

# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News  
November 2023

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.

### December:

#### Future Events:

**December 7, 2023—Round Table Zoom Discussion Group** Zoom meeting from 7-9 pm

**December 9, 2023—In Person—Research At The Library** see page ? For details

**December 16, 2023—In Person —Show and Tell**

**January 20, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—**”A Nose for News: Sniffing Out Stories in Newspapers” by Mary Roddy

**February 17, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—**”The Fair Court: Records of the Chancery Court” by Judy Russell

**March 16, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—**”Turning Records Into Stories” by Barbara Coakley

**April 20, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—**”The Value of Transcribing Historical Records” by LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson

**May 18, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—A Foundational Step in Research Strategy-What is the Research Question?”** by Emily Richardson

**June 15, 2024—Hybrid Meeting—**”AI and Genealogy” by Thomas MacEntee

**Check out the events on our Website for more info on the topics and speakers for each months program—**<https://www.genealogyfriends.org>

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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.

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.

Pay online or 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

## Research At The Library

Join fellow researchers on Saturday, December 9, 2023  
10 am to 1 pm at

WO Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Road, Plano, TX

- Bring a research project to work on. The library is a FamilySearch affiliate library where you can access restricted records you can't get from home.
- Experienced genealogists will be on hand to help with your research questions.
- Bounce ideas for knocking down a brick wall off fellow researchers
- Use the large format scanning equipment.



## Volunteers Needed

Genealogy Friends is a volunteer led organization. We have a dedicated board of directors who keep things running. Our fiscal year begins October 1st.

Current Volunteer Opportunities:

Photographer—take pictures at events—you can use your phone.

Social Media—post events on our Facebook page

If you are interested in helping out please email [newsletter@genealogyfriends.org](mailto:newsletter@genealogyfriends.org)

## Local Genealogy Events—Save the Dates

Research At The Library will be on December 9, 2023. Experienced members will be available to help with research planning and answer questions. Join us at W.O. Haggard Library from 10-1.

Dallas Genealogical Society 2024 Seminar Series:

- April 13, 2024 “Genealogy Jackhammers: Methods for Breaking Brick Walls” with Tom Jones
- July 27, 2024 “The Legacy of Forced Removal: Finding Formerly Enslaved & Indigenous Kin” with Nicka Smith Sewell
- September 28, 2024 “Autosomal Analysis: Tools for Finding Your Ancestors” with Blaine Bettinger

## Cenotaphs

By Barbara Coakley

A cenotaph is a monument, headstone, or marker honoring someone buried elsewhere. The Congressional Cemetery in Washington D. C. has an entire section of cenotaphs for members of congress who died in office.

While researching Lawrence Kern Smarr I found three entries on Find A Grave. He died as a prisoner of war during World War II. Lawrence and hundreds of other prisoners were loaded in the hold of a ship to be transported from the Philippines to Japan. The ship was bombed and most of the men perished.

He is memorialized on the walls of the missing at the Manilla American Cemetery in the Philippines so I was surprised to find two additional markers for him on FindAGrave.



SMALL FRED M	MAJ	31 INF REGT	COLORADO
SMALL GEORGE A	S. SGT	491 BOMB SQ 341 BOMB GP (M)	OHIO
SMALL ROBERT S	SGT	90 BOMB SQ 3 BOMB GP (L)	NEW HAMPSHIRE
SMALLEY RALPH E	I LT	394 BOMB SQ 5 BOMB GP (H)	NEW YORK
SMALLEY RICHARD S	CPL	59 CA REGT	TEXAS
SMALLEY VERNON C	PFC	31 INF REGT	ARKANSAS
SMARR LAWRENCE K	CAPT	FIELD ARTILLERY	MISSOURI
SMART FRANK P	CAPT	387 BOMB SQ 312 BOMB GP (L)	TEXAS
SMART LA VERNE L	PVT	31 INF REGT	MICHIGAN
SMEAD LOWELL F	SGT	319 BOMB SQ 90 BOMB GP (H)	CALIFORNIA
SMEDLEY WARREN R	I LT	75 FTR SQ 23 FTR GP	OHIO
SMELCER CHARLES L	PFC	31 INF REGT	MISSOURI
SMETHURST HAROLD A JR	S SGT	371 BO	MISSOURI
SMIDY REUBEN	TEC 4		


There is a marker in his home town of Columbia, Missouri. A veteran's brass plaque marker is attached to the back side of the stone.



The mystery is a third memorial for Lawrence at Bonner Springs, Kansas. His mother was born in Bonner Springs and both parents are buried in this cemetery. My guess is that the family had another monument placed there on the family plot. It is always worth checking even if you think you know where someone is buried to see if there are other memorials for them.

## Genealogy Specials

[My Heritage](#) offer expires November 24, 2023



**Black Friday DNA Sale**  
Only \$33 ~~\$89~~  
Free standard shipping on 2+ kits  
[Order Now](#)

[Genealogical Publishing Company](#) offer expires November 27, 2023

**20% OFF**

**Books & eBooks**

Be sure to enter code

**THANKS23**

at checkout to save!

[Shop Now](#)

[23 and Me](#) Health & Ancestry Service \$179.00 offer expires November 26, 2023

[Ancestry DNA](#) kit is on sale for \$59.00 offer expires November 22, 2023.

Stay informed by signing up for Thomas MacEntee's newsletter on the [Genealogy Bargains](#) website.

## Institutes and Conferences

[RootsTech](#) will be February 29-March 2, 2024 in person and via zoom

**AppGen Registration!**  
**19 -25 January 2024**  
**Using Google Earth Pro to Enhance & Share Your Research**  
 Marie Palmer  
**Architectural Ancestry:  
 A Course in House Histories**  
 Jill Morelli, CG  
**Bagging a Live One: Finding Living People**  
 Mary Roddy, CG  
**The Art of Self-Editing for Genealogists**  
 Pam Pracs Anderson, CG  
**DNA Foundations: Tools & Techniques**  
 Edward J. Swierczewski, Jr.  
 find out more at  
 Applied Genealogy Institute  
<https://appliedgen.institute>



[Genealogy Research Institute in Pittsburgh](#) (GRIP) is now part of the National Genealogical Society. Virtual Week is in June and In Person in July.

### [APPGEN](#)



2024 VIRTUAL FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

**EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES**

16-18 MAY



### [NGS Conference](#)



Institute of  
 Genealogy and  
 Historical Research

[IGHR](#) will be 21-26 July 2024. There are 13 courses to choose from. Registration opens March 9, 2024