

Virtual Genealogy Conference

FRIDAY, OCT. 15 | 9 A.M.-6 P.M.

One day only! Registration required.

Sign up online at www.tulsalibrary.org/events.

The conference programs are provided by the Genealogy Network of Texas (GNT), a state-wide initiative to connect libraries and genealogical societies and to provide educational and research opportunities. The initiative is spearheaded by the Waco-McLennan County Library's Genealogy Center. Co-sponsors include the Central Texas Genealogical Society and the Texas State Genealogical Society.



Schedule

9-10 A.M.

Methodology: Using Timelines to Focus Your Research

Susan Ball, President TxSGS

The most important tool you can use to research your ancestor is a timeline. Learn how to construct a timeline for your ancestor and use it to uncover previously overlooked avenues for research.

10:15-11:15 A.M.

NARA Mythbusters: Your Family IS in the Archives

Judy G Russell, JD, CG, CGL, The Legal Genealogist; Sponsored by Plano Public Library

"All the military records were burned in the fire." "There isn't any birth, marriage or death information in federal records." "There aren't any details about ordinary families at the National Archives." These kinds of myth-statements stop genealogist from breaking down all kinds of brick walls using the wealth of information in NARA records. Join the mythbusters to explore what treasures the National Archives hold for your family.

11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

So, You've Found Your German Town of Origin, Now What?

Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, CG; Sponsored by Waco-McLennan County Library

Finding your ancestor's town of origin can be exciting. Once this piece of information is found, you might be left wondering how to get records from the other side of the ocean. This lecture focuses on how to get records for German towns. Highlights include: verifying the location, strategies for identifying misspelled town names, finding historical jurisdictions, finding records for that town, useful aids for reading those records and tips for hiring a professional genealogist in Germany, when necessary.

12:45-1:45 P.M.

Fingerprinting Our Families: Using Ancestral Origins as a Genealogical Research Key

Curt B. Witcher, MLS, FUGA, IGSF Manager, Genealogy Center Senior Manager, Special Collections, Allen County Public Library

Explore how the concept of "America, the Great Melting Pot" might be a flawed concept. Identifying the ethnic group of one's ancestor or potential ancestor can pay some significant research dividends. Topics covered include how to build a historical context for one's ancestor, studying population clusters, paying attention to patterns of all sorts (naming, migration, settlement, etc.), understanding the motivations of migration and locating resource repositories.

2:30-3:30 P.M.

Attacking 18th and 19th Century Mysteries with DNA

Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D., J.D., The Genetic Genealogist; Sponsored by Waco-McLennan County Library

Did you know that you have an arsenal of Secret DNA Weapons at your fingertips? These tools can help you attack those mysteries from the 1900s and 1800s! Learn how to harness the power of Shared Matching to pull out matches related via a mystery ancestor, how to build Research Trees to quickly identify common ancestry and more!

3:45-4:45 P.M.

Filling in the Family Stories

Susan Kaufman, Senior Manager, Houston Public Library, Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research

This presentation, through examples of sources, will help you understand the context in which your family lived, celebrated, cooked, listened to music and did other daily activities to help shape the stories that bring our families histories to life. Stories in context go beyond just a name, date and place on a pedigree chart. Social history helps us to better understand lives, provides context to our research, adds interest to the pedigree chart and can also lead to additional records.

5-5:50 P.M.

Discover Genealogical Treasure Using Historic U.S. Maps

Hannah Kubacak, Genealogy Librarian, Genealogy Center Waco-McLennan County Library

Maps provide a valuable tool for understanding the world as it was when our ancestors were living. Explore a variety of resources for finding and using historic maps. A few of the maps to be discussed during this presentation will include Fire Insurance maps, county boundaries, Public Land Survey System maps and land grants.

Speakers



SUSAN BALL

President, TX State Genealogical Society

A genealogist for over 30 years, Susan Ball is TxSGS president, co-editor of *Stirpes*, and president of the San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society.



BLAINE BETTINGER

Ph.D., J.D., The Genetic Genealogist

Blaine Bettinger is a professional genealogist specializing in DNA evidence. He is the author of the blog *The Genetic Genealogist*, and frequently gives presentations and webinars to educate others about the use of DNA to explore their ancestry.



SUSAN KAUFMAN

**Senior Manager, Houston Public Library,
Clayton Library Center
for Genealogical Research**

Susan Kaufman is the Senior Manager of the Houston (TX) Public Library's Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research in Houston and has more than 30 years experience as a genealogy librarian. She is past President of the Texas State Genealogical Society and currently serves as its Director of Education.



HANNAH KUBACAK

**Genealogy Librarian, Genealogy Center
Waco-McLennan County Library**

Hannah Kubacak has been the reference librarian for the Waco Genealogy Center since 2015. Previously she worked at the Chickasaw Nation's Holisso Research Center in Sulphur, Oklahoma. She has published multiple articles for *Stirpes* and *Heart of Texas Records*.



TERESA MCMILLIN

Certified Genealogist

Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, Certified Genealogist ©, author of the *Guide to Hanover Military Records, 1514-1866 on Microfilm at the Family History Library*, is the owner of Lind Street Research, a company dedicated to helping people discover their German ancestry.



JUDY G. RUSSELL

JD, CG, CGL, The Legal Genealogist

The Legal Genealogist Judy G. Russell is a genealogist with a law degree who provides expert guidance through the murky territory where law and family history intersect. Her award-winning blog is at <https://www.legalgenealogist.com>.



CURT WITCHER

**MLS, FUGA, IGSF Manager, The Genealogy Center
Senior Manager, Allen County Public Library**

Curt Witcher is the Director of Special Collections at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN, managing the widely acclaimed Genealogy Center as well as the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection of Abraham Lincoln related research materials.