

# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News  
August 2022

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

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## 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.

### This Month:

**August 20, 2022 - Hybrid Meeting Library/Zoom - "Sharing Your Family History Research Online"** by Barbara Coakley

### Future Events:

**September 1, 2022—Zoom Meeting—Genealogy Round Table—** We are a group of genealogy enthusiasts who get together to share information and help each other on the first Thursday of each month. Zoom invite will be sent out the week before the meeting.

**September 13, 2022 - DNA Special Interest Group** - Meets in Genealogy Section from 7-8:30 pm.

**September 17, 2022 - All Day Seminar - Google for Genealogy** featuring Lisa Louise Cooke. See Page 7 for details

**October 12, 2022 - Annual Meeting** - Details on Page 6

**October 15, 2002 - Hybrid Meeting - "You Can Find It In The Archives"** by Joan Gosnell from the DeGolyer Library at SMU.

**November 19, 2022 - Hybrid Meeting- "Finding Your New England Ancestors"** by David Appleton

**December 17, 2022 - Meeting at Library - 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.

Join us on Facebook - Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries

The annual membership meeting is held each October.

## Genfriends Membership

Our membership year runs from October 1 to September 30. Individual memberships are \$30 a year and family memberships are \$50.

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

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

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc

PO Box 860477

Plano, TX 75086-0477

## Donations

Ancestry donated a world-explorer one year membership and a DNA kit to us for fundraising. **Raffle tickets will be for sale at the September Workshop, October Annual Meeting and October Saturday Seminar. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. Drawing will be at the October Saturday Seminar.** Proceeds go towards materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library. So far this year we have donated 46 books to the library. Over the last five years we have donated materials valued at over \$13,000.

The estates of Brenda Kellow and Jean Funk donated over one hundred books and research guides to the Family History Centers in Plano.

## Volunteer Opportunities

**In order to keep GenFriends going and growing we need your help.**

**Here are a few positions that we need filled. They don't take much time but make a big difference:**

**Social Media** - We need someone with a grandchild that can help post notices about events on Facebook, Twitter, InstaGram, etc.

**Photographer** - take pictures at our events to post on the website.

## Genealogy Education

**Virtual Celtic Connections Conference 2022 - "Journey Home"** July 9-Sept 30, 2022. Over 50 talks that you can access 24/7. Cost is \$99 which includes membership to The Irish Ancestral Research Association. <http://www.celtic-connections.org/index.html>

**The Really Useful Family History Show** - Friday and Saturday November 11 and 12 <https://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/> This is from England. There are webinars and workshops, sessions are recorded so you can watch them if you don't want to get up really early. Cost is £12.

**Leaping the Pond: Online Research in Great Britain** - Dallas Genealogical Society Fall Seminar. Speaker is Paul Milner. October 22, 2022. <https://dallasgenealogy.org/dgs/meetings-events/seminars/2022-fall-seminar/>

**Texas State Genealogical Society** annual conference, Unlock Your Past, is November 4-5. **If you are going to register please use the TIPS code for Gen Friends GFPL22.** For everyone who registers we get \$10 contributed to our society.

## Searching Historic Newspapers

By Barbara Coakley

Newspapers tell the stories of our ancestors. They are the first place we look for obituaries from the 1800-1900's, but there is so much more. Details of our ancestors lives were recorded one day or week at a time in the local newspaper.

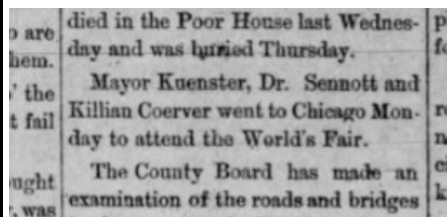
### Vital Record Substitutes

Birth announcements may contain the name of the baby, the parents, birth date and possibly more. Articles about birthday celebrations can provide information about the birth years later.

Wedding announcements may contain the name of the bride and groom, date and place of the wedding, parent's names, out of town guests, descriptions of the dresses, decorations, flowers, and biographical information about the couple. Look for articles about bridal showers or engagement announcements before the wedding. There may also be notices of milestone anniversary celebrations that include details about the wedding.

In addition to death announcements, obituaries, and burial permits there might be notices from the family of the deceased thanking people, coroner hearings, and court or legal notices of estates being probated.

### Facebook of the 1800-1900's



died in the Poor House last Wednesday and was buried Thursday.

Mayor Kuenster, Dr. Sennott and Killian Coerver went to Chicago Monday to attend the World's Fair.

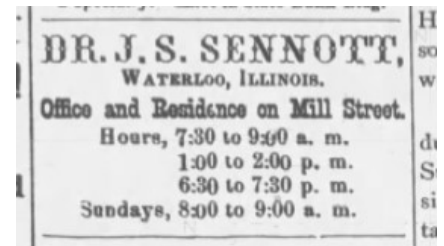
The County Board has made an examination of the roads and bridges

Most papers include a gossip column that records the comings and goings of the inhabitants of the town/county. These are often called the Society, Personals, Correspondence, About Town, Local News, Talk of the Town, etc. These columns included all kinds of information - who was visiting residents, who was traveling out of town, who was entertaining and why, who was ill, events in the town, who is building or remodeling their home, school events, fraternal organization activities, quilting groups, card parties, and much more. I learned that my grandmother was a card shark, she continually won the prize at the 500

and Euchre card parties. Look for family members visiting from out of town to learn where they are living - provides more places to look for records.

### Business Advertisements

Advertisements provide information about your ancestor's business and about products or services available and their cost. Fashions can help date old photographs. Farm prices tell you what your ancestor could earn for their crops.



DR. J. S. SENNOTT,  
WATERLOO, ILLINOIS.  
Office and Residence on Mill Street.  
Hours, 7:30 to 9:00 a. m.  
1:00 to 2:00 p. m.  
6:30 to 7:30 p. m.  
Sundays, 8:00 to 9:00 a. m.

### Court Records

Court records are often not indexed at the courthouse but the docket is available in the local newspaper. If you find a case where your ancestor was a plaintiff or defendant, check the newspaper for more details about the case and the courthouse for court papers. Articles can also list witnesses.

### School Information



**Junior High School Exempts From Exams**

Announcement of those out- 1; Venuto, Josephine, 2; Williams, Betty, 1; Wise, Phyllis, 2.

Articles about students, teachers, and other people who worked at the school provide information from grade school through college. Learn what kind of a student your ancestor was or what extra curricular activities they took part in. Some colleges may have their own newspapers. School events like picnics, plays, sports are topics of articles. My great-grandfather was

the school carpenter.

### Political Activities & Elections

Sample ballots and election results for local offices are often in the newspaper. If your ancestor was elected look for stories about what they did while in office. There are articles about who was active in a political party as well, your ancestor might have been a supporter.

### Activities

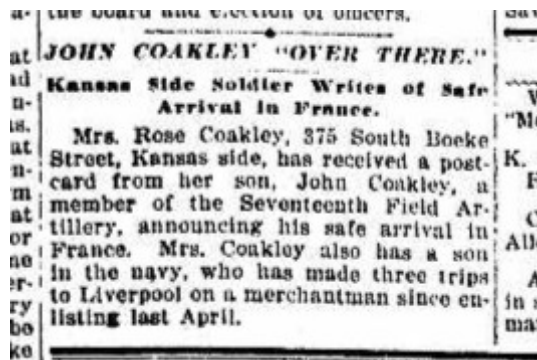
Meetings, elections, and activities of fraternal and religious organizations like Odd Fellows, Masons, Knights of Columbus, etc. are covered in the paper. Women's organizations activities are listed in the newspapers. Learn about the interests of your ancestors and how active they were. Records of many of these organizations no longer exist so papers

## Searching Historic Newspapers

may be the only place to find this information. My grandmothers and their mothers were active in garden clubs, ladies domestic science club, historical societies, Y.W.C.A, quilting groups, Knights of Columbus Auxiliary, and many more. Records about women are not plentiful and these organizations are one time that we find information about the woman and not about her through her husband.

### Military

During WWI and WWII there were articles about boys going into the service, arriving in Europe, being decorated, wounded, taken prisoner, and dying. Since many of the soldier's files were destroyed in the fire at the Military Records Center this is one place where you can find out about your ancestor's service. There are stories about major battles during all the wars. An ancestor was wounded at the battle of Shiloh during the Civil War. The account of the battle in a newspaper in Tennessee had a different perspective from the one in his home town in the north.



### Current Events

The major events during our ancestors' lives could have impacted them. Was there an earthquake, tornado, hurricane, etc. near where they lived? Economic conditions like a depression would impact the living standard of many of our ancestors. Check the weather on days of major events - what was the weather like the day they arrived in America or got married?

### Types of Newspapers

These are just some of the interesting details you can find in newspapers. In addition to the local newspaper look for specialty newspapers - religious, union, company, etc. Often immigrant ancestors are mentioned in newspapers in the language of their homeland. The obituary for one great-grandfather in the English language newspaper was very short with few details. The German language paper obituary had the name of his home town, names of relatives, and biographical information about his life.

### Finding Newspapers

Only a small percentage of newspapers have been digitized and are online. There are more coming online every day. The first step is to figure out which newspapers were published in the place and time period you are searching. *Chronicling America* has a US Newspaper Directory <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/titles/>. Search for the location to see a list of newspapers published. There are also printed directories and old editions are available on *Google Books*, *Internet Archive* and *Hathi Trust*. County Histories and City Directories also have lists of local newspapers are also available online at the sites listed for directories.

Some websites with digitized newspapers are:

Chronicling America <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

Old Fulton Postcards <https://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>

GenealogyBank \$ <https://www.genealogybank.com/>

Newspapers.com \$ <https://www.newspapers.com/>

NewspaperArchive \$ <https://newspaperarchive.com/>

Many of the paid sites have free trials. Always look to see if they have newspapers for the location and time period you need before you subscribe.

Elephind <https://elephind.com/> links to newspapers on multiple sites.

Cyndi's List <https://www.cyndislist.com/newspapers>

US Newspaper Program <https://www.neh.gov/us-newspaper-program> list by state of institutions preserving newspapers.

State, local, and university archives and libraries are good places to check. Don't forget to Google the newspaper.

## Searching Historic Newspapers

### Searching the Website

Newspaper site indexes are created using OCR so you have to be creative when you search.

- Try different spellings. O and a might be confused for example.
- Try Mr., Miss, Mrs. Before the name. Search with and without the first name. Search with and without middle initials. Search nicknames.
- Words at the end of the line were hyphenated.
- Browse the papers - read them to learn about what was going on.
- Don't limit your search by location. Stories were picked up by papers all across the country. If your ancestor migrated, check locations where they lived in the past - relatives might have stayed behind and stories published there.
- Use wildcards if they are available on the website.
- When you find an article, download or clip it to save it. Create a citation including the link to the newspaper.

Newspapers are windows into the lives of our ancestors and can provide details we won't find anywhere else.

## A Potpourri of Websites

Here are a variety of interesting websites:

**National Society Descendants of American Farmers July 4, 1776 - July 4, 1914** - purpose is to identify and honor the memory of ancestors who were American Farmers during the dates listed. <https://www.nsdoaf.com/>

**Facial Recognition Software** - try putting in a picture of your ancestor and see if these sites find other pictures of them. Maureen Taylor, the Photo Detective, talked about these sites in Episode 422 of Extreme Genes Podcast. <https://www.extremegenes.com/blog/episode-422-founder-of-dead-fred-talks-photo-reunions-maureen-taylor-on-new-facial-recognition-sites>

**TinEye** Reverse Image Search <https://tineye.com/>

**Google Images** Upload an image <https://images.google.com/>

**PimEyes** Face Search Engine Reverse Image Search - <https://pimeyes.com/en>

**Chicago & North Western Railroad Historical Society** - request information from the archives using the contact us page. <https://cnwhs.org/wp1/archives/>

**Removing Pictures from Magnetic Photo Albums** - here's step by step how to [https://www.ehow.com/how\\_5754181\\_old-photos-out-albums-tearing.html](https://www.ehow.com/how_5754181_old-photos-out-albums-tearing.html)

**Annual Meeting**

**Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries Annual Meeting**

**October 12, 2022**

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Outback Steakhouse  
1509 North US 75 - Central Expressway  
Plano, TX 75075**

**\$30 per person includes the menu and gratuity.**

Salad, Entrée with one side, Dessert and Beverage  
Alcoholic Beverages are extra.

**Menu**

**Salad Choices**

House Salad or Caesar Salad

**Entrée Choices**

Outback Special - 6 oz Center Cut Sirloin

Chicken on the Barbie - Grilled Chicken Breast

Perfectly Grilled Salmon - 8oz Filet of Salmon

Veggie Plate - Broccoli, Squash, Carrots, Baked Potato and Asparagus

**Sides**

Homestyle Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Veggies, Sweet Potato or Baked Potato

**Dessert**

Cheesecake with Raspberry or Chocolate Sauce

Your order will be placed at the restaurant the night of the meeting.

Please R.S.V.P. to [genfriends@genealogyfriends.org](mailto:genfriends@genealogyfriends.org) prior to October 10th

Make checks payable to Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries. You can pay at the door.



Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries Presents:

## **“Google For Genealogy”**

**Speaker: Lisa Louise Cooke**

**When:** Saturday, September 17, 2022

**Where:** Plano Bible Chapel  
1900 Shiloh, Plano, TX

### **Topics:**

**Seeing Family History Through Google Lens-** This exciting hour will open your eyes to the multitude of uses of Google Lens in family history! You'll learn what it is, where to find it, and how to use it. You'll be amazed at what Google Lens can do for you both in your genealogy life and your every day personal life.

**How to Make New Photo Discoveries with Google Images-** You'll learn new strategies for finding photographs and images that apply to your family history and how to use Google Images to identify some of the images and photos you have in your own family scrapbooks!

**Google Books: the tool you should use every day!**—Learn the secrets of getting ore than you ever imagined from the largest online collection of digitized books. With 25 million books, many of which are digitized and fully searchable, Google Books should be the first place you turn as you climb your family tree. Learn how to make the most of this goldmine chock full of historical data.

**Google Search Strategies for Common Names**—Discover tips and tricks to find your ancestors with common surnames and surnames that double as common words with Google. Learn how to weed out irrelevant search results to save time and get to what you want faster. Then save and automate your searches to run for you!

**Details:** 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

Members Before 09/01/22 \$45

Non Members & Members After 9/01/22 \$50

Bring a Brown Bag Lunch