Next Meeting: September 26, 2017
More than Daughters: Using the DAR's Genealogical Research System (GRS) by Teresa Devine

Speaker Teresa Devine

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) has made more than a century’s worth of genealogical records accessible to all researchers. A variety of records have been digitized and made available through many databases and resources using the DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS). This presentation will help researchers understand how to access and search the GRS and how to evaluate the different types of records found within.

Teresa Devine began dabbling in family history research more than ten years ago, but didn’t get serious about genealogy until 2011 when her oldest living paternal relative passed away taking her memories of the family
Teresa realized that family stories can easily disappear unless someone purposely works to save them. She specializes in southern U.S. research, serves on the Lineage Research committee for the Andrew Carruthers DAR chapter, and her daughters were recently accepted into the Mayflower Society based on Teresa’s research. She is a member of the Williamson County Genealogical Society and a board member for the Austin Genealogical Society.

Social Time 6:30 p.m. / Program 7:00 p.m.
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones, Austin, TX 78731

Welcome New Members!
James Pumphret and Karen Liston

Two-Part AGS Class Begins in September

We have an exciting new two-part class beginning in September! The Land Workshops developed and taught by AGS Education Chair, Cari Taplin C.G., are designed to be working sessions with practice exercises and class participation. Both classes are free, however registration is required so be sure and register to reserve your space.

Have you ever wondered how to draw those land descriptions from the Metes & Bounds survey system? This system was used primarily in the original thirteen colonies and so is mostly found when dealing with land in the east. Or the rectangular survey system? This system was used in the Federal Land states to survey and sell the land to private citizens.

This two-part workshop will describe both systems and then take the students through some real examples teaching them how to draw the land shapes as described in old deeds.

Please bring a ruler and pencil to both classes.

Saturday, September 16, 10:30a-Noon
**Preparation for Blaine Bettinger’s Seminar in May 2018**

*by AGS Member Debbe Tipping*

yDNA comes from the Y chromosome. It is one of the chromosomes that determine the sex of a child. Only men have Y chromosomes. The Y chromosome is unique because the order of the genes does not change very often. It is possible that any man reading these words has the same, or nearly the same, Y chromosome as his tenth great-grandfather, a man who lived 440 to 660 years ago.

The continuity of genetic information allows us to test for the following:

- African or Native American heritage of the male line
- Whether the two men we are comparing are from the same male line
- From which of two men, who are not related, a person descends from

This continuity of genetic information also prevents us from determining close male relationships. It is impossible to sort those close relationships out with yDNA alone. As you can see from the chart below, this test is limited to the males in a specific line. So this test alone leaves many potential relatives untested.

After the general definitions of the yDNA test, let’s look at some examples of how this test can help us.
Family lore suggests that you have Algonquian ancestors. A yDNA SNP test can help you confirm or disprove this story. SNP is the acronym for single nucleotide polymorphism. It is pronounced, “Snip.” It is a variation of only one nucleotide pair in the yDNA at a specific location on the DNA.

Think of your DNA as a beaded necklace. Each person’s necklace is almost the same. Only 2% of your necklace is different than mine. In the case of a SNP, you and I lay our necklaces flat, line up the beads, and compare them. At one spot, I have a blue bead and you have a red bead. That is the variation of only one nucleotide pair.

SNP testing gives you information about your many thousand year old family tree. It will tell you if the man you tested was from a Native American, African, Asian, European, etc. haplogroup. Think of a haplogroup as your ancient kingdom.

When your test results come back, it shows no Native American ancestry. Does that mean the family lore was disproven? No. Look at the family tree above. You only tested one of the possible male ancestors - the colored boxes. You need to trace the untested men to a direct living male descendant and then test their yDNA to prove or disprove for each additional line.

A second use of yDNA is to see if two men we are comparing are from the same male line. Let’s say you are researching an ancestor with a common surname. Through your research you find that two men come from the same area, moved together, and lived near each other. They are James Williamson and William Williamson. You suspect that these two men could be brothers, cousins,
uncles, or something. There are other Williansons in the area that came from other locations so you cannot say absolutely that these two men are related. Your dad is a direct male descendant of James. You traced William’s family forward and have a direct male descendant of William willing to take a yDNA test. With this case you will use the STR yDNA test.

STR is the acronym for short tandem repeat. Revisiting our beaded necklace example, a short tandem repeat would be red, red, red, blue beads followed by red, red, red, blue. This pattern is repeated another ten times. These STRs occur at specific places on the yDNA. In our beaded necklace example, the STR value at this location would be 12, meaning that the pattern was repeated twelve times.

When you receive the results, you compare the STR values to determine if James and William are related. At this time, you can purchase STR yDNA tests for 36, 67, or 111 markers. That means the testing company will look at 37 known STR locations, or 67 known locations, etc. In previous years fewer locations were tested. In the future, more locations may be identified for testing. Today, 37 markers are the minimum test recommended. The cost of the STR yDNA test increases with the number of markers tested.

The final use of a yDNA test would be to figure out from which of two men, who are not related, a person descends. As an example, for a use of this test, I will use my great-grandfather’s situation. His parents were divorced due to the infidelity of his mother. In the divorce records, her lover told her husband they were having an affair. Both men stated in court records that my great-great-grandmother said that her husband was not the father of my great-grandfather. The lover stated in a deposition the dates of their liaisons. She did not appear in court, so I do not know her side of the story. The dates that the lover provided would not result in the birth of my great-grandfather.

To determine if one of these two men is my great-grandfather’s father, I need to test a direct male descendant of my great-grandfather and a direct male descendant of these two men, but not of my great-grandfather.

More Information

AGS British Isles Genealogy SIG
AGS British Isles Genealogy Special Interest Group meets via email to exchange information. Contact Jane Schwendinger at janesca@earthlink.net.

AGS 2017 Calendar
Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday (no meeting in December), Networking: 6:30 PM / Program: 7:00 PM Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones, Austin, TX 78731

26-September More than Daughters: Using the DAR’s Genealogical Research System (GRS) by AGS Member Teresa Devine
grandfather’s line. I will use the STR yDNA test.

In addition to the three testing situations described above, yDNA tests are also used for surname studies. Surname studies are especially helpful when you have a common surname. One of my husband’s ancestors is a Taylor. There is a Taylor yDNA surname group. Of the hundreds of Taylor DNA submissions, my husband matches with only eight other Taylor families that have tested. After comparing their submitted family trees, I can now add two older generations to my husband’s family tree.

To learn more about yDNA and other tests, check out these resources: *Genetic Genealogy in Practice a book* by Blaine Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne. Ce Ce Moore, another genetic genealogist, has a series of four blog articles about the different DNA tests [here](#).

If you are interested in learning more about DNA, we have a DNA SIG (Special Interest Group) that meets the first Tuesday of each month. They are studying the book *Genetic Genealogy in Practice* by Blaine Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne. Click here for more information.

If you have any questions, please email me at dtipping@att.net. If you do not use Facebook and have a question for the Members Helping Members group, please email it to me. I will post your question and forward the responses to you.

Next month, we will explore mitochondrial DNA tests and how they can help our research.

Special thanks to AGS member Reneé Lasswell for her helpful suggestions for this article.

**Austin Genealogical Society Donates to Pond Springs Cemetery**

Pond Springs Cemetery is the burial place of several pioneering Texans. It is located south of I-45 and east of 183 on Lake Creek Parkway. AGS recently donated to help the upkeep of their grounds.

The cemetery’s historical marker reads:

24-October I’ve Got My DNA Results. But How Do I Use Them? by Sara Gredler

28-November Fall Fest, *The Archives Wars* by James Harkins

**AGS Website**

Did you forget your login or password to the Members Only section? Problems renewing a membership? Contact: webmaster@austintxgensoc.org

**AGS 2017 Class Schedule**

Information about our classes is available [here](#). All classes are free.

Saturday, September 16, 10:30a-Noon
Land Workshop Pt. 1 – Metes and Bounds - Cari A. Taplin, CG
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts. Register online.

Students need to bring a ruler and pencil to the class.

Have you ever wondered how to draw those land descriptions from the Metes & Bounds survey system? This system was used primarily in the
"This graveyard was begun for members of the Pond Springs community in the 1860s. The oldest grave is believed to be that of Mrs. Asenath M. Stewart (d. 1862). Also interred here is Mexican War veteran William P. Rutledge, Sr. (1815-1890), and Lavinia Hyland Chapman (1844-1929), a citizen of the Republic of Texas. Although the land was in use as a graveyard years earlier, it was not officially deeded as such by Thomas L. and H.M. Rutledge until 1872, and did not appear in deed records as a cemetery until 1877. It serves as a reminder of early Pond Springs history.

1988 by the Texas Historical Commission. (Marker Number 9324.)"

AGS Board member, Marcia Arn, contacted the Pond Springs Cemetery Association to find out what they might need, and they responded that they could use a new push mower and weed eater. Some Association volunteers buy them on their own, but since the ground is very uneven there, the push mowers don't last a long time. If the association ever dissolves, what they have goes to a Historical Society to continue care. AGS donated $150 to help provide them with the needed lawn care tools. The Williamson County Genealogical Society and nearby Nyle Maxwell car dealership matched our donation as well.

She also discovered that they know there are more unmarked graves and they are trying to identify who is buried there. They have some records from the 1960s and some other records that they are trying to reconcile to determine who is in what grave. If they cannot find a family member, they try their best to mark a grave correctly. Recently they had two previously unknown relatives contact them. One reported that they marked a grave with the right family name, but the wrong given name. The other was from Houston and said it was marked correctly, but there were two of his slaves and an Indian friend also buried by him. This confirmed their suspicion that there were other graves in that area. It is an old cemetery, truly a pioneer one, with a lot of open space. They are trying their best to identify and mark any unknown graves, but it is a difficult detective job.

An email from Gloria Amescua, Secretary, Pond Springs Historical Cemetery Association, Inc.dated August 1,

original thirteen colonies and so is mostly found when dealing with land in the east. This workshop will describe the system and then take the students through some real examples teaching them how to draw the land shapes as described in old deeds.

Saturday, September 23, 10:30a-Noon
Land Workshop Pt. 2 – Rectangular System - Cari A. Taplin, CG
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts. Registration will open on August 16.

Have you ever wondered how to draw those land descriptions from the rectangular survey system? This system was used in the Federal Land states to survey and sell the land to private citizens. This workshop will describe the system and then take the students through some real examples teaching them how to draw the land shapes as described in old deeds.

Saturday, October 28, 10:30a-Noon
DNA for Beginners - Randy Whited
North Village Branch Library
"On behalf of the Pond Springs Historical Cemetery Association I want to thank the Austin Texas Genealogical Society for your generous support. In July 2017, we received your donations of $150. I am sorry this acknowledgement is so late.

Pond Springs Historical Cemetery Association, Inc. is an organization that was created and organized as a benevolent non-profit corporation chartered solely for the purpose of maintaining the graves of early settlers of Williamson and Travis Counties, Texas, and their descendants who are buried in Pond Springs Cemetery. As such, we maintain and preserve all markers and memorials (the cemetery is not a perpetual care cemetery, and provide upkeep of the cemetery grounds.) We also discover, through proper and established research methods, the identity of all persons buried in Pond Springs Cemetery whose markers have disappeared. To date, we have identified 230 persons buried here, and there are many more.

We are sincerely grateful for your support."

More Information about Pond Springs Cemetery

Humble Genealogical Society Donates 50% of Conference Proceeds to Hurricane Harvey Victims

The Humble Area Genealogical Society, located near Houston, Texas, is hosting an Online Genealogical conference on Saturday, September 23. Proceeds from this conference will be given to Humble Area Genealogical Society members impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Humble society member Devon Noel Lee says, "Hurricane Harvey update: My local genealogy society had at least six (and counting) members who lost everything in the flood. Our group had planned a fundraiser for Sept 23rd for our society's preservation efforts. Instead, we're turning 50% of the registration fees over to our society members."
"Anyone and everyone interested in genealogy, please register for this conference. You can watch the conference for 30 days if you're unable to participate live. For $15 you can learn new skills and help provide relief and comfort to our dear society members."

The conference will be webcast on Saturday, September 23, from 8:30am to 4:00pm. For those unable to attend the conference live, replays of the webinars and panel discussion will be available until October 23rd, 2017.

The topics and presenters are:

- Desperately Seeking Susan: Finding Female Ancestors - Amy Johnson Crow
- Which Charles is Which? Separating Same Name Individuals - Melissa Finlay
- Using FamilySearch More Effectively - Devon Noel Lee
- Bankruptcy to Equity: Using Federal Court Records - Michael L. Strauss
- Panel Discussion with Presenters and YOUR Questions

More Information

Upcoming Events and Resources

"Find Your Ancestors"
Lifetime Learning Institute of Austin
Coordinator: AGS Member Inez Eprright
Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. - noon, starting September 12
Triumphant Love Lutheran Church, 9508 Great Hills Trail, Austin

Exploring records to learn about your ancestors - who they were, where they lived, what they did - has never been easier or more exciting. Beginners and experienced researchers are welcome. Each session is presented by a member of the Austin Genealogical Society, covering a variety of topics.
Expect to pay $3 to the coordinator for copies. Limit 20.

More Information

Texas General Land Office
8th Annual Save Texas History Symposium
"Texas and the Great War"

Friday, September 15
Texas World War I Resources Workshop
Texas General Land Office
1700 N. Congress Ave., Room 170 Austin, TX 78701

Saturday, September 16
Save Texas History Symposium
The University of Texas at Austin, J.J. Pickle Research
Campus, Commons Learning Center
10100 Burnet Rd., Bldg 137, Austin, TX 78758

Save Texas History Reception
Texas Military Forces Museum (Camp Mabry)
2200 W. 35th St., Austin, TX 78703

This year marks the centennial of American involvement in World War I, in which Texas, and Texans, had a major impact on the American war effort at home and abroad.

More Information
Austin Museum Day Sunday, September 17, 2017.
Admission to Austin area museums are free.

More Information

Oakwood Cemetery
1601 Navasota, Austin
Sunday, Sept 17, 9am - 11am
Museum Day

As a member of the Austin Museum Partnership, SAVE AUSTIN'S CEMETERIES will “open our doors” and show off our “Outdoor Museum”.

Volunteers will be on the Oakwood Cemetery grounds to give tours to visitors. Come learn about the lives of prominent Austinites.

More Information

38th Annual Texas Hispanic Genealogical and Historical Conference
September 28 – 30, 2017
Crowne Plaza Hotel
6121 North IH-35, Austin, Texas 78752

Celebrate 500 years of Tejano history! Includes tours of
the Nettie Lee Benson Library at The University of Texas at Austin, the Bullock Texas State History Museum, the Texas General Land Office (GLO), the Texas State Library & Archives Commission (TSLAC), and the Tejano Monument on the Front Lawn of the State Capitol grounds. Speakers, a musical reception and banquet are also included.

More Information

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Texas Czech Genealogical Society (TCGS) presents
Genealogy and Google
September 30, 2017
Caldwell Civic and Visitor Center, 103 Texas Hwy. 21 W., Caldwell, Tx 77836

Speaker Lisa Louise Cooke (www.GenealogyGems.com) will present key strategies that can be employed right now to envision your genealogy. Discover the right technology for your needs and explore three areas that are poised to thrust ahead in the future.

More Information

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17th Annual Genealogy Lock-In
Supported by the Texas Czech Genealogical Society (TCGS)
October 20, 2017
11:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
West Waco Library and Genealogy Center
5301 Bosque Blvd., Suite 275, Waco, Texas

State-wide other libraries/societies, 26 plus to date (see: http://bit.ly/2ukKrpU,) will be celebrating with their own events and activities as part of the Genealogy Network of Texas (GNT). This state-wide initiative to connect libraries / societies and provide educational and research opportunities for the public is spearheaded by
the Genealogy Center of the Waco-McLennan County Library. The GNT will provide a series of eight live streamed programs with up-to-date topics accessible at participating libraries and genealogical societies.

Free registration. For more information contact: Bill Buckner 254.750.5995

[Lock-in Flyer]
[More Information]

Oral History Workshop
Sunday, October 29th
1 pm - 4 pm
Austin History Center, Holt Gallery / Reception Room
810 Guadalupe St, Austin
Free - RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED (limited to 50 attendees)

The Austin History Center Association’s Oral History Committee will host a free training session on collecting oral history, facilitated by Lila Rakoczy, Texas Historical Commission’s Military Oral History Coordinator.

The workshop is designed for people to learn how to conduct, record, and transcribe all types of oral histories, including hands-on training with digital and video recording equipment.

To be officially registered, please send an email with your phone number and indicating your interest to Allison Supancic at asupancic@austinhistory.net. We will only take a single reservation for the person emailing in. Please make sure you receive a confirmation email from Allison. We will make final confirmation emails/phone calls in the days leading up to the training. We will keep a waiting list once we have reached 50 reservations. Please be 100% sure in your intent to attend. Thank you! For more information, call 512-627-8170 (AGS member Phoebe Allen).
The AHC Association is particularly interested in finding new members for the Oral History Committee who would enjoy interviewing Austinites and/or transcribing interviews.

More Information

From the President's Corner

Anne Mamiya, AGS President
president@austintxgensoc.org

We have sure seen nature take its toll recently. The fires out west have been burning for quite some time. Then, closer to home, there was Hurricane Harvey. I am sure many of our members have family and friends in the affected areas. My thoughts and prayers go out everyone facing the recovery from Harvey's toll. The destruction and loss caused by smoke, fire, wind and water can be devastating.

Harvey is a good reminder to us all, who are the historians in our family, to have a good disaster plan for our research, documents, photos, and heirlooms. Please take the time now to make sure you have a good plan. Fortunately, we have the option to digitize and store much of our collections with redundancy using today's technology. It doesn’t take the magnitude of Harvey to cause loss of our records. It could be a simple house fire or broken pipe. Create your action plan now.

I hope to see all of you at our September meeting. Our Nominating Committee will announce the slate of nominees to the Board of Directors for the next term at this meeting.

August Meeting Recap
Topic: The Importance of Mapping Cemeteries, Not Just Recording the Names
Speaker: Dale Flatt

August Meeting Attendance: 40

Visitors: Warren Friedrich, Karen Listen and Linda Schwarzlose

Thank you to the following volunteers for their help at the August meeting: Ann Kippen, Debbe Tipping, Shelly Augustin, Anne Mamiya, Nan Kilkeary, Erin Garcia, Tracy Tipping, Dee Sanchez, John Marostica

Sign-Ups for September Meeting
Set Up – Shelly Augustin & Elaine Powell
Snacks – Jan Pelosi, Susan Tyler, Teresa Devine, & Rob Richardson
Clean Up - Anne Mamiya & Robin Rabin
Greeter – Lori Henry & Glenda Martin

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