



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
July 2024

P.O. Box 860477, Plano, TX, 75086-0477

Web Page: [http:// www.genealogyfriends.org](http://www.genealogyfriends.org)

Email Address: genfriends@genealogyfriends.org Phone 972-836-9436

Newsletter: Barbara Coakley, email: newsletter@genealogyfriends.org

Schedule of Events

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events. Saturday seminars are held at W.O. Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd, Plano, TX from 10:15 to Noon.

July Events

July 24, 2024—Research Assistance at Plano Sr. Center 4:30-6:30

August Events

August 8, 2024—Round Table Zoom Discussion Group— Zoom meeting from 7-9 pm

August 10, 2024—Research At The Library—In person at Haggard Library 10:30 am to 1 pm. Family Tree Maker Webinar at 11:00 am.

August 13, 2024—DNA Special Interest Group—Hybrid —7 to 8:30 pm

August 17, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—”Diseases, Disasters, Distress: Bad for Your Ancestors, Good for Genealogy” by Lisa Alzo

August 28, 2024— Research Assistance at Plano Sr. Center 4:30-6:30

Future Events:

September 21, 2024—Virtual All Day Seminar—”Research: From Planning to Writing—See page 5 for more information

October 19, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—”Avoiding Bias: Consider All The Possibilities” by Barbara Coakley

November 16, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—”After You’re Gone: Future Proofing Your Genealogy” by Thomas MacEntee

December 21, 2024—Library Only—Show and Tell

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Genealogy Friends

Purpose: To educate members and library patrons in doing genealogical research and to support the Genealogy Center of W.O. Haggard, Jr. Library through donations.

Goal: To expand the library collection to meet the needs of this genealogically diverse community.

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. All donations are tax deductible.

Like and Follow us on [Facebook - Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries](#)

The annual membership meeting is held each October.

Gen Friends Membership

Our membership year runs from October 1 to September 30. **Join now and get the rest of 2024 and 2025 for \$45.**

The money we raise is used to pay for programs and to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library.

Pay online or download the membership form on our website <http://genealogyfriends.org/news/> send it in with payment to

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September All Day Seminar

Gen Friends All Day Seminar will be on 21 September 2024—"Research: From Planning to Writing." We'll explore the research process from beginning to end. Don't miss this opportunity to advance your genealogy research.

Topics and Speakers:

- Ready-Set-Plan! Developing a One-Step Research Plan by J. Mark Lowe
- Research Logs: The Key to Organizing Your Family History by Diana Elder
- Elements of a Genealogy Source Citation by Lisa Stokes
- Writing Your Family History Step-by-Step by Lisa Alzo

Recordings of the talks will be available for three weeks after the seminar for attendees.

Register on our website—<http://www.genealogyfriends.org/all-day-seminars.html>

Members save \$20.

See the flyer on page 5.

Genealogy Events—Save the Dates

Dallas Genealogical Society 2024 Seminar Series:

- September 28, 2024 "Autosomal Analysis: Tools for Finding Your Ancestors" with Blaine Bettinger
<https://dallasgenealogy.org/meetings-events/seminars/>

Texas State Genealogical Society Family History Conference will be November 1-2. There will be 10 presentations on Live Days with Q&A and on-demand recordings that will be available through 31 January 2025. More details will be available soon. <https://www.txsgs.org/family-history-conference/>

Check out Conference Keeper to keep up with events. <https://conferencekeeper.org/>

Genealogy News

The David Rumsey Map Collection includes over 130,000 historical maps from all over the world. One map “Good Roads Everywhere,” from 1926 shows national highways all across the U.S. from a time before air travel. Did your ancestors take a road trip across the country? Did a highway run through the town where they lived? Maps add interest as we tell the stories of our ancestors’ lives.

<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~302637~90073408:Good-roads-everywhere---Four-fold-s?qvq=q:good%20roads%20everywhere;lc:RUMSEY~8~1&mi=2&trs=4>

Chronicling America, the newspaper site by the Library of Congress, is getting a face lift. There is a beta version that has an interactive map and timeline interface and a guide to more effective searching.

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/chronicling-america/about-this-collection>

FamilyTreeDNA has partnered with MyHeritage. You can now link the tree for a DNA profile on Family Tree DNA to the family tree on MyHeritage. Effective September 9, 2024 family trees on Family Tree DNA will become read only. Log into Family Tree DNA. You can connect your FTDNA account to an existing tree in MyHeritage, transfer the tree from FTDNA to MyHeritage or start a new tree. If you don’t have an account on MyHeritage you need to set-up a free account. Normally with a free account there is a limit of 250 people per tree, however, if you are transferring a tree there is no limit on the number of people. You will have access to the tools available on MyHeritage to manage your tree.

Middle Names

We need to pay attention to middle names as we are researching our families. They can be useful or confusing.

Many of my German ancestors had multiple middle names. William Ludwig Christlove Brey emigrated with his family in 1851. In England, only royalty and nobility had multiple middle names. In America, middle names were not common among immigrants from England until the middle 1800’s. World War One draft registrations asked for first and last names. By the time World War Two draft registration cards were printed there were spots for First, Middle, and Last names.

They can help tell people of the same name apart. I was researching John George Clay in Chicago in the early 1900’s. In the city directory there were five John Clay’s listed but only one with the middle initial G.

Middle names might be family names, possibly the maiden name of a mother or grandmother. William Clay Coakley was the grandson of Susan Clay Struck. They might also be first names of a relative. There were three sons of Ferdinand Struck and Anna Maria Kleine Renne all named John Henry Struck. They were named after their baptismal sponsors. Two of them emigrated to the U.S. One went by John and one by Henry.

Middle names related to famous people might or might not indicate a relationship. George Washington Ziebold had no connection to George Washington. However, Benjamin Franklin Carlisle was the son of Elizabeth Compton Carlisle, her mother was Elizabeth Franklin, her father was Samuel Franklin, the step-brother of Benjamin Franklin.

Sometimes people used their middle name as their first name. Cora Adelle Sennott was known as Adelle her entire life. I didn’t know it was her middle name until I started researching the family.

Records for Helen Elizabeth Struck are inconsistent. Her birth record from Quincy, Adams County, Illinois reads Helen Elizabeth Struck. Her baptismal certificate dated six days later is Elizabeth Helen. Her diploma from her High School Graduation is Elizabeth Helen but a newspaper article about the graduation refers to her as Helen.

Mary Francis Carlisle Durfee signed her name on a deed when she was selling the family home after her husband’s death as F.M. Durfee.

When searching for ancestors don’t forget to try using different variations of both their first and middle names. Middle names can provide clues to help us identify our ancestors but they can also complicate finding family members in records. We need to be creative and pay attention to every piece of information on records as we complete our research.

Volunteer Opportunities—We Need Your Help



Gen Friends Needs
Your Help

Genealogy Friends is run by all volunteers and there aren't many of us. In order to keep the society active we need more people to step up, help out, and think creatively.

Here are a few opportunities:

- Newsletter Articles—tell the story of an heirloom, your favorite website, history of the area, a sketch of one of your ancestors, a unique record you found that was useful, technology you use, etc. I can help edit the piece.
- Photographer to take pictures at monthly meetings to post on our website.

Free Websites

There are a lot of websites that contain information that we don't have to pay for. Here are a few:

[FamilySearch](#) is the largest free website, it should definitely be on the list of sites you regularly use.

Many of the big websites like Ancestry, FindmyPast, MyHeritage, and Fold3 have collections that you can access with a free account. They also offer free access periodically when you can access collections that would normally require a paid account. Check for access to these through your local library.

For digitized published records and more—[Internet Archive](#), [Hathi Trust](#), and [Google Books](#).

[US Gen Web](#) and [World Gen Web](#) are non-profit volunteer based sites that provide genealogical resources.

[Reclaim the Records](#) is a non-profit activist group that identify records that should be public and work to get them released.

The [Western States Marriage Record Index](#) includes marriages from California, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Colorado, Montana, Washington, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming, and New Mexico. Coverage is different by state and time period.

Government websites like the [Library of Congress](#), [National Archives](#), [BLM Govt Land Office](#), [State Archives](#) & Libraries, and Local Libraries may have valuable digital collections, card catalogs, and finding aids for their collections online. Use google to locate local libraries.

[JSTOR](#) allows free access to read up to 100 articles online each month from scholarly journals.

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries Presents:

Research: From Planning to Writing

September 21, 2024
Virtual Seminar

Registration:
www.genealogyfriends.org

Recordings Will Be
Available for 3 Weeks



Discover
Your Roots With Us!

Featuring:



J. Mark Lowe
Ready-Set-Plan!
Developing a
One-Step Research
Plan



Diana Elder
Research Logs:
The Key to
Organizing Your
Family History



Lisa Stokes
Elements of a
Genealogy
Source
Citation



Lisa Alzo
Writing Your
Family
History
Step-by-Step