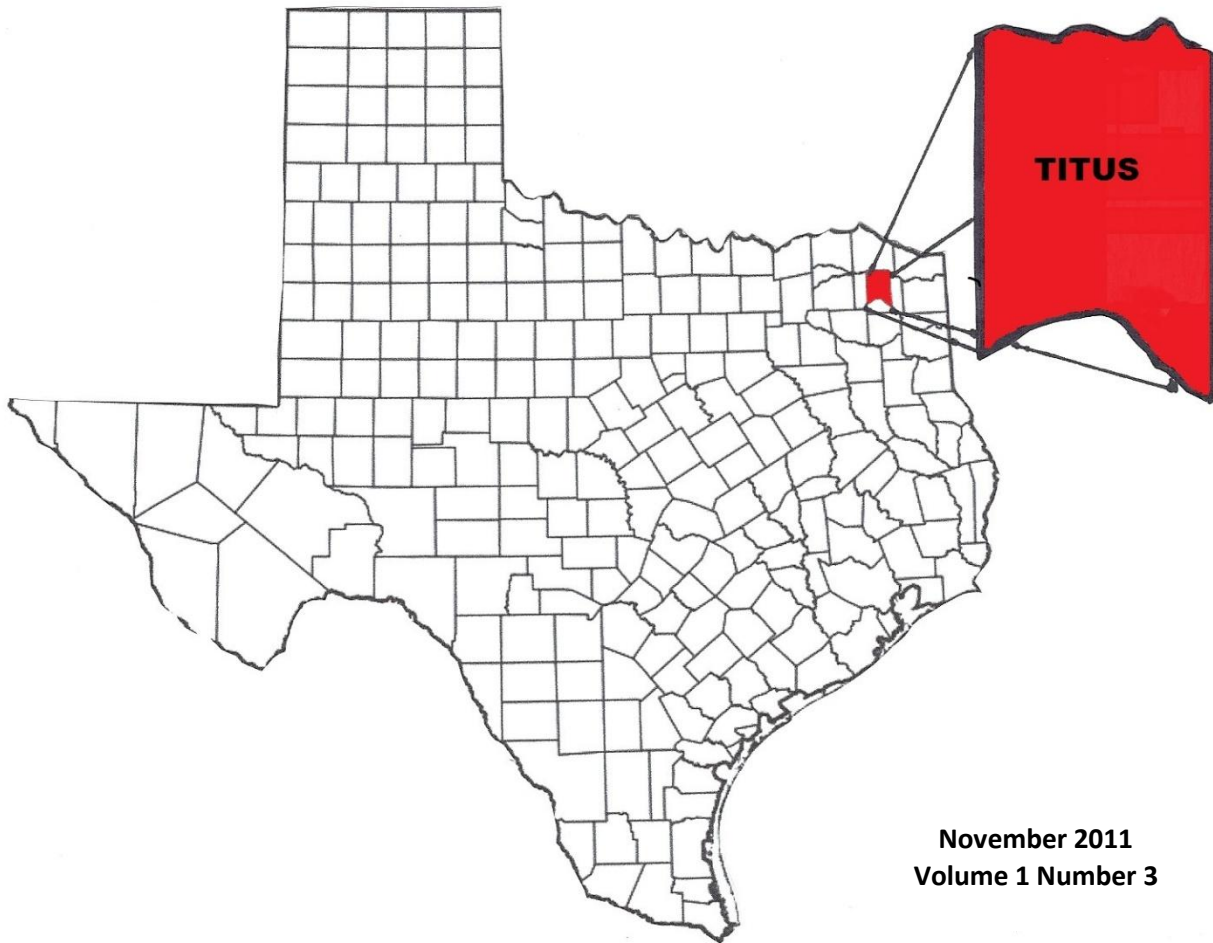


Titus County Generations

*Where the past connects with the present and
influences the future*



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Titus County Genealogical Society

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A Word from Our President

The Society has been very active since our last newsletter. Primarily this activity has surrounded the workshops that were held in cooperation with the Mt. Pleasant Public Library and the communication with prospective members through the publicity that was generated around those workshops.

Mr. Hill and I have been contacted by a descendant of a Samuel Thomas Johnson (1847-1909). Her desire for documentation of the parentage of her ancestor has proven to be a very interesting topic for research and presentation of genealogical research principles. This research will be the topic for discussion at our regular meeting, November 10.

Sam T. Johnson lived in Cookville and is buried in the city cemetery in Omaha. The best candidate for who his parents are is a well documented family living in Sabine Parish Louisiana at the time of the taking of the 1850 and 1860 Federal Census. Sam was married in Alabama and the several original documents that record his father's birth place included: Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee as the place of his birth. Sam's birthplace was Tennessee.

With the opening of the new library scheduled for January and the various individuals and groups in Titus County working on historical preservation, research and documentation, the future of the Titus County Genealogical Society looks bright. We are also excited about the continuing development of this quarterly electronic newsletter and its delivery vehicle, our website.

Genealogy Workshops

The Titus County Genealogical Society sponsored *Lunch and Learn Workshops* on September 26, October 6, and October 22 at the Mt. Pleasant Public Library. These workshops were for beginner, intermediate, and advanced genealogical researchers.

During the September 22 meeting, President Michael Thompson led the group on the importance of record keeping and documentation. He asked each participant to fill out a pedigree chart for 4 generations of his/her family. President Thompson explained the importance of beginning with the present and journeying to the past in their research. He also stressed the importance of talking with older family members.

On October 6, President Thompson explained the use of computers in genealogical research. Whereas, in the past, researchers had to travel to areas where their ancestors had lived for information, they can now use the internet as a research tool. He introduced the "Heritage Quest" program through the TexShare Database. This program can be found through the Mt. Pleasant Public Library for home use or by using computers in the library. Using lap tops provided by the library, individuals researched "free" websites seeking information about their ancestors.

On October 20, the group was introduced to ancestry.com and fold3.com. Both of these sites charge a fee for their use. President Thompson and Jean Martin demonstrated their uses and assisted individuals in their research using these two sites.

Thank you to all who attended the Titus County Genealogical Society workshops and to Brenda Bynum of the Mt. Pleasant Public Library for allowing us to use the library facilities to host these workshops. I hope that all who attended left with information to help them in their genealogical research.

Jean Martin