



West Houston Area Genealogy Society



"Helping to Find Your Roots!"

March 2022

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"History doesn't move you more than when it's the iron of your own blood."

—J.R. Tompkins

Presenting In-Person & Virtually!

Speaking at our hybrid presentation on March 19th is Mitch Clendening. His topic is **"Tools for Using Google to Research Ancestors."** The word "Google" is more than a name or a website. It's become a verb. It's something you do to find an answer you're seeking. Whether it's the address to the nearest coffee bar or the name of the movie you watched last week, you can always "Google it", and some type of useful information will turn up.

Over the years, Google® has added other services, such as email, chat, document creation and storage, just to

name a few. Many of the services offered by Google® can be used to uncover, record, and even share your family history. Find out how creating a personal Google® account gives you access to this wide array of online services, and how to use them to turbo-boost your family history research. It all starts with a Gmail account.

Mitch is a Senior Library Service Specialist with Clayton Library in Houston. Through the availability of ever improving technology, Mitch will demonstrate some great uses of Google to improve your research.

Save the Date!

Saturday



March 19, 2022

The meeting opens at **10:00 am** and **the program will begin at 10:30 pm**. We will be meeting in person at the **Steve Rad-dack Center on Clay Road** or you can attend virtually by

registering at

www.whags.org

"7 Free Google Search Features Every Genealogist Should Use: Google® for Genealogy" by Lisa Louise Cooke



Google is a many-faceted gem when it comes to searching for ancestors online. Are you getting the most out of what Google offers?

Google searching—entering your ancestors’ names and other keywords into the main Google search box—is where you *start* using Google for genealogy. But the search box isn’t the only Google feature that can help you find hidden genealogy treasures online. Here are 7 important Google resources you need:

Google® Alerts

Google will sweep the internet for your favorite keyword searches on a regular basis! Just set up as many of these searches as you need with Google Alerts. It’s free and you can customize it to search *when* and *what* you want.

Go to www.google.com/alerts and create an alert using the search criteria you require. You can set the type of content (i.e., blogs, videos, discussions, books, or everything), the frequency of the alerts, and the scope of results you want to see. Google will deliver alerts to the email address you specify letting you know about new material as it becomes available. More tips about setting Google Alerts can be found [here](#).

Google® Books

You may already know that [Google Books](#) will keyword search within billions of pages of text in published books from around the world. Some of these books are even available to read in full on the site. Searching Google Books can lead you to facts, stories, new sources for your research and even images.

Cont'd

Google® Cache

Web content changes all the time. Sometimes the text, pictures or other content we most want just disappears. A page is revised, or a webpage or an entire website is taken offline. Use Google Cache to look at webpages that no longer exist! When you land on a "File Not Found" error, click the Back button, and restore the Google cached version of the document by selecting the three buttons to the right of the search result URL and clicking the Cached button. A view of the web page will then appear as it looked when Google last indexed it.

Google® Earth

Google Earth, known for its ability to virtually "fly" us to locations around the world, is another helpful tool in genealogy research. Google Earth is the ultimate online map of the world: free, interactive, three-dimensional, multi-layered and crowd-sourced with all kinds of extra content. You can use it to identify ancestral hometowns and even their properties; zoom in to see what it looks like today; find old buildings, cemeteries, schools or churches relating to their lives, and more. [Click here](#) to watch a free video on using Google Earth for your genealogy.

Google® Images

When using Google for genealogy, you can also visualize your results. Google has a dedicated area for finding the images you want, like certain people, places or historical events: [Google Images](#). Google Images will even narrow your results to certain parameters: black and white images only; maps or pictures of people only; photographs and images without copyright restrictions that you may re-use in your family history write-ups. [Click here](#) for more tips about using Google Images.

Google® News Archive

Though no longer actively digitizing and indexing newspapers, [Google News Archive](#) can help you locate online content for specific newspapers. [Click here](#) to access its alphabetical listing of newspapers. You can also enter keyword-searches in the search box on that webpage for all the newspapers listed here.

Google® Scholar

When you want to dig into scholarly articles, theses, dissertations and other academic sources, turn to [Google Scholar](#). This resource specializes in searching the "smart stuff," for more advanced research. Sometimes you can find very specialized content, like a biography of a little-known minister or a history of a little tiny town.

Resource:

This article is reprinted with permission from Lisa Louise Cooke's blog on her website, <https://lisalouisecooke.com>. Lisa Louise Cooke is the author of several books, including *The Genealogist's Google Toolbox*, 3rd edition. She produces and hosts the popular *Genealogy Gems Podcast*, and the free weekly YouTube show *ElevenSenses with Lisa* at the *Genealogy Gems* YouTube channel. Lisa writes a regular column for *Family Tree Magazine*, and lives in Rhome, Texas.



Greetings,

It is hard to believe we have only three programs remaining in our 2021-2022 program year. The programs this year have been wonderful; providing a lot of good information to our members. WHAGS has been able to present this year's programs to in-person and virtual attendees meeting our members' needs. As we close out this year, it is time to plan for the 2022-2023 program year. To effectively plan the next year, the Leadership Team needs to hear from you.

One of the goals of the Leadership Team is to provide the programming that members want. To do that, we need input from our members. Your input is valuable in helping the Leadership Team and the Programming Committee bring quality presentations to WHAGS. If you have not already received a survey requesting your input, you should receive it soon. Please complete the survey and provide any additional information you want the Programming Committee and the Leadership Team to know about what you would like to see or do in the upcoming year.

Jenny Sharrer is stepping down as the de facto Programming Committee. She has carried the bulk of the programming load for the last few years. To ensure quality programs and events in the future, WHAGS needs people to step up and carry on what Jenny has set in place. Ideally, three or four people could work on programming for the year, sharing the work so no one person has to do it all. We have eight months of programs, Sep-

The President's Note....



tember through May. December is the holiday celebration where members share artifacts, research, stories, etc., and does not require a formal program. Each month's programming could be approached as a single project, thereby dividing the year's work.

There are many other opportunities to help WHAGS. We are a group of people who share the same passion for understanding our families' past and present. We enjoy sharing our discoveries and our brick walls. We help each other learn new research techniques and sources. WHAGS exists to help all of us do better genealogy and discover our ancestors' stories. If we all don't do our part, however large or small, WHAGS will cease to exist as volunteers drop out.

In closing, I would like to thank all the volunteers, past and present, for keeping WHAGS alive. Let's take the momentum built over the years and strive to be a better organization for us all!

"A Place in Time: John George Minear's Death" by Diane Rausch ©

This story is about my 5th great grandfather on my dad's side, John George Minear, 1730-1781. It is one of the first stories that got me hooked on genealogy. It is an exciting story that includes hostile Indians and adventures in the wilderness of western Virginia in the late 1700s.

Extensive accounts of the Minears can be found in books about them and West Virginia. Of course, some of the stories have more information than others, but there is a surprising amount of detail in each of them. I have found that some of these stories are different and conflicting and seem open to interpretation. Many books about the family have been written and documented by brothers Hu Maxwell and Charles Joseph "CJ" Maxwell, my 3rd cousins twice removed, along with other authors too numerous to name.

At times, it is difficult to follow the story because the names of the counties and areas have changed and merged over the years. Also, this part of western Virginia was not West Virginia until June 1863.

In 1774, John Minear led a party of 40 settlers to the Cheat River area in western Virginia. He retreated to the South Branch area due to Indian trouble. A year later, he returned with others to the Cheat area and built a palisade called Fort Minear at today's St. George, West Virginia. In 1776, he cleared some land and built a sawmill on Mill Run near St. George. This was the first sawmill west of the Alleghenies. John Minear used pack horses to carry the metal machinery piece by piece from Maryland.



The existing marker for Fort Minear.

There had been problems with Indian attacks over a period of many years. In April 1780, Shawnee Indians were known to be in the area. Because of this, a lot of families moved into the palisade for protection. Others were not allowed to join them due to an outbreak of smallpox. The Sims family was one of those and they were attacked probably on the 6th of April.

Fort Minear was described as a two story structure and the logs were hewed and mortised so that they fit tightly together. The chimney was on the inside. There were no windows except for portholes cut out in the upper story to admit light and to shoot through. The fort was surrounded by a stockade, a square of heavy posts planted firmly in the ground and rising about twelve feet. The entire enclosure covered about a quarter of an acre. Today there is only a sign indicating where the fort was located.

No one left the fort for any reason. A lot of the men were in Winchester though, 130 miles away, on their annual trading trip selling furs and purchasing items that

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they needed. Even though the Indians did not attack, they could be seen on a ridge not far away.

Days later they felt safer. The men had returned from Winchester, and there were no sightings of the Indians. Jonathan Minear, one of John Minear's oldest sons, Daniel Cameron, and Philip Washburn, Jonathan's brother-in-law, went back to their homesteads to check on their livestock. A copy of "History of Tucker County" goes into great detail about this incident. All three of the men who went out were attacked by the Indians. Jonathan was shot in the leg and the book tells about his death in gruesome detail.

Washburn was captured. Cameron escaped and ran back to the fort for help. Jonathan was in his 20's when he died on the 16th of April 1780, although there are disputes about the year of his death. It can be argued that Daniel Cameron was with Jonathan in April 1780 and he was later killed in an ambush a year later on April 1781. Washburn was later rescued by the settlers.



The next April of 1781, John George Minear and five men left the fort to go to Clarksburg to file claims for their land, (Harrison County Deed Book 1:52-53). The land had been improved and the government assigned land grants. The men who accompanied Minear were Daniel Cameron, Frederick Cooper, Salathiel Goff, Andrew Miller, and Henry Miller.

One of the many versions of the story is that the Indians had been on a raid in Lewis County, where they killed several people and practically exterminated the Schoolcraft family, fifteen of whom had either been killed or carried into captivity over a period of seven years. From Lewis County, the Indians crossed over to Barbour County and set an ambush near the mouth of Hackers Creek for the Minear party.

The party of six left Clarksburg on the 5th of April 1781 not suspecting what was ahead. The Indians had hung a leather gun case over the trail and positioned themselves in the thickets on either side. The Minear party was riding single file with Minear in the lead since the trail was very narrow. He was almost beneath the decoy when he saw it and stopped, which halted the riders behind him. The fact of an ambush probably flashed through his mind and he yelled out "Indians" but too late. The momentary halt had given the Indians time to aim and, as Minear called out, the firing commenced. Horses and men fell together. Minear, Cameron, and Cooper were killed on the spot. Goff and Andrew Miller were unhorsed and took to the woods. Henry Miller, who was riding in the rear, turned and fled back to Clarksburg where he was able to warn of the Indian attacks.

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Andrew Miller ran up a steep hill with several Indians in pursuit armed with knives and tomahawks and yelling wildly. Evidently, he made good time going up the hill and out ran them.

Salathiel Goff was a German immigrant and a soldier of the Revolution and 33 years of age. He ran for the river, in the opposite direction from Miller. He managed to take his coat off and dive into the river. He soon realized that swimming was difficult, so he crawled into an otter den that was close by. The Indians saw his coat floating and followed that downriver. As soon as Goff was certain that the Indians had left, he headed to the fort, 30 miles away, to warn the settlers of the attack.

Reports said that Goff made it to the fort that night. If he was on foot, that probably isn't correct. He and two scouts, James Brown and Stephen Radcliffe, warned the fort that an attack might be imminent. Brown and Radcliffe had been attacked by the same Indians and figured they were heading to the fort. The Indians instead moved to Leading Creek and Tygart River.

The Indians struck on the evening of April 10, 1781, in what is now called the Tygart Valley Massacre.

The bodies of the three men who were shot were buried where they were found on the Seneca Trail. Some stories say they were buried in a hollow tree, others say under the road.

In Hu Maxwell's "Conquest of the Ohio Valley", he writes about the road being dug up years later. An old man who was personally acquainted with the deceased identified the men. The man identified the three because of the condition of

of their teeth or lack of. John George Minear supposedly had teeth missing which helped identify him. I find this story a bit odd since John's death was in 1781. Even if the old man was 10 when John was killed, the road would have to have been dug up in about 1850 or 1860 making the old man about 90. Who knows, maybe the story is true. A monument was constructed next to the spot where the Indian attack had taken place, but that wasn't until 1928.

John's youngest son, my ancestor, Samuel Minear, was one year old at the time of his father's death and the youngest of ten children. I am not sure when his mother died, but Samuel may have been raised by his siblings. Samuel married Charity Gough. They had eight children and moved to Athens, Ohio.

My husband and I often went to Charlottesville, VA to visit his parents when we lived in Williamsburg, VA. On one trip, we decided to go to WV and see if we could find where the attack had taken place. Following the directions that I found on several different sites, we drove along a road that ran along the Tygart Valley River, just North West of Philippi, WV. We drove slowly and to our right we spotted the small monument for John George Minear. It has been updated several times and is still there to mark the spot where he died 241 years ago. We also found a sign at St. George, WV marking where the fort had been. Minears are still in the area. We even saw a sign for a Minear running for office. This was a very interesting trip back in time.



"WHAGS and the 1950 Census" by Ron Ware ©

On April 1, 2022, an event will take place that every genealogist has eagerly awaited for the past ten years; the release of the 1950 U.S. Federal Census. Historically the release of a census has left the researcher with bittersweet emotions. Yes, there has always been excitement around census releases, but, in the past, it would take months if not years to make the data useful to the genealogists. Fortunately, technology has shortened the process. Ten years ago, the 1940 census index was completed in a matter of weeks through online crowdsourcing: thousands working on the project. The 1950 process will prove to be even faster and more fun.

The 1950 census will be indexed by Ancestry, through their artificial intelligence and handwriting recognition technology, which will create a quick electronic index. Of course, that technology is not perfect. That's where we come in.

FamilySearch, with Ancestry, has organized a human review project, conducted by individuals and genealogy societies, to review and refine the index. The exciting thing about this project is that each individual or society, as I understand it, can review and update information from areas of their choosing. If your ancestors lived in Harris County, Texas, you can choose to review the census from that place. It will be fun and satisfying to know that you are helping to ensure the census is indexed accurately for your area.

<https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950>
Ret: 18 Feb 2022



<small>CONFIDENTIAL</small> <small>This inquiry is authorized by Act of Congress (46 Stat. 21; 13 U. S. C. 501-508) which requires that a report be made. The information furnished is accorded confidential treatment. The Census report cannot be used for purposes of taxation, investigation, or registration.</small> FORM P1 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS 1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING									
FOR PERSONS 14 1									
How old was he on his last birthday? (If under one year of age, enter month of birth as April, May, Dec., etc.)	Is he now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married? (Mar, Wd, D, Sep, Div)	What State (or foreign country) was he born in? If born outside Continental United States, enter name of Territory, possession, or foreign country. Distinguish Canada-French from Canada-other	Is he naturalized? (Yes, No, or A* for born abroad of American parents)	What was this person doing most of last week—working, keeping house, or something else? (Wk, H, O, or U for unable to work)	If H or O in item 15—Did this person do any work at all last week, not counting work around the house? (Include work for pay, in own business, profession, on farm, or unpaid family work) (Yes or No)	If No in item 16—Was this person looking for work? (See Special Class below) (Yes or No)	If No in item 17—Even though he didn't work last week, does he have a job or business? (Yes or No)	If Wk in item 18 or Yes in item 16—How many hours did he work last week? (Include unpaid work on family farm or business) (Number of hours)	What kind of doing? For example: Nails heels on shoes. Chemistry professor. Farmer. Farm helper. Armed forces. Never worked. (Occupation)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Source: <https://genealogybargains.com/online-webinars-classes/1950-federal-census-ready/> Retrieved 18 Feb 2022.

The 1950 census includes more detail than censuses in the past. The enumerators asked the following questions:

1. Name of street or road, and home apartment number?
2. Is the home on a farm or ranch? If not, is it on a place of three or more acres?
3. Names of people in the home and their relationship to the head of household?
4. Race?
5. Sex?
6. Age of person on last birthday?
7. In what state or country was the person born?
8. If foreign born, is the person naturalized?
9. What was the person doing for most of last week?
10. What kind of work does the person do, and was the person looking for work, and for how long?

Cont'd

11. Was the person living in the same house or farm a year ago?
12. In what country was the person's mother and father born?
13. Has the person attended school since February 17?
14. How much money was earned through salary, interest, and other income?
15. Did they serve in the armed forces during the past war (World War II
16. Plus a few other personal questions.

Our president, Gail Colby, has registered WHAGS with FamilySearch as a participant in the project. FamilySearch hasn't provided a date for the work to begin,

but I suspect the project will begin shortly after the release. I will ask Neal to post the information on our website as soon as it becomes available. All the details haven't been worked out as of this writing, but I envision our participating members gathering at the Steve Radack Community Center for a few hours of camaraderie and 1950 census index editing.

I think this is a meaningful project. We can provide support for a speedy index review and give WHAGS recognition as a participant on the FamilySearch website.

Watch for further information on the website.

"Resources to Broaden Your Knowledge— Researching African American Records" by Linda Hudson ©

It is hard enough researching my Anglo ancestors, I can't imagine how hard it must be for descendants of African American lineage whose history here began with slavery. Granted some slaves worked in better circumstances and would become known in history, like Thomas Jefferson's slave Sally Hemings. In Lavaca County where I now reside, there once was a large slaveholder by the name of Foley. He fathered children with slaves and with his wife. I find it remarkable and wonderful that his descendants, black and white together, hold a family reunion. What a blessing in so many ways and the black descendants are privy to their Foley history. Below are some links that may help you get started in your research if you don't have a blended family like above. Be aware, you must study how to research anytime you step out of the standard realm. I have had to study a lot about European countries and their records to have a clue as to what to do. Thankfully, more and more records are becoming available.

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Quick Guide to African American Records](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Quick_Guide_to_African_American_Records)

<https://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/research/genealogy-and-family-history/family-records/records-enslaved-people>

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Southern States Slavery and Bondage Collections](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Southern_States_Slavery_and_Bondage_Collections)

<https://www.thoughtco.com/great-databases-for-slave-genealogy-1421640>

"Resources to Broaden Your Knowledge" by Linda Hudson

"African Americans successfully homesteaded in all the Great Plains states." This developed with the passing of the 1866 Civil Rights Act and the 14th Amendment which states that male citizens, widows, single women, and immigrants planning to become citizens had the right to acquire land. Black homesteaders were included. While many freed Blacks weren't in a position to acquire land, some did and "built new lives in which they owned the land they worked, provided for their families, and educated their children." Many of these settled in clusters, not different from white settlers who moved together across the plains. The largest of the Black clusters were in Nicodemus, KS, Dearfield, CO, Sully County, SD, DeWitty, NEB, Empire, WY, and Blackdom, NM. The only place to survive long-term is Nicodemus. Nicodemus and Dearfield are on the National Register of Historic Places. Nicodemus settlers filed 114 patents for land and together they owned over 18,000 acres.

These settlers had to face some difficult times: different soil and agricultural practices and crops, frigid weather, and a lack of wood in many cases. But they persevered. They were their own bosses.

The state to receive the largest number of migrants at this time was Kansas. It gained about 27,000 Black land seekers in 10 years.

How can you find if your ancestors settled here?

FamilySearch provides a list of resources to check for slaves and freed slaves. Enslaved people were considered property and as such may be listed in a property deed. Check county registers. A will or deed may indicate the freeing of slave property. Some states kept registers of "freedmen," and "free Negroes." Look in

the county courthouses. These are more likely to be found in Northern States as



Exodusters from TN to Nicodemus, KS.

Retrieved from NPS.gov on 20 Feb 2022.

many Southern courthouses were destroyed. These records may point you to slaveowners and to other documents like slave trade registers.

Looking back a little further in time, the Emancipation Proclamation provided that freed slaves could obtain land. There were few freed slaves in the South. Most came from Northern states. But, there were other qualifications. The freed slave had to be 18 years old, had never waged war against the U.S., pay an \$18 fee, and promise to improve the land with buildings, wells, and crops during the next five years.

Once you have names you feel are worth researching, go to the Freedmen's Bureau Land Records. You can also do a Land Patent Search. Approximately 40 percent who applied for homestead land received the land patent. This index is on the internet. Records of the 60 percent who did not receive a patent can be found at the National Archives. As of today, there is no index for the application papers alone. Contact the National Archives. Tell them what you are looking for and ask how to access the records. It may be time for a research vacation!

Resources:

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/african-american-homesteaders-in-the-great-plains.htm#:~:text=Black%20Homesteading&text=The%201866%20Civil%20Rights%20Act,families%2C%20and%20educated%20their%20children.>

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Quick_Guide_to_African_American_Records

"Helping to Find Your Roots!"

Members, this tip was shared by our new member, Linda Whitby.

Do you know someone who is adopted and is looking for their birth parent(s)? This may be able to help them.

The web location cited explains how an adoptee can create a DNA mirror tree and potentially get hits for blood-related cousins. How does that work?

You can use your DNA data from Ancestry or FTDNA and create a shared tree on Ancestry. You copy a tree with a matching cousin and replace the adoptee in the matching cousins' tree as that person. If DNA luck is with you, there may be matches within 48 hours. You won't know until you try.

Retrieved from: <https://knolaust.com/dnablog/mirroring-a-tree-on-ancestry/> Retrieved on: 18 Feb

Linda Hudson's husband, as many of you know, was adopted. I did have a little help in knowing his birth parents' names from the birth certificate we acquired from the State of Ohio.

I loaded his DNA on our tree and created a mock tree. I got hits on my tree, but the mock tree helped me to narrow down names and connections to closer realistic matches. More matches were also more correlated with time and place.

Through these matches, I was able to contact the daughter of a half-sibling and learn his story.

Other resources include:

<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/adoption-2/create-mirror-trees/>

<https://www.familytree.com/blog/the-pros-and-cons-of-mirror-trees/>

Editor's Corner: Keep Up the Hunt! By Linda Hudson

Hi WHAGS members,

A little genealogy inspiration. I have had droll days researching and I have hit pay dirt at times. Here is an example of pay dirt. If you've been a member for a while you likely recall the picture. I had a picture of a woman with no name. My mother had no clue it was. I traveled to a family reunion in Wisconsin of which I am a fourth cousin back in 2014. Not only did the local historical society open a box with an older photo of her with a label, but at the reunion of her sister's family, they had the same photo I had. When researching feels like a tiresome drag, think about the successes you've had or the "dang, I got lucky" moments. Don't forget the joy that keeps you on the hunt for the dead and departed. And please, label your photos now, so your grandkids have it a little easier.

My great-great grandmother, Julia Bosch Schramm in her youth.



For all those waiting for me to find them,
Linda



West Houston Area Genealogy Society (WHAGS)

Helping to find your roots

Our monthly meeting will be hybrid...both in-person and on Zoom. For the latest event updates, visit our website at www.whags.org

Everyone researching for ancestors...*Novice to Expert*...is invited to participate!

Updated

Calendar of Events - 2021-2022 August-May

August

17 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

September

9 10-12 am **DNA Special Interest Group (SIG)**

14 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

18 10-12:30 am **Betsy Mills: *Solving Photo Mysteries***

25 1-3 pm **Members Helping Members**

October

1-2 TxSGS Family History Conference
Virtual

12 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

14 10-12 am **DNA Special Interest Group (SIG)**

16 10-12:30 **Patti Smith: *The Beatitudes of a Genealogist***

23 1-3 pm **Members Helping Members**

November

11 10-12 am **DNA Special Interest Group (SIG)**

16 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

20 10-12:30 **Irene Walters: *Keys to Research Success: Breaking Down Brick Walls***

27 1-3 pm **Members Helping Members**

December

18 10:00-12:30 **Holiday Party & Members' Show & Tell: MC = Tom Woltz**

January

13 10-12 am **DNA Special Interest Group (SIG)**

15 1-3 pm **Members Helping Members**

18 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

22 10-12:30 ***Finding Genealogy Resources & Tools in National Archives*** (Video followed by Irene Walters facilitating Q&A)

February

10 10-12 am **DNA Special Interest Group (SIG)**

15 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

19 10-12:30 **Linda Worsham: *Best Practices for Writing Family Stories***

26 1-3 pm **Members Helping Members**

March

3 Bus trip to Clayton Library (leave Radack CC at 9 am)

3-5 RootsTech 2022

17 10-12 am **DNA Special Interest Group (SIG)**

13 *Daylight Saving Time - Spring Forward!*

15 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

19 10-12:30 **Mitch Clendening: *Tools for Using Google ® to Research Ancestors***

26 1-3 pm **Members Helping Members**

April

14 10-12 pm **DNA Special Interest Group (SIG)**

16 1-3 pm **Members Helping Members**

19 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

23 10-12:30 **Thomas MacEntee: *The 1950 US Census: Are You Ready?***

May

12 10-12 am **DNA Special Interest Group (SIG)**

14 9am-4pm **Beginner's Genealogy Workshop**

17 10-12 am WHAGS Leadership Team Meeting

21 10-12:30 **Jenny Sharrer: *Generating Books Using Family Book Creator***

2022-2023 Board Elections

25-28 National Genealogical Society 2022 Family History Conf. ngsgenealogy.org

28 1-3 pm **Members Helping Members**

June, July & August - We are off for the summer

Good to Know! Beginner Tips!

If you are a newcomer to Houston, you have likely heard that our city is now the most diverse city in the United States. Not only does that mean a wealth of opportunity to try new foods, music, and other cultural elements, but it also provides resources for researching your family.

Go to **houstonculture.org** for a directory of many societies and organizations that may help you with translations, understanding the ancestral community, ideas for planning trips to your family homeland and so much more. There is a caveat, not all societies listed have been updated, and some have closed due to the pandemic, but don't lose heart. Many of the countries have consulates in Houston and they can direct you to people here locally that can assist you. Many like the Institute of Chinese Culture also have classes for the Chinese language. There are many resources and opportunities to learn more right here in Houston.

BOARD:

Gail Colby, President

Thomas Woltz, Vice President

Tom Matchett, Treasurer

Pacquitta Laverents, Secretary

Vacant, Director

Neal Scott, Director

Jenny Sharrer, Director

Email:

Info@whags.email

Website & Virtually:

www.whags.org

**West
Houston
Area
Genealogy
Society**

**Currently
Meeting
In-Person
& Virtually**

MORE TO KNOW

The **Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society** is offering a Virtual Spring Conference, on Saturday April 2, 2022, from 10 am to 4 pm Eastern time. Mark your calendar if you have ancestors from the Germanic region of Europe. Paula Stuart-Warren will help you decipher U.S. Government Records. Topics include:

—The U.S. Federal Government Underutilized Research Resources; World War I Era U.S. Alien Registration; Germanic Organizations and other Collections; German History in Genealogical and historical periodicals.

For cost and registration information:

<https://magsgen.com/eventListings.php?>

On April 23rd, for those of us with Central European ancestors, this event might be the presentation we need to view. The Delaware Genealogical Society is presenting **"Tracking Down Your Eastern European Ancestors."** Attendees will learn strategies for locating ancestral places of origin and uncovering original names. They will also learn how to find and request records. Helpful tips will help us deal with language challenges. AND IT'S FREE!!

Go here for more information. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tracking-down-your-eastern-european-ancestors-tickets-168779210161>