Genealogy Friends News

Schedule of Events

Haggard Library is closed so we are holding our meetings via Zoom

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events. Meetings will be held via Zoom until further notice from 10:15 to 12:00. Invites will be send out the week before the meeting.

This Month

January 16, 2021—Zoom Meeting—Researching Your World War I Ancestors" by Dr. Margaret McMahon

Future Events:

January 7, 2021—Zoom Meeting—Genealogy Round Table—We are a group of genealogy enthusiasts who get together to share information and help each other. Zoom invite will be sent out the week before the meeting

February 20, 2021—Zoom Meeting—"Where Did They Come From? Finding Migrating Ancestors" by Barbara Coakley

March 20, 2021—Zoom Meeting—"Finding Genealogical Gems in Your Genes with GedMatch" by Mr. Shannon Christmas

April 17, 2021—Zoom Meeting—"The Most Prominent Citizens: Using County and Local Histories to Locate Ancestors" by Cari Taplin

May 15, 2021—Zoom Meeting—"Brick Wall Breakthroughs" by Thomas MacEntee

If there is a topic that you would like to learn about either in a Saturday seminar or newsletter arti-

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Publications for Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

Public Land Survey Systems	$5
Plano Star Courier Index 1904-1910	$20
Plano Star Courier Index 1911-1917	$20
Cemeteries of Collin County, TX	$40
Collin County, TX Voter Registration	
Index 1867	$20
Place Names of Collin County, TX	$10
Railroads in Collin County, TX	$10

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 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

Genealogy Education & News

Genealogy II –Zoom Class - In this class you will learn how plan your research, write reports, cite sources, and locate and analyze genealogy records—wills and probate records, land records, tax records, immigration and naturalization records, military records and tax records.

Collin College Continuing Education course CRN 73468, Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 9:00, Feb 24 to Apr 7, 2021. Fee is $139. Instructor: Barbara Coakley email cehelp@collin.edu to register.

RootsTech is virtual and free for 2021. 25-27 February 2021. Register now! https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng They also have recordings from prior year's conferences that you can watch https://www.rootstech.org/video-archive?lang=eng

Vivid-Pix software is available at a discount and GenFriends earns money with every purchase. Email newsletter@genealogyfriends.org for the link to purchase Restore for $39.99 and help raise money to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section of the library.

YouTube is full of videos on genealogy subjects. https://www.youtube.com/

TIGR—Texas Institute of Genealogical Research has four tracts in 2021. Information will be available soon. https://www.txsgs.org/texas-research-institute/

IGHR— Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research - July 25-30, 2021 https://ighr.gagensociety.org/website/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/IGHR-2021-Courses-2019_0401.pdf

GRIP— Genealogy Research Institute of Pittsburgh—June 20-25 and July 11-16, 2021 https://www.gripitt.org/

Check the genealogical and historical societies in the areas where your ancestors lived. May societies are holding virtual education programs.

Some institutions are doing expanded lookups and will provide copies of records. Look for a research request form or rules for lookups on their websites and requests. Explore the online catalog and submit your requests, you never know what research question you might be able to answer.

The Driskill Hotel—Texas Historical Commission
Submitted by Barbara Brogdon

On December 20, 1886, the Driskill Hotel in Austin opened to the public. It offered luxury accommodations at $2.50 to $5 per night for rooms and a full-course meal for 35 cents. To most Austinites and many Texans, the Driskill became a traveler's institution.

The hotel was final enterprise of Jesse Lincoln Driskill, who built and lost multiple fortunes. Driskill came to Texas from Tennessee by way of Missouri in 1849 and entered the merchandising business in Bastrop, San Antonio, San Marcos, and Bryan. By 1857, he had switched to cattle; he sold beef to the Confederacy for three years.
At the end of the Civil War, Driskill had exhausted his supplies both of cattle and of Confederate dollars, but he built up a new herd and achieved success another time, driving his cattle north on the Chisholm Trail to market.
In 1871 Driskill and his family moved to Austin, where he proposed his hotel to the city in 1884 and offered $7,500 for the lots on Brazos Street. Construction of the brick and limestone building eventually cost Driskill $400,000. A spring freeze in 1888 killed so many of Driskill's cattle that he couldn't make payments on the hotel and had to sell it.
Since then, the Romanesque Revival hotel has had a prominent place in the political and social scenes of Texas, given its proximity to the state capitol. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

Picture of Driskill Hotel in 1888, courtesy Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

Donation in Honor of Founding President of GenFriends, Brenda Kellow

Plano
City of Excellence

Plano Public Library
2501 Coit Road
Plano, TX 75075
Tel: 972.769.4208
planolibrary.org

City of Plano
P.O. Box 860358
Plano, TX 75086-0358
Tel: 972.941.7000
plano.gov

December 16, 2020

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries
PO Box 860477
Plano, TX 75086

Dear Friends,

Plano Public Library

Gratefully acknowledges

Your donation of $1,793.33

We are pleased that the Genealogy Center provides quality research opportunities and assistance to local groups such as yours. We appreciate this donation to our Genealogy Center.

Thank you for the wonderful support you have shown to the Plano Public Library.

Sincerely,

Libby Holtmann
Director of Libraries

cc: Cheryl Smith, PS Librarian, Sr., Genealogy Center, Haggard Library

Harry LaRosiliere	Kayci Prince	Anthony Ricciardelli	Maria Tu	Rick Grady	Shelby Williams	Lily Bao	Rick Smith	Mark D. Israelson
Mayor	Mayor Pro Tem	Deputy Mayor Pro Tem	Place 1	Place 3	Place 5	Place 7	Place 8	City Manager

New Year's Resolution—Organization and Digitization
By Barbara Coakley

Every January lots of us make New Year's resolutions, 2021 is no different. Mine was to continue getting my genealogy "stuff" organized and to convert my paper files to digital. I made some progress in 2020 but still have a long way to go. The only way for me to make progress is to have a plan and work it. My ultimate goal is to be able to find anything in less than 5 minutes. It is easier to get organized than to stay organized so sticking to my routine is important.

Reference Materials—All of my books and cd's are catalogued in *libib*. If there is an ISBN number you can enter or scan it and if not enter the details. I used the tag feature to group the items by location or subject. took all the books off the shelves, entered them and put them back Shelf clip label holders completed that project. I keep a few reference books that I use all the time on my desk, the rest are organized on the shelves.

Original Documents—As I convert my paper files to digital, original documents go into acid free folders in archival quality document cases. I have one for my Mom's side of the family and one for my Dad's.
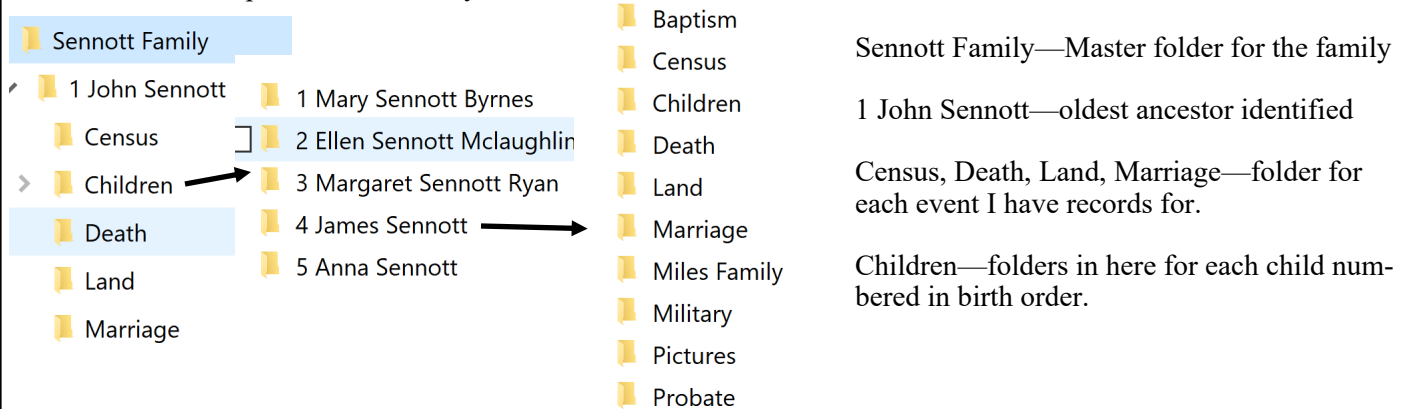
Artifacts are stored in specialty boxes, like the quilt made by the quilting group that my maternal great-grandmothers. Each quilter embroidered her name on the quilt.

Photographs—I had already scanned a lot of the older photos. What a mess, there were multiple copies of the same picture in different folders on my computer and external hard drive. I setup folders and slowly went through and moved files to the folder where they belonged and deleted duplicates. Now I can locate photos when I want them. The originals of the older family photos are in one of four archival boxbinders in archival photo sheets.

Next step, use Restore by VividPix to restore the photos that are faded and update the metadata on each one to preserve when and where it was taken and who is in the picture. (Rick Voight from VividPix did a presentation for us in 2020 and we still have the discount code if you are interested.) There are still older photos that need to be scanned, they are all sorted and I'm scanning them one box at a time.

Research Results—I had over 45 three inch, three ring binders full of paper from the last 35 years of research I've done. All new research results are stored digitally. As I work on a family, I pull the binder, and one person at a time I scan the documents or if they are now available digitally, I download a copy from *FamilySearch*, *Ancestry, Fold3, etc.* The digital copies that are available now are much better quality than the paper copies I printed from the microfilm on all those research trips to Salt Lake City.

Sennott Family

1 John Sennott
  Census
  Children
  Death
  Land
  Marriage

  1 Mary Sennott Byrnes
  2 Ellen Sennott Mclaughlin
  3 Margaret Sennott Ryan
  4 James Sennott
  5 Anna Sennott

  Baptism
  Census
  Children
  Death
  Land
  Marriage
  Miles Family
  Military
  Pictures
  Probate

Sennott Family—Master folder for the family

1 John Sennott—oldest ancestor identified

Census, Death, Land, Marriage—folder for each event I have records for.

Children—folders in here for each child numbered in birth order.

4 James Sennott—folder for each event in his life and a folder for his children.
As each additional generation is identified (wishful thinking) a folder is added to the top of the structure.

New Year's Resolution—Organization & Digitization
By Barbara Coakley

File Names—the most important thing is to be consistent and use something that makes sense to you.

My file names have different components.

Last name _ first name _ date _ location _ document if applicable I add additional information to find the document like book and page for a deed book.

Here is an example
Sennott_John_1844_US_MonroeCo_Hecker_St. Augustine Burial Register _ Book 1_ Page 22

Think about how you might search for a document or sort files when you come up with your file name structure.

Document Analysis—each document is also analyzed to be sure I know what I have. When I started this project, I pulled the first note-book off the shelf and low and behold, there were documents in it that I had forgotten about. I have different templates for different types of documents. I use Microsoft OneNote but Word, Excel, Google Docs, Google Sheets, or your genealogy database would work.

For each record the template includes:
- Transcription—typing out every word on the document is how I process information, you might not need to do this but I would suggest at least an abstraction of the information.
- Citation—I'm embarrassed to say that for some of my early research I didn't record full citations. They are important to get back to the document again or to judge the reliability when resolving conflicting information.
- Snip of the record that includes my ancestor. I use the Snipping Tool to zoom in on the part of the record that has the information on my ancestor.
- Link to the file.

1817 Marriage
Sunday, February 17, 2019   1:02 PM

"Parish Registers for St. Michael-on-Wyre, 1660-1948," digital image FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/122497?availability=Family%20History%20Library : accessed 14 November 2020); Church of England marriage record for John Newsham and Alice Walker, 8 October 1817, vol 5, page 26, image 483, citing original record at Lancashire Record Office, Preston, England.

Location	St Michael, Lancaster
Date	1817
Groom	John Newsham of Wd Plumpton of this parish
Bride	Alice Walker of Wd Plumpton of this parish
Married	In this Church by License with consent of James Newsham father this eight day of October in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventeen by Hugh Hornby, Vicar. This marriage was solemnized between us John Newsham Alice Walker In the presence of Robt Smith Ann Dobson
No	76

Supplies & Sources

The scanner I had was great for travel, it is a Canon Lide220 and gets its power from the USB port but it only scans letter size documents. In order to scan large documents I purchased an Epson WorkForce. I can scan documents up to 11x17 and it has a document feeder.
- Archival supplies are available from
- University Products — https://www.universityproducts.com/
- Hollinger Metal Edge — https://www.hollingermetaledge.com/
- Amazon — https://www.amazon.com/
- Archival Methods — https://www.archivalmethods.com/

"23 Secrets to Organize Your Genealogy Free eBook" https://www.familytreemagazine.com/freebie/family-tree-tips-23-secrets-organize-genealogy/

Search Google and YouTube—genealogy organization

Organize Your Genealogy: Strategies and Solutions for Every Researcher by Drew Smith