



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News  
April 2022

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

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## Schedule of Events

**We are currently planning on holding our meetings via Zoom through May 2022**

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

### **This Month:**

**April 16, 2022 - Zoom Meeting - "Ten Skills Every Genealogist Needs" by Nancy E. Loe**

### **Future Events:**

**May 5, 2021—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.

**May 21, 2022 - Zoom Meeting - "One-Step Website: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools," by Stephen Morse.**

**June 18, 2022 - Meeting at Library - To be announced**

**July 16, 2022 - Meeting at Library - To be announced**

**August 20, 2022 - Meeting at Library - To be announced**

**September 17, 2022 - All Day Seminar - To be announced**

## Index

<b>Genealogy Education and News</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Obsolete Genealogy Database Conversion</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Local Genealogical and Historical Societies</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Women Pilots in WWII</b>	<b>4</b>

### 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

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### Genealogy Education & News

**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.

There are virtual lectures almost every day listed on **Conferencekeeper.org**. <https://conferencekeeper.org/>

**Genie Bugs Genealogy Calendar** - links to webinars, classes, conferences, etc.

[https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?src=geniebugs6396@gmail.com&ctz=America/New\\_York&fbclid=IwAR26NrTbLh4bWhKX6sLmJzGbxKSkrs1WrkRmVvX0F8SprFXi0tJYV9HUgpw&pli=1](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?src=geniebugs6396@gmail.com&ctz=America/New_York&fbclid=IwAR26NrTbLh4bWhKX6sLmJzGbxKSkrs1WrkRmVvX0F8SprFXi0tJYV9HUgpw&pli=1)

**Dallas Genealogical Society 2022 Spring Seminar** - "Using DNA Strategically: Tools to Identify Ancestors" April 23, 2022 <https://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/meetings-events/seminars/2022-spring-seminar/>

**Georgia Genealogical Society** has free webinars coming up on April 14, May 12, and October 13.

<https://gagensociety.org/webinar-schedule/>

**The Genealogy Center at Allen County Public Library** has programs on the library's YouTube channel on a wide variety of topics. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8AE558B5D8661B31> They also have upcoming programs on their website that you can register for. <https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>

**American Ancestors** has free programs and classes for a fee.

<https://www.americanancestors.org/events?isOnline=true&isFree=true>

**The Florida State Genealogical Society** offers webinars. You can attend for free but handouts are available only for members. <https://www.flsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=253>

**Amy Johnson Crow** has a newsletter, blog and workshops on her website. <https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/>

Dr. Sophie Kay posted a blog post called "**Six Hats for Genealogy**" [https://parchmentrustler.com/family-history/six-hats-for-genealogy/?fbclid=IwAR0x12gsw0acYTFka76D3YwylqFEgBLb53\\_35FnLkwscXBa5qQAEIzgggyBE](https://parchmentrustler.com/family-history/six-hats-for-genealogy/?fbclid=IwAR0x12gsw0acYTFka76D3YwylqFEgBLb53_35FnLkwscXBa5qQAEIzgggyBE) The article discusses adapting a methodology by Edward De Bono for working through a genealogical problem by looking at it from six different perspectives. It includes a case study using the methodology.

## Obsolete Genealogy Database Conversion

By Susan Argyle

Have you ever found or been given an old genealogy database by a relative? Did it turn out to be some obsolete genealogy software that ran on an obsolete OS? Before you throw the files away, consider a conversion service.

I recently received data files from 2001 for Sierra Generations Family Tree (1999) which runs on Windows Vista and earlier. I also received the software, but I don't have a computer that I could install it on.

I found a company in England that keeps working copies of old genealogy software in order to translate old databases into a format that will work on modern software. I sent them the files, and they converted the old databases to GEDCOM, which I was able to import into RootsMagic. They checked the files before I had to pay anything, in case the data wasn't recoverable. They can convert to other family tree programs, if you would rather have that than a GEDCOM. They accept PayPal, so you don't have to do currency conversion.

The company is TWR Computing, owned by My History.

[https://www.twrcomputing.co.uk/acatalog/Data\\_Conversion.html](https://www.twrcomputing.co.uk/acatalog/Data_Conversion.html)

This page lists the file extensions for files that they can convert.

<https://www.twrcomputing.co.uk/acatalog/What-files-can-we-convert--CONVTEXT.html#SID=97>

They also offer some old copies of software, if you happen to have a computer that you could install it on.

## Local Genealogical & Historical Societies

Local Genealogical and Historical societies are a great resource to help discover your family stories. I belong to different societies for different reasons.

I belong to societies where I live to meet people who are interested in family history and for education on genealogy subjects. They are a great network of people to discuss ideas for research and brick walls. Unfortunately, I don't live where my ancestors did. I found there are people who live where I live who also don't have ancestors in the area and some are researching the same locations I am. Presentations by local societies may not focus on the locations where I'm searching but I can learn from the methodology, about different records to use, about new technologies, and what is going on in the genealogy community.

I belong to societies where my ancestor lived and that focus on my ancestors' ethnicities to meet people who are experts in the areas I'm researching. Societies are available at the local, state, and regional levels. They are a great source to find out about what records exist and where they are. Some have libraries and/or people who are willing to do record lookups in their area. If they offer presentations via zoom I can attend. Their newsletters have articles that focus on the area or ethnicity.

I belong to the National Genealogical Society to take advantage of the resources they offer including the Quarterly, magazine, blog, conferences and educational opportunities. The NGSQ journal articles are full of techniques for solving problems, the footnotes provide hints to records that might solve research problems, and how problems and solutions are presented give me ideas on how to write my family stories.

Supporting societies helps ensure their continued existence, help me continue to improve as a researcher, network with other researchers, and keep up with what is going on in the community.

## Women Pilots in WWII

Submitted by Barbara Brogdon

During World War II, brave and determined Americans trained at Avenger Field in Sweetwater. They were known as the WASPs: Women Airforce Service Pilots.

This group of civilian women, already licensed pilots, served their country during the war by taking on home-front military duties so male pilots were available to fight in combat. The WASPs ferried planes and personnel between bases, flight-tested planes after repairs, and flew in mission simulations. They trained on every aircraft in the Army Air Forces' fleet.

More than 25,000 pilots applied to be WASPs; about 1,800 were accepted, and more than 1,000 earned their wings. Thirty-eight WASPs gave their lives for their country, and though the pilots were well-regarded by their commanders, they had civilian status with no military benefits. That oversight was finally overturned in 1977. In 2010, the WASPs were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.

Avenger Field is now home to the [National WASP WWII Museum](#), which uses exhibits, events, and aircraft to tell the stories of the pilots who served here. The museum was founded by WASP Deanie Bishop Parrish.

More about Texas on the home front in WWII: [#WomensHistoryMonth](https://texastimetravel.com/node/28769)

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