

The WHAGS Journal



Volume 4, Issue 1

Just The Facts

September 2023



A Note from the Editor

Ron Ware

Here we are, finally near the end of a long hot summer and the cooling days of September. At least we hope the dreadful heat of the summer is past and we can have fun participating in our genealogy research. The West Houston Area Genealogy Society (WHAGS) is here to help with that.

The Program Committee has worked hard to bring eight presenters who are well-known in the genealogy world. At our first pro-

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New Beginners SIG and Family History Writing SIG - Page 5

See Clayton Library bus trip announcement on page 10

The Story of Joe Carrington Sr.

Dedicated to his Grandson

It is with a heavy heart that we pick up the work of Joe Carrington, Sr., an autobiography of his life growing up in early 20th century Texas. During the summer, the protagonist's grandson, and member of WHAGS, Joe Carrington, Jr., passed away at his home in Tomball. As Joe would have wanted, and with his wife, Brenda's encouragement, the story of his grandfather carries on in episode six of "A Texas Story."



Joe Carrington, Jr.

See "A Texas Story," on page 2



Presidents Note

Gail Cobly

Welcome to the 2023-2024 WHAGS program year! I hope you had a great summer and made progress on your brick walls.

WHAGS had a great year last year. We reached our highest membership in the organization's history. The Program Committee did a wonderful job securing great speakers. We were able to take a trip to Clayton. The DNA workshop went well. The lunches at Clay's after the monthly program were fun and a great way to get to know each other.

The new year looks even more exciting! The Program Committee did another great job finding speakers based on your input from the survey in the

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Presidents Report

spring. If there is something you are interested in learning about that did not make it onto the upcoming calendar, be sure to indicate what you would like to see on the next program survey.

There are two new special interest groups (SIGs) for this year, Beginners SIG and GENESSYS. The Beginners SIG is coordinated by Neal and is self-explanatory, <https://www.whags.org/beginners-sig>. The GENESSYS SIG is led by Rick Armes and centers on the software he developed to help manage our media files, see <https://www.whags.org/genessys-sig> for more information. Be sure to check the website events calendar, <https://www.whags.org/calendar>, for dates and times of the three SIGs, Members Helping Members, and all WHAGS events.

Rick has also organized a Clayton Library trip for 11 October, check out WHAGS' home page for more information and registration, <https://www.whags.org/>. The last trip was very nice; it was wonderful to go to the library and not drive in the traffic. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity.

I want to thank all the volunteers from last year for the great work they did, it made a tremen-

dous difference. Every little bit helps. Please think about how you can help. It may be a short article for the newsletter or website. Have you thought about sharing a story or talking about your family genealogy for the December Holiday Party and show and tell? Would you like to help organize the name badges? There are projects we will be working on this year, e.g., review and revision of the Bylaws, WHAGS' library future, a potential event, and more.

It takes all of us to make and keep WHAGS what it is. We appreciate our members and want to keep the WHAGS experience the best it can be. Help us help you!

A Texas Story continued

In May we ended Joe Carrington's "A Texas Story," with his telling of his political woes. We pick up the story in episode 6 where he begins by telling us of the loss of his 16 year old daughter. Let's read on.

A Texas Story - Episode 6 **Joe Carrington, Sr.**



I had to be out of town a great deal and limited resources sometimes made it necessary for me to cut such corners as sleeping in my car. This often

meant neglecting my family, but I knew our four children - 3 boys and 1 girl - were under the close supervision of a very devoted Mother. However, In 1934, the greatest tragedy of my life up to that time occurred - my daughter, Luella, developed a serious kidney problem and died at the age of 16. I had never been hit so hard as losing this lovely little daughter who showed such great promise.

I decided to again get into the middle of the problem and the Motor Carrier Insurance Agency was formed. Cooperation from insurance companies continued to present a problem. While some few cooperated to some degree, most would not. Many were uninterested in getting rates lower.

While I had always been interested in farming, the work with the Cuero Chamber of Commerce in encouraging more productivity in agriculture increased such interest. On coming to Austin, I immediately joined the Chamber of Commerce, headed by Walter Long, one of the finest in the field and he put me on the Agriculture Committee.

In 1937, I had the chance of buying some 117 acres of land on the San Antonio Highway and Slaughter Creek from the Gaults and shortly thereafter some 10 adjoining acres along the highway from Mr. Wroe.

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A Texas Story

This was also to be an experimental farm to demonstrate the value of better animal breeding, better crops, etc. and particularly aimed at encouraging more youth to remain on farms. Budded the many pecan trees along the creek, set out many more pecan, fruit trees, etc. I bought the best chickens that could be found (eggs then 13 cents to 25 cents per dozen)...goats (\$12 for 6)...lambs (\$50 for 18)...beef cattle...turkeys (at a show sometime later in Ft. Worth saw the 1st broad breasted turkeys to come into this area, so bought a number to introduce locally. I developed a large flock and later sold it to a neighbor who became famous for them).

I bought some hogs. The value of hogs had earlier been determined by how fat they were. As indicated earlier, hog fat was very important earlier in cooking, making soap, etc. but the trend had started toward leaner hogs. Hampshires seemed to best fill this need, so I went up into the midwest and bought the best-bred Hampshire boar that could be found - Roller Score. He did a great job, and we raised some excellent animals. I made quite a number of young pigs available to many farm youths and sold many to hog raisers.

Dairy cattle were another early project - and, which was to

become the paramount project throughout the following years. Even though cream was sold at 18-29 cents per pound, the idea was to get better cattle to have higher production. I started out with 6 high bred, registered Jerseys and continued buying as well as growing out my own. As the herd grew, again the best possible bulls of the breed were purchased...5-and 6 star-bulls to in-

higher than Jerseys even though the fat percentage lower. Again, the trend was against fat, so I wanted to experiment with those. I was a member of the Legislature at that time and, as such, wrote the famed Carnation Farms of Carnation, Washington as to my desire and to help introduce these into the state. That farm usually did not sell top females, but I was lucky that they



A typical depression era farm scene somewhere in Texas. Joe talks about life in those time in his stories.

crease production and type of each succeeding generation. Hulburt Victor, Brigham Victor, Masterman Golden Knolle and others were purchased and combined the best of bloodlines.

Early, Jerseys were about the only breed in the state but gradually some of the large black and white Holsteins were coming in. Their milk production was much

sold me one young heifer, Carnation Heilo Laura May. While she was sired by one of their young bulls, she had a tremendous pedigree, and her sire later became quite famous. When she came into production, I became sold on Holsteins. She later had one of the highest records in the state. I began getting more Hol-

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A Texas Story

steins and sold all my Jerseys to a breeder in Venezuela. We delivered them to Houston, and they had two boat loads.

I was also very fortunate in getting a really top farm manager, Jack Kay, who had goals of excellence in production, classification and show animals. Our first herd sire was raised on the farm and was out of a daughter of the Governor of Carnation that I had purchased. We called him "Big Shot" but officially, he was Inglecroft Governor Burke Victor and from him we got some tremendous animals.

Jack was particularly selective in his show herds and won many, many championships and blue ribbons at top shows. The herd became nationally known through its production, classification and these shows. Holsteins also have "All Americans" (best of breed for that age for that year)



and we had quite a few All Americans in the herd. Considerable advertising also done and professional cattle photographers brought in several times to take "portraits" of the cattle. Honestly, that is quite a science, and those folks were professionals.

Where Did His Names Come From?

By Diane Rausch



Have you ever wondered where some of our relatives got their names? There are many people named after famous politicians like George Washington or Andrew Jackson. Other people are named after sports figures or actors.

Several years ago, I was doing research on one of my great grandfathers. His name was Lorenzo Dow Paris (1864-1945) and he was named after his father who was also named Lorenzo Dow Paris (1821-1876). As time went on, I started to notice that a lot of other men in my trees were named Lorenzo Dow, each with a different last name. I counted 12 other men that had the name Lorenzo Dow and a lot more with the name Lorenzo and D. for their middle initial. They were all born in the 1800's, ranging from 1817 to 1891. They seem to come from mid-western states like Kentucky,

Indiana and Ohio.

As usual, my interest was piqued, and I started exploring the name Lorenzo Dow. When I Googled him, I was surprised to actually see a lot of information.

He was very famous for his time. Lorenzo Dow was born on 16 Oct 1777, in Coventry, Connecticut, of English ancestors. He died in 1834 in the Washington D. C. area probably as a poor man, since he never acquired much wealth.

He was a preacher for 39 years, mostly as a Methodist. He was closely associated with the Methodists but was not an official minister. Dow traveled in every state in the Union (seventeen at the time), Canada, England, Ireland, and Wales. He made several trips overseas and on one trip to Ireland in 1799 he spoke to the Roman Catholics. He was considered eccentric in dress and speech but on each trip hundreds flocked to hear him speak.

He kept a journal which was published in 1859 as "History of Cosmopolite, or the Writing of Rev. Lorenzo Dow". But since he died in 1834 how did he become so famous? The introduction written by the publisher of the book helps explain. "Though the author of the following work has passed away,

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Our Committees and Special Interest Groups at Work

Membership Team Update

Liz Philip

We are off to a great start for our new program year. As August 17th, we have 25 paid members, of which 22 are individual memberships, 3 are family memberships and 6 are Lifetime Members, for a grand total of 34 people. We are looking forward to seeing everyone again and catching up on your summer's adventures. Did you discover something new and intriguing?

Please renew your membership if you haven't already. You will not want to miss the speakers we have engaged for this year. Our first program meeting is Saturday, Saturday, September 16th. Marian B. Wood will be presenting "Planning a Future for Your Family's Past". See you there!

Your Programming Committee In Action

Pacquitta Laverents

The WHAGS program team has been working behind the scenes to secure speakers for this year's monthly presentations. The topics cover a variety of research areas that members have expressed learning about. Looking for ways to get better organized or pass on what you've collected to the next generation? Curious about how to dig into military



records or land records? Need tips on tracking down ancestors who immigrated from other places? How about making the most of public library resources? We're hoping you'll find some tips to help you break through a brick wall or two. Here's a recap of the programs by month:

Sep **Planning a Future for Your Family** (Marian B. Wood)

Oct **Top Tips for Researching Your Scottish and English Ancestors** (Michelle Leonard)

Nov **Organizing Like an Archivist** (Nancy Loe)

Dec **Annual Holiday Party w/ Members Show and Tell**

Jan **Researching Military Records on Fold3 and More** (Marian B. Wood)

Feb **Public Libraries as Powerful Genealogy Tools**

Mar **Genealogy Resources at the Texas General Land Office Archives** (Kevin Klaus)

Apr **Immigration, Passenger, and Naturalization Records in the Digital Age** (Paula Perkins)

May Plowing Through Land Records to Find Your Ancestor (Kelvin Meyers)

In addition, a trip to the Clayton Library is already slated for October 11th.

Visit the WHAGS website <https://www.whags.org/calendar> for the full 2023-2024 Calendar.

New Beginners Special Interest Group Forming

September 19th will mark the launch of a new Special Interest Group (SIG) in WHAGS, this one focusing on the needs and questions of those just starting out doing their family research. Aptly named the "Beginners SIG" will tackle a variety of subjects through the year and present them so that anyone can follow and understand. Among our planned topics are Getting Started; DNA for Dummies; Organizing All These Files; Choosing A Software Package, and more.

The Beginners SIG, which could have been named the "Newbie SIG," or "Genealogy for Dummies," or even "the Idiots Guide to Finding Your Ancestors," will keep it simple and basic. Most topics are being taken straight from the Beginners Workshop that WHAGS hosted a couple years ago, and the series of topics are such that they can

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Our Committees and Special Interest Groups at Work

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Beginners Group

be repeated each year, like a curriculum.

Neal Scott will be leading the SIG and expects to have other guests helping to present some subjects. At this time the SIG will meet on the Tuesday after each month's general meeting,

via Zoom, at 10:00 am, lasting up to 2 hours. Besides the month's presentation, the floor will be open for questions on any topic.

New Family History Writing SIG Forming

Watch for the new Family History Writer Special Interest Group soon forming. We would like to invite a small group of folks who are serious about writ-

ing and publishing their family histories. The first meeting is tentatively set for October 25th at



the Steve Radack Community Center. Mark your calendars and look for further details in the October issue of The Journal and on the WHAGS website.

1st GENESSYS Meeting Scheduled!!

Wednesday, 20 September 2023 at 10:00 AM via Zoom

Presenter: Rick Armes (WHAGS Member)



How do we manage the thousands of media files we, as genealogist hunter-gatherers, have amassed over the years? How do we keep track of photographs, negatives, birth certificates, land records, maps, video interviews with family members, etc.? Just as importantly, how do we pass on our media to the next generation in a useful and organized manner?

GENESSYS is one answer. GENESSYS is software I wrote specifically to assist me throughout the research process, designed with an emphasis on cataloging media. As you will see in this month's SIG I now use GENESSYS exclusively to manage my 5,000+ media files. I know where I have stored every item whether it be binder, bin and/or digital folder. For each cataloged media, file I can capture the important attributes: source, repository, citation, website, date website last accessed, caption, people referenced, document type, document date, user-defined keywords, digital image and more!

From a reporting perspective, I can filter and view documents by source, person, person group (collection) and document type. Once filtered I can produce a pdf to share with family members for their input and comments. The pdf can also be uploaded to an online publisher, such as Shutterfly, to produce an heirloom-quality book.

Please consider sitting in on this month's SIG to see a 60 to 90 minute demonstration of the GENESSYS software on Wednesday, 20 September @ 10AM. If you like what you see I'll be making the software available at no charge to WHAGS members later in the year.

Bio: In a previous life I was a software engineer who spent most of my career designing and implementing systems involving the trading of oil and gas commodities, as well as the distribution of oil by pipeline and tankers. I joined WHAGS fifteen months ago. I currently serve on the Programming and Audit committees, and I am a WHAGS board member.

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Note from the Editor

gram on September 16th genealogist, Marian B. Wood will present “Planning a Future for Your Family’s Past.” Her presentation dives into the importance of protecting your genealogy collection through document organization. That flows well with a new computer application developed by member, Rick Armes. Read about GENESSYS in Rick’s introduction here in the Journal. Go to the events page on the website, www.whags.org for a full list of the upcoming programs.

Our genealogy world was shaken this past summer with the news of the loss of one of our dearest members, Joe C. Carrington III, who passed away at his home in Tomball. As you will recall, the journal has carried episodes of the autobiography of Joe’s grandfather, Joe Carrington, Sr., in past issues. Titled “A Texas Story,” we pick up the story of Joe Sr.’s life in rural Texas in episode 6 in this issue. It’s a warm story that is especially poignant with the passing of his grandson (see more about Joe Carrington elsewhere in this publication).

This month’s edition of the Journal is full of interesting stories from members and other genealogists. Read all ten pages. You will be glad you did.

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Where Did His Name Come from?

his character was so indelibly engraved upon the age in which he lived, that a transcript seems to have been impressed upon the present generation. Who has not heard of Lorenzo Dow? Who that has heard of him has not felt an anxiety to see or hear him speak?”

His autobiography at the time was the 2nd most famous book next to the Bible. He was said to be a remarkable man, but he was also referred to as eccentric and at times called “Crazy Dow”. He seemed to have had real star power to draw in millions and this was without TV or any of our electronic devices of today.

My ancestor was born in 1821 and maybe his parents who lived in Indiana at the time of his birth actually saw Lorenzo Dow, the minister, speak.

Google his name and see what comes up. It’s more than I can write about in one article. Look at your list of names and see if any of them could be interesting to research. Do you have any Lorenzo Dows? You never know what you might find.

Names?

A Day in the Life of a Boiler Washer

(Railroad Locomotive Steam Engine)

By Liv Taylor-Harris



With Labor Day just a few days away, I’ve been reviewing the 1870-1950 U.S. censuses to find the various occupations of men in my family. According to my count, I had more paternal male ancestors who chose to be sharecroppers or tenant farmers on or near the same plantations they worked as slaves. In contrast, some of my maternal male ancestors moved to the city to work in mills and ware-



houses or as carpenters and masons. My maternal male ancestors seemed to prefer the railroad industry. So far, the only paternal male ancestor in my family tree that worked in the railroad industry was my great-grandfather, Morgan Terrell Al-

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Resource Gems

Try these genealogical resource gems

Texas State Library and Archives Commission

1201 Brazos Street, Austin, Texas 78701

The Genealogy Collection at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission includes vital statistics indexes, city directories, county records, publications such as printed family and county histories, a variety of Texas government records, federal census schedules and many other resources to help you compile your family history.

The following collections are but a few of the many archival databases at the archives:

1874 Buffalo Hunt Photographic Collection

Civilian Conservation Corps Drawings

Confederate and Texas State Troops Military Rolls

Convict Record Ledgers and Indexes

Nacogdoches Archives (Spanish and Mexican Government Records.)

For more information, [Google Texas State Archives.](#)

If you can't go to Austin, then Perhaps Liberty

The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center

650 FM 1011, Liberty, Texas 77575, (936) 336-8821

The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center is a component of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission's (TSLAC) Archives and Information Services Division (ARIS) and serves as the official regional historical resource depository for the 10 Southeast Texas counties of Chambers, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Newton, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto, and Tyler.

Helping Our Neighbors, the Texas Czech Genealogy Society

The Texas Czech Genealogical Society (TCGS) will be hosting an event on September 23rd titled "Colorful Leaves of the Fall—Locating Records and Learning about the Colorful Lives of Our Ancestors."

The event takes place in the Caldwell Civic and Visitor Center on Texas Highway 103. For more information about the event go to the events page on our WHAGS website or the following link to the TCGS website:

<http://www.txczgs.org>

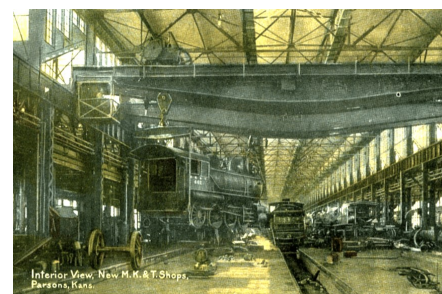
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Boiler Washer

dridge. He was a Boiler Washer Helper for the Missouri-Kansas-Texas (M-K-T) Railroad Roundhouse in Parsons, Labette County, Kansas.

What was a typical day like at the M.K. & T. Railroad Shop?

As I researched for information about what a Boiler Washer Helper does, I had the good fortune to locate an extraordinary book, "Railroads in the African American Experience: A Photographic Journey by Theodore Kornweibel Jr." This book does a masterful job explaining and illustrating how the social, cultural, political, and economic impact this industry had on the lives of my ancestors and African Americans in general from slavery to Amtrak! I especially liked



One of the MKT's huge maintenance shops

how this book focused on jobs in the rail industry that lack the prestige of train conductors and engineers. Being recognized as a Boiler Washer Helper instead of

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Boiler Washer

an experienced Boiler Washer meant my great-grandfather may do the same work as a professional Boiler Washer; he just couldn't be called one.

The vintage postcards above and below are an interior view of the M.K. & T Roundhouse, used for servicing and storing locomotives in Parsons, Labette County, Kansas. This shop is a massive



A boiler from a large locomotive of the MKT fleet.

860 feet long and 125 feet wide!

Roundhouses employ hundreds of workers who work around the clock in shifts called "tricks." The focus of these shops is to repair and maintain existing trains and develop new ones. Therefore, skilled artisans, their apprentices, and helpers worked together on steam locomotives from the passenger station or freight yard. These engines were fueled by burning coal, wood, or oil to produce steam in a boiler which drove the engine.

While skilled artisans and their helpers performed repairs, engine wipers removed grime and

then polished the upper parts of the locomotives. More laborers greased their moving parts. Locomotives received a washout by Boiler Washers every 30 days to remove sludge and scale that can build up from impurities in the water. Once servicing or minor repairs were complete, fire builders returned locomotives to steam while fire watchmen responsible for several engines kept them steaming sufficiently so the engine could raise full boiler pressure to ensure a prompt departure.

Scale and sludge build-up from impurities in the water can erode the boiler to the point that it will have to be replaced sooner than later, which is an expensive process.

How is a Washout Done?

According to Wikipedia, a washout starts with a blowdown (a process where water is blown out of the boiler with force by steam pressure within the boiler) while some pressure remains in the boiler, then the draining away of all the boiler water through the "mudholes" at the base of the firebox and the removal of all the "washout plugs." Scale is then jetted or scraped from the interior surfaces using a high-pressure water jet and rods of soft metal, such as copper. Areas particularly susceptible to scale buildup, such as the firebox crown and

narrow water spaces around the firebox, are given special attention. The inside of the boiler is inspected by sighting through the plug holes, with a particular check paid to the integrity of the fire tubes, firebox crown, and stays and absence of pitting or cracking of the boilerplates.

Care had to be taken on reassembly that the threaded plugs were replaced in their original holes: the tapers can vary due to rethreading. The mudhole door gaskets, if of asbestos, should be renewed, but those made of lead may be reused; special instructions are in force for the disposal of these harmful materials. Many boilers today use high-temperature synthetics for the gaskets for both working environments and preservation services, as these materials are safer than the historical options. At extensive maintenance facilities, the boiler would have been washed and refilled with hot water from an external supply to bring the locomotive back to service more quickly."

The job of a Boiler Washer Helper is complex, depending on how accessible the boiler is for cleaning. The job is dirty, hot, and dangerous as scale and sludge removed by high-pressure water jets ricocheted back onto the washer. But despite the dangers and health risks, my great-

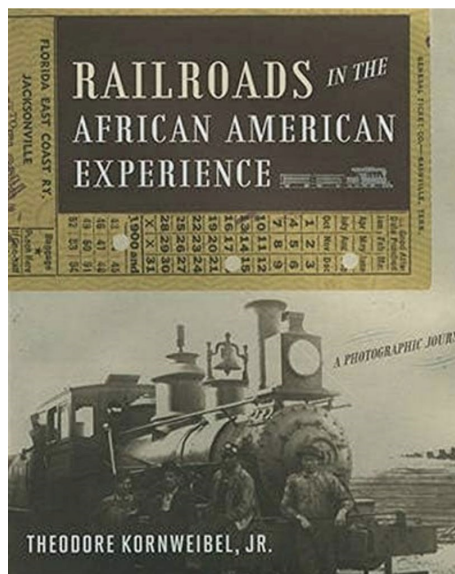
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Boiler Washer

grandfather worked as a Boiler Washer Helper for over 30 years! What was the attraction of this industry for him? He probably felt it was a much better alternative to sharecropping, which meant being in debt year after year for the rest of his life. Despite the discrimination, structural inequities, and low pay he endured in this industry, Morgan Terrell Aldridge knows his career as a Boiler Washer Helper has contributed significantly to the development and innovation of rail transportation in this country.

For Further Information
Read "Railroads in the African American Experience by Theodore Kornweible, Jr.



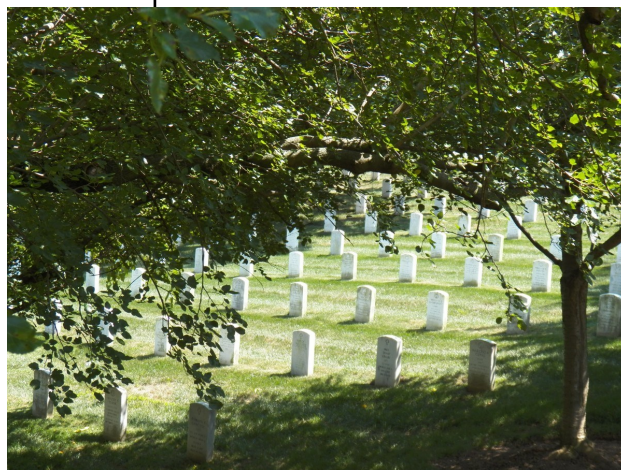
Genealogy and Cemeteries

By Ron Ware

They say cemeteries are our final resting place. I do find research there to be a peaceful experience. Case in point; Neal Scott, our expert tombstone cleaner, and I, recently visited three of his ancestral cemeteries in Walker and Montgomery counties. First, we visited Martha's Chapel Cemetery located a few miles west of my new home in Huntsville. Then we stopped at the Montgomery Old Cemetery and Montgomery New Cemetery, both in Montgomery. At each stop, Neal cleaned grave markers while I ambled around looking for possible Ware and Willis ancestors. It was a great day. Again, there is something peaceful about visiting these secluded, tree-lined East Texas cemeteries.

Another activity I enjoy is responding to grave marker photo requests from the website, Find-a-Grave. People who live in distant places can make a request for a tombstone photo of a loved one, and then receive it from someone who lives nearby the cemetery. It is a great way to help others in their genealogical research. My sweetheart, Judy Durham and I often claim several Find-a-Grave requests and spend a Sunday afternoon ful-

filling them. We most often respond to requests for photos at the National Military Cemetery located at 10410 Veterans Memorial Drive. But one can select requests for hundreds of local and national cemeteries.



It's easy to claim a request from the Find-a-Grave site. Click on the following URL and then click the camera icon in the top right of the frame. <https://www.findagrave.com/photo-request/volunteer-cemeteries>) Go to the selected cemetery, photograph the gravestone, and then upload it to Find-a-Grave.

Some may think it odd for one to spend time in cemeteries. But if you are a genealogist looking for ancestors, that is where they are. Information on that stone can often give a researcher the clue they need to break through a brick wall. If you find yourself looking for something to do, then consider fulfilling a photo request from Find-a-Grave.

RDW

Clayton Library Bus Trip Set for October 11th

Due to popular demand WHAGS is going back to the Clayton Library on Wednesday, October 11, 2023. A bus has been reserved with Harris County, and online sign-up is now open. Bus capacity is just 40, so be sure to sign up early to reserve a seat for this free trip. The bus will depart Radack Community Center at 9:30 AM, and leave the library at 3:00. This will be a great opportunity to further your family research at Houston's own world-class genealogical library, have fun with other WHAGS members, and save the cost of gas by not driving yourself.



FamilySearch.org says of Clayton:

The Clayton branch of the Houston Public Library has one of America's best genealogical collections. With an emphasis on the Gulf Coast region, the library also has an international collection and material for all fifty U.S. states. Collections include Texas and Houston-area death records including funeral home records, censuses, passenger arrival lists, manuscripts, international resources for Europe, Canada, and Mexico, military records, family histories, genealogical periodicals, maps, and family history vertical files.

You will need to sign up if you want to make this trip. Just click on the link below and provide all the information requested, including emergency contact and phone numbers.

whags.org/claytonwhags.org/clayton





P.O. Box 842661
Houston, Texas 77284-2661
www.WHAGS.org

Helping to Find Your Roots

Monthly meetings are hybrid: in person at Steve Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Road, and via Zoom

Planning a Future for Your Family's Past

Presenter: Marian Burk Wood



Ancestors' photos, stories, documents, and heirlooms are part of your family's past, but there's no guarantee that they will outlive you. Get ideas for protecting your genealogy collection by: organizing and storing materials safely; curating your collection to focus on key items for your family tree; writing a "genealogical will" to safeguard your collection for the future; and sharing your family's history now. This presentation will suggest specific steps you can take today to preserve your family's legacy for tomorrow, even if there are no obvious heirs for your genealogy materials.

Marian Burk Wood is the author of the popular genealogy book *Planning a Future for Your Family's Past*, an experienced genealogy speaker, and a long-time blogger about family history at <https://ClimbingMyFamilyTree.blogspot.com>. She holds a BA from the City University of New York and an MBA from Long Island University in New York. Born in the Bronx and now transplanted to New England, Marian has been researching her family tree for 25 years, with a special interest in preserving and perpetuating family history.

Saturday, September 16, 2023

Meet & greet 10:00 am

Program begins at 10:30 am

Note: Following the presentation there will be a drawing for a copy of Ms. Wood's book: *Planning a Future for Your Family's Past!!!*

If you want to join in virtually, visit our website for the link to register for the Zoom presentation: www.whags.org. Those joining us in-person will meet at the new Steve Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Road. Visitors are welcome!