

# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News  
November 2022

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:

**November 19, 2022 - Hybrid Meeting- "Finding Your New England Ancestors"** by David Appleton. We'll meet in the Genealogy Section. The Program Room is being used for another event.

### Future Events:

**December 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.

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

**December 17, 2022 - Meeting at the Library - Show and Tell**

**January 21, 2023 - Hybrid Meeting - "Appreciating Conflicting Evidence: Analysis and Resolution Develops Broader Research"** by Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG, CGL (Remote Speaker)

**February 18, 2023 - Hybrid Meeting - "Applying to a Lineage Society"** by Emily Richardson

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

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

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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

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## DNA Special Interest Group

The DNA Special Interest Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the Genealogy Section of Haggard Library from 7-8:30 pm. Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

We are using Diahan Southard's book *Your DNA Guide the book* to guide our discussions.

Diahan Southard is hosting "Your DNA Secrets Revealed," on PBS, Channel 13 KERA. The show will air multiple times beginning on 1 December at 7:00 pm.

The group is currently learning about the Leeds Method of clustering matches. <https://www.danaleeds.com/the-leeds-method/>. There is also a webinar on Legacy Family Tree Webinars where Dana Leeds explains the process.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Gen Friends needs help with the following:

- Coordinating with Speakers - send reminders, request bio and handouts, send handouts to printer and pick them up from the printer.
- 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).

## Genealogy Education

**The Genealogy Show** will be virtual on December 2-4, 2022. <https://thegenealogyshow.uk/>

**Applied Genealogy Institute** is a practicum-based approach where you learn by doing. Registration for Spring 2023 opens January 18-24th There are five classes being offered. <https://appliedgen.institute/spring-2023-classes/>

**RootsTech 2023** will be in person and virtual March 2-4, 2023. Registration is open. <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/event/rt2023> Virtual is free and in person is \$98. Don't forget that sessions from past years are available on the website to view. <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/search>

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&>

## World War I Draft Registration Records

By Barbara Coakley

The Selective Service Act was passed 18 May 1917. It authorized the President to temporarily increase the size of the military. The office of the Provost Marshal General (PMGO) was responsible for selecting men for service. The office in Washington D.C. created policies which were communicated to the governors of each state. District boards were established by the President by Federal Judicial District that had jurisdiction over local boards. Local boards were established for each county and population areas over 30,000 people.

4,648 local boards registered men, classified them, assigned them a serial number, running the lottery, examining them to determine if they were fit for service, inducting them into service, and sending them to a training camps. Considerations were made for men who were federal and state officers, religion and theological students, members of religious sects opposed to war, employees of customhouse and post office, armories, arsenals, and navy yards. Also those who worked in certain industries and agriculture and special family situations

There were three registrations. On 5 June 1917 all men between the ages of 21 and 31 were required to register. On 5 June 1918 anyone who turned 21 after 5 June 1917 was required to register. In August 1918 a supplemental registration was held for those turning 21 after June 1918. The third registration was held on 12 September for men age 18 through 45. Armistice was signed 11 November 1918 and by 31 March 1919 the local boards were closed.

About 24,000,000 million men registered by filling out a registration card (top image of front of card). Images are available on *Ancestry*

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6482/>. Men were given a Registration Certificate (bottom image).

There is also a collection on *Ancestry* of Lists of Men Ordered to Report to Local Board for Military Duty from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Washington D.C. <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/4906/>

If you have an ancestor born between 1873 and 1900 they should have completed a draft registration card. Aliens were required to register but not subject to service. Not everyone who registered, served in the military. The records of the local boards have not been digitized. Newspapers are a good source for information about the boards.

Search Tips - Use variant spellings of the surname when searching. Search for the surname in the first name field - some men transposed their first and last name. Try adding a middle name if your ancestor had one. Try searching using initials in place of first name. Use location to narrow search results.

REGISTRATION CARD					
SERIAL NUMBER	54			ORDER NUMBER	168
1. Name: Dietrich John Meyer					
2. PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS: #2 Falls Monroe Ill					
Age in Years	Date of Birth				
3 33	4 September 16th 1884				
RACE					
White	Negro	Oriental	Indian		
5	6	7	Citizen	Non-citizen	
U. S. CITIZEN			ALIEN		
Native Born	Naturalized	Citizen by Father's Naturalization Before Registrant's Majority	Declarant	Non-declarant	
10	11	12	13	14	
15. If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?					
PRESENT OCCUPATION		EMPLOYER'S NAME			
16 Laborer		17 Jacob Fries			
18. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS: Falls Monroe Ill					
19. Name: Dietrich Meyer Sr. (Father)					
20. Address: #2 Falls Monroe Ill					
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE					
P. M. G. O. Dietrich John Meyer					
Form No. 1 (Rev. 6-1-17)					

REGISTRATION		CERTIFICATE.	
P. M. G. O. Form No. 68.			
To whom it may concern, Greetings:			
THESE PRESENTS ATTEST, That in accordance with the proclamation of the President of the United States, and in compliance with law,			
Dietrich John Meyer			
#2 Falls Monroe Ill			
has submitted himself to registration and has by me been duly registered this 12			
day of Sept, 1918, under the supervision of the Local Board designated on the back hereof.			
Edward Knapp Registrar.			
8-6172 (Place stamp of Local Board on back of this card.)			

## Family Heirlooms

By Barbara Coakley

My family knows that if they have anything family related that they want to get rid of - send it to Barbara. I've been fortunate enough to receive lots of family memorabilia from various relatives.

What is an heirloom? That depends on the person/family. Heirlooms have sentimental value. They don't have to cost a lot to be priceless. Some do have monetary value. They might be something that will keep a family tradition alive. Someone in the family must care enough about the item to ensure it maintains its appearance, quality and functionality.

The most unique item I have is a stone from the family plot at the cemetery in Waterloo, Illinois. The plot was enclosed with a small wrought iron fence and there was a stone with the family name, Sennott, carved in it that formed the threshold at the entrance to the plot. The cemetery decided it was too difficult to keep the property up with all these small fences and stones. Fortunately a cousin still lived in Waterloo so he took the Sennott stone and kept it for me until I could get there to pick it up. The stone is now incorporated in the landscaping in my back yard.

Recently I've started thinking about what is going to happen to these treasured items when I can't care for them any longer. Many of the items I have bring back memories of family members who are no longer living. Unfortunately the younger generations in the family didn't know many of the older relatives and don't have that personal connection. I was looking for a way to document the items and capture their meaning to preserve for future generations.

I started a project to capture items that belonged to my paternal grandparents. Looking through all of the family photos I have I pulled out those that showed the interior and exterior of their home. I have the deeds from the purchase and sale of the lot and home. When the lot was sold it was zoned commercial so it is no longer an individual home. First it was a used car lot and now it is a real estate company.

I photographed everything that I have from that side of the family and asked my cousins to send me pictures and memories of anything they have from Grandma and Grandpa. My brother is an engineer so he created a floor plan for the house.

For each item I'm capturing information that can be crafted into a story about the item and it's original owner:

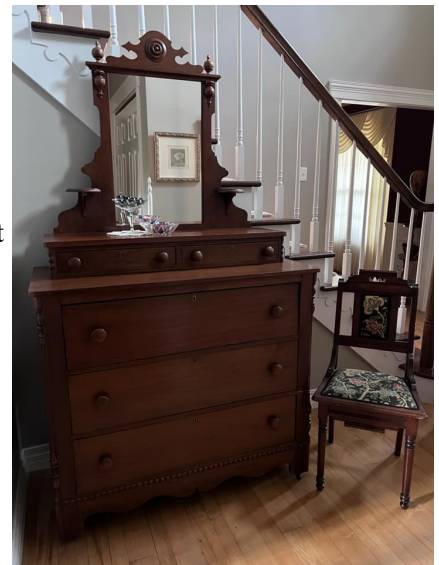
- Physical characterizes - size, what is it made of, what does it feel like, does it have an odor
- What was it used for originally and is it used for anything now?
- Who owned it in the past?
- How and where did they acquire the item?
- Who owns it now?
- Does it have any special meaning?

For some items, I haven't been able to figure out what happened to them when Grandma sold the house and moved to assisted living. For these items I'll

capture the stories. My grandmother had a large square electric skillet that was stored on top of the china cabinet that I now have in my kitchen. My grandfather won it for her. The skillet was at an event they attended. It was full of beans and the person who guessed the number of beans won the skillet. Grandpa was a structural engineer (engineering runs in the family). He measured the skillet and one bean. From those measurements he figured out how many beans the skillet would hold and sure enough his guess was the closest.

My goal is to put all of this on a blog so I can share it and ask other family members to add their memories of the items. I'll also create a digital scrapbook that can be printed for other family members who are interested. This will preserve the information and hopefully generate interest in the items that I have so I can pass them on to future generations.

I'm still working on what to do with the items that future generations don't want - possibilities include donating the items to a museum or selling them and donating the money to a charity. I'll be sure that I leave specific instructions in my will for anything I still have when my time comes.



## Oldest Polish Settlement

Submitted by Barbara Brogdon

Published on the [Texas Historical Commission](#) page on Facebook



The oldest permanent Polish settlement in North America is Panna Maria in Karnes County. The community was established in 1854.

Father Leopold Moczygemba, who had been a missionary in New Braunfels and seen the German Texans' success, led a group of 100 immigrant families from Krakow and Upper Silesia. After nine weeks at sea, they landed in Galveston. From there, they walked some 200 miles inland to their new home near the confluence of the San Antonio River and Cibolo Creek.

The first stone house in the settlement was built in 1858—it belonged to stonemason John Gawlik. The house, designated a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 2014, was designed with a steeply pitched gable roof, a large overhang covering the porch, two small windows for ventilation, and interior meat-smoking rooms connected to fireplaces.

## Potpourri of Websites

Palaeography: reading old handwriting 1500-1800 A practical online tutorial from the National Archives of the UK . There are tips, reference materials, a tutorial of ten documents and further documents to practice on.

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/default.htm>

Latin Handwriting - Many early church records were written in Latin. Grammar of Latin is different from English, names are written differently and we need to understand the vocabulary. There are tools to help with these documents on *FamilySearch.org* in the Learning Center. There are ten lessons including a word list, declining personal names, reading handwriting and much more. <https://www.familysearch.org/en/help/helpcenter/lessons/latin-handwriting-1-introduction>

The National Police Gazette, an American magazine founded in 1845. It was a combination of a men's lifestyle magazine, sports, celebrity gossip, competitions, and sensational journalism. There are digital collections on [Internet Archive](#) and [GenealogyBank](#). The National Police Gazette website has more information about the magazine. <http://policegazette.us/national-police-gazette-about>

Archion has digitized records from Evangelical Archives in Germany. They have records that are not available on *FamilySearch*. This site requires a subscription. There are 1 month passes, 3 month passes, 1 year passes and a 20 day allotment. There are limits to the number of records that can be downloaded with each level. <https://www.archion.de/en/>

David Appleton was our speaker at the November Saturday Seminar <http://www.appletonstudios.com/speaker.htm>

Extreme Genes America's Family History Radio Show. <https://www.extremegenes.com/> Website has tips, tools to use for research, and link to the podcast. Listen to the podcast for a code to get a discount on membership to American Ancestors (New England Historic Genealogical Society).

American Ancestors focuses on New England records, offers webinars, and publishes a scholarly quarterly journal. <https://www.americanancestors.org/> Listen to Extreme Genes Podcast for a discount code.

MyHeritage has updated the Family Statistics. See data about the family tree you have on their site. They also have tools to repair scratched and damaged photos, colorize photos, animate photos and make your photos speak. Their blog explains the new features. If you have a DNA test from Ancestry or 23 and Me you can upload it to myHeritage. They have tools to work with your matches but have a much smaller pool of testers than Ancestry does. Their newest feature is the ability to sort your Shared Matches. <https://blog.myheritage.com/>

Draw IO is a tool to create diagrams and family trees. I use it when I am working with DNA matches to draw the family tree to figure out where the match fits. You can use it online or download the software to your computer. <https://app.diagrams.net/>

