



PIONEER TRAILS

Newsletter of the Birmingham Genealogical Society



August 2023

BGS July/August Meetings

The BGS Board met at 1:00 PM on Saturday, July 22, 2023 in the Central Library's 1st Floor Meeting Room. The June Minutes and June Treasurer's report were approved. Issues discussed were: future programs, the 2023 Nominating Committee, and the 2021 IRS 990N Form. Five Board Members and one member were present.

A General Membership Meeting and program were held at 2:00 PM on July 22, 2023 in the Computer Lab at the Linn-Henley Building. Paul Boncella gave us a special presentation of *Advanced Tools for Genetic Genealogy at 23andMe*. Six Members and one guest were present.

Please check our website, Facebook page, and Instagram page for information concerning the August 26, 2023 General Meeting and Program. The Board will meet at 1:00 PM on Saturday, August 26, 2023 in the Central Library's 1st Floor Meeting Room.

--- Free August Presentations ---

New Features of Roots Magic 9 by Merle Ilgenfritz

This presentation will show new and existing features that Roots Magic 9 has to help build your family tree on your computer. The presentation will cover how to use hints from Ancestry, MyHeritage and FamilySearch if you have an account on those online resources as well as syncing Roots Magic 9 to Ancestry.

Access will be through GoToWebinar. Instructions and Connectivity Link will be forwarded via email to all registrants upon registration six days prior and again one hour prior to the event. Making the connection is quick and easy only requiring a computer and Internet connectivity from wherever you choose to watch the event. Your questions help drive the meetings, and we will be there to help each other.

Saturday, August 19, 2023 --- FREE

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

tngs@tngs.org

The Connection is on Their Home Page

2023 Genetic Genealogy News with Paul Boncella

Part I --- WEDNESDAY --- AUGUST 2, 2023 --- 12 - 1 PM

Part II --- WEDNESDAY --- AUGUST 9, 2023 --- 12 - 1 PM

Ancestry DNA and Family Tree DNA have both made significant upgrades to their genetic genealogy platforms during the past year. Paul Boncella shows where to find and how best to use these features in genealogical research, and he then answers questions on these and any other aspects of genetic genealogy. Registration required for online attendance only.

FREE

Central Library

Computer Lab (Linn-Henley 4th Floor)

Contact Name ----- Mary Beth Newbill

Contact Phone Number ----- 205-226-3665

Contact Email ----- mary.newbill@cobpl.org

Steps, Halves, Full, or Foster: Interviewing Siblings Can Reveal Clues Not Known to be Hidden

2 Aug 2023 --- 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM --- Zoom Webinar --- **FREE**

Presented by Jean Wilcox Hibben, PhD, MA
Sponsored by the Minnesota Genealogical Society

It is not great revelation that we learn a lot about our direct line ancestors by researching collateral lines, but how much attention do we give to the siblings? Here we look at two formats: Researching our family trees by interviewing our own siblings to learn how their perceptions and knowledge of the family might differ from ours; but also how the various siblings (particularly, but not exclusively, in blended families) of our direct line ancestor may have acquired different documents, photos, and information.

About the Speaker:

Jean Wilcox Hibben, PhD, MA, former Southern California college speech professor (MA – Speech Communication; PhD – Folklore), musician and folklorist, is a national speaker and author. A member of the DAR, she is the former director and current staff trainer for the Corona, CA Family History Center, has worked on background research for two genealogy television programs, and was a host for podcasts on social history. A former Board-Certified genealogist with over 40 years of research experience, she is a former board member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and past president of its So. Cal. Chapter; 1st Vice-president and webmaster of the Corona Genealogical Society; and participant on a number of other society boards.

Registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_216syTDkRXejlyF1BAJz4Q

Practical Genealogical DNA

by Rick Fogarty (Oklahoma Genealogical Society)

Monday August 7, 2023 6 PM

Easy to understand basics. How to take the next steps after testing.

Register: okgensoc.org **FREE**

Rogue Valley Genealogical Society

Tuesday, August 8, 1:30 - 3:00 PM

Family Tree Maker Interest Group

This group is facilitated by Barbara MacMillen. Come with any questions about using "Family Tree Maker" software. They meet the second Tuesday of the month.

Wednesday, August 9, 10:30 AM - Noon

Genetic Genealogy Interest Group

Barbara Halvorsen facilitates this interest group for everyone interested in genetic genealogy. They meet on the second Wednesday of the month.

Zoom only

Cost: Free to all

rvgslibrary.org

Pioneers & Settlers - Tracing UK ancestors in the US

with British diaspora specialist Jen Baldwin

September 6, 2023 6:30 PM

Family Tree Magazine **FREE**

<https://bit.ly/3pdfXsb>

--- Fall Genealogy Conferences ---

Foundation for East European Family History Studies

Registration is now open for the FEEFHS 2023 Annual Conference

Tuesday, August 1 to Friday, August 4

The conference will include in-person classes held exclusively in Salt Lake City and online content with live classes over Zoom and pre-recorded classes. August 1 is reserved for in-person workshops. The main conference, both in-person and online, will be Wednesday, August 2 to Friday, August

Registration and Pricing --- registration.feefhs.org

Online attendees can view live classes over Zoom and pre-recorded classes. Live classes broadcast via Zoom will also be recorded for both in-person and online attendees to view through the remainder of the year along with the pre-recorded classes.

Minnesota Genealogy Society
16th Annual North Star Genealogy Conference
October 27-28, 2023

Michael Lacopo Plenary Talks

Estate Files: Are You Getting the Most Out of Them?

Genealogists love to find wills and probate records for their ancestors, but are you reading between the lines? How can you milk the most information out of a boring accounting of an estate? What gems are you missing by just stopping at the will book?

The Published County History: A Valuable Research Tool

Those old county histories hold many clues to further your research even though your ancestor may not be directly mentioned. Are you milking these tools for all they are worth?

The Genealogist's Quadfecta

In the age of digital databases and online resources, genealogists forget the four-pronged approach to research onsite: visiting the state Archives, Historical Society, Genealogical Society, and Library. Although the roles of each seem self-explanatory, digging deeper reveals treasure for your research!

Kimberly Powell Plenary Talks

History is Not Boring! Research in Historical Books Online

The answer to many burning genealogical questions can be found buried among the thousands of digitized books available online. In this session we'll explore how to locate books on sites such as Google Books, Internet Archive, HaithiTrust, and FamilySearch Books, and how to use the social, historical, and legal context they provide to advance our research.

Bits & Pieces: Piecing Together Families Despite a Lack of Records

Record loss, deficiencies in record creation, and ancestors who left very few records can leave significant gaps in our family tree. This session will demonstrate alternative strategies for working around the challenges posed by incomplete or missing records to rebuild those missing links and reconstruct forgotten families.

Registration and Pricing: mngs.org/northstar-registration

Alabama Genealogical Society Fall Seminar

August 12, 2023 --- 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
See algensoc.org for Registration and Pricing

"Building an Alabama Research Toolbox"

Alabama Department of Archives and History
624 Washington Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama

A New Look at FamilySearch

The FamilySearch Wiki

Alabama Research: Beginner's Guide and Case Study
The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands
Bonus Presentation: Connecting Faces Through Time



Newsletter Editor: Caroline Thomas

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Caroline Thomas, President
Vacant, 1st Vice President
Vacant, 2nd Vice President
Patrick Henry, Secretary
Gary Gerlach, Treasurer
Melissa Hogan, Director

Barbara Tillery, Director
Scott Martin, Director
Jyl Hardy, Director
Mary Beth Newbill, Director
Barbara Adams, Director
Terri Hicks, Director

Ann Gilbert, Immediate Past President

The Birmingham Genealogical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 2432
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization --- Founded March 15, 1959

Website: bgsal.org

Email: birminghamgenealogy@yahoo.com

Membership Dues: \$20 Individual \$25 Family