desk at 409/643-5977 or come to our free database class on January 23rd.

Toddlerific Story Time for ages 1-2 will continue in the Holland Meeting Room. This program is held every Tuesday morning at 10 AM. The Toddlerific program lasts approximately 20 minutes. This language-enrichment program features simple stories, rhymes, songs, and finger plays.

Topics for Winter 2009 are:
Jan. 6 — Have a “Beary” Good Day
Jan. 13 — You are my Little Lamb
Jan. 20 — How Does my Garden Grow
Jan. 27 — Hands and Feet
Feb. 3 — Toddler Talk
Feb. 10 — Rain or Shine — It’s All Fine!
Feb. 17 — Big & Little & In-Between
Feb. 24 — Who Says Moo?
March 3 — Sugar is Sweet ...and So Are You!
March 10 — Meow Wow!
March 17 — The Little Piggy
March 24 — Nursery Rhyme Fun
March 31 — Ducky Duck

Preschool Story Time is held each Wednesday morning at 10 AM in the Holland Meeting Room for children ages 3-5. Story times last approximately 40 minutes and feature stories, finger plays, action rhymes, songs, crafts, sign language, alphabet, and more. Groups of more than six children must call to make special accommodations.

Topics for Winter 2009 are:
Jan. 7 — The Letter P
Jan. 14 — The Letter Q
Jan. 21 — The Letter R
Jan. 28 — The Letter S
Feb. 4 — The Letter T
Feb. 11 — The Letter U
Feb. 18 — The Letter V
Feb. 25 — The Letter W
March 4 — The Letter X & Y
March 11 — The Letter Z
March 18 — I Can Say My ABCs
March 25 — Count on Me
Friends Membership Form

Please return this form, along with your payment, to Friends of Moore Memorial PL, 1701 9th Avenue North, Texas City, TX 77590. Thank you for supporting the library.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

*Please make checks payable to Friends of MMPL.*

Name_________________________Address_____________________
_________________________________City/StateZip__________________________
__Phone__________________________

The Friends’ dues for calendar year 2009 (Jan. 1, 2009 through Dec. 31, 2010) are the following:

Individual ($10) ___
Family ($25) ___
Senior Citizen 60+($5) ___
Student ($5) ___
Sustaining ($50) ___
Valued Friend ($100) ___
Life Member ($1,000) ___

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically through E-mail please send Amelia a message at achau@texas-city-tx.org