AGS General Membership Meeting
2nd Tuesday Monthly Sept-June

The Arlington Genealogical Society meets in the downtown Arlington Public Library, 100 S. Center St., in the ground-floor lobby ReBrary Community Room. All visitors are welcome. The meeting room is equipped with Hearing Loop technology, which allows those with telecoil equipped hearing aids to connect to the meeting room sound system.

Meeting Refreshments
Refreshments are served at 6PM. These Society members have volunteered to furnish refreshments for our Tuesday 11-February meeting:
Jeanne Rives, Ruth Goodman,
Margaret McClure, Jeannie Schemensky

Next AGS 2nd-Tuesday 11-Feb Meeting:
Topic: Between the Lines: What your ancestors didn’t tell you. (Getting the most from your DNA results).

One family's journey to discover new family connections, solve stubborn brick walls, and uncover family secrets buried long ago, revealed through the DNA tests of 38 family members.

Learning about our ancestors provides intriguing insight into the lives of the brave pioneers who forged their paths generations before us. As we unravel genealogical mysteries through our own personal research, modern science provides us with a new tool for genealogists through DNA testing.

In this DNA program, you will learn a simple and easy approach to help utilize your DNA results successfully. Using (but not limited to) Ancestry.com results and loading them to GEDMatch.com will be a strong portion of this presentation. You will leave inspired, equipped and ready to get the most out of your DNA results.

About the Speaker: Patti Huff Smith
Patti’s passion for her family history began when her then 15-year-old son developed an enthusiasm for the Civil War. The two of them began searching for documentation of their Civil War Veterans. This ignited a passion for genealogy research which has grown with each new, fascinating discovery.

With the assistance of her 90-year-old grandmother and the genealogy community, Patti has learned research techniques, attended genealogy conferences, and workshops to expand her understanding of genealogy and DNA. At this time, Patti is managing 42 of her family DNA kits. She has applied her knowledge to equip others in their own journey.

Patti’s deep southern roots include her maternal 3x’s great grandfather, John W. Crook, sheriff of Hill County in 1857! He served in several public positions, including Treasurer in Hill County during the Civil War. The Crook family lived in
Navarro County where her 2x’s great grandfather was a house painter.

Currently, Patti is the Director of Volunteer Coordination at the Dallas Genealogical Society and holds membership there. She is also a member of:
- Navarro Genealogical Society
- Hill County Genealogical Society
- Johnson County Genealogical Society
- Central Texas Genealogical Society
- Coppell Historical Society
- Texas State Genealogical Society

**Words from Our Society President**

We had a nice crowd at our January meeting. The program was on funeral home records and our speaker gave lots of very useful and helpful information that might possibly be found in funeral home records. We learned that the funeral home records hold a wealth of information. Our next program is Patti Huff Smith presenting a program entitled Between the Lines: What Your Ancestors Didn’t Tell You! This promises to be very interesting. Mark is doing a great job of getting fantastic very informational topics for our meetings this year. Thank you, Mark, for all of your hard work.

I hope to see all of you at our February meeting.

Sylvia Hoad
President, Arlington Genealogical Society

~~~ In Memory: Mary Ann Conrad ~~~

Mary Ann Conrad had been a member of Arlington Genealogical Society for more than 30 years. She was always present for our meetings until September 2019 when she began feeling ill. She had several medical procedures between October and December 2019. It was the CAT scan on December 11th that finally revealed what her medical problems were. She was diagnosed with stomach and pancreatic cancer that had metastasized. It was at Stage 4 and Mary Ann fully understood that there was no cure and she probably would not live much longer. She was immediately put on hospice and died just six and a half weeks later. Her daughters both live in the area and were a wonderful help in caring for their mother and taking care of her needs during Mary Ann’s last days.

Mary Ann served as First Vice President, (refreshment chair) from 1989 – 1992. She served for several years as the newsletter editor, including 1992 – 1994 and 2000-2004. She served from 1994 - 1997 as the President. After her terms as President, she served from 1997-1999 as Parliamentarian. She has served as the Book Acquisitions and now named the Collection Development Committee from 1999 – 2020. Mary Ann knew the collection forwards and backwards and better than anyone else. She always strove to get books for the collection that covered areas that our members were researching. She was extremely dedicated to the position and literally worked 1,000’s of hours on the collection.

Mary Ann told me on the Sunday before she was diagnosed, that she was going to have to give up her position because she just didn’t feel well enough to work on it anymore. This committee was her “baby”. At some point after she was diagnosed, her daughter/s commented “Now mother, we can get all of these books out of your house!” Here interior decorating style was genealogy books. The books covered her entire home. She knew she could no longer do her job and all it required after she was diagnosed, however, she still wanted to keep somethings to finish working on them, even when she didn’t have the strength to do it any longer. This is how dedicated to the position and AGS she was.

Mary Ann told me before she died that her personal books would be donated to AGS. We have lost a long time, valuable member and a wonderful, kind and caring lady. May you rest in peace Mary Ann.

Sylvia Hoad
President, Arlington Genealogical Society
AGS January Meeting Program Recap
The new year 2020 programs sponsored by your society began with a presentation by, Ari Wilkins, a nationally known genealogy professional and staff member at the Dallas Public Library. Ari’s program centered on funeral home collections. Ari explained how the Dallas Genealogical Society partnered with the Dallas Public Library to jointly manage the acquisition of an extensive and historically significant donation of funeral home records and related ephemera [mid 1990s back 40 years] from the McGowan Funeral Home. The DGS African American Genealogical Interest Group played a leading role in the effort, and have been hard at work creating a digital database of the McGowan records. Go to the DGS website, records tab, to do searches in the records that have been indexed to date. As demonstrated by Ari during the presentation, an amazing array of family history records can be found in a Funeral Home Collection. (by: Pete Jacobs)

Upcoming AGS 2nd-Tuesday Programs
1. 11-Feb-2020: 2nd Tuesday membership meeting.
   Presenter: Patti Huff Smith
   Subject: Between the Lines.
   In this DNA program, you will learn a simple and easy approach to help utilize your DNA results successfully. Using (but not limited to) Ancestry.com results and loading them to GEDMatch.com will be a strong portion of this presentation. You will leave inspired, equipped and ready to get the most out of your DNA results.

February’s Family History & Traditions

Candlemas (AKA: Groundhog Day)
   Falling midway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox, February 2 is a significant day in several ancient and modern traditions. The Celts, for instance, celebrated it as “Imbolc,” a pagan festival marking the beginning of spring.

As Christianity spread through Europe, Imbolc evolved into Candlemas, a feast commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the holy temple in Jerusalem. In certain parts of Europe, Christians believed that a Sunny Candlemas meant another 40 days of cold and snow.

Germans developed their own take on the legend, pronouncing the day sunny only if badgers and other small animals glimpsed their own shadows. When German immigrants settled Pennsylvania in the 18th and 19th centuries, they brought the custom with them, choosing the native groundhog as the annual forecaster.

The first official Groundhog Day celebration (in our USA) took place on February 2, 1887, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. It was the brainchild of local newspaper editor Clymer Freas, who sold a group of businessmen and groundhog hunters—known collectively as the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club—on the idea.

The men trekked to a site called Gobbler’s Knob, where the inaugural groundhog became the bearer of bad news when he saw his shadow (6 more weeks of winter).

Nowadays, the yearly festivities in Punxsutawney are presided over by local dignitaries known as the Inner Circle. Its members wear top hats and conduct the official proceedings in the Pennsylvania Dutch dialect. (www.history.com)

February Observances
1) Black History Month. Frederick Douglass born this month.
2) National Library Lover’s Month
3) 2nd-Week: National Jell-O Week
4) 1-Feb: World Read Aloud Day
5) 2-Feb: Groundhog Day
6) 1-Feb: Freedom from Slavery Day
7) 11-Feb: International Day of Women and Girls in Science
8) 11-Feb: National Shut-In Visitation Day  
9) 17-Feb: National Random Acts of Kindness Day  
10) 14-Feb: International Book Giving Day  
11) 17-Feb: Presidents’ Day, Washington’s birthday  
12) 21-Feb: International Mother Language Day  
13) 25-Feb: Mardi-Gras / Fastnacht Narren  
(Source: https://nationaldaycalendar.com/january-weekly-observances/)

**First Hint**  

A Better Way to Organize and name your Family History Computer Files

Problem: Need a repeatable understandable method to organize and name family history files on your computer: Meaningful groups and names.

**Method-1a:** For every **MAJOR** family you are researching: have one major file folder, named after the family. Under that folder, create five sub-folders: 
C: drive  
Folder-LVL-1: PAULS_FILES  
Folder-LVL-2: FAMILY_HISTORY_ODOM_FAMILY  
Folder-LVL-3a: ODOM1_FamHist_Database  
Folder-LVL-3b: ODOM2_Photos  
Folder-LVL-3c: ODOM3_Scan_Docs (letters, census, map)  
Folder-LVL-3d: ODOM4_FamHist_DB_Backups  
Folder-LVL-3e: ODOM5_FamHist_GedComs  
...Folder-LVL-2: FAMILY_HISTORY_MOORE_FAMILY  
...Folder-LVL-3a: MOORE1_FamHist_Database  
...Folder-LVL-3B: MOORE2_Photos

**Method-1b:** Within 3b Photos and 3c Scan_Docs, name individual photo/doc with meaningful names:  
- **Model:** Last_First_Bccyy_Event-Descriptn_SEQ  
  **Explain:** Last_First: Primary Person’s name in photo  
  Bccyy = Birth-year: Eccy = Photo-Event-year  
  Seq = Picture Sequence at same event: P1, P2, P3..  
  Descript: may include event & place  
  Filename can separate words with space / underline

Example:  
Odom_E1943_Home_Shankleville_P1  
Odom_E2012_Rev_Henry_Truvillion_Bible_P1  
Odom_E2018_Family_Reunion_Shankleville_P1

( FamilyTreeMagazine Naming Your Files:  

**GRANDMA DID WHAT?**

Back in the 1930’s Fort Worth Texas when Ruth Moore (Paul’s mom) took an afternoon nap in the summer, before air-conditioning. Ruth’s mother (Grandma Moore) would put a block of ice in a washtub on the bedroom floor, then blow a small fan across the ice, cooling the room.

**February 2020 Genealogy Prose**

**RELATED - MATTERS**

I Relate to - all around me  
The birds, this earth, you - extended family  
Relevant, irreverent, your Reality  
All - Relatively  
Your perceptions, Mine, different yet Real  
Biome ever cycling: water, food, air  
Ideas experiences Shared atmosphere  
Absorbed: You to me, They to us  
From past to future we are thus  
Really Related  
(For Mayor Elzie Odom – Paul Wilkinson)

**Websites Worth Visiting**

Dry itchy eyes from staring at your genealogy computer screen too long without blinking?  
Maybe dry eye syndrome. Maybe MGD – Eyelid oil glands not doing their thing.  
BLINK, HEAT, MASSAGE

1) https://www.blinkingmatters.com/dry-eye-syndrome  
2) https://dryeyeandmgd.com/prevent-dry-eye-symptoms/
Genealogy Events & Resources

**Family History Basics Workshop:** Learn basic genealogy research strategies and library databases, plus get help with your personal research from a librarian or expert volunteer. No registration is required. Will be in APL Downtown 3rd floor Genealogy and Local History room.

1) Friday 28-Feb 4-6pm
2) Friday 27-Mar 4-6pm
3) Friday 24-Apr 4-6pm
4) Friday 29-May 4-6pm

Mark’s first class, this past Friday, 31-Jan, had 3 student attendees eager to learn. First half was Mark Dellenbaugh’s excellent getting started presentation. The second half was hands-on helping these three starting genealogists get hands on experience researching their family history on the library’s computers, mentored by Mark Dellenbaugh, Pete Jacobs, and Paul Wilkinson.

**Print Your Family Tree:** This fun hands on workshop will teach you how to use our MakerSpace’s large format plotter printer to print your family tree for display. We will work with poster size prints in March, and poster size or larger in March. Registration is required.

1) Tuesday 17-Mar 6:30-8pm

Guided Tour of Arlington Heritage Memorial Grounds: Learn about the historic cemeteries in the 600 block of West Arkansas. This area includes storied family cemeteries as well as the only cemetery where African Americans could be buried in Arlington before the 1950s. Don’t miss this chance to learn an important, and sometimes neglected, part of Arlington’s history. Meet us at 600 West Arkansas Lane. Saturday 9-May 3-4pm.

**Jan-2020 New Books in the Genealogy Section**

- Texas DeSoto A Texas Tale 1847-1989   TX.9D
- Williamson County, Texas It’s History and it’s People  TX.9W
- History of Wise County, A Link with the Past, Vol. III  TX.9W
- Wichita County Beginnings  TX.9W
- Official Early-Day History of Wilbarger County  TX.9W
- A History of Waller County, Texas  TX.9W
- A History of Young County, Texas  TX.9Y
- Stonewall County Between the Forks of the Brazos  TX.9S
- History of Robertson County, Texas  TX.9P
- History of Rockwall County 1842-1968  TX.9R
- Texas Land Survey Maps of Tarrant County with Roads, Railways, Waterways, Towns Cemeteries and Cross-Referenced Indexes from the Texas Railroad Commission and General Land Office  TX.912B
- Plano, Texas the Early Years  TX.9P
- Story of Montague County, Texas It’s Past and Present  TX.9S
- Wyoming Weston County, Wyoming the First 100 Years WY.9W

**Volunteers Needed: SPRING BOOK SALE**

Dates: Week of March 23(Mon) - March 30(Mon)
Job Tasks: Sort & Count books; Cashiers, Floaters, Loading, Setting up and taking down.
Signup: https://signup.com/go/jvVwSD0
Questions: monique.sheppard@arlingtontx.gov
**Black History Month Festival**
When: Sunday 23-Feb-2020, 2-6pm
Where: Southeast Arlington Branch Library
Where: 900 South East Green Oaks Blvd
What: 2pm: Reading names of Arlington Heritage Memorial Grounds burials
What: 3pm: TCC Southeast Jazz Combo
What: 3:30pm: Celebration Time: Winners / Dances

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**Norma Zuniga named Director of Libraries**

Norma Zuniga is the City of Arlington's newly selected director of Libraries.

Zuniga began her career in Arlington 18 years ago as a children’s librarian. Other chapters in her extensive Arlington Public Library career include serving as Downtown librarian, area branch manager, administrator for public service and administrator for operations and facilities. In those roles, she has worked to ensure the Arlington Public Library keeps pace with changing technology and provides access to educational programming, arts and cultural opportunities, resources and services that best meet our community’s needs.

“I began my career with the City of Arlington 18 years ago because I was intrigued by its innovation, its leadership and its passion for public service. To this day, I’m continually challenged and my desire to serve the community has not wavered,” Zuniga said. “Public libraries, education and literacy have been a passion of mine and I aspire to continue in public service and look forward to opportunities to grow with this organization.”

Zuniga, who graduated from the Arlington Executive Education Program in 2016, is a community volunteer and is also fluent in Spanish. She is a graduate of Saint Joseph College, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology, as well as Texas Woman’s University, where she earned a master's degree in library science.

Before arriving in Arlington, Zuniga’s previous experience included roles at the Dallas Public Library and the Hartford Public Library in Connecticut.

Zuniga has served as acting director of Libraries since December 2018. Her predecessor, former Director of Libraries Yoko Matsumoto, was selected to serve as the City’s Human Resources & Civil Service director. (Arlington Lib. website Jan-2020)

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**Arlington Public Library Info:**
Website (catalog search, databases, news):
[www.arlingtonlibrary.org](http://www.arlingtonlibrary.org)
FaceBook (news & videos):
[https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonTXLib/](https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonTXLib/)

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**Grave News**

AGS member Laureen Jacobs provides the following article Grave Location Documentation and Finding news. The major point of this article is that there are several websites now (CrowdSourced: the practice of obtaining information or input into a task or project by enlisting the services of a large number of people, either paid or unpaid, typically via the Internet.) where you can document the location of a specific grave or cemetery using GPS/GIS Coordinates (GPS: Global Positioning System; and/or GIS: Graphical Information System).

1) [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com): you can use this website for FREE to search for a deceased person’s grave/cemetery. You can also Register to contribute for a grave: Photos of gravestone, person, death-certificate, Transcriptions, Obituary, Family Links, Memorials, GPS-Coordinates

2) [www.BillionGraves.com](http://www.BillionGraves.com): You can contribute cemetery and grave info to this website, similar to the above FindaGrave.

**How-To-1:** How can I get/display GPS coordinates (latitude and longitude) of my location (grave), using my IPHONE? Launch the default Maps app, tap the location arrow in the upper right corner of the screen, and then tap on the blue dot, which represents your location. Swipe up on the screen and you should see your GPS location. You can do similar process with your smartphone’s Google Maps app (more precise) (web how-to: [https://www.idownloadblog.com/2017/12/20/how-to-find-gps-coordinates-iphone/](https://www.idownloadblog.com/2017/12/20/how-to-find-gps-coordinates-iphone/)).
**How-To:** Given a specific GPS Coordinates in Decimal Degrees, Latitude (32.7177399) and Longitude (-97.1195989), how can I get my smartphone to direct me to that spot? You can type in those Decimal Degrees Coordinates into your Smartphone Google Maps top Search bar, separating them with a comma (as follows) then press Search: 32.7177399, -97.1195989 (important: include any minus or plus sign) After pressing Search, Google maps will display this location, also giving you the DMS (degrees, minutes, seconds) equivalent of the same coordinates.

**Library Article Source:** In PublicLibrariesOnline [http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2020/01/graves-lost-or-found-theres-an-app-for-that/](http://publiclibrariesonline.org/2020/01/graves-lost-or-found-theres-an-app-for-that/)

### Local Genealogy Events & Places

**Cedar Hill Genealogy Society:**
- **What:** Monthly meeting on 2nd Thursday
- **When:** Tuesday & Thursday 10am-12pm
- **Where:** 1616 West Abram Street, Arlington TX
- **Topic:** Family History: Putting the Pieces Together
- **Speaker:** Donna Moughty

**Fort Worth Genealogy Society:**
- **What:** Monthly meeting on last Tuesday
- **When:** Tuesday, 25-Feb, 6:30-7:45pm
- **Where:** Ft Worth Central Lib, Tandy Lecture Hall
- **Topic:** Quakers & African American Communities
- **Speaker:** Ari Wilkins
- **Website:** [www.TXFWGS.org](http://www.TXFWGS.org)

**Grand Prairie Genealogical Society:**
- **What:** Monthly meeting on 1st Thursday
- **When:** Thursday, 6-Feb, 6:30-9pm
- **Where:** Grand Prairie Memorial Library
- **Topic:** Build Our Flag (History of US Flag)
- **Speaker:** Society members
- **Website:** [www.GPGSTX.org](http://www.GPGSTX.org)

**Grapevine Name Droppers:**
- **What:** Monthly meeting on 2nd Monday
- **When:** Monday, 10-Feb, 10:30am-noon

**Mid Cities Genealogical Society:**
- **What:** Monthly meeting on 1st Thursday
- **When:** Thursday, 6-Feb, 6:30-8:30pm
- **Where:** Euless Police Dpmt Training Rm, 1102 West Euless Blvd
- **Topic:** The End of The Matter: The Peters Colony and Migration Into Texas
- **Speaker:** Richard Monroe
- **Website:** [www.TXMCGS.org](http://www.TXMCGS.org) → V-Good website

**Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS):**
- **What:** Monthly meeting on 1st Saturday
- **When:** Saturday, 7-Mar, 10:30am-12:30pm
- **Where:** Central Lib, 1515 Young St, 1st-Flr-Aud
- **Topic:** TBA
- **Speaker:** TBA
- **Website:** [www.DallasGenealogy.com](http://www.DallasGenealogy.com)

**DGS Upcoming 2020 Spring Seminar**
- **Topic:** Paths to Freedom, African American Research in the South (from census to slavery & Freedmen’s Bureau research)
- **Speaker:** Tony Burroughs, FUGA
- **When:** 18-Apr-2020; 9:30am-5pm
- **Where:** Central Dallas Public Library (downtown)
- **Link:** [https://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/meetings/events/seminars/2020-spring-seminar/](https://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/meetings/events/seminars/2020-spring-seminar/)

**Tarrant County Black Historical & Genealogical Society:**
- **What:** Lenora Rolla Heritage Center Museum
- **When:** Tuesday & Thursday 10am-3pm
- **Where:** 1020 East Humbolt Street, Fort Worth TX
- **Contact:** 817-332-6049
- **Manager:** Brenda Sanders Wise; Sarah Walker
- **Website:** [https://www.blackhistoricalmuseum.info/](https://www.blackhistoricalmuseum.info/)
- **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/tarrantcountyblackhistory/](http://www.facebook.com/tarrantcountyblackhistory/)

**Arlington Texas Historical Society**
- **What:** Historic Fielder Museum (Tue-Sat 10-2)
- **What:** Knapp Heritage Park (Sat/Sun 1-4)
- **When:** Tuesday & Thursday 10am-3pm
- **Where:** 1616 West Abram Street, Arlington TX
- **Contact:** 817-460-4001; Mgr: Geraldine Mills
- **Email:** FielderH@swbell.net
- **Website:** [www.HistoricalArlington.org](http://www.HistoricalArlington.org)
Latter-day Saints Arlington Family History Center
Where: 3809 Curt Dr., Arlington, TX (SW Arlington)
Hours-1: Wednesday 10am-2pm, 6pm-9pm
Hours-2: Thursday 10am-2pm
Hours-3: Saturday 9am-1pm
Phone: 817-446-7088
Why: Better/Free LDS Genealogy Databases:
FamilySearch
Ancestry
My Heritage
Find My Past
Web: https://arlingtontxfhc.org

*** FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR ***
When: Saturday, 21-March-2020, 9am-3:30pm
Special: AGS Hank Hufham class: Practical DNA
Web: https://arlingtontxfhc.org/family-history-seminar/
Schedule of classes:

Who Was That Arlington Person?

Mary Ann CONRAD
Born: April 2, 1934, Tulsa, OK
She was a first generation American born to German immigrant parents.
Mary Ann graduated from business school and met her future husband, Ross Conrad, on a blind date set up by her roommate. They married on Saturday 24-Nov-1956 at Trinity Methodist Church in Tulsa OK. They enjoyed traveling to destinations such as Europe, Tahiti, Hawaii and throughout the US, Mexico and Canada. Mary Ann supported Ross in his business ventures by being the bookkeeper. They were married for 54 years before his death, (23-Mar-1930 ~ 27-Nov-2010, work: Electrical Engineer).

Mary Ann had many interests, one of which was genealogy. She spent many years researching both of her parents’ family histories and that of her husband Ross. This interest led her to her involvement with the Arlington Public Library and Fort Worth Public Library Genealogy sections and her association with the Arlington Genealogy Society of which she was president for many years.

Mary Ann also loved to garden. She always had beautiful flowers and plants in her gardens and was an avid follower of Neil Sperry.

(Obit from Arlington TX Wade Funeral Home)

Genealogy News
FamilySearch: Do a Google search on:
FamilySearch News
Notable: Finding Black Roots: 29 ways in 29 days
**Ancestry:** Do a Google search on:
1. Ancestry recently added updated collections
2. Ancestry News

**NGS:** National Genealogical Society Annual Family History Conference: 20-23-May-2020 Salt Lake City. 150 Genealogy Lectures. (www.ngsgenealogy.org)

**Dick Eastman’s free Genealogy Newsletter:**
https://blog.eogn.com/
2019 Sundance Film Festival - Ancestry & Sundance TV Present: Railroad Ties (Full Film)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MdupcscFi0&feature=youtu.be

**Google:** Google search on: Genealogy News.
Click on ‘Tools’; Change ‘Any Time’ to ‘Past Month/Week’

**How-To-1: Google Drive (cloud storage)**
=>**Goal-1:** To obtain and use free “Cloud Storage” to back up your genealogy data.

=>**Method-1:** You can use Google Drive.
Google gives you 15GB of free space in Google Drive. This 15GB includes your: Google Drive; Gmail Account (messages and attachments); and Google Photos. You have to set up a Google Account (login-id and password), then sign-in. Go to Drive.Google.com
https://drive.google.com/drive/my-drive
( follow Google user support instructions on https://support.google.com/drive/answer/2424384?co =GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en )

**How-To-2: Google Speed Test**
=>**Goal-1:** To see how fast your internet connection is (Megabits Per Second Mbps download into your computer, and Mbps upload from your computer to the internet).

=>**Method-1:** Go to GOOGLE. Type in “Speed Test” into search box and press enter. Click on blue button “Run Speed Test” A download/upload test will be run for about 15 seconds. Then a resulting set of measurement numbers will be displayed, along with an overall speed analysis: Slow/Medium/Fast. You can use these results to verify that you are getting the data rate/speed you are paying for, from your internet service provider.
Alternate: http://speedtest.att.com/speedtest/

**Next Month: Google Advanced Search**

**AGS Board meetings:**
The last AGS board meeting took place Saturday morning, 18-Jan-2020, in Downtown Library 3rd floor Arlington Tomorrow Foundation Board Room. Copies of the minutes will be on the browsing table in our AGS monthly meeting.
AGS members are invited to attend board meetings. You can also suggest ideas and proposals to an officer or committee chair. All AGS board meetings are open to the public.

**Upcoming General Vote:** To donate AGS funds to Arlington Heritage Memorial Grounds

**Upcoming General Vote:** The Newsletter Editor is not the Publicity Chair, and reports to the president.

**AGS Officers**
President: Sylvia Hoad
First VP: Mark Dellenbaugh  (Programs)
Second VP: Nancy Bergvall  (Refreshments)
Secretary: John D. Anderson
Treasurer: Jan Penland
Parliamentarian: Cherry Williams

**AGS Committees**
Standing Committees:

Membership: Quenna Cox, Chair
Collection Development: Sylvia Hoad, Interim Chair
Finance: Jeanne Rives, Chair
Publicity: Pete Jacobs, Chair
Web Page Admin: John D. Rives
Newsletter Editor: Paul Wilkinson
Photographer: Wally Goodman

**Special Committees:**
Genealogy Resources: Larry Howser, Chair

**AGS Committee News**
**Genealogy-Collection Development.**
(Sylvia Hoad, Interim Chair)
I am working on the backlog of donated books that are the result of a couple of very large donations
of books. It is a very time-consuming undertaking, but I am getting through everything slowly but surely. In 2019, AGS donated 111 books to the Arlington Public Library.

Mary Ann Conrad did a fabulous job as chair of this committee for the last 20 years. Our current collection would not be the wonderful collection that it is today without her many thousands of hours of work. This committee had been her “baby” and she always took great pride in procuring books for the Arlington Public Library Collection. She will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her.

Members: keep in mind that your genealogy reference needs (books you want in Arl-Pub-Lib Genealogy room) are brought to the attention of our Collection-Committee. Share your research focus with the committee so they can shop for genealogy research books with your areas of interest in mind. All purchases and donations go to the APL Genealogy Reference Collection.

Finance. (Jan Penland, Chair)
Our fiscal year is based on the calendar year and all memberships expire on December 31. At its last meeting, the Board decided that members whose dues for the current year are not paid on or before the date of the March meeting will be removed from the current association membership roster. If you've not yet renewed your membership for 2020, please do so soon. We don't want to lose you! You can see Quenna or me at our next meeting and we will be happy to accept your payment and provide you with a membership form, or you can mail your check (along with the a copy of the membership form attached to this newsletter) to P.O.Box 373, Arlington, Tx 76004, Having a current membership form helps us keep your contact and research information up to date.

Publicity. (Pete Jacobs, Chair)
AGS’ Facebook (FB) page is nearing its second birthday. Like web pages, posting and refreshing page content is an ongoing challenge. AGS would like a few more volunteers with some experience using FB. At a minimum, volunteers need to have an active FB account.

Your publicity committee intends to resume online informational videos. Let us know if you would like to be one of the voices or faces on future videos.

Our web admin, John Anderson, keeps a calendar page and a photo album page on the AGS website. Do take advantage of those website pages, and you are welcome to contact John with event info, or share your photos related to AGS activities with our volunteer photographer, Wally Goodman.

Myth(s) of the Month
Myth: Growing your family history means adding further leaves, or further roots. Not.
Apparent Reality: It is so easy to focus on the outer tips of our family tree: those furthest out empty boxes, gaps, where a great-great-great grandparent should be. Gap Analysis, plainly seen. AND… obviously we must keep our newly born generations, descendants, added underneath all our brothers, sisters, cousins.

Truth and Problem: Opportunity is to document further the family story of yourself, your dad, mom, brother, uncle, and all. You long ago added these folks, documented their basic sourced events, then quickly ventured off to expand your tree person count with newer and more distant relatives. Can’t other cousins go back and expand on stories about your grandma’s hobbies and health?

Better Solution: Opportunities still abound to find further family story events in online databases: Ancestry, Familysearch, FindMyPast. Go do your Re-Research on your dad’s sister’s husband, Uncle Bill. Gather and document job, education, sports, hobbies, even work-weeks from the 1940 US Census.

Best Solution: Dig deeper, ask your relatives and find: old family photos, a copy of a signature, a meaningful real family tale that is known, but no one has taken the time to write down: How you spent your Saturday afternoons cooking cakes and cookies with your mother; Aunt Hermia’s recipe for Blood Sausage. Re-Question and write out the understood but hidden proofs that you relate to…

Mystery of the Month (& solutions)
My Ancestry DNA tests:
a) Did not show my German/French relatives. Instead they indicated that I am more English than most English citizens in London.
b) Did not show that I have any Native American related DNA. But I am reasonably sure that my French-Canadian ancestor back in the mid 1600’s had a Native American wife.

Problem-1: Ancestry DNA Origins Mapping is constantly being improved, made more accurate, based on a growing database number of contributors that point more specifically to exact places of origin. Year-end-2019: Ancestry-DNA: 16 million folks.

Problem-2: As stated in Bettinger’s book, The Genetic Genealogist, on DNA ancestry in the 7th generation back from you: you inherit traceable/identifiable DNA from only about fifty percent of the sixty-four of your grandparents in the seventh generation back. Counting myself born in 1956, puts that 7th generation born about year 1780. Early French immigrants arrived into Canada back around 1530 through 1550. The French settled Quebec in 1608; so French-Native intermarriages likely began in the early 1600’s.

Problem-1 Solution: Go back into Ancestry.com and re-draw/re-map your “DNA Story”. Your “Ethnicity Estimate” will be UPDATED, showing a changed and more accurate origin of your DNA.

Problem-2 Solution: You still may have Native American ancestors – just in generations 10-14 ago (1600 – 1700) that you did not carry any DNA forward from. Hang onto that Native American ancestor legacy story. Be proud that you may have some Native American ancestral heritage. Just don’t claim membership or association in a specific Tribe – that’s the Tribe’s choice, not yours.

Humor
1. I am a Genealogist. I KNOW things.
2. You know you’re a genealogist when: You can still read Cursive Handwriting.
3. Genealogy: Proving that THOSE family traits came from the other side of the family.
4. In-Law: Someone married into your family.
5. Outlaw: An In-law who resists letting you research their family history.
6. “We’ve uncovered some embarrassing ancestors in the not-too-distant past. Some horse thieves, and some people killed on Saturday nights. One of my relatives, unfortunately, was even in the newspaper business.” (President Jimmy Carter)

A Last Word, (and its relatives)
Oops! You just found out that you and your spouse are distant cousins:
Consanguinity: Being from the same kinship as another person. In that aspect, consanguinity is the quality of being descended from the same ancestor as another person (Wikipedia).
Related Words: Affinity; Degrees of Separation, Removed Cousin, Kissing-Cousin.
Degrees of Separation Chart: https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/78th2015/Exhibits/Assembly/JUD/AJUD599G.pdf
Relevant: 1.7 to 2.8% increased risk of offspring congenital anomaly (like congenital heart defect) if marriage is within 4 degrees (4th degree=1st-cousin).
Oddly: 1st cousin marriage is legal in 17 US States. (Kissing cousin: further removed than your first cousin, thus OK to kiss…)

Closing Notes ♫
The AGS Newsletter welcomes your contributions. Your suggestions, methods, questions, are sincerely appreciated. Email to: Newsletter-Editor at: ContactUs@ArlingtonGenealogyTx.org
Topics to write about:
1) An achievable enjoyable Family Reunion
2) Your genealogy research trip & discoveries
3) Mystery question(s) seeking help/answers

MASTHEAD DATA
The Arlington Genealogical Society (AGS) was established on October 27, 1970 and incorporated on May 18, 1971. AGS is a federal and state approved 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation relying wholly on member volunteers at all levels within the corporation.
Your charitable donations to the AGS are tax deductible as allowed by law. The AGS Tax ID # or EIN is: 90-0890150.
The AGS Newsletter is published monthly [except July and August] by the AGS, and distribution is by digital means to each AGS dues paying member’s email address.
Postal inquiries to: PO Box 373, Arlington, TX 76004-0373
The current and prior AGS Newsletters are available on the Society website: http://arlingtongenealogytx.org/
Look under drop-down-link: Docs, Newsletters.
Next page: AGS Membership Application form.
Arlington Genealogical Society
Membership Form

Name(s): __________________________________________________________

Street Address: __________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________ State: __________________ Zip: ______ - ______

Phone #(#s): _____________________ // ______________________

E-mail Address(es): __________________ // ______________________

Renewal . . [ ] New Member . . [ ] Date: _______

Individual: $15.00, _________ Family: $20.00, __________

Please make your check payable to: Arlington Genealogical Society
Mail this form with payment to: AGS  PO Box 373  Arlington, Texas  76004-0373

List surnames you are researching:

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The Arlington Genealogical Society meets the second Tuesday of months
September through June at 6:30 PM in the George W. Hawkes downtown
Library in the front lobby Re-Brary community meeting rooms.