



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News  
March 2023

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

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

Email Address: [genfriends@genealogyfriends.org](mailto:genfriends@genealogyfriends.org) Phone 972-836-9436

Newsletter: Barbara Coakley, email: [newsletter@genealogyfriends.org](mailto: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.

### This Month:

**March 18, 2023 - Hybrid Meeting - "Census Records - Have You Really Looked At Them?"** by Barbara Coakley

### Future Events:

**March 2, 2023—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. Email [newsletter@genealogyfriends.org](mailto:newsletter@genealogyfriends.org) for zoom link.

**March 14, 2023—In Person—DNA Special Interest Group**

**April 6, 2023—Zoom Meeting—Genealogy Round Table**

**April 11, 2023—In Person—DNA Special Interest Group**

**April 15, 2023 - Hybrid Meeting - "Shaky Leaf Syndrome: Using Website Generated Hints More Effectively"** by Sara Cochran (Remote Speaker)

**May 20, 2023—Hybrid Meeting—"10 Genealogical Brick Walls You Will Have to Face"** by Robert Cameron Weir (Remote Speaker)

**September 16, 2023—Virtual All Day Seminar— More info coming soon**

**Great News—Haggard Library is now a *FamilySearch* Affiliate Library which means you can access restricted collections on *FamilySearch* from Library Computers if you have a Plano Library Card.**

## Index

Gen Friends Info and Volunteer Opportunities	2
DNA SIG & Local Genealogy Events	2
March is Women's History Month	3
Websites for Irish Research	4
Genealogy Education Opportunities	5

## 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.

## 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

## DNA Special Interest Group

The DNA Special Interest Group normally meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the Genealogy Section of Haggard Library from 7-8:30 pm. The March meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14th.

We are using Diahna Southard's book *Your DNA Guide the book* to guide our discussions. We are working on pages 28-44 which are about choosing your research goal.

We are learning together about using DNA to further our genealogy research.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Gen Friends is a completely volunteer organization and we need help with the following to continue to operate:

- Social Media Posting on Facebook, Instagram, etc.
- Taking pictures at meetings to post on the website.

If you are interested in helping email Barbara Coakley at [newsletter@genealogyfriends.org](mailto:newsletter@genealogyfriends.org).

## Local Genealogy Events—Save the Dates

Dallas Genealogical Society Summer Seminar—Cyndi Ingle, “Genealogy and the Internet: Successfully Mining the World Wide Web”

Gen Friends All Day Virtual Seminar—September 16, 2023 More information coming soon.

Dallas Genealogical Society Fall Seminar—Michael Strauss, “The Twentieth Century Wars: Military Records and Research”

Library Lock In will be October 20, 2023. Stay tuned for more information.

Great Family Search presented by the Family History Center in Plano will be held on October 28, 2023.

## March is Women's History Month

By Barbara Coakley

Some of the hardest people to find on our Family Trees are the women. When they married their name changed and they became Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_. During much of history, once they married they had limited rights and were legally 'feme covert' or covered by their husbands. Her legal rights were suspended when she married and were consolidated into those of her husband. Women could not enter into contracts or buy or sell land. Education opportunities were limited for many women. In some places women could not make a will without the permission of her husband. Most records that mention women were created by the men in their lives—father, husband, sons, and brothers. The exception to this were widows and women who never married.

We have to think creatively to find records about women. Here are a few suggestions:

- Marriage Records—Civil, church or announcements in the newspaper. These are one of the few records that include the woman's maiden name.
- Death Records—Obituaries, death certificates, church records, funeral home records, and cemetery records can provide details about her life, parents, etc. The accuracy of the information in these records is dependent on the informant. Pay attention to who provided the information and evaluate how they would have acquired the information.
- Family Bibles—There are collections of family bibles available
- Land Records—If her husband owned property, when it was sold his wife would have to release her dower right. It will include her first name. Look at land records for divisions of property from estates of the other men in her life—her father or brother.
- Probate Records—Look for records of the men in her life, her husband, father, sons, brothers, uncles, etc. She might be listed as an heir. If she is married often her husband will be listed as well.
- County Histories—Look for biographies of the men in her life. Often the biographies of the men included information on their wives and her family.
- Newspapers—Search for Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ to find out about her activities. There are often articles about charitable organizations, clubs, women's activities she might have participated in.
- Pension Records—Pension records for the soldier often mention their wives and children and widows were eligible to file for pensions for their husbands service. They had to prove they were married so there are often marriage records included in the file as well as testimony from the widow and other family members or neighbors.
- Fraternal Organizations—many organizations for men had women's auxiliaries. If she was involved there might be records. Check local libraries, historical societies, or manuscript collections for these records.
- Poor House Records—These can be harder to find, check *FamilySearch*, *Digital Public Library of America*, and *Internet Archive*.
- Social History—What was going on in the location and time when she lived? Was your ancestor a suffragette, did she work during war times when most of the men were off fighting, etc.

Here are a few websites that might help with your search:

- *Cnydi's List* Female Ancestors <https://www.cyndislist.com/female>
- "Top 10 Sources for Locating Maiden Names," *Thought Co* <https://www.thoughtco.com/top-sources-for-locating-maiden-names-1422659>
- "Women's Rights," *National Park Service* <https://www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm>
- RootsTech has recorded sessions on finding women. <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/search>
- *YouTube* has recorded sessions on finding women [https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=genealogy+finding+women](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=genealogy+finding+women)

## Websites For Irish Research



Gaois.ie includes a database of **Irish Language Surnames** - enter the English version of the surname to find the Irish equivalent  
<https://www.gaois.ie/en/surnames/>

National Library of Ireland has Catholic Parish Registers available online  
<https://registers.nli.ie/> These records are not indexed on their site but there are indexes available on Irish Genealogy, a free site, and RootsIreland, FindMyPast, and Ancestry—all subscription sites.

**Beyond 2022** is a project to create a Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland.  
<https://beyond2022.ie/> There was a fire at the Public Records Office in 1922. This website is a group of institutions working to fill the gap left by the fire.

**Irish Genealogy** is a free site from the National Archives to teach us about sources available for family history. <https://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/>

**National Archives of Ireland Genealogy Website** has free records including the Tithe Applotment Books 1823-1837  
<https://genealogy.nationalarchives.ie/>

**Irish Genealogy ToolKit** is a guide to finding Irish ancestors <https://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/free-Irish-genealogy.html>

**Irish Ancestors** is a website by John Grenham the author of *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* now in its 5th Edition. There are free and subscription sections that include Surname Distribution maps, you can enter a place name and it will give you the different jurisdictions for it, blog posts, and much more.

**Irish Genealogical Research Society** has resources on their website to help you get started and they publish the Irish Genealogist Journal <https://www.irishancestors.ie/>

**Ask About Ireland** includes a database of Griffith's Valuation—the first full scale valuation of property in Ireland published between 1847 and 1864.  
<https://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/>

**Irish Graveyards** provides a search engine for graveyards  
<https://www.irishgraveyards.ie/>



## Genealogy Educational Opportunities

This is just a small sample of what is available, check out *ConferenceKeeper* for a more complete schedule <https://conferencekeeper.org/>

### Conferences & Institutes

RootsTech 2023 March 2-4, 2023 is free online and there are still recordings available from previous years <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home>

Registration for the **Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research** opens on March 4 at 9:00 am eastern time. The Virtual Institute will be July 23-28, 2023. <https://ighr.gagensociety.org/>

Registration for the **Texas Institute of Genealogical Research** will open in early March. Classes will be virtual June 12-16, 2023. <https://www.txsgs.org/tigr-2023/>

Registration is open for **Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh** . Virtual class will be June 18-23, 2023 <https://www.gripitt.org/>

International German Genealogy Partnership Conference—**Crossroads and Connections: Find Your Family Story**—will be virtual and in person in Fort Wayne, IN June 9-11, <https://iggp.org/index.php>.

National Genealogical Society Conference Online will be June 2-3, in person June 1-3 in Richmond Virginia. <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

### Webinars

“Copyrights and Copywrongs” by Judy Russell presented by **Houston Genealogical Forum** will be March 4, 2023 [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_VeE8kUf0Q\\_q7Y9Q-LLAKA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VeE8kUf0Q_q7Y9Q-LLAKA)

“Immigration: Ports of Entry” presented by **Solano County Genealogical Society** on March 4, 2023 <https://www.scgsca.org/>

“Ten Steps for Organizing for the Busy Genealogist,” presented by **Northland Genealogy Society** on March 4, 2023 <https://northlandgensoc.com/rc-events/ten-steps-for-organizing-for-the-busy-genealogist/>

**Genealogical Forum of Oregon Virtual Open House** March 11-19 29 Free Classes <https://gfo.org/learn/open-house-2023.html>

Two Sessions with Elissa Scalise Powell presented by the **San Diego Genealogical Society** on March 11, 2023 <https://casdgs.org/event-5051016>

“Using Maps in Genealogical Research,” presented by **Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society** on March 11, 2023 <https://nwsogenealogy.org/dr-melinda-kashuba-using-maps-in-genealogical-research/>

Dallas Genealogical Society Spring Seminar "**Research and the Law: Legal Knowledge Needed to Find Your Ancestors,**" featuring Judy Russell will be April 22, 2023. <https://dgs.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/dgs/eventRegistration.jsp?event=365&>